



LINES & LEADERS

NEWSLETTER OF THE CONNECTICUT FLY FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION

September Meeting –

Subject: The American Museum of Fly Fishing.

Place: Veterans' Memorial Clubhouse,
Sunset Ridge Dr., East Hartford, CT.

When: Wednesday, September 9, 1987.

Time: Fly Tying – 7:00 P.M.

Program – 7:30 P.M.



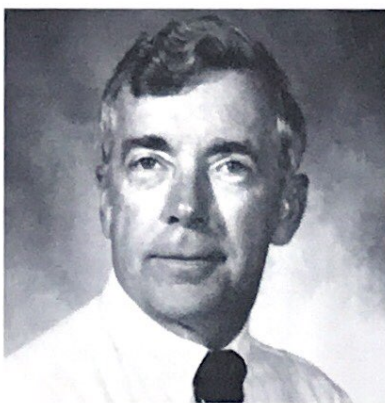
Our Speaker will be Lyman Foss, Deputy Director/Development for the American Museum of Fly Fishing in Manchester, Vermont. He will be presenting a slide show about the museum interspersed with some of his stories which are along the line of the 'Bert & I tales.' A very funny guy. Alongside is a picture of Lyman. (He's the one wearing the tie.)

Member Profile

His business card reads, "Educator . . . Builder of the Future". He is a teacher at Timothy Edwards School in South Windsor who has a lust for learning and a gift for sharing what he knows. He is our new CFFA President, Gary Bogli.

A dedicated spin caster until the 60's, Gary insists that he started fly fishing "too late", but even so, he wasted no time mastering the finer points of the sport and all its trappings. True to his profession, he willingly shares these skills as a regular instructor in the CFFA fly-tying and fly fishing courses.

Gary's fascination with fishing and the outdoors stems from a lifelong interest in conservation which was highlighted by his work on the Jeremy River project. He has been a member of CFFA for more



than 15 years and a member of the CFFA Board for the past 10. Recognizing that even the most avid fly fisherman must rest once in a while, Gary is also a ski enthusiast and soccer coach (perhaps that

has something to do with his son and two daughters . . .).

It is clear from his list of accomplishments, that Gary's philosophy is that of an activist. His goal for the next few years is to encourage other CFFA members to be more active – to share their knowledge and experiences. Fishermen all over Connecticut will benefit if we subscribe to Gary's belief that "you get more if you give more". Let's share his enthusiasm and get involved!

Editor's Note:

With all the hoopla in the paper these days about "presidential credibility", we felt compelled to ask Gary if he's ever lied about the size of a catch. Without hesitation, he replied "No, but I see my fish through a fisherman's eye". His attempt at honesty is commendable, but we should note, however, that Gary wears 2X glasses . . .

The Corner Pool "From the Vest of the President"

Lines and Leaders: A New Look . . . A Well Deserved Thank You

CFFA was organized 18 years ago by a group of people who shared a love for fly fishing and a desire to preserve the lakes, streams and rivers that fishermen call home. But as we all know, it takes more than a common interest to make a successful organization. It takes enthusiastic, dedicated volunteers with a willingness to share their talent and knowledge to enhance the understanding and enjoyment of the sport for all involved.

CFFA is blessed with many such volunteers and they all deserve our thanks. But one of these individuals accepted and stuck with the extraordinarily time consuming job of editing "Lines and Leaders" for a very long time. Larry Johnson has spent a good part of each month for the past seven years putting together a newsletter that has provided CFFA with timely, top quality information about our sport and our membership. We owe him much, and with this, the first issue compiled by your new editors, we offer Larry our gratitude and our hope that Lines and Leaders will continue to serve CFFA in the fine tradition that he has established.

We also want to thank the following CFFA members who helped out with our 1987 Fly Fishing School classroom sessions, casting practice and on-stream instruction.

Dan Record	George Degen
Mark Philippe	Larry Johnson
Myron Schulman	Howard Huff
Lynn Smith	Ernie Boutiette
Ed Roberts	Gary Bogli
Leo Leggitt	John Cannata
Bob Shellard	Gary Steinmiller
Mike Stewart	Jim Stack
Leon Castonguay	Arnold Cosgrove
Mike Baio	P.J. Keever

Junior Conservation Camp—James LaRosa and Bartley Costello were selected to be sponsored by CFFA to attend the Conn. Wildlife Federation's Junior Conservation Camp held at Camp Workcoeman in New Hartford, from August 16-23. We hope they had a good time at camp, and look forward to hearing about their experiences at the September meeting.

Malcolm MacKenzie and Patti McLean,
Editors

Welcome back from heat, humidity and vacations and welcome to a new interesting season with CFFA. I have had a very busy summer painting houses and visiting my parents in Florida. Back in June Larry Johnson and I represented the Club at the Eastern Conclave of the Federation of Fly Fishers in Lake Placid, N.Y. We had a great time and the weather was beautiful making the Lake Placid setting spectacular, surrounded by mountains, lakes and the Olympic ski jump tower. We left Hartford early Friday June 19 and arrived before noon to test the West Branch of the Au Sable River. It was low and gin clear strewn with boulders as it tumbled next to route 86 passing White Face ski area on its descent toward Lake Champlain. Our success was minimal but with a beautiful day, standing in a bright clear stream, who cared? Later we checked into the elegant Lake Placid Hilton where we checked out our room and the raffle prizes. The evening began with an Adirondack theme dinner, a sumptuous buffet; a prelude to six absolutely great meals. We were joined at our table by Engbert van Heek, a charming young man from the Netherlands who is the V.P. of sales and marketing for ATH Inc. who produce exclusive fly fishing equipment. We had some interesting discussions about marketing and fly fishing.

Larry and I got up early Saturday morning, fished and then had a great breakfast looking out over a tranquil lake scene. The rest of the morning was spent looking at exhibits and attending the annual meeting. Officers were elected and each club representative spoke about their activities. CFFA takes a back seat to no one. After another tasty meal (you can

see what impressed me the most) we took a nostalgic journey for me trying to find a small stream I fished sixteen years ago. We finally found it but spent too much time and it wasn't as I remembered it. Is it ever? On our way back we did fish another small mountain stream. It was really pretty cascading through the forest with its small pools and man sized boulders inhabited by native brook trout. We returned a bit late for the raffle but didn't win anything anyway. At the banquet that evening one of our members received an award. Don Layden was presented the award for artistic craftsmanship. We met a local guide at our table and pumped him for information. He was very congenial and did give us some good tips. The speaker was Joe Humphrey who presented his show on night fishing. After the banquet Larry and I went back to our room to tie some of the flies suggested by the guide, Dick Raitlon.

Our early morning venture brought us to the new spot which was a part of the river below the dam and about 100 yards through the woods. Again the water was picturesque but produced relatively small trout. After lunch we headed home but wanted to check out another river we were told about. When we got to it we found hardly enough water to sink a fly. Fatigue had overtaken me by this time and we made a rest stop to recharge our batteries. Larry claims I was weaving a bit too much on or almost off the road. The rest of the trip was a routine drive back to Connecticut.

Many of our committees need some support people and I will be mentioning these positions in September. I hope you consider helping.

Happy Hatches,
Gary

MEMBER ALERT: We Want You!

What did **you** do on your summer vacation? Sound trite? Maybe, but if, by chance, you went fishing, we want to hear about it. As a matter of fact, we want to hear about it if you are planning to go fishing and want a buddy . . . if you have a favorite weekend spot . . . if you have a favorite guide . . . a favorite river . . . or a fly that works exceptionally well. Lines and Leaders exists to provide information about CFFA, the sport of fly fishing, and most importantly, as a forum for members to share information with each other.

Each month, look for a new column entitled "Your Beat" devoted to members' experiences and their search for advice. If you have either, we want to hear from you. For your convenience, a

form is included with this newsletter that you can complete at any time and send to the editors for use in this column. As the saying goes, a picture is worth a thousand words, so please don't hesitate to send proof of your success . . . pictures will be used and appreciated! (They will also be returned if you include a stamped, self-addressed envelope). Your experiences—good and bad—can help other fishermen enjoy the sport more. Please don't be shy. Let us know what you're up to! Let us know what you know!

Remember—any member who has a story, tip, question or answer published in Lines and Leaders is eligible for the prize drawing at the annual meeting in February!

"Your Beat"

The Battenkill revisited . . . and other pleasurable experiences

by Erwin S. Edelman

When I passed Leigh Perkin's home bordering the Battenkill River, William, his pet goat, gently butted me along the road past the Perkins' property. That happened one day after the Battenkill left me fishless, frazzled, sweaty and bug-bitten after slogging through a wetland adjoining the upper river.

My Battenkill River skunk was on but despite the river's many frustrations, I wanted to fish it again one day. My lucky opportunity came at the American Museum of Fly Fishing's Hartford auction last year. A highpoint of the Museum's auction was the prize of a guided trip to the "fabled Battenkill." "Perk" Perkins offered to lead the trip to the Battenkill (or another southern Vermont river). He is the son of Leigh Perkins, President of the Orvis Rod Company and owner of William, the goat, who was so inhospitable to me.

My memory of William's aggressiveness was retold when I confirmed my auction prize to Perk Perkins. I also put a challenge to him:

"You are the lucky (or unlucky) recipient of me for a day of fishing on the 'fabled Battenkill.' I've been flyfishing for about forty years (often with Orvis rods) and have never caught a Battenkill trout. For that matter, I've never seen one caught by anybody. So for that reason, you've got to prove to me that they exist. The other reason is that the Museum's Executive Director, John Merwin, promised to share a jug of martinis with me."

Perk was amused by my anecdote about William and said that the goat recently went to his just reward. Comforted by that act of divine retribution, I arranged a mid-May fishing date to catch the height of the Hendrickson and Red Quill hatches. A late afternoon red spinner fall also occurs during the early spring. "The trout don't wake up until about noon," Perk advised, "so that should give you time to get your fishing licenses at the store and look around a bit."

Perhaps Perk's suggestion was just another example of the Perkins' inherited Orvis talent for good merchandising.

To simply "look around" in Orvis is near impossible. The prudent angler might well consider leaving his credit card at home before setting foot in Orvis. We purchased a new rod, assorted tackle, flies, clothes, and several new outfits for the wife. It's no wonder that good mer-



This is Erwin caught unaware on the Mettawee.

chandising, well stocked tackle and clothing departments, and a tremendous catalog business have been responsible for Orvis' annual sales growth in twenty years from \$750,000 to \$55 million!

Orvis is a good corporate citizen, too. The company's many contributions to the sport of flyfishing, the American Museum of Flyfishing and to the area's commerce has been substantial. Orvis helped spawn dramatic growth not only in the appeal of flyfishing, but also to the area's tourist attractions and general outdoor sports including skiing at nearby Bromley.

When the trout aren't feeding, there is much to see and do in southern Vermont.

Old-timers would be hard put to recognize Manchester's vibrant renewal. Even the once simply decorated Quality Restaurant has experienced it. The new owners haven't changed the excellent, simple style of the restaurant's American cooking. But the menu is now handsomely printed and laminated; there are well-spaced tables furnished daily with fresh flowers; a new bar and interesting historic prints and photographs tastefully decorate a freshly painted contemporary interior.

Manchester has developed an interesting assortment of other new and attractively renovated inns and motels; many fine restaurants are open until 10 pm. The meal hours are unusually suitable to the angler who wants an early breakfast or a late dinner.

A flyfishing widow will particularly enjoy warehouse outlets such as Bass

Shoes, Carroll Reed, Ralph Lauren; smaller fashion and jewelry boutiques; art galleries (at least one with a \$35,000 Pleissner painting); cavernous antique book stores; specialty food emporiums such as Harringtons and the Vermont Country Store (in Weston).

Orvis is largely responsible for Manchester's transformation to the shrine of flyfishing in New England. The American Museum of Flyfishing was once located in one room at the Orvis factory. With Orvis' support, the Museum moved to a handsome new location in a building off of the village green. There, the Museum's much expanded collection is impressively displayed.

The entrance lobby of the museum holds a treasury of angling memorabilia: antique rods, reels, flies, paintings, prints, photographs and an almost limitless assortment of tackle owned by well-known fishers and personalities not necessarily acclaimed for their interest in angling. For instance, in one display case is an original Winslow Homer print along with the artist's favorite rod and signed rod case.

Across the lobby hangs a recently installed temporary exhibition of framings from the vast collection of over 10,000 atlantic salmon flies belonging to Col. Joe Bates. The collection will soon be reproduced in a privately printed book.

In a back alcove, William Cushner's collection of beautifully arranged, three dimensional shadow boxes features the work of famous flytiers. Their exquisite

The Battenkill revisited . . .

flies are accompanied by appropriately matched paintings and prints. The Cushner Collection ranges from the 19th century to the present with flies tied by notable anglers such as Theodore Gordon, Edward Hewitt, Charles DeFeo, Keith Fulsher, Art Flick and Lee Wulff.

We arrived at Orvis in enough time to purchase our licenses and to meet "Perk" Perkins. He helped choose an assortment of flies for us. Perk suggested that we fish the Mettawee first. The river is north of Manchester and the Battenkill. "The rainbows aren't very big in the Mettawee," he added, "but there's lots of them and the fish are taking caddis."

From his suggestion it was easy to deduce that during the Spring the Battenkill is better fished during the late afternoon and evening. Perk is a soft-spoken, slender, wirey man with a handsome handle-bar moustache reminiscent of the ones that were in vogue during the 19th century. He travels extensively for Orvis and tries to be in Manchester during May and June when turkey hunting and trout fishing capture most of his free time.

The road from Manchester through Dorset winds to the Mettawee and bespeaks Vermont: lush green valleys dotted with grazing dairy cattle; weathered red barns, grain silos, antique farm houses; split rail fences and rutted gravel roads that must have existed in the 19th century.

We turned onto one old road as Perk announced, with justified pride, that he took his "first turkey of the season last week on land we had just passed. A lot of land is posted here-about," he added, "but most farmers will permit a fisherman to trespass just as long as the angler requests permission. It's the careless hunter who the farmer is wary of."

The headwaters of the Mettawee gradually develop width. Its lower reach opens up into a 100 ft. wide flow that spreads so thin that the water barely covers a wader's ankles. It was midway that we found our best sport using a tan caddis

or a Hendrickson nymph. The fish held in the deeper runs against a far bank, or under rocks and overhanging tree limbs that make casting a challenge.

In one remote section of the Mettawee I fished a nymph upstream on a short tight line line and within a half-hour released more than twenty sassy wild rainbows between six and ten inches.

Size-wise that may not sound like extraordinary fishing. But on a one & 1/2 ounce rod with a 4 weight line the little rainbows provided almost as much sport as a husky 18" Montana bow. The Mettawee's rainbows are fast and difficult to hook until the angler recovers his timing after a winter's malaise.

Using a strike indicator helps too. I clinch-knot a piece of phosphorescent dubbing about 18" above the fly. The dubbing is then heavily greased and trimmed to form a 1/4" "V" on the tippet. The clinch-knot can then be slid up or down the leader to fish the nymph at the proper depth.

We stopped for a simple gut-busting lunch at The Station in Pawlet. The restaurant caters to fishermen. We sat wearing our waders and fishing clothes. Our orders of homemade New England clam chowder, mile-high chili burgers; freshly baked warm strawberry/rhubarb pie covered with creamy Vermont-made ice cream were more than satisfying. The Station has tables for about 25 customers in a converted railroad station waiting room that was renovated several decades ago.

Across the road at Jake's we discovered a fascinating exhibit of trophy turkey mounts. The front door was left ajar. We looked for Jake while the magnificent trophies seemingly tolerated our presence. Bills, invoices, catalogs, and magazines were scattered about the office/showroom. The interior looked as if Jake had left suddenly, in a mad rush, to catch a last minute wild turkey hatch.

It was nearly 5pm when Perk brought us to the lower end of the Battenkill near Arlington. But that was not before he showed us the upper run of the Battenkill

which is slower, muddier, and as difficult to fish as I had remembered it.

"The closer you get to Arlington, the more fish you will find in accessible water," Perk commented as we again parked off of another gravel crossroad.

I made the mistake of not wearing my streamcleats. I had no need for them on the Mettawee. My felt wading shoes were not adequate to the Arlington stretch of the Battenkill that holds slick, moss-covered rocks. So my access to several promising upper stretches of the river was limited. I was also disappointed that a red spinner fall didn't materialize that evening (it did the next afternoon). Nevertheless, I rose several nice fish and released a brown from a tan-color caddis. My Battenkill skunk was over, thanks to Perk Perkins.

I stood on a high bank and looked into gin-clear water for working fish. The Battenkill harbors some very big browns. Near the edge of a backwash created by a whirlpool, several white flashes, forearm length, caught my eye. At first I thought the flashes were flotsam such as a pie plate caught in the current. But flotsam doesn't swim upstream.

I intend to test this section of the Battenkill soon — if only to again visit the Museum and claim my jug of martinis. Manchester is only a two and a half-hour drive from northwest Connecticut. I could then fish the Battenkill's early morning summer trico hatch; stop off on the way back and do the Deerfield River in Massachusetts, and then complete a grand slam on the Housatonic.

About the author. Erwin S. Edelman lives in Cornwall, Ct. and is a former editor of the Theodore Gordon Flyfisher Newsletter. He and his wife Allis run a print shop in Torrington called, would you believe, The Rainbow Press.

Thanks for the article, Erwin.

Editor

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CONNECTICUT FLY FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION

presents

"1987 ROD BUILDING SCHOOL"

CLASSES: There will be five classes. Classes will meet on the following Thursday evenings at 7:00 P.M. in the Veterans' Memorial Clubhouse (lower level), Sunset Ridge Drive, East Hartford, CT. Directions to the clubhouse are printed on the reverse of this form.

Class No. 1 – September 17, 1987

Class No. 2 – October 8, 1987

Class No. 3 – October 22, 1987

Class No. 4 – November 5, 1987

Class No. 5 – November 12, 1987

INSTRUCTOR: E.F. Roberts (Custom Rodmaker)

ROD SELECTION Your choice of the following rods:
8-foot (6 line) High-Modulus Glass
7½ foot (4/5 line) Graphite
8 foot (5/6 line) Graphite
9 foot (7/8 line) Graphite

CLASS SIZE: Limited to 12 students

REGISTRATION: Because of the small class size, registration will be by *mail only* – on a first-come basis. Ed Roberts will be at the September, 1987 general membership meeting to answer any questions relative to rod selection and material costs. Ed can also be reached at home by calling 651-8402 between 5:00 and 8:00 P.M.

CFFA RBS 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, CT 06416.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

ROD SELECTION (Circle One)

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7½ ft.
Graphite

8 ft.
Graphite

9 ft.
Graphite

TUITION

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(\$10.00)

____ Non-Member
(\$15.00)

YOUR BEAT

In the space below please give us your questions, advice or a thumbnail sketch of an experience you are willing to share with CFFA members through Lines and Leaders. Please do not hesitate to make or request more copies of this form. We want to hear from you as many times as you wish to write. (If you give us enough facts we'll even write it for you.)

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Pictures are enclosed: (yes) _____ (no) _____

(yes) _____ (no) _____ I have included a stamped, self-addressed envelope for return of my pictures.

YOUR EXPERIENCE/ADVICE: (Include season, weather, types of flies, anecdotes, tips, fly patterns or read any good outdoor books lately?)

Where was this:

STATE: _____ RIVER: _____

AREA _____

GUIDE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ PHONE _____

COMMENTS: _____

QUESTIONS

I would like to know the following:

I would like companions for a fishing trip on: _____
to _____

SEND THIS TO: Malcolm MacKenzie
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Bloomfield, CT 06002

USE THE BACK IF YOU NEED MORE SPACE

More...“Your Beat”

A Bow River Experience

by John W. Cavo III

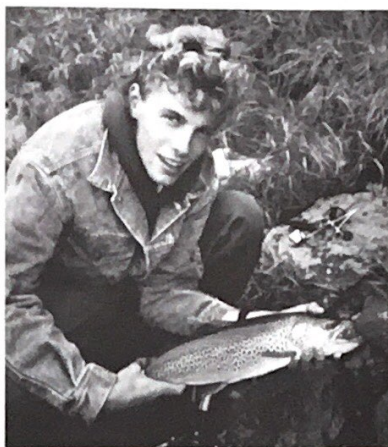
On a trip in June of 1986 to the lakes of northern Maine, a discussion emerged concerning plans for a trip which would take place the following summer. The possibilities included Alaska, New Zealand, Iceland, and other exotic locations that boasted tremendous fishing. After investigating the options, the decision was made and what a decision it turned out to be.

All of us had heard stories and read articles regarding the Bow River in the Canadian province of Alberta. Fly-fishermen who had fished it often referred to it as the best fly-fishing for big trout to be found anywhere in the world. They claimed that brown trout in the 19-24 inch range and rainbows that ran from 17-24 inches were too common to be believed. To us, as to other fishermen, these stories were mere fish tales until they could be proven true. We decided to test the truth of these rumors and fish the river for ourselves.

Our group of four consisting of myself, my father, Graham MacKenzie, and his father Malcolm landed in Calgary, Alberta on July 2. We planned the trip so that we could float the Bow for three days, have time to get a taste of Calgary (host of the 1988 Winter Olympics), see some of the famous Calgary Stampede, and visit nearby Banff National Park. Due to the fact that fishing was well above the others on the list of priorities, we were anxious to start and within three hours of our arrival, we were wading in the waters of the Bow.

That first evening, the rain came down in torrents and none of us landed a trout of any respectable size. A few smashing strikes on wooly buggers and the occasional appearances of huge fish on the surface kept our spirits and hopes high despite the terrible weather and lack

of success. After that first night, we all knew what the Bow had to offer and waiting for the float to begin the next day seemed like an eternity.



The author with one of those 24" Bow River browns.

As we boarded the McKenzie style drift boats with our guides Barry White and Paul Morrell from the Bow River Anglers with our gear for the three day trip, the cold rain continued to fall and the Bow was murky and high. The guides were not optimistic about our chances but they claimed to have done well on worse conditions than those which we saw. We rigged up eight and nine weight rods with fast sinking lines and huge dark flies like wooly buggers, maribou patterns, and matukas. The first day of floating covered about twelve miles of the river and all of us took some decent fish; the largest being a twenty-three inch brown. Several were in the 18-21 inch category. However, after having cast the heavy lines all day everyone looked forward to fishing the river's famous evening caddis hatches.


The skies cleared and the caddis began to appear at about six o'clock. They all were brown and easily matched with our elk hair caddis imitations in sizes 16 and 18. From our riverside

campsite, I fished my Orvis 3-weight rod with an elk hair caddis and had an evening of fishing I will never forget. Every rainbow that I hooked over 18 inches took me into my backing and forced me to chase him downstream. The fish came on almost every cast and the smaller ones (those under 17 inches) were given slack so that they could shake the barbless hook and bigger fish could be taken instead. The action continued until the midnight darkness closed on us and we retreated to the warmth of the campfire. There we told our best jokes and fish stories before falling to sleep listening to the barking of coyotes.


We awoke on our second day to somewhat better water and weather conditions. Despite brief showers throughout the day, the fish readily took our flies and several large fish were taken in both boats. I took two browns which measured twenty-two and twenty-four inches and several browns and rainbows between eighteen and twenty inches. Ninety percent of the fish that we took on the bigger flies lay inches off the shore in very little water. The biggest fish I hooked on the whole trip hit when I cast my wooly bugger toward the shore, bounced it off the canyon wall, and had it slap loudly on the surface. A huge wake appeared from downstream and within seconds I had a brown on my line which easily cleared twenty-six inches. He was a gorgeous fish and like all of the others he was released to fight again. The second evening provided us again with some incredible caddis action. The fish in the Bow take caddis as if they were candy and the clouds of caddis that come off the river are too thick to try to describe other than to say it was more like a fog than a hatch.

Our final day on the Bow gave us bright sunshine with caddis and tricos hatching all day long. We found it almost an impossibility to prevent bigger fish from breaking us off on the tricos. The rainbows' incredible runs and head shaking jumps were all-too-often too much for our 6X-7X tippets and light rods. Both

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A Bow River Experience . . .

species of trout in the Bow are beautifully colored and the tremendous food supply keeps them well-fed and as strong as freight trains. When we drove away from the river, I looked over my shoulder to get a final glimpse of the river that had showed us three days of constant tight lines, screaming reels, gorgeous scenery and wildlife, and had given us all memories to last a life-time.

In terms of gearing up for the Bow, during the day heavy rods with fast sinking lines are the rule. These larger rods give the angler the ability to cast farther (the Bow is not a small, shallow stream) and the backbone needed to fight the four to seven pound browns which are not uncommon. For the evening hatches I used the 3-weight and had fun letting the fish fight me. Other members of our group had great success with 6 and 7-weight rods which allowed them to land more fish (provided I didn't run into them on some of my long runs downstream chasing trout!) and cast easier in the often strong wind. As far as flies go, we did well with the same wooly bugger patterns and other large wets that we use on the eastern rivers. There are fly shops

throughout Calgary and all were stocked with the favorite Bow patterns.

The best fishing on the Bow starts right in the city limits of Calgary. This single feature is an added Bow-nus considering the fact that many major airlines fly into the city and no small planes or four wheel drives were needed to take one miles into the wilderness. The wilderness is all there within a few miles of Calgary.

It was uncommon to see more than three other boats per day on the river and due to the fact that the majority of the outfitters practice catch and release fishing, the fine quality fishing we found should be ensured for years to come. With proper management programs the fish stories of the Bow River that we found almost true-to-word (we do not have pictures that weigh as much as some of the fish that we caught!) should continue to materialize from anglers lucky enough to have the opportunity of experiencing this one of a kind fishing.

About the Author: John W. Cavo III is one of our new breed of young anglers. Only 18 years of age, he has been raised on our local streams and fed a steady diet of Talleur, La Fontaine, Kreh, Flick and Fly Fishing magazines. He has obviously responded well to his diet and I'm certain we are going to hear much more from him over the years.

tions shall be based on "scientific and factual findings of a biological nature" and on "the rights and privileges of sportsmen, landowners and the general public". Following is the final proposed wording and explanatory statement:

Final Proposed Regulation

Farmington River Trout Management Area. Barkhamsted, New Hartford, from the bridge at Route 318 downstream to the bridge at Route 219. On and after January 1, 1988 and until December 31, 1990: there shall be no closed season for trout and charr in this area: the daily creel limit for trout and charr in this area is zero and all trout and charr caught must be immediately returned, without avoidable injury, to the water from which taken; possession of trout or charr in the waters or on the shores of this area is prohibited. On and after January 1, 1991 the closed season in this area shall be from midnight on the last day in February through 6:00 A.M. on the third Saturday in April and the daily creel limit for trout and charr shall be five in the aggregate.

Explanatory Statement

"The suggestion that the area of the proposed Farmington River TMA be increased to include the area between the Route 318 bridge and the Route 219 bridge is accepted. However the suggestion that the use of bait in this area be prohibited is rejected. The overwhelming public comment was that the area should be extended and no comments were received that the area should not be extended. Although the majority of the comments suggested that the use of bait be prohibited, there were a significant number of logical comments against this suggestion. The major issue in this regard is the potential mortality of fish caught with bait. Although the scientific literature contains reference to studies which indicate that fish caught with bait and released experience a higher mortality than fish caught with artificial lures, all such studies are site specific. Although previous studies on the Housatonic River TMA did not include specific

(continued on next page)

The Farmington River Trout Management Area


The following is a reprint from the Bureau of Fisheries, 'Fisheries Update' dated July 20, 1987.

THE FARMINGTON RIVER TROUT MANAGEMENT AREA proposal put forth at the June 12 DEP public hearing on regulation changes has generated a major public response. Well over 100 letters have been received, since the public hearing, supporting the concept of a trout management area on the Farmington and also supporting the expansion of the area to include that portion of the river between the Route 318 bridge and the Route 219 bridge. Comments were received both for and against the sugges-

tion made at the public hearing that the use of bait should be prohibited in the area. After reviewing all comments and staff recommendations, Deputy Commissioner DeCarli, the Hearing Officer, has determined that the area should be expanded as suggested but that the use of bait should not be prohibited initially. A number of factors were involved in making the final determination. Of significance is the mandate contained in the authorizing section of the General Statutes which provides that fisheries regula-

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The American Museum of Fly Fishing Auction to be held October 1 in West Hartford

The American Museum of Fly Fishing will hold its Second Annual Hartford Dinner party and Auction on Thursday, October 1st at 5:30 at The Wampanoag Country Club. Reservations for the prime rib dinner are \$35 per person and \$60 per couple and include a one year introductory membership to the Museum (a \$25 value). Contributions are tax deductible as provided for by law.

Once again, The Connecticut Fly Fishermen's Association is sponsoring the event as a club project. The goal is to help the museum raise \$10,000 in operating funds to continue its important work in providing educational exhibits of fly fishing and related subjects to the public.

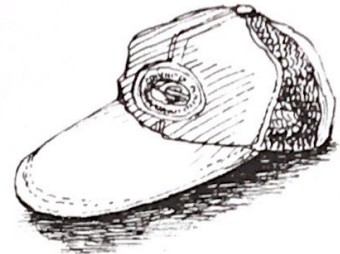
Last year's event was a tremendous success with over 80 people in attendance. The site for this year's dinner

has been changed to The Wampanoag Country Club to accommodate an increased attendance and will provide an attractive social setting for all to enjoy. Of course, there will be loads of attractive items for both the silent and 'live' auctions, including, but by no means limited to, fishing items. There'll be door prizes, a raffle, exotic trips and artwork to bid on for both fishers and non-fishers alike.

The museum is indebted to CFFA for all its help and support and particularly to Gary Bogli, Dan Record, Vin Ringrose, Mike Stewart, Malcolm MacKenzie, Larry Johnson, Elmer Latham and George Degan for all their help in organizing this year's event.

For more information and to make reservations, please call Elmer Latham at 742-6584 (home) or the Museum at 802-362-3300.

Hat Night



If you got one at the outing or a board meeting please wear it. Let's see how many heads we can cover.

The official club fishing hat will be on sale at the Sept. meeting priced at \$7.00 each. Get one for yourself and a friend if you wish.

Jr. Members \$5.00

The Farmington River Trout Management Area . . .

reference to hooking mortality rates, there is no evidence that the allowance of the use of bait in the "open" section of the Housatonic TMA has caused a significant level of mortality."

"Although the majority of comments suggested that disabled persons utilizing the handicapped access ramp below the Route 318 bridge should be exempt from the TMA regulations, these comments were made in concert with the suggestion that use of bait be disallowed. Since the final wording does not prohibit the use of bait and the only remaining restriction is that fish must be released, it is felt that the suggested exemption is unwarranted."

"Given that there is controversy regarding this issue, the "sunset" provision has been included in the final wording. In the interim, a study will be implemented to determine the hooking mortality rate of fish caught with all gear types including bait. In addition the study

will provide information of the efficacy of the management concept in this area including "holdover" capability in the expanded area, angler utilization and angling success rate. The provision will be reviewed prior to the "sunset" date indicated and subsequent regulatory amendments will be proposed based on information obtained from the study." The design phase of the necessary study is already under way. Following is a brief outline of proposed study:

Creel survey: A creel survey will be conducted to obtain data on angler usage and success. This will include: estimates of total angler days, total catch and catch rates for the TMA; estimates of total trips made, catch rates and number of trout caught and released by fly, bait and lure anglers; and data on the size/age distribution of the catch.


Hooking mortality: During May and/or June volunteer anglers will be solicited

to fish the TMA with flies, lures and bait. Captured fish will be handled by DEP biologists and placed into live pens in the river for 24 hours. This will provide data on: average hooking mortality rates for brown trout caught and released by bait, lure and fly anglers; and estimated total numbers of trout which succumb due to injuries and stress resulting from being caught and released by bait, lure and fly anglers.

Fish sampling: Sampled by electro-fishing will be conducted during late September or early October. This will provide data on trout growth and survival and will allow the Bureau of Fisheries to assess the biological capabilities of the TMA and determine optimum stocking rates (size and number).

A final report will be available prior to the June 1990 regulatory hearing so that appropriate changes can be implemented on January 1, 1991.


Editor's Note: The above is the final decision of the DEP, Bureau of Fisheries. Obviously it is a disappointment to CFFA that this TMA could not be limited to artificial lures. However it should put to rest much of the heated passion of the last few months. Now it's up to the area and the plan to speak for itself.



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Mark Your Calendar

Dates for 1988 CFFA Schools

NOTE: All classes meet at the Veterans' Memorial Clubhouse, except those noted by an asterisk (*).

FLY TYING SCHOOL:

January, 1988
8
15
22
29
February, 1988
5
26

FLY FISHING SCHOOL:

March, 1988
4
11
18
April, 1988
*9 (Casting Instructions)
May, 1988
*Date to be Determined (Fishing A Stream)

CFFA BANQUET – Feb. 6th, 1988

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 ad or \$40 for 9 months. CFFA members may place for-sale or want ads of a non-commercial nature without charge. Newsletter correspondence should be sent to Malcolm MacKenzie, P.O. Box 7330, Bloomfield, CT 06002.

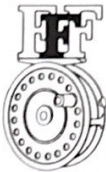
Change of address notices and other correspondence should be sent to CFFA, P.O. Box 18268, Silver Lane, East Hartford, CT 06118.

Copy deadline: second Wednesday of month previous to publication.



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