**Greetings from the President!**

It’s March! Slowly the winter recedes, and with all this warm weather our thoughts turn to fishing again. Maybe some steelhead first, if any are running – I don’t hear good things from Pulaski from my expert friends – and perhaps some shad in April? I’ve tried the latter a couple of times at Rock Village in Byfield but didn’t do very well. I’ll try again this spring. Gold hooks are the key, I’m told, and there’ll be some in our upcoming Auction! Others say “if it’s not chartreuse, it’s of no use” so I’ll tie up some chartreuse (or pink) shad flies. If anyone else is better at this, please clue me in. It’s a new fishery for me, after reading John McFee’s wonderful book called “The Founding Fish”. Sharing our knowledge always works better!

I’ve been working hard on the **Banquet**. Man, do we have some great donations! Guided fishing trips in Western MA, on Cape Cod, in Maine and in Ipswich! An African Photo Safari (wow)! Rods, reels, chest packs, fish hooks, fly-tying materials, and fresh- and salt-water flies galore! We have lots of non-fishing stuff too: Chett Walsh has made two items for us – an awesome box and an antiqued mirror (beautiful!); Fred has made a beautiful green turquoise necklace and earrings, and donated some other nice jewelry as well; books, tote bags, restaurant gift cards, and all sorts of other great stuff! Come to our fundraising banquet! Great meal, great stuff, great people, and lots of fun discussions!!! It’ll be a fabulous evening…

But just for the moment, let’s focus on what we have right here: **another NETU meeting next Monday, March 7th**, with an exciting presentation **at the Orvis Peabody Store** by our own 2013 Orvis Guide of the Year, Kalil Boghdan, on his adventures with bonefish at Andros Island. We’re eager to learn his secret tips and tricks when he’s not trying for stripers here in our local waters… Kalil will prove he’s no “one-trick pony” angler in his talk! And when you attend this talk (or anytime), please buy some stuff there! This store has been very kind to us, and they will have sandwiches and soft drinks laid out for us too.

And don’t forget **our fundraising banquet (19 March 2016 from 5:00 to 9:00)** at **the Ipswich Masonic Hall, 70 Topsfield Road in Ipswich!** By the time you get this, the Banquet Program Booklet is (hopefully) wrapped up and ready to put to bed; thanks to all those who were responsible for the many ad sales. There’s still time to find and/or offer **donations** for our upcoming raffles and auction such as gift cards for meals and services, fishing and nonfishing items, etc. Thanks so much, to all those who have helped!

Please remember that all these efforts go to support our many ongoing **conservation projects**, of which we have many underway right now! Come to our **March 19th fundraising banquet** to hear more on this!

Tight lines!

Fred Jennings

NETU President