



RISAA Events & Meetings

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

Feb 6-8 • ASMFC Winter Meeting, Arlington, VA

Feb 20 • 6:30 PM RISAA Board of Directors

Feb 26 • 7:00 PM RISAA Monthly Seminar

Mar 9-11 • 15th Annual New England Saltwater Fishing Show

Mar 20 • 6:30 PM RISAA Board of Directors

Mar 26 • 7:00 PM RISAA Monthly Seminar and Quarterly Meeting

Apr 9 • 7:00 PM Fly Fishing Committee Spring Meeting

Apr 16 • 7:00 PM Kayak Committee Spring Meeting

Apr 24 • 6:30 PM RISAA Board of Directors

Apr 30 • 7:00 PM RISAA Monthly Seminar

May 21 • 7:00 PM RISAA Monthly Seminar

June 23 • Take-A-Kid Fishing Day

June 25 • 7:00 PM RISAA Monthly Seminar

July 27 • 7:00 PM RISAA Monthly Seminar

Aug 27 • 7:00 PM RISAA Monthly Seminar

Sept 24 • 7:00 PM RISAA Monthly Seminar

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Notes from the

President's Desk

Stephen Medeiros



Recognizing a few important people

It was great to see so many of you at our 20th Anniversary Annual Banquet on January 20. We had 150 members and guests who shared the evening.

While the Tournaments Committee gives awards to the top anglers, each year the Board of Directors present awards to people we feel deserve recognition from us. So here's a few words about this year's special recipients.

Kimberly Sullivan - RIDEM

For many years we have been fortunate to have a great working relationship with our R.I. DEM staff, especially in Marine Fisheries. But when it comes to working with kids we go to their Aquatic Resources Education division, and that means working with Kim Sullivan.

In recognition of her dedication and service to teaching the youth of Rhode Island, and for her advocacy in bringing awareness of the outdoors through education to the public, and for her assistance to the RISAA with the Youth Fishing Camp and other projects, we proudly presented Kim with our Award of Appreciation.

BRADLEY WAUGH

After he joined RISAA 16 years ago, he introduced himself and became friends with several board members at the time. Most members don't know his name, and that's because he always worked in the background.

He convinced us that we needed to not only be involved in fisheries management, but also politically, and was instrumental in us forming a Political Action Committee.

After we held two successful winter seminars, renting the Coventry High School auditorium and cafeteria with a mini trade show, he said we needed to go big. With his connections he convinced the bosses at the RI Convention Center to give us a chance. Because of his urging we started the New England Saltwater Fishing Show.

Over the years, he has also financially supported RISAA, our Foundation and our PAC - always in the background.

He now lives in Ft. Lauderdale but was visiting RI and it was our chance to thank

him so he attended our banquet and we gave him our Appreciation Award.

Jonathan Stone, Save The Bay

This award was presented by Rich Hittinger, our first VP, who had recently working with Jonathan during efforts to protect menhaden.

Rich said, "I am honored to present this next award to someone who leads the largest environmental protection group in the State or RI. RISAA recognizes the dedication of his organization and his personal commitment to Narragansett Bay, the watershed, and all of the abundant wildlife in the Bay. One of the many examples of how Save the Bay has worked to protect the resources of the Bay was the effort put forth during 2017 to protect the abundance of Atlantic menhaden. I am, pleased to present this Conservation Award to Jonathan Stone, Executive Director of Save the Bay.

MEMBERS OF THE YEAR

Each year the Board selects the member who has done the most for our organization during the proceeding year. This year, the board felt TWO awards needed to be presented.

GARY JOHNSON has been a member for 7 years; attends every Take-A-Kid Fishing Day, helped at the Youth Fishing Camp, volunteers for our N.E. Saltwater Fishing Show from move-in to move-out and every minute in between and chairs our Merchandise Committee, one of the hardest jobs.

MICHAEL WARNER has not been eligible to received this since he has been on the Board for the past 9 years (Board members can't receive this award), but now that he has retired from the board, it was our chance to thank him for 15 years of service to RISAA

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N.E. SALTWATER FISHING
SHOW SIGN UP**

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