



# LINES AND LEADERS

CFFA

JANUARY 1982

Vol. 9 No. 1

## Meeting Notice

PROGRAM: Annual Fly-Tying Seminar

WHERE: Veteran's Memorial Clubhouse, Sunset Ridge Drive, East Hartford.

WHEN: Wednesday, January 13, 1982

TIME: 7:30 PM

A panel of master fly-tyers from CFFA will be on hand to provide informal demonstrations of tying techniques and patterns for a variety of fishing, Trout, Bass and possibly Salt-Water. There will also be a display of fly-tying materials, and information will be provided on material selection. This has consistently been one of our most popular meetings, and is a good way to begin preparations for the coming fishing season.

## Annual Banquet

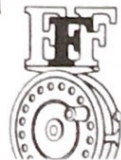
CFFA'S 12th Annual Banquet will be held on Saturday, February 6, 1982. Guest speakers will be Lee and Joan Wulff, and there will be a special program for the ladies. Note that this is one week earlier than usual to avoid the Valentine's Day weekend. More details and a reservation form are on page 9.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

See Banquet Directions on page 7.

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.

Connecticut Fly Fishermen's Association

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



# THE CORNER POOL

Ed Fidrych

Larry Johnson

Here we are again-off to the start of another year. Those who were at the November meeting, or who heard some of the changes announced at the December meeting, know that this year will be different. The November meeting was, in a way, a "gripe session," but it was not a negative one. One of the major complaints was that CFFA activities are equally available to members and non-members alike, and the theme that developed from this was "how can we make CFFA special for those who have actually joined?"

Many good ideas were presented at the meeting, and some have already been put into action by the Board of Directors. More suggestions will be implemented in the future, all intended to provide benefits and activities for members only, and to involve more members in club activities. Thanks are due to the members who attended the November meeting and made their viewpoints known, and especially to Ray Gorsky, who broke the ice and got what could have been an awkward meeting off to a good start.

New material has been coming in for the newsletter, including two articles in this month's issue. Education Chairman Dan Record provided a very interesting article on the Orvis fly reel, and Jeff Passante wrote an article on Salmon fishing. This is Jeff's third contribution to Lines and Leaders. Keep that material coming in.

We have received a letter from Dr. Alan Fried, who assisted CFFA in obtaining its tax exempt status, requesting support for a Catskill Fly Fishing Center which will be established in Roscoe, New York. The purpose of the Center is to collect and display trout fishing artifacts and memorabilia. Lee and Joan Wulff, our Banquet speakers, are among the Center's Incorporators. More about this at a later time.

Don't forget to mail your Banquet reservations as soon as possible, and that the Fly Tying Seminar starts this month. Our next activity will be the Fly Fishing School, which usually begins in February.

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* 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. \*  
\* \*\*\*\*\*

# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Starting with the next issue of Lines and Leaders we will be writing under our new heading- "Untangling Angling." The winning name was submitted by Mr. Ken Parkany. As I mentioned in my earlier article, this column will be used to answer any questions you may have regarding the club or fishing. Submit your questions to me at my home address, 79 Northfield Road, Coventry, CT 06238, or to the club address, P.O. Box 18365, East Hartford, CT 06118.

We are now in the process of planning some activities for 1982. As plans are finalized, we will fill you in on the details and dates. Due to the success and participation of last year's fishing trip to the Battenkill River, we are again planning another trip which will be sometime in June. For those of you who will not be able to make this trip, we may also plan day trips to somewhere within the state.

Elmer Latham, President

## Notes from the BOD Meeting

Meeting of Dec. 2, 1981

Our projections indicate we will stay within our \$4,839.88 budget this year. Our receipts for November were \$229.50, our disbursements were \$325.86.

Approximately one hundred renewals have been received from our membership of two hundred and twenty six. Second notices will go out in early January. Those who do not renew will be dropped from the mailing list and will not receive the February newsletter.

In response to the November meeting, a committee has been established to review the suggestions made by our membership. The winner of the Orvis rod and reel will be selected from a special box containing one ticket from each of our members only. This ticket will be free and the winner does not have to attend the banquet. A bulletin board will be made available for club business. Names of new members will be placed in Lines and Leaders. Lines and Leaders will no longer be available to non-members.

Peter Trani, Corresponding Secretary

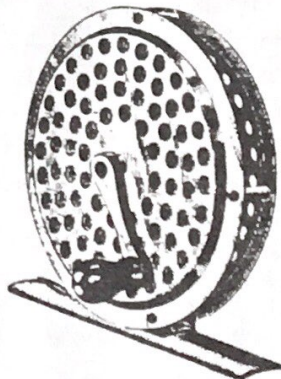
# THE FIRST ORVIS FLY REEL

Many fly fishermen are the proud owners of Orvis "CFO" fly reels. However, the grandfather of the present-day "CFO" reel was the Orvis 1874 Patent "Trout" reel.

In 1874, the Orvis "Trout" reel was considered a major breakthrough in reel design - basically for three reasons: (1) The reel was very narrow in comparison to most fly reels of the time. This allowed for the rapid winding of the fly line. (2) The reel had perforations on the side plates. This lightened the reel considerably and allowed air to circulate through the line that was stored on the reel. As the Orvis patent, dated May 12, 1874, stated, "A current of air is continually forcing itself through the wound-up line, and all mildew and rot thereby avoided, as under these circumstances the line soon becomes thoroughly dried." (3) The narrow Orvis reel was one of the first fly reels to be mounted on the rod handle in the manner they are now mounted today (hanging vertically down) - prior to the Orvis reel, most fly reels were mounted on the rod "sideways" like our contemporary automatic reels.

The Orvis 1874 Patent "Trout" reel was made of nickel-plated brass and sold for \$2.50. The reel was stamped "C.F. ORVIS MAKER, PATENTED MAY 12th 1874, MANCHESTER VT" and came in a dark walnut case. The 1874 Orvis reel did not have a click. However, in 1875, at the suggestion of Charles Hallock (editor of Forest and Stream), a click was added. The reel was produced until approximately 1915.

Today, the Orvis 1874 Patent reel is considered, by collectors, to be one of the most scarce and sought-after American fly reels.



ORVIS 1874 PATENT "TROUT" REEL

## SALMON FISHING ON THE PENOBSCOT

By

Jeff Passante

At a CFFA meeting last winter, I listened to a program about Atlantic Salmon Fishing. I had never seriously considered salmon fishing, thinking it too expensive and exotic - great stuff for fantasies though. After the program, however, I realized that a trip to the Penobscot River in Maine was very feasible. I called my brother, with visions of salmon dancing in my head, and we planned a trip for the first weekend in June.

Upon arriving on Thursday night, we found the campground and set up camp. The owner of the campground gave us directions to the river and we managed to get in a hour of fishing. The rotation pools were crowded and we were anxious to fish so we fished in between the rotation pools with Cossebooms and Thunder & Lightnings. We did not have any luck but we got the "lay of the land" and also saw a salmon caught which buoyed our spirits for the next day.

On Friday we decided our best bet was the first rotation pool below the Veazie Dam. We arrived there early and were surprised to see ten or so rods in the rack already. People arrive at the good rotation pools at 4 A.M. in order to get their rod in the rack first. They feel that the first few fishermen of the day through a pool stand a good chance to catch a salmon that has moved up during the night. That theory seems to be a valid one if you have the intestinal fortitude to get up that early.

Many people do not like the idea of rotation fishing but I found it enjoyable. At the particular pool we fished there was a long board with wooden pegs in it that served to hold the fly rods. One simply put his rod at the end and waited his turn. The waits on weekdays are usually 1-2 hours and on the weekends much longer. While you wait there is no shortage of conversation and "war stories". Most of the people return to the pool day after day and as a result everyone gets to know everybody else and quite a feeling of camaraderie builds up.

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The waiting area was on a small hill overlooking the pool equipped with a well worn sitting log and afforded the waiting fisherman the chance to observe the people fishing as they worked the pool right below you. If a fish was hooked, the scene represented a Chinese fire drill. People run for nets or scramble over the side of the hill to get a front row seat. The person playing the fish gets all kinds of advise most of it conflictory. However, having someone net your salmon is a big help and greatly appreciated during the heat of the battle.

The pool that we fished was not really a pool at all but a long slick just upstream of some rapids. These areas are very productive since the salmon tend to hold there.

When your turn comes to fish, you get twenty to thirty feet behind the person in front of you and maintain that distance fishing downstream. Theoretically, one is supposed to take a cast and then a step and so on. It doesn't work that way. There is usually one hot area of every pool where most of the salmon are caught. When a fisherman gets to that spot he will take his time passing through. If some one is particularly slow he can be assured that it will be brought to his attention.

The first two times I worked my way down through the pool, the fellow in back of me caught a salmon. The third time through, late on Friday afternoon, I tied on a Silver Doctor. As I came into the "hot area" the fisherman in front of me indicated that a salmon rolled just upstream of him. I cast out quartering downstream and mended my line. As the fly approached the crucial area, I saw a silver torpedo go through the water and smash my fly. What happened next was a result of shock. I had my fly line in my left hand as I raised the rod and set the hook. It wasn't long before the salmon took off on a very powerful run towards Bangor. Being a trout fisherman my whole life I was still holding onto the fly line with my left hand and received a rather nasty rope burn on that hand for my trouble. I won't make that mistake again. I finally got on the reel and after an adrenalin pumping fight finally got the salmon into the net. The fish weighed 10½ lbs. and was 30" - not bad for my first full day salmon fishing. As it turned out that was the one and only salmon of the trip. One reason for this I'm sure is that the long waits on the weekends did not allow much fishing time.

For those of you who might be planning a trip, early June was a peak time last year in the Bangor/Brewer area. The number one fly according to local experts and my own observation was the Thunder & Lightning. However, salmon fishing is largely luck and many say the fly makes little difference - being in the right spot at the right time is the crucial factor. The rods used are usually graphite in the 8½ to 9 foot range with line weights of 8 or 9 the most popular. With Atlantic Salmon Fishing so close and affordable, you owe it to yourself to give it a try ... and get on the reel as soon as possible!

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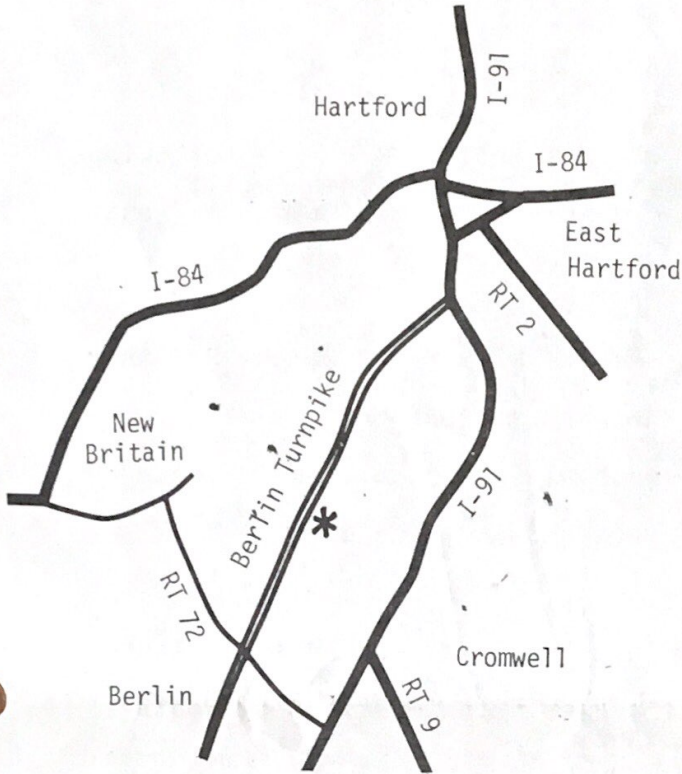


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# Banquet Directions



The 11th annual CFFA Banquet will be held at the former Grantmoor Hotel (now the Sphinx Temple) located adjacent to Two Guys Department Store on the northbound lane of the Berlin Turnpike in Newington.


From Hartford: Take I-91 south to the Rt. 15-Berlin Turnpike exit. Travel south on the Turnpike approximately 5.8 miles. Two Guys and a Grantmoor sign will be seen on the other side of the road. Make a U-turn at the next light and drive into the Grantmoor entrance.

From Berlin: Traveling north on the Berlin Turnpike from Berlin, the Grantmoor will be on your right, just past Two Guys, approximately 2.8 miles north of the Rt. 72 junction.

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CONNECTICUT FLY FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION

presents

"FLY TYER'S SEMINAR"

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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

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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  
7<sup>o</sup> Northfield Rd.  
Coventry, CT 06238

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

JANUARY 1982 CALENDAR

- JANUARY 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

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

COMING EVENTS

- FEBRUARY 3 Board of Directors Meeting  
 5 Fly Tying Seminar-Fifth Class  
 6 ANNUAL CFFA BANQUET  
 11 Fly Tying Seminar-Sixth Class
- MARCH Fly Fishing School

February						
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						