



LINES & LEADERS

Newsletter of the Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association
Volume 19, No. 8

March 1992

Organized "To Preserve and Promote the Pleasures and Traditions of Fly Fishing and to Conserve Game-Fish Waters."

From the Vest of the President



If you were there, you know how good it was. If you weren't, you missed a really great banquet. We had a crowd of about 130, tables full of raffle prizes (travel rods were especially popular this year), another good meal, and an excellent program. And we sold out all 50 tickets to the special table drawing by 7:00. The attractive raffle tickets printed and donated by CFFA member Richard Vanasse contributed to the success of the raffle.

The downside was the weather, which caused outgoing Indoor Facilities Chairman Dick Lerche and his wife to skid off the road and miss the banquet. They weren't hurt, but were too shaken to continue on. There were also problems with the PA system and we had to turn away a number of members who didn't sign up before our deadline.

This year's Ted Barbieri Awards went to George Degen and Ernie Boutiette for their outstanding effort soliciting prizes for this year's banquet. They were especially surprised because they were the first to receive the award for a second time. Instead of the traditional engraved Wheatley fly box, this year's award was an engraved plaque and a special gift - a folding wading staff for George and an Orvis kit bag for Ernie.

This year's Scarlet Ibis Award went to Activities VP Dale Matthews for his contributions to CFFA and help to the President during the past year. This year's award was an inscribed 9 ft for a 7/8 wt. graphite rod made by CFFA member Ed Roberts. I hope this adds some extra enjoyment to Dale's smallmouth fishing and float tubing this season.

Our special guests for the evening were long time friends at DEP Chuck Phillips and Mike Veresoni. Mike has decided to take advantage of the State's early retirement offer and will be leaving state service by March 1st. In honor of Mike's long time contributions to conservation and CFFA, he was presented with CFFA's Conservation Award by Board Member Vin Ringrose. This award is an engraved plaque in the shape of the state of Connecticut, and this is only the fifth time it has been given. Mike received a standing ovation, won the Loomis travel rod in the raffle, and will also receive (from an unknown donor) an Orvis travel rod suitable for his upcoming western fishing trip.

The winner of the special table drawing, which contained all of the major things you would need to go fly fishing, was CFFA Board Member Kurt Jagielow. I wonder if sitting in his lucky seat had anything to do with it?

The winners of the Insurance Raffle were: U.L. St John, Manchester (19 in. Toshiba TV); Barbara Racine, Southbury (weekend for two at the Moorings Lodge); Robert Cataze, Farmington (L.L. Bean gift certificate); and Phil Warneke, Granby (dinner for two at the Eatery). We want to thank everyone who sold or purchased tickets to the raffle, and helped us pay for the insurance we need in order to have a place for our meetings and schools.

There was spirited action at the silent auction. A wooden rocking horse and carved brown trout were among the hot items. The more sought after items in the conservation drawing were Leo Leggett's fly tying box, Ed Robert's custom made rod, the Loomis travel rod, and a beautiful fly tying table made by CFFA member Kurt Jagielow.

We will acknowledge all donations to our drawings later in this issue, but we want to give special thanks to Dave Goulet of Classic & Custom who gave us some pointers on how to run a fund raising event, suggested the special table raffle, and donated the rod, reel, and line this year. His advice and support is much appreciated.

We're looking forward to next year's 25th anniversary banquet, and to seeing more of you come out to help plan the banquet and work with Ken Parkany to find ways to celebrate our first 25 years.

Tight Lines,
Larry Johnson

MARCH MEETING

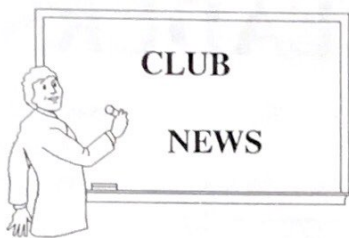
Featuring Paul Morissey
Fly Fishing the Beaverkill

Paul is a local fisherman from Bridgeport who has had some interesting experiences in this sport of fly fishing. Paul will share some of those experiences with us as he describes fly fishing on the Beaverkill.

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

DATE: Wednesday, March 11

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



Membership is at 329

Fly Tying & Rod Building Schools - many thanks to the people who helped out in this year's schools. We had 21 students in the beginning fly tying class and ten in the rod building class. Those who helped out were:

Gary Steinmiller	Dale Matthews
Ernie Boutiette	Mike Stewart
Lyn Smith	John Cannata
George Wark	Dave Kasuma
Bob Delage	Charlie Place
Ed Roberts	Alan Robertson
Gene Monty	Mark Lewchik

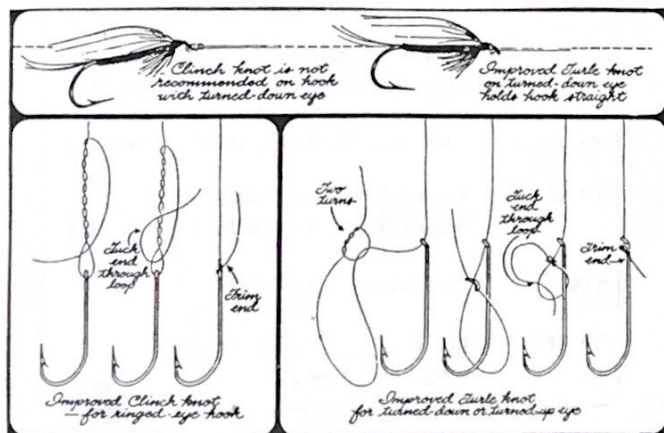
Club News - The Talcott Mountain Bassmasters was recently formed and held its first meeting at the Apple Barn in Simsbury. Joe Rankl of Avon is the Club's first president. The club's goal "is to preserve the waters of the state, fishing in the state, and promote youth fishing." Meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month at the Apple Barn on Old Farms Rd, Simsbury, beginning at 7:30pm.

Trout Stockings - The CFFA will participate in the following state stockings. If you would like to help call Kurt Jagielow, 649-3681.

Jeremy River - Friday, 10:00am, 3 April. Meet at Commuter Parking Lot, Junction Rts 2 and 149.

Salmon River - Tuesday, 10:30am 7 April. Meet at Commuter Parking Lot, Junction Rts 2 and 149. Assisting Thames River Trout Unlimited.

Ed.



COMING EVENTS

CFFA Board of Directors Meeting	4 Mar 92
FRAA Annual Dinner, Bob Jacklin	7 Mar 92
Marinelli's Supper Club	
CFFA Fly Fishing School	5, 12, 19, 26
	Mar 92, 11 Apr 92, 2 May 92
Theodore Gordon Flyfishers Show	14 Mar 92
CFFA Membership Meeting, Paul	11 Mar 92
Morrissey, Beaverkill Fishing	
Fishing Show, Hartford Civic Center	12-15 Mar 92
Thurs. 4:00pm - 10:00pm; Fri. 12:00pm - 10:00pm	
Sat. 10:00am - 10:00pm; Sun. 10:00am - 6:00pm	
HFFA Annual Banquet, Poul Jorgensen	21 Mar 92
New Haven	
CFFA Board of Directors Meeting	1 Apr 92
NE Council FFF Conclave, Falmouth	5-7 Jun 92
(Cape Cod) MA	
Atlantic Salmon Federation Conclave	8-12 Jul 92
Sherbrooke, Nova Scotia	

Woodcarving and Painting Classes for Beginners

Learn how to carve and paint a fish or duck decoy. Included with each class is instruction for carving and painting each project as well as all the necessary materials. Cost for classes is \$60 per student. To register for February or March classes or more information, call Birds in Wood Studio, Meriden 634-1953.





E.A.R.T.H. CAMP '92 SCHOLARSHIP

The CFFA will sponsor a student to this camp. The camp is put on by the DEP and UCONN's Cooperative Extension System.

WHAT: The E.A.R.T.H. Camp is a one week residential experience where students will have an opportunity to learn about Connecticut's environment directly through field work, specialized activities and direct contact with practicing professionals.

In addition, there will be a choice of activities to participate in such as horseback riding, archery, fly tying, and swimming.

WHERE: The camp will be held at the Middlesex County 4-H Camp in East Haddam

WHO: Students ages 12 to 15, or students entering 7th grade in the fall or completing the 9th grade this June, are eligible to attend the camp.

WHEN: Two identical sessions will be offered this summer:

SESSION 1: June 28 - July 3

SESSION 2: July 5 - July 10

COST: CFFA will sponsor one student. This sponsorship includes accommodations, all meals and instructional supplies.

CONTACT: Call Larry Johnson, 246-0728 and give him the name of your candidate. At the May membership meeting, a drawing will be held to choose the scholarship recipient.

I Remember

by Ernest Boutiette

I remember many times, fishing with my dad for many kinds of fish, but what may surprise you fly fishermen isn't a story about a thirty five pound striper or a five and a half pound brown that I caught; but a story of fishing for the lowly bullhead. Trout and bullhead were the only fish that we ate. From about ten years of age, my Dad would take me bullhead fishing on the night before July 4th. This was a trip from dusk to dawn. This trip was the highlight of my fishing year. It was my job to get everything ready. I would start checking our gear about a week ahead of time. I would check the throw line, making sure that the hooks and sinkers were on OK. Next, cleaning the brass carbide lamp, both inside and out and checking our carbide supply. Next, checking our crawler box, making sure that we had enough. And last but not least, briefing my mother about our lunch. This was a waste of time as Ma believed that fishermen as well as armies march on their stomachs. By the time that we were ready to leave, I was all pumped up. My Dad did not have a car, so we walked the five or six miles to the pond. I would be bouncing along beside my Dad. On this hike he would point out birds, flowers, wild grape patches, nut trees, raspberry patches, etc. We would later return and harvest nature's bounty. At last, a glimmer, down in the valley, that was the pond. Once there, it was my job to set up the throw lines. I would get two forked sticks to drive in the bank at the water's edge, bait the hooks and wind up and let fly. There was a knack to this because if your release was wrong, you could snap off the crawlers, hook yourself or drop your bait a few feet from shore. Next in order, I would light the carbide lamp. The I would sit back on the bank next to

my Dad. He would have his pipe going by then, and the smell of his pipe would waft over the area. Of course I would be chomping on my first sandwich by then. At dusk the symphony would begin. Tree frogs and katydids in their tenor voices, pond frogs in their deep bass voices, crickets chirping in with their falsetto voice and the occasional clash of cymbals would be the thrashing of a bass slashing at bait in the shallows. I doubt that any aria could be as beautiful. During all this, my eyes were never off my throw lines. As soon as a line straightened out, I was up as if shot from a cannon. My Dad, sitting on the bank, would keep cautioning me to give them time to swallow the bait. He knew that being young and impatient, I would pull too soon. At dawn, we would pack up and leave for home. I have always remembered these trips because my Dad took me fishing.

FLY SALE

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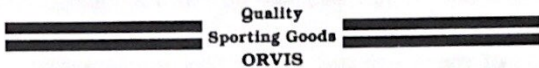
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Farmington River 738-7327 (FRAA)

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FLIES TIED TO ORDER

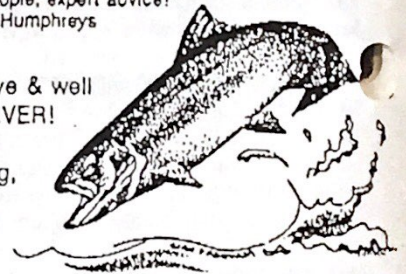
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Thank you!!

The Board of Directors and the Banquet Committee would like to thank the following contributors for their donations to the CFFA Annual Banquet. These people and organizations helped to make this year's banquet a resounding success. The funds raised will help the CFFA pursue those goals for which it is organized. Thanks again.

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If I missed anyone, please let us know. The poor Editors got overwhelmed with this tremendous list of contributors and their donations. Ed.

Palmers, Hackles and Other Strange Notions

Wooly Worm

(Reference Dick Stewart, Universal Fly Tying Guide)

I like nice, simple and effective flies for the bulk of my fishing, which sounds rather obvious, eh? One of the simplest is the Wooly Worm. I thought this fly was so simple that this is the pattern I chose years ago as my first pattern to tie.

The pattern described below is one that I have used with some success for smallmouth bass. I fish this pattern generally across and down stream. The fly pattern I use is weighted to keep it deep as possible. My success improves as the size of the boulders increases in the rivers. I've used this technique with some success in CT and in VT.

The fly is weighted with a chenille body, red wool tail, silver tinsel ribbing with a palmered hackle.

HOOK: Mustad 9671, 9672, or 7 9580: sizes 4 to 12 (I prefer size 8)
THREAD: Black 6/0
TAIL: Short red wool
HACKLE: Grizzly saddle hackle palmered over the body
RIB: Oval silver tinsel (optional)
BODY: Yellow chenille.

This pattern is also popular with black, olive, or brown body with grizzly or brown hackle. This pattern is tied on various length hooks and is frequently weighted.

I select a size 8 hook. I find this to be a good size for most occasions. Bend the barb down to make it easier to remove the hook from whatever portions of the body you happen to impale. Likewise, it's easier to remove when you release your fish. Wrap lead around the middle third of the shank. Cement the lead in place. Tie in the red wool for the tail at the end of the shank just before the bend begins. Cut off the tail such that it doesn't extend any further than the hood bend. I bind down the wool with thread to the rear portion of the lead wraps. This is to establish a level foundation for the body for later tying.

Select a hackle with barbules that are about one and one-half times the hook gap. Tie in the hackle at its tip just forward of where you tied in the tail. Next you tie in the tinsel ribbing in the same spot. Tie in the chenille over the same spot as the hackle. Wrap the chenille over the shank. Tie off one eye width from the eye. Next wrap the tinsel over the body in evenly spaced wraps. Tie this off at the same spot as the chenille body. Five wraps would be about right for a size 8 Mustad 9671 hook (2X long hook). Now palmer (there's that word!) the hackle over the body and tie off at the end of the chenille body. By palmering, I mean to wrap the hackle in evenly spaced wraps.

About five to six wraps should do.

For the head, tie off, apply a drop of cement to the head and you're done!

A lot of words to describe a simple fly, eh? I think I could have tied 10 flies in the time it took to describe it.

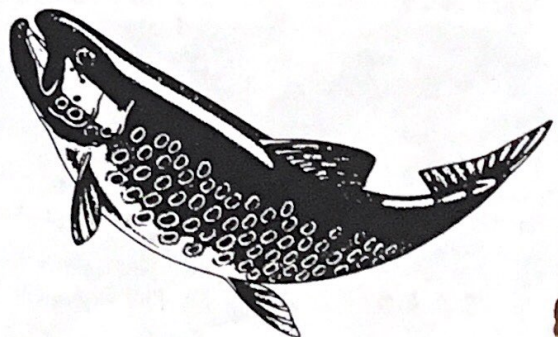
TIPS - TIPS - TIPS

When tying in hackle by the tip, I wrap thread from the initial wrap to the tip. This is done to insure the hackle is properly secured to prevent it from slipping out as you wrap it around the shank.

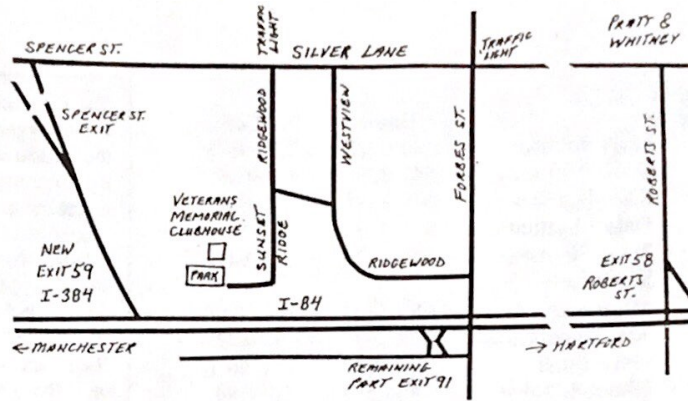
Before tying the chenille in remove all material from about 1/4 inch from the end leaving only thread. Now you only have the thread to tie in instead of the bulkier chenille. This will reduce material build-up when you tie subsequent items.

Tinsel ribbing should be counterwrapped to increase the strength of the fly. By this I mean to wrap the material first under the fly then over, which is the opposite of what you normally do.

If you have any questions on this pattern, or any other, or if you have any requests for a specific pattern, tying technique or tying questions in general, I will do my best to answer them in the Lines & Leaders. You may get in touch with me by sending your questions or requests to me, The Royal Footman, c/o Editor - Lines and Leaders.



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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 Lynn & Mike Stewart, 10 Bradley Brook, North Granby, CT 06060. Change of address notices should be sent to CFFA, P.O. Box 380260, Silver Lane, East Hartford, CT 06138-0268.



MARCH MEETING: PAUL MORISSEY BEAVERKILL FISHING
MARCH 11, 1992

Copy Deadline: Second Wednesday of month previous to publication



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