



# LINES AND LEADERS

CFFA

DECEMBER 1981

Vol. 8 No. 9

Connecticut Fly Fishermen's Association

## Meeting Notice

CFFA'S December meeting will be held at 7:30 P.M., Wednesday, December 9 at the Veteran's Memorial Clubhouse on Sunset Ridge Drive in East Hartford. This month's program will feature Henry Mac who will present a talk and film on Fishing for Arctic Char.

Mr. Mac is the President of a tool and die company in Southwick, Massachusetts, and will talk about his trip to the Finger Lakes, 1100 air miles north of Montreal, Quebec. The lakes are accessible only by air, and are open to fishing only 6-7 weeks of the year.

Several CFFA members will be on hand before the meeting to demonstrate fly tying patterns and techniques.

## Annual Banquet

CFFA'S 12th Annual Banquet will be held on Saturday, February 6, 1982. Guest speakers will be Lee and Joan Wulff, and there will be a special program for the ladies. Note that this is one week earlier than usual to avoid the Valentine's Day weekend. More details and a reservation form are on page 9. Members wishing to donate prizes for the Conservation Drawing should contact Elmer Latham (742-6584) or Dick Smoragiewicz (529-6760).

Also, this year's Fly Tying Seminar begins in January. All of the patterns have been changed this year, so members who have taken the classes before may want to sign up again. More details and an application form are on page 8.

'An active member club of the Federation of Fly Fishermen'



# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our new column has not officially been named yet, but I felt there were a few items that you should be aware of. In our next issue we will have our new name, and will be looking forward to receiving your questions.

Our nominating committee has been formed and will be working to select the officer's for your CLUB in 1982. If anyone that is a member of CFFA, would like to serve on the Board of Directors please contact me at your convenience.

The Banquet Committee will be getting together shortly in preparation for our February 6th Banquet. For those of you who are new members, this is a date to remember, PLAN TO ATTEND.

One final item, at this time I would like to thank everyone of you for your support and contribution to the CLUB throughout the past year. As this year draws to a close and the holiday season is upon us, on behalf of The Board of Directors, I would like to wish each of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* PRESIDENT:Elmer Latham EDITORS:Larry Johnson, Ed Fidrych \*  
\* "Lines and Leaders" is the official publication of the Connecticut \*  
\* Fly Fisherman's Association, Inc., and is distributed to its member- \*  
\* ship and allies of conservation. Business card ads may be placed at \*  
\* a cost of \$5 per month or \$40 for 9 months. Address newsletter \*  
\* correspondence to either Larry Johnson, 60 Willard St., Hartford, CT \*  
\* 06105 or to Ed Fidrych, Box 145, Glastonbury Rd., Portland, CT 06480. \*  
\* Notice of address change and other correspondence should be sent to \*  
\* CFFA, P.O. Box 18365, East Hartford, CT 06118. \*  
\* \*  
\* 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 Veterans Memorial, Sunset Ridge Dr., East Hartford, CT. \*  
\* Eastern Council meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each \*  
\* month at the Mansfield Middle School, Spring Hill Rd., Mansfield, CT. \*  
\* \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

(From the Newsletter of the Northwest Fly Anglers, Seattle, WA)

WADERS-The Angler's Dilemma  
by Bob Barnes

I have been slogging about rivers, streams, lakes, beaver ponds and sloughs, holing waders in barbed wire fences, blackberry thickets and streamside snags for over twenty years. Only on a few, very memorable occasions have I made the mistake of stepping into the water in anything other than chest high waders.

The choice between waders and hip boots is really a simple matter of what sort of fishing or other water related activities one wishes to engage in. Hippers (hip boots) are adequate for clam digging, boat fishing and very shallow wading in reasonably calm water; their use along running waters is severely restrictive as two foot water depths are about the maximum which they can comfortably negotiate.

Is wading really necessary? I hear you ask. It is true that a number of fisheries, notably in Britain, Scotland and the Scandinavian areas as well as numerous private and club waters do not require wading and in fact may in some cases prohibit it. But my experiences around waters from Montana to Alaska strongly suggest that an angler, especially a fly angler, is at a distinct disadvantage if he or she can't negotiate water over knee deep. For the fly angler, being able to wade at least waist deep is frequently the only way proper presentation of a fly can be achieved. Wading deeper enables the angler to get more back-casting room as well as making it possible to maneuver into the best casting position. In steelhead fly fishing, for instance, the ability of the angler to cover water is almost invariably as dependent upon wading ability as it is upon casting savvy; and the advantage in my book is almost certainly to the former as far more fish will be encountered on relatively short casts of thirty to sixty feet if they are made from (and to) the right place. Now that the case for waders has been stated, how about the pros and cons of bootfoot waders versus stockingfoot waders?

Bootfoot waders, like hip boots, are complete within themselves and require no additional wading shoes as do stockingfoot waders. Wading shoes for stockingfoot waders can range from a pair of tennes shoes to custom-built felted wading shoes complete with hobs or corkers and retailing for over sixty dollars. By their very nature the use of stockingfoot waders is more complicated and slightly more time consuming. If one views getting into the water as a speed contest--and some do--then put your money on the angler who has the bootfoot waders. As far as cost goes, and I'm not suggesting that this is an appropriate criterion, there is not a whole lot to choose between. A decent pair of bootfoot waders will cost over thirty to one hundred dollars and up (Ed. note-this was written in 1979); stockingfoot waders will cost thirty-five to one hundred ten dollars--exclusive of another twenty to sixty dollars for wading shoes.

The really big difference between bootfoot and stocking-foot waders is the comfort and ease of movement once one is in them. Stockingfoot waders are lighter and much more comfortable than bootfoot waders. I have no hesitation in walking several miles in the former to get to water that I want to fish. A similar excursion in bootfoot waders is bound to result in chafing and sore feet not to mention overheating.

From the standpoint of wear and tear, the stockingfoot waders puncture more readily than do the heavier bootfoot waders. Neither type is recommended for crashing through bramble patches. One virtue of many of the stockingfoot varieties is that they are seamless. Seam leaks are a plague in all waders which are made with seams, stockingfoot as well as bootfoot.

An additional advantage of stockingfoot waders is that the brunt of the wear is on the wading shoes which can be repaired easily or replaced frequently at less cost than can a pair of bootfoot waders which, once the boot portion wears out, must be relegated to salvage.

Getting down to specifics, I would rate the waders which I have used as follows--

**Bootfoot:** These are so variable in quality even in the same brand name that I hesitate to recommend any given brand. I've had excellent luck with Hodgman (ca \$50.00) but I think that this outfit went under or was reformed under Converse-Hodgman. The original Hodgman waders had canvas uppers to go with the molded bootfoot and were uninsulated. More recently I've gotten good use out of a pair of Northern Insulated (Servus Rubber Co.) purchased for under \$30.00. A friend bought a pair at the same time and place and his lasted two trips! Thus whatever brand you buy, make sure that it is either guaranteed by the manufacturer or by the dealer. Any waders cheaper than about thirty-five dollars are catch as catch can and frequently are not guaranteed.

**Stockingfoot:** Totes--a gum rubber wader of exceptional durability, strength and comfort. I haven't seen any for sale for several years and assume that the company is out of business. It figures. At twenty dollars they simply were too good to be true. These days they'd be a bargain at fifty dollars a pair. Marathon--my pair was a vulcanized nylon weave and wore reasonably well. The major disadvantage of this material is that it lacks stretch so one has to be sure that the waders are a perfect but slack fit. These waders are probably identical to those listed by Kaufman's for \$47.00. Seal-dri--the universally available stockingfoot wader. These are made from latex rubber with fair stretching characteristics but are rather fragile especially when stretched. Fortunately they patch easily with a variety of patching materials: liquid latex, goop and even electrical tape in a pinch. The light-weight version of seal-dri run \$30-35; a newer heavier version which I have not yet tried sells for about \$45-50. These waders are an excellent buy only if they are worn with some sort of protective outer garment which will protect them from the rough stuff. I have used a pair of nylon fisherman's trousers for this

purpose for several years with excellent effect. Such a precaution will probably double the average expected life of any lightweight stockingfoot wader and is no doubt advisable even for heavier stockingfoot waders if you beat the brush along your favorite water.

The Wader (Totem Trader)--This stockingfoot wader is probably in a class all by itself when it comes to comfort, durability, safety and price. Made out of dry suit material sandwiched between two layers of protective nylon, this is without question the best wader on the market at the present time. Contrary to popular rumor it is not at all uncomfortable in hot weather fishing as long as one wears light clothing underneath (cotton instead of wool) and keeps the waders reasonably damp--evaporation cools them. Contrary to the manufacturer's claims, I have not found my pair to be especially easy to patch simply because it can be very difficult to pinpoint the exact hole in the sponge-like material. The ability of "The Wader" to float the angler in case of a deep water mishap is a valuable safety feature for the intrepid wader. The price of these waders can vary substantially depending on where they are purchased and whether or not you want custom fitting. Regular sizes go for \$100-110, custom jobs run about \$10 more.

In my experience lightweight stockingfoot waders will outlast the heavier bootfoot variety about three years to two; but this is highly dependent on usage and care. The difference is really a function of repairability. When bootfoot waders go it's usually a case of massive seam splits, separation of fabric from rubber, crotch area deterioration, or abrasion on the inner side of the legs. Stockingfoot waders, particularly the Seal-driss, are relatively immune from such problems, though susceptible to punctures, which are easily repaired. If you choose the stockingfoot wader, it is a good idea, on extended fishing trips, to stow an extra pair in your baggage. It could save a trip from disaster.

## A & B SPORT SHOP

FISHING

FRESH AND SALT WATER



HUNTING

MUZZLE LOADING

(203) 872-8052

1000 HARTFORD TPKE RT 30 VERNON CONN 06066

## AUTUMN & GREENLEAF OUTFITTERS

ORVIS • CORTLAND 444 •  
H. L. LEONARD AGENT • VINTAGE  
CANE RODS & FIREARMS •  
KNIFE & CUTLERY SPECIALISTS •  
ESTATE BROKERAGE

R. S. DIMESKY

6 WILCOX ST. SIMSBURY, CT 06070 (203) 658-1786  
AUTHORIZED SAGE DEALER



## FLY-OF-THE-MONTH: Boulder Flycasters, Boulder, Colorado

Selection of a fly of the month is loosely based on criteria such as effectiveness, ease of tying, and usefulness in the current season of the year. However a streamer pattern known as the Woolly Bugger can also be effective this

Late

season of the year. Late winter and early spring usually tend toward nymphing activity. However a streamer pattern known as the Woolly Bugger can also be effective this time of year. In fact, Norm Leighty praises its virtue for all seasons.

I talked to Norm recently to get some history of the pattern. Apparently an old timer in New Hampshire originated the pattern. Barry Beck, an eastern tier who used to tie for H.L. Leonard, picked up on it and passed it on to Doug Swisher. Doug was very enthusiastic about the effectiveness of the pattern, and passed on the information to many friends, including Norm.

The fly is basically a streamer and is best fished as one. The procedure is to cast it to the stream bank and then retrieve it in strips. Norm recommends a sinking line with a short leader, and an unweighted fly for better casting. It can be fished dead drift as a nymph or teased in and around pockets. This pattern is an excellent fish finder during those times when fish aren't rising, and can even be fished successfully during a hatch.

### Tying Instructions

#### Materials

- Hook - can be 79580 (4x long) or 3665A (6x long)
- Tail - bear or moose body hair plus marabou
- Body - chenille
- Rib - palmered soft hackle

#### Steps:

1. Tie in at eye and wind to about barb.
2. Tie in bear or moose body hair as shown in figure 1 to help prevent marabou from wrapping around hook when fished.
3. Tie in fairly full marabou bunch in proportions shown in figure 2.
4. Tie in chenille body and hackle feather. Wrap thread over chenille over the entire length of underbody as shown in figure 3 to provide uniform base.
5. Wrap chenille and tie off. Palmer the hackle and tie off. Finish head.

The most popular color combination has been olive chenille with black marabou and hackle. Other good combinations are silver and white, brown and yellow, and all olive.

Telephone 583-9714




## S & M

FLY TYING MATERIALS

Cortland Certified Pro Shop  
Authorized Orvis Dealer

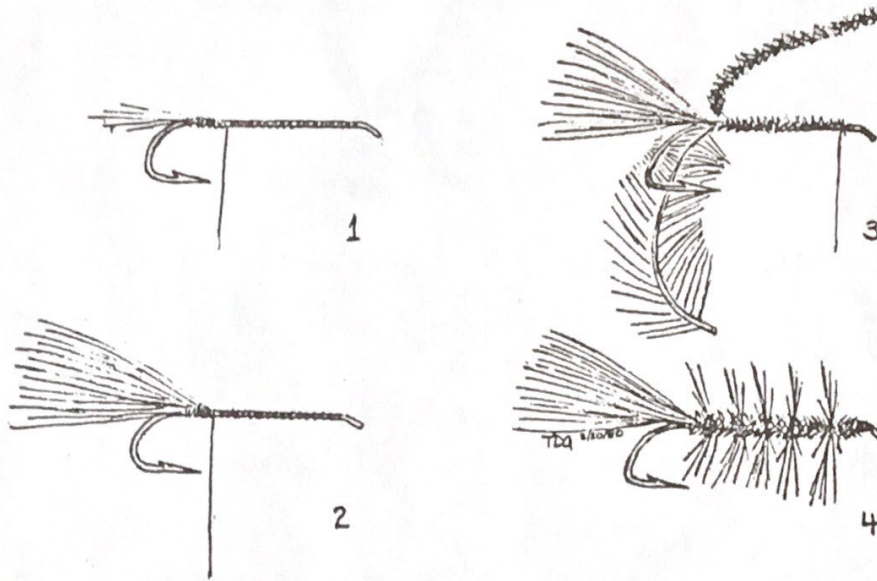
WALT STOCKMAN95 UNION ST.  
BRISTOL, CONNECTICUT 06010

*E.F. ROBERTS*  
**CUSTOM RODMAKER**



Split Cane Fly Rods in the Tradition of the Old Masters  
Contemporary Graphite and Glass Rods  
Restoration and Repair Service

21C Seymour Rd., E. Granby, CT 06026 • (203) 651-8402



EASTERN COUNCIL  
CONNECTICUT FLY FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION

The Eastern Council in August of 1981 sent a questionnaire to those members of CFFA living in the Eastern Council area. 45 % of the questionnaires sent to members were answered and returned. 90% of the returned questionnaires stated that the members frequented the East Hartford CFFA meetings more often.

Due to the possible duality of purpose and the continuing low participation, the Eastern Council meetings have been suspended. This we hope to be a temporary condition. If you have interest in the Eastern Council and would like to see these programs continue please contact Dan DuBois or Mike Gombola.


The Eastern Council needs and wants your energy and involvement.

Dan DuBois  
456-0100 Home  
486-4226 Office

Mike Gombola  
429-5553 Home  
486-4431 Office

307 E. CENTER STREET  
MANCHESTER, CONN. 06040

RAY GORSKY  
203-643-7177



**RAY'S TACKLE SHOP**

FRESH & SALT WATER TACKLE  
FLY TYING MATERIALS  
CUSTOM TIED FLYS — BAIT  
ROD BUILDING SUPPLIES  
CUSTOM CRAFTED RODS  
-Fly Tyers Wanted-

**N-Y-M-P-H-S** 623-9525  
And Other Things

Fishing Tackle  
Custom Built Fishing Rods  
Rod & Reel Repairs  
Rod Building & Fly Tying Supplies

PAUL & JEANNE GIAUQUE  
182 (Rear) MAIN STREET  
BOX 453 — WAREHOUSE POINT, CONN. 06088  
10% CFFA DISCOUNT ON FLY-TYING MATERIALS

CONNECTICUT FLY FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION

presents

"FLY TYER'S SEMINAR"

A school for intermediate beginners...

CLASSES: There will be six lessons. Classes will meet on the following Friday evenings at 7:00 P.M. in the East Hartford Public Library (2nd floor), 840 Main Street, East Hartford, CT (next to the Post Office):

<u>No.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>
1	1-8-82	<u>Bait Fish:</u> Muddler Minnow and Matuka Streamer
2	1-15-82	<u>Mayflies:</u> Spinner and Parachute
3	1-22-82	<u>Caddis:</u> Henryville and Hair-Wing Caddis
4	1-29-82	<u>Midges:</u> Palmered and Winged
5	2-5-82	<u>Terrestrials:</u> Beetle and Flying Ant
6	2-11-82 *	<u>To Be Determined:</u> We are leaving this class "open" in order that class members may decide which pattern(s) or technique(s) they would like to see tied.

\*This meeting only is a Thursday.

Snow Days: 2-19-82 and 2-26-82

EQUIPMENT: All necessary hooks and materials will be furnished. Students must supply their own vise, bobbin, thread, scissors, etc. It is suggested that each tyer bring a portable lamp.

INSTRUCTORS: In addition to the main instructors, several CFFA tyers will be on hand to assist students.

CLASS SIZE: Limited to the first 25 people submitting applications.

TUITION: CFFA Members.....\$ 20.00 Non-Members.....\$ 25.00

-----  
CFFA FTS ENROLLMENT APPLICATION

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please print required information. Forward application form and tuition (checks payable to C.F.F.A.) to: Dan Record, Education Chairman, 9 Sequoia Drive, Cromwell, Connecticut 06416. (If a receipt is desired, please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_  
ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ CFFA MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_ NON-MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_

For additional information contact Gary Bogli, 82 Elizabeth Drive, Manchester, Connecticut 06040 Phone: 649-4227



CFFA 12th ANNUAL BANQUET

On February 6, 1982, CFFA will be holding their 12th Annual banquet. Our guest speakers this year will be Lee and Joan Wulff. While Lee Wulff is entertaining the men with his program, Joan Wulff will present a special program for the ladies. Watch for more details in the next newsletter.

The banquet will be held at the Sphinx Temple (next to the Grant Moor) on the Berlin Turnpike in Newington. Your choice of dinners this year will be baked stuffed shrimp or roast prime rib of beef. Included with the meal will be fruit cup, salad, baked potato, vegetable, rolls and butter, coffee or tea and an ice cream puff with chocolate sauce.

As you can see, your banquet committee has been hard at work to provide you with an evening of entertainment, and we're doing this for \$13.25 per person. Last but not least we will also be having our conservation drawing that evening.

So come on gang, fill out the reservation form and mail it as soon as possible. Your banquet committee is looking forward to seeing each and every one of you there.

Anyone wishing to donate prizes for our drawing may contact Elmer Latham at 742-6584 or Dick Smoragiewicz at 529-6760. All prizes will be greatly appreciated.

-----  
DINNER RESERVATION

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I will require reservations for \_\_\_\_\_ persons at \$13.25 per person. Check or Money Order in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed. (Make payable to "CFFA")

Mail Reservation form to:

Mr. Elmer Latham  
79 Northfield Rd.  
Coventry, CT 06238

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY & STATE \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Baked Stuffed Shrimp

\_\_\_\_\_ Prime Ribs of Beef

Mail your reservation now--tickets will not be available at the door.

DECEMBER 1981 CALENDAR

- Dec. 2 Board of Directors Meeting  
 9 December CFFA Meeting

COMING EVENTS

- Jan. 6 Board of Directors Meeting  
 8 Fly Tying Seminar-First Class  
 13 January CFFA Meeting  
 15 Fly Tying Seminar-Second Class  
 22 Fly Tying Seminar-Third Class  
 29 Fly Tying Seminar-Fourth Class
- Feb. 6 Annual CFFA Banquet

December						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2			
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30