



LINES AND LEADERS

CFFA

OCTOBER 1982

Vol. 9

No. 7

Meeting Notice

CFFA's October meeting will be held at 7:30 P.M., Wednesday, October 13, at the Veterans' Memorial Clubhouse on Sunset Ridge Dr. in East Hartford. Joseph Goyette of the Connecticut Department of Transportation (DOT) will present a slide show on the Roaring Brook relocation project. He will also show a film entitled "The Flooding River" on conservation and environmental problems affecting the entire Connecticut River.

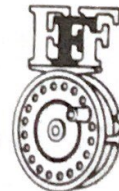
Several fly tyers will be on hand before the meeting to demonstrate fly-tying patterns and techniques.

Random Casts

We are once again running short of material for Lines and Leaders, and are appealing to the CFFA membership to supply articles for our coming issues. Stories of fishing experiences, new fly patterns or variations, comments on equipment, cartoons, etc. are all welcome.

We would especially like more articles on the Willi or elsewhere like the one we printed last month, and comments, suggestions and descriptions of portable fly-tying kits (what to take, how to pack it) to take to the stream or on vacation. Also, many CFFA members keep fishing diaries with insect emergence data. If enough members send in summaries of this data, we could develop emergence tables for more popular streams, possibly with lists of successful patterns.

The deadline for cleanly-typed, ready to print articles is the CFFA meeting before the month of publication. Hand written material should be submitted 2-3 weeks earlier. Send your articles to Larry Johnson, Newsletter Editor, 60 Willard Street, Hartford, CT 06105.



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

THE CORNER POOL

Ed Fidrych

Larry Johnson

CFFA PHOTO CONTEST II

October 1 is the deadline for taking pictures for this year's contest. Any CFFA member may participate, and any type of slide or print may be submitted. Pictures must have been taken between opening day and October 1 of this year. Members may submit up to two entries in each of the following categories:

1. "On the Stream"-for any shot of an active fishing activity.
2. "Fish, Flies and Equipment"-for still-life, not fishing shots.

All entries will be displayed at our annual banquet. First and second place winners in each category will receive gift certificates useable at stores advertising in the newsletter or otherwise supporting CFFA. A special award will be made for humorous entries in either category. Winners will be selected by an impartial panel of judges.

Entries should be submitted to either Larry Johnson or Ed Fidrych by mail or at a regular meeting. We must have them on or before November 15. Place your entries in a sturdy manila envelope, and protect them with one or more pieces of cardboard marked "Photographs-Do Not Bend." Enclose any information you want about the photo, where it was taken, camera, film, etc. All entries will be returned.

The mailing addresses are:Larry Johnson, 60 Willard Street, Hartford, CT 06105 or Ed Fidrych, Box 145, Glastonbury Road, Portland, CT 06480.

ARTICLE OF INTEREST


The September 13 issue of "Sports Illustrated" contains a very good article on fly-tying Boston cabbie (if you can believe that!) Jack Gartside. Jack is becoming well known for his Pheasant Nymph and Hopper patterns, among others. Worth looking at!

* 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. *
* *****

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

I would like to thank the following people for helping out on my appreciation day on the Willimantic River. My thanks to KEN WEST for his time and effort in helping clear the trail from the west bound rest area downstream to the highway bridge. As Ken and I were taking a break at the bridge abutment pool, we discussed the possibility of maybe building a bridge across the small but deep gully that runs into the river. If there are any of you interested in helping out, either give me a call or see me at the October meeting.

**Fish
the
'Willi'**



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Ed Stasonis (203) 574-0029
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Rabid bat bites fly fisherman

MISSOULA (AP) — A Missoula fisherman is under treatment for rabies after catching the one that should have gotten away.

Officials won't release the name of the unlucky fisherman, but Bill DeCou of the Missoula City-County Health Department said a rabid bat bit the man after he accidentally hooked it with a fishing fly.

DeCou said the man apparently hooked the bat in the air as it tried to swallow his fishing fly.

DeCou said the fisherman felt a tug while casting and thought he had hooked a piece of brush behind him. He pulled in his line and the bat bit him, DeCou said.

The bat was taken to the Health Department for testing, and proved to be rabid.

By the time the lab tests were completed, the fisherman was back on Rock Creek, east of Missoula. A Granite County sheriff's deputy found the man and informed him that he might be infected with rabies.

Thursday morning the man began receiving rabies shots.

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UNTANGLING ANGLING

Our thanks to the following people and places for their time and donations for our September meeting:

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Myron Schulman

Gene Monty

Mark Philipps

John Friedman

Paul Beaudrow

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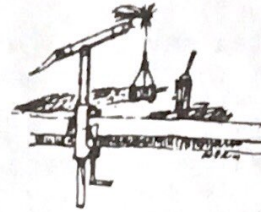
Personal: We are looking for hard working individuals willing to spend a couple of extra hours each month to help preserve and promote the pleasures and traditions of fly fishing and protect our game fish waters. No experience necessary. We will train you on the job.
Potential: To move up the ladder and become the President of the corporation. For further details, please send name and phone number to:
Connecticut Fly Fishermen's Association
P.O. Box 18365
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East Hartford, Conn. 06108
ATTN: President

or call: 742-6584

Bye Bye


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Under the Tyer's Lamp



Leo R. Leggitt

Mark S. Leggitt

Mighty Mystery Midge

The water was the lowest that it had been in 10 years. Most of the Beaverkill regulars hadn't seen anything like it before. Favorite runs were gone. Eddies had dried up. Feeder streams were empty beds of sun bleached stones and rocks. Only the deepest pools required waders; hipsters or sneakers and long pants were the order of the day.

The trout were different too. Runs that gave openly of their riches during the spring Stenonema hatches now produced only small dace and an occasional river smallmouth. Oh, but the trout were still in the river. Few had left. And the young boys who had found the spring holes knew their whereabouts. Dozens in a hole. Sometimes hundreds. Yearlings to 6 pounders, side by side in the coolness. You could see them with Polaroids.

Despite the drought, the hatches survived. And in the mornings if it were cool enough, there would be a good rise of trout. First to the hatching Tricorythodes duns. Then to the Chironomid midge pupa. Later, to the spectacle of the spent Trico spinners.

The trout fed heavily on this tiny but ample fare. And because of the length of the activities, some very fine fish came out of the depths of Cairns pool to feed at its head waters. Not only the 12 to 14 inch regulars, but 2 or 3 good fish; 16 to 18 inches long and heavy. These would give an angler using conventional tackle a workout. It's hard to imagine what would happen with my 2 weight rod and 8X tippet.

Dad and I fished these hatches. And we did pretty well too. 3 to 5 fish landed in a morning. That's landed fish. There were 3 hooked fish for every one landed. And 5 strikes for every hooked fish. That's an awful lot of action in just a few short morning hours. It's a shame our sense of striking was off the way it was.

We used a variety of tiny flies, sized from 20 to 28. Surprisingly, only one produced with any kind of lasting success. It didn't exactly match any of the hatches on the water. But it was suggestive of many. It didn't have a name that I knew of, and few trouters had seen it before. Ken Parkany had shown me an example of one years before claiming that it was a killer on the Beaverkill. Dad and I sure do agree.

If fishing the hatches that can't be seen interests you, be sure to give this fly a try. It's easy to tie, easy to see on the water, and easy to cast. The perfect combination.

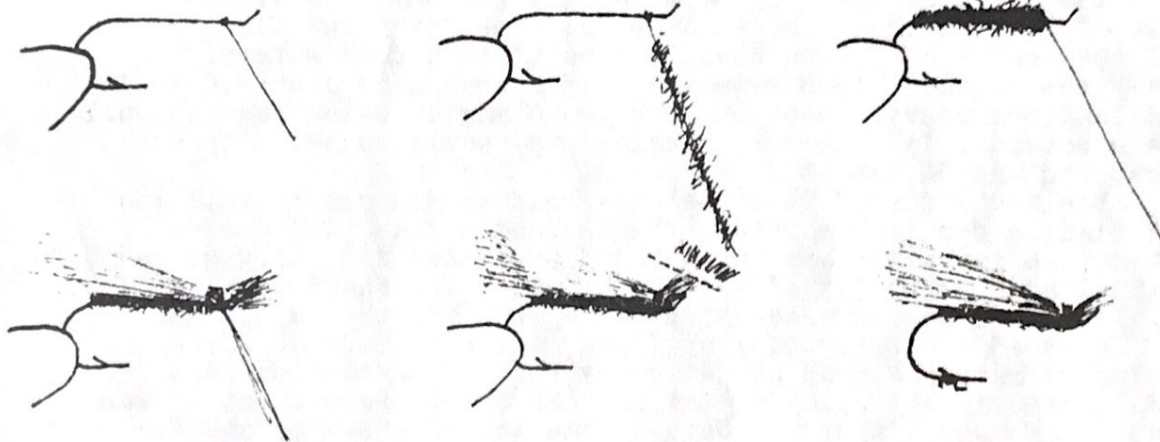
Construction

1. Place a number 20 to 28 Mustad #94842 up eye or #94859 ring eye hook in your midge vise.
2. Tie in your favorite midge thread. The best is Engerbretson's

Ultra Midge, which is a white colored 18/0 fine diametered thread. It will tie well, is strong for it's small size (.002) and can be tinted any color with a marking pen if desired.

3. Wax the thread and spin on a pinch of super fine poly dubbing. Fly Rite or Leonards are two of the finest. The original pattern calls for a light olive green body. We've changed this to black to match the predominate midge body colors where we fish and to imitate the Trico dun's colors. Try to keep the body slim and finish it just in back of the hook eye.
4. Select a small bunch of grey or white deer hair for the wing. This hair should be the super fine, small diameter solid hair located either on the legs or the snout portion of the mask. Keep the bunch small and the tips even. Hold the bunch between your left thumb and forefinger so that the tips extend slightly beyond the bend of the hook. Tie the bunch to the hook wrapping only at the head. Use several wraps and place a drop of cement on them when finished.
5. Lift up the butts of the deer hair wing and wrap a few turns in front of them. This will create a small head and help to hold the butts out of the hook eye.
6. Trim the butts off, leaving a little flair. Tie off the head and place a tiny drop of cement on it.

That's it. Simple. Super. We like the white deer hair wing because you can see it at greater distances and it doesn't seem to scare the majority of the fish. On bright days though, the grey hair would be advised.



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BREAKTHROUGH

by Ken Parkany

"Breakthroughs are the growth mechanisms of science and technology. They are sudden, often violent: barriers are breached, new ground is chartered." OMNI Magazine, Oct. 81

While flyfishers optimistically hope for the "ultimate" breakthrough - a foolproof method of matching the hatch - researchers at a company named Sunohio have already come up with their own form of breakthrough. It's called PCBX, and it's a process that literally destroys PCBs!!

According to an article in Public Utilities Fortnightly, a utility journal, PCBX chemically converts the very stable, highly toxic PCBs into two non-toxic by-products.

"Housed in trailer rigs, the process can be transported to the contamination site where oil passes through a completely sealed network, is treated and returned to the original equipment. By-products of the process are naturally occurring chlorides and harmless biphenyl products, which are insoluble in oil, water and solvents."

The process has been tested and approved for use by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, and Sunohio is ready to use its process commercially, as well as license the PCBX method to other companies.

To those of us familiar with the impact of PCBs on Connecticut's Housatonic River the past few years, PCBX is not only a breakthrough, but a welcome relief. For who knows how many "other Housys" would have cropped up elsewhere in the state or other states.

When levels of PCBs, exceeding federal standards, were found in Housatonic fish, the State, acting in the public interest, posted the Housy with signs warning that the fish should not be eaten. PCBs are known to cause cancer in laboratory rats and mice and suspected to cause cancer in humans. The posted warnings made the Housy - unofficially - the longest "catch and release" river (some 50 miles) in the world.

Unfortunately PCBX was born too late for the Housy. Time has allowed PCBs to infect its entire ecological system, and only Mother Nature can cure her - with time.

The Housy was the first Connecticut trout stream to be contaminated with the PCBs. Now thanks to PCBX, it may also be the last.

At least we hope.

ENJOYING THE FISHING IN PRINT

Book Reviews by Steve Tofani

I dread the coming of winter. with the melancholy of a child peering through the station wagon's rear window at the shrinking summer cottage en route to home, I remove the fishing gear from my car which shuttled regularly between trunk and stream-side. My waders are hiding behind some activated parkas in the bedroom closet. All seems lost; cabin fever is looming. Fly tying will alleviate the problem somewhat but the ultimate antidote will be the frequent reading of a dozen or more of the hundred-plus books I've collected randomly the past few years which, by the way, have collected dust since the last third saturday of April. Suddenly I find myself raring to go, to the bookshelf that is. The tomes are begging to be perused and I'm way behind, having picked up a few this summer that I haven't even glanced at beyond the dust jacket. William Humphrey mentions in 'MY MOBY DICK' that the literature of angling falls into two genres: the instructional and the devotional. Personally, I lean towards devotional. A couple pages has me rollcasting for fat, pink-meated Brookies at U.P.'s Frenchman's Pond (and sipping bourbon from a tin cup), or subtly dead-floating a #12 Black Gnat over a mythical-size Brown in an obscure Berkshire stream, or picking off Graylings and Coho from an aluminum canoe in the wilds of Yukon. Whatever your piscatorial fantasy is, there's a book bound to indulge you. For starters I'm going to review a couple; one devotional, one instructional.

Instructional: LEE WULFF ON FLIES, Stackpole Books

This relatively short work (159 pages) touches on every type of fly we know, and then some, as the following selected chapter titles will attest; A Basic Assortment of Trout Flies, The Wulff Flies, Spiders and Skaters, Streamers, Special Flies, Flies for Bass and Lake Fishes, Saltwater Flies, Choosing Atlantic Salmon Flies (terrestrials are covered also). Though the book is not a comprehensive treatise-and not meant to be- it provides dazzling food for thought and will, no doubt, get the creative juices flowing at the bench. We might aptly consider Mr. Wulff to be one of the founding fathers of twentieth century American fly fishing but, as is his hallmark, he will not hesitate to break tradition. Sound innovative theories, strategies and tying techniques are couched here by one of the classic artisans who

still ties flies without a vise(???). His 'Strawberries and Cream' theory will explain alot of nonsensical hits. Lee speaks on a layman's level and his fundamental deductions seem to break down the entire entemology maze into bare components we can all comprehend and apply to our local waters.


Devotional: REMEMBRANCES OF RIVERS PAST, Ernest Schwiebert, MacMillan

The author's self-described 'collected memorabilia' take us to twenty-five legendary waters spanning the breadth of our planet; the essential beauty, character and secrets of each depicted in eloquent Schwiebertesque fashion. Generally speaking, my income and budget prohibits, or at least limits, the first-hand enjoyment of the tradition-steeped Brodheads, or the steam-hovered Firehole, or, more so, the moody Vossa of Norway but catch me snowstormed in on a blustery winter eve I'll curl up, as they say, to 'REMEMBRANCES', spread its leafs and- Voila !- I'm half way around the world on a pilgrimmage to the Himalayas in pursuit of the awesome Tigerfish or, more domestically, I'm overlooking the Gunnison in late August at the crack of dawn from a ranch house. Pages later these relatively exotic waters seem familiar, and if I ever make it to one of these grand rivers I feel as though I'll be fully prepped. Perhaps the book's opening passage sets the mood:

'Snow is falling softly outside, and we are months away from fishing except in our thoughts. The rivers are black and almost silent among the rocks. Winter cold stirs in the rattling branches, but the secrets of spring are working deep in the earth, and our rivers already hold the fly-hatches of the coming year'.

Somber, hopeful, true. Enjoy.


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OCTOBER 1982 CALENDAR

- Oct. 1 Deadline for Taking Contest Photos
- 6 Board of Director's Meeting
- 13 October CFFA Meeting

COMING EVENTS

- Nov. 3 Board of Director's Meeting
- 10 November CFFA Meeting
- 15 Deadline for Submitting Contest Photos

October

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

November

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				