



LINES AND LEADERS

CFFA

MAY 1983

Vol. 10

No. 5

Annual CFFA Outing

Connecticut Fly Fishermen's Association

PROGRAM: Annual CFFA Outing
WHERE: The Blast and Cast, South Windsor, CT
(See page 11 for directions on getting there.)
WHEN: Sunday, May 15, 1983.
TIME: 10 AM to 4 PM

All fishermen and CFFA members and their families are invited to the Eighth Annual CFFA Outing on Sunday, May 15th from 10 AM to 4 PM. This will take place at the Blast and Cast, which is located near the junction of RT. 5 and RT. 194 in South Windsor. We have a new, improved map which should eliminate the problems some people experienced last year. There will also be "CFFA Outing" signs along the side of the road as you get close to the Blast and Cast.

Our scheduled activities will include fly tying, casting instruction, an adult casting contest and trout fishing in the private pond. There will also be games for the kids. Last year's contest involved both regular and roll casting, so bring a double taper line if you have one. This roll-casted better at the longer distances.

Donuts, coffee, hamburgs, hot dogs and soda will be available at a nominal charge. Everyone attending will receive two free tickets good for a sandwich and a drink!

Bring your family, fishing gear and a lunch and enjoy a day of fishing and fellowship with CFFA.

The Annual Outing will take place RAIN or SHINE.



An active member club of the Federation of Fly Fishermen'



THE CORNER POOL

Ed Fidrych

Larry Johnson

This is our last regular issue until September, and we're again leaving you with some suggestions for patterns and places to fish. We are placing a lot of emphasis on the Housatonic this year, and we hope that you will come out for our trip on June 5 and fish the Housy through the season. The Housatonic Fly Fishermen's Association should be putting up a map of the fly fishing-only section and its pools at the Housatonic Meadows State Park. If you don't see it, inquire at the fly shop.

At the same time, we don't want you to neglect the Willi. The fishing there is good in the Spring and Fall, and early mornings into the Summer. We need to be seen out there by the DEP census takers, and we can surely turn in more than 14 fishing diaries. The Hendrickson hatch on both the Willi and the Farmington should be great fishing this year.

CFFA PHOTO CONTEST III

Yes, we're back again, after a much better Contest II and some really nice entries. We will again have two categories: Category 1 for any action shot of fishing activity; and Category 2 for fishing-related still life shots. As an extra this year, we will award special prizes for shots of fishing taken in Connecticut. Photos must be taken between April 16 and October 1 of this year. Any type of photo, black and white or color prints and slides, will be accepted. Instructions for sending in your entries will be provided in the Fall. We will award \$15 and \$10 gift certificates to stores supporting CFFA to first and second place winners in each category. The fishing in Connecticut prizes will be awarded at the discretion of the judges, and may be given to an entry in either category. Only CFFA members may enter, and only two entries will be accepted in each category.

CONSERVATION CAMP AWARD

In the February newsletter, the club announced that it would pay the full cost (approx. \$125) for a boy aged 12-14, in the immediate family of a CFFA member, to attend the one week Junior Conservation Camp in August. This will be held at Camp Workcoeman in New Hartford. A drawing was held at the April CFFA meeting, and the winner was Kevin Case, foster son of CFFA member Donald Gates. Conservation Camp provides a full and varied schedule of activities. We wish Kevin the best of weeks at camp, and look forward to hearing about his experiences at a Fall meeting.

SPECIAL SUMMER SUPPLEMENT

At a recent Director's meeting, your Board of Directors voted to send out a special, shorter issue of "Lines and Leaders" sometime during the Summer. This will give us a chance to alert people who volunteered to work on conservation projects with Conservation Chairman Wayne Antonini. It will also allow us to provide up-to-date fishing information, and perhaps offer a few informal CFFA fishing trips. No date has been set, but late-June to early-July seems a good bet. Let us know how the fishing is, and especially let us know if you would be interested in coordinating a day or overnight trip.

See you all at the May Outing and the June Trip. Take your camera, write some articles for the newsletter, and enjoy!

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Past, present and future policies for CFFA are adopted at the Board of Directors meeting, which are held on the first Wednesday of each month. In the future we will keep you informed of any policy changes. We sincerely apologize, and it is the fault (I must say) of us on the Board for not making you aware of some of our policies.

There is one particular and important policy that was adopted some time back in 1971. We cast this policy your way now to inform our new members and to remind the old.

It is CFFA's policy regarding merchandise display or sale at our monthly membership meetings. It is absolutely not permitted to display merchandise of any kind for sale at these meetings, without the expressed consent of the Board of Directors in advance of the meeting. This policy includes program speakers, individuals, artists, rod builders, etc., and also someone representing a company or business.

This policy was adopted in all fairness to local merchants and craftsmen who support us throughout the year, both in donations and advertising in lines and leaders. It has been CFFA's intent then and still is to keep the commercialism out of these monthly programs.

At one time, the Eastern Council of CFFA held an annual tag sale that was for just this purpose and I might add it was a very successful event. If there is anyone in our membership that would care to put in a little bit of hard work to revive our annual tag sale, I will be more than willing to get together with you to discuss this matter. But before you decide, I want all of you to keep in mind it will take more than one individual's hard work to do this right.



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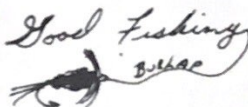
Our thanks to the following people for helping out with our fly fishing school:

Gary Bogli
Dan Record
Mark Phillippe
Myron Schulman
Don Gates
Ed Roberts

Lou Patria
Larry Johnson
Jon Friedman
Doc Ringrose
Elmer Latham

The 1983 trout fishing diaries from the State will again be available for the Willi fly fishing catch and release area. These diaries are an important part of the State's program to monitor this regulated area. If you plan on fishing the "Willi" catch and release area this year, and would like to take part in this program, please contact me (742-6584) for your diary, and I will answer any questions you may have.

If you didn't attend last year's CFFA outing at blast and cast, you missed a great time. Be sure and make plans to attend this year! This is a family-type outing, and we will have plenty of activities going on throughout the day (rain or shine).



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10% CFFA DISCOUNT ON FLY-TYING MATERIALS

CFFA HOUSATONIC TRIP

This year's members-only trip will be a one-day trip to the fly-fishing only section of the Housatonic River on Sunday, June 5th. This trip will be held rain or shine, and route information will be handed out at the May Outing. We will leave from the Finast parking lot on the corner of Main St. and School St. in East Hartford at 5:30 AM. Members living closer to the river can meet at the roadside picnic area at Housatonic Meadows State Park (across from the fly shop) at 7 to 7:15 AM. We expect to fish until the water rises in the late morning or early afternoon. Anyone wishing to stay all day should make sure they have transportation back home. Bring your own lunch and drink. A wading staff is strongly recommended. This is a great opportunity to enjoy some good fishing and get to know the Housatonic. If you have any questions, come to the Outing, or call Lionel Mac Donald at 289-1407.

Best Fishing in Connecticut

The April, 1983 issue of the Farmington River Anglers Association which will be used to generate a book of "best" lakes, rivers, and streams in Connecticut. This will be written by Peter Paul Budryk of Wesleyan University in Middletown. The survey asks you to rate fishing both in your area of residence and state-wide. Duplicates of this form will be available at the May Outing and June Trip. If you can't make one of these, contact someone on the Board of Directors and a copy will be sent to you.

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FISHING THE HOUSATONIC

(This material was originally printed in the June, 1982 HFFA newsletter.)

The following information is an excerpt from a News Release being sent to Outdoor Editors throughout the State. It gives you an idea, if your not familiar with the Housatonic, what to expect in the weeks ahead in regard to insect life.

During no surface activity, the nymph form for the dominant fly of the period should be used. Caddis larva imitations and stone fly nymphs are always useful - the stone fly being best in the morning.

Good streamer patterns include: black and gray ghost, muddler minnow, badger and grizzly matuka. Also, a sinking line (or sink tip) is needed for high water.

Sequence for hatches and flies from mid-May through early June:

May 2nd Week	tan-brown caddis	size #14-18
3rd Week	green caddis	#14-18
4th Week	light cahill	#14-18
	blue wing olive	#16-18
	march brown	#10-12
	dun hatch sporadic, spinner fall	
	very heavy, should be fished.	
	grey fox	#10-12
	green drake	#10
	late evening best - #10 white	
	wulff works well.	
June 1st Week	alder (fished wet and dry)	#12-14

The alder, blue-winged olive, light cahill and the various caddis flies continue for weeks and months after emergence begins.

Further tips from Lionel Mac Donald:

The Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear, wet and the Montana Nymph are good, as is the Housatonic Special Streamer. An Alderfly wet, fished just under the surface also works well. Light Cahill and Grey Fox dries are recommended, and a # 10 Light Cahill can be used for the Green Drake.

HOUSATONIC SPECIAL

10 Streamer hook (1 1/4 in. long)
Grey wool body
White tail (Bucktail, etc.)
1/4 body length
Brown bucktail wing
Can be weighted

ALDER FLY

10 dry fly hook
Peacock herl body
Caddis style wing of turkey
wing
Black hackle

Editor's note: Later on, in mid to late August, the Housatonic Quill provides a major hatch. This is Ephoron lukon, and many books provide patterns for duns and spinners. Also in August and September, look for very tiny (#18 - #24) Blue Wing Olives.

The fly pattern this month is one of Nelson Kenick's original Nymph patterns that I dug out of the Ozark Flyfisher's dusty archives.

THE HENDRICKSON NYMPH

HOCK : #12 - 14 - 16 - 18 2X long. Mustad #9671 or equivalent.
THREAD: Waxed yellow
TAILS : 3 or 4 fibers from tail feather of Ringneck Cock Pheasant
WEIGHT: (Optional) Lead wire .016" (#12 & 14), .010" (#16 & 18).
RIBBING: Fine gold oval tinsel (or gold wire in smallest size).
ABDOMEN: Dark brown mottled fur dubbing. Mix beaver back underfur 3 parts, Hare's Ear fur 1 part.
WING CASE: Segment from dark brown speckled Turkey tail feather, or dark Mallard flight quill
THORAX : Same as abdomen.
HACKLE : Brown Partridge breast feather...tied in flat under wing case.
HEAD : Brown.

This is a standard thorax-tie for nymphs: Attach thread and wrap solidly to start of bend. Tie in tail fibers (about $\frac{1}{2}$ body length) at this position and one end of ribbing material. If weighting is desired, take thread to the $\frac{1}{2}$ shank position, wind in about 10 turns of .016" lead wire (for a #14), wrap over with thread and cement securely. Take thread to tail position again, spin fur dubbing onto waxed thread and wind abdomen up to $\frac{1}{2}$ shank position. Now "counter-wind" the ribbing up to same point and tie off. Cut a segment of fibers from wing case feather, about 3 times as wide as abdomen and tie in on top of shank at the half-way position with fiber butts to the rear. Wing case section may be treated with Acrylic spray as described on "Hare's Ear Nymph" Data Sheet (4/75) to prolong life of fly. Also at this position tie in flat on top of shank, a whole brown Partridge hackle feather, tip to the rear, good side down. Choose a Partridge hackle with fibers about $\frac{2}{3}$ shank length, and make sure both hackle and wing case strip are centered on top of shank. Trim excess segment and hackle stem and bind down securely. Spin on more dubbing (smear Thompson's wax on 2" - 4" of thread) and wind a fat thorax...about twice the diameter of abdomen. Now, fold partridge feather forward 180 degrees, stroke fibers to the rear and tie it down flat on top of thorax. Fold wing case strip forward 180 degrees and, holding it in position (on top of thorax) with tip of left index finger, tie off at head. Don't make any effort to stretch this strip tight, just barely snug is about right. Trim excess, build up head, whip finish but don't cement yet. Take a dark brown felt point marker (waterproof, naturally) and touch the head of fly on top and on both sides to stain these areas brown. Now cement or varnish head.

This is a nymph that I'm never without. I call it the Hendrickson Nymph, but it actually is a pretty good imitation of over 50% of the mayfly nymphs that provide trout food. We first wrote it up in the spring of 1973 as "Brown Mayfly Nymph" on the Missouri-Arkansas Pattern list. This nymph has been designed to resemble Ephemerella Rotunda, our local Hendrickson....but it closely resembles others in the so-called Hendrickson group (E. Subvaria and E. Invaria)....and tied in the smaller sizes it's a good imitation of Ephemerella Dorthea (Pale Sulphur) and E. Infrequens (Pale Morning Dun). For fishing this nymph during a hatch you'd better tie some without lead, as the naturals will be struggling to the surface to split their shells. But for all-around usefulness I prefer #14's & 12's with enough lead to get them down 2 feet. Tie up 8 or 10 and be ready for next May & June.



A Belated Note of Thanks

On behalf of Program Chairman Lionel Mac Donald, we would like to thank the individuals who made our March fly-fishing workshop so successful. In addition to the following CFFA members, an as yet "mystery" salt water fly fisherman also participated in the program. If someone will provide us with his name, we will mention him in the summer supplement.

Dan Record	Myron Schulman	Leo Leggitt
Ken Parkany	Ed Roberts	Mark Philippe
Rick Karpe	Elmer Latham	Gene Monti
Gary Bogli		

BOOK REVIEWS
by Stephen Tofani

Devotional:ANATOMY OF A FISHERMAN by Robert Traver

This oversize pictorial book is dotted with gems of wisdom from Robert Traver, the "curmudgeon's curmudgeon" as the late Arnold Gingrich dubbed him. The pictures taken of Michigan's Upper Peninsula by LIFE photographer Robert Kelly are breathtaking. This is rugged, pristine country; brook trout country, the trout Mr. Traver reveres. In case you're not acquainted, Robert Traver is the pen name of John Voelker, the retired Supreme Court judge and author of ANATOMY OF A MURDER. He has succeeded in pursuing the Thoreauesque dream. In his retirement he constantly fly fishes for natural brook trout out of his cabin in the secluded wilderness of Marquette County, in particular, Frenchmans Pond. He collects and sautes wild mushrooms to complement his pan-fried, pink-meated brookies. And he drinks his bourbon from a tin cup, all "upon blue jewels lying gleaming and half-hidden in the folds of green velvet." He calls his haunt Shangri-La, the setting of which causes him to wax lyrical and philosophical. Someday, hopefully, we'll all find our Shangri-La, as Robert Traver did.

The following patterns and tips were published in the newsletter of the Inglewood, CA Flyfishermen.

* PRESIDENT: Elmer Latham EDITORS: Larry Johnson, Ed Fidrych *
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* 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. *
* *****

RED SQUIRREL NYMPH: A Dave Whitlock pattern.

Your editor has seldom fished an area that didn't call for the use of Dave's nymph. I have caught both cold and warm water fish on this lure in the west, the northwest, midwest and south. In lakes and ponds, rivers and streams. I carry several dozen in sizes 6 through 16. Dave told me that the nymph has taken Cutthroat, Brook, Panfish, Brown, Rainbow and Steelhead. With the exception of the Steelhead I have too.

Hook: Mustad #9672. Sizes #6 through #16.
Thread: Black. Herb Howards, fine, waxed.
Weight: Leadwire. 6 to 10 wraps. Near eye.
Tail: Red Fox Squirrel. Use the back fur.
Rib: Oval gold tinsel. #18. 4 to 6 turns.
Abdomen: Blend of Red Fox Squirrel belly and bleached Beaver belly. Mix 75 / 25
Wing Case: Turkey quill. Speckled dark brown.
Thorax: Red Fox Squirrel back hair. Fuzzy.



The materials above are listed in the same order that they are applied to the hook.

Attach the tying thread to the hook and completely cover the hook shank.

Wrap six to ten turns of leadwire around the shank. Dave keeps the leadwire on the front third of the shank under the thorax area. I generally apply leadwire to the center of the shank on the flies that I add weight to.

Tie in the tail at the bend of the hook. Use four to six guard hairs and the under fur from a small bunch of Red Fox Squirrel back hair. Tail length = to 1/2 shank.

Attach the gold oval tinsel over the barb point. (At the base of the tail.)

Attach and spin the abdomen dubbing over the rear two thirds of the hook shank. The abdomen should be tapered and fuzzy.

Rib the abdomen with tinsel and trim off the excess.

From a dark brown speckled wing or tail quill select a flue about one and a half times as wide as the abdomen. Tie it above the shank at the front of the abdomen.

Make the thorax a little larger than the abdomen and very fuzzy. Pick out the guard hairs on the bottom and sides to form a leggy effect.

Pull the turkey quill section down over the thorax and tie down at the head area.

Build up the head with tying thread. Whip finish once or twice. Apply varnish.

Dave will be at the AMFAC hotel April 16 and 17. He's the featured speaker at the Federation of Fly Fishers regional conclave. This would be an opportunity to ask his opinion and also his methods of fishing the Red Squirrel Nymph.

FLY TYING TIP: You can make a stronger and better looking Wooly Worm by wrapping the hackle and chenille together. This way the hackle stem is not exposed and not so apt to break. Cover the hook shank with tying thread. Attach a piece of fine chenille at the hook bend and then form a loop with it about the length of the hackle that you have selected for your Wooly Worm. Tie in the hackle by the tip. Then place the hackle inside the chenille loop. Grasp the hackle and the chenille with your hackle pliers and spin tightly until the hackle protrudes evenly. Wrap chenille and hackle together to the eye of the hook and tie it off. Trim the excess off. Form a head with the tying thread. Whip finish once or twice and feed it to the hungry fish. The Wooly Worm is a very good fly. Use it everywhere.



GOLD RIBBED HARE'S EAR... A hatching mayfly nymph pattern.

Hook: Mustad 3906 B. 8 to 16.
Thread: Brown. Herb Howard's.
Weight: Leadwire. 2/3 of shank.
Rib: Gold oval tinsel or fine gold wire.
Abdomen: Hare's ear & mask fur.
Wing Case: Mallard/turkey section.
Thorax: Hare's ear & mask fur.



The materials above are listed in the same order that they are applied to the hook.

The GRHE calls for a tail of brown hackle fibres. I prefer the fluff from a brown hackle feather. Some GRHE patterns eliminate the tail altogether. The tail if used is generally short. (About one half the length of the hook shank.)

As in the Red Fox Squirrel the wing case covers the thorax area. It consists of a section of brown mottled turkey or mallard primary feather.

Clip the fur from an English hare or cottontail rabbit. Clip the ear close. Skip the lighter fur on the face. Blend all the hair removed from the hare's mask. Use the blend for both the abdomen and the thorax. Pick out the guard hairs for a fuzzy look. The thorax is half the length of the abdomen and bigger in diameter.

Use the same tying procedures that were prescribed for the Red Fox Squirrel.

This fly imitates an emerging mayfly. It is especially good in the spring. Use it in fast water, white water and in the riffles. It is best fished with a dead drift. (Using an upstream cast.) Fished downstream and retrieved with a jerky hand twist is also very effective.

Although I carry many nymph patterns in my vest I have two favorites. When I am searching for the fish I try a Red Fox Squirrel and if nothing comes of it I replace it with a Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear. My reasoning believes that the fish are either interested in light or dark meat. My GRHE suggests the light and the RFS is the dark meat. Although the materials and coloring differ, the shapes and outlines are similar.

Whitlock states that his RFS is super suggestive and will take fish that are working on caddis, damsel, mayfly or stonefly nymphs and shrimp, sowbugs or scuds. I claim the GRHE will do the same. It has for me. Ernest Schwiebert in his book 'Nymphs' says that the Hare's Ear is "the most effective hatching nymph pattern ever dressed."

Tip: Mark your lines with an indelible marking pen. Use a wide line for a #5 line. Use a thin mark for a #1 weight line. Example: A number 7 weight line would have a wide stripe and two thin stripes.

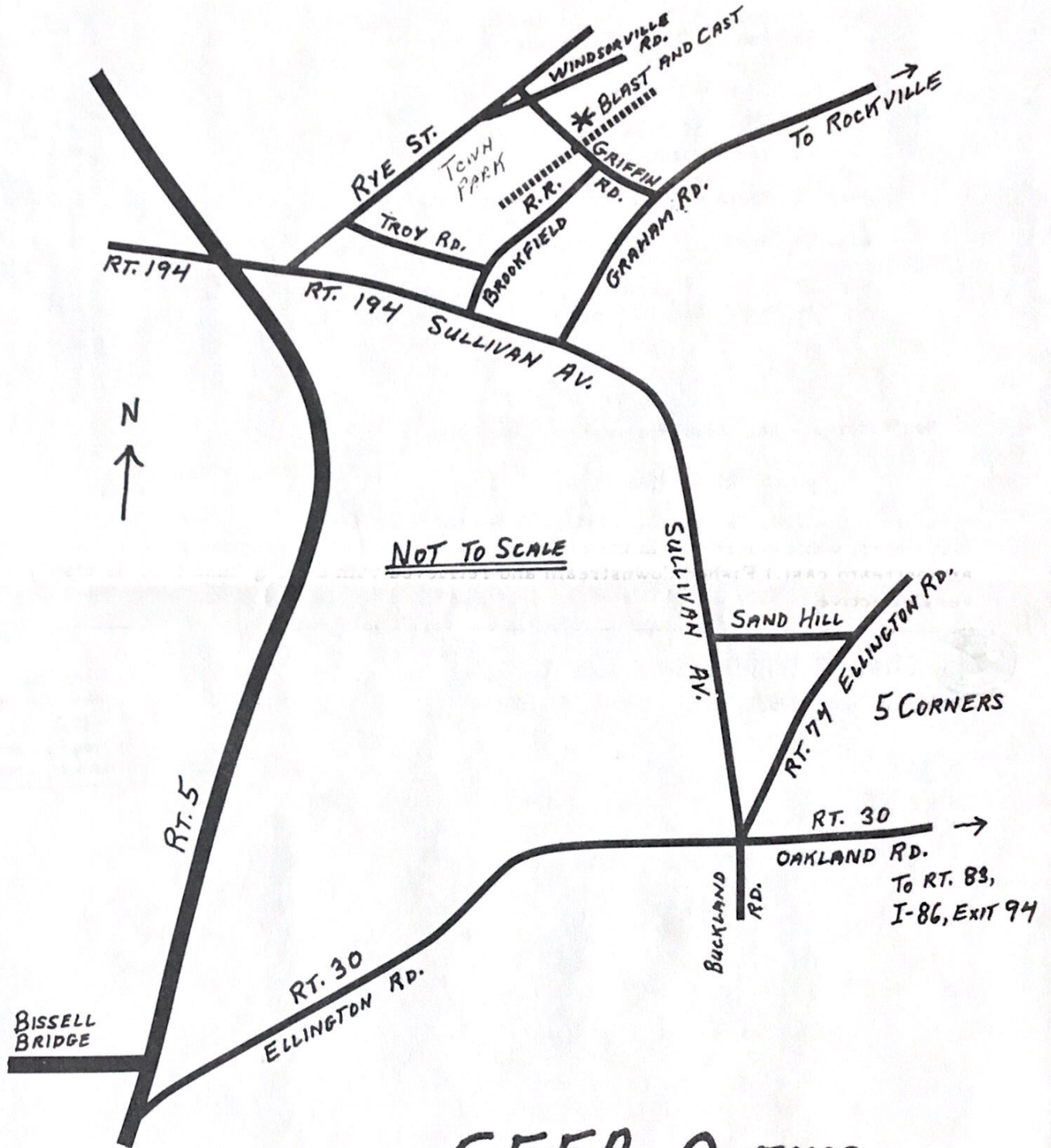
QUOTE: "The average fisherman has 66 pounds of muscle, 40 pounds of bones and 3.25 pounds of brains. That may explain a lot of things!"

"What makes you think that new fly fishing boyfriend of yours is serious?" "He must be. Just the other day he asked me for a lock of my hair."

FAST and / or HIGH WATER. Don't walk away. Fish the pockets. Find the quieter spots along rocks and other obstructions and in eddies. Every stream has areas where the current slows... and the fish dine.

Bounce your nymphs along the bottom where they naturally live. Trout hunt there!

MAP TO BLAST AND CAST



C.F.F.A. OUTING
MAY 15, 1983
RAIN OR SHINE

MAY 1983 CALENDAR

- May 4 Board of Director's Meeting (Veterans')
15 Annual CFFA Outing-Blast & Cast

COMING EVENTS

- June 1 Board of Director's Meeting (Blast & Cast)
5 CFFA Housatonic Trip
- July 6 Board of Director's Meeting (Blast & Cast)
- Aug. 3 Board of Director's Meeting (Blast & Cast)
- Sept. 7 Board of Director's Meeting (Veterans')
14 September CFFA Meeting

Don't forget the number for reporting poaching

on the Willi: 566-3333

MEMBER CLASSIFIED

Britt Chance (767-2161) has several rods for sale:

T&T graphite trout 8' for 6 N/M - \$160
Browning Boron 8' for 6-9 N/M - \$145
Cortland Starter Outfit Complete;
8' for 6 with reel & line - \$30
Daiwa Graphite 7½' for 6 (Needs tip repair) - \$30