

LINES & LEADERS

NEWSLETTER OF THE CONNECTICUT FLY FISHERMAN'S ASSOCIATION

APRIL MEETING

Subject: "From Dreams to Realities"
An Alaskan Fishing Adventure

BY: Don Leyden of Donmar Studios

Place: Whiton Memorial Library
100 North Street
Manchester, CT

SEE MAP PAGE 7

When: Wednesday, April 12, 1989

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

Program-7:30 P.M.

REMEMBER: Ladies & Family Members are WELCOME!

APRIL PROGRAM

Don Leyden will present a slide presentation of an Alaska Fishing Adventure intitled "From Dreams to Realities". His program includes an exhibit of rods, flies, topo and relief maps plus an interesting question and answer period.

A fly tier and fisherman for over 50 years, his experiences of 38 years of annual trips to the Miramichi River and several trips to Iceland in pursuit of the Atlantic Salmon have given him an opportunity to compare the Pacific species found in Alaska with the **Atlantic Salmon**.

When not fishing the "catch and release" spots in Connecticut or tying flies, Don is busy in his Donmar Studio, situated in his home in Brookfield, Ct. For thirteen years, he has been noted for his custom mounting and framing of fly collections with artwork, etc. His work is seen on the walls of museums, offices and private homes. Since each piece is individually designed, the customer may assist in choosing the contents, the stain of the wood frame, etc. Antique reels, rods, photos and other memorabilia find their way into a mount. After completing 28 years as a specialty paper salesman, Don is now doing the creative work he most desires.

Don Leyden has always been an active member of many fishing organizations- including Atlantic Salmon Fed., MSA, T.U., T.G.F., CFFA, Hffa, and is closely associated with three fishing museums. His son, Dick Leyden of Vt., is an artist specializing in angling artwork; his work appears in Donmar Studio exhibits. In 1987, Fly Fishing Federation presented Don with a "Extraordinary Craftsman Award" - "in recognition of his exceptional talent in the field of custom framing and related craft".

This Alaska program will be of interest to other members of the family and friends. Alaska now means so much to Don, he and his wife will again return in 1989 to the tent camp on the Kanectok River off the Bering Sea.

George Degen, Program Chairman

"From the Vest of the President"

It's getting nearer! The beginning of the warmer weather and good fishing. I know some of you have been taking advantage of the mild winter and have been fishing right along. Some of us are more fair weather fisherman. I am in the latter category. I am content to ski and tie flies in the winter months. Speaking of skiing I had a grrat time in Colorado. We had excellent snow and super weather. My only regret is that I didn't follow through and fish one day as I had contemplated. I spoke to one of the owners of the Mountain Angler in Breckenridge, Jackson Streit and he gave a rather optimistic report. Maybe next year in Salt Lake City I'll make an excursion to the Green River, which according to Mr. Streit is as good as there is.

Meanwhile back in Connecticut the Willimantic has been stocked as of the tenth of March. So although Chuck Phillips painted a "gloom and doom" picture of conditions on the "Willi" there are fish waiting for you. Chuck did say that last year was the worst year on record as to the number of fish shocked in August, 50. This is down from 500 a few years back. The state is not sure why but are considering low warm water conditions and the influence of species other than browns. They will stock fewer rainbows and brookies. Chuck also indicated that larger fish might be stocked to take advantage of the fallfish populations. When we stock the big fat rainbows we are raising they will be put in below the highway.

The conservation committee with Larry Levesque leading the way has cut paths along the river from the lower bend up to the highway and continued the path from the abutment pool almost to Roaring Brook. Their efforts should make our fishing much easier. He also informed me that the resident beaver population is healthy and active. Now if we could only teach them to make the structures where we want them.

Our speaker in March, Jim Rusher gave us a glowing but cold picture of the fishing in the Salmon River in Pulaski, NY. The proof was the mounted 20 pound rainbow caught on 4 pound test. Bruce Cole will have more to say on a club venture to Pulaski later in the year. If you are considering the steelhead run now is the time between March 15th and April 15th. But Jim also indicated that good fishing does continue after these dates. Jim donated a couple dozen steelhead and salmon flies to help fill the raffle barrel and bring the total donated to 12 dozen. Only 88 dozen more to go. Where are yours? My goal is to have the hundred dozen by June, have the raffle tickets for September and draw the winners in December. I can't do it without your help.

FROM THE VEST Continued

We are still looking for a chairman and committee to take on the banquet for next year. The duties would include selecting a speaker, sending out solicitation letters, collecting prizes, setting up raffle tables and sending out thank you letters to all donors. Incidentally we still have a couple of discount offers for rods and tackle that will be available at the next meeting. Don't forget the next meeting will also be held at the Whiton Library in Manchester. (See map page 7.)

Our fly fishing school is in full swing with forty enthusiastic students. We will need some help when we take the students on the Willimantic River April 29th. If you would be willing to help one or two beginners get started and show them how to fish a streamer, nymph and dry please contact Larry Johnson or Dan Record. See you on the stream.

Happy Hatches,

Gary Bogli

ATTENTION 1989 FLY FISHING SCHOOL STUDENTS!

Final School Session to be held Saturday April 29th, 9AM

Meet at Nye Hollman Park on the Willimantic River

See Map Page 5

Teaching Volunteers can contact Larry Johnson at Tel: 246-0728 OR
Dan Record at Tel: 635-1751



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- 5 LAUREL FLATS
- 6 CORNER POOL
- 7 TARZAN POOL
- 8 THE ISLAND
- 9 THE FLATS
- 10 ABUTMENT POOL
- 11 BOULDER POOL
- 12 UPPER BRIDGE POOL
- 13 LOWER BRIDGE POOL
- 14 TALL PINES POOL
- 15 FOREST RUN
- 16 DEER RUN
- 17 SECOND ISLAND
- 18 SAND PIT RUN
- 19 GRAPE VINE POOL
- 20 ELBOW POOL
- 21 DOVE HOLLOW POOL & THIRD ISLAND
- 22 BANK POOL
- 23 HORSESHOE POOL
- 24 END FLY FISHING ONLY & NO-KILL
- 25 SECOND ABUTMENT
- 26 LABONTE BROOK
- 27 THE CULVERT
- 28 SCHOOLHOUSE BROOK
- 29 COMMUTER PARKING LOT DRAIN SEDIMENT OVERFLOW
- 30 COMMUTER PARKING LOT
- 31 GATE OPENING
- 32 ROUTE 74
- 33 ROUTE 32
- 34 NYE HOLMAN STATE FOREST
- 35 ROUTE 88 EXIT 100
- 36 ROUTE 88 EXIT 101
- 37 EASTBOUND REST-STOP
- 38 WESTBOUND REST-STOP
- 39 PARKING
- 40 RIVER ROAD

MAP BY L. L. R. MACDONALD

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WELCOME TO THE "WILLI"

This special three-mile long "Trout Management Area" marks a section of the Willimantic River designated as a "catch-and-release", fly-fishing only, no-kill area opened to fly fishermen year round. To help make your day more enjoyable, the following patterns have been found to be productive depending on various conditions. Try your favorite patterns too! Good luck and tight lines!

STREAMERS AND BUCKTAILS (#6-12)

Muddler Minnow
Black-Nose Dace
White Marabou
Black Marabou
Grey Ghost
Black Ghost
Olive Grizzly Matuka
Hornberg

DRY FLIES (#10-18)

Quill Gordon
Hendrickson
Red Quill
March Brown
Blue-winged Olive
Adams
Grey Fox
Light Cahill
Henryville special(caddis)
Midge (#20-26)

WETS AND NYMPHS (#10-14)

Dark Stenonema Nymph (March Brown)
Gold-Ribbed Hare's Ear Nymph
Scraggly
Quill Gordon
Picket Pin
Leadwing Coachman
Early Brown Stonefly
Black Stonefly
Gold-Ribbed Hares Ear (wet)

TERRESTRIALS (#14-20)

Black Ant
Black Beetle
Green Inchworm #14

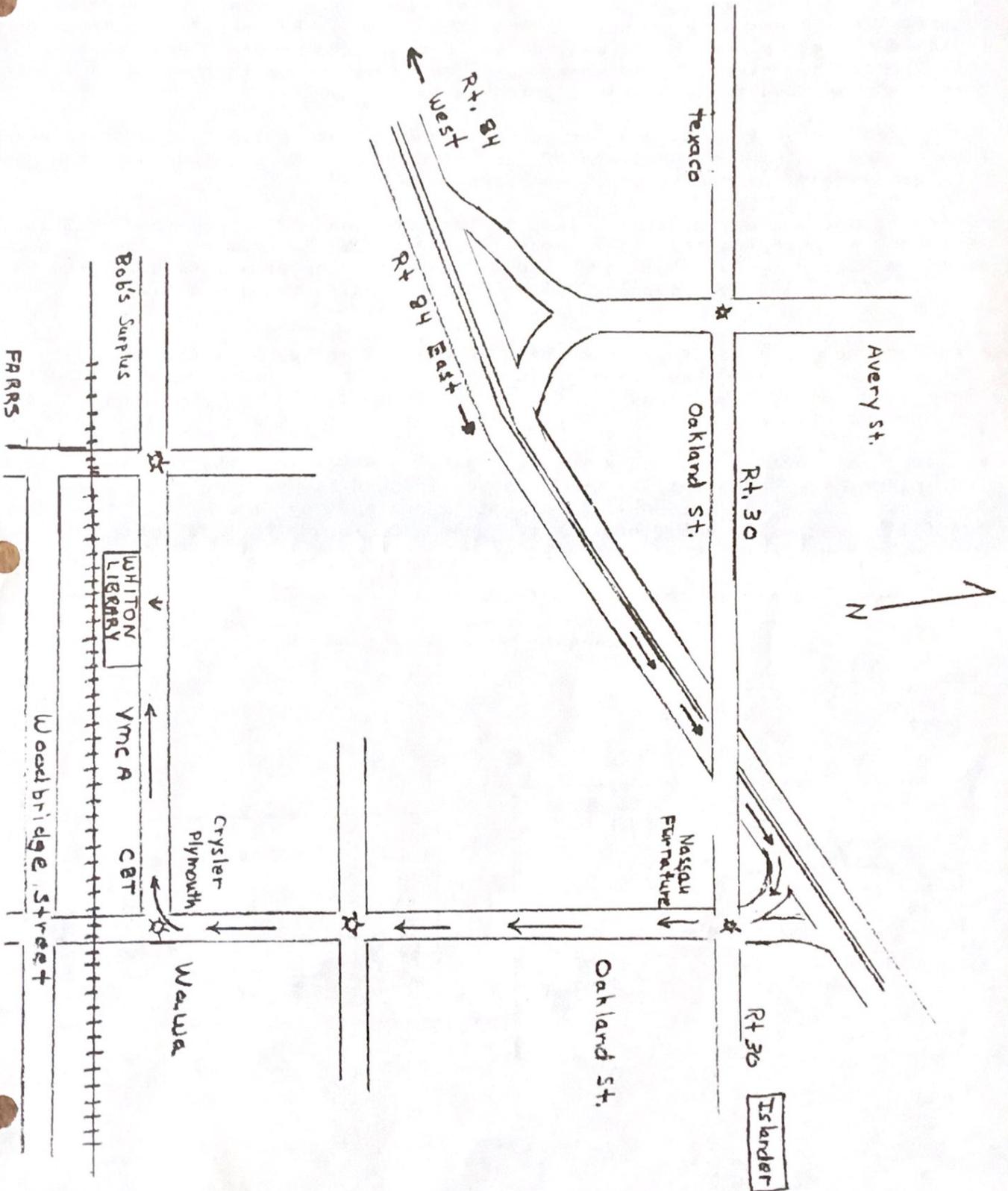
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Battenkill Gets Reprieve

A Follow Up

One year ago in the January issue of the Orvis News, we reported on a potentially threatening situation on the famous Battenkill in Vermont: A trash-to-energy plant that wanted to dump toxic ash in a landfill only 300 feet from the river. We urged our readers to donate to the little Vermont town of Sunderland to help them fight this plan.

Donations came from across the country, and between a \$10,000 challenge grant from Leon C. Hirsch, Chairman of the United States Surgical Corporation, and our friends and customers, the Legal Fund raised \$37,057.31

After countless negotiations, last August the town and Vicon Recovery Systems reached a compromise that was, though not perfect, much safer environmentally. Two days later Vicon filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy and both the landfill and ash-burning plant in Rutland, Vermont, 30 miles away were closed.

Although several parties have been interested in buying the trash-to-energy plant, not a word has been said about using the Sunderland landfill. Apparently using this landfill for toxic ash is viewed to be both politically and economically unsound.

We are not out of the woods yet, and until a buyer is found for the landfill and plans are made for its use, the remaining \$17,990.02 is ready for future threats. If the Battenkill is not threatened by the future use of the landfill, we will ask the town of Sunderland to use the remaining funds for stream improvement work along the river.

Thanks again to all the guardians of our precious river.

Reprinted from January 1989 Orvis News



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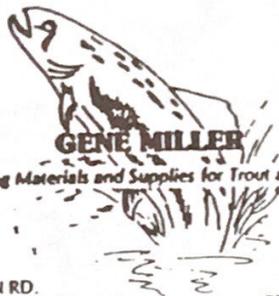
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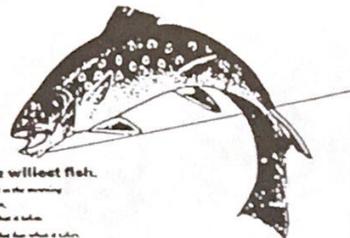
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The Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association, Inc. is organized to "Preserve and Promote the Pleasures and Tradition of Fly Fishing and to Conserve Gamefish Waters" CFFA membership meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month, September through May. Meetings are held at The Veteran's Memorial Clubhouse, Sunset Ridge Dr. East Hartford, CT. "Lines & 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 the cost of \$5 per ad or \$40 for 9 months. CFFA member may place for-sale or want ads of a noncommercial nature without charge. Newsletter correspondence should be sent to: Pam Murray, 34 Northwoods Lane, Middletown, CT 06457. Change of address notices and other correspondence should be sent to CFFA, P.O. Box 18268, Silver Lane, East Hartford, CT 06118

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Fly Fishing School

April 29, 1989
Final Session
Nye Hollman