



LINES & LEADERS

Newsletter of the Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association
Volume 18, No. 2
October 1990

OCTOBER MEETING

The **OCTOBER 10** meeting will feature Art Broadie a.k.a. "Black Ghost". He was featured in Sports Illustrated a few years ago as an expert poacher (not as a game hog, but more like a Robin Hood. He likes to trespass). He is an expert streamer fisherman favoring, predictably, a Black Ghost. The topic of his program is "Fly Fishing Tips." He will also talk about streamer fishing tactics.

The **NOVEMBER 14** meeting will feature Kurt Nelson, the hard-working president of the Thames Valley T.U. Chapter. He will present a slide show on fishing New Zealand's South Island. Kurt lived with New Zealand sheep ranchers/guides and fished rivers such as the Clinton, Mataura, Worsley, and many others. Kurt is a well-traveled angler, extensively fishing in diverse regions such as Montana, British Columbia, and the Canadian provinces for Atlantics. He is also well informed on the trout fishing in the southern part of Connecticut, including the Shetucket River.

PLACE: Veteran's Memorial Hall,
Sunset Ridge, E. Hartford

DATE: Wed., October 10, 1990

TIME: Fly Tying - 7:00pm
Program - 7:30 pm

Our address is:

CFFA, Inc.
P.O. Box 380268,
Silver Lane
East Hartford, Ct 06138-0268

From the Vest of the President



This coming month, on Thursday, November 1st, CFFA will host its fifth annual auction-dinner for the American Museum of Fly Fishing at the Wampanoag Country Club in West Hartford. It's hard to believe that it's been so long since the first auction at the Veteran's Memorial. Our auction-dinners have all been successful in raising money for the Museum and lots of fun for those attending as well.

There's the excitement of trying to figure out who keeps raising the bid on that silent auction item you just have to have, and of course it's always fun to watch other people spending big money at the main auction. But you don't have to be a high roller to enjoy yourself and support the museum. Museum Director Don Johnson has promised to bring fewer big size and big ticket items (like paintings and prints) this year and more easily stored and perhaps more affordable items like rods, books, reels, etc. There will also be a selection of non-fishing things as well, such as picnic baskets and the always popular museum bear. In addition, Lyman Foss will return again this year to do the auctioneering and entertaining.

We would like to have at least one table of CFFA members and guests this year. More would be even better. All contributions help to preserve our fly fishing heritage, and first time attendees receive a year's membership in the museum as part of the dinner cost. If you would like to go, give Pam Murray a call at 520-3679, or call the Museum directly at (802) 362-3300. It promises to be a really good time for a good cause.

Tight lines,
Larry Johnson

Flyfisherman At Last

by Joseph B. Hollinshead II
University of Colorado, Office of Admissions

Once upon a time there was a little boy who lived in a small white house with a big yard in a small New England town. When the little boy was young he was introduced to all that life had to offer. Fall and winters were spent traveling from soccer fields to hockey rinks, while the summer was spent fishing with his grandfather in the remote areas of Maine. The little boy loved his grandfather more than anything, and in the late summer afternoons the two would walk to their favorite fishing hole. Here, the little boy would watch in admiration as his grandfather skillfully worked his



fly line across the clear mountain stream with a faint swirl of pipe smoke encircling his head, keeping the black flies distant. Year after year the boy constantly begged for some form of flyfishing instruction so he too could experience nature's beauty and tranquility that his grandfather often spoke of. Year after year the response was always the same: "Son, one day you will grow up to be responsible enough to handle a flyrod. Fly fishing is a sport to be mastered and not foolhardily rushed into!"

As each winter slowly turned to spring the fishing season again brought the little boy and his grandfather together at the stream. The little boy soon grew into a young man and he knew that before long the chance to follow in his grandfather's footsteps would come. One spring day the young man found himself awkwardly holding a flyrod next to his grandfather in the stream. Flyfishing was not as easy as it had looked, like everything else in life, flyfishing took lots of practice and discipline. The young man's line usually spent more time hooked in the trees rather than in the water. With more practice, the young man was able to grasp the sport and rid himself of the many accompanying frustrations. He also began to understand all that his grandfather had once tried to explain to him. Flyfishing, like life, dealt with the concepts of hard work, frustration, and reward. From these simple lessons the young man was able to respect the sport as a whole and knew

that one day he too, like his grandfather, would be able to pass down several valuable lessons of life in the form of a simple rod, a simple reel, and a huge amount of dedication.

Several years have passed since that first frustrating day in the stream. Spending summers with my grandfather, I learned much about my life and surroundings. One major discovery was that I had the capability to influence my own future, through my thoughts and feelings, not through those of anyone else.

The above was submitted by Jim May. The essay was part of an admissions transfer application.



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Flyfishing As Viewed by a Poet

Last spring, while I was listening to my favorite Connecticut Public Radio Station at 90.5 on FM dial, I heard something that interested me. A writer, Sally Fisher, read an essay she had written. I was so intrigued, I called public radio in Washington D.C. and they referred me to her in N.Y. When I called, Ms. Fisher was flattered that I liked her work and sent me a copy to use for Lines & Leaders. I hope you enjoy it too!

Gary Bogli

Trout

There was a theory that jokingly made the rounds among poets when Howard Moss was alive and poetry editor of the New Yorker. The theory went that if you wanted to get a poem published in that magazine, you had to send him one with "water" in the title.

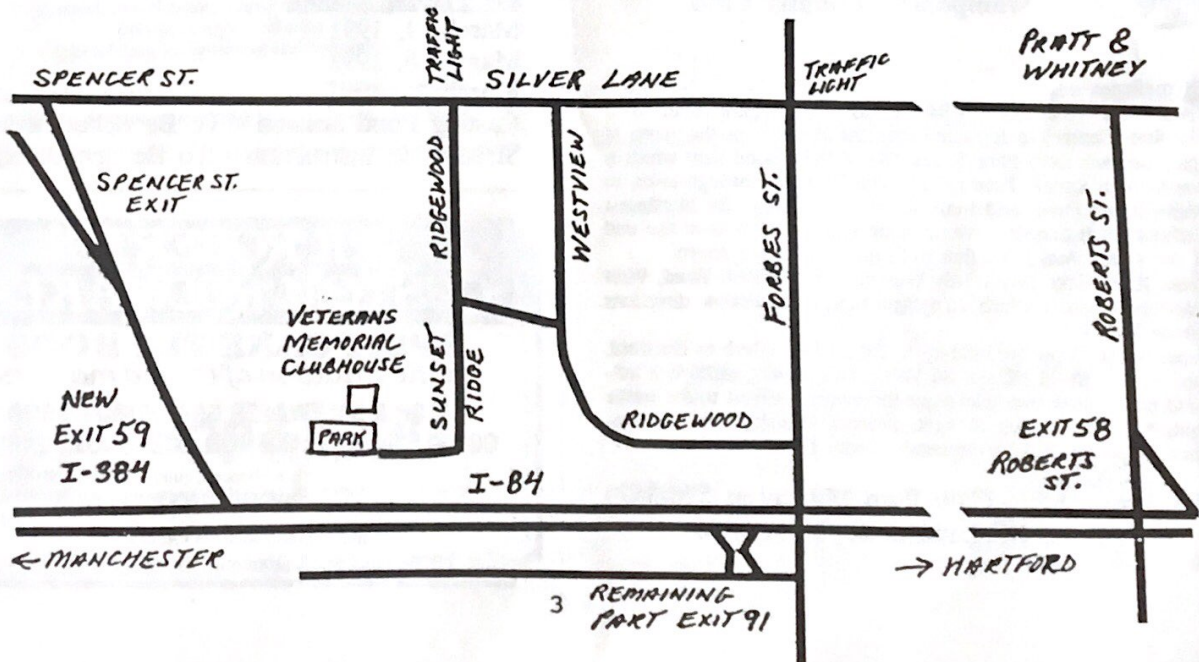
It may not be as crazy as it sounds. I just finished an anthology of American poetry that was mainly about rivers and streams, tadpoles and newts, and, especially, trout. I wonder if the general public has any idea how many trout there are darting in and out of American literature. There are, of course Hemingway and Brautigan. There's Gary Snyder, who runs down a mountain, plunges his face into a stream and looks a trout right in the eyes. In Galway Kinnell's poems, even his little son knows the importance of being a good trout fisherman.

But I want to talk about the lesser knowns, the poets who long for a wider audience for their poems . . . poets like me. I think the problem is we don't know the first thing about trout.

My idea is to convince the famous Orvis Fly-Fishing school to establish a scholarship fund for poets. Or perhaps the National Endowment for the Arts might want to institute a new grant. I think right about now they'd jump at the chance to fund such a non-controversial project as trout-fishing lessons for poets. I'm sure I'd be a better poet once I graduated. I'd make poems like little insects, but gaudier, sweet things wound in colored silk, some with moving parts. I'd know, how to heave my elbow back, and then my upper arm, and snap across the sky that tiny potent thing so it would drop and skitter life-like as a bug exciting and teasing a highly intelligent creature, dappled and swimming to Schubert, moving from shadow to light to shadow again. And there! a tug would pull like a string on a loose tooth, yanking my hopeful poet's heart, and I'd pull the prize in, my fat, smart, audience, clever and experienced, with some old hooks dangling down. Then I would unhook it and, so kindly, return it to its spangled stream, hoping to catch it again.

Published by Miss Sally Fisher

Directions to Veterans' Memorial Clubhouse



Random Casts

For those of you who were not at the September meeting, we have a new membership Chairman. Dave Harduby, who set up and operates the CFFA Hotline, has agreed to take on the responsibility to maintaining our membership list, answering requests for information about CFFA, and encouraging all of us to get our annual renewals in early. Dave was very enthusiastic and hard working in setting up the hotline, and will be a welcome addition to the Board of Directors.

We still have an opening for Education Chairman, Conservation Chairman, and Banquet Chairman. These are all important to CFFA, and do not necessarily require a year-round effort other than attending the monthly board meetings. If you are interested, contact me or any of the club officers or board members.

Larry Johnson



AMFF Auction Dinner

Thursday November 1, 1990
5:30 pm Cocktails
7:00 pm dinner
Wampanoag Country Club

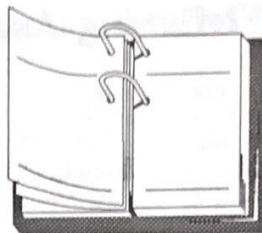
Directions:

From West: Take Route I-84 East to Exit 43 (Park Road, West Hartford Center), a left-hand exit. At the end of the ramp at light turn left onto Park Road. Go to the second light which is South Main Street. Turn right. Drive 3.3 miles through town, to Wampanoag Drive and make a left (at the sign for Northwest Catholic High School). Wampanoag Country Club is at the end of the street. Make the first right after the tennis courts.

From East: Take Route I-84 West to Exit 43 (Park Road, West Hartford Center) which is a right-hand exit. Follow directions "From West."

From South: Take Route I-95 to Route I-91 North to Hartford. Get off at Exit 32 (Route 84 West/Main Street), which is a left-hand exit. Follow overhead signs for Route 84-West to the traffic light. Stay on the left at light, proceed straight ahead at light onto Route 84. Follow directions "From East."

For Information Call: Pam Murray at 520-3679
or the Museum at (802)362-3300



CALENDAR

Rod Building School

October 11, 1990 - Veterans Memorial 7pm
October 25, 1990
November 1, 1990
November 8, 1990

AMFF Auction Dinner

November 1, 1990 - Wampanoag Country Club,
Cocktails 5:30pm, Dinner 7:00pm

Fly Tying School

January 4, 1991 - Veterans Memorial 7pm
January 11, 1991
January 18, 1991
January 25, 1991
February 1, 1991
February 8, 1991

CFFA Annual Banquet

February 2, 1991 - Manchester Country Club

Fly Fishing School

March 1, 1991
March 8, 1991
March 15, 1991
Casting Pond Session - To Be Scheduled
Streamside Instruction - To Be Scheduled

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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 Drive, 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 Pam Murray, 160 Rising Trail Dr., Middletown, CT 06457. Change of address notices should be sent to CFFA, P.O. Box 380260, Silver Lane, East Hartford, CT 06138-0268.



OCTOBER 10 MEETING - Art Broadie - The Black Ghost - Fly Fishing Tips

Copy Deadline: Second Wednesday of month previous to publication



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