



LINES & LEADERS

Newsletter of the Connecticut Fly Fishermen's Association

Volume 20, No. 5

January 1993

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

JANUARY MEETING

Fly Tyer's Roundtable

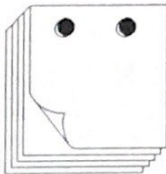
CFFA's annual fly tying meeting will be held this month. As usual, many club fly tyers will be on hand to demonstrate their craft covering various types of fresh and saltwater flies. The latest in fly tying innovation will be emphasized. We hope to both educate and motivate you to crank out those flies for the coming season.

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

DATE: Wednesday, January 13

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

ATTENTION ALL CFFA MEMBERS



FINAL REMINDER

It is time to renew your membership for the upcoming year. Please fill out the enclosed form on page 5, include a check for the proper dues, and either send it in or give it to Neil Bantly at the next club meeting. We appreciate your membership over the past year and look forward to seeing you for many years to come. If anyone has a question about their membership status, you can call Neil at home. His number is on the last page of the newsletter.



From the Vest of the President



The beginning of a new year is traditionally a time for reviewing the past, taking stock of where we are, and setting new goals for the year ahead. This year, in which we celebrate CFFA's 25th Anniversary, gives us a chance to do this both as individuals and as an organization.

Most of today's active members are relatively new to CFFA, and even for many of the old-timers the early years of CFFA have become ancient history. Through the efforts of Ken Parkany and many other present and past members of CFFA, we will all be able to learn about how and why CFFA was formed, about what was going on nationally and in Connecticut at that time, and about the many projects and activities CFFA members have been involved in over these past 25 years.

There has been a sense of increasing energy in CFFA over the last few years, as shown by increased meeting attendance, more frequent club trips, changes in our schools and programs, etc. And many older members will probably be quick to point out that CFFA can be more active yet. They can remember a time when there was an active Eastern Council doing its own work in eastern Connecticut and when those, and they were many, who were active on the Conservation Committee had separate monthly meetings to plan their activities.

Ken Parkany's request for comments on what CFFA means to each of us at the last meeting are especially timely, both in time of year and in time of life of CFFA. As we celebrate 25 years as an active organization dedicated to promoting the pleasures and traditions of fly fishing and the preservation of gamefish waters I invite all of you to join in the celebration and introspection, to set new goals for ourselves and for CFFA, so that the next 25 years will be even more successful than the first.

Tight lines,

Larry Johnson

"A fly is a dream, sent down by the angler into a world he can never fully understand. It carries his hope and his heart with it."

Lee Wulff



Membership renewals - This is the last month to renew your membership. Please return your dues soon. Also include any ideas you have to help improve your club. Our current membership stands at 312.

Annual Banquet - The Insurance Raffle prizes are announced as follows: 1st: \$300 Gift Certificate to L.L. Bean; 2nd: Zenith 20" TV, Cable-ready with Remote; 3rd: Weekend for 2 at the Moorings Lodge, Falmouth Heights, MA, 2 nights, 2 breakfasts and 1 dinner are included; 4th: Dinner for 2 at Cavey's, "Downstairs," Manchester, CT (Wine not included). *Expect to receive the tickets in the mail very shortly.*

Quinnebaug Hatchery - Reservations will be accepted by phone starting January 11, 1993. Sounds easy doesn't it? Fishing for trout at a hatchery, eh? Well...it is not as easy as you may think. These fish have seen it all. Talk to Dale Matthews. He's got this fly...

Pulaski Trip Rebate - We had a rebate from Hidden Acres. It totalled \$61.60 which comes out to \$2.80 per person. A lot of people have left their portion of the rebate to the club. If you desire to receive your rebate, please contact Keith Mailloux or Mike Stewart. Their phone numbers are on the back of the L&L.

In Memorium - We have received word that a fellow CFFA member, Mr. Allan R. Andrews, formerly of Springfield, MA has recently passed away. Our sympathies go to Mr. Andrews' family and friends.

Club Hats and Patches - New patches with an anniversary banner and hats with these new patches will be ordered shortly. These hats are great. The hats are made from heavy cotton and have the baseball type short brim. The underside of the brim will be green to reduce the reflected glare from the water when you are fishing. These hats are all Made in the USA.

Club Pins - An additional 50 club pins have been ordered. These pins are sterling silver.

25th Anniversary Fly Fishing Show - Ed Jawowarski will be doing a seminar on Saltwater Fly Fishing and Gary LaFontaine will be conducting a Fly Tying Seminar. Exhibitors are signing up to participate. We are working to obtain confirmation of more NAMES for the show and its seminars.

New Advertiser - We welcome a new advertiser to the L&L, The Wilderness Connection, a taxidermy studio. As always, the members of the CFFA should use the services of our advertisers as much as possible. Ed.

COMING EVENTS

Rod Building School	7,14,21,28 Jan 4 Feb 93
Board of Directors Meeting	6 Jan 93
Fly Tying School	7,14,21,28 Jan 4,11 Feb 93
Membership Meeting, Fly Tying Roundtable, Club Tyers	13 Jan 93
Hammanasett TU 2d Shoreline Fly Fishing Seminar, Whitehouse Restaurant, Old Saybrook	23 Jan 93
CFFA 25th Anniversary Fly Fishing Show, The Colony, Manchester CT	20 Feb 93
Annual Banquet, 25th Anniversary Celebration, The Colony, Manchester, CT	20 Feb 93
Fly Fishing School	4,11,18,25 Mar TBD April TBD May 93
Membership Meeting, Alaska Fly Fishing Ernie Boutiette & Charlie Place	10 Mar 93
Theodore Gordon Flyfishers Show	13 Mar 93
Fishing Show, Hartford Civic Center	18-21 Mar 93
North Eastern Council FFF Conclave, Roscoe, NY	4-6 Jun 93
Trip, Falmouth, Cape Cod	TBD June 93
FFF National Conclave, Livingston, MT	8-14 Aug 93

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Where Are the Fish???

Reprinted from "Reel News", Boulder Fly Casters by Doug Laiho

I for one can seldom spot, in advance, the fish I am lucky enough to catch, except those rising to the surface. In fact, I have come to believe that, in general, you can't catch fish you can see. Is this clearly a personal problem or is there some truth to it? Perhaps feeding fish don't want to be seen, or possibly I don't know how to look. You can imagine that I, therefore, don't often stalk fish. I still do catch them because I believe to catch fish you need to spend a maximum of time with your fly on the water (ever hear that before?) and your eye on the water as well.

I fish structure primarily, try to think like a fish and am learning to make up for my visual deficiencies. Watching fish is fun and truly an education in understanding fish behavior. I try to enhance my watching skills; why?...to eliminate dead water. Typically a stream has large empty stretches with a few sections holding most of the fish. In general trout can be seen if you look carefully for the following characteristics:

- formless streaks and a contrasting "glow" against a natural background
- movement (particularly side to side, up and down, or against the current)
- flash of a trout's side
- white of the inside of the mouth of the trout.

Or specifically look for:

Brown Trout

- gold flash from the side
- gold fins
- large spots on upper sides
- light or milky brown color against the green of aquatic vegetation or, interestingly enough, blue-grey against a dark cobbled bottom.

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Rainbow Trout

- silver with bright pink flash from the side
- white tips on the fins
- several shades lighter color on the back than the green of aquatic vegetation.

Cutthroat Trout

- wide range of color variations which include blue, green, brown or yellow on the back and silver, yellow, orange or red flash from the sides

Brook Trout

- white leading edges and tips on the fins
- worm-like vermilion markings on a green back.

To maximize your chances of spotting trout, wear a dark-colored hat with a brim or bill large enough to shade your eyes, use polarized sunglasses, watch patiently from seclusion, practice and use structure to first identify where there may be trout to be seen. It will improve your understanding of fish behavior, the relationship between fish and their environment, your fishing success (most importantly), and it will give you something to do when the fish aren't biting. Remember - watching isn't nearly as enjoyable as catching, so don't forget to get your fly on the water too!

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Northern Bonefish - Continued from December 1992 I&L A Freshwater Answer to the Ocean Flats

by Ronald Pisani - Albany, New York

Reprinted from "The Bugline", FFF Warm Water Committee Newsletter, December 1990

And take they do, along with at least 100 feet of line instantaneously! When cruising, carp seem to attack the fly and not at all subtly. Setting the hook quickly helps, but it is not necessary to "cross their eyes" so to speak. The carp's mouth is soft, but tough enough so that the hook point penetrates well, yet will not tear out.

Fighting these fish is a matter of hanging on at first as the fish runs, and playing off the reel as soon as you can. Pumping the rod before reeling will help bring the fish closer. Be forewarned, however, carp seem to have extra reserve energy. They will suddenly and repeatedly run off another 50 to 100 feet of line. Patience, perseverance, and a decent drag system will eventually bring in these fish. If you don't care to tote along a large net, beaching the carp when finally spent is my preference.

As for tackle, it almost always goes without saying that a rod with some backbone is a plus. Although my crazy friend, Dennis Abrams, recently landed a 12 pounder on a five weight outfit after an hour and one-half battle. Generally, carp captured on fly tackle can run from 5 to 30 pounds. Hence, a rod capable of tossing at least a 7wt is needed. As for rod length, I wouldn't want to use anything less than nine feet to better control the fish and to allow for longer casts.

A weight forward floating line, in a seven to nine weight, will suffice. Incidentally, line weight is dictated more by the need for long casts and potential windy conditions, than the size of the fly used. Flies for carp don't have to be large. Nine foot leaders tapering to a OX or 1X tippet are also ideal. These leaders along with the spring of a lengthy rod help withstand the surge of a sudden run.

Reels with either caliper or disc type drag systems really help, since they are designed to handle running fish. However, if your budget doesn't allow this, a good substitute is a reel with a click drag strong enough to prevent the line from overrunning and tangling, coupled with a spool designed for rim control.

A little weight, usually about 15 turns of medium lead wire, helps the fly break through the water surface quickly and get down a couple of feet. As I said before, we're not talking about deep water when fishing for cruising carp. You may have to experiment to find the proper weight for the local waters you fish.

One of my favorite flies for cruising carp is the good old wooly bugger, tied on a 3X long hook, in sizes six to ten. Carp do not have a large mouth and therefore feed on a variety of small crayfish, baitfish, and nymphs. Hence, an assortment of white, black, brown or olive wooly buggers

will cover most situations. The addition of pearlescent Flashabou to the tail of a white wooly bugger helps to simulate the shimmering flash of many baitfish.

Sometimes in murky water, tying the fly with fluorescent orange thread helps. The thread will serve as a visible underbody for lighter colored flies. Tying off the head of the fly with fluorescent thread also enhances its attractiveness, regardless of the fly's body color.

Other flies are also effective for these cruising Northern Bonefish. For example, white zonkers and the Shenk minnow in white and olive are good general baitfish imitations. The versatile matuka can be tied in just about any color combination to more specifically match the baitfish in your waters. For example, some combinations that I have found useful are: olive grizzly hackle/white body; dark badger hackle/white body; silver badger hackle/white body or solid black, brown or olive. The Clouser crayfish also works quite well in low water. Another simple crayfish pattern is tied with a brown chenille body and pincers made from bunches of pheasant tail fibers. Carp will also take large nondescript nymph patterns such as: hare's ears, zug bugs, and Murray's helgramites. Most of my flies are tied in sizes six to ten on 3X or 4X long hooks and weighted as needed with lead wraps. As a general rule of thumb, flies that work for smallmouth bass will also work for cruising carp.

Where to fish? Just about anywhere you can find wadeable warm water river or stream. I like to fish the shallow areas consisting of shelving rock bottom with pools and pockets where predators and baitfish concentrate. Although I haven't given this a try yet, I'm sure the flats and back waters of lakes will also produce at the right time of year.

When to fish? I've found that once the water temperature approaches the upper 70's and into the 80's, carp can be found cruising at almost any time of the day, especially when forage is in great abundance. Low water conditions also seem to bring out this cruising trait. The best road to success, however, is to study and learn the features of the waters you plan to fish.

I hope I've convinced some of you to give these Northern Bonefish a try. If you do, be prepared for some great fun. But do be careful. Recently, a 15 to 20 pounder had the nerve to break the tip section of my rod after a 15 minute battle. I always say, "If you're gonna break a rod, do it in style." Don't pass up this exciting opportunity which is available right in your backyard. To many, the carp may be considered a "rough fish". To me, however, it ranks up there with the best of gamefish, and is truly worthy of being called a Northern Bonefish.

NEW REGULATIONS FOR FLY FISHERS

The following regulations went into effect January 1, 1993.

- allow the use of additional weight, attached to the leader, while fishing in Fly Fishing Only Areas.
- expand the portion of the Farmington River included in the Farmington River Trout Management Area.
- establish new Trout Management Areas on the: Hammonasset River, Mill River (Fairfield), Moosup River, and Salmon River.
- provide specific trout management regulations on certain lakes and ponds designated as Trophy Trout Lakes.
- establish East Twin Lake as an area with special regulations on brown trout.
- technical change concerning Bass Management Areas.

Specific changes should be in the 1993 Angler's Guide when you get your license.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Date _____ New Renew

Name _____

Street _____

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COMMITTEE:

- Conservation Program Indoor Facil.
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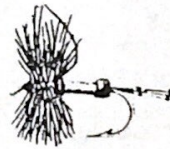


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**Nominating Committee
Report**

The following people are nominated for the named positions for 1993. Elections for these positions will be held at the membership meeting on 13 January 1993. This meeting will not be canceled due to inclement weather.

Larry Johnson	President
Kurt Jagielow	Vice President, Environment
Dale Matthews	Vice President, Promotion
Keith Mailloux	Vice President, Activities
Don Rose	Treasurer
Tony Simmons	Recording Secretary
Mary Levy	Legal Secretary

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Lewchik, Steve Lewis, Mike Stewart

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FISHING CONDITIONS HOTLINE NUMBERS



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Farmington River	738-7327 (FRAA)
Housatonic River	248-8616 (HFFA)
Housatonic River Flow	824-7861 (NU)

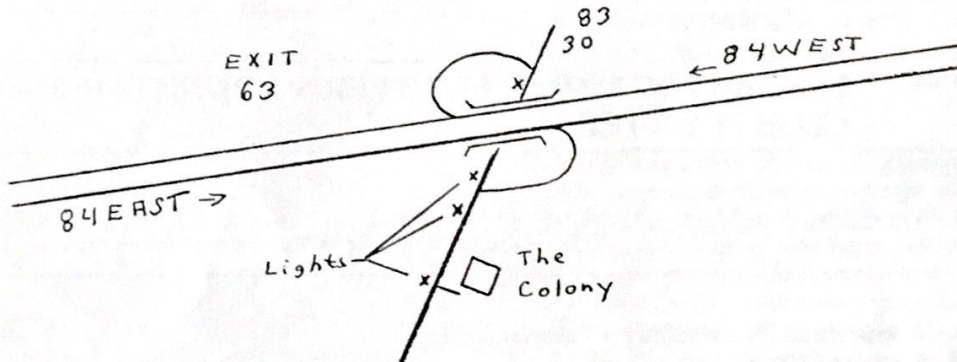
CFFA 23rd Annual Banquet 20 February 1993

The banquet will be held at The Colony of Vernon (a map is provided below). Your choice of dinners this year will be Baked Stuffed Shrimp, Roast Stuffed Breast of Capon or Prime Ribs of Beef, Au Jus. Included with the meal will be salad, baked potato, ziti, vegetables, rolls and butter, coffee or tea, and dessert.

Your Banquet Committee has worked hard to provide you with an enjoyable evening. We have been able to do this again for \$25.00 per person. We will also be holding our raffle drawings that evening. The raffles this year include the Insurance Raffle, Silent Auction, Special Raffle for a Complete Fly Tying Hutch and Materials Outfit and the General Raffle.

Please fill out the Reservation Form below and mail it as soon as possible. If you want to reserve a table for your party, please send one check for all eight place settings. Your Banquet Committee and Board of Directors are looking forward to seeing you there.

Anyone wishing to donate prizes for the banquet may contact Ed Fidrych at 342-1173 or Larry Johnson at 246-0728. All prizes will be greatly appreciated and all donations will be acknowledged in the "Lines & Leaders."



DINNER RESERVATION

DATE: _____

I will require a reservation for _____ persons at \$25.00 per person. Please find a check or money order (payable to CFFA) in the amount of \$_____ enclosed.

Mail reservation form to:

Mr. Elmer Latham
79 Northfield Road
Coventry, CT 06238

Name: _____

Address: _____

City & State: _____ Zip _____ Home Phone: _____

_____ Baked Stuffed Shrimp; _____ Prime Rib; _____ Stuffed Breast of Capon

PLEASE RETURN BEFORE 10 FEBRUARY 1993

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Activities - VP	Keith Mailloux	647-8230	646-6560
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Promotion - VP	Dale Matthews	875-2033	565-5143
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Program Chairman	Mark Philippe	236-7029	658-5825
Publicity Chairman	Ed Fidrych	342-1173	566-3487
CFFA Hotline	John Springer	664-3688	

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.



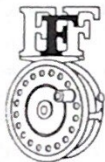
JANUARY MEETING: FLY TYER'S ROUNDTABLE - CLUB FLY TYERS

Copy Deadline: Second Wednesday of month previous to publication



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