

November, 2000

WELCOME ABOARD

After another fantastic year, we wish to once again extend our heartfelt thanks to you, our clients, not only for your business support, but for making this such a fun and exciting business to be involved in. Our clients have become our friends and now, we are pleased to announce, one has joined our business! Many of you already know Brad Wolfe in his role as owner/manager of Orvis Framingham in Boston, Mass. In addition to his technical expertise, Brad is a frequent traveler and a fly fishing aficionado. Brad caught his first tarpon when he was 10 and has cruised and fished in the Bahamas since his early teens. Brad will fit right in at AD and we look forward to tapping into his wealth of worldwide fly fishing experience. He has recently published an article in "Fly Fishing In Salt Waters" about his trip to the Seychelles last October. Welcome aboard Brad! We look forward to working and fishing with you!

GREY'S POINT BONEFISH INN

Over the years, we have visited many out-island bonefish operations. At times, it seemed like every Bahamian businessman wanted to build and operate a bonefish lodge. Yes, the bonefishing was usually great, but it takes motivation, money and savvy to build and operate a first rate lodge. In the Bahamas, these assets often seem in short supply. As a result, we have discovered a few jewels and rejected many questionable operators.

About six years ago, we began exploring Acklins Island, at times from an American mothership, at others, kayaking from flat to flat, free to explore the many deserted creeks and cays. We reported fantastic hard-bottomed flats and great bonefishing. We

had twenty fish days routinely and boated a few big fish. The problem with this remote area was that accommodations were scarce and good guides scarcer still. Subsequent visits and conversations led us to the Williamson family of Pinefield Village near Grey's Point. These longtime residents of

Acklins Island had broken ground on a basic guesthouse operation intending to utilize the great fishing as a way to draw anglers to Acklins Island.



We began to send the Williamsons adventuresome anglers who accepted the spartan accommodations in exchange for truly unfished flats. The reports filtered back and anglers told us that the fishing was often great, the flats immense and the bonefish very uneducated, but that the lodge was a bit rustic and the A/C spotty.

Remembering those humble first seasons, we are now amazed by the fortitude shown and progress made by Newton and his family given the logistical difficulties they have had to overcome. The Williamsons have recently completed a beautiful new lodge facility complete with a spacious dining room and bar. The new guestrooms are

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air-conditioned, overlook the flats and each has its own attached bathroom.

Each day your guide will take you to one of a hundred different flats where Mother Nature will provide some of the finest wade fishing you can imagine. There are generally large numbers of fish available with the average fish being around 3 pounds. It is not uncommon to catch 5-6 pound fish and you will see double digit monsters as singles on the edges nearer

deeper water. Many of our clients have caught double digit fish at Acklins, including one 13.2 pound bonezilla a few years ago.

In addition to the outstanding bonefishing opportunities, there is a realistic chance to see and catch permit. Permit fishing is a tricky business and Acklins is no exception to that rule. However, Acklins is one of the few Bahamian destinations where we always keep a rod rigged with a crab waiting for that special moment when tides and good fortune cross. In addition, there are healthy populations of large barracuda, jacks, snapper and grouper to keep things interesting. This past year, the Williamsons purchased a new center console boat. You can now probe for pelagic fish along the fantastic bluewater edge that runs down the outer reef only a half mile off the lodge's doorstep.

If you needed yet another reason to visit Grey's Point, there are two canoes available to access the outstanding fishing on the extensive flats system that begins within a few hundred yards of the lodge. If you want to fish before or after your guide day, there is no better location in the Bahamas.

Garron Williamson is the operations manager at Grey's Point and is one of the hardest working guides in the Bahamas today. Garron's ability to find quality fishing at all tidal stages is unmatched on the island. The guides at Grey's Point are completely familiar with all of the flats and understand the subtle elements that consistently produce fish.

As more fishing pressure is put on the well traveled destinations, Grey's Point is a wonderful escape to a friendly, family run lodge that has some of the most beautiful flats in the Bahamas. Grey's Point is a world class bonefishery and a very comfortable place to spend a week. If you're looking for a great fishery a bit off the path of most anglers, then be sure to call us soon for details.

PANGAMONIUM

Panga: sport fishing boat indigenous to Central America and Mexico

With silver sides sighted, I came out of my early morning reverie. Brad graciously donated the bow. I blew the first of many shots gained by our run and gun of-

fense. Find a group, motor up-wind and drift within casting distance, then blow your cast using a variety of techniques including wrapping the sink tip

around the rod tip top, catching on something in the boat, standing on your line, having your line overboard or succumbing to *pangamonium*. This is the situation in which everyone in the boat, i.e., guide and companion, yell helpful, but mutually exclusive suggestions, directions and instructions, i.e., "Longer, shorter, left, more right, over there, there's one, etc., etc." You quickly learn to tune everyone out and make your cast. Not too early or too late, but when the time is right. If you do, and if the tarpon eats, stage two of *pangamonium* begins. This begins when the hookset, clearing of line and bowing to the first jump are all being practiced simultaneously. If you successfully pass this stage and the fish is still on, then the work begins. You must put constant pressure on the fish. One experienced tarpon fishermen simply says "if you aren't hurting him, he'll hurt you". If he goes left, you lower your rod to the right and pull hard off your hip. A raised rod is half as effective as a rod bowed parallel to the boat's deck. You may never have fought a fish this aggressively before. This is not simply waiting for him to tire...you *must* tire him! But whatever you do and no matter how much you sweat under the hot Caribbean sun, this is a long process. When the fish is close to the boat you can still lose him in a variety of ways so you must remain alert and watch for late slow motion jumps and last moment courageous runs.

If your luck holds and you have a guide who has the hands and the mind to handle a hand gaff, you'll get your picture and then watch as the huge, ancient silver beast with the dark green back slides back into the blue of the ocean. Your hands will ache and your biceps will tingle. After Brad boated a 90 lb. fish, he jumped overboard, then chugged a quart of sweating agua purificado plucked with shaking hands from the cooler. We guarantee you'll not want to cast again. . . at least for a few minutes. *Pangamonium*. . . there is no substitute!

"Pangamonium begins...when the hookset, clearing of line and bowing to the first jump are all being practiced simultaneously."

THE SEYCHELLES

ALPHONSE ISLAND RESORT

The plush new lodge on St. Francois' sister island, Alphonse, is finished and affords the itinerant angler all the modern luxuries. The beachfront chalets are well appointed and comfortable, with a view straight out of a south seas movie. The meals are excellent with a variety of fresh seafood dishes served nightly. The emphasis at the lodge is on comfort and service, a rare feature when combined with a virgin bonefishery!

The guide day starts early with your departure from Alphonse to the main flats system at St. Francois. The bonefishing here is truly amazing. Twenty-five days would be classified as mediocre. Here on St. Francois the average fish is about 25 inches long and 11 inches in girth, which puts the weight at just under four pounds. There are many five to seven pounders and quite a few eight to ten pound fish. The huge trophy fish tend to live near the deep water at the edge of the reef. However, if you work hard for them and get a good cast, they will charge and devour the fly.

It is rare in the angling world to have the hype of a "new" destination live up to the reality. In the Seychelles, the hype is true and although the islands are difficult to reach, the journey is absolutely worthwhile. Alphonse Island Resort is booking quickly due to the recent press it has received. But, there are some good dates still available in 2001/2002. If you like to wade for bonefish and want to cast a fly in virtually untouched water, consider a trip to the Seychelles! You won't be disappointed.

CHRISTMAS ISLAND

BIG EDDIE & JOE'S NEW LODGE

If you're one of those anglers who love Christmas Island or have always wanted to visit this storied destination, the formation of a new bonefish lodge on the island signals improved services and better access to this great fishery.

Big Eddie and Joe's Bonefishing Lodge

is intimate and small, only hosting twelve anglers per week. One major improvement over the other lodge on the island (The Captain Cook) is that air conditioning is standard in every room and there is no charge for this service. Big Eddie and Joe have also pioneered the use of aluminum flats-style boats. These new boats have permitted them to fish some of the more remote water that has not been pressured by the guides at the Captain Cook. Big Eddie and Joe have coralled some of the best guides on the island. These guides are receiving great reviews as are the food and accommodations.

Christmas Island ranks as one of the finest bonefishing destinations on earth. Its huge, expansive sand flats and prolific numbers of bonefish have been beckoning anglers to this Pacific atoll for more than fifteen years. In our minds, this new lodge offers a great opportunity to visit Christmas Island in a less volume-oriented atmosphere and to have more consistent guiding available.

With many seasoned Christmas Island anglers excited about this new facility, our bookings for 2001 have been strong. At this time, the lodge is sold out for 22 weeks of the 2001 season, so if you are interested in this destination, it is important to give us a call today.

TEXAS REDFISH

LOWER LAGUNA MADRE

The owner of Mexico's well-respected Casa Blanca Lodge has recently opened a new redfish lodge in lower Texas. ***Christina's Casita*** is located right on the water along the banks of the Arroyo Colorado, near the small town of Arroyo City adjacent to the famous Laguna Madre Estuary. This estuary is a true sportsman's paradise with clear water flats that stretch as far as the eye can see. As a result of extensive conservation efforts in recent years, the lagoon's redfish population has increased dramatically. Now there are literally millions of fish in the local bays and it is not uncommon (when the tide is right) to see lots of tails in the air.

The fishing is done out of "tunnel" flats boats specifically engineered to fish these shallow waters. These amazing boats can be poled in four inches of water and run flat-out in six inches of prime tailing redfish habitat. As a result of this new technology, all of your time on the water can be spent fishing instead of getting in position to fish.

The lodge can accommodate eight anglers per week. After a great day on the water, anglers can enjoy a menu that has a sumptuous local flavor. For the angler traveling on business or as a destination in its own right, this new lodge on Lower Laguna Madre will allow you to explore a different type of sight fishing. Redfish are real bruisers and, like the bonefish, perfectly suited to fly fishing and light tackle angling. In addition to the redfish, there are also speckled trout, snook and tarpon available. Prime redfish season is March to November, so give us a call for more information and all the details.

CAPE COD: BONEFISH STYLE

Cape Cod is spectacular in the early summer and is worth the trip alone, but when you combine this beauty with some outstanding sight fishing for large striped bass and bluefish on the flats, you've got a great combination. This past May and June, we explored many out-of-the-way areas of Cape Cod. We discovered a fantastic opportunity to hook up with one of the most knowledgeable guide services on the Cape: Outermost Excursions.

In mid-May, the brawny striped bass and bluefish arrive from their winter spawning grounds hungry and very aggressive. Warmer water temperatures and huge balls of bait send these fish into the shallows to hunt and replenish what they burned on their long journey north. In recent years, much has been written about this fishery and in particular, the area around Monomoy Island near Chatham, Massachusetts. Of course, with this kind of press comes angling pressure. Monomoy is a great fishery, but we have found one just as good with much less angling pressure.

The fishing is done out of a comfortable 20' northeast flats-style boat using a pushpole to move quietly among these large schools of bass and blues. The water depth is quite shallow and seeing fish and presenting the fly is reminiscent of bonefishing in the Ba-

hamas. The bass and bluefish caught here are typically large, on average 25 to 35 inches in length and 6 to 20 pounds. The fishing is usually very good with 15-20 fish days commonly recorded.

During this spring fishing season, accommodations can easily be arranged as May and June tend to be a bit "pre-season" for the tourists. We currently have arrangements at a comfortable hotel only minutes from the marina and the most productive fishing grounds. If you wish, quaint bed & breakfast lodging is also available.

One of the most attractive aspects of this trip is that it is a wonderful family destination. The extensive beaches are beautiful, the shopping is varied and very accessible and the homestyle Cape Cod restaurants are a great northeastern cultural experience. All this makes this area perfect for a family vacation where you can experience some world class flats fishing. The fishing "window" here lasts from mid-May until about July 4th. Trips can be arranged with three days of fishing and four nights of lodging for \$950.00 per person double occupancy (lunch included). Six days of fishing with seven nights of lodging runs \$1600.00. The travel is easy, the location is beautiful and the fishing is excellent. Be sure to call us soon if you're interested as the "season" is short and the time will fill up quickly.

ATTENTION

DOCTORS, LAWYERS, & DENTISTS

2001 SEMINAR DATES

Angling Destinations, in conjunction with Classic Sports International, will be hosting two exceptional hunting and fishing opportunities for 2001. Each seminar will offer CME Cat.1 approved 2001 Medical-Legal update sponsored by the American Educational Institute, Inc. The seminar has extensive CLE and CDE accreditation and meets IRS requirements for tax deductibility.

MAY 19-24, 2001

Package includes four days of guided fishing with lots of big browns & rainbows and five nights luxury accommodations at the Bighorn River Resort including all meals and gourmet lunches & refreshments. In past years, the dry fly fishing has been exceptional in May. Its no wonder many participants have visited five years in a row!

Cost: \$1,895.00

NOV. 18-23, 2001

A real Montana Cast and Blast... do what you enjoy the most: four days fishing, four days wingshooting, two and two or three and one. Come to Montana and enjoy the best food and lodging on the Bighorn River and the best fishing and hunting anywhere.

Cost: \$2,550.00



Days of the Full Moon, 2000/2001

November 11	March 9	July 5	November 1
December 11	April 8	August 4	November 30
January 9, 2001	May 7	September 2	December 30
February 8	June 6	October 2	January 28, 2002

CHILE

A SPECIAL ANGLING ADVENTURE

By the time January and February roll around, the soul-stirring thought of a big brown trout rising gently to a dry fly is all but a faded memory of summer. Unfortunately, in most of North America, winter trout fishing is very difficult making it only for the truly hardcore. However, because of the reversal of seasons between the northern and southern hemispheres, Chile offers some superb trout fishing in the dead of our winter.

Two years ago, we hosted a group of intrepid anglers to the Coyhaique region of Chile and found some excellent fishing for browns using huge terrestrial patterns.

Thrilled by our experience in Patagonia, we have explored numerous opportunities hoping to find just that right situation. We wanted to once again experience the amenities of a fine lodge but also wanted something remote and off the beaten path. Well, we found it and we are pleased to announce that we have a new, unique Chilean itinerary to satisfy your winter dreams. Our plan is to split the week between one of Chile's finest lodges and a deluxe camp far to the south of the nearest fishing lodge in *terra incognita*.

The objective is to fish unpressured areas in pursuit of the finest wild brown trout fishing in all of South America. The agenda was assembled by Pablo Negri and Rodrigo Sandoval. These two well-traveled and well-respected Chilean outfitters have a lifetime of experience organizing exciting fly fishing adventures in Chile. Pablo and/or Rodrigo will personally lead each trip putting the emphasis on quality and service, as well as contributing a considerable amount of technical angling expertise to the venture.

The first half of the adventure starts in Balmaceda where you are met at the airport. From there you begin your trip south with a six-hour ride (or optional flight) through the majestic Andes to a

beautiful, private lodge built on the banks of the Rio Baker. Guests spend the first half of the trip fishing from this beautiful central location while enjoying gourmet meals and fine Chilean wines. The trout fishing in this remote area's unpressured rivers, lakes and lagoons is simply spectacular. Here the

ends at the village of Villa O'Higgins. Here you will find many unfished and untouched lagoons, rivers and streams holding large populations of gold and maroon-colored browns. Many experienced anglers believe these may be the most beautiful brown trout in the world.

While at Villa O'Higgins, you will be "camping" on nearby private ranches owned by friends of your outfitters. This trip was not originally organized for commercial purposes. Rather, it was put together for a personal friend of Pablo's who wanted to see the very best brown trout fishing in Chile. This particular friend is not a big fan of camping and therefore, "deluxe camping" was promised and delivered. The best of equipment (tents, food, cooking utensils, sleeping arrangements) is used. A combination cook/campmaster joins us so that the maximum amount of time possible can be spent fishing and not setting up camp. By fishing in this manner, we stay close to these prime untouched fisheries. We eliminate the long drive back to a lodge and again, maximize our precious angling time. Fish the evening hatch...no problem...you won't be stuffed in some vehicle commuting when you should be fishing. You only worry about the fishing, knowing a comfortable camp and a delicious meal awaits you at the end of a long and productive day. If you are interested in giving Chile a try this winter, we can easily arrange your trip. Please give us a call if you are interested and we can fill you in on the possibilities.



water conditions create an excellent aquatic insect habitat, providing many opportunities for dry fly action. Hatches are abundant and prolific! Chances of hooking a double-digit fish here are not small.

After a few days of lodge life, the second half of the adventure begins at the southern end of the beautiful and unexplored Austral Road. The road

Angling Destinations Inc. will be leading a group of six anglers on this combination lodge/camp trip in the winter of 2002, (See Exploratory insert page). Please give us a call if you are interested and we can fill you in on the details. If so desired, our outfitters are pleased to arrange custom trips longer than the standard week. The price for the 7 night / 6 day adventure is \$3,500.00 per person based on a group of six.

ENTICEMENT

OR HOW TO DO A STRIP TEASE

After that perfect cast unfurls into the blue distance and the fly lands softly, the most important component of your deception begins. You have to make the fly “come alive” by stripping it effectively or the wary bonefish will recognize your offering for what it is...simply fur and feathers. It’s hard not to get excited once you begin your cast and see the fish react to the fly. One flats veteran cautioned, “most guys will make a good cast, see the fish react positively and begin to strip the fly way too fast. It’s important to “drive” the fly by mimicking the action of the real critter. Bonefish prey don’t try to outrun the predator. Instead, they will dart quickly and then try to hide by remaining motionless.”

Therefore, the best technique is to let the fly drop thru the water column and sink to the bottom. The weight of the fly should carry it to the bottom in about three seconds. Make sure your fly is the correct weight for the depth you’re fishing before you ever cast...too heavy or too light...change the fly! Once it’s on the bottom, give it one or two long strips and then pause to watch the fish react. Usually, if the fish does not spook on this presentation, these two strips are all you’ll need to get him to eat. If he doesn’t eat it, try stripping very slowly with a steady pull for about one foot. If that doesn’t work, vary your retrieve and find out what works best. Weather, atmospheric pressure and wind all play a role in a what kind of strip to employ. Play around with the concept and you’ll notice that you can turn fish off or entice them by how you “drive” the fly.

KAMCHATKA

AN ALASKA OF FIFTY YEARS AGO

Biologists believe that the Kamchatka Peninsula represents the “birthplace” of the rainbow trout. They theorize that the Kamchatka strain of rainbows migrated to Alaska and the Pacific Northwest and have subsequently flourished throughout the world. Veteran anglers who have fished this region will tell you that this indigenous and undiluted strain of Kamchatka rainbows are a “different fish” than their counterparts in the rivers of the western United States. We have heard reports about big rainbows making steelhead-like runs upstream with large amounts of backing in tow. For the angler interested in catching huge rainbows on dry flies, the Kamchatka Peninsula offers one of the best opportunities available in the world today.

The most striking aspect of this area is the large concentrations of fish. With a rich food source of insects, salmon eggs, smolt and flesh, these rainbows grow quickly. The average fish is over 18-19” and there are many reports of fish that stretch the tape at over 30”. These are fierce native fish that will test your angling skills and your gear. There is also outstanding fishing for all five species of salmon and char including the rare kundza Siberian char.

This all sounds great but what really excites us are the reports of extensive insect hatches that have these big ‘bows looking to the surface for their next snack. While many species of large salmonids can be caught using fast sinking fly lines and weighted flies, there is no thrill quite as intense as the surface take of a big hungry predator to a bushy

dry fly. Of course, fishing can be unpredictable, so there are opportunities to fish streamers, nymphs and wet flies, as well as dry flies. In a recent conversation with a veteran Kamchatka guide, he informed us that the average size of a typical dry fly would be size 10-12. In many familiar dry fly destinations, a size 10 dry fly is bigger than the strike indicator used while nymphing!

The operators of ***Kamchatka Expeditions*** have extensive experience running successful river camps in Alaska. In Kamchatka, they use 9’ X 9’ Alaska-style tents that are comfortable and warm. In camp, there is a central dining tent, where excellent family-style American meals (with a Russian touch) are enjoyed. Hot showers, a satellite phone (for emergency use) and a comfortable easygoing camp attitude round out the amenities. Bring along your sense of adventure and you will find life in this comfortable camp to be a true wilderness joy. There is nothing quite like the satisfying afterglow that develops in camp after a long, productive day of great fly fishing in the middle of nowhere!

Angling Destinations Inc. will be hosting our first group to this region of Kamchatka during the summer of 2001 (July 21 to July 29). As of press time, we have 1 of 8 spots still available. If you choose to plan your own trip to Kamchatka, there are also some excellent dates still available for next summer. We recommend July, August and early September.

We will keep you up on any news concerning this destination, and we’ll have some first-hand reports from this past summer’s returning anglers in our next newsletter.

MADISON VALLEY RANCH

FLYFISHING MECCA

After the Madison River rushes to exit Yellowstone Park, it meanders out into the beautiful ranch lands of southwestern Montana. It is here that its true character is revealed and its reputation as a world class fishery is secured. The Madison rolls majestically through cottonwood lined banks and over riffles and quiet runs that harbor large rainbows and trophy browns. The truly intrepid angler can head-

quarter himself in this lovely valley and easily access numerous other blue ribbon waters such as the Gallatin, Beaverhead,

Ruby, Big Hole and Yellowstone Rivers. In addition, Yellowstone Park is still close enough and many additional small streams and spring creeks are easily reached.

Sitting within a stone's throw of the Madison River "channel" section and three miles north of Ennis, Montana (smack in the middle of this flyfishing mecca) is the **Madison Valley Ranch**. Its handsome ranch-style log lodge and cozy cabins are at the end of a dirt road that meanders over the trout rich waters of Jack Creek and ends at the lodge next to a two acre pond stocked with trophy rainbows. The ranch employs only experienced and licensed professional guides to explore the many riv-

ers, spring creeks and streams within an hours drive of the ranch.

The ranch can lodge 12-14 guests and the accommodations are comfortable and well-appointed. Each room has a private bath, an outside entrance and a front porch offering a magnificent mountain view. Two duplex rooms also have wet bars, living rooms and separate bedrooms. Meals are wholesome, healthy and plentiful. Some of our guests have even quit fishing early so they don't miss the hors



d'oeuvres at cocktail hour!

Dr. Brian Crock of Newark, Ohio, sent us this letter after the numerous

forest fires in the Beartooth Mountains made his scheduled August horsepack trip an impossibility.

"I am writing to thank you and your staff for a wonderful experience at Madison Valley Ranch! Our group, which included three first-time fishermen, had a great time and everyone caught fish every day. This was a perfect setting for their first trip, as they were treated to the best fishing and accommodations possible.

Phil and Patrick took wonderful care of us and fed us like kings the whole week. All of our guides were very friendly and extremely capable on the river. The new guys especially appreciated the patient instruction they received the first couple of days.

As you know, we came to Madison Val-

ley Ranch at the last minute when our horsepack trip got cancelled because of the fires. When we arrived, we didn't know much about the Ranch or your operation, but we were just happy to have somewhere to go! It is safe to say that you and your staff greatly exceeded all of our expectations.

Again, I thank you for accommodating us and providing a wonderful experience. I look forward to coming back very soon and will highly recommend your operation to anyone coming to Montana."

So if your plans are to visit Montana next summer, give us a call and we'll give you all the low down on fishing these incredible rivers with the Madison Valley Ranch.

CUBA

Reports of great flats fishing in and around Cuba continue to filter into our office. We routinely handle inquiries on Cuban possibilities. To clarify our position, U.S. policy makes it illegal for Americans to travel for recreation to or spend dollars in Cuba.

With that said, we have been in contact with two quality Cuban operators and their fishing and operations look very good. These lodges are currently catering to European anglers with much success. We are excited to pursue these opportunities but are unwilling to send anglers to Cuba at this time due to our current laws and our desire to support our nation's political will. We are hopeful that the restrictions will be eased in the future and this great resource will become available. Be assured that when Cuba does open up, we will act quickly and bring you all the pertinent information on this spectacular "outlaw" fishery.

ON THE RAGGED EDGE

FINALLY THE NEW LODGE ON RAGGED ISLAND OPENS

Some days in January seem to drag by slowly here in the snowy mountains of Wyoming. On these days, our minds drift off to the warm sun and cobalt blue waters of the Bahamas. Unfortunately, unless you travel to the very southern reaches of the Bahamas, winter's grip can still make itself known in the form of high winds and little sunshine. Andros, Abaco and Grand Bahama Islands, the northern tier of islands, can be iffy in January. This is the time to travel south...way south...all the way to the southern extremes of this island nation.

Ragged Island is one of these most southern Bahamian islands. Along with Acklins Island, Ragged Island is so far south it tends to avoid some of the "cold fronts" that swing through the central and northern Bahamas during January and February. But readers of our last newsletter will recall that the new **Ragged Island Bonefish Club** was poised to open in the fall of 1999. Unfortunately, a hurricane and a sunken supply ship prevented the lodge from accepting guests.

But now for some good news! Just a few weeks ago we received word that the long awaited Ragged Island Bonefish Club indeed opened on September, 30, 2000. We are receiving reports that the bonefishing is outstanding! Fisherman can expect fast paced action with lots of shots. The average fish is tipping the scales at nearly four pounds.

Bonefishing is, of course, the main attraction on Ragged Island. There is only a small population of local Bahamians and there are no "resorts" on the island. The environment is still as it was when it was made... untouched and alive. By virtue of its location, it simply has not been fished in any kind of organized manner. The net result of no angling pressure is a huge number of unsophisticated fish. The accommodations are basic and comfortable, hosting only six anglers a week. This approach gives you an unusual opportunity to relax and enjoy your fishing, knowing that your desires and needs are the focus. We think this is a great escape from other "mega" lodge programs where there can be up to 20 guests! The food is all home cooked and features local seafood dishes.

If you like an intimate atmosphere, lots of peace and quiet, vast untouched flats and cooperative bonefish, Ragged Island is the spot for you! Call us soon for all the details.

CHECK LIST AND BEYOND

HOW TO FINE TUNE YOUR EQUIPMENT LIST

"The devil is in the details" is generally true and never more so than when you are travelling. You should have a comprehensive check list to work from when you pack for a trip, especially if you are going outside the U.S. We always take the airplane and repair kits and the laundry kit depends on location.

REPAIR KIT

Set of small screwdrivers	Eye-glass repair kit
Razor blades	Small pliers
Bobbin and thread	Needles
Braided loops	Safety pin
Sally Hanson's Hard As Nails	Nail knot tool
Super Glue	Duct tape
Pliobond	

LAUNDRY KIT

Small clothes line	Cold water wash (like Woolite)
Clothes pins	Tar/spot remover

AIRLINE NECESSITY KIT

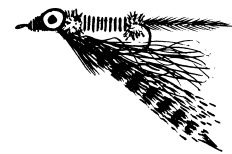
Inflatable neck pillow	Prescription medicines in the original bottles
Sleep mask	Chapstick
Ear plugs	Pens (for customs forms, etc.)
Personal toiletries	Handwipes
Film containers with Advil, Peptol Bismal, decongestant	

These lists come to us from Chuck Thompson and Franklyn Gorrell at The International Angler in Pittsburg, PA. Chuck and Franklyn are very experienced traveling anglers. They can be reached at 800-782-4222 and welcome your saltwater questions.

AN "OLD FAVORITE" BONEFISH PATTERN

This pattern come to us from Jim Hoffman of **Grand Bahama Bonefishing Ltd.** Jim is a diehard bonefisherman and has fished Grand Bahama Island for many years. Jim said this about his fly: "I first tied it about 15 years ago and even way back then the Pinder family called it Jim's Killer. My ego isn't big enough for the name, but that's what the boys call it. I use it 90% of the time and in tailing water, use the same pattern with either bead chain eyes or none at all. I make a dark version of it (replacing the orange with brown) and use it on very dark mud bottoms. The orange killer, however, is my #1."

Jim's Killer



Hook:	Mustad 3407 or Tiemco 8115 Size 2, 4 or 6
Thread:	3/0 orange
Beard:	Tan sheep fleece
Body:	Orange vernille overwrapped with gold mylar tinsel
Eyes:	Lead or bead chain
Wing:	Grizzly hackle tips
Flash:	Orange Krystal flash
Tail:	Orange hackle tip
Gills:	Orange hackle clump

Tie your eyes to the top of the hook shank. Tie in an orange hackle tip at the bend in the hook. Wrap the hook shank with fine orange vernille. Overlay gold tinsel over the abdomen. Tie in a small tuft of tan sheep's fleece so that it extends past the hook bend. Lay one grizzly hackle tip on either side of the sheep's fleece and tie in. Tie in a sparse clump of orange Krystal Flash. Tie in a single orange clump of hackle and trim short for gills. Find a large bonefish!

BAHAMAS NEWS

LATEST REPORT AFTER A FALL WITH NO HURRICANES!

RAGGED ISLAND BONEFISH CLUB

Now open! Ragged Island Bonefish Club will accommodate only 6 anglers for this their first full season. The lodge has new 16'-6" custom-built flats boats equipped with new 40hp Nissan motors. This excellent equipment is manned by guides that will fish you dawn to dusk. There are no set fishing hours...You make the call!

BAIR BAHAMAS SOUTH ANDROS

Bair Bahamas Guest House is almost completely sold out for spring 2001. There are some great dates open for fall 2001 and, although we have numerous bookings already for spring 2002, if you act quickly upon receiving this newsletter, there are also some wonderful dates open for this spring 2002 season. As we have said before, Bair Bahamas quite simply offers the best guides, boats, food and accommodations available on South Andros.

Important news! At press time, the following dates have just become open at Bairs for spring 2001: Feb. 4-8 for 4 rods...Feb. 9-15 for 2 rods...Feb. 16-22 for 4 rods...June 4-9 for 2 rods. Please act quickly if you are interested!

RICKMON BONEFISH LODGE SANDY POINT, ABACO

If you saw the October/November issue of "Fly Fishing in Saltwaters", you got all the facts on this new lodge at Sandy Point (detailed in our last newsletter). While Rickmon's has been doing a great job for all the anglers we have sent their way, we have also made a concerted effort

to select the best guides available when planning a trip. Since we work closely with a number of guides at Sandy Point including Patrick, Anthony, Derreck, Kendall, Riccardo, Paul and Ferde, it is in your best interest to consult us first when planning a trip to this part of the Bahamas.

STAFFORD CREEK LODGE ANDROS ISLAND

Catering to only six anglers a week, this small, family owned lodge is one of the best of the Bahamian run lodges. The rooms all have A/C, rod racks, spacious bathrooms and a private deck overlooking the creek. This fall, Stafford Creek put in a 1000 gallon fuel tank and a machine shop to eliminate any fueling delays. This is the kind of unseen improvement that translates to added fishing time and reduced frustration for visiting anglers. This is a first class lodge with not only great food and accommodations, but superb guides headed by one of the top five guides in all the Bahamas, Prescott Smith.

NETTIE'S DIFFERENT OF ABACO

GREAT ABACO ISLAND

Nettie's offers a beautiful spot and an opportunity to fish the famous Marls of Abaco. Nettie hosted the Bahamas National Bonefish Tournament in July. In an effort to attract couples to her lodge, she has added a snorkeling program for non-fisherman, a daily shuttle bus to Marsh Harbour for shopping, a massage therapist and she has air-conditioned the 20 lovely wooden-shuttered suites at the new Seashells Beach Club. Nettie has reserved 5 poolside suites complete with private balconies and small sitting rooms for the exclusive use of a maximum of 10 bonefisherman booked at any one time.

PELICAN BAY

GRAND BAHAMA ISLAND

The Rolle and Cooper Clans are doing the guiding and superb Maverick flats boats powered by 85hp Yamahas get you to over 30 miles of prime bonefish flats. Once again, Pelican Bay offers complete resort amenities for non-fishing spouses and guests while providing outstanding flats fishing to the dedicated angler. Pelican Bay is a great spot to bring the whole family. There is always plenty for non-fishermen to do while you're out pursuing the island's big bones.

PETE AND GAYS GUESTHOUSE

SANDY POINT, ABACO

Stanley White has almost finished his complete renovation. All that remains is some exterior landscaping. Stanley now has 4 mini-suites and 10 regular rooms all with private baths. A separate dining room adjacent to his new sports bar has a 70" color TV making it perfect for bonefish trips during the NCAA basketball tournament in the spring or to watch NFL football in the fall! The flats at Sandy Point are some of the best wading flats in the world conveniently equipped with some of the world's largest bonefish.

GRAND BAHAMA BONEFISHING, LTD.

GRAND BAHAMA ISLAND

As of Dec. 2, 2000, Grand Bahama Bonefishing, LTD. will be housed in the new Lucayan Lighthouse Point Hotel complete with private pool and beach, restaurant, and its own check-in separate from the larger Lucayan Hotel facility. This beautiful smaller hotel is a perfect spot for both serious anglers and their non-fishing family and friends!



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Bahamas

Rickmons Lodge, Acklin's Island Lodge, Grey's Point, Moxey's Banyan Beach Bonefishing Club, North Andros Bonefish Lodge, Grand Bahama Bonefishing Ltd., Bair Bahamas, Ragged Island, Tranquility Hill, Pelican Bay, Mars Bay, Stafford Creek Lodge, Pete and Gay's Guesthouse

Belize, Mexico

Belize River Lodge, Turneffe Flats Lodge, Turneffe Island Lodge, Casa Blanca, Playa Blanca, Isla Holbox, Martin McCord's *Meca* and Charles Westby's *Seaduction* Live-Aboards, El Pescador, Journey's End, Sunrise Almond Tree lodge

Wyoming, Montana

Private Ranches
Mountain Streams
Mountain Horsepack Trips
Madison Valley Ranch
Ruby Springs Lodge
Forrester's Frontier Travel
Bighorn River Country Lodge
Lewis and Clark Expeditions
Montana Birdhunting

Alaska, Canada, Kamchatka

Lodges, Float Trips and Tent Camps in Bristol Bay, British Columbia Russia and Northwest Territories including Bristol Bay Lodge
Kanektok River Camp
Royal Coachman Lodge
Kamchatka Expeditions
Wilderness Place Lodge

ANGLING DESTINATIONS IS COMMITTED TO PRESERVING BOTH THE FISHERIES WE DISCOVER AND THE FRIENDSHIPS THAT WE MAKE. THE MAJORITY OF OUR BUSINESS IS FROM REPEAT CLIENTS. WE TRY AND KEEP AN OPEN EAR TO CUSTOMER FEEDBACK AND TAILOR OUR FUTURE DIRECTION IN A WAY TO

SATISFY SUCH CRITIQUES.

WHETHER YOU ARE SEARCHING FOR BONEFISH AND PERMIT IN SALT, PIKE AND WALLEYE IN CANADA, SALMON IN ALASKA OR TROUT IN THE ROCKIES, WE CAN DRAW ON OUR COMBINED YEARS OF FISHING THE WORLD TO MEET YOUR NEEDS. OUR DES-

TINATIONS ARE UNIQUE. MANY ARE EXCLUSIVE TO US ... AND WE DON'T MIND SHARING.

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNTS. THEY REPRESENT SOME OF THE ADVENTURES WE HAVE TO OFFER.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR CALL!

