



RISAA Events & Meetings

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

May 6 • 6:30 PM
Tournaments Committee Meeting

May 7 • 6:00 PM
Scholarship Committee Meeting

May 10 • 5:00 PM
Fly Fishing Committee
Fishing at Ninigret

May 12 • 5:00 PM
Fly Fishing Committee
Fishing at Potter Pond

May 12-15 • ASMFC
Spring Meeting, Alexandria, VA

May 13 • 6:30 PM
Board of Directors

May 13 • 5:00 PM
Kayak Committee
Fishing at Potters Pond

May 19 • 7:00 PM
RISAA Monthly Seminar

May 21 • 6:00 PM
Fly Fishing Committee
Fishing at Goddard Pk/Greenwich

May 24 • 6:00 PM
RISAA Kayak Committee
Fishing the Providence River

May 31 RISAA 6th Annual
Trip to Fenway Park

June 2 • 6:00 PM
Fly Fishing Committee
Fishing at Narrow River

June 7 • 10:00 AM
Kayak Committee annual
Meet & Greet, Goddard Park

June 12 • 6:00 PM
Kayak Committee
Fishing in Newport Harbor



Notes from the President's Desk

Stephen Medeiros



Public Access Case Goes To Court

The public access trial against certain homeowners along the Misquamicut shoreline in Westerly finally started on April 1 before Judge Stern in Kent County Superior Court.

To refresh your memory, this was the case first brought up by RISAA when individual homeowners erected fences down to the water line claiming ownership of the shore and calling the police complaining that people were trespassing.

RISAA hired an attorney that specialized in land titles, who found evidence that the land originally was not sold granting access to the shore, only to the specified size of the lots.

This affects two miles of shoreline!

RISAA member and professional surveyor, **Alfred DiOrio**, has also examined the lots in question and found that they do not reach the beach.

This information was shared with the Rhode Island Attorney General's office, and **Attorney General Peter Kilmartin** determined there was enough evidence that the public's rights were being violated and decided to prosecute. His public access Assistant Attorney Generals (AAG) have kept RISAA apprised of every step.

Kilmartin vs. Barbuto et al.

Phase 1 of the public access trial ended after almost three weeks of testimony. This was the technical part of the trial. The issue before the Court in this phase is whether the 1909 Plat of Misquamicut Beach and the accompanying Indenture (an agreement), signed by the five owners and recorded in the Town's Land Records, constituted an offer of dedication of the

"Beach" area to the Town of Westerly.

Briefs on Phase 1 will be submitted to the Court shortly and oral argument on this phase will occur on Friday, May 23, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. before Judge Brian Stern. The Judge might make specific findings and

could even decide to dismiss the case after such briefing and argument.

If all goes well, Phase II will begin in mid- to late June.

According to **Gregory Schultz**, Assistant Attorney General and one of the prosecutors assigned to this case, "During this phase, the Attorney General's office will present testimony from many people who have used and enjoyed Misquamicut Beach as members of the public, including a wonderful 98 year old woman who used

the Beach beginning in 1921."

The other AAG on this case is **Michael Rubin**, who has met with RISAA officers multiple times.

Pogey Carving

While at the Fishing Show in March, I was approached by **Ken Whiting**, of Harwich, MA. He said, "I always read about you fighting for menhaden, so I made this for you," and handed me a box.

When I opened it, I was amazed to find

a menhaden lying in the box. It was a



wood carving, so life-like that I expected to get my hands wet when touching it!

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