



A Publication of Potomac Valley Fly Fishers

www.pvflyfish.org

Each July and August, we publish **Mini Streamlines** to keep our membership informed of club activities and important announcements. This July Mini Streamlines issue is a special edition featuring the celebration of Lefty Kreh Day that was held on June 21st at Middletown Community Park.

“The Reel Deal” by Don Fine

Saturday, June 21st was a marvelous day for those who attended PVFF’s Lefty Kreh Day. And for those who were not able to attend, I truly think you missed the opportunity of a lifetime. Our club was honored to spend that day with Lefty Kreh, as our guest. While Lefty is a life member of PVFF, I would give credit to Dan Neuland for the impetus of the event, since Dan was the first to contact Lefty in the fall of 2013 regarding setting a speaking engagement for the PVFF membership. But in the style of a typical Lefty Kreh engagement, Lefty suggested instead an “outdoor” event where he could both demonstrate and teach others the craft to which he is the master. A date was set and this past Saturday over 110 participants including; club members, guests and the general public had the opportunity to meet and talk with Lefty on a one-to-one basis, to see and hear him in action relating experiences of a lifetime of fishing, as well as demonstrating and teaching fly casting mechanics that he has shared with thousands of new-comers and seasoned fly fishers over the past 6 decades. He was even gracious enough to provide memorabilia to those who attended that will be everlasting.

While I had met Lefty on one or two occasions in the past when he made guest appearances at PVFF, the past several weeks of planning the event and getting to know Lefty are at the top of my fly fishing experiences. Lefty Kreh is indeed “the Reel Deal”; that is, he is compassionate, funny, generous, entertaining and personable, indeed the qualities of a gentleman and good friend. The sport and pastime that we all love are, to a large part, the result of the contributions made by this wonderful, humble gentleman. I consider myself blessed to have had this opportunity to get to know and learn from Bernard “Lefty” Kreh.

Thank you to all volunteers for their time and efforts in helping make this memorable day a reality.



***Aerial view- Lefty’s casting demonstration**



Lefty helping Scott Cover with his casting



Attendees get “tackle tips” from Lefty



Lefty signs event poster for Larry Forte



Alex Cartwright wins signed Lefty Kreh print



Bill Baumgardner wins signed Lefty Kreh book

Brief Announcements:

- **Lefty Kreh Day Prints** – If you were unable to attend the Lefty Kreh Day celebration, you have a final opportunity to purchase one of the signed (by Lefty) and numbered prints (artwork by Dan Neuland) depicting Lefty casting from a boat deck. The print, ready for framing, includes the Lefty Deceiver fly and Deceiver fly stamp pane. Cost \$65. Call Don Fine at 301-371-5617 for purchasing this limited edition.
- **Club Meetings** – The next regular club meeting will be held at 7PM on September 9th, at Tuscarora High School.
- **Fly Tying Roundtable** – There will be no fly tying roundtable during July or August. We look forward to resuming the roundtable on September 17th (location, Trinity United Methodist Church)
- **Adult Learn to Fly Fish Course** – On September 27th PVFF in conjunction with Antietam Fly Anglers will host an Adult Learn to Fly Fish course at Devil’s Backbone Park, along Antietam Creek, near Boonsboro, Md. Time 9AM to 4PM. Participants will receive instructions in basic fly fishing equipment, entomology, knot tying, casting instruction, on-stream fishing techniques, conservation and fly fishing etiquette. Contact Don Fine at 301-371-5617 or dfine1443@gmail.com for information/registration. Cost \$40. Applications and additional information can be found at www.pvflyfish.org.
- **Annual Banquet** – mark your calendar now to attend the PVFF annual banquet that will be held October 25th at the Amvets Post 9, 109 West Green Street, Middletown, MD. Any donations for our annual bucket raffle are appreciated. Contact Ruby Fine (rifine88@gmail.com) or 301-371-5617 for more information.
- **Parting thoughts** – “You don’t ‘cast’ a fly line you unroll it”, Bernard “Lefty” Kreh, 2014.

*Aerial photo courtesy of Nigel Stone