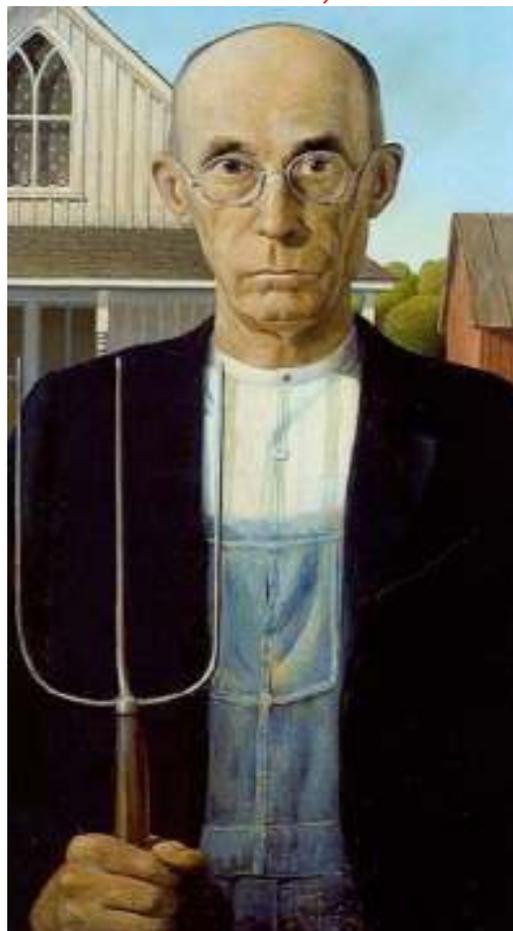




Newsletter March 2009

# HELP WANTED!

**MARCH 28, 2009**



## **CLEAN UP DAY!**

**THE CLUB'S DEDICATED SENIORS AND A COUPLE OF THE YOUNGER MEMBERS CANNOT DO IT ALONE. WE ENCOURAGE OUR JUNIOR MEMBERS AND ALL OTHER MEMBERS TO JOIN IN, FOR A FEW HOURS OF GROUNDS CLEANING BEFORE OPENING DAY. PLEASE KEEP THAT MORNING A PRIORITY. THANK YOU!**

## March Meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup>

The March meeting will be Thursday  
March 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 P.M.

We'll make plans for the upcoming clean  
up day and for opening day.

## 2009 Elections

The slate proposed by the nominating  
committee was approved unanimously at  
the February meeting. So, the officers and  
directors for 2009 are:

President: Jon Cave,

Vice President: Richard Marashlian,

Treasurer: Doug Donaldson,

Secretary: Bob Lynch

Board of Directors: Rollie Johnson, Roy

Swartz, Ed van Sickle, Danny Socci and

Dave Matthes

## 2009 Membership Renewals

The dues for 2009 will remain \$125 per  
year for adults and \$50 per year for  
juniors.

Invoices were mailed to all members in  
December. Only current members can

fish in the pond and some holdovers have  
already been caught. Don't wait for  
opening day!

## Opening Day April 4<sup>th</sup>

Spring opening day will be Saturday, April  
4<sup>th</sup>. A few bleary-eyed cooks will start  
cooking a robust breakfast around 5:00  
AM. The Coffee will be ready at 5:00.  
The traditional breakfast with pancakes,  
eggs, bacon, sausage and home fries will  
be served starting at 6:00 AM. This will  
fortify you for the morning's fishing, and  
all for only \$5.00! The fishing starts at

7:00 AM. We need volunteers to prepare  
breakfast and to clean up afterwards.

The pond will be stocked the week of  
March 30<sup>th</sup>. After the fish are stocked,  
there is no fishing until 7:00 AM on  
opening day. Look for a notice posted on  
the clubhouse to indicate when the fishing  
is closed.

## April Meeting

On April 16<sup>th</sup> we'll have a special  
presentation and film by Dwayne Shaw,  
Executive Director of the  
Downeast Salmon Federation about the  
Atlantic Salmon restoration program in

Maine. The film reportedly features some  
members of the club from many years  
past and maybe some present members.  
We'll have to see it to find out. This  
should be a great evening.

## Club Shirts

Member Bob Timmerman is in the  
custom embroidery business and he has  
arranged to make available a line of shirts  
with an embroidered Needham  
Sportsman's Club logo. A sample was  
modeled by Jon Cave at the February

meeting. Orders are due by March 19<sup>th</sup> (at  
the meeting) or you can contact Bob at  
781-444-3419 or email  
[robttees@comcast.net](mailto:robttees@comcast.net). Embroidered  
patches are also available for \$5.00,  
contact Jon Cave.

## Club History Part IV

By Ray Capobianco

Part III closed near the end of the Club's first year at the new pond (1954). At the final meeting in June the president, John White, announced "we can all take pride in this past year. In that span we've obtained our own trout pond, ran a successful field trial, held a fine annual banquet and fund raiser, rifle and pistol shooting now available to all members, membership now exceeds 200".

As new property owners, The Needham Sportsman's Club now had a "home" or an identity and with this came new interest. Monthly meetings were becoming popular events attracting increased membership.

The 1950s brought about many changes; the game bird rearing had stopped but the Club still assisted the Mass. Fish & Wildlife with game and fish stocking programs, a junior rifle and pistol program was initiated, field trial entries increased from 80 to over 90, new members brought added revenue and the annual banquet and raffle table became the major fund raisers.

As John White said, a lot was accomplished that first year, but by today's standards the pond was still a shallow man-made impoundment, 6-8 feet deep, built in the late 1800s for harvesting ice. The upper end where the brook entered was basically a swamp. The access road along the dam was narrow with over

hanging trees, there was very limited parking and a normal back cast was next to impossible except at 2 or 3 locations. Some clearing of trees and brush allowed for an exciting opening day at the Club's new home. The Trout Pond Committee had been meeting all spring and plans were in the works for major improvements. They brought forward a proposal to drain the pond at the end of June and "scooping out the mud and silt in the lower 2/3 of the pond" also to replace the outflow pipe, all to be completed before winter. To reduce the cost, dredging of the upper end would wait till the following year because draining the pond was not required to accomplish this. The committee also recommended that pond dues be increased by \$5.00 to \$15.00 to offset cost of these improvements.

The trout pond was drained late in June. Unfortunately work was continually delayed because of weather. The new outflow pipe didn't arrive till November; however, all work was completed before winter. Measured depth along the dam was now 12 feet. Dredged silt and loam was piled near the roadway, it was to be sold as a source of income for the Club. (There were few buyers, and what soil remained was subsequently used for fill and landscaping around the property).

To be continued ...

## Fishing Report

It was a tough winter, but spring is arriving. There have been several reports of trout up to thirteen inches that were caught in the trout pond in the last couple

of weeks. The fishing for the holdovers can be very good in March. It feels great to break out the rod after a long winter.

## Needham Sportsman's Club

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