

All events and meetings can be found online at www.risaa.org/calendar.html

Apr 9 • 7:00 PM Kayak Committee Spring Meeting

Apr 16 • 7:00 PM Fly Fishing Committee Spring Meeting

Apr 24 • 6:30 PM RISAA Board of Directors

Apr 28 • 3:00 PM Fly Fishing Committee outing at 100 Acre Cove, Barrington

Apr 30 • 7:00 PM RISAA Monthly Seminar

May 19 • 5:00 PM Fly Fishing Committee Cinder worm hatch fishing, Ninigret Pond

May 19 • RISAA Party Boat Night Squid Fishing Trip

May 21 • 7:00 PM RISAA Monthly Seminar

May 23 • 5:00 PM Fly Fishing Committee Cinder worm hatch fishing, Potter Pond

June 7 • 3:00 PM Fly Fishing Committee fishing Chepiwanoxet Point, East Greenwich

June 13 • 6:00 PM Fly Fishing Committee fishing at Kings Park, Newport

June 23 • Take-A-Kid Fishing Day

June 25 • 7:00 PM RISAA Monthly Seminar

July 6 • 3:00 PM Fly Fishing Committee fishing at Narrow River

July 22 • 7:00 AM RISAA Party Boat Fluke Fishing Trip- members only

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Taking some time away

FIRST.... A THANK YOU

Before I write anything else, I need to first express my thanks to all RISAA members who volunteered their time to help us with the Fishing Show last month.

During that show weekend, it takes a small army of members to staff all the RISAA booths and cover all the show jobs.

I extend an extra special thanks to the members of the Fishing Show Committee who put up with me for an entire year between shows. I think I bothered them with emails for 365 days.

Thank you Travis, Frank, Gary, Ed, Paul, Diane and Pete. You all work behind the scenes and don't get much recognition.

Between Thanksgiving and the Show in March, I know I became a real pain and a pest. Yet you all take it in stride. You are all great to work with!

I'M TAKING TIME OFF

You'll note this is the "April-May" issue. There won't be an individual May issue this year.

It's the first time we have skipped a month since our first issue in January, 1998.

This is issue #232. I have edited and produced all 232 of them. It takes me a solid week to do every issue. That's 30-40 hours each month.

When this issue goes to the printer tomorrow (March 28) I will get a month off from doing the newsletter - the first time in 20 years.

I'm taking a little vacation.

The last time my wife and I had a vacation that was more than three days, was when we took our kids to a cabin in New Hampshire for a week. They were between 6-11 years old at the time.

They are now in their 30s and 40s! In all that time I have always worked

and never been off. I've served in the Navy, had a police career and retired, then owned a photography studio (35 yrs) and retired, and now 20 years running RISAA.

Now that I'm <u>O-L-D</u> it's getting harder to keep up the 50-hour work week. I need a little break.

The Board has agreed to allow this single April-May issue so I won't have a May deadline.

I'm taking a month off. My wife and I are going to fulfill our bucket-list trip....

driving cross-county with no schedule, no reservations, no timetable.

Things I normally handle this time of year are all set up in advance. Plans are in place for the Youth Fishing Camp, Take-A-Kid Fishing Day and the Squid and Fluke trips.

Treasurer Pete O'Biso is stepping up to take over some of my duties such as daily mail, office phone calls, etc.

Some things will be delayed until I get back since there are a few jobs that I handle, such as sending out dues bills, new membership cards, all credit card processing, etc.

Tournament updates to the RISAA web site will be delayed, although I'm still trying to figure out if I can do it while I'm on the road.

Everyone who knows I'm taking this break has asked where are we going? And once I say the end destination is Texas, everyone tells me their favorite stops along the way, urging me to go here and there. If I went to all of them I'd be gone for 6 months!

All I really care about is the ability to escape the daily pressure for a little while, recharge my internal batteries and hopefully when I get back to work I'll be ready for the another ten years.

See you back here in the June issue.