



LINES AND LEADERS

CFFA

MARCH 1984

Vol. 11

No. 3

Connecticut Fly Fishermen's Association

Meeting Notice

PROGRAM: Bassmasters Representative Bob Wilson
PLACE: Veteran's Memorial Clubhouse, Sunset Ridge Rd.,
East Hartford, CT
WHEN: Wednesday, March 14, 1984
TIME: 7:30 P.M.

Our MARCH meeting will feature Bassmasters representative Bob Wilson, who will present a slide show or movie on bass fishing. We may also have a film "Any Waters in a Day" from Pratt & Whitney. Several fly tyers will be on hand before the meeting to demonstrate fly tying patterns and techniques.

RANDOM CASTS

CFFA Fly Fishing School-The 1984 Fly Fishing School will begin on Friday, March 9, 1984 and continue for three weeks. These meetings will be followed by a casting practise session on Saturday, April 7, and an on-stream session with an instructor in May. See page 11 for details.

FRRR Banquet-The Farmington River Anglers Association Annual Banquet will take place on Saturday, March 31, at 7:30 P.M., at the Burlington Inn on Route 4 in Burlington. This year's speaker will be Ernest Schwiebert. Tickets are \$18.50 each, and there will be a raffle and ladies door prize. For information contact Fred Getz, (H) 658-6350, (W)278-7170.



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



THE CORNER POOL

Ed Fidrych

Larry Johnson

This will be the last issue of Lines and Leaders for those of you who have not paid your 1984 dues. We will delete names from our mailing list in mid-March, so you have until the March CFFA meeting (March 14th) to get your dues in.

With that out of the way, we can get down to some more interesting news. For those of you who were not at the annual banquet, there were six prizes awarded in this year's Photo Contest. These included First and Second place prizes in our "On the Stream" and "Fishing Still Life" categories, and First and Second place for "Fishing in Connecticut." For the first time, one person made a sweep of the first place standings. This was Chip Bates, who has won prizes in past photo contests, and recently won a prize in a national FFF contest. Second place prizes went to George Bombria for "On the Stream," and to Elmer Latham in both "Fishing Still Life" and "Fishing in Connecticut." We want to congratulate the winners, and thank everyone who participated.

Thanks to computer technology (and a bit of data typing) our mailing list is now accessible for sorting and mailing list printing. The first result of this is a list of members, addresses and phone numbers by town. Many of you have expressed an interest in car pooling to meetings and getting together for fishing trips, so this should be of help. The list will be posted on the bulletin board at the March CFFA meeting, along with a map showing where our Connecticut members live. A bit of CFFA trivia--Which town has the most CFFA members?

We would like to call your attention to a fly pattern by CFFA member Ken Parkany published in the latest issue of "Fly Tyer" magazine (Winter 1984). The pattern is the Unsinkable Cork Bug. This "fly pattern" was imported from Pennsylvania via Ken's uncle Steve Parkany and became one of the "secret" patterns shared among CFFA members during the first years of fishing on the Willi no-kill.

* * * * *

* 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 membership and allies of conservation. Business card ads may be placed at a cost of \$5 per month or \$40 for 9 months. CFFA members may place for sale or wanted ads of a non-commercial nature without charge. 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 change of address and other correspondence should be sent to CFFA, P.O. Box 18365, East Hartford, CT 06118. *

* The Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association, Inc. is organized "To Preserve and Promote the Pleasures and Tradition of Fly Fishing and to Conserve Game-Fish Waters." CFFA 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. *

* * * * *

Untangling Angling

Back in July of 1983 The Connecticut Fly Fishermen's Association through Dan Record, your Education Chairman, got involved on a project with The Mystic Marine Life Aquarium. Before 1982 the only fresh water display was a pond type setting with Blue Gills and a few bass. Today I'am happy to say, that The Mystic Aquarium now has two fresh water displays for everyone to see. Although CFFA only played a small part in this second display with our donation. I feel that we have played an even bigger part in preserving something for all to see.

The second display is a stream type setting with different species of Trout. My first viewing of the newly completed display was breath taking. The Aquarium had sent us an artist drawing of the basic layout, but when I saw the finished product, I could'nt believe it. The job that the people did at the Aquarium was so good that if one were to focus his mind on the tank and concentrate, I'am sure you would think, you were at your special hule, just you and this trout. I don't think you'd have that many trout 18" and over in your secret place here in Connecticut, but if you did than you better pray that no one else finds out.

They say one picture is worth a thousand words. Believe me, this photo says nothing compared to the real thing. If you have the opportunity to visit the Aquarium, you will see what I mean. Our thanks go out to Laura Kezer and the Staff at Mystic Aquarium for a job well done. We will be looking forward to working with them again in the future.

It gives me great pleasure to tell you that Pete Trani your club Secretary was the receipient of the 1983 Scarlet IBLS Award for his outstanding work on the Board of Directors.

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Our thanks to the folowing people for their donations for the January Membership Meeting: Gene Monty - John Nuzzi - Northwoods Experience

By
Buzlab

HOUSATONIC HINTS

The following information is reprinted from the May, 1983 newsletter of the Housatonic Fly Fishermen's Association (HFFA).

General Information

1. The Trout Management Area extends from the Rte. 4 bridge upstream to the Rte. 112 bridge. All trout caught in this area must be returned to the water without avoidable injury. The approximate 3 miles upstream from the Rte. 4 bridge are restricted to Fly Fishing Only, as posted.

(Note: Beginning this year, 1984, there will be no closed season on either the Housatonic or Willimantic Trout Management Areas. You will be able to fish both areas between February 28 and opening day, weather permitting.)

2. Water levels are subject to fluctuation—at least twice daily. The water surge caused by release can be dangerous!!! Always mark a reference point on a nearby rock and get out as soon as possible. (Note: especially avoid being caught on the opposite side of the river from your car!) The water can come up a foot or more in a few minutes—there is no warning, nor is there a scheduled release. The water can begin rising any time after 9 A.M., begin dropping after 4 P.M., and begin rising again after 8 P.M.

3. If you need information regarding water release from the Housatonic Valley Association (HVA), the number to call is 927-4649. The tape and information will be revised daily (or every other day) by 5:30 P.M. The information will give the number of gates to be opened, times (if available) and whether or not it will be OK for fishing and/or OK for canoes.

4. Waders with felt soles and/or metal cleats are a must, as is a suitable wading staff. Many use a ski pole with the basket removed.

5. Newcomers to the Housatonic should try to avoid being overwhelmed by the amount of water there is to fish. Try to fish one area, and get to know it well, before moving on to another section. There are many good areas, and some of the best ones are outside the fly-fishing-only section.

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SWANS IN SALT WATER

by Lionel R. Mac Donald

Swans in salt water? Who ever heard of such a thing? My fishing experiences have taken me recently to salt water. I have found out for myself that swans do not occupy only small ponds in the local town park. When I was a small boy growing, the only place swans could be seen was at our local park. They were regular park residents who were fed by park management and by people throwing food to them. Even most of those tid bits were taken more quickly by the ducks. The swans never really came close enough to be observed. They were always a shy bird. Gliding along on the surface of the quiet pond, they looked so calm and peaceful.

As summer came to its end and fall was on us, trips to the park were fewer and we would only sometimes see the swans once more. They are such large birds...such a long neck and such huge wings. With head and beak tucked close to the throat the rest of the neck formed a most perfect "S". Do those birds really fly? We never saw them take flight like some of the other ducks such as the mallards, pintails or canvassbacks...they would just up and fly off. The swans rarely exercised their wings as the other waterfowl did. I,ll bet they can't fly!

And so it was with swans and me. They were a large, a very large water bird that came from someplace (we knew not where), looked very pretty on ponds, and, somehow, just disappeared after the ice formed on the ponds. (Or was it we who did not go to see them on the pond?)

Forty-five winters have come and gone since that time in my life and just this past winter I saw swans flying for the first time. There were three birds flying very low and straight toward us. It wasn't until they rose above the bushes and tall marsh grass and over the park road that I saw the long neck and the lengthy wings that I could identify unmistakably as swans. And my thought was, so they can fly! They looked as magnificent in flight as they do on a calm pond.

Again this summer I saw three more. These three were swimming along the shore where I'd beached my boat to do some wading to fly fish for striped bass. They were going to skirt around me until they saw my casting action. This alerted them. They began flapping their long wings and running on the water at the same time. Six or seven steps on the surface plus the power of the wings and they were air-born. They flew past me not more than five feet off the water. They never did rise more than that. What did surprise me though, was how one swan swam back minutes later. She must have had some young somewhere. Or maybe it was the osprey she felt was a threat to a young one. I'd observed the osprey twice plummet to the water and each time she found her mark and came up with a fish firmly taloned and wiggling. Her nest was atop one of the channel buoys. As she came in with a fish the young eagerly ate it. After her second catch I decided to go down the beach to try her spot. Turns out she was the better fisherman of the two of us.


So, that's it. I'd say that here in Connecticut, at least, swans live summer and winter at the shore, and I understand they are multiplying at an alarming rate. I have observed a pair and a young swan on the salt creek which separates Harkness Memorial State Park and private property. I've also noticed several swan families on the lower Connecticut River. And if you're ever in the vicinity, check out the flock of 25-30 swans in South Cove. And just for the record, I did not hook any stripers or bluefish that day, but nearly thirty summer fluke fell to my white bucktail.

OFFA SPONSORED EXHIBIT AT MYSTIC AQUARIUM



Photo courtesy New London Day

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1984 JUNIOR CONSERVATION CAMP

This year the Connecticut Fly Fishermen's Association will sponsor one youth in order that he may attend a one-week Junior Conservation Camp held at Camp Workcoeman in New Hartford, Connecticut, during the month of August.

The Junior Conservation Camp gives boys twelve through fourteen years of age an opportunity to gain education in the proper use of our natural resources, the safe use of firearms, woodsmanship, fly fishing, fly tying, camping, boat safety, archery, skeet shooting and more. All the training comes from experienced and well-trained instructors.

The Connecticut Wildlife Federation developed the conservation camp program. The camp staff is composed of well-qualified adults from throughout the state who donate their time and talents to this worthwhile project. There is one counselor for every ten boys.

This year, the tuition is projected to be approximately \$125.00. CFFA will provide full tuition for the one boy that it sponsors. The tuition includes health and accident insurance, buses for various field trips, and all instructional materials needed for the week.

Any boy between the age of twelve and fourteen, in the immediate family of a CFFA member, is eligible to be sponsored by CFFA. The full tuition will be awarded as a result of a random drawing conducted in April. To qualify for the drawing, please submit the following information by April 1, 1984: (1) name of adult CFFA member, (2) Name and age of youth, (3) Address and telephone number. Forward to: CFFA Conservation Camp Sponsor Program, P.O. Box 18365, East Hartford, Connecticut 06118.

Dan Record, Education Chairman

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NEW CFFA MEMBERS

We want to welcome the following new members who have joined CFFA in recent months.

Steve Heal, Manchester, CT

Rad Henke, Oakdale, CT

Everett L. Russell, Rocky Hill, CT

James Stack, Wethersfield, CT

Gary Steinmiller, Wethersfield, CT

Burton F. Horrow, Unionville, CT

John Karhu, Manchester, CT

Virgil J. Kovachich, Norwich, CT

Joseph J. Ochs, East Hartford, CT

Michael L. Stewart, North Granby, CT

Daniel Tobin, Vernon, CT

John Wojnarowski, Manchester, CT

David Hoffman, Bolton, CT

Bruce V. Horiver, Bloomfield, CT

Richard Knight, Manchester, CT

Charles R. Colmant, Croton on Hudson, NY

Louis M. Krupnick, Avon, CT

Frank Gleason, East Hartford, CT

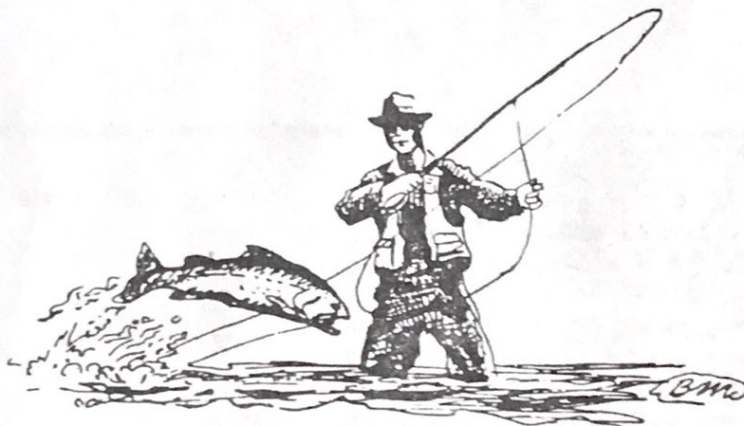
Ralph H. Sinay, East Hartford, CT

Bruce V. Horner, Windsor Locks, CT

Richard Tapp, Tolland, CT

William F. Cass, New Britain, CT

Charles J. Greenfield, Manchester, CT



Under the Tyer's Lamp



Leo R. Leggitt

Mark S. Leggitt

"The Classics" The Black-Nose Dace

This month, we shall present the second in our series of classic flies, the Black-Nose Dace. It is a simple, yet killing pattern and considered by most to be a "must" item in every well stocked fly book.

This pattern is a tri-colored bucktail which was designed by Art Flick to imitate the small baitfish of the same name. It works very well in both the riffled areas of streams, where these minnows flourish, and in the larger pools. The best sizes are from size 4 to size 10; the smaller sizes being used after the spring run-offs.

1. Use a Mustad #79580 hook. This has a model perfect bend and a 4X long shank. Tie in black monocord thread behind the eye and wrap it down the shank to the bend of the hook.
2. At the bend, tie in a length of bright red yarn so that $\frac{1}{4}$ inch extends beyond the bend to the rear. Do not trim any excess off yet. There should be about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches remaining on the shank.
3. Tie in a 4 inch length of medium width, flat silver tinsel so that 3 inches extend beyond the bend and 1 inch lies along the top of the wool and hook shank. Wrap the thread forward in tight wraps while holding the excess yarn and tinsel taut on top of the shank. This will provide a neat, smooth base for the tinsel body. Tie off the yarn about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from the eye (depending on the hook size) and trim the excess.
4. Gently fold the tinsel towards you so that it finishes at a 90 degree angle to the hook shank. (See illustration). Wrap the tinsel forward, butting each wrap against the previous yet not overlapping, and continue to a point where the yarn is tied off. Tie the tinsel off at this point and trim the excess. Now trim the yarn at the bend to a $\frac{1}{8}$ inch length. This completes the body.

At this point, we would like to digress a moment to talk about variations. Some noted tiers omit the red wool tag, adding either red hackle fibers or red yarn at the throat to act as a beard. Others spiral a silver oval tinsel rib over the flat body for extra flash. If you choose either or both of these, so much the better, but the original is as we describe it to be.

(continued on page 4)

(continued from page 9)

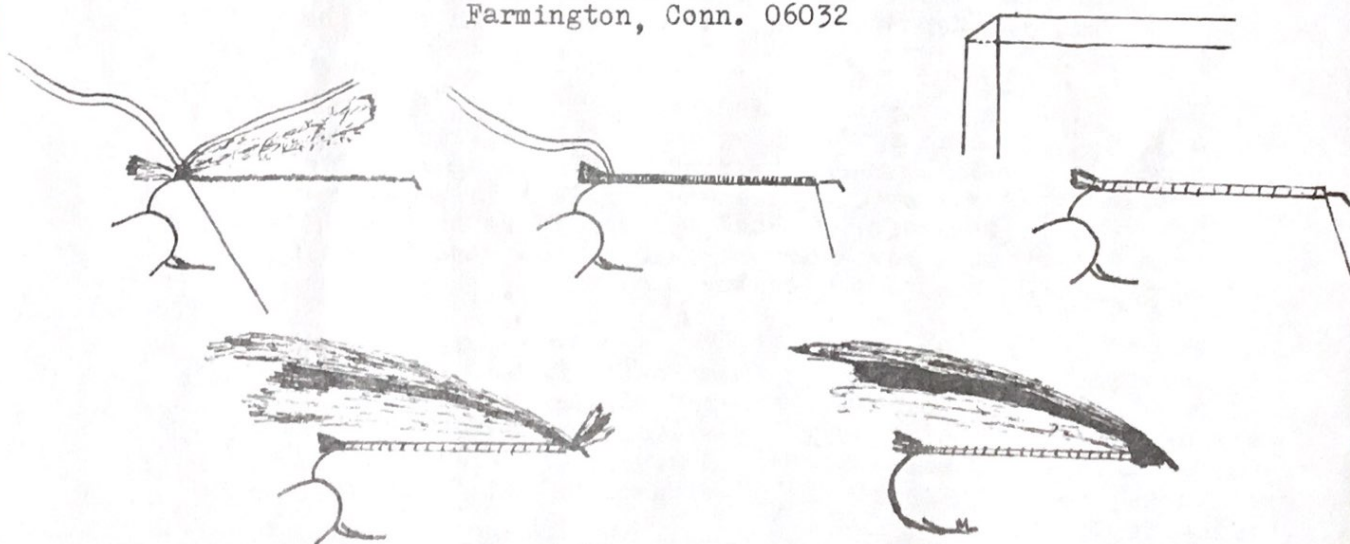
5. Wrap the thread forward to the eye and then back again to form a base for the wing materials.
6. The original pattern calls for a swatch of polar bear hair for the bottom wing layer. This is scarce stuff lately, as it is now prohibited from sale. If you can get ahold of some great, if not, use a substitute. Try either soft white bucktail, monga ring-tail, or white hackle fibers on the small sizes. We like the monga. Tie in a small bunch of this on top of the hook so that the tips extend beyond the bend for a distance equal to the gape of the hook. Use only a few wraps of thread to secure the hair. Cement the wraps.
7. Next, place a small bunch of black bear hair over the white and tie in place as above. This hair should be just a tad shorter than the white hair.
8. On top of this, tie in a small bunch of brown bucktail, which should extend slightly beyond the white hair. This will create a nice form to the fly when it is wet.
9. Trim the hair butts by holding them vertical to the hook shank and making a mighty snip horizontally. This will give you a nice taper automatically. Wrap the thread forward and back to form a neat head. Tie off with your favorite knot and cement.

There you go. Simple enough and yet effective.

Mark is at work writing another series for future issues titled "Bait" which will delve into baitfish identification, habits, imitations and such. He'll talk more about bucktails then. Watch for it.

Oh yes, Mark has moved and now owns a home on his favorite river. This ought to give him some time to get into new areas of research for our newsletter. If you want to, reach him at:

Mark S. Leggitt
3 Woewassa Lane
Farmington, Conn. 06032



CONNECTICUT FLY FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION

presents

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<u>CLASSES:</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>
	1	3-9-84	Rods, Reels, Lines, Leaders, and Knots
	2	3-16-84	Flies and Fish
	3	3-23-84	Water Types and How to Fish Them
	4	4-7-84	Casting Instruction and Fishing (pond)
	5	May	Fishing a Stream - (3-5 students per instructor on a stream of your choice)

LOCATION (Class 1, 2, 3)..7:00 P.M. in the East Hartford Public Library (Community Room), 840 Main Street, East Hartford, CT (next to the Post Office)

(Class 4).....A private pond stocked with trout

(Class 5).....During this final session, students select a stream in their area and practice course techniques (approach, wading, stream reading, etc.) with a CFFA instructor. NOTE: Students must contact instructor by 4-30-84 to make arrangements, supply their own equipment, and have a valid Connecticut fishing license.

EQUIPMENT: For Class 4 only, CFFA will furnish equipment for students that do not own their own. We recommend that students do not purchase their own equipment until after Class 1. It is also suggested that students bring appropriate materials to take notes.

CLASS SIZE: Limited to 60 students. (Average class size is 40 students.)

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

CFFA FFS 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 or enrollment confirmation 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

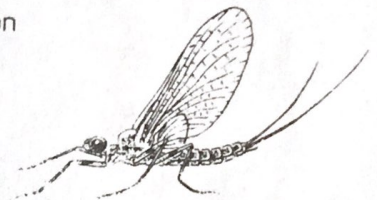
MARCH 1984 CALENDAR

- Mar. 3 Quinebaug Hatchery Ponds Open
- 7 Board of Director's Meeting
- 9 Fly Fishing School-First Class
- 14 March CFFA Meeting
- 16 Fly Fishing School-Second Class
- 23 Fly Fishing School-Third Class
- 23,24,25 Fishing Expo-Hfd. Civic Center

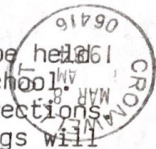


COMING EVENTS

- Apr. 4 Board of Director's Meeting
- 7 Fly Fishing School-Casting Instruction
- 11 April CFFA Meeting
- 21 Opening Day!!!



- May 20 Tentative date for CFFA Outing on the Willi.



~~Note: The March BOD meeting will be held~~
~~at the South Windsor High School~~
~~Contact a BOD member for directions~~
The April and May BOD meetings will
be at the Veteran's Memorial.