Tribute to our Predecessors

The Transvaal Trout Acclimatization Society under the leadership of HE Viscount Miller, Vice President H.E Sir Arthur Lawley and Chairman Mr ET Bains held a 2nd Annual General Meeting in the boardroom of the Bettelheim Buildings, Johannesburg on Thursday 16th March 1905.

This being the 2nd Meeting of the Association implies that The Transvaal Trout Acclimatization Society existed since 1904. This meeting some years later led to the formation of the Rand Piscatorial Association.

2012 is a Mile Stone year in the history of our Association. On the 05th of March 1912 a group of passionate anglers with tremendous foresight, held a meeting at the Transvaal Arms in Johannesburg.....the purpose being for discussing the Angling Association for Johannesburg.

A certain Mr Weber proposed that such an Angling Association be formed and the motion was seconded by a Mr Meintjies. The proposal was made that the name of the association be the RAND PISCATORIAL ASSOCIATION. It appears from records that either Mister Meintjies, Cawley or Parfitt was the first Chairman of the Association.

To the early Members of 1912 who traveled to Angling Waters and RPA meetings on the Witwatersrand by foot, train, tram, bicycle and wagon; to the men missing and killed in action during the Great war of 1914 – 1918, and the second World War of 1939 – 1945; to those who imported trout spawn and fingerlings from New Zealand and Holland, releasing and later catching the mature fish in the Klip River at the Lido Hotel in the 1940’s; to our predecessors who obtained Slaughter on Vaal in the early 60’s; to the first Springbok Anglers; to all who played a role in the success of the Association, “We Salute You”

To you Ladies and Gentlemen...the legacy you’ve left to the present day Members is quite remarkable and highly appreciated. From the humble beginnings of the RPA to the present day..100 years later. The current members say THANK YOU for the opportunity and Privilege of enjoying the fruits of you hard work and dedication.

To view the full set of minutes from this Meeting go to www.fishingowl.co.za.
With the RPA Centenary just around the corner, the Committee has lots in stall for you in 2012.....

- The RPA Emblem has been changed to include the Centenary dates...place your order now by calling Lalie on 0829011453. The cost for the emblem is R50.
- A centenary gala evening will be hosted in 2012. This is a paying functional and all proceeds from this evening will be donated to charity;
- SAVFAF and SAVOF Management will be invited to this very special function and honorary colors will be handed to several of the RPA Members;
- Floating trophies as old as 1912 will be handed out to certain members of the RPA;
- The function will be held at a Johannesburg hotel and the food promises to be excellent! We will only be able to accommodate 250 people, so save up for your tickets and join us at this prestigious evening;
- 2012 will as part of the Centenary year, host one of the biggest angling competitions that the RPA has ever arranged. Once again proceeds will be donated to charity.
- The Committee is putting together RPA insignia and these will be available to all RPA Members in the near future. These include shirts, shorts, caps, tracksuits etc. Keep an eye on the website for more information.

SA FLY FISHING CHAMPIONS 2012

Dominik Nicolaus, Craig Richardson, Keegan Finlayson, Gareth Cooke, Gabriel Sher and Ricardo Duque took part in the recent MFFA Junior National Championships in the Cape Streams in July 2011.

These youngsters held the RPA name high and won the Championships in fine style. All five the juniors were invited to partake in the National Trials.

Craig Richardson took the 1\textsuperscript{st} place in the Championships with Gabriel Sher in 15\textsuperscript{th} position, Dominik Nicolaus in 17\textsuperscript{th} position, Gareth Cooke in 35\textsuperscript{th} place, Keegan Finalyson in 36\textsuperscript{th} place.

Well done Team!! The RPA is extremely proud of you and wish you good luck with the National Trials!

Craig Richardson – winner of the 2011 Junior Fly Fishing National Championships
Dear Fellow Members

Yet another year has passed and 2012 sees the Association celebrating its centenary year. Further in this newsletter you’ll find plans of our proposed celebrations.

The past year has again been extremely productive across all facets of the Association. Membership in general has increased and participation in angling events has been well attended. Hopefully, a few of our competitive Anglers will receive either SAFBAF or Protea colors within the next few months.

I use this opportunity to welcome all new Members to the Association and trust that your stay will be a long and pleasant experience with many sizable fish in the net.

The past year has also experienced its sadder moments as some of our Members have lost loved ones and other have experienced ill health and unfortunate accidents. To those who have lost loved ones, our thoughts and prayers are with you during the difficult times. To the Members who have experienced ill health and accidents; a speedy recovery to you all. I guess at the age of 70+ it’s safer sitting on the veranda rather than trying to walk around on a roof!!!

As I’ve said so many times in the past...the success of the RPA hinges around the participation of all Members. In this respect my sincere thanks to those Members who have sacrificed time to participate in all activities whether from an angling aspect or assistance with ranging, to helping out at SOV with technical knowledge and maintenance and repairs of implements. Thank You. Your time, effort and donations are highly appreciated.

May I further express my sincere thanks to the RPA Committee who give so much time and effort, thus making the RPA the success that it is. Thank You to the entire Committee, the Members and I appreciate your efforts and loyalty.

As this newsletter is the final edition for 2011, on behalf of the Committee, I wish you and your families a present and safe festive season and may 2012 be prosperous and healthy.

Finally, happy Centenary to the Rand Piscatorial Association!!!!! May you prosper and provide the angling pleasures you’ve provided over the past 100 years and for many more years to come. May future generations enjoy the privilege as those present and past have had the honor of doing.

Tight Lines and Best Wishes

Russell Komlosy

RPA CHAIRMAN
A new RPA Bank Angling season started in July, at the end of a very cold winter. With everyone looking forward to spring and warmer weather, the numbers at the RPA competitions has been good throughout the winter. Even with the colder weather, the competitions remained well attended and competitive.

Our RPA club Competition in September was attended by our RPA Chairman Russell and our hard working secretary Lalie and her husband Arno, which was great to see as the effort they put into the running of the RPA for Anglers makes it sometimes difficult for them to participate in the sport they both love and are good at. We hope to see more of them in the future.

Since the previous news letter the Bank Section has held a number of “Technical Clinics” on Bank angling methods. These clinics were excellent and it was good to see many RPA members who we do not normally see at Club competitions attending. Everyone seemed to have enjoyed the clinics and the feedback from the participants was very positive. A huge thanks on behalf of the RPA to the people who conducted the clinics; Callie Jacobs, Willem Petrie, Beesie Appelcryn, Arno De Blom, all those who were involved in making the clinics a success and particularly Johan Kruger for organizing both the clinics and the excellent premises at JETWORX where the clinics were held. Thank you also to E. G. Jansen School for allowing us to use their rugby fields for the casting clinic.

In August the Bank Section held its annual prize giving with over 50 people at the “Lakeside Inn” in Brakpan. We were able to hand out trophies to the people who won monthly competitions and championships. Once again thanks to the organizers of this event. Next year we will be back to a full RPA presentation evening for all facets of the association and we are looking at different ways of noting the success of our Anglers other than trophies as many people have so many trophies they have no room left at home to put them!!!

The time of year is upon us when our Bank Angling calendar starts to get really hectic. We have the National Feeder fishing trials in October as well as the Annual Open Pairs competition at SOV and ROSLEE which we aim to make bigger every year; The first of two senior men’s trials for CNW at Bloemhof and then in November, the Masters National Championships. Also in November the second senior mens trials at SOV and in February 2012 the Ladies Nationals and in March 2012 the men’s senior National Championships; in between all of this our monthly RPA competitions!

In the next RPA News Letter we will be able to announce which RPA anglers did what over this period. You will see above the mention of “Feeder Fishing”. This style of angling is the nearest style to “SA STYLE BANK ANGLING” that there is around the world and has been introduced to enable SA Bank Anglers to compete against the rest of the world and attain Protea colors. We the RPA, were hosts to SAFBAF for 2 “Feeder Fishing” clinics in the past 12 months that were organized to introduce this style of angling to the competitive anglers of South Africa and we are planning the organization of RPA “Feeder competitions” at the same time that the news letter is going to press.

The First ever “World Feeder Fishing Championships” were held in September in Italy and SA came 12th out of 18 countries; a very good effort considering that 2 years ago none of the team had ever fished this way before and all the other countries participating had fish this way as a norm from a young age. It is very clear that South African anglers could become very good at this style of fishing. SAFBAF is now promoting this style of angling to its competitive anglers. The RPA is ready to become the next Feeder World Champions! Talking of World Champions….. South Africa won the
“World Carp Fishing Championships” for the 4\textsuperscript{th} time in a row. They won in SA in 2008; in France in 2009; England in 2010 and Italy in 2011. This is one of the greatest achievements in SA sport. The interesting thing is that all of the anglers came from years of “SA style Bank Angling”… clearly the way we fish here has paved the way for anglers to understand Carp and how to catch them. PAPGOEI” as some people call it. “SA STYLE BANK ANGLING” as we call it perhaps deserves a better reputation than it seems to get in some quarters.

To finish… to “ALL” RPA Members - remember that you are more than welcome at our monthly competitions. They are in fact held for you. Anyone interested please do not hesitate to call me on 0823248845.

Mike Kirby
Bank Section Chairman

FLY SECTION REPORT

With the warmer weather upon us we turn our flies once again to the warmer water giving us good reason to pack away the fleeces and beanies and bring out the full brim caps and sun block.

As we get ready to wade through the river and dams in shorts or quick dry pants whilst using our shins to find every sharp rock beneath the surface the carp and barbel are making their way into the shallows and the yellow fish head into the rapids to munch up all the morsels that the warmer water has brought out from their hiding spots.

We forget about the perfect roll cast and the delicate placing of our dry flies and start holding our rods up as we high stick the rivers trying to get the perfect drag free drift for yellows and try to make the biggest splash possible for our whiskered foe the barbel in hope of hearing our lines whistling through the water as our reels scream in our hands as we use our palms to slow the run and finally bring the fish to our side only to remove the hook, release the fish and start the cycle all over again.

Some might say it’s madness but we stand firm to say that the only madness is not ever getting that feeling of giving your component the deserved respect as you watch the water bow wave away from you and knowing that the one released will be back bigger, stronger and smarter than before forcing us to up our game if we want to stand any chance of hooking them once again.

On the competitive side of things we are very proud of our junior fly fishermen who make up the whole of the Mpumalanga junior fly fishing team and are taking part in the nationals in the beginning of October down in the Cape. We wish them all the luck and I’m sure that they will carry the name of the RPA high as they represent their province. There are also a number of RPA anglers in both the “A” and “B” senior teams. The “A” Nationals will held next year April but the exact dates and venues have not yet been finalized. The “B” Nationals will take place in the middle of October this year. Well done to all the anglers and hope to see you all on the water soon.

Tough tippets and tasty flies...

Lyle Smith
Fly Fishing Chairman
SPECIMEN REPORT

Greetings folks and we hope that this newsletter finds you all in good spirits. In the previous newsletter I mentioned the Inter-Facet Weekend at Slaughter on Vaal at the end of May and I promised to follow up with some feedback on how the session went from a Specimen perspective.

After much discussion and deliberation we decided to fish a swim nominated by Mike 'Frodo' Kirby who was sure that this time we would catch summat to brag about. It was a cold weekend and the fish were not interested, only the delicious hot meals prepared and served by the RPA ladies brought some comfort to our cold, tired and hungry souls.

I was not well and on my medication box was written a list of contra-indications which consisted of three points: impaired vision, loss of concentration, and impaired sense of judgement. It seemed that all three of them had kicked in because I chose a real rig-wrecking spot that was totally unfishable and lost a huge fish and all my rigs and line, but the guys with clearer visions fared better in clearer swims.

We were fortunate to have first-time Specimen hunter Renier in our midst and it was he that had the best haul of carp up to just under 10 pounds on hair-rigged peanuts. Junior visitor Leroy Taljaard also got a 5 lb mirror carp on peanuts and another guest known as Bigfoot bagged a 6 lb grass carp but apart from these fair-sized fish we could not manage anything that could be passed-off as a 'specimen'.

Since then we have spent more time looking for a specimen carp dam than actually fishing but during the first weekend in October I wet a line after a six-month sabbatical on a very wet overnight session at Florida Lake. The last time I fished a carp session it bucketed down with rain and after six months I hadn't lost my touch as far as weather was concerned, it was as though the rain had waited for me to start fishing again.

The fishing was very hard, as it can be at Florida Lake but I did eventually get my fish, NOT on boilies or particles or pellets, in fact NOT EVEN on a hair-rig! A bunch of wild earthworms straight onto the hook was picked up by a 21 pound common carp, something that doesn't happen every day on a boilie water.

We intend to get a lot of specimen fishing done over the next few months and hopefully will have our own dam soon but it would be nice to see more RPA members at our outings, that carp has proved that Specimen fishing can be simple and uncomplicated.

Until next time, cheers from the Specimen Hunters....

Dave Favel & Stan Tabacowitz
Specimen Chairman
RANGERS REPORT

I wish to thank the following people for helping with ranging duties; Tony Wardle, Lalie and Arno de Blom, Russel Komlosy, Wayne Bosman and Danie James. It is disappointing that only the EXCO and LTB Members are helping with ranging duties. I am therefore calling on the Members of the other Facets to come forward and assist with the Ranging.

While ranging we have come across a couple of issues. Members are not signing the register at the gate and not locking the gate. Come on guys keep that gate locked at all times it’s for our own SAFETY!!

Any member willing to help with ranging can forward their contact details and dates available for ranging to braven@vodamail.co.za or sms me on 0828242814.

Tight lines…

Benno Raven
Head Ranger

MEMBERSHIP REPORT
(From the desk of George and Ria)

First of all we would like to extend a warm RPA welcome all our new members, and especially our new Juniors. Thank you Andrew and the RPA team for a job well done.

Only 54 members have not renewed their membership for 2011-2012. We should all try to make a real effort to contact these members and ascertain what the problem was and see if we cannot get them back into the Club. We are all looking forward to the summer months and some good fishing, as well as extending our membership numbers.

We still receive incomplete application forms as vital information is omitted, e.g. contact numbers. It is very important that we have those if case of any mishaps or accidents, even medical instances. By keeping your records up to date we will be able to locate and contact family members if needed.

Kindly assist us and quote your membership number on any correspondence or membership related queries. Any changes to cell numbers and e-mail addresses can be e-mailed to the secretary Lalie de Blom on lalie.rpa@gmail.com or fax the new detail to 086 537 1361.

Thank you for your co-operation & Stywe Lyne

Ria & George
Membership Record Officers
SLAUGHTER ON VAAL REPORT

The summer is here we experiencing some problems with people not attend to their Stands.

It is not unreasonable to ask that all stand holders make an effort to cut the grass and keep their stands clean. If you are really not able to cut the grass on your stand, kindly contact Hennie Viljoen and arrange to get the grass cut for you at an agreed cost.

The extensions to the Club House are well on its way. While the building is progress, please bear with us and accept our apologies for the inconvenience.

Once again I am asking all Members to keep the RPA clean. Take home your rubbish and PLEASE don’t break bottles and glasses and leave it lying in the grass. These broken bottles damage the farm equipment and the next fisherman’s vehicle and could lead to personal injury.

Lastly, Visitors and Members are requested not to give any alcohol to the staff while they are on duty. This includes staff that is brought to the Farm to assist with week-end work on the stands.

If you have any problems, suggestions or if you are able to lend a helping hand at Slaughter, contact Hennie Fourie at 0823293136.

Hennie Fourie
SOV Chairman

SOCIAL ANGLING REPORT

My main aim is to involve more juniors in the club as these youngsters are the future of the RPA. I establish the EG Jansen Angling Club at my school and we thus far had two outings to Slaughter; a Father & Son weekend and also a clinic for the juniors that was well attended. I would like to thank Lalie & Arno de Blom for their guidance in both events and also Russell Komlosy for his never ending support and encouragement.

I tried to establish a schools league and sent 40 letters to the schools on the East Rand. The response from the schools was poor and I get the feeling that the letters were not shared with the Pupils at the school. If any parents know of any schools that would like to start a junior league or get involved in an existing one, they can contact me on 0792690295. I would like to have a junior league competition in January and one in February 2012. The only way that we can get our children involved in this wonderful sport, is with the parents help.
On the 30<sup>th</sup> of October the EGJ Angling Club is having a competition at Slaughter. Any other school children are welcome. The competition will be in the form of n pair’s comp where father and son or daughter or friend can pair together. Michael Cato of Magic Baits has donated ten prices. Anyone interested in entering can contact me on 0792690295

On the 19<sup>th</sup> of November I am taking some disabled adults to fish at Slaughters and would like persons to help me on that weekend. Kindly contact me on the number mentioned above if you are available.

We would like to establish an “angling bank” at Slaughter for juniors who have no angling gear. If you have any angling gear that is lying around unused, please donate it to the RPA. I will also post on the EG Jansen and RPA Face book any further events that are organized for and by the EG Jansen Angling Club.

I would like to thank everyone for their support and guidance and look forward to continue my relationship with angling juniors and the RPA in the coming year.

Andrew Hayward
Social Section

**LTB REPORT**

The attendance of the LTB comps over the last two months saw some new faces joining – it was great seeing some new faces and Danie and Hantie gave us a good run for our money!!!

With the warmer weather now showing its face, the bags are getting heavier and it is interesting to see how the different species are starting to surface. The spawning made it quite difficult to get all the species caught, but we are looking forward to some good fishing in the months to come.

Anglers leaving their boats at the RPA are requested to make sure that their boats, engines and trailers are well secured. There were reports of burglaries further up-stream and the RPA has been very lucky up to now to not have been among the resorts that got burgled. For safety sake, it would be good if you can get your boat insured.

The LTB is extending their invitation to any member that wants to get involved in boat angling. We will gladly show you the ropes, where to feed and show you how to anchor. Give me a ring on 0832965275 and we will gladly get you going.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the next LTB competition.

Tony Wardle
LTB Chairman
VACANT STANDS

The following EMPTY STANDS @ R5000 each:

- Stand 13
- Stand 21
- Stand 51
- Stand 52
- Stand 58B

Contact the secretary, Lalie de Blom on 082901453 for more information on the stands.

- Stand 45 is half-built and the price on the stand is negotiable.
Contact the RPA Chairman, Russell Komlosy on 0827792006 for more information on the stand.

- Stand 23 is a built stand and the price on the stand is negotiable.
Contact the RPA Chairman, Russell Komlosy on 0827792006 for more information on the stand.

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETING

A General Meeting is to be held on the 29\textsuperscript{th} of November 2011. The Meeting will be held at Jabula Recreation Centre in Lyndhurst at 19h00.

All Members are requested to attend the General Meeting. \textit{All new Members are especially requested to attend the Meeting on this day.}

The Venue is situated at the Corner of Anne & Athlone Avenue, Sandringham. GPS Co-ordinates S26.14632 E028.10787
Most fly fishermen practice CAR. The occasion does arise when circumstances dictate the use of CAK usually on trout of over 40cm caught in still water. Trying to cook fish larger than 40cm is a waste of time.

Do not use a priest to administer the last rites because the flesh will go all mushy. Instead while the fish is still alive cut off the head and gills and allow it to bleed out. Remove the innards and chuck all back in the water (except the fish) Run your finger along the spinal bloodline washing in the dam to remove all the blood. Skin the fish which is easier than removing the scales.

Keep cool at all times. Debone and cut into bite sized chunks. You now have the main ingredient for: CONSOMME ONCORHYNHUS

**The recipe:** (Add quantities to suit the palate)

Fried Onion  
Chopped fresh garlic  
Little ginger  
Barley soup mix  
Vegetable stock  
Fresh Parsleys  
Fresh coriander  
Fresh trout (steamed)  
Coconut milk  
Salt and Pepper  

Fry onion, garlic and ginger  
Add barley soup and stock  
Simmer until nearly soft  
Add trout  
Simmer for about 20 min  
Add all fresh herbs and seasoning  
Add coconut milk last

Add a good vegetable stock (homemade not bought) the amount relative to the viscosity of the soup you want.

The soup can be served hot or cold.