



LIGHT LINES

SPRING 1992

Vol 3, No 1

THE EVOLUTION OF A 'MACULATE ANGLER

In this, my first official editorial for *LIGHT LINES*, I truly wanted this space to be sagacious by nature. In my own obsequious way, I thought I would try and provide you the members, and any other reader, an incipient rash of supposed intelligence. But, any of you who have read my newspaper column, and the few which have wrestled through some of my magazine articles, already know this desire of mine is much more a lame pretence than a celebration of literary erudition. And besides that, I've already used up all the big words I know in the first damn paragraph!

The reality of all this is that being a writer has absolutely nothing to do with knowledge of the dictionary. Just as being an angler has nothing, more or less, to do with catching fish. The more fish you catch the better off you are supposed to be as an angler... or does it? I don't pretend to have the answer. But I do know that I have had some of my best experiences while fishing, well, not fishing at all. You will notice that I didn't qualify the word "best", because a lot of my education as an angler has come in many, many, varied and different forms.

I have learned, for example, that November Steelheading, the Saugeen River, draft beer, pizza and chest waders are not a good mix. And no matter, how hard you look, you will never, ever find a pair

of waders with a zipper and a trap door. But, you can be rest assured, the actual number of times you really have to go, has nothing to do with the amount of food and drink you had the previous night. No, but it does have a direct and proportional relationship to the slope of the hill which you have to climb in order to find a spot. The steeper the slope, the more you have to go.

And the reverse is also true. Take the same set of circumstances, but this time substitute the Saugeen with the mouth of the Bighead River where there are facilities on just about every corner. And you know what... you can leave the Kleenex at home.

I have had some magical days on the river too. Blizzard hatches - I have a passion for fly fishing. Being on the river

when the number of insects coming of the water actually diffuses the horizon line, is a staggering sight. And so it was, one hot sticky evening last summer on the upper Credit, lost somewhere in between Inglewood and Alton.

I wandered 'round the last bend when I first saw it. My heart skipped a beat and the palms of my hands immediately felt clammy and cold. My pace quickened instantly, almost by instinct - Sulphurs I knew, size #16, well, I could only guess.



Phil Weir and a fine December Brown Trout caught and released in Erindale Park.

Credit River Anglers Association LIGHT LINES

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My hands trembled slightly as I searched through my fly box. Something, I needed something half way passable I could only hope would fool the trout, which were now everywhere, dimpling the surface of the river, as if it was being covered by a summer shower.

Mosquitos were also everywhere that evening, and my hands were feeling the brunt of their attack as I quickly knotted a White Irresistible to the end of the 5X tippet. What happened next remains in a fog – and I mean that in the very literal sense of the word.

After getting set up and my gear in shape, so I thought, my anticipation of some fast brook trout fishing ended abruptly as my eyes started burning and tears began streaming down my face. I was quickly going blind and the only thing I could do was wade out in the river and splash water all over my face in order to quell the fire in my eyes. Right out in the middle of the glory hole I so eagerly came to fish.

I learned a number of things that evening – lessons which will stay with me forever. First off, Brook trout have a certain way in which they take an insect off the surface. They seem to come up at a slight angle, sipping the fly, and then snapping back in such a way that they display the pale iridescence of

their bellies. Secondly, Deep Woods Off can't float a fly worth horse #!\$@. The third is that silicone dry fly spray makes a poor substitute for insect repellent, and in fact, burns like hell when applied liberally in the vicinity of your eyes. And the last and most important lesson of all... never, ever confuse items two and three.

Of course, this is all background information by the way, because by the nature of its discourse, an editorial is supposed to have a meaning. Some kind of point which should be driven home to the readership with all the subtlety of a 14 pound sledge hammer. But I'll not be so heavy handed.

All of us, C.R.A.A. executives and the likes of guys like me – none of us are perfect, especially me. We are all just members of a group of people who simply like to fish. We are not experts, just a bunch of bush league, fishing junkies. What ever lofty ambitions this organization undertakes, let us try not to forget, these goals will be accomplished by ordinary folk like you and me.

We need you! Nobody ever said you had to be a great fisherman – Steelheader extraordinaire to get involved.

Have you ever wanted to see your name in print? We need your wit, your insight, your stories. Got a bunch of great fish pictures? We need them too. Been tying a lot of flies lately? Why not share some of your tips and patterns with us... we could all use the help. You can read more about our plans for the newsletter inside this issue.

Let me leave you with one final thing, I got my start in writing from a simple notion that I could do just as good a job as any other Joe, and if nobody liked my stuff, I would just have to get tougher. I figured they were just ordinary guys and I wasn't going to be intimidated by all "Pros" of the world.

You know what... I was right.

JUST DO IT!

John Medeiros
Editor

ANGLERS WORKSHOP

The following material is excerpted from the Jake North "Rainbow Trout and Steelhead F.A.C.T. Guide" (Copyright 1991). It is intend for the use of all C.R.A.A. members with a desire to round out their knowledge of patterning for Winter Steelhead. Jake North

WINTER – Water 40°– 32° F

Rainbow/Steelhead are semi-dormant in winter; they live off stored fat. Slower metabolism reduces food needs; they eat less, less often. They won't chase lures as cold water slows their reaction time. Steelhead are the main target for the winter rainbow fisherman.

Most winter rainbow fishing is limited to Steelhead in spawning rivers. The clear water of winter enables fish to see you. Their deep winter positions also gives them an excellent view of the shoreline and river banks. Use long rod with lightest line. Keep low streamside profile. Use slowest presentation speed.

The deepest water is the warmest in the winter. Fish along bottom of deep, slow moving pools or runs for barely moving winter fish. Keep tapping them on the nose with your presentation to provoke hits. Focus your skills on low- to no-current areas. Use sensitive rod (graphite to improve hit detection).

Food pick-up is light and momentary. Use tiny stonefly imitation, yarn fly, single eggs, and small wide gap hooks with roe. Watch line where it enters water; if it moves away form general flow – set the hook. Unseasonable warm spells activate all aquatic life. Fish these warm day anytime they occur.

Sunny days warm the water and activate fish. Fish later in the day after the water has warmed. Only a few fish are active each day. One fish hooked per day is excellent; none is winter average.

Warm water discharge from power plants in lakes and reservoirs draws baitfish and hungry rainbows. Cast small spoons and minnow look-alikes; retrieve slowly. Fish on bottom using small minnows or a floating roe bag as bait.

CRAA IN ACTION

Over the last few months CRAA has been involved in the planning process for the Mississauga Public Gardens. The plan is to develop a botanical garden along the edge of the Credit River between Burnhamthorpe and HWY 403.

After reviewing the Environmental Assessment document for the gardens, the following letter has been sent to the Mayor and to the Steering committee for the Gardens. Should you wish to review the documents yourself, copies should be available through the Mississauga Central Library at City Hall. Your comments on the letter are welcomed on the HOTLINE.

January 26, 1992

Karen Wells, Project Coordinator
Civic Centre
Recreation and Parks
300 City Centre Drive
Mississauga, Ontario
L5B 3C1

Dear Karen:

We thank you for taking the time to include us in your process and hope that we may prove to be of some assistance. We would like to let you know that the Credit River Anglers Association pledges to expand their river cleanups and river rehabilitation projects to include the area of the river between HWY 403 and Burnhamthorpe Rd. This of course would be dependant on the area being opened to angling. We feel that it would be difficult for us to get support from the membership to work in these areas if they were not to receive some benefit for their efforts. After reviewing the Environmental Assessment document, The Credit River Anglers Association will consider supporting and endorsing the concept of a Public Gardens in Mississauga in the proposed location, provided that the following concerns are addressed.

- We are concerned that more options were not presented for the concept of the gardens; i.e. preservation of the entire site as a nature area with interpretive centres. After attending the public hearing on the Environmental Assessment document it seems that public opinion indicates a greater emphasis needs to be placed on the natural areas as opposed to the display areas.

- We are also concerned about the potential impact on the wildlife population. As anglers we spend the majority of our leisure hours outdoors, however, other than this area, there are few other locations nearby that anglers can experience the contact with nature that they can in this area. This area is unique in an urban setting. It is the only opportunity that numbers of anglers can experience angling in this type of environment.
- In regards to the Indian site, this is a unique opportunity to let Mississauga residents learn more about the heritage of the area. We feel that it would be inappropriate to use this area for development of the gardens, instead we feel that it should be made an integral part of the gardens concept.
- We are worried about the potential impact of the gardens on the water quality of the Credit River. Any potential increase in the amount of sediment into the Credit River, whether it be during the construction phase or during the operation of the gardens, is unacceptable to the Association. We are currently making attempts to combat the already high influx of sediment into the river through our boulder placement project.

The area south of Burnhamthorpe has already been hard hit by sedimentation. Areas that were deep pools in years past in which fish could rest are now shallow and silt filled. This impacts the success of our species such as Atlantic Salmon and Rainbow Trout to reach the upper spawning areas of the Credit. Without the deep pool resting areas the fish do not have the stamina to negotiate the Streetsville and Norval dams.

Recent publications by the Ministry of the Environment have limited the recommended consumption size limits of fish in the Credit River. The infiltration of herbicides and pesticides into the Credit from the gardens will be a further detriment to the already decreasing recommended size limits.

Most disturbing is the fact that even though this is an environmental assessment document, it has absolutely no indication of how much damage will be done to water quality and what quantities of effluent will be discharged into the river. We realize the need for a detailed design before you can make accurate estimates. If the estimates turn out to be too high, will the project go through anyway because the environmental assessment has been approved?

- We are also concerned about the rumoured charge for parking. Should this charge come into effect you can almost guarantee an increase in illegal parking in residential areas around the site. We feel that people will not be willing to pay for what they already receive for free. This does not just include anglers by the way.

Please free to contact us through our HOTLINE (849-8150) or you may contact myself or Ron Turalinski if you have any questions. Again I would like to thank you for the opportunity to be a part of your process.

Yours in Conservation,
Credit River Anglers Association.

cc: Mayor Hazel McCallion

GROUNDWATER RESOURCES OF THE CREDIT RIVER WATERSHED

By: Bob Morris

Ground water discharge into streams is essential for supporting coldwater fisheries that generally require a minimum contribution of 25 % of the flows. In addition to moderating summer water temperatures, groundwater upwelling is required for successful spawning of our most sensitive indicator species, the native Brook trout. Constant groundwater temperatures prevent embryo mortality due to freezing and physical destruction of redd sites by anchor ice. Other fall spawners including the Atlantic and Pacific salmon, and Brown trout may also likewise benefit from such conditions although upwelling areas are not specifically sought out.

Other species, including warmwater communities of the lower Credit depend on groundwater inputs to provide critical baseflows and maintain suitable temperatures. In addition groundwater generally represents water low in contaminants and helps dilute pollutant loadings from other sources.

The Credit River discharge at Erindale is composed of 65% groundwater baseflow, 14% urban, 8% agricultural, 7% other run off and 4% discharge from

water pollution control plants. This data indicates the Credit has excellent groundwater resources and that development of the watershed is limited. A wider range of conditions, however exists amongst its tributaries. The East Credit, for example is virtually comprised of all groundwater flow. Many of the smaller streams in Mississauga have very limited groundwater resources and may only flow as a result of urban stormwater contributions.

Groundwater reserves are influenced by the ability of the land to infiltrate precipitation. Low topographic relief, swales, depressions and natural vegetation that inhibits overland run off increases the availability of water for percolation.

The Credit's major groundwater aquifer is contained within the fractured dolostone known as the Amabel formation. This forms the caprock of the Niagara Escarpment and extends north beyond Orangeville. It is overlain by a granular glacial deposit and sandy till that can recharge up to 200 mm/yr of precipitation. The most significant recharge occurs from the extensive wetland complexes of Caledon and Erin. Discharge also occurs from these areas and along the glacial valley where the Credit now flows.

A water taking permit system is administered by the Ministry of the Environment in order to monitor withdrawals, however, many wells were in operation prior to keeping records. Groundwater supplies are also depleted when land use changes, regrade and compact the natural topography, create impervious surfaces and redesign swales and channels to quickly dispense run off that can no longer be infiltrated. Besides limiting the supply to other users, the impact of depleting groundwater includes reduced base-flows and other associated impacts to stream ecosystems such as increased water temperatures.

There exists a number of problems that threaten the groundwater quality of the Credit River watershed. Contaminants that degrade surface waters from atmospheric sources, urban and road run off, agriculture and hazardous spills like wise threaten groundwater supplies if they follow recharge pathways.

The aggregate industry is responsible for altering groundwater regimes especially when pits and quarries are excavated below the water table. Flows then migrate towards the operation where evaporation occurs, or de-watering is practised. Aggregate production, by nature of their sand and gravel deposits or fractured bedrock, coincide with high

recharge of storage areas. Infiltration of these areas are usually reduced by compaction and siltation from operations. There are 57 pits and quarries within the Credit watershed.

Landfill sites that are poorly located and or engineered can become a major source of contaminants. This is especially true of older sites that have no monitoring programs. Municipal landfills exist in Caledon, Alton and Erin. The Britannia site was "engineered" in 1980 and has not exceeded any water quality criteria to date.

The most common concern with groundwater is pollution from septic systems especially given their close proximity to private wells. Contaminants include phosphorous, nitrates, viruses and bacteria that are responsible for a variety of ailments as well as eutrophication of surface waters. Inorganic and organic pollutants and heavy metals are also associated with septic disposal systems.

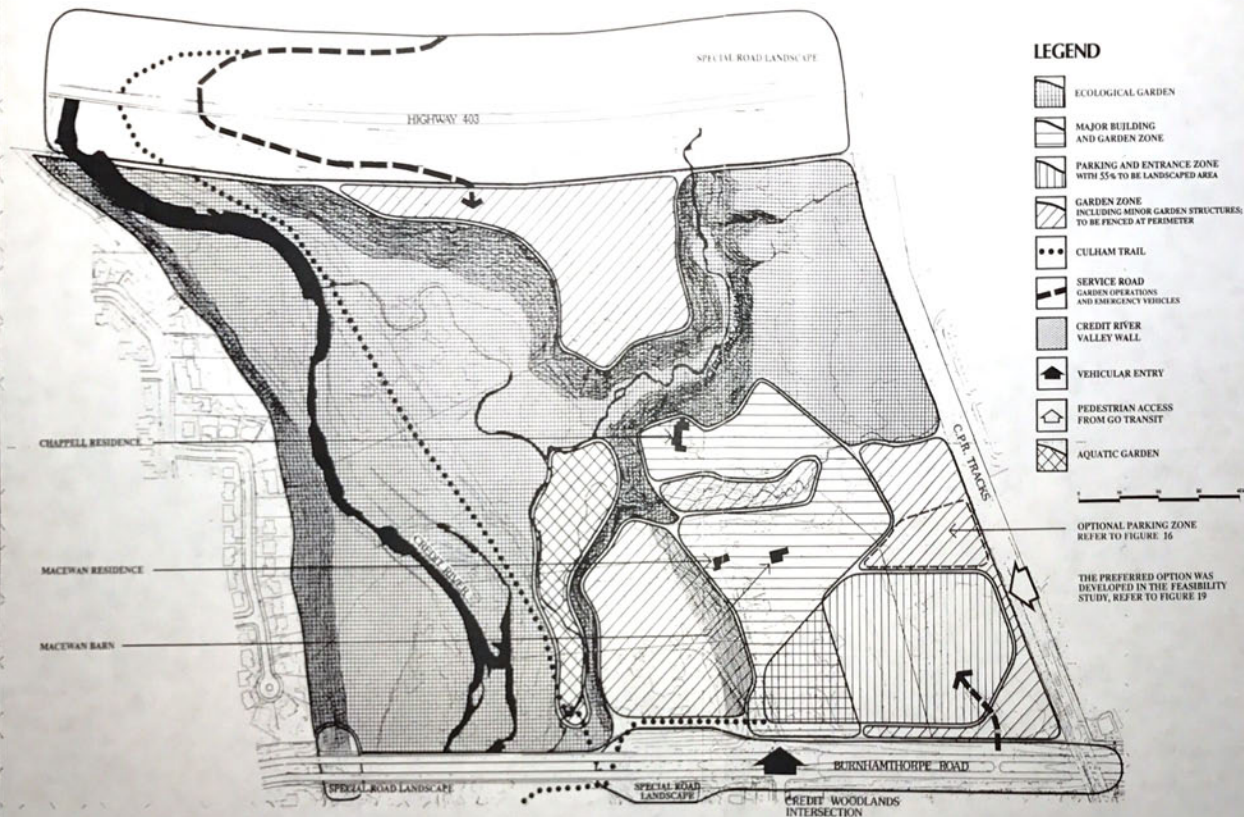
There are a number of preventive and corrective solutions being implemented or are required for the problems facing the Credit. There appears to be a need for provincial legislation or increased enforcement to limit water taking in areas of decreasing supply. Ultimately this may have to become a shared responsibility with municipalities or Conservation Authorities.

Land use controls can be the most effective measure in protecting groundwater including the preservation of wetlands and its significant recharge features. Reforestation and wetland creation may also help to reverse the trend in some areas.

Lands that are developed need to minimize or enhance infiltration through landscape grading practices and the use of Infiltration BMP's (Best Management Practices) such as infiltration trenches and pits. Infiltration BMP's are now being encouraged and constructed in Erin, Orangeville and Halton Hills. The protection and construction of naturally vegetated swales and depressions are most popular. Water infiltrated is kept separate from contaminated run off, such as from roads and parking lots.

Many old septic systems need to be identified and monitored and remedial plans implemented. Aggregate extraction should be restricted to the removal of material above the water table only.

Finally there is the issue of landfill sites. The "not in



my backyard" syndrome too often clouds the issue as to where the best sites actually are. A complete reliance on "engineered" designs is not ideal, especially in rural areas. Hydrological settings that do not naturally have significant or highly mobile groundwater resources should be a prime deciding factor. Of course the three R's must first be encouraged to reduce the need for such facilities.

The high quality of the Credit's groundwater resources are responsible for one of the most diverse and productive fisheries in Southern Ontario. The wetlands and other natural amenities are also intricately linked with this resource as is the socio-economic structure that we are all part of. It is the responsibility of both the public and government agencies to increase our understanding, respect and properly manage this groundwater resource.

Editors Note:

Bob Morris is the biologist for the Credit Valley Conservation Authority. Besides being familiar with the Credit River Water Management Study, Bob is also known for his own special brand of field research... casting out a Haystack fly for some of the Credit's overgrown Browns.

THE IMPORTANCE OF VERSATILITY

By: Mark Tarnawczyk

Can you think of an angler you know, who is consistently successful? Ever wonder why?

Sure, knowledge is a crucial part of successful fishing, but I've yet to meet a person who thinks like, or completely understands the total nature of a fish. And don't count luck as the sole possibility, or that angler would trade in his best float rod, cash in his pay cheque for a chance at the race track pay window. Any successful angler is one who is versatile and adaptable to any conditions they may encounter.

A case in point. My fishing partner Phil Weir and I are die-hard steelheaders, and really enjoy float fishing for those silver 'bows. One morning last February we were out on the Credit fishing the fabled Claybank hole. There had been a couple of

days of warm weather and a bit of rain – all the elements needed to bring in an early run of trout. We arrived with our quill bobbers in place, and split shot precisely crimped on our lines. After a few drifts it became clear this presentation was not getting down to the fish, as the constant flow of ice and slush impeded the drift. We were not the only ones experiencing this problem. A dozen or so other anglers were also dealing with the wrath of an ice chocked river.

I took off my float reel quietly, and placed my Whisker spinning reel on the rod with the intention dredging the bottom (a technique often despised by us "purist" float fishermen). Honest to God, it wasn't three drifts and I had hooked a spunky Rainbow of about 8 lbs. This first fish didn't even get a response from the other anglers, who probably dismissed it as a fluke. But back to business I went, and again, within two minutes, I was into another one.

"Eureka", Phil said as he netted another rainbow for me. "I think you've got it."

He quickly removed his float and added several large split shot to his rig. He wasn't drifting for more than a minute himself, when he hooked his first trout. Well, soon enough the other anglers began to remove their floats, but not before Phil and I had each tied into another six fish before we reluctantly had to leave.

Don't be afraid to experiment, especially when nothing is happening. Too many anglers fish one method only, and even though they may excel at that one style, they will see some fishless days. Be versatile and adapt to the conditions you face to the best of your ability. Let the fish tell you what they prefer. Good anglers learn from even all experiences, both on good days and bad. For myself, a bad day of fishing is when I truly did not learn any thing from the experience.

Good luck this winter and spring and don't forget to put some back!

Editors note:

Mark, only US fly fishermen, not bobber dunkers, have earned the right and are snobbish enough to be called purists... And by the way, I didn't know fish could talk!!!

US AND THEM

By: Simon Backley

As mentioned in the 'President's Address' last issue, CRAA is attempting to become more proactive in its stance on anglers issues. With a membership of 200+ we are obligated to act upon those issues that are of concern to the membership.

Up to this point the major issue facing the Association has been to prevent the closing of Erindale park to fishing during the salmon run. The approach, as most of you are aware, was to improve the public's perception of anglers by initiating a series of regular river clean-ups.

The terms "lobby group" and "activists" conjure up images of corrupt individuals and individuals with radical beliefs. However, this is not be the case. Think back, at any point in time have you said to another angler "I think the MNR should ..." Were you not lobbying for your cause? When you helped out at one of the CRAA clean-ups, were you not being an activist?

If we are to be successful lobbyists and activists, CRAA must travel a path of cooperation and understanding. We cannot afford to take an 'Us vs. Them' attitude. We have to consider the needs of all affected by our action or inaction.

How does the executive decide which issues to pursue and how to go about it. By posting survey type questions on the HOTLINE. The HOTLINE is the membership's tool for getting their concerns and ideas to the executive. Without constant input from the membership as to which issues are of concern, CRAA cannot effectively lobby for change on behalf of the membership. For those who choose not to respond to the survey questions, or not to state their concerns and ideas, your voice is NOT being heard. Don't be surprised to find that one day you may be in total disagreement with the Association's actions if you don't participate.

That's the key, "PARTICIPATION"! Just a little participation from the membership every now and then will keep this boat of ours upright.

For the latest information
call the CRAA Hotline!

849-8150

SPONSOR THANKS

By: Al Vineberg

This column acknowledges all the individuals and companies who have supported CRAA with both product and financial donations. Without the support of these people, CRAA would never be able to achieve its goals. Written records of donations had not been kept in the past, so if we missed anyone, please let us know so we can add to our records.

Abu-Garcia, Aikman Sporting Goods, Bionic Bait, Buck Knives, Cousin George, Dun & Bradstreet, Imperial International Canada, Bob Izumi, Jake North Inc., Roy Jenkins, Johnson Diversified Canada Ltd., KTL Canada, Le Baron, Midnight Type and Graphics, Riverside Motel, Shell Canada, Shimano Canada, Shoreline Outdoor Products, Skamania Enterprises, Mark Tarnawczyk, The Brew Store, Uncles Angling Excellence.

WINTER ROUND UP

Our third River Clean-Up of the year was held on November 17, 1991. Co-operating in the days event were 26 able and ready CRAA members, a few hardy non-member volunteers and Mother Nature (she sent her best rainfall a day or so earlier to give us a running head start on our day's efforts). With cheerful aplomb our group scoured not one, but both sides of the river from Dundas St. to Burnhamthorpe Rd. and then enjoyed a hot-dog 'fiesta' at noon to top off the day.

A QUICK NOTE – the river "dirt" is getting cleaner! Less snarls of old line, less pop cans and other human refuse are highly visible signals. Our message for 'a cleaner river and a healthier environment' is making an impact, not only on Clean-Up days but throughout the year – we care and it shows! And, last but not least we applaud the effervescent efforts of the City of Mississauga's Recreation and Parks Dept. who work long and hard to maintain a semblance of refuse sanity in Erindale Park. Thanks folks — one and all ...

Tuesday November 19, 1991 was the date of the Fall General Meeting, one of our most successful and productive meetings to date. Our guest speaker was Karen Wells Public Gardens Project Coordinator for

the City of Mississauga. Karen gave an informative talk about the Public Gardens to be created North of Burnhamthorpe along the Credit River. Her talk was followed by a question and answer period which gave some of our members the opportunity to voice their concerns about various issues related to the Gardens. Since the meeting Karen has provided the Executive with a copy of the Environmental Assessment document. The Executive will be reviewing the document and will forward their comments. Karen has also provided a map of the Gardens for this newsletter. Hopefully this map will alleviate some concerns about the placement of the Gardens and parking issues. Your comments on the map are welcomed on the HOTLINE.

Thanks to Paul Hill for his rod building demonstration and to Roy Jenkins for his fly tying demonstration, both were very informative.

Prize Winners:

**Phantom of the Opera tickets – George Rose
Jake North F.A.C.T. Guides – Steve Waud, Brian Green**

Brew Store beer brewing session – Derek Knapp

Ron, Mark and Simon updated the members on the activities of the last while and plans for the spring. The following is a brief round up of what was talked about:

We still need volunteers to help us with the running of the Association.

The HOTLINE is a great success but could be used more effectively by the membership. The HOTLINE is your way of letting the executive know what issues are important to you. Make sure you take advantage of it.

Some members raised a concern about the closing of the Texaco pier to anglers. Apparently Texaco closed the pier because of problems with insurance. The City of Mississauga had been negotiating with Texaco to reopen the pier and an agreement had been reached in principle. However, an individual (not a CRAA member) took it upon himself to "tell" Texaco to reopen the pier. A scene ensued and Texaco rescinded their offer to the City. During a meeting with the Mayor in September, both Ron and Simon indicated that they would like to see negotiations reopened with Texaco. Several of our members have put together a petition to let the City know that there is a large number of anglers who support the reopening of the Texaco pier.

CRAA also wishes to apologize to Texaco on behalf of all anglers for the actions of this individual who caused the trouble. We assure you that none of the membership condones that type of behaviour.

A suggestion has been made by a number of members that CRAA approach the City to ask that Erindale Park be officially closed at night. This would be enforced by tagging and towing any cars in the park during the closed hours. Current posted closed hours for the park are 11 p.m. to 7 a.m.. Let us know on the HOTLINE whether you support this proposal or not.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to Mark Tarnawczyk and Phil Weir, both have been appointed to head up the O.F.A.H. Fisheries program.

Best wishes and a speedy recovery to George Gilbert.

Congratulations to Councillor Culham and Mayor McCallion on their re-elections, both are supporters of CRAA.

Thanks to all Mississauga Recreation and Parks employees, for an excellent job of keeping Erindale park beautiful in 1991 and for their continuing support of CRAA.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Wednesday, February 26 – General Meeting
7:30 pm. Erindale Community Hall,
Dundas Rd. (across from Erindale Park)**

This is a very important meeting – several announcements are expected on the future direction of CRAA, elections will be held, and of course we will have guest speakers, demonstrations, videos, door prizes and raffles. If you could only attend one meeting per year, this would be the one.

Elections:

The following are the positions that you may run for: President, Vice President – Administration, Vice President – Operations, Secretary, Treasurer. All positions are 2 year terms with a review by the executive after the first year. If required the membership can also request an election after 1 year.

FISHING PLUS

MORE THAN JUST

TACKLE!

BOATS

RODS & REELS

*Trout, Salmon, Pike,
Bass
and Muskie*



24 Ronson Dr. Rexdale Ont (416) 614 - 1266

Those wishing to run for an elected position must announce by February 12, 1992. Those wishing to take on non-elected positions may contact the executive (new or old) at the meeting or at any other time.

Sunday, April 5 - Rainbow Tournament

Erindale Park

(Rain Date - April 12)

We will be running a Rainbow Trout tournament in the spring. At the time of the meeting we were talking with the Ontario Live Release Tournament people about running the tournament in conjunction with them. Since the meeting we have decided to run the tournament by ourselves. We will need a number of volunteers, so if you don't plan to enter the tournament, we could use your help. Please call the HOTLINE to volunteer.

Time: 5:30 am. to 1:30 pm.

Registration: 5:00 am. to 6:00 am.

Cost: \$20.00 if mailed and received before March 30. \$25.00 if registering in person at the tournament. Make your cheque or money order payable to CRAA if registering by mail.

Cash accepted only on day of tournament.

Mail your entry forms to the CRAA post office box attention "TOURNAMENT."

Prizes: 50% of entry fees to cash prizes.
50% of entry fees to CRAA conservation projects.

Prize Breakdown: 1st - 50% 2nd - 30% 3rd - 20%
Door prizes and draw prizes of merchandise depending on availability.

Food: Pop and Hot Dogs will be for sale. **FREE** Campbells Soup will be served after the tournament to warm you up.

Rules: Catch and keep 1 Rainbow Trout.

Once you catch a fish you intend to keep, tag the fish with the tag provided, through the jaw. Anglers found with untagged fish will be disqualified immediately. **DO NOT REMOVE ANY HOOKS OR THE FISH WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED LEGAL.** Obtain a signature from another tournament angler or official to verify the legality of the catch. You are free to fish for your own leisure once you have tagged a fish.

All federal and provincial laws must be observed.
(No Snagging)

Any ties in weight will be decided by the length of the fish from the tip of the snout to the top tip of the tail, while the fish is laying flat. Any further ties will be decided by time the first fish was entered.

CRAA assumes no responsibility for the loss of property, injury or other perils during the tournament.

For further information call:

Mark Tarnawczyk 625-8075

Phil Weir 622-2408

ANGLERS TIPS

By Simon Backley

If you find that your rod guides are icing up in the winter, spray the guides with a liberal coating of Armour All. This acts as an antifreeze to the water coming off your line.

ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

Articles for the April 'Light Lines' should be in by March 15, articles for the May issue should be submitted by April 15.

In the next issue:

Steelhead, Steelhead and more Steelhead. This is our Spring Steelhead issue, we want your tips, tactics and pictures of your favourite Steelhead.

We'll address the Port Credit harbour development and Texaco pier issues in a letter to City Hall.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

My fiancé is a member of C.R.A.A. and an avid angler. I would like to take a moment to speak on behalf of us women. I am writing about an issue that has never been mentioned in your Newsletter – the plight of the "Fishing Widow".

It seems as if every morning, late afternoon, and most weekends there is a fish to be caught, which only he can catch. Needless to say evenings are spent tying up roe bags and spooling reels etc., etc. We eat, sleep, and listen to fish talk most of the day.

I am sorry to say we are not salmon, trout or bass, but perhaps if we grew gills some of you would notice us more often. We are the women that many of you leave at home to clean you fishy smelling clothes, and to stare at dead stuffed fish on our walls. Well, we are bored and we're lonely. I am sure that some of the women are nodding their heads in agreement right about now.

I would like to make a suggestion. Perhaps C.R.A.A. could hold a mixed doubles tournament where wives and girlfriends could team up with their mates in a fishing derby. It would give the women a chance to meet each other and have some fun at the same time. I don't know much about fishing, but if it gave us a chance to be with our loved ones, I would certainly give it a try. Some women would prefer a fund raising dance I'm sure, but we all know it would probably interfere with the boys' quality fishing time.

I hope that you will consider my suggestions and print this letter. Because if we can't beat 'em we might as well join 'em. Participation may be the key, after all, no one wants us to be the "one that got away."

A Fishing Widow

Dear Fishing Widow:

First let me congratulate you on speaking out on behalf of women. It takes some courage to address issues such as this one and, well, not every woman I know is in the habit of picking up a fishing club newsletter on the off chance it might provide some light reading.

Obsession is the disease of many hard core anglers. But we must learn to temper it with some moderation. Men who leave their wives behind all of the time are missing a big slice of the picture. And girls, you know what they say... every fisherman wants a woman in waders!

But hey, I like your suggestions. We could use someone with your vim and vigour to help in organizing the social aspect of the club. Do I have a volunteer...?

-J.M.

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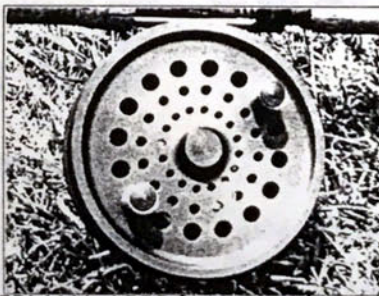


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