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Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : Cabelas coming to Erie!

Re: Cabelas coming to Erie!

Author: : ebroesicke

Date: : 2013/3/31 9:42:53

URL:

Full disclosure: I worked for Cabelas for about 4 years, and while there were many things that I didn't care for about working for a "Big Box", there were a lot of good things too. I was always impressed with how it got started.

Cabelas got its start when Dick Cabela. who was in the furniture business, went to a trade show and bought a bunch of flies. He took out an ad in an outdoor magazine for " 12 hand- tied flies -FREE, just pay postage and handling". Started filling orders from his kitchen table with his wife and eventually his brother, Jim. A true kitchen table enterprise. The company was still owned and run by Dick and Jim until about 6 years ago, when they took the company public as a way to fund expansion etc. Jim is still the largest individual shareholder. I am not a huge fan of big box stores, but some of the best flyfishermen I know work at the Hamburg Cabelas, and a lot (not all) of the people that work there are passionate about the outdoors. While you will probably never find the local, specialized equipment found in some in areas or small stores, they do offer lots of jobs with benefits, and generally spur more local development. I still buy from them but also try to support local shops with good service.