



## PFFMA Newsletter

The 60th issue email newsletter for the Pennsylvania Fly Fishing Museum Association

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### Museum Open House Saturday, June 13th

The Pennsylvania Fly Fishing Museum Association will be holding an Open House on **Saturday, June 13th from 10:00 - 4:00 at the museum at 101 Shady Lane, Carlisle Pa.** Everyone is invited.

**Special guest Joe Humphreys** is planning to attend and we will be showcasing NEW limited Edition Joe Humphreys designed coffee mugs available for purchase (see photo below). The mugs will have Joe's signature drawing of a trout chasing a fly, and each mug is signed and numbered.

**Open House activities include**, touring the museum with Museum Board Members, and watching expert fly tying by Tom Baltz and Ken Okorn. Casting demo as well as individual casting assistance provided by Scott Loughner. Tom Smithwick will have an assortment of unusual bamboo fly rods i.e., Vietnamese cane and two strip one-piece rods on hand to discuss and cast. Other rod makers will be on hand casting and discussing bamboo rod building. Historian Jerry Girard will be available to appraise tackle. Our entomologist for the day is Chuck Dinkle, who will be showing and discussing live bugs from local streams from 10AM to 2PM. Ken Reinard, the Colonial Angler, will display and discuss 18th Century fly fishing tackle.

Also available to view will be items from the Vincent C. Marinaro collection museum archives that had not previously been on display. Making a special appearance will be Frederick, the Cree "wanna be" rooster from Bill Skilton's flock.

Most importantly, we will be recognizing individuals who donated fly rods and the financial means to complete our Pa Bamboo and Wood Rod Display.

**The event is free and open to everyone. If you are not currently a museum member, you may join at the open house. You will receive a thank you gift of a box of approximately 4 dozen flies with a new or renewed membership!**

Plan to visit Carlisle, PA for the weekend, fish on local streams and take a break midday Saturday to visit the museum. By becoming a member and supporting the museum association, you will be providing valuable assistance in us reaching our goals by:

- Significantly expanding the displays throughout the Pennsylvania Fly Fishing Museum,
- Funding research for exhibits, oral histories and video projects, building a research library to

## Mark your Calendar

The **Annual PFFMA Banquet is scheduled for October 17, 2026**, a highlight of our year and a wonderful opportunity to gather with friends, supporters, and fellow stewards of the sport. **Barry Beck** will be the speaker and will be reminiscing and discussing some of his past experiences with Pa Fly Fishing legends.



### Limited Edition Coffee Mugs

The new, limited edition mugs have Joe Humphreys signature drawing of a trout chasing a fly, and each mug is signed and numbered.

## A New Chapter for a Legendary Fly Shop

Last weekend I took the time to attend the Grand Re-Opening of Flyfisher's Paradise in State College, PA. The parking lot was full upon my arrival with a mix of old-timers and younger anglers checking out vendor tables, fly rods and clothing racks outside of the fly shop.

Many came for the chance to spend a moment with Joe Humphreys — 97 years old, still on the water, a man who has been fishing Spring Creek since the Great Depression. I didn't get the chance to speak with Joe personally; the line was simply too busy, as it should be. But I did have the pleasure of spending time with his daughters, Delores and Hanna, while Joe signed books just a few feet away.

Flyfisher's Paradise shop grew up alongside Penn State's legendary angling tradition. Longtime owner Steve Sywensky turned the shop into one of the premier fly-tying material destinations. He eventually passed the torch to Dennis Charney, who carried the shop's character forward until his sudden and unexpected passing. Last August, Justin Pittman with Precision Fly & Tackle from Carlisle, PA took over the responsibility of stewarding the shops legacy. I enjoyed catching up with Justin and learning about his plans for the shop moving forward.

**A local fly shop is irreplaceable in ways that are easy to take for granted until it's gone.** It's where you get the valuable answers to Fly Fishing's many mysteries. It is where a beginner can walk in and walk out with a passion that lasts a lifetime. It's where custom-tied local patterns live. Every dollar spent keeps that knowledge in the community and the best thing we can do to honor the traditions of Harvey, Humphreys, Sywensky, and Charney is simple: [visit your local fly shop](#). Before leaving, I did just that and secured my favorite Sulphur patterns for the upcoming hatch in Central PA.

*Submitted by Michael Smoyer, PFFMA Board Member*

# Upcoming Fly Fishing Activities & 2026 Museum Events

- Museum Open House -- June 13, 2026
- Annual Museum Banquet -- October 17, 2026

## *About the Museum:*

The **Pennsylvania Fly Fishing Museum Association** promotes and preserves the history and heritage of fly fishing in Pennsylvania. It is a federally recognized non-profit and all-volunteer organization.

The Association is dedicated to preserving the rich heritage of fly fishing in all of Pennsylvania and to educating the public about the rivers, streams, and lakes of Pennsylvania and the importance of the aquatic life within them. PFFMA meets its goals through collecting, preserving, and curating fly fishing artifacts and developing educational exhibits.

For museum updates you can also check out the [museum's facebook page](#)

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## PFFMA Newsletter Readers,

If you have content contributions or book recommendations (for 'Streamside Tippets' feature) I would enjoy hearing from you. And, **please forward this newsletter to your friends in the fly fishing community and encourage them to sign up** - link is below.

Thank you for your support.

Best regards,  
[Mike Smoyer](#), PFFMA Board Member

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## Become a PFFMA Member

By becoming a member and supporting the museum association, you will be providing valuable assistance in us reaching our goals by:

- Significantly expanding the displays throughout the Pennsylvania Fly Fishing Museum,
- Funding research for exhibits, oral histories and video projects, building a research library to discover and document more of the Pennsylvania fly fishing influence and history,
- Providing environmental exhibits and programs that educate the public about the significance of the health of Pennsylvania rivers, streams, and lakes
- And much much more.

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Pennsylvania Fly Fishing Museum | 101 Shady Lane | Carlisle, PA 17013 US

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