



CONFERENCE INFORMATION

Corbett Rodmakers' Gathering: May 12-15, 2016

Greetings to all bamboo enthusiasts!

This is a short note to whet your appetite and is an invitation for you to attend the next Corbett Lake Gathering. The planning committee has been quite active and is preparing a menu of themes and activities. These include:

Themes

The major themes for the 2016 meeting will be:

- 1) Ferrules - a discussion of the various aspects of joining rod sections, including composite ferrules construction.
- 2) Finishing - from butt to tip, this will be an examination of varied techniques which can be used to preserve the several components of your new rod.
- 3) Tapers - a review of the proven tapers from bygone masters F.E. Thomas and E.C. Powell, as well as a discussion of modern taper designs.
- 4) "Branching out" - from making rod tubes to ferrule plugs, rod sacks to unique handles and reel seats, there are many ways to add to your rod-making skills. Repairs and restoration of older rods is also a skill that may be useful. A half-day session will be devoted to these adjuncts to your rod-making activities.

IMPORTANT REQUEST!!

We rely on members of the rod making community to come forward and present their thoughts and experience by presenting at the meeting.

Please contact us as soon as possible if you are interested in presenting a session on any of the above themes, or any other rod-making topic that we could incorporate into the program. Your contribution will be much appreciated!

Beginners' Sessions: An Introduction to Bamboo Rod making

A group of experienced rod makers has agreed to offer advice and demonstrations to those who are contemplating a start in rod making, or who are in the very early stages, having built only a rod or two. These sessions will be offered during the day on Thursday, May 12th, prior to the main events.

While there will be no additional charge for this activity, an early expression of interest is essential, since the group size will be limited. Please indicate your interest by checking the appropriate box on the registration form. An outline or curriculum will be sent to those interested in the weeks ahead, however topics will likely include: tool requirements; culm selection; splitting; node treatment(s); as well as discussion of measuring and other issues involved in strip preparation.

Visiting Rod Maker

We are very pleased to announce that Nick Taransky, from Australia, and his wife Miri will be attending the meeting. Nick has been involved with the inaugural rod makers gathering, held in Tasmania and known as "Cressy Cane". He teaches rod making "down under" also and has an interest in modern Japanese rod making activities. He will be presenting at least two sessions that will introduce us to his passion for the craft.

"The Odd Rod"

Attendees are always warmly invited to build and bring fly rods that can be tried and compared at the casting sessions each afternoon. Bob Stewart will be bringing examples of original F.E. Thomas rods for us to enjoy.

This year please also consider bringing other types of rods, which might include those designed for trolling, casting, spinning, ocean fishing, Tenkara fishing, etc. At least one plenary session will be devoted to looking at the other types of rods that may still have a place on the angler's rack.

The Auction

The generosity of attendees is appreciated and all donated items will be auctioned of following our Sat. night banquet. Funding and expenses for the meeting depends in large part on this activity. Here is a chance to show off your skills in making other crafts, or to shed collectibles, books, excess equipment, or other treasures that others will enjoy.

Fly Fishing Opportunities

Members of the local Kamloops Fly Fishing club have agreed to act as hosts for anyone wanting to fish in the Kamloops area. Let us know if this interests you and we will connect you with the Kamloops Club. Fishing with chironomid imitations in Kamloops area lakes is a longstanding and successful strategy. There may also be an opportunity to fish a section of the mighty Thompson River, which has a “fly only” opening during the month of May.

Alternate Activities

For partners or spouses who wish to avoid yet another discussion of tapers and stress curves, interesting activities will be scheduled that could include a visit to the local Farmer’s Market in Kamloops, art galleries and museums. Details will be provided prior to the meeting.

Tom Morgan Award

Tom and his wife Gerri have generously agreed to continue sponsoring this award, which recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions to rod making. This award will be presented following the Friday evening dinner. Last year’s recipient was Andy Royer.

Friendship

The most significant value of a Corbett Lake gathering is always the opportunity to meet new friends and maintain contact with old friends. There will be plenty of opportunity to ask questions and to share ideas with others. The generosity of rod makers is legendary and the knowledge and experience that our regular attendees possess is not likely matched anywhere in the world. You can look forward to both an interesting program as well as a great facility for this meeting, but the best part is certain to be meeting folk who share your interest. We warmly invite you to come and join us in Kamloops next May!

Kind regards,



George & Sarah Deagle, Conference Organizers

