

THE BOB DWYER FISHING CLUB



NEWS LETTER

MARCH – 2013

President Emeritus' Corner

Congratulations to our new slate of officers for the year 2013 as follows:

- **Tim Flynn** – President
- **Patrick J. Grimes** – Vice President
- **Jim Flynn** – Secretary
- **Peter Snetzko** – Treasurer

The conditions for fishing looked terrific as our membership embarked upon the Catskills for our *Fall Outing*. A front came in a day before our *Ray Williams* week and the streams were cloudy and high. Although there was a sudden drop in temperature I still thought that we would match or even beat our *Spring Outing*. **Not So!** The *fishing* was great but the *catching* not so good. However, we all pitched in and we were able to have enough trout for another great fish fry – **Gary and his crew** were at their best.

Bobby Dwyer came through as promised and had **Scott Wells** and his team from the DEC on premises to give us a lesson on stream conditions and the fish population. He and his partner, a longtime friend shocked the upper reaches of the Little Delaware and the Mountain Brook Stream which runs right in front of the Inn.



Dave Dimmick won the coveted *Triple Crown* – certainly a bench mark for all members (more on that later in this newsletter). Rumor has it that the Yankees are going to replace *A-Rod* with *DD-Rod*.

There were a lot of family obligations for a number of our members which kept the attendance down, but as usual ... a good time was had by all. I wish our new officers the best of luck during this upcoming season and I thank all of you for allowing me to serve you as your Club President.



Len Winstanley

**President Emeritus
BDFC**

President's Corner

I pen my greetings on the first day of Spring 2013. Less than two weeks until opening day and all thoughts are on hitting the streams in search of that trophy trout hidden beneath the surface. I couldn't resist checking the internet for the current weather conditions in Bovina Center. 'Currently 23 degrees with snow and a low of 17 degrees overnight.' Only slightly improved conditions from when **Peter Snetzko** reported back from Bovina during his February visit. He included the photo (below) which I titled '*Zero degrees on the Mountain Brook.*' Hang in there **Gary**, it has got to warm up soon!



Zero degrees on the Mountain Brook

Peter's photo made me reminisce of an early Spring trip many years ago when we were staying at the Buena Vista Motel in Delhi. I had the distinct honor of sharing a room with **Robbie Dwyer** and his dad **Bob**. By 3:30am I had reached the conclusion that sleep would not come, so I slipped out of the room. Undeterred by the heavy falling snow, I headed toward the blissful quiet of the *three bridges* on the upper reaches of the West Branch. Still very dark out, my approach to the first hole was silent with the help of the soft snow beneath my feet. And as a result of this, I was rewarded with a nice 12 inch brown on my initial cast. She couldn't possibly have been expecting me.

These were the *ideal conditions*, I thought to myself. This might be my breakthrough day on the river. Then, as I began moving up stream, I realized that I was getting '*taller & taller!*' as the snow continued to pack onto the bottom of my waders.

And every few casts my rod eyelets became fouled with ice and snow. My efforts became futile, so I gave up on the fishing and sat for a long while in that *dirty old chair* by the great hole at the first bridge. I soaked in the quiet sounds of the stream as dawn broke and illuminated the beautiful scene before me. *That*, was the highlight of my day. Incidentally, the snow on my boots was five inches thick by the time I got back to the car.

I learned some good lessons that morning: **(1)** Figure out a way to enjoy the passage of time even as things don't go as you had hoped; **(2)** Never wear felt bottomed waders in the snow; and **(3)** *Always spring ... for your own room ... if you care to sleep!*

Which reminds me of *another story*. It was quite late, by the time this *Marine* pulled into the Mountain Brook Inn only to find that *every room* was taken. “you’ve got to have a room somewhere,” he pleaded. “Or just a bed, I don’t care where.” “Well I do have a double room with one occupant, a *Navy* guy,” admitted Gary, “And he might be glad to split the cost. But to tell you the truth, he snores so loudly that those in adjoining rooms have complained in the past. I’m not sure it’d be worth it to you.” “*No problem,*” the tired Marine assured him. “I’ll take it!” The next morning, when Gary delivered the breakfast basket to the Marine, he was *bright-eyed* and *bush-tailed*. “how’d you sleep?” asked Gary. “Never better,” he replied. Gary was impressed. “No trouble with the other guy snoring then?” “Nope, I shut him up in no time,” said the Marine. “How’d you manage that?” asked Gary. “Well, he was already in bed, snoring away, when I came into the room,” the Marine explained. “So I went right over, gave him a *big kiss* on the cheek, and said ‘*goodnight beautiful,*’ and he sat up all night – *watching me!*”



I was reading *New York Game & Fish* magazine yesterday. The headline of the article “*New York’s 2013 Trout Forecast*” reads ‘Despite several weather events the last few years, trout stocking numbers are back, wild populations are doing well and anglers should have plenty of opportunity in 2013.’ It will be

two years in August since ‘*Tropical Storm Irene*’ devastated the Catskills. I remember watching on CNN, the videos of Main Street in Margaretville (see above photos). I can only imagine how Gary must have felt watching his gazebo materials washing downstream and wondering if the partially constructed structure would follow. Yet as hard as Mother Nature can be, the trout survive and rebuild.

Last year we saw some of the best fishing we have had in recent memory. Young **Ryan Dwyer** and **Dwyer Grimes** landed 18 & 20 inch whoppers, respectively. We also saw **Jack Flynn** and **Chris O’Gorman** breaking through by not only catching trout - but catching big ones as well. Our veterans certainly reminded us of how to do it, starting with my dad, **Jim Flynn** landing a 20” brown and **Dave Dimmick** marking another three trophy year. What a year it was! *Three generations* of BDFC members enjoying the fishing, the true friendships and the passage of wonderful times together. Not only *the secret* to a great fishing club, *but the secret* - to life itself.

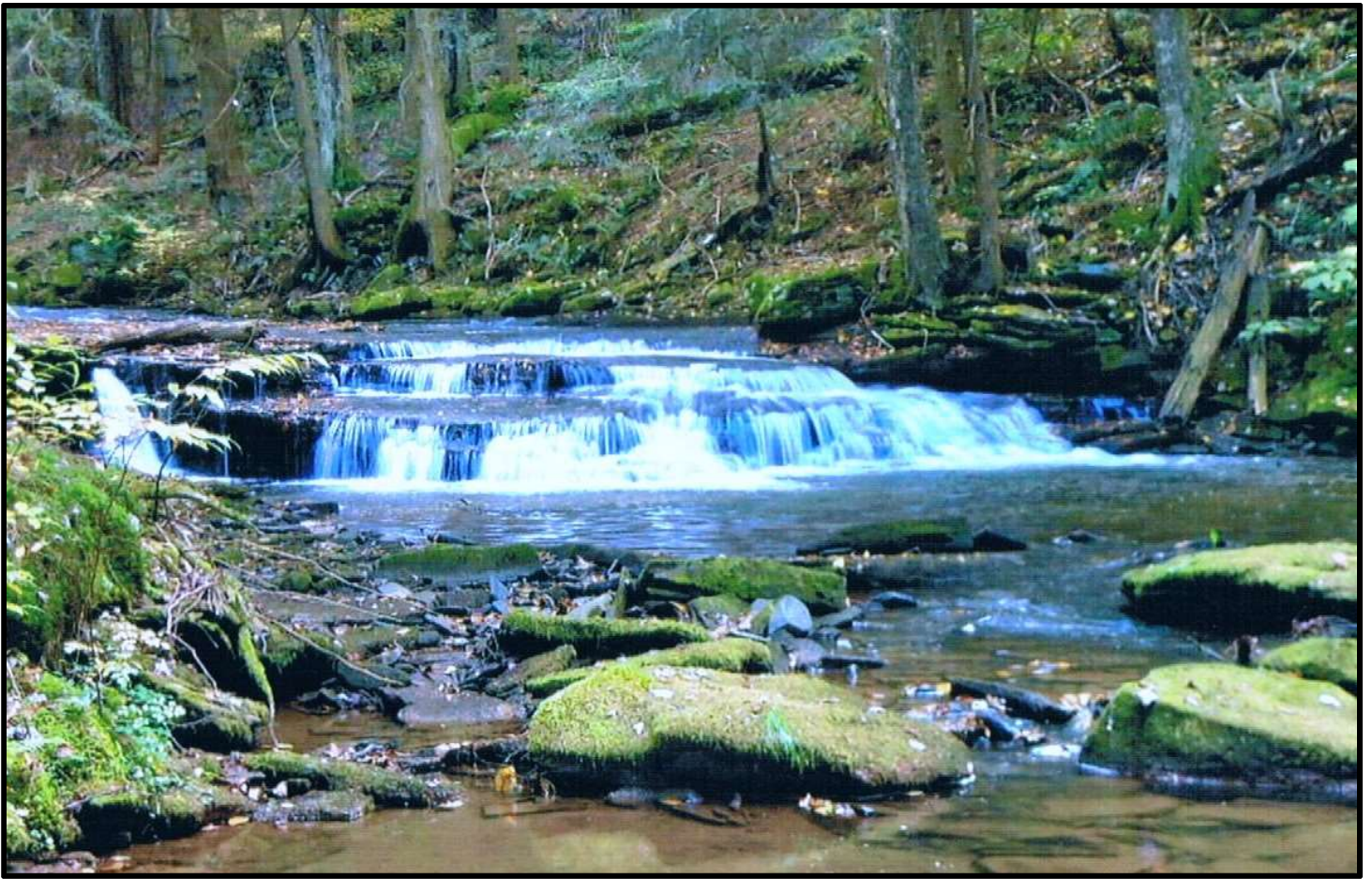
One of my highlights of 2012 was Bob Dwyer’s slide presentation depicting some of the history of the club as well as her original members. I hope we can continue discussions on creating a central archive, documenting the club’s history and possibly establishing a position of – “*Club Historian.*” The first forty years of BDFC is truly the *heart* of our club and it must be carried with us and celebrated, for the *next* forty years. May God bless **Patrick H. Grimes**, for what he had the foresight ... to bring together.

And what a year 2013 promises to be. What does the article I mentioned above say about **DEC Region 4?** “The Northern Catskill Region is home to some of the best known trout streams in the country. And the West Branch of the Delaware downstream of the Cannonsville Reservoir tops the list of wild trout streams.” We all know upstream of the Cannonsville, isn’t too shabby either - **BRING IT ON!** I Hope to see everybody in June.



Tim Flynn

**President
BDFC**



Where is this beautiful trout stream?

Can you guess where this beautiful *tiered waterfalls* is? If *you can*, I will treat you to a dinner at the Andes Hotel this coming Spring. No one identified where the “*secret brookie stream*” was, that I highlighted in the last contest, so I ended up *eating alone*. So now I ask, that you look this one over and send me your guesses.

Of course there are a *select few* who know the answer already ... *and you are not eligible* ... to render a guess. I happen to know who you are ... *and so do you* ... so do not try to fool me - by saying you're not one of them.

The beauty of this pool, is that just above this one and out of sight, is an even better and deeper pool where a few *brookies* like to hang out ... eat your heart out Lenny!

My email address is rsdwyer@aol.com if you wish to opine (that means if you wish to send your opinion). And I will reply accordingly to your guess. Am looking forward to seeing all you guys this Spring.



Bob Dwyer

**Field Editor
BDFC**

Some Further Reflections

Considering the enormity of winning all three Club Trophies in a single season, I asked Dave Dimmick to articulate a bit on how he was able to pull off a second **Triple Crown** ... this is what he wrote:

It was a nice June morning when I decided to hit the West Branch up by South Kortright. My wife (Francine) and I were staying in a cabin just outside of Delhi, on route 28. I got up early, about 5am, and headed out for a few hours of fishing in that area.

I parked in a public fishing spot just below the high school in South Kortright (almost across from the Hidden Inn). The water was pretty low so I was very cautious in my approach, not wanting to scare any trout that might be lurking around. The trout were hitting *so-so* and I had kept a couple of decent browns so far. Getting close to the first wooded weir that spans the river, I cast a worm to the right side of the structure where there was a small pocket of foam. The worm barely hit the water when something grabbed it and the fight was on. At first I thought it was a good brown, but as it got close enough for me to see, I saw the **brilliant colors** and realized it was a **brook trout** – and a **sizable one** at that. I finally got it within net range and hustled it ashore. It turned out to be a nice hook jawed male, 16 inches long.



Dave Dimmick's 16" Brook Trout

I continued fishing up stream and wound up catching my limit, all of the while thinking, that the **Perry Dimmick Trophy** for the largest brook trout - was safely stashed away, in my creel.

In looking forward to our *Fall Outing* I knew that the chances of getting the **BDFC Trophy** and the **Ray Williams Trophy** with a single trout would prove to be somewhat tougher. So with that in mind, I set my goal towards winning the Ray Williams Trophy at least. I figured that wouldn't be as difficult a task, since a trout of less than 20" had won it in the past. However, the odds are still stacked against you, when competing against the caliber of fishermen we have in the club, all vying for the same prize.

I made the drive down from Painted Post after lunch on the 27th of September. I first stopped at East Brook in Walton and fished for a very short while. I threw back a few nice trout and then continued my journey to the Mountain Brook Inn. However, who am I to drive by a couple of my favorite spots on the lower end of the Little Delaware? I will tell you that I was in site of the golf course while fishing one of those afore mentioned holes (but I won't be more specific).

For whatever reason, I caught four nice browns in about fifteen minutes or so. But being known to be somewhat **stubborn** (right Lenny?), I wanted that **fifth trout**. After about a half hour of trying I decided to give up after one last cast ... "**wham!**" The only thing I could figure is that this one *got tired* of seeing my *night-crawler* pass his face so many times, "**that he took the bait!**" Now, this was a fight! I knew that I had plenty of room to play with what truly might prove to be, *the trophy winner(s)*, I was looking for. So I took my time. After a bruising battle, Mr. Brown finally tired and I was able to bring him ashore ... he measured 21 inches.

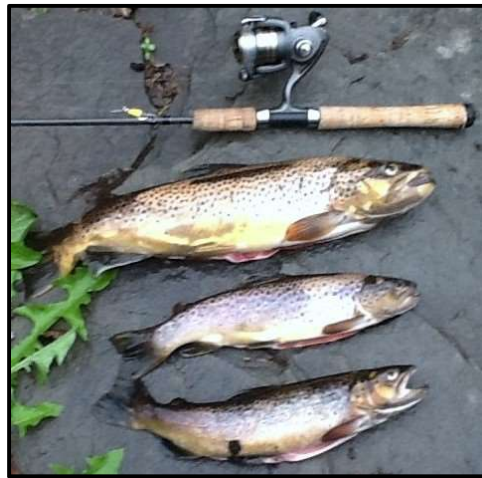


Of course, that gave me the *trophy lead* with a few days remaining in the season, which really means *nothing* any more. Using a yogi-ism: ***“It isn’t over until it’s over.”*** I knew that the competition would be tough coming down the stretch, but not having **Jon Dwyer** or any of the **Grimes Clan** there was a certain boost for me.

This time, the competition came from our treasurer, **Peter Snetzko**. He wound up catching a beauty of a brown trout, which measured in at 20 ¼ inches. Which was a quarter inch longer, than the 20 inchers caught by **Dwyer Grimes** and **Jim Flynn** back in June.

So for the **second time** in club history, all three trout were garnered by the same person.

Dave’s 21” Brown Trout



Peter Snetzko’s 20 ¼ incher **Another batch of trout for Peter**

BDFC Charter Member sitting in that “Dirty Old Chair” by the great hole, at the “First Bridge” on the West Branch

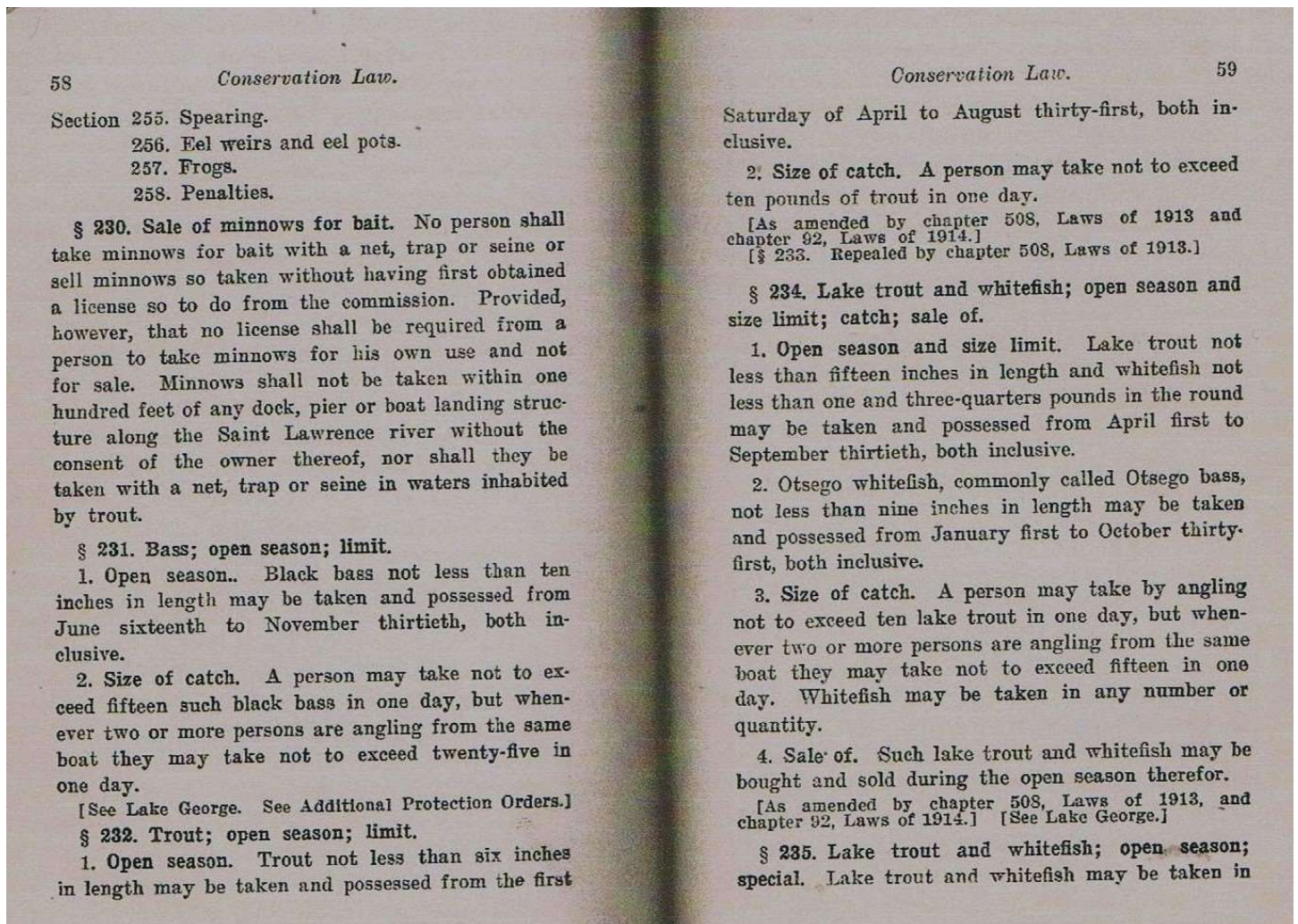


Training Center in Danbury

N.Y. Yankee’s pitcher Mariano Rivera instructs Jon Dwyer Grimes of Sandy Hook, Ct. during a Clinic that was held January 5, 2013, at Frozen Ropes

It was great to see member **Billy Warren**, finally make it up to the Catskills, with

BDFC Members Golf Outing



Dave Dimmick spoke to us about the **1917 Conservation Laws** (depicted above) at our Club Meeting in September. He pointed out that the minimum legal size of trout was **six inches** and the daily limit was not to exceed **ten pounds**. The license fee was **\$1.00** for residents with a **10 cent surcharge** to the issuing clerk. A non-resident license was **\$2.00** plus a **50 cent surcharge**. The season ran from the first Saturday in April through and including August 31st. The regulation also stated that one could not use **dynamite** for the purpose of catching trout; and as Dave put it: *"But what do you do if they aren't biting?"*

Some **changes** being proposed for trout fishing in New York State, which will affect all of us, include the following: (1) Fishing licenses will now be valid for **365 days** from the **date of purchase**, (2) Resident fishing license will be reduced from \$29 to \$25, and (3) Non-Resident fishing license will be reduced from \$70 to \$50. Now allow me to close, by wishing ...



A Blessed and Holy Easter to All of You,

Jon Dwyer

**Publisher
BDFC**

