

# New England Fly Tyers



NEWS LETTER

January 2017

## Winter Message



New England winters are an interesting mix of behaviors, emotions and activities that we all enter with an individual approach. There are those that look forward to the cold that brings ice to our lakes and ponds as they carefully ready their tilts and jigging rods and sharpen auger blades and chisels. They eagerly await and explore for the first safe ice in order to assure that their fishing experience is a year long endeavor.

There's another group that welcomes the cold winter months by migrating to southerly climes where their fishing passions can be extended with rod and reel while wearing shorts and t-

shirts. To them, the snow and ice is nothing more than a 30 second news clip or a conversation with relatives or friends who remain in the frozen north.

Yet another method of passing the frozen months is to spend time preparing for the great defrost. Washing lines, lubricating reels, repairing broken or damaged rods, inventorying flies and equipment and restocking the depleted inventory is how they spend their winters. Tying flies to replace old used patterns and experimenting with new offerings is a ritual included in our annual cycle of fishing. And on occasion we add a new rod by shopping for the best deal we can find or even building a new one if we are adventurous.

And one activity we almost all enjoy is planning our next season of fish-

ing. Whether is an appointment with a local brook or pond, a promise to ply the waters of a new river or lake we've always said we go to but haven't yet, or a dream trip to some western fishery or even Alaska, the planning is such welcome adventure in and of itself.

No matter how you choose to tackle winter and its frozen exterior, the NEFT is a hub of activity to help you through. Conversations about local ice fishing opportunities, favorite fly nights to learn a new pattern or technique, fly tying and rod building classes or just a place to sit on Monday nights to tie some flies and share stories with others whom you share common interests, its all there to help you bide time until that first cast of the new season.

## NEFT Calendar

<b>January 9</b>	7:00pm
Open Tying	Board of Director's meeting
<b>January 16</b>	7:00pm
Open Tying	
<b>January 20, 21, 22</b>	Marlboro Show
<b>January 23</b>	7:00
Open House	Favorite Fly
<b>January 27, 28, 29</b>	NE Sportsmen's Show
<b>January 30</b>	Open House

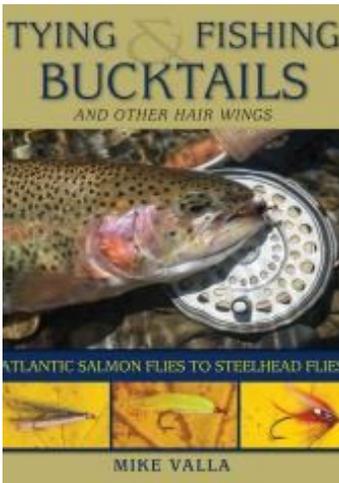
## Events to plan for:

<b>Feb 6<sup>th</sup></b>	Open House Board of Director's Meeting
<b>Feb 13<sup>th</sup></b>	Open Tying Fly Tying Lessons begin.
<b>March 6<sup>th</sup></b>	Open Tying Rod Building Class Begins
<b>March 11<sup>th</sup></b>	Youth Outreach Begins
<b>March 13<sup>th</sup></b>	Open Tying Board of Director's Meeting
<b>March 20<sup>h</sup></b>	Pot Luck Supper
<b>April 28<sup>ond</sup></b>	Banquet
<b>May 1<sup>ond</sup></b>	Board of Director's Meeting
<b>May 13<sup>h</sup></b>	Club Outing
<b>May 22<sup>rd</sup></b>	Business Meeting (Last Meeting of the Year)

# New England Fly Tyers

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## Book Review: Tying & Fishing Bucktails and other hairwings, by Mike Valla



Over the years we have included numerous book reviews in our newsletter that we hope will both entertain and educate readers as they explore new books to add to their collections. This month's book, **Tying and Fishing Bucktails and other hairwings** by Mike Valla is a must have if you tie

hair wing patterns. Mike has written many books including The Founding Flies and Tying Catskill-Style Dry Flies which are classics in their own right, and this new offering which includes over 500 patterns joins them as a valuable resource for bucktails and their techniques for use. The book includes

patterns for flies used from coast to coast and the techniques employed to successfully fish them. Classics such as the Mickey Finn, Black Nose Dace and Thunder Creek Series are all included. Published by Stackpole Books, its available at most shops and many on line book stores.

## Annual Dues



As I'm sure you all remember, a couple of years ago the membership voted to make annual membership dues coincide with our annual membership drive which primarily takes place in January during the fishing and sportsmen's shows. This is an important time of the year for the NEFT whereas the majority of our

operating budget is collected now and it is this income that allows us to provide the opportunities we do. Weekly meetings, tying opportunities and lessons, social gatherings, youth outreach and outings are just a few of the many opportunities the NEFT offers. This year the Board of Di-

rectors has decided that all members will be sent a renewal letter in the mail which will include an opportunity to update your personal information such as mailing and email addresses. Please take the time to read over the renewals and promptly return them as soon as possible.

## Trout Brook Outing, a possible change in venue



Each may the NEFT hosts a family outing which has traditionally been held at the Trout Brook Reservation in Holden. Trout Brook has always been great venue with a small stocked pond, pavilion and other amenities for attendees to

utilize. However, in an attempt to expand the opportunities for activities the Board of Directors has had preliminary discussions to consider moving the event to Wallum Lake and Douglas State Park. The opportunities available

at the park include 2 pavilions, a boat ramp, hundreds of feet of shore line and a body of water that is well stocked by both Massachusetts and Rhode Island. If you have any thoughts, please share them with the BOD.



***To Promote Fly Fishing and Tying***

Our mailing address is:  
PO Box 164  
Worcester, MA 01613

The NEFT meets every Monday evening at 7 PM from the Monday after Labor Day to the Monday before Memorial day. We meet at the Singletary Rod & Gun , 300 Sutton Ave., Oxford Ma.

*NEFT is a non-profit organization of fly fishers and fly tyers. The purpose of the organization is to foster the art of fly tying, to promote the challenge of fly fishing, to encourage conservation and sportsmanship.*

*NEFT began in Worcester, MA in 1972. Our current membership comes from over 50 cities and towns in Worcester County. We believe that the NEFT is one of the most active clubs of its kind. We meet every Monday night from the Monday after Labor Day to the Monday before Memorial day, a total of 36 meetings in 9 months.*

**We're on the Web**

**[www.newenglandflytyers.org](http://www.newenglandflytyers.org)**