



LINES AND LEADERS

CFFA

DECEMBER 1982

Vol. 9

No. 9

Connecticut Fly Fishermen's Association

Meeting Notice

CFFA's December meeting will be held at 7:30 P.M., Wednesday, December 8, at the Veteran's Memorial Clubhouse on Sunset Ridge Drive in East Hartford. This month's program will feature Tim Coleman, editor of "New England Fisherman" magazine, who will present a slide show on fishing the New England shore. The emphasis will be on New York, Connecticut and Rhode Island. There seems to be a renewed interest in salt water fly fishing in CFFA, and, as several of our members will tell you, the fishing can be very good.

Several CFFA members will be on hand before the meeting to demonstrate fly tying patterns and techniques, including some salt water patterns. Our fly of the month is also a popular salt water fly, suitable for Bluefish and Stripers.

Annual Banquet

CFFA's 13th Annual Banquet will be held on Saturday, February 5, 1983, at the Sphinx Temple in Newington. Our speaker this year will be Lefty Kreh. See page 9 for more details and a reservation form. Members wishing to donate prizes for the conservation drawing should contact Elmer Latham (742-6584) or Richard Smoragiewicz (569-0364).

Also note that our Fly Tying Seminar begins in January. This would make a nice present for someone in your family or yourself. Details and an application are on page 8.



'An active member club of the Federation of Fly Fishermen



Nominating Committee Report

Your nominating committee composed of Board members Vin Ringrose and Ken Parkany and CFFA member Lionel Mac Donald has submitted the following slate of officers for 1983. The election will be held at the January monthly meeting. Any additional nominations may be made at that time.

PRESIDENT--	ELMER LATHAM
VICE-PRESIDENT, ACTIVITIES--	ROBERT MARTINCHEK
VICE-PRESIDENT, PROMOTION--	GARY BOGLI
VICE-PRESIDENT, ENVIRONMENT--	LOUIS PATRIA
TREASURER--	WALTER TELKE
LEGAL SECRETARY--	RICHARD SMORAGIEWICZ
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY--	PETER TRAINI

THE CORNER POOL

Ed Fidrych

Larry Johnson

We have gotten quite a few entries for our Photo Contest, and are now casting around for an impartial panel of judges. We will also try to find some way to let everyone see the entries at the Annual Banquet.

The DEP newsletter is looking for pictures to include in their monthly bulletin, and will give proper credit to anyone whose pictures they use. Heading Out magazine is also looking for pictures, and is offering credit and cash for pictures they use. Both are in "desperate need" of good pictures. Any contest entrant, or any other CFFA member interested in these offers should contact Larry Johnson at 246-0728 for details.

Finally, even though it is not yet Thanksgiving as I write this, your Editors would like to thank everyone who contributed articles and ideas to the newsletter, and wish all of you and your families the best of Holiday Seasons!

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT:

Once again we find ourselves coming to the end of another year. For most, I am sure it was a rewarding year. For a few such as myself, as we sit by the warmth coming from our fireplace or our wood stove on a freezing, snowy evening, reflecting back to the cool breezes of May, and those hot and humid August evenings upon the streams, I wonder, have I done all that I could this past year to help preserve that river or that woodland, so that they will always be there to fish and to hunt for the generation to come, and to enjoy them as I have.

As I gather with family and friends this coming holiday season, my thoughts will also be with you, the club members of CFFA. For your continued support each and everyone of you this past year will help to insure that a few of the gifts I intend to give can be enjoyed by my nephews in their lifetime.

Thank you all for your help and support this past year, and to all of you Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Your President



AUTUMN & GREENLEAF
OUTFITTERS

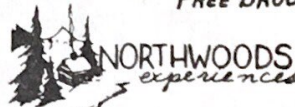
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THE FEATHERED HOOK

"THE BLONDE SERIES"

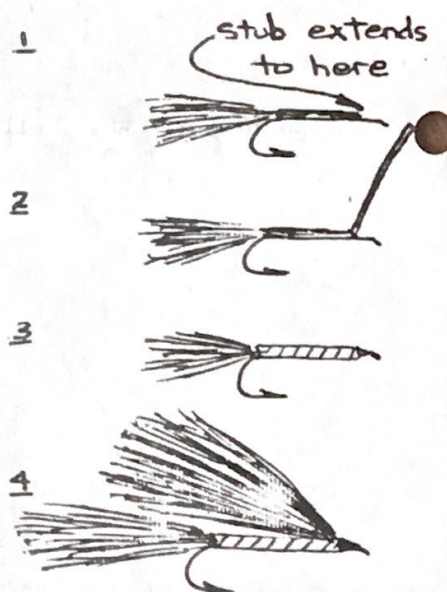
by RON ZAWOYSKY

The Blonde series of bucktails was originated by the late Joe Brooks for use in fishing salt water. They are used to imitate the bait fish that are abundant in coastal waters. They are now used throughout the world in fishing the salt. I personally experienced good luck with them on my first try at salt water fishing. I took two three pound bluefish on a platinum blonde (after the second fish there wasn't much left of the fly) while fishing at Narragansett Pier. They have also caught a few mackerel for me.

Tying saltwater flies is a welcome relief to tying the tiny trout flies that are necessary today. The hook sizes vary from 4 to 5/0 and should be stainless steel for durability. The flies are fun and easy to tie.

The following are the instructions for tying the Platinum Blonde, a pattern that I have had success with in my limited experience with the salt:

- 1 Secure 2/0 thread on the hook and tie in a tail of white bucktail approximately 2 inches long. Let stub of bucktail extend almost to the eye of the hook to provide an even body base and wind down with thread.
- 2 Tie in wide flat silver tinsel just behind the eye.
- 3 Wind the tinsel first toward the bend and then back to the eye and tie off. This will give a more durable and even body.
- 4 Tie in another bunch of bucktail about 2 inches long for a wing. Elevate the wing to about a 45 degree angle by taking a few turns behind the wing.
- 5 Finish the fly with a good whip finish and apply 2 or 3 coats of lacquer to the head.



Other variations of the Blonde are as follows:

	<u>Tail</u>	<u>Body</u>	<u>wing</u>
Argentine	white	silver	blue
Honey	yellow	gold	yellow
Strawberry	orange	gold	red

I think that everyone that has fly fished freshwater should try the salt. Its not everyday that you can catch a three pounder on a fly in freshwater, but its practically a daily occurrence in the salt.

HOW TO GET TO THE HOUSATONIC RIVER

By Ken Parkany

Fishermen often ask me — after I've spent considerable time touting the virtues of the Housatonic River, or "Housy", for short — for directions to the river. Well, I've found a new way to get there: lose your bearings. And I don't mean get lost!

I don't know whether the nite was late or the day was early, but at 3:30 AM I was on my way to Leon's. I recall driving by Denny's in East Hartford and seeing the parking lot full, and wondering what kinda nuts are eating late dinners or early breakfasts at such an ungodly hour. Come to think of it, the next time someone tells me fishermen are crazy, I intend to direct them to Denny's some Sunday morning, when the day is just a few hours old.

At 4:00 AM I pulled in Castonguay's driveway in Windsor Locks. Leon, as expected, was standing there waiting. And I was on time. "Who's car? , mine or yours", I asked. "No choice", he answered emphatically, rolling the unlit Moneymaker cigar to the side of his mouth. "You've been taxiing me around too long. Now it's my turn."

Leon had just put a few additional miles on a "new" used '76 or '77 Olds Spitfire, a sharp looking, sleek and racy little car, quite out of character with its newly adopted driver. And he was very anxious to pay me what he considered an I-O-U. So I unloaded my gear into his vehicle.

We had a daylong date with the Battenkill River in Shushan, New York, the special regulated water just across the Vermont line. And Ron Zawoysky was expecting us at his camp on the river for breakfast. Probably around 7:00 AM. Well, good intentions sometimes go astray, for reasons beyond your control..

And they did just that on this trip — way astray. Both by time and distance.

About 20 miles on the Massachussetts' side of the New York state line, the "squeakies" started. Before long, they grew into a wobbly right front wheel. Somebody once told me (commenting on their good fortune), that if their ship ever came in, they would probably be at the airport. Well, I wouldn't go so far as to say our ship came in just then — if it did, it was a destroyer — but I wish we would have been near an airport. Or someplace near civilization. Would you believe Leon "limped" that cute little car 20 miles to the Route 22 truck stop in New York, without ever crossing paths with anything that even resembled a police cruiser, or some such vehicle that might assist us. Naturally, the result of losing the wheel bearings was, by this time, a disaster. And in more ways than one.

The bearings and the cylindrical shaft on which they rotate were shot. And the latter was not one of your common every day parts that are stocked in your common every day parts store. Even on Sunday! In fact, if your common every day junk yard has the part, I'd be surprised. At least that's what the mechanic at the truck stop said. He said that at 6:30 AM.

Did you ever get an inkling to be a truck driver? Do you know what it's like to hang around a truck stop all day, waiting for a repair?

Here's some of the things you can do to pass the time, if your luck is like ours and you don't lose your bearings near a trout stream. First, you can sit in the restaurant and eat — until you go broke or die of indigestion, or both. You can also walk around awhile down the road and

back, and hope you don't get propositioned by a van full of hippies, or become a hit-and-run victim. You might try dreaming that a car full of "lost" Dallas Cheerleaders stop and ask you to show them the way. Where, you don't care.

Another thing you can do to pass the time, if there's a set of tracks conveniently nearby, is count the number of cars on the passing trains. That's fun. It's called neotony -- doing a childhood thing as an adult. Neotony has another meaning, but you can look that up. But even this kinda fun loses its glitter soon.

You can also hope to find signs while you are walking that advertise an "old and rare book sale", like we did. Only to find out eventually that the place was closed for the weekend.

I've given you enough ideas to start your long day in-waiting. You can use your imagination to generate some more time-passing events.

It was 3:30 PM, almost nine hours after our entry, that we drove out of that truck stop -- in Leon's racy little car, believe it or not. Of course this amazingly fast turn-around repair came about only through the miraculous combination of an understanding son (Leon's); a five and dime type parts store -- you know, the kind that has everything that nobody else does -- in Windsor Locks, Connecticut; an obliging mechanic; and 9 long-g-g hours.

Not only was the wheel bearings worn, but so was our patience. Pretty thin, too. So you would naturally think that the next thing these two sane fishermen would do, would be to drive straight home. Yep. We would -- if we were sane.

Leon was determined to wet a line, or more correctly to have me wet a line. He was trying to "redeem" himself. I didn't argue, so we came home by way of the Housatonic. "There's no tonic, like the Housatonic", or so Oliver Wendell Holmes once claimed. Well, even a river full of rising fish could not sooth our dampened spirits. Anybody who claims that fishing with size 24 no-name midges tied on 8X tippetts, after what we had been through earlier, is not a candidate for the funny farm, but an escapee from one. So, I caught a couple plump 12 inchers and nobody else did. Big deal.

About the only consolation, in my opinion, was Scarpelli's. That's the little fast food place in Torrington (west side) on route 4. Their home made french fries are the best I've eaten in 39 years. Those fries are worth a trip to Torrington any day.

On the remaining leg of the return to Leon's in Windsor Locks, I kept wondering what I/we did to deserve all this. No answers were forthcoming. I tried to think positive. The bright side. "Think of the highlights, Leon, think of the highlights," I kept saying. "I keep seeing blanks," Leon muttered, "nothing but blanks."


So, you want to know how to get to the "Housy"? It's easy. Just lose your "bearings"!! ☹

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UNTANGLING ANGLING

Reminders for years-end:

1. Fishing Survey Book (let's get them back to D.E.P.)
2. Election of Club officers at our January meeting. (Anyone wishing to nominate someone for an elected position, please contact the nominating committee: DeVin Ringrose, Ken Parkard, and Lionel MacDonnell).


NOTE: The January program, regardless of the weather, will not be cancelled due to the election of officers.

3. Banquet (two more months)
4. Dues renewal. (Speaking of dues renewal, your Board of Director has voted again this year to give a free prize at the annual banquet, whether you can attend or not. To be eligible your dues for 1983 must be paid before February 1, 1983. There will be one ticket per membership in the drawing.
5. LOST: John Carpenter - It seems that John has moved without leaving a forwarding address. Anyone knowing John, please ask him to contact us.

CFFA member Chip Bates, Rte 2, Lyme, Conn. 06371 (434-8528) is planning a trip to New Zealand in February. He would appreciate hearing from any readers of the newsletter who have visited the South Island and can provide fishing advice and/or names of people to contact while there.

*By
Burton*

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presents

"FLY TYER'S SEMINAR"

A school for intermediate beginners ...

CLASSES: There will be six lessons. Classes will meet on the following Thursday and 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>	<u>SUBJECT</u>
1	1-7-83	Friday	<u>Bait Fish</u>	Muddler Minnow and Matuka Streamer
2	1-13-83	Thursday	<u>Mayflies</u>	Spinner and Parachute
3	1-21-83	Friday	<u>Caddis</u>	Henryville and Hair-Wing Cad
4	1-28-83	Friday	<u>Midges</u>	Palmered and Winged
5	2-4-83	Friday	<u>Terrestrials</u>	Beetle and Flying Ant
6	2-10-83	Thursday	<u>To Be Determined</u>	We are leaving this class "open in order that class members may decide which pattern or technique (s) they would like to see tied.

SNOW DAYS: 2-18-83 and 2-25-83

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.

INSTRUCTOR: 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 Dr., Cromwell, Ct., 06416. If a receipt is desired, please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope

NAME _____ PHONE _____

STREET _____ CITY _____

ZIP _____ CFFA MEMBER _____ NON-MEMBER _____

FO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT GARY BOGLI, 82 ELIZABETH DR., MANCHESTER, CT. 06040
PHONE NO. 649-4227

CFFA 13th ANNUAL BANQUET

On Saturday, February 5, 1983, CFFA will hold its 13th Annual Banquet. Our guest speaker this year will be Lefty Kreh. Details of his program will be announced 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 dessert.

Your Banquet Committee has worked hard to provide you with an enjoyable evening, and we have been able to do this for the same \$13.25 per person as last year. We will also be having our conservation drawing that evening.

So fill out the reservation form and mail it as soon as possible. Your Banquet Committee and Board of Directors are 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 569-0364. All prizes will be greatly appreciated, and all donations will be acknowledged in Lines and Leaders.

DINNER RESERVATION

Date _____

I will require reservations for _____ persons at \$13.25 per person.
Check or Money Order in the amount of \$_____ enclosed.
(Please 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.

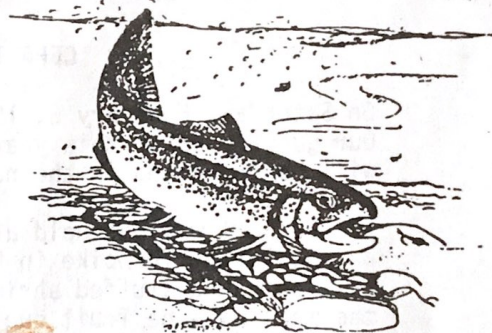
DECEMBER 1982 CALENDAR

- Dec. 1 Board of Director's Meeting
8 December CFFA Meeting

COMING EVENTS

- Jan. 5 Board of Director's Meeting
7 Fly Tying Seminar-Bait Fish
12 January CFFA Meeting
*13 Fly Tying Seminar-Mayflies
21 Fly Tying Seminar-Caddis
28 Fly Tying Seminar-Midges
*Note-this session only
is a Thursday.

- Feb. 5 ANNUAL CFFA BANQUET



*DON'T FORGET TO RENEW
YOUR MEMBERSHIP!*