



# LINES AND LEADERS

CFFA

DECEMBER 1985

Vol. 12

No. 9

Connecticut Fly Fishermen's Association

Program: Fresh Water Fishing The New England Area.  
*Raymond Library, Main St.*  
 Place: ~~Veterans' Memorial Clubhouse, Sunset Ridge Rd.,~~  
 East Hartford, Connecticut.

When: Wednesday, December 11, 1985

Time: Fly Tying--7:00 P.M.  
 Program --7:30 P.M.

Our speaker this month will be Tim Coleman, editor of The New England Fisherman magazine. Tim has presented several CFFA programs on salt water and coastal fresh water fishing in Connecticut. His program this month will feature two films on fresh water fishing in New England.

Several fly tyers will be present before the meeting to demonstrate patterns and techniques.

### Material Needed for Newsletter

Although we reprint articles from other club newsletters as well as from our own past issues, we rely on YOU to provide fresh material of interest to our members, especially about Connecticut or New England waters. Don't worry about style or presentation. Get it down on paper the way you would tell a friend at one of our meetings and there will be no problems. Submit your articles to Larry Johnson, 60 Willard St., Hartford, CT 06105.



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



# THE CORNER POOL

Ed Fidrych

Larry Johnson

This month's issue contains the first announcement and reservation form for our Annual Banquet on February, 8, 1985. The banquet will be held at the Sphinx Temple in Newington, and our guest speaker will be John Merwin. Remember that you must mail in your reservation !!! Anyone wishing to donate a prize for our conservation drawing should call either Elmer Latham (742-6584) or Dick Smoragiewicz (569-0364) All donations will be acknowledged at the banquet and in Lines and Leaders.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The nominating committee has submitted the following slate of officers for 1986. The election for these nominees or nominees from the floor will be held at January monthly meeting.

President	Elmer Latham
Vice President Promotions	Gary Bogli
Vice President Activities	Michael Stewart
Vice President Environment	Robert Martinchek
Treasurer	Lionel MacDonald
Recording Secretary	Peter Trani

Please remember that the election of officers will take at our January meeting on the 8th regardless of the weather!

The TIP (Turn in Poachers) Program offers rewards for information leading to arrests on certain fish and wildlife violations. All callers remain anonymous. Reports may be called to 1-800-842-HELP. This number is toll-free. For further information on the program, call 566-5599.

## DECEMBER 1985 CALENDAR

Dec. 4 Board of Director's Meeting  
11 December CFFA Meeting

Note: All BOD meetings will be at the Veterans' Memorial Clubhouse.

## COMING EVENTS

Jan. Paul Kokonen-flyfishing films  
Feb. Annual CFFA Banquet. Guest speaker John Merwin

Don't forget to renew your membership!!!

CONNECTICUT FLY FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION

presents

"1986 FLY TYING SCHOOL"

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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 Veterans' Memorial Clubhouse (lower level), Sunset Ridge Drive, East Hartford, CT (Directions to the Clubhouse were published in the September, 1985, issue of Lines and Leaders):

<u>No.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>
1	1-3-86	<u>Bucktails:</u> Dark Edson Tiger and Black Nose Dace
2	1-10-86	<u>Streamers:</u> Black Ghost and Black Marabou
3	1-17-86	<u>Wet Flies:</u> G.R. Hare's Ear and Dark Cahill
4	1-24-86	<u>Nymphs:</u> Scraggley and Dark Stenonema
5	1-31-86	<u>Dry Flies:</u> Adams and Light Cahill
6	2-7-86	<u>Panfish Flies:</u> Bass and Bluegill Attractors

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 and a notebook.

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....\$ 25.00 Non-Members....\$ 30.00

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CFFA FTS ENROLLMENT APPLICATION

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please print requested information. Forward application form and tuition (checks payable to C.F.F.A.) to: Dan Record, Education Chairman, 9 Sequoia Drive, Cromwell, Connecticut 06416.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ CFFA MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_ NON-MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_

For additional information contact Gary Bogli, 82 Elizabeth Drive, Manchester, Connecticut 06040. Phone: (203) 649-4227

## THE ROD IS A REAL SHOCKER

From the Selma Times Journal via the Theodore Gordon Flyfishers.

The weather forecast called for afternoon rain and possible thunderstorms. Bass fishing got slower as the front approached and we heard a faint roll of thunder in the distance. As the clouds began to build I became aware of a strange squeaking sound that continued to grow in volume until I finally stopped fishing and searched for the source. The strange sound turned out to be coming from my graphite rod as I held it high for the cast. I twitched the rod back and forth and was able to make the rod sing a squeaky tune.

The incident was discussed with Major Austin Chapelle, a physics instructor and a consultant to the Navy in electromagnetics. "You guys came pretty close. Those graphite rods were acting as lightning rods since they are good electrical conductors," he told them. "The squeaking noise was produced by charges building up on the rods that caused the rotation of dipolar molecules of the graphite fibers. The fibers were being physically moved by the electromagnetic field developing around the rod," Chapelle said.

"Electrical charges were building in the clouds and, as the high point on the water surface, you were gradually developing an opposite charge. Some of the charges were leaking off the rod--that is why Chad felt a shock when he touched his reel. If the clouds had built up a strong electric field, electricity would have been discharged from the sky to the water through the path of least resistance, which would have been you. This high voltage could have killed you with no lightning ever striking anyone."

Major Chapelle advises fishermen to lay their boron and graphite rods on the bottom of the boat as you quickly (with a lot of emphasis on quickly) get off the water. For those of you that have graphite rods, if your dipolar molecules begin to rotate, remember the emphasis is on "quick" before mother nature lights up your life in the worst way.

(Editors note-You get no guarantees just because you may not fish with graphite or boron. If I remember right, any high, pointy object, including a standing fisherman, can attract an electrical charge or lightning strike. Bamboo may not conduct electricity, but the metal fittings and wet line can and will.)

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**The Whip Finish**

I have seen commercial fly tyers finish off the head with one half hitch and then lacquer the head. I have had flies with four half hitches come unwound (Murphy's Law operating).

In my opinion, all good flies should be finished with the whip finish. Thompson has had a tool for whip finishing for years. A few years ago Frank Matarelli brought out a tool that worked differently, and this year he has an improved model. Some other manufacturers have whip finishers on the market which operate almost the same as previous styles.

I have them all but prefer the finger method, but before I described how that is done allow me to tell an anecdote.

I first took fly tying lessons from Cliff Wyatt. Cliff only approved of the barest amount of tools — a Chase vise, hackle pliers made from strip steel (not wire), scissors, bodkin, and half-hitch tools. If anyone showed up with a bobbin, he wouldn't teach them.

Cliff's opposition to the use of a bobbin was twofold. It interferes with some operations and with some tyers the weight of the bobbin held the thread in tension while materials for the next operation were picked up. He believed that a good, durable fly should have half hitches after each operation.

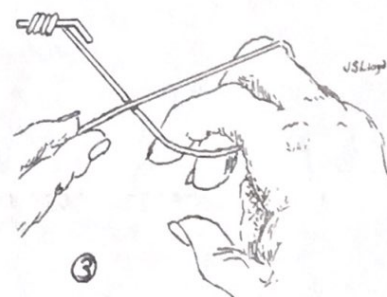
Now, I have always had a love for fine tools. I have bought tools that I had no idea where I could ever use them and the very next day have run into a gadgeting situation where the new tool was the only device that could accomplish the operation. Well, one day I appeared at Cliff's shop for a lesson and by this time my accumulation of fly tying equipment and materials was so extensive that it

took several trips from the car to the shop to carry in all the junk. When I came back to the shop on the third trip there were extra tools that I hadn't brought. Cliff had put on the fly-tying bench an eighteen-inch long Stillson wrench and a five-pound sledge hammer. I got the message and burst out laughing with Cliff and the kibitzers joining in.

My second book on fly tying was Herter's Manual. It had some good bits but I defy anyone to read his instructions on tying the whip finish and be able to do it. With the proper instruction it is fairly easy. Here's how:

1. Pull the loose end of thread towards you with left hand. Hold it fairly tight about ten inches away from the hook. A bobbin is a nuisance in this operation.
2. With the back of the hand towards you, place the first and second fingers of right hand against thread (second finger against thread).
3. Pull thread to right creating a 45 degree angle between the now two directions of the thread. Wrap tips of fingers over the thread, bringing wrist up and then down causing back of hand to be parallel with the hook, and with second finger hooked towards the palm holding the thread from slipping off. This is the most difficult part to describe and to learn.
4. Bring the whole hand assembly to the left so that the thread is vertical to the hook and in a horizontal plane. Open the two fingers and straddle the head of hook moving right hand behind the hook. Now, there is a thread above the hook and the thread below the hook. In other words there is a loop around the head of the hook. Close fingers and swing them and loop below the hook and up to the front. You now have one completed loop.
5. Repeat these operations. Open fingers. Straddle hook. Close fingers and wind under hook and forward. Open fingers. Straddle hook, etc. Do this five times then pull thread in left hand, which has been holding the thread all this time, to the left, right hand moving to the left and gripping the loop loosely between the thumb and first finger and guiding the diminishing loop to its proper place on the head. Pull tight and cut off the thread. Some tyers get expert and by giving the proper jerk in the right direction can break off the thread at its closest whip loop. During all these operations the correct tension on the thread must be maintained with the left hand. Some tyers believe that this method of whip finishing can untwist the thread, but I have never noticed it.

*The Whip Finish*



*Straddling the Hook*



CONSERVATION CORNER

I would like to thank the following group of people who helped clear paths along the Willimantic River on Sunday, October 27, 1985. Large trees were removed over paths caused by hurricane "Gloria".

Arnold Cosgrove  
George Degen  
Paul Derynioski  
Elmer Latham  
Dan Record  
Jim Stack  
Gary Steinmiller  
Mike Stewart  
Frank Wankerl  
Richard Whitehead

*Bob*

Bob Martinczek  
Vice President - Environment


PATTERN OF THE MONTH- CHUCK'S EMERGER

Reprinted from the newsletter of  
Southern Council FFF  
St. Ann, Missouri

Hook: Mustad 94840 -- #16, 18, or 20  
Thread: Danville 6/0 orange  
Tail: 3 fibers of wood duck flank  
Ribbing: Danville 6/0 Brown  
Body: Single strand pale yellow wool yarn, using twist method  
Wing: None  
Hackle: One turn light ginger, one size smaller than usual.  
Head: Same as tying thread (orange)

Developed by the late Chuck Davidson, this fly is an effective, simple pattern. It captures the essence of several species of the Ephemerella Mayfly family, a prevalent Mayfly on the Norfolk.

Chuck was very adamant regarding the Danville orange tying thread, and use of light ginger for the hackle. He designed this to ride in the surface film, using 6x or 7x tippet material. He tied the tails bent slightly downward and began the body of the fly somewhat to the rear of the hook, past the barb. He may have given some anglers slightly different versions, but this was likely due to a lack of preferred materials.



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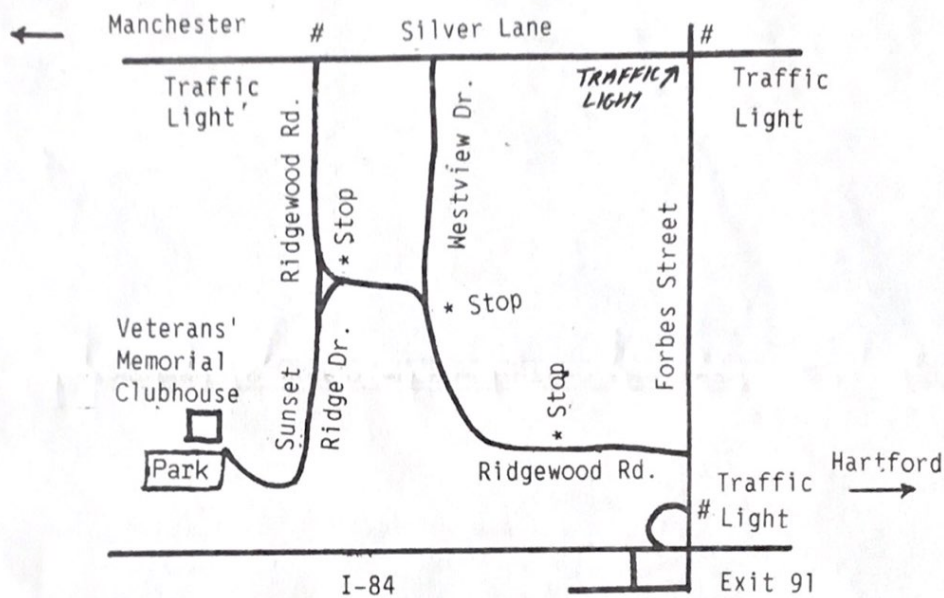
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CFFA MEETING DIRECTIONS



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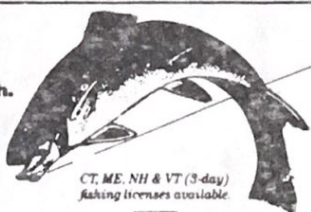
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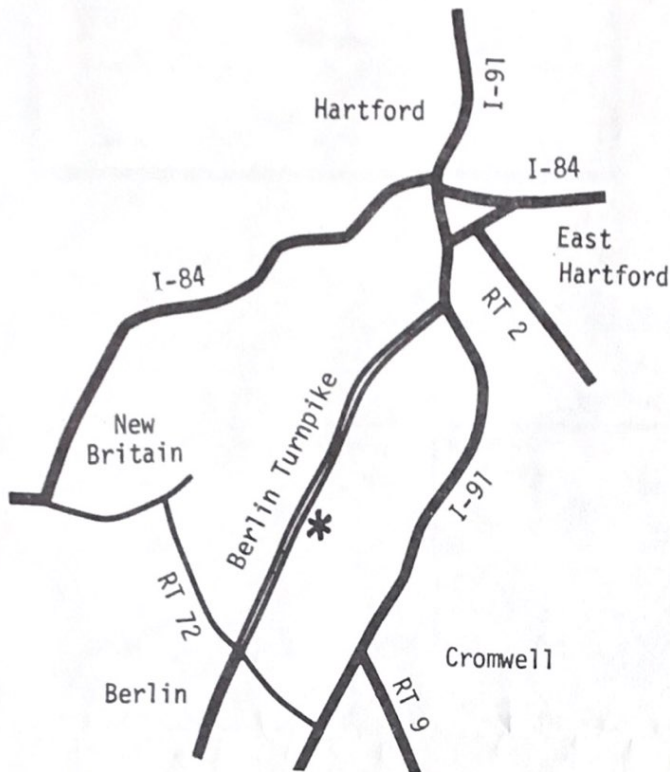


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# Banquet Directions




The 14th 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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CFFA 16th ANNUAL BANQUET

On Saturday, February 8, 1986, CFFA will hold its 16th Annual Banquet. Our guest speaker this year will be John Merwin, executive director of the American Museum of Fly Fishing in Manchester, Vermont. 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. Directions and a map will be printed in the January and February newsletters. 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 \$20.00 per person. We will also be holding our conservation drawing that evening.

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."

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DINNER RESERVATION

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I will require reservations for \_\_\_\_\_ persons at \$20.00 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--Phone reservations will not be accepted.

--Tickets will not be available at the door--

The Connecticut Fly Fishermen'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 Clubhouse, Sunset Ridge Dr., East Hartford, CT.

"Lines and Leaders" is the official publication of the Connecticut Fly Fishermen'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. Newsletter correspondence should be sent to Larry Johnson, 60 Willard St., Hartford, CT 06105 or Ed Fidrych, Box 145, Glastonbury Rd., Portland, CT 06480. Change of address notices and other correspondence should be sent to CFFA, P.O. Box 18365, Silver Lane, East Hartford, CT 06118.



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