

# Lines and Leaders

CFFA

APRIL 1978

Vol. 5 No. 4

Connecticut Fly Fishermen's Association

## Monthly Meeting

PROGRAM: "Opening Day and Early Season Fishing."

WHERE: Knight's of Columbus Hall on Bloomfield Avenue in Windsor.

WHEN: Wednesday, April 12, 1978

TIME: Fly Tying - 6:45 p.m.  
Program - 7:30 p.m.



Several of CFFA's fly fishermen will present techniques for early season fishing. Topics will include Reading The Water, Trout Foods and How to Imitate Them, and Where To Go. Also covered will be opening day fly patterns, fly tying problems, and leader preparation.

SPECIAL: The general membership will vote on the Amendment To Our Articles of Incorporation. See "A Quill and a Flyrod" on page 2 for details.

## Eastern Council of CFFA Meeting

by Robert Lester

Due to school vacation, our April meeting will be held one week earlier, on April 19, at the Mansfield Middle School. Eastern Council is very proud to present "one of our own." Ken Thompson, Chairman of our Education Committee, will present a lecture entitled "Entomology and The Fly Fisherman." The discussion covers basic stream entomology of importance to the fly fisherman. It is a slide presentation explaining the various life cycles and habits of the four most abundant types of aquatic insects -- stoneflies, mayflies, caddisflies, and midges. Numerous specimens will be available for observation, as well as insect collecting paraphernalia.

Ken has devoted a lot of time and effort in researching this subject and I'm sure that all fly fishermen will benefit from the knowledge and expertise that Ken has acquired.

# A Quill and a Flyrod



by Don Johnston

On March 1, 1978, the CFFA Board of Directors adopted a resolution to amend our Articles of Incorporation, so as to solidify our status as a charitable organization in the eyes of the Internal Revenue Service.

These amendments appear on pages 3 and 4 of this newsletter. Formal ratification of these amendments, required by State Law, will be voted on during our regular April 12 membership meeting.

The April membership meeting will also kick-off CFFA's theme for this year, "Learn Fly Fishing in '78". All future meetings will be structured on an educational format, featuring aspects of fly fishing.

As usual, LINES AND LEADERS will endeavor to support this theme, presenting informative, educational articles on fly fishing and fly tying, along with entertaining fiction and fish-lore.

This promises to be a banner year, so make sure your dues are paid up so you won't miss out.

## Work Outing

by Al Dixon

The Conservation Committee has not been able to get out for a work outing yet this spring, but I hope to be able to call everyone together for a work outing to cut brush on the Willi, April 8th at 1:00 p.m. We will meet at the Nye Holman State Forest and those that wish to may stay to help stock the trophy trout in the No-Kill area of the Willi. The signs for the No-Kill area are ready and we may be able to get them in at the same time.

The April meeting of the Conservation Committee will be held at the East Hartford Library, Main Street, East Hartford at 8:00 p.m. on Monday April 25th. All are invited to attend. Come and hear about an exciting new concept for our work outings. I know it seems that we are always asking you to move rocks from one place to another and to give up your Sundays, but this year we ask you to only work in the morning and to fish in the afternoon with one of CFFA's expert fly fishermen. How would you like to fish with Mark Philippe, Vin Ringros or Myron Schulman? I have commitments from these and other knowledgeable CFFA fishermen to take two or three persons in hand and personally show them their technique and how to use their favorite flies. We are very excited about this project and are anxious to put it to work.

CONNECTICUT FLY FISHERMAN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association was held at so. WINDSOR on the 15<sup>TH</sup> day of MARCH, 1978.

The following Directors were present:

The following Directors were absent:

The president called the meeting to order and presided. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was Voted that the following resolutions be presented to the members of the corporation and a meeting called for this purpose on the 12<sup>TH</sup> day of APRIL, 1978.

1. RESOLVED, that the corporation amend its Certificate of Incorporation in order to comply with requirements of the Internal Revenue Code to obtain the benefit of non-taxability under the provisions of the income tax law section 501(c)(3) and section 170(c)(2).

2. RESOLVED, that the Certificate of Incorporation is amended to read as follows:

The corporation is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes especially a. to preserve and promote the pleasures and the traditions of fly-fishing, and to protect and improve game fish water, b. for the purposes of making distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.

3. RESOLVED, that the Certificate of Incorporation be amended to read as follows:

No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, officers, or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article Two hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any

future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

Upon the dissolution of the corporation, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the corporation, dispose of all of the assets of the corporation exclusively for the purposes of the corporation in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of Directors shall determine. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association, Inc. on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1978.

Robert J. Lank  
President

Attest:

Donald W. Johnston  
Secretary

ADOPTED by the membership of the organization of the corporation on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1978.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

# MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

by Lynwood Smith

As the new Membership Chairman, I would like to take this opportunity to ask members who have not paid their 1978 dues to do so now. Please do yourself a favor --- sit down and write out a check to the C.F.F.A. You may send it to me at either address listed below. I want to make sure your name is on the new mailing list so that you will not miss getting the Lines and Leaders, and other mail.

I'm concerned about the members who are thinking of dropping out of the club. This message is for them, and any new member just joining might take this advice.

Joining the Conservation Committee is a MUST. Have your name put on the mailing list for the activities of the Conservation Committee because this is where it all really happens. Go to the stocking of the trout and help. See where the big fish are put into the water. Be the one that handles the trout and places it under a bank or near a rock. You'll experience a feeling you never felt before. The excitement is tremendous.

Next, go to a shocking when they stun the fish with an electric current and catch the trout. The trout is measured and tagged, then revived in the live car. When fully alive and well, the trout is returned to the stream unharmed. These trout will be there for you to catch some day in open season because you know just about where they will be.

Then you will be asked to join in the fun and work of building dams and deflectors to improve the stream you will fish. You'll be a smarter member and fisherman because you did the work. You were there and you then will know what everyone is talking about.

You'll be asked to cut brush for paths and to prevent hang-ups of your flies when casting. While you are doing all this necessary work for better trout streams, pick the brains of the better fishermen of the group. Ask why a trout was put in that particular place. Will the browns move up or down the river? Can he show you some good fishing water and why? Also, any other questions that may be puzzling you. This expert will be telling you all his secrets and he'll feel good about it. That's where you really learn, and you will come away with some good knowledge about fishing that would take years of reading books and learning alone. Try it ---- you'll like it!

Join one or both of the schools and learn all that the instructor can teach you. The next year you can ask to help as an assistant instructor.  
(Continued on page 6)

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Fly Fishing  
in '78*



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Membership Renewal (continued from page 5)

Why not? Helping to teach someone else to learn what you have learned will help you, and you'll make a friend.

Join one committee, participate in all the projects and go to every meeting. You'll make many friends and learn much.

It's when everyone joins in the job that the work becomes easy. Before you know it, you will be a leader and loving it. Join up! Participate in the club activities! If everyone will bring in a new member, we'll have a great year.

JOIN!                      PAY UP!                      GET A NEW MEMBER!

Make checks payable to C.F.F.A. and mail to:

C.F.F.A.  
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN  
P.O. BOX 3191  
HARTFORD, CONN. 06103

OR

LYNWOOD V. SMITH  
365 MIDDLE ROAD  
FARMINGTON, CONN. 06032

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## *CFFA Lapel Pins*

by Norm Holcomb

During the past several months, a number of members have asked for CFFA lapel pins, but unfortunately our supply has run out.

CFFA is now accepting orders for the pins until April 15, 1978. Due to the increased cost, CFFA will not carry a supply of these pins (it ties up club funds).

For those of you unfamiliar with the pins, they are a very high quality product made of sterling silver, bearing the CFFA logo.

The pins are available at \$10 each by completing the order form below and mailing it to the address indicated, or turned in at the next general membership meeting. The order deadline is April 15, 1978.

----- cut ----- cut -----

### CFFA Lapel Pin Order Form

Please order \_\_\_\_\_ CFFA Lapel Pins at \$10.00 each for purchase by:

Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

Norman Holcomb  
574 Bush Hill Road  
Manchester, CT 06040

Order Deadline  
April 15, 1978

# THE 'BUBBLE' RISE

by Vin Ringrose

Last fall Cole Wilde visited one of our CFPA meetings and gave us a rundown on the anglers' card survey conducted during the past season on the No-Kill stretch of the Willimantic River. During his report, he mentioned that I had caught a much larger percentage of holdover fish than most of the fishermen reporting. Then he complemented me by stating that he considered me an "expert" who probably by-passed smaller fish and concentrated on the larger, holdover brown trout.

At first, I thought he was wrong about that, because I don't consciously look for large carry over fish. But after listening to Vince Marinaro at our recent banquet, I realize that in one sense, I do concentrate on such fish. Those who attended the Banquet or who have read Vince's latest book (IN THE RING OF THE RISE, ed.) will recall his discussion of the "Sipping Rise" or "Wink of Light" rise. This rise form barely disturbs the surface, is caused by a very cautious fish, and very frequently turns out to be a surprisingly big fish. I am always looking for that type of rise, particularly in quiet, well-shaded water. A small raindrop-like 'ring' is going to either be a very small chub or an above average-sized trout, and I fish such rings carefully until I find out which one.

Scientists have found that surface feeding brown trout (not rainbows) prefer a surface current speed of about six inches per second. And in well protected, well shaded eddies and slicks with such current speeds, you will always find the larger, dominant surface-feeding browns.

In recent years, I have discovered a rise form that even the observant Mr. Marinaro has somehow missed. It's the Bubble. Notice that I did not say bubbles, but the Bubble. This is a single small bubble that appears a split second after the surface insect or artificial fly mysteriously disappears from sight in the smooth slicks that I describe above. There is absolutely no other surface changes -- no swirl, no 'ring', no splash. It is always caused by an extra large brown, usually a male with a long snout, who is sucking the fly under the surface without ever breaking the surface with his neb.

Bubbles at the heads of pools and in riffles cannot be used as indicators. They are always there due to the splashing and turbulence of the water. Nor should you be fooled by the small strings of air bubbles escaping from beneath the gravel from time to time. What you do want to do is scout the quieter spots and watch for single bubbles at regular intervals

(Continued on page 8)

**Fish  
the  
'Willi'**

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in places where you think there should be a good brown. If you locate one, check your tippet and knots before casting a few feet above where you noticed the bubble. What should happen is that your fly will suddenly be gone, and raising your tip gently, you have hooked into what seems like a snag until all hell breaks loose!

At this time I know of two such fish on the Willi. They are both male browns of almost exactly the same size. One lives in "Myron's Run", the other in "Tarzan Pool". I am sure there are others, but I haven't found them yet. I will be most pleased to show them to any CFFA member who would like them pointed out, but it's a lot of fun trying to find 'The Bubble' yourself!

## OPENING DAY

The Burlington Volunteer Fire Department invites you to its annual Fishermen's Breakfast on opening day, Saturday, April 15, 1978. The breakfast will be held from 4 to 10 a.m. at the Burlington Center Fire House on Route 4 in Burlington Center, 2 miles west of the Farmington River. The menu will include sausage, pancakes, eggs, home fries, toast, juice, and coffee. Donations will be \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children under 12.

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\* "Lines and Leaders" is the official publication of the Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association, Inc., and is distributed to its membership and allies of conservation. Address editorial correspondence to CFFA, P.O. Box 42, Windsor Locks, CT 06096, attention of the editor. Notice of address change should be sent to CFFA as this publication is delivered via bulk rate and cannot be forwarded.

\* The Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association is "Organized to Preserve and Promote the Pleasures and Tradition of Fly Fishing and to Conserve Game-Fish Waters." CFFA regular membership meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month, September through May. Meetings are held at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 500 Bloomfield Avenue, Windsor, Connecticut. Eastern Council meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at the Mansfield Middle School, Spring Hill Road, Mansfield, Connecticut.

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# Complexities of Minutae

Mark S. Leggitt

## Part V

(Authors' note: Last month we covered the leaders and tippetts used; this month we'll look at the art of tying the flies, the special tools and my evaluation of the hooks available)

Tying your own flies is the only practical answer to a full attack on the world of minutae. Although many suitable imitations can be purchased from leading suppliers, the prices charged for these tiny flies prohibits the accumulation of adequate stocks. When you consider the relative breaking strength of the hair tippetts used (some as little as eight ounces) and the large amount of flies left in fishes' jaws, it only makes sense to economize by tying your own. Also, many patterns that are consistent producers are not commercially available, yet are easy to tie with a little practice.

This is not to say that tying flies that are hardly visible is a piece of cake. It is not. However, there are some tips that I've assembled over the years which can make tying much easier and I'll present them as an aid to those who are willing to undertake this art.

To be proficient at midge tying, you must first assemble an inventory of special tools designed specifically for the job at hand. First on my list is a special vise. There are a few vises on the market designed for midge tying, some of them I've tried and some I have not. My suggestion is to sample the vise that you are going to purchase before you buy. I cannot recommend this enough. (I bought a midge vise from one reputable firm only to find that it would not even hold a size twenty hook securely.) Bring a few of the smallest hooks that you expect to be using with you and test the vise out for grip, ease of handling, and head clearance. To me, head clearance is the most important part. Many vises on the market have blunt heads (jaws) and this is not acceptable to me.

Presently, I use a vise that is custom tailored to my needs. It is also inexpensive. What I use is a pair of surgeons hemostats. I mount them in a special wooden jig and they serve me beautifully. The tips are so fine that I wonder how tying these flies can be done any other way. The ratchet locking system is secure and by having several of these with both straight and curved tips almost any tying situation can be mastered.

The next item that I find essential is a good light. I like a super bright light and have found the answer. I use a 200 watt bulb in a standard, wall mounted adjustable lamp that can be positioned exactly where I want it yet never be in the way. There are several excellent lamps on the market, one that lists a candle power equal to a 400 watt bulb! Be sure to get plenty of light, it makes the job much easier.

(Continued on page 10)

Complexities of Minutae (continued from page 9)

Even the best light cannot make up the difference lost if a magnifier is not used. It is difficult to believe what effect magnification will have when tying flies size twenty two and smaller. If you need convincing, buy a cheap plastic magnifier and take a look at some small flies.

At present, several excellent magnifying aids are available from most supply houses. Some mount directly to the vise, others can be worn on your glasses and still others can be worn alone. If you are serious about tying these flies, I must recommend obtaining one of these items.

I have a hang-up about scissors. I like superfine points for tying purposes. None of the commercial scissors listed for tying suited me so I spent a great deal of time looking for an acceptable pair. The ones that I finally stumbled on are Italian imports sold at cutlery stores. They are excellent for me and I guard them jealously.

Both my bobbin and bodkins were custom made for me by my father, who excels at this. The bobbin is a light weight, open type with a long, very small diameter tube. It is perfect for laying turns of thread exactly where I want them. The bodkins are constructed of superfine wire, honed to a point. I use three, sizes .008, .012, and .014. These have the ability to lay a droplet of cement on the head of a fly with out sealing the eye or crushing the hackles. They are perfect. Dad has also fabricated a series of miniature half-hitch tools from brass tubing. These have outside diameters of .050 and .075 and are probably the finest aids to my tying problems.

Completing my special tools, I have a pair of superb French tweezers that taper to a needle-like point and a miniature sized "E-Z mini hook" which I picked up at a local radio components dealer. This plier is used for winding hackles and is similar to the mini hook except that the hook portion is about one half as wide and more suited to the miniature hackles.

I use two different threads for my midge tying. One is sold exclusively by Thomas & Thomas under their own name and is a 14/0 braided nylon which I find ideal for my size 18 to 22 flies. Its' only disadvantage is its low breaking strength for the relative diameter. The other thread that I use is Engerbrestons Ultra Midge which is a single strand, 18/0 nylon ideally suited for flies sized 24 and smaller. I use these fine diameter threads to reduce the worry of bulk and build-up common to the larger threads. With these, I can make as many turns as needed and still come out with a respectable fly. Although both of these threads are white colored, they can be tinted with any indelible marking pen.

The discussion of hooks is limited almost solely to Mustad; few other companies deal with such tiny hooks. My evaluation and usage of the different types follows:

94840 - Available in sizes to 28. Down eyed. Impracticable due to the down eyes' reduction of the gape.

94859 - Available in sizes 20-28. Ringed eye. New to market. Claimed to improve hooking by straight line to fly

Complexities of Minutae (continued from page 10)

relationship. I don't feel this is so.

- 94842 - Available to size 28. Up eyed. Essentially the same as the above hooks except up eyed. My standard hook.
- 94833 - Available to size 24. Down eyed. 3X fine wire. A waste of money below size 18.
- 540 L - Size 28 only. Down eyed. Gold plated. This hook is only 2 millimeters long whereas the standard size 28 is 3 millimeters. There is hardly any gape between the hook point and the eye. I'd like to see this one up eyed and bronzed.
- 277 - Size 32 only. No eye. Fantic hook. Not to be considered seriously.
- 9479 - Up and down eyed. 5X short spider hooks. Available to sizes 16 and 18. Good if very large fish will be encountered. The short shank length permits a 4 millimeter body on a size 16 hook. Floating characteristics poor.
- 9523

Which ever hooks are chosen should be altered slightly for peak performance. First, they should be made barbless for ease of extraction. Second, they should be sharpened. And third, they should be canted slightly for increased hooking capabilities.

The materials used for tying these miniscule flies are pretty much the same as those used in their larger counterparts. The areas that should be altered are: threads (discussed earlier); head cements (thin them down); and hackles. Finding tiny hackles has been a no win affair until recently. These are now in good supply. Where? One place is your local fly tying materials dealer. Many times he has a box in the back room loaded with tips of necks that have broken off during shipping. Since he can not sell a tip-less neck easily, the tip ends (which contain the hackles which you are after) are stored away. Ask him about it. You may find a good buy at fractions of the cost of a full neck. Albeit, most of these necks are of poor quality, but once in a while...

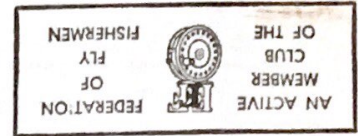
Where else? Kaufmans Streamborn Flies. This company deals with the Henry Hoffman Super Grizzly necks and these are without comparison. The size 28 hackles are size 28. And there are a fair amount of them per given neck. He also supplies these super necks dyed to dun, olive, and several other shades from time to time. Best of all, he offers tips of these fantastic necks for about \$10 dollars. If there is a better way to go, I know not of it.

End Part V

(Next month: Imitations)

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APRIL 1978 CALENDAR

- April 5 Board of Director's Meeting
- April 7 Fly Fishing School, 3rd Class
- April 8 Fly Fishing School, 4th Class
- April 8 Work Outing & Fish Stocking on Willimantic River, see page 2
- April 10 DEADLINE for LINES AND LEADERS material
- April 12 CFFA Membership Meeting, see page 1
- April 15 Opening Day, 1978 Fishing Season
- April 19 ECCFFA Meeting, see page 1
- April 25 Conservation Committee Meeting, see page 2

April							1978
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30							

COMING EVENTS

- May 21 Annual CFFA Spring Outing, date tentative
- May TBD Final Class of Fly Fishing School

*Learn Fly Fishing in '78*