



LINES & LEADERS

Newsletter of the Connecticut Fly Fishermen's Association
Volume 20, No. 1

September 1992

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

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Saltwater Program Featuring the Members of CFFA

This will be a very interesting and entirely relevant meeting to open this year's CFFA activities. Where else can you find the where, what, how and when of fishing your local waters?

First there will be a slide show followed by a set of interesting tables. Each table will cover a specific subject, such as where to get the big one, or a unique fishing opportunity, what flies to use and when, how to tie the usual and not so usual knots, how to rig your gear for different types of fishing, what equipment is best, and boats - types and rentals.

PLACE: Veteran's Memorial Clubhouse
Sunset Ridge
East Hartford, CT

DATE: Wednesday, September 9

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

CLUB TRIP

IT'S HERE AGAIN!

THE STEELHEAD WEEKEND GETAWAY

6-7 November 1992

Come and join fellow club members for steelhead fishing on the Salmon River in Pulaski, NY area. Last year's trip was terrific! Here's your chance to fish the river with experienced club members. These and other members are going and staying nearby.

Lodging will be at the Hidden Acres Cottages, with room for eleven people. Since there is limited room, the first 24 people to sign up will get reservations. Your cost of \$42.80 includes lodging for two days.

Make checks payable to CFFA in the amount of \$42.80.

SEND TO: Keith Mailloux, 22 Sandra Drive,
Manchester, CT 06040.

For more information, call Keith at 647-8230.

From the Vest of the President



Welcome back from another summer of fun if not of sun. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone again and listening to all those fish stories. I know that several members went back to Alaska this summer, and quite a few of you have been actively fishing here in New England and elsewhere.

I'm sorry that more members did not have a chance to attend the North Eastern Conclave of the Federation of Fly Fishers on the Cape last June. The sixteen of us who did make it all had a fantastic time. The conclave displays and programs were excellent; the Moorings had comfortable rooms, great food and a wonderful glassed in porch on the water; and the stripers were running every morning and evening in an outlet just up the road.

Everyone landed at least one, some quite a few, and most fish were 20 inches plus. Just listening to the action after dark was exciting. The stripers were moving by us in groups, feeding on the surface like trout. Some of the splashes they made hitting a fly were loud enough to make you think someone had fallen in.

The "in" color was chartreuse, and the corner of the front porch was a sea of green on Saturday afternoon as members tied or watched others tie patterns for the evening's fishing. I don't think there was anything chartreuse left for sale when the conclave closed on Saturday. Needless to say, we've booked the Moorings for an early June weekend next year. We can't redo the conclave, but we can try to repeat the fishing and the fellowship.

Something new this year - we will be exhibiting at the Durham Fair on September 25,26,27, instead of the Hebron Fair. We'll need people there from 9am to 10:30 pm Friday and Saturday, 9 to 7 on Sunday. We will also do two one-hour fly tying demos on Saturday and Sunday afternoons in a special hall for crafts demonstrations. There will also be a chance to enter up to five fishing flies in a special category for the craft and hobby judging. To sign up for our booth at the fair, or get more information, call Activities VP Keith Mailloux at 647-8230.

We have also begun to plan for our special 25th anniversary banquet and other activities. There's plenty to do, and something to interest any member. If you want to take part, see one of the Board members at the meeting or give Ken Parkany a call at 643-9819.

See you all at the September meeting.

Tight lines,
Larry Johnson



Rearing Pool Restoration - After a hard day of scrubbing with wire brushes and push brooms, plugging leaks with hydraulic cement, the rearing pool is ready for recoating. Kurt is working to get some epoxy based paint which the chemistry experts say should do just fine. Many thanks go to Kurt Jagielow, Mike Stewart, Tim Brodrick (our rearing pool custodian), two wire brushes who gave the ultimate sacrifice and a few scrapped knuckles.

Club Trip to Cape Cod - Good company, good fishing, good food, good location and a fly fishing conclave. A dream? Nope. May be "good" is too mild a word. This is what 20 club members, family and friends experienced early last June at Falmouth Heights. In spite of a storm which almost drowned our friends back in Connecticut, and almost a few hardy club members on the jetty at the Cape, stripers were caught. May be the storm helped. Any fly seemed to work as long as it was chartreuse. After three days of decent fishing, even Ed Joworski and Bob Popovics found their way to "our place" checking out the activity.

This will be done again. Thanks, Gary Steinmiller for your coordinating efforts in arranging this trip.

Membership - We have 294 members currently.

Membership and School Drawing - At the last Fishing Show Expo, the door prize went to Mr. Michael A. Rouse of West Hartford. Mike wins a 1 year free membership to the CFFA and attendance to the CFFA school of his choice.

Ed.

COMING EVENTS

CFFA Board of Directors Meeting	2 Sept 92
CFFA Membership Meeting	9 Sept 92
CFFA Board of Directors Meeting	7 Oct 92
CFFA Membership Meeting	14 Oct 92
CFFA Trip, Salmon River, NY	6-8 Nov 92
Rod Building School	TBD Dec 92, 7,14,21,28 Jan 4,11 Feb 93
<i>Annual Banquet,</i>	
<i>25th Anniversary Celebration</i>	20 Feb 93
Fly Fishing School	4,11,18,25 Mar TBD April TBD May 93
Theodore Gordon Flyfishers Show	13 Mar 93
CFFA Trip, Falmouth, Cape Cod	TBD June 93



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Build the Rainbow Dam Bypass

Reprinted Hartford Courant, 16 August 1992 Editorial

Restoring Atlantic salmon to the Connecticut River Valley has been a long (25 years) and expensive (\$100 million) project. Finally, after 200 years of absence, the great game fish are beginning to swim up the Connecticut and its tributaries in growing numbers each year to spawn.

But getting the young fish, or smolts, safely downriver and into the ocean where they mature has run into a snag on the Farmington River. The Stanley Works' hydroelectric Rainbow Dam in Windsor has the appropriate fish ladder to help the salmon get upstream. But it needs a bypass pipe so the 2-year-old, six-inch smolts won't be chopped to pieces by the dam's turbines as they head out to sea.

Stanley Works is seeking a state permit for about \$1 million worth of repairs on the dam. It is balking at spending an additional \$100,000 to install a bypass pipe, saying it needs more information on the project and on who would pay the bill. State officials say they can demand that the bypass be installed under a statute that allows them to insist on fish passage improvements any time substantial repairs are made to a dam.

Stanley, a \$2 billion company, can afford the \$100,000 and may eventually come to realize that the investment is worth avoiding the headache of being branded by environmentalists as anti-salmon. Besides, the company showed interest in the fish when it installed the ladder years ago - and continues to maintain it.

Atlantic salmon are born in fresh water and stay there for about two years before heading out to sea. They mature off Greenland and later return to breed in the stream of their birth.

Initially, fish experts heading the restoration efforts released hatchery-raised salmon when they were almost ready to go to sea. Now, very young fingerling-sized fish are being stocked in feeder brooks and streams. They grow tougher and healthier in these natural settings than in captivity and hence more are surviving into adulthood. About 500 adult salmon of about 10 pounds each returned to the Connecticut River this year.

NOTICE

Gathering of Willimantic River Flyfishermen

Before the start of the September 9 program, those of you who fish the Willy are invited to gather at Ernie's Corner in the clubhouse. We would like to solicit ideas for a Willy Fishing Guide.

Many very young fish are released upriver from Rainbow Dam. Many get chopped up on their initial migration downriver. But in years of high spring flow, when lots of water spills over the dam, lots of smolts escape the turbines and reach the Atlantic. That suggests the effectiveness of the proposed bypass pipe.

The question is who should pay for it. Stanley owns the Rainbow Dam and should be expected to make the modest investment to help restore the precious resource to the Connecticut River. Thereafter, smolts going through the bypass pipe should be known as the Stanley salmon.

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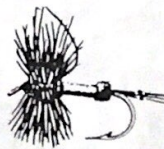
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Exploring Yellowstone Country With a Float Tube (Belly Boat)

Reprinted from Montana's Master Angler's Flyer - Ed

Yellowstone Country offers the angler a wide selection of lakes and ponds on which to pursue the wary trout. Fishing with a float tube (belly boat) is a way of adding an entirely new dimension to your fly fishing repertoire. In the float tube you become part of the environment you are dealing with. If you haven't tried a float tube yet, you are really missing some very exciting fishing. The float tube is our top choice for reaching those trout that are just out of the casting range of the anglers confined to the shore. We've all been there - a hike into a nice lake and the trout are rising like crazy, but just beyond the reach of our longest cast. Sure is frustrating, huh?! But no longer. The float tube give you the mobility to chase those trout, plus it allows you to keep a low profile and, therefore, approach closer to the trout. Sure, you can use a boat, but with a boat you are always fiddling with the oars, the anchor and the positioning, plus you are offering a much higher profile and are unable to approach as close.

The float tube is designed like a donut with a seat in it. This gives you a very comfortable platform from which to cast. Float tubes are very safe and give you the option of chasing the riser, fishing off the shore lines around the weedbeds and off islands. All in all, they let the angler do it right. Besides a float tube, all you need is a pair of stocking foot waders, warm socks and a pair of swim fins. As an added safety measure, we recommend the use of a personal floatation jacket or vest. During the early and late seasons, long underwear is advisable.

The angler who fishes from a float tube had best go prepared with the right assortment of tackle. We prefer to use 9' rods while fishing from tubes. The longer rod makes casting much easier while sitting so near the water surface. We suggest the use of a 9' for a 7 or 8 weight line. This allows you to fish the bigger flies and sinking style lines with a measure of comfort. While tubing, we suggest you have a single action reel with 100 yards of backing. Have floating lines, ultra sink tips, wet belly lines (20 ft.) and shooting heads on spools so that you can quickly change, if need be. A full selection of leader material spools is advisable as you may have to build what you need on the spot. Now, don't forget the basics like nippers, split shot, floatant, scissors, pliers and

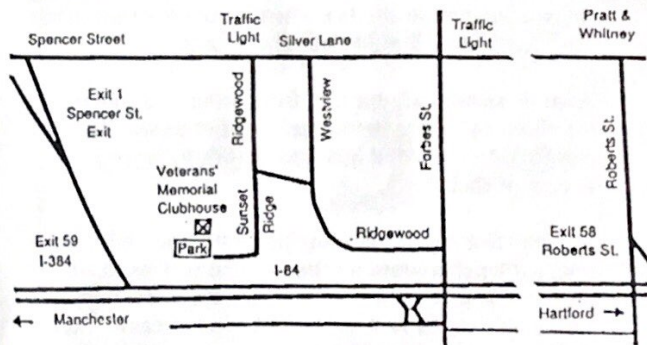
For flies, well, that can vary considerably, depending on the lake or pond you are fishing and the type of fish you are looking for. Lakes in Yellowstone Country can offer the angler a wide selection - be it dry fly fishing to the gulpers of Hebgen, using shrimp for the large rainbows and cutthroat of Trout Lake (located in Yellowstone Park), using classic wet flies while pursuing the grayling of Grebe Lake (also in the Park), or maybe casting yellow streamers and leech patterns to the trophy trout of Clark Canyon Reservoir. Yes, there is truly a wide and varied selection to chose from. When deciding on a fly selection, we suggest getting local help.

FISHING CONDITIONS HOTLINE NUMBERS



Willimantic River, Farmington River and Connecticut in General	664-3688 (CFFA)
Farmington River	738-7327 (FRAA)
Housatonic River	248-8616 (HFFA)
Housatonic River Flow	824-7861 (NU)

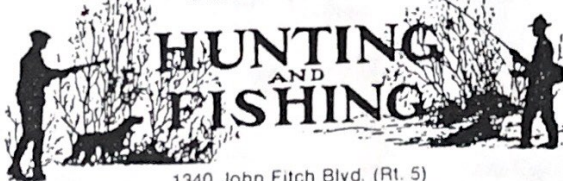
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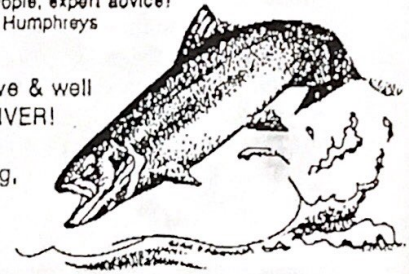
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The Connecticut Fly Fishermen's Association, Inc. is organized "To Preserve and Promote the Pleasures and Tradition of Fly Fishing and to Conserve Game-Fish Waters." CFFA membership meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month, September 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.



SEPTEMBER MEETING: SALTWATER PROGRAM FEATURING MEMBERS OF CFFA

Copy Deadline: Second Wednesday of month previous to publication



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