



LINES AND LEADERS

CFFA

MARCH 1985

Vol. 12 No. 3

Meeting Notice

- Program: Program and Movie on Bass Fishing.
- Place: Veterans' Memorial Clubhouse, Sunset Ridge Rd., East Hartford, Connecticut.
- When: Wednesday, March 13, 1985.
- Time: Fly Tying--7:00 P.M.
Program --7:30 P.M.

Our speaker this month will be Northeast Bass Association President Larry Davidson. Larry will present a lecture, demonstration and movie on Bass fishing and National B.A.S.S. Federation tournaments.

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

RANDOM CASTS

The 1985 Fly Fishing School will begin on Friday, March 8 and continue for three weeks. These meetings will be followed by a casting practise session on Saturday, April 13 and an on-stream instruction session on Saturday, May 4. See page 9 for details.

Procrastinating dues payers take note!!! This will be your last issue of "Lines and Leaders" unless you pay up by the March membership meeting. Send in your renewal slip or see Membership Chairman Dick Lerche at the March meeting.

Remember that CFFA will have a booth at the Fishing Expo on March 7-10. There will be another fishing show in Springfield the same week.

Names of our Banquet contributors will be published in the April newsletter.

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

Connecticut Fly Fishermen's Association



THE CORNER POOL

Ed Fidrych

Larry Johnson

This month's feature article, "The Not So Good Olden Days," by Ernest Boutiette is the first of three articles we have received since announcing our Newsletter Article Contest. Anyone submitting an article becomes eligible for a drawing with one or more gift certificates as prizes, and there will also be a prize for the best article of the year. This is a contest where everybody wins. You have that article you've always wanted to write published and a chance to win some free fishing or fly tying gear. We get a lot (I hope) of material to publish, and the members get new and interesting articles to read. Send your material to Larry Johnson, Newsletter Editor, 60 Willard Street, Hartford, CT 06105.

The winners of the 1984 Photo Contest were Dan Record ("On the Stream") and Lionel Mac Donald ("Fishing in Connecticut"). Each received an award certificate and a \$15 gift certificate from one of our advertisers. Congratulations to both winners!

Finally, we would like to thank the following CFFA members for their help with the recent Fly Tying School. Without the help of members who instruct or assist, it would not be possible for CFFA to run its educational programs.

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Gary Bogli | Gene Monty | Leo Leggitt |
| Dan Record | Ernie Boutiette | Paul Beaudreau |
| Peter Trani | James Bloznalis | George Degen |
| John Cannata | Dick Wemmell | Stan Opalach |


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.

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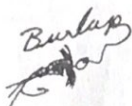


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UNTANGLING ANGLING

Our congratulations to our newsletter editor, Larry Johnson. Larry was the recipient of the scarlet ibis award at our February 9, 1985 banquet. Larry has done a tremendous job making sure that our Lines and Leader newsletter is put together and ready for the publishers. On behalf of everyone in the club, "thanks" Larry for all your work!

For all his work on various projects before joining the Board of Directors this year, Dick Lerch received the Ted Barbieri award. Dick's work has helped the club tremendously. Congratulations Dick!


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1985 JUNIOR CONSERVATION CAMP

This year the Connecticut Fly Fishermen's Association will sponsor the attendance of one youth at 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 ages 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 at the April membership meeting. To qualify for the drawing, please submit the following information by April 1, 1985: (1) Name of adult CFFA member; (2) Name and age of youth; (3) Address and telephone number. Forward information to: CFFA Conservation Camp Sponsor Program, P.O. Box 18365, East Hartford, Connecticut 06118.

Dan Record, Education Chairman

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THE NOT SO GOOD OLDEN DAYS

by Ernest Boutiette

If any of our younger members run into me at streamside while I am setting up my equipment and see me with a big smile and chuckling to myself, be assured that I am not senile, but remembering the not so good olden days of fly fishing. Today I set up one of my \$200 rods, \$100 reels, pick out one of my many lines to match rod and conditions, put on a leader of from 9 to 18 feet with a tippet up to 7X to match conditions, install a dry fly treated with silicone paste that could float a crowbar and I am now ready to fish.

Now we move the clock back to 1946 when I started fly fishing. I take out my 9' double-walled South Bend bamboo rod that must have weighed a pound, my \$3.00 Weber reel (also heavy) on which is an HCH double tapered silk line, take out my soak box and remove my gut leader, tie on my dry fly and soak it in a dry fly solution that is not very good and proceed to go fishing. Accessories such as waders, nets, etc. were all up to present day standards. So far it may seem a normal set up-but you could never be more mistaken. I shall break down each unit from rod to fly, and when I am done, you will need no further reasons why I smile and chuckle.

Let us start with the rod. A 9' heavy rod was standard for beginners. It had too much weight and too little action and could sure tire your arm. Actually better suited for tuna than trout. In other words, one rod for wets, dries, streamers and bass bugs and poppers. Two years later I made myself two Edwards Quadrate rods. Both 7' 9". Also used as all-purpose rods. One is now in a collection in South Windsor and one in a collection at Oakdale Sports Shop. About two or three years later, good glass rods came on the market and I bought two Sila-Flex rods. One 7' 9" and one 9'. Now I was progressing. The 7' 9" was an ideal trout rod and the 9' an ideal bass rod. No further progress over the years until I bought a beautiful graphite rod from Ed Roberts. P.S. Paul Boudreau had one of the Quadrates refinished.

Let us progress to reels. Most fly reels were heavy. Medalists were on the market then, but, as they were too heavy, I bought two Weber reels (about \$3.00 each). In fact, I still have one that I use when fishing for snapper blues. Now lines. A major problem. Silk lines were the only lines available. The only good feature was that they were excellent casting and they were very pliable. One bad feature was that they cracked easily. Another was that the specific gravity of the line made it a sinking line. Another was that it must be removed from the reel and cleaned and dried each night. If this was not done, the line would rot.

(Continued on next page)

If the surface of the water was the least bit dirty no amount of dressing would keep it afloat. Strange as it may seem, vasoline was the best line dressing. It was rare during a hatch that lasted over an hour that you did not have to go ashore and dress your line. This was done by stretching the line between two trees and trying it and dressing it. Then came the greatest advance in fly fishing. Nylon lines. This was a line that was very stiff, cracked easily, but could float all day. Then the Hedge line was on the market. It was a weight forward line with a short taper and belly. I found it too indelicate for trout; but by cutting off most of the front taper, it was an excellent line for bass bugs and poppers.. About now, you can see that fly fishing was progressing by leaps and bounds.

Now onto another major problem, leaders. All leaders were made of gut. They came in different grades and prices, but I never found any that were worth a darn. First, most gut was not uniform. Secondly, gut frayed very easily when tying knots. If a hatch was on and you were a little excited and had to put on a new leader, it was common to fray the leader. You had to carry soak boxes with you. It was generally a round aluminum box with felt pads in them that were soaked in water, with your gut between the pads. Gut could not be tied dry. I soaked the pads at least once per day. Also, the pound test per diameter was very low, and if memory serves me right, 4X was the smallest. Then nylon leaders arrived, and fishermen had only one minor problem to solve-the fly and dry fly dope.

The only problem with tying flies was the thread. The smallest was 4/0. Of course, there were no thread bobbins, whip finishers, hackle guards, etc. You learned to tie flies with the minimum number of turns. All this was solved in a matter of a year or two, when thread as fine as 8/0 became available, and all the above items came on the market. The last problem was solved at the same time. Dry fly dope was not very good. You had to keep soaking your fly, and any time a newly dressed fly hit the water it would leave an oily ring around the fly. It looked the same as if you put a drop of oil on the water, and was very obvious when pond fishing. I made my own with carbon tet and beeswax until silicone hit the market. Now all our problems were solved and fishing improved 100 % both in pleasure and catches. One other thing became apparent. Local tyers were getting away from Catskill patterns and tying flies to suit local rivers and ponds.

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The following article is reprinted from the October, 1974 issue of "Lines and Leaders."

THE FEATHERED HOOK

THE "FLYMPH"

by RON ZAWOYSKY

This fly is used to imitate the emerging nymph and is a suggestive rather than an imitative pattern. Since it is a transition pattern between the wet fly and nymph, it is so named the fly(ny)mph. The flymph is extremely effective just before a hatch, although it has produced very well when fishing blind. It can be fished from opening day through the season's end, although smaller sizes tend to be more effective as the season progresses. The fly is tied on a standard wet fly hook(3906-8) and can also be weighted. It can be fished from top to bottom with good results, however, hold onto your rod when the line straightens out at the end of the drift. This is where the fly ascends rapidly from bottom to top much like a natural and you are very likely to get a good hit. The following is a list of patterns that I have found effective along with tying instructions:

| <u>Bull Moose</u> | <u>Blue Quill</u> | <u>Black Flymph</u> | <u>Brown Flymph</u> |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| <u>Head</u> -black | black | black | black |
| <u>Body</u> -blue-gray | peacock quill | black | hare's ear |
| <u>Ribbing</u> -gold tinsel | gold wire | none | gold tinsel |
| <u>Hackle</u> -brown partridge | blue dun hen hackle | black hen hackle | brown partridge |

Tying Instructions for the Brown Flymph:

- 1 Tie in tinsel ribbing and then dub hare's ear on the thread.
- 2 Wind the dubbed body fairly sparse and fuzzy.
- 3 Wind tinsel ribbing on.
- 4 Tie in a brown partridge hackle and wind (hackle length is about as long as the shank length).



The flymph can be tied on any size hook from 10 to 20 and it is a good idea to have several sizes of each pattern. This pattern lends itself particularly to the beginner because of the ease in tying, however, the veteran should not ignore it because it can bring deadly results.



The following article is reprinted from the November, 1974 issue of "Lines and Leaders."

THE FEATHERED HOOK

"HENRYVILLE"

by RON ZAWOYSKY

A tackle dealer named Hiram Brobst first encountered the "Henryville" pattern in an unknown eighteen-century English angling book. The fly was not identified, so Hiram called it the "No Name." The "No Name" became popular throughout Pennsylvania in the twenties and thirties, especially the Poconos. Because of its extreme popularity in the Poconos, particularly in the Henryville area, the fly was rechristened the "Henryville", and is used to imitate the ever present caddis found in this locale.

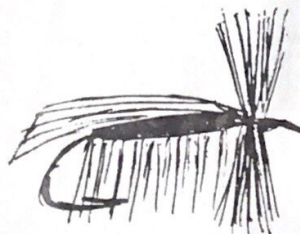
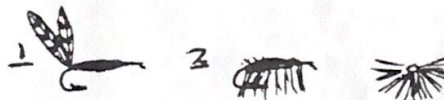
There has been a controversy regarding the original body color. Present day "Henryvilles" are nearly always tied with an insect-green body. The original "No Name Henryvilles" were tied with a red floss body. When the red silk body was treated with dry fly oil, the body color changed to a very bug-like amber brown. Besides red and green, other popular body colors are the grays and tans to match local and seasonal variations of the caddis hatches.

CADDIS PATTERNS

| | <u>Henryville(No Name)</u> | <u>Black Caddis</u> | <u>Buttonwood</u> |
|-------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Hook | 94840; 14-22 | 94840; 16-22 | 94840; 18-22 |
| Body | Green Floss | Black Floss | White Floss |
| Body Hackle | Grizzly | Grizzly | Grizzly |
| Wing | Woodduck Fibers/ Slate Duck | Slate Duck | Slate Duck |
| Head Hackle | Dark Ginger | Black | Light Ginger |
| Thread | Black | Black | White |

Tying Instructions:

- 1 Tie in body hackle and floss at rear of hook and wind floss body.
- 2 Palmer body hackle on the hook and trim top of hackle.
- 3 For the Henryville pattern tie the woodduck fibers flat on top of the hook. The slate duck quill sections are tied on flat and in a tent-like fashion.
- 4 Tie on the head hackle and wind and finish off the head.



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| | 2 | 3-15-85 | Flies and Fish |
| | 3 | 3-22-85 | Water Types and How to Fish Them |
| | 4 | 4-13-85 | Casting Instruction and Fishing (pond) |
| | 5 | 5-4-85 | Fishing a Stream - (3-5 students per instructor) |

LOCATION: (Class 1,2,3).....7:00 P.M. in the Veterans' Memorial Clubhouse (lower level), Sunset Ridge Drive, East Hartford, Connecticut

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

(Class 5).....During this final session, students will fish the Willimantic River with a CFFA instructor and practice course techniques (approach, wading, stream reading, etc.). NOTE: Students must supply their own transportation and 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: Average class size is 35 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.)

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

MARCH 1985 CALENDAR

- Mar. 6 Board of Director's Meeting
- 7-10 Fishing Show-Civic Center
- 8 Fly Fishing School Begins
- 13 March CFFA Meeting
- 15 Fly Fishing School-Second Class
- 22 Fly Fishing School-Third Class

COMING EVENTS

- Apr. 3 Board of Director's Meeting
- 10 April CFFA Meeting
- 13 Casting Instruction
- 20 Opening Day!!!

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

63

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