



# Maine's Legacy

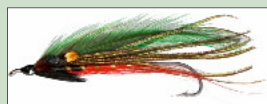


A publication of Maine's Youth Fish & Game Association  
TWP .32MD Chapter 1

September 2003

Volume 1, Issue 1

Our "Maine" objective is to enhance our most precious and valuable renewable resources, our youth and our wildlife.



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## Welcome to the Pickerel Pond Facility

By Dave Georgia

It's a Saturday afternoon and you're sitting around watching a baseball game on television. It's the seventh inning stretch and the Red Sox are losing to the Yankees...again. In between innings, your kids chase each other through the house screaming. You raise your voice showing your disapproval. Your wife glares at you showing her disapproval, then adds "They're just bored." You're thinking to yourself, I really should be outside on such a beautiful day! But what is there to do?"

A commercial airs advertising a sale at a local sporting goods store featuring spring fishing and turkey hunting equipment. Your daughter asks you "Dad will you take us fishing?" Your son adds "Yeah Dad out to Pickerel Pond." Then it bites you, like an Atlantic Salmon striking a Colburn Special. You realize exactly what you're going to do the rest of the day. "I'm going to take my kids fishing."

Welcome to Pickerel Pond and **Maine's Youth Fish and Game Association**. Upon your arrival the chickadees are singing, children are laughing and the brook trout are jumping in the eleven acre, spring fed kettle pond located in Twp. 32MD in Hancock County. A brand new 24 X 32 log cabin, donated by Mike Hartt of Northern Log Homes and built entirely with donations and by community volunteers, stands nestled in the pines overlooking the water. The location has a remote setting yet is still accessible from Milford.

The land, encompassing approximately 21.8 acres has been donated by International Paper, is leased to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and is occupied by **Maine's Youth Fish and Game Association** for the purpose of maintaining a youth conservation and educational initiative at Pickerel Pond.

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## Open House a Success

It was a damp rainy Saturday in June when the Pickerel Pond facility had it's one year open house. But the rain didn't stop the cooks from delivering a variety of wild game to about 200 hungry visitors, and it didn't stop the fishing...and you'd better believe, there was fishing.

Eagerly, the young fishermen watched their bobbers. Was that a nibble or just a tiny twitch of the pole causing that bobber to dance that way on the water? Could it be the "big one?"

As I also anxiously monitored the young angler's bobbers, I was taken back to a time when I too fished in this very same pond. Being the eldest grandchild of a very avid fisherman, I was privy to the best fishing holes and the finest casting techniques available. Oh, I may have snagged a tree or two, and I know that I lost more than one worm on a hidden log, but my grandfather was very patient with me. From him, I learned not only how to find

the "good spots" but also the incredibly important values of ecological awareness, patience, and most importantly perhaps, how to handle disappointment in a positive way. You can't always catch the "big one" in life.

Pickerel Pond was one of our favorite fishing haunts. My grandfather would be impressed by the work that the **Maine's Youth Fish and Game Association** has done at the facility. The programs of the



*Continued on page 3*



The facility site is approximately 6.4 acres comprising the building, day use area, parking area and boat launch.

**Maine's Youth Fish and Game Association** was established for the purpose of promoting the love and respect of the outdoors in Maine for the youth of Maine and extending to these youth the treasures of experience in the outdoors. Our mission is to share with our children the beauty and bounty of nature in all it's works; to learn the ways of wildlife, to promote conservation, the importance of habitat, and the joys of discovery to be found in the woods, waters and the skies of Maine. **Our "Maine" objective is to enhance our most precious and valuable renewable resources, our youth and our wild-life.** Further, we resolve to encourage our youth to use the knowledge we then them toward to foster respect for themselves, their neighbors and families, the environment and all we derive from it. In so treating with our youth, we hope to further ensure the longevity of our traditions, our love of community and pride in country.

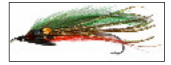
My own observations in the field as a district Game Warden is that there is a lack of youth participation in traditional outdoor activities.

I am very excited about **Maine's Youth Fish and Game Association** and the potential impact this unique educational opportunity will have on our youth. I am equally excited that so many facets of the community came together to make this dream a reality. We all stand to benefit from this coordinated and most worthy effort. Our grass roots heritage of hunting, fishing, trapping, and other related activities associated with Maine's legacy will be shared and passed on to our youth for future generations just like our fathers and grandfathers passed on to us.

**Maine's Youth Fish and Game Association** is an example of community policing in the purest sense of the term. It brings Law Enforcement, Corporate America, State and Local Government and our Community together working towards a common goal. To be completely effective in today's society, the Depart-

ment of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife must continuously seek out new and innovative programs like **Maine's Youth Fish and Game Association** to enhance youth participation in traditional outdoor recreation. The value of a comprehensive, proactive agenda to the Maine Warden Service is obvious. Identifying specific target audiences for law enforcement agency's endeavors can only serve to enhance effectiveness. I, for one, cannot think of a better target audience than our youngsters.

**Dave Georgia is a resident of Milford and a founder of the Youth Fish & Game Association there.**



## A Thank You to the Board

I sincerely wish to thank Maine's Youth Fish and Game Association's Board of Directors, members and corporate affiliates for their generous donations, time and commitment that has made a dream into a reality.

A few years ago the idea of having a place where the youth of Maine could go and experience the traditional pleasures of the great outdoors was, just that, a dream. A locale was envisioned where our grass roots heritage of hunting, fishing, trapping and other activities associated with Maine's legacy could be shared and passed on to our youth for future generations.

I'm sure you'll be pleased to see that we've established a significant investment in bringing you the full value of your membership, a dedicated investment in conservation and a continuing recruitment and education effort.

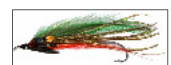
Our new facility at beautiful Pickerel Pond in Twp.32MD serves as a visible example of the generosity and vision that the people of Maine have to offer. We have a committed group of volunteers developing programs for the use of this great facility and have joined with other organizations around a shared mission, providing healthy and positive opportunities for our youth through the great outdoors.

You have my commitment of continuing those efforts and to further strengthen and expand the scope of services that we as an association provide to our youth and the citizens of this State. We will continue to labor against those who dare to steal away our heritage in favor of their own narrow illusion of what life in Maine ought to be.

I urge you to continue to generate new ideas or suggestions that rev us up to keep this unique project improving, as well as renewed relationships that keep us collaborating throughout the year. I hope we can expand the dialogue and the networking, and I strongly encourage you to keep the lines of communication open.

Again, thank you for your support. Please visit our beautiful facility made possible by your generosity.

David Georgia Jr.  
President



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### Woodcock Survey A Opportunity in Learning

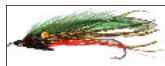
It's not often that a youngster has the opportunity to hold a woodcock these days. But, while several onlookers waited with baited breath, the young man in the photo was allowed to not only hold the woodcock, but he was also allowed to let it fly from his hands.



The young man was one of a group of observers who showed up to see how woodcocks are netted and then banded by Dan McAuley and Jerry Longcore. USGS researchers are banding and then tracking the activities of these peculiar birds. Fortunately for the bystanders, some of that work took place near the Maine's Youth Fish and Game Association's Pickerel Pond facility.

Tyler Gifford and State Biologist Dan McAuley

On May 4th and for several evenings thereafter, the public was invited to view the banding/weighting process. Was it worth it for Tyler to have come? His picture with Dan McAuley seems to tell the story.



Keep watch for other unique opportunities....

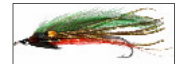
### Open House A Success

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Association will instill in future generations those same values that my grandfather so gently taught to me.

And the little fishermen that so eagerly waited for those bobbers in front of me that day? They are receiving a community gift that will stay with them forever.

By Pam Wells



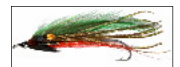
Pam is the President of the Friends of Sunkhaze Meadows National Wildlife Refuge in Milford... For more information on Sunkhaze refuge visit, [www.sunkhaze.org](http://www.sunkhaze.org)

### September Spaghetti Banquet

On Saturday, September 13th from 6PM to 10PM, a spaghetti banquet will be held at the Old Town Elks Club in Old Town. Evening activities will include door prizes, raffles and an auction as well as entertainment by local humorists, Clyde Folsom and Joe Bennett. The event will be emceed by WLBZ's Ric Tyler.

The Old Town Elks have generously donated their hall and will provide their expertise in the kitchen.

A small fee will be charged for entertainment. (\$5 for adults, \$3 for youth)

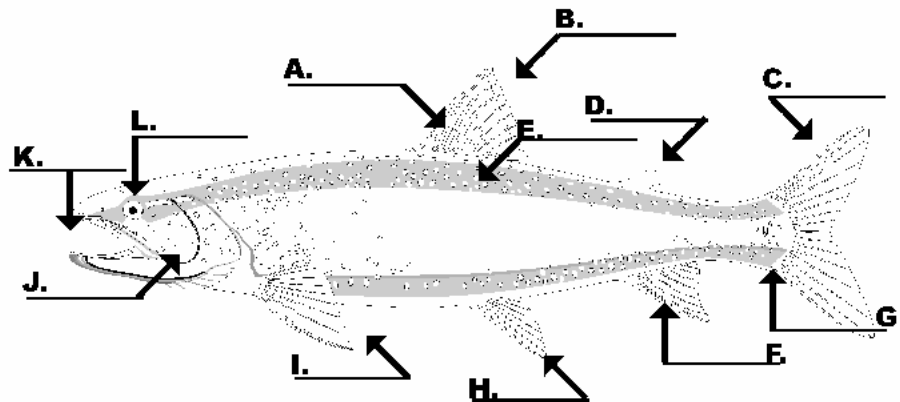


### Do you know the anatomy of a fish?

Below is a list of fish anatomy? Can you match the name with the right part? Fill in the names on the lines below...

#### Kid's Corner

Fish can make great pets—and some make great dinners (for other fish, birds, animals AND PEOPLE!) Some people like to watch them; others like to catch them.



To swim as well as fish do, we'd have to grow strong tails and fins!

1. Anal fin; 2. Dorsal spines; 3. Caudal fin; 4. Mouth; 5. Eye; 6. Second dorsal fin; 7. Caudal peduncle; 8. Pelvic fin; 9. Lateral line; 10. Pectoral fin; 11. Operculum; 12. First dorsal fin.

**Fish are AMAZING creatures! They live, eat, and BREATHE in the water! Do they actually breathe the WATER? Not really. They have a different way of getting air than we do—they filter it OUT of the water with GILLS. If people could do that, we could stay underwater all day too!**

Answers: A. Dorsal spine; B. First dorsal fin; C. Caudal fin; D. Second dorsal fin; E. Lateral line; F. Caudal peduncle; G. Anal fin; H. Pectoral fin; I. Operculum; J. Mouth; K. Eye

# Maine's Legacy

Maine's Youth Fish & Game Association  
P.O. Box #337  
Stillwater, Maine 04489-0337

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

## Upcoming Board Meetings

September 7th

October 5th

November 2nd

December 7th

Board meetings occur on the first Sunday of each month...



Maine Warden Service Association  
A Tradition of Caring for Maine's  
Outdoor Future

## Calendar of Events

Mark your calendar for these upcoming events. All activities are free of charge. Events will be held at the Pickerel Pond Facility unless otherwise noted.

August 16th—10PM—2PM  
Map and Compass/Orienteering GPS Course (bring a bag lunch)

September 13th—6PM  
Spaghetti Banquet at the Old Town Elks Building  
290 N. Fourth Street Extension, Old Town

September 21st 10AM—2PM  
Dog Days (law enforcement K-9, Search and Rescue Demonstrations) (Bird dog, Rabbit dogs, Duck retriever Demonstrations) (bring a picnic lunch)

October 5th—8AM—5PM  
State of Maine Trapper Education Course (bring a bag lunch)

*For further information, please contact Warden David Georgia, 12 Tallwood Drive, Milford, Maine 04461 207-827-8586*

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