

## **JERRY BARTLETT NEWSLETTER 2016**

“Some men will fish when the moon is full, others when it’s empty, and still others only in between. But sun, moon, fog, mist, time, tide and crashing barometers are all alike to the real gone fisherman. In his secret heart he still knows that the best time to go fishing is when he can get away.” Robert Traver

### **20<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION 1996-2016**

By way of celebrating our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we have convened, or will convene, the following four-part series about fishing in the Catskills. They are, we modestly believe you will agree, unique. The presentations are recorded and archived as podcasts on news & events at our web site, [catskillanglingcollection.org](http://catskillanglingcollection.org). Still photos of the events and a written transcript will also be posted on the web site.

#### **FISHING FEVER FORUMS**

May 14, 2016: “Fishy Tales.” Active and retired DEC folks will treat us to a wide ranging discussion of topics like their major battles, stories of “Catskill Bill” Kelly, Wayne Elliot, fishery management crises, public fishing rights, etc. Moderated by Outdoor Writer Judy Van Put, the panel will include Jack Isaacs, Walt Keller, Mike Gann and Ed Van Put.

July 23, 2016: “On the river with Authors, Guides and Catskill Characters.” Ed Ostapczuk, Roger Menard, Hank Rope and local fishing guides will share their stories about fishing legends Ralph Hoffman, Paul O’Neil and Ray Smith, and their experiences on the river.

#### **PAST FORUMS**

April 16, 2016: “Art Flick, Author, Fly Tyer and Conservationist.” Panelists Judd Weisberg, Wendy Neefus, Tony Bonavist, John Hoeko, Dave Brandt and Bert Darrow shared personal anecdotes and reminiscences about Art Flick and the impact of his essential Streamside Guide to Naturals and Their Imitations.

March 19, 2016: “Frank Mele, the Fisherman, Author and Activist.” Moderated by local historian Bill Birns, Andy Mele, John Hoeko, Roger Menard and Tony Bonavist discussed Frank’s life and writings, and his contribution to the organization Catskill Waters and its campaign for increased water releases into the Catskill system in the 1970s.

**THE REJUVENARY RIVER CIRCUS**—More than 150 people enjoyed a theatrical performance at the Phoenicia Elementary School about the life of a river, featuring gorgeous masks, puppet characters, original sets, and original music by Arm of the Sea Theater.

The 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration special events and programs, Fishing Forums and River Circus, were made possible with funds from the Catskill Watershed Corporation, New York City D.E.P., Phoenicia Library and supporters of the Jerry Bartlett Memorial Angling Collection.

## **ALSO NOT TO BE MISSED**

"Catskill Fly Tying: The Art of Artifice"

Photography of Hatch Chart flies on display in Woodstock's Kleinert/James Center for the Arts  
May 6 – June 26, 2016 | Opening Reception Saturday, May 7, 4 – 6pm

An exhibition at the Woodstock Byrdcliffe Guild's Kleinert/James Gallery features professional photographer and fly fishing guide Mark Loete's large-format photographs of the work of the fly tyers who tied the flies displayed in our hatch chart. The show will include approximately 40 macro photographs of exquisitely crafted trout fishing flies, celebrating the centuries-old fly tying tradition and the master artisans who fabricate these jewel-like miniature sculptures out of feathers, fur, and thread. This collection of extraordinary images echoes the historic Byrdcliffe Guild's original focus — the making of beautiful objects, both functional and artistic, by hand. For more information, visit [www.artfromartifice.com](http://www.artfromartifice.com) or [www.woodstockguild.org](http://www.woodstockguild.org).

**THANK YOU**—This is a list of people who've helped us through donations over the past year. Many thanks to Walt Keller, Calvin C. Smith, John and Linda Byer, John Rowen, Robert and Anita Siegenthaler, Amy Lefevre, Susan Fahey, Terrence P. Cummings, Janet Maslo, Djelloul Marbrook, Andrew Franck, Renata McElroy-Perlman. If your name has been left out, we're sorry. It wasn't on purpose. We'll try to do better next year.

**HANKSPEAK**—local guide and fly tier extraordinaire Hank Rope's take on the current scene—Fishing is off to one of the slowest starts in years. Early morning water temps in the mid forty's warming to maybe 54 if sunny. Trout at the Phoenicia school have been a disaster. Total of nine fish left. Unable to explain the demise except for the poor guys sucked up into the chiller. Fixed that with pantyhose over the intake.

Looking forward to the Henrickson hatch.

Hank—

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE**—Yes, even in the pastoral heart of the Southern Catskills, we've got a website. Check it out. [www.catskillanglingcollection.org](http://www.catskillanglingcollection.org)

**PARTING SHOT**—The Jerry Bartlett Collection exists as the result of private donations of everything from time to money, to books, to sweat and elbow grease; and offers of any or all of these are gratefully accepted and appreciated.

Our book donation policy includes books on our Book Wish List which you will find in the Angler's Parlor or on our web site. We would especially like to acquire books that focus on the Catskills. Book duplication can be avoided by contacting Beth Waterman either by phone or e-mail.

If you'd like to volunteer to put on an angling-related workshop or demonstration, or if you have questions about the collection, please get in touch with our chairman Beth Waterman (845) 254-4116, or our co-chair Doris Bartlett (845) 688-7101.

We'd like to encourage you to add your e-mail address to our list so that you can receive occasional announcements of special events, workshops, future newsletters, and a plethora of other good fishy things. Please send your e-mail queries to [bethia.waterman@gmail.com](mailto:bethia.waterman@gmail.com).

CHEERS—

Mike O'Neil

Docent, Civis et Piscator Dei Gratia