

A WEEKEND WITH CARRIE STEVENS

A Weekend with Carrie Stevens, on June 26-28, 2015, is an opportunity to celebrate Carrie Stevens, and her contributions to the world of fly tying and fly fishing. This will be a chance to see the largest collection of authentic Carrie Stevens streamer flies, tied by her, ever assembled in one placethe Outdoor Sporting Heritage Museum in Rangeley's village of Oquossoc Maine.

Visitors to the museum will be able to view over 200 Carrie Stevens flies, enjoy fly tying demonstrations by some of the most well respected tiers of Carrie's streamer patterns, obtain instruction in the Stevens Method and see how her tying technique evolved over her 30 year career. Also on display will be 10 years of correspondence from Carrie to Joseph Bates. It describes how she got into the fly tying business, her favorite patterns, the origination of streamer flies, her mentor Shang Wheeler, and many other insights into this amazing woman who did so much to popularize streamer fly fishing and the Rangeley region.

If you think you may have an authentic Carrie Stevens fly, this will be an opportunity to have it authenticated by Graydon and Leslie Hilyard. We invite collectors of Carrie Stevens flies to bring their collections of her flies for display during the weekend. This will also be a chance for the public and collectors to swap, buy or sell her original flies. The museum is interested in expanding its collection of different patterns by exchanging duplicates from its collection for patterns it does not currently have.

The weekend begins at 7pm Friday evening at the museum with a gathering of Carrie's friends and admirers to meet and view a video of the Rangeley Historical Society's first Carrie Stevens program in 1993 and a video of Archer Poor's recollections of Carrie. On Saturday June 27 and Sunday the 28th the museum will display its entire collection of Carrie Stevens flies including many unidentified patterns, examples of her sister Elizabeth Duley's flies and those tied by Wendall Folkins. Also available for viewing is an exhibit of Austin Hogan's analysis of Carrie's work.

On Saturday from 1-2pm Les Hilyard will share a presentation on the evolution of Carrie Stevens fly tying technique and contrast with Elizabeth Duley and Wendall Folkins. Then on Sunday at 11 am to noon Les Hilyard will share a presentation on the deconstruction of an authentic Carrie Stevens fly. Father and son authors Graydon and Les Hilyard will also be available to sign copies of their book *"Carrie Stevens Maker of Rangeley Favorite Trout and Salmon Flies."*

The general public is invited to submit, for exhibition, flies they have tied using Carrie Stevens streamer patterns. Museum visitors will have a chance to vote on their favorites. The winning flies will be exhibited at OSHM for the next season. If you do not yet own an authentic Carrie Stevens fly there will be a chance win one by purchasing a raffle ticket during the weekend.

A competition for a new pattern "OSHM Special" will also be held during the weekend. All tiers are invited to submit their entries that will be judged by a jury of fly tiers. The winning fly pattern will be available exclusively at OSHM. Featured Tiers for the Carrie Stevens Weekend are:
Don Bastian, Peggy Brenner, Chris Del Plato, Selene Dumaine, Leslie Hilyard, Sam Kenney, Ted Patlen and Peter Simonson.

In addition all are invited to join in the fun for a party boat tour aboard "The Gray Ghost" with Capt. Kevin Sinnett for a visit to Upper Dam to see the location of Carrie's Camp Midway and the famous Upper Dam Pool where she caught her 6 pound 13 ounce brook trout. Two trips are scheduled, Saturday, June 27th from 9:30am – 12:30pm and Sunday, June 28th from 1pm – 4pm. Cost is \$45pp, with 55% of the ticket price being donated back to the OSHM. Seating is limited and pre-registration is recommended. Please call Kevin or Doreen at [207-670-8391](tel:207-670-8391) or e-mail rangeleycruises@gmail.com to reserve a seat.