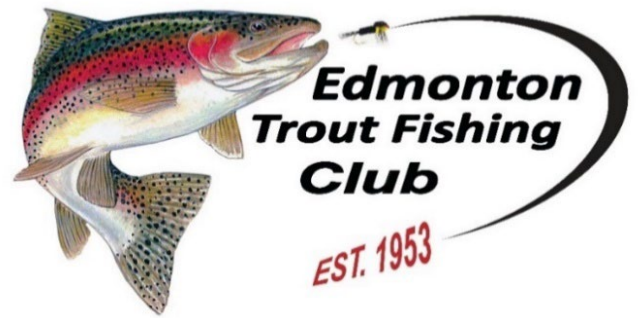


# FLYCASTER

FEBRUARY 2025



## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Feb 8 9am to 4pm - George Daniel Seminar** at MacEwan University. Tickets just \$60 still available on [Eventbrite](#). George is a former competitor and coach for Fly Fishing Team USA, author of many books about fly fishing. He is currently director of the Fly-Fishing program at Pennsylvania State University.

**Feb 11 7:00pm - club meeting** with special guest Craig Copeland who will be presenting the latest news on the Alberta Fish Hatchery programs

**Feb 15 10am to 3pm - give ice fishing** a try at Wabamun Lake no fishing licences required on Alberta's Family Fishing Weekend,

Place: Wabamun Lake, at the end of 50th Street in Wabamun, Parkland County. **Volunteers**

**Needed:** as always, having enthusiastic fishing mentors is a crucial part of making these events a success. Anyone interested can contact Laura at 780-410-1999 with any questions or to sign up. Even if you can only participate for part of the event, your support would be greatly appreciated.

**Feb 16 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.** Onoway Fish and Game Association Kids Can Catch on Devil's Lake. Bring your own fishing rod if you have one! They have some to borrow. Out on the lake you will find pre-drilled holes, fishing mentors, a light lunch, and more! Directions: West on Hwy 37; turn left at Twp 550. Follow road to boat launch. Parking will be directed by volunteers in orange vests.

**Mar 11** - meeting at the Jefferson Armouries - Invasive Species in Alberta Waters

**Mar 20-23 - Sportsman Show Booth** – if you can spare a few hours to help, please let us know at [etfcnews@gmail.com](mailto:etfcnews@gmail.com) and we'll arrange for a free pass for you to pick up from the show office in the Expo Centre. There is LRT service to the site. Food is provided in the form of snacks etc.

**Apr 5 - Members' Dinner** to be held in the Jefferson Armoury (cost to be determined)

**Apr 8 - Phil Rowley** – fishing South America. (last free presentation to the club by Phil)

**May 13** -TBA

## ETFC NEWS:

- **AGM** - for those who tried to attend via Zoom and couldn't log on, our apologies. The access code in the last newsletter was missing a number! Here's a summary of what happened (full minutes of the meeting and/or a copy of the Treasurer's report available on request to [etfcnews@gmail.com](mailto:etfcnews@gmail.com).)

There were 12 members in attendance and 1 proxy vote, so just enough for a quorum.

Firstly Ray reported on **finances** – we came into 2024 with \$17,789. During the year we spent \$12,988 – not including the electric bill for running the aerators as we hadn't received it yet - (main costs were roller dock \$1,924; programs \$1,260, AFGA dues \$3,207; property tax \$3,347). Income was \$14,442: \$7,854 in membership dues, \$3,398 from raffles, \$3,000 from the Village for aeration, and \$179 in bank interest.

So, we started 2025 off with \$19,040 in the bank but with December '24's aeration costs still to be paid. Ray added the comment that "if we don't have a club raffle or fund raiser and no \$ to offset Aeration power cost then the club balance at year end will decline by \$ 6-8000.00. P.S. A funding request has been sent to Spring Lake Village for the full cost of aeration electricity this year and beyond

We have one volunteer but **need one more non-exec member for an internal audit of the books! Anyone willing?**



**Membership** - director's report not available, but it's approximately 94.

**Gate lock** - combination for gate access changes March 1. The gate has been left open on a number of occasions. **Please** spin the numbers on the lock after it has been closed to ensure it's locked and keep the gate code private.

**Aeration** - Gaetan reports that all's going well to date but please let us know if you see any problems. We would welcome possible contacts for shared financial management

**AFGA** - annual convention attendance and registration is set for February. Randy Collins will be there to represent us. Zone 4 president, Dona Murphy, is stepping down

**Boat Registration** - we will do a complete inventory of the boats at the spring cleanup. Registration decals are available. If a boat doesn't have one, it may be removed from the property



**Spring Lake Resolution** - a reduced bag limit (2) for the lake has been proposed and approved by AFGA zone 4, the village, and resort and will be moved forward. It's a GoA decision now.

**Communications** - Jacqueline Harriman and Larry Campbell have resigned from the executive. We owe them both our thanks and gratitude for their work in support of the club.

The club will make a donation to the Canadian Mental Health Association Edmonton in memory of Paul Lanteigne's son James who passed away recently.

**2025 Executive** - all approved unanimously:

- President - Ken Bodden
- Vice President - Ron Storrier
- Treasurer/Membership - Ray Kelsey

- Secretary - Ernest Kitt (Ken Bodden alternate)
- Director Communications - Vacant (anyone willing???)
- Newsletter - Peter Little
- AFGA/ACA - Randy Collins
- Property Director – Vacant (anyone willing???)
- Events and programs - Chuck Harvey
- Aeration - Gaetan Richard
- Director At Large – Vacant (anyone willing???)

**Club Meetings** - Location of meetings will continue at the Jefferson Armouries but in the lecture hall on the main floor (at no cost to the club).

### **New Business:**

- Recognition of the Village landowner who is providing access to power for aeration
- Volunteers needed for Sportsmen Show; contact Ken Bodden. [kenr.bodden@gmail.com](mailto:kenr.bodden@gmail.com)
- A Raffle to raise funds will be requested for 2025. **Europa Canopy** has donated an inflatable boat. Details to come.
- We still need volunteers to assist in running the club
- Options to encourage youth participation - a specified program by the club will be considered for late spring.
- A motion to approve dropping the club sponsorship of the AFGA trophy for largest fish taken on a fly and instead provide or support an event to promote youth participation was approved.

### **Items on Agenda deferred until next meeting:**

- A review of the club's **Aims and Objectives** (as required annually in the bylaws) i.e. **2.1 The objectives of the Club are to provide for a community in which members may develop their angling knowledge and skills, to maintain property at Spring Lake for the benefit of its members, and to support the mission and objectives of the Alberta Fish and Game Association** (on our club website [edmontontrout.ca](http://edmontontrout.ca) ).
- **Youth participation** - members are encouraged to think of means by which the club could promote youth involvement, including a reduced membership fee/ annual demonstration workshop etc. A motion will be tabled at the next meeting.

### **FISH and FISHING:**

- **Fishing Reports: From Ken Bodden:** "Three trips to **Wabamun** and two to Spring in January: Wabamun Lake has 16-18 inches of solid ice and is fairly busy near the townsite. I was targeting walleye and whitefish using blood worms, chironomids and balance leeches Olive green, maroon and black leeches along with chromie chironomids worked well for both pike and perch with 30-40 fish days I saw few walleye and no whitefish. The morning bite was most productive. Fish were near the bottom in most cases.

**Spring Lake** shows signs of being fairly active, but I had the lake to myself both days. I fished near the narrows in 5-8 feet of water. Green damsel and balanced leeches produced 5-10 fish per visit, mostly last fall's stocking. A few larger tiger and browns though. Fish were primarily in the mid water column 2-3 feet off the bottom and appeared more active in the morning. One fish was sampled, and it was stuffed with green gomphus dragonfly nymphs. Not sure how to present these floating deer hair patterns ice fishing. Any suggestions? Fish also had a one-inch carp in it."

- **Fly Fishing through the ice** – no fly rod required, just flies. Fred Noddin has some tips for you on the Fishin' Hole website. <https://thefishinhole.com/blog/ice-fishing-with-flies.html>
- **How to Survive a Fall through the Ice** - you never know – it could be a lifesaver – check out this YouTube video <https://ca.video.search.yahoo.com/search/video; ylt=Awr.zdQsipZnIMYlXpZrFAX.; ylu=Y29sbwNncTEEcG9zAzEEdnRpZAMEc2VjA3Nj?p=how+to+survive+a+fall+through+the+ice&fr=mcafee#id=1&vid=5ca3df4a4e9c04a0a390e594390ffc00&action=view>.

- **Brown Trout** - Of the 2,228,822 trout stocked by the province in 2024, just over 2% were brown trout. Fortunately for us, Spring Lake is one of the few fisheries to receive this species of trout, along with rainbows and tiger trout. It's not only their colouration and strength that makes them special – they're the first trout species mentioned in angling literature (by Roman author Aelian (circa 200 AD)

Catch one at Spring and you're not just connecting with a strong, great looking fish, you're hooking into 2,000 years of history!!



- **The Davy Knot** - new to many of us but it has a proven history, is quick and easy to tie and is reportedly very reliable – particularly useful for tying on small flies, especially for those of us with less nimble fingers than we had a few years ago. That's probably most of us! There are a few videos available on YouTube on how to tie it.

- Chuck's Fly of the Month** - "Last fall, while fishing the Cariboo region of BC, we were in a lull period when one of us landed a trout and obtained a throat sample of something we rarely have seen. It was full of worm larvae that were almost entirely transparent, except for a black mark near the front and rear of their body. We were not prepared to try to imitate this food substance the trout were obviously honed in on, so we just had to wait it out until they switched to another food source we could imitate. After some research, I found that what they were feeding on was the larvae stage of a species called Chaoborus, often called Glassworms. There is an amazing article by [FlyGuys.net](https://flyguys.net) that I would encourage to look up to find out much more about this species <https://flyguys.net/aquatic-entomology/fly-fishing-chaoborus-glassworms> Of note, I have rarely encountered glassworms in my countless hours on the waters but not being prepared made for a momentary defeat where I had to switch my concentration onto watching the birds, wildlife and absorbing the peaceful surroundings BUT I can always do that while catching fish LOL!! There are several patterns available on the internet that imitate the glassworm but they are hard to find in any retail locations. This is my own variation of trying an imitation. It has not been "field tested" yet but at least I will have something in my fly box to be prepared when this happens again. It is extremely easy to tie and I would strongly recommend having a dozen or so of different sizes available just in case."



**Glassworm recipe:** Hook - Curved Nymph sz 14-16  
 Thread – White Body - UTC Clear vinyl Rib Black marks - sz 70 UTC Black thread fly coated with Solarez Bone-dry or the UV resin

"For this pattern, I simply wrap the white thread down the shaft of the hook, attach a piece of the clear vinyl rib on the top at the rear, wrap the thread only to the hook eye, pull tight then reattach the vinyl rib and whip finish then cut off the rib tags. Afterwards, I wrap and whip finish two spots of black thread near the front and rear of the fly. Then I coat the fly with UV resin. Thats it. I hope this helps you to be prepared for that rare occurrence of the Glassworm Gulp."



- And a video on **chironomids** recommended by President Bodden - just Ctrl + Click



**MEMBERSHIP:** Your 2024 membership in ETFC and insurance coverage provided by AWF/AFGA expired on **December 31<sup>st</sup>** but we'll keep you on the communications list until the end of this month - (the gate code will change on **March 1st**. Fees are the same as last year and **you can renew your membership** at <https://www.edmontontrout.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/ETFC-2025-Membership-Application-and-Renewal-form-2024-11-17.pdf>

**Newsletter – next one coming on Feb 28th, 2025** - suggestions, requests, questions, and contributions to [etfcnews@gmail.com](mailto:etfcnews@gmail.com) would be much appreciated - we won't use your name unless you indicate otherwise.

P.S. Don't forget **Valentine's Day** on 14<sup>th</sup> but try to avoid 'I'm hooked on you' or 'you're the catch of my life! , , , , I learned they don't go over too well!

PSL/