



LINES & LEADERS

Newsletter of the Connecticut Fly Fishermen's Association

Volume 23, No. 6

February 1996

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

FEBRUARY MEETING

CFFA ANNUAL BANQUET



CFFA's Banquet Committee and Board of Director's present the 25th Annual Banquet. Dave Whitlock will be our feature program speaker. Dave was our banquet speaker more than 10 years ago and has returned to celebrate another year of CFFA's continued efforts in support of fly fishing.

Dave is one of the most accomplished and experienced fly fishermen in the world. His books include **Guide to Aquatic Trout Foods**, **L.L. Bean Fly Fishing for Bass Handbook**, **L.L. Bean Fly Fishing Handbook** and a number of videos including **Fly Fishing for Bass**, and **Fly-Tying Bass Flies**. Come and meet this fascinating individual.

In addition to this program, prizes will be offered through door prizes, the Insurance Raffle, Silent Auction, Fly Tying Hutch Special Raffle and the General Conservation Raffle.

Come out and support your club and have a great time!

PLACE: The Colony of Vernon
51 Hartford Turnpike
Vernon, CT

DATE: Saturday, February 10

TIME: Cocktails - 5:30 pm
Program - 7:00 pm

From the Vest of the President



A reminder: there isn't a general club meeting in February. The next meeting at the Veterans Memorial will be the second "Wednesday in March."

Geez! I've had enough snow. My manual snow blower is about worn out and I long to put it back in a dark corner in the shed. A snow shovel with cob webs hanging from it is a beautiful sight.

I don't know how Gary Evans made it to our meeting last month. I talked to him on the telephone Tuesday evening. He was still in Utah due to our lousy weather here in the east. He made it to Newark by two in the afternoon Wednesday. After searching for some of his things at the airport, he drove straight to our meeting. Sure an extraordinary effort by Gary. CFFA extended its sincere appreciation.

Ernie Boutiette, Don Rose, Charlie Kelley and I spent Saturday January thirteenth, at The Hammonasset TU show. Don spent most of the day showing young men and women how to tie flies. Ernie had the salt water crowd around him most of the day. Charlie Kelly provided support and relief and talked about our club. We made many friends at the show and expect to get some new members. Thanks guys I really appreciate your help.

For those of you that haven't been to our annual banquet, expect to have a good time. The food at the Colony has been excellent. There's plenty of room for seating, so you don't feel crowded at all. Ed Fidrych coordinates our bucket raffle and does an outstanding job. Tickets are a dollar apiece and you get to select the raffle item you want by dropping your ticket in its respective bucket. Prizes range from custom made rods to a dozen flies. So you could win a custom made rod for a buck. There's also a beautiful fly tying cabinet crafted by Roger Plourde. Tickets for the cabinet are twenty dollars each. We sell a maximum of seventy five. Although we have not had the cabinet appraised, many consider it valued at about two thousand dollars. And, of course, this is all topped off by our guest speaker for the evening, Dave Whitlock.

Tight Lines and Threads,

Charlie Place



Dave Whitlock Fly Tying Lessons - Here's an opportunity to tie flies with Dave and get unique tying tips. This class is open to the first 6 to sign up. The class cost is \$40. The class will be at The Colony on 10 Feb from 9 to 11 am. It starts an hour before the doors open for the Fly Fishing Show. Bring your vice and tying gear. If you are interested, please Contact Larry Johnson. His number is on the back of the L&L.

Request for Flies - One of the most popular prizes sought are flies tied by fellow members of CFFA. Please tie a dozen of your favorite flies and donate them to the banquet. Give them to Ed Fidrych, or any other board member. Thanks alot!

Membership - Currently, we have 350 members.

Correction - We misspelled the name of new member William N. May. We apologize.

New Book Version - Phil Brunquell's book, *Fly-Fishing with Children*, is now available in paperback from The Countryman Press, PO Box 175, Woodstock, VT 05091, 800-245-4151. Paperback is \$13.00 plus \$4.50 shipping & handling. Hardcover is \$19.00. Ed.

Help!

We Need Your Help! Help is needed at the door for admission during the Fly Fishing show on 10 February. Call Charlie Place at 623-9912 if you can help out.



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COMING EVENTS

| | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| CFFA Rod Building School | 1 Feb 96 |
| CFFA Fly Tying School | 1 Feb 96 |
| Westchester Sportsman Exposition White Plains, NY | 1-4 Feb 96 |
| FRAA Banquet | 4 Feb 96 |
| CFFA Board Meeting | 7 Feb 96 |
| CFFA Fly Fishing Show & Banquet Dave Whitlock, The Colony, Manchester, CT | 10 Feb 96 |
| CFFA Board Meeting | 6 Mar 96 |
| CFFA Fly Fishing School | 7, 14, 21, 28 Mar 13 & 27 Apr 96 |
| CFFA Membership Meeting, Fly Tyer's Round Table | 13 Mar 96 |
| The World Fly Fishing Expo Wilmington, MA | 9-10 Mar 96 |
| CMTA Fishing Show, Hartford Civic Ctr | 14-17 Mar 96 |
| HFFA Fly Fishing Expo & Banquet | 16 Mar 96 |

Welcome NEW MEMBERS!

The CFFA would like to welcome our new members.

| | | |
|---------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Stephen Kulan | Marshall L. Jackson | Paul Duva |
| Jim Tierney | Leon Gardiner | Mark Okrant |
| Brent Tupper | Dr. Edward S. Gracy | |

You folks are encouraged to participate in all the activities CFFA has to offer. That way CFFA grows and becomes more vibrant. If you have any questions or suggestions please do not hesitate to approach any of the board members listed on the last page. Your suggestions regarding the **Lines & Leaders** are most welcomed. Ed.

Trout Rod Wanted: If anyone has a 5, 6 or 7 weight rod and would be willing to help someone re-start their fishing career, please call Frank Kolbusz, 658-0776.

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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) |

Nature and Humor by Ernie Boutiette



ALASKA

There is more than fishing on a fishing trip. There is Mother Nature in all her glory. There is the excitement that builds up gradually as take off from Bradley approaches. I have been

on many fishing trips and never got over this feeling. It starts with researching the area you will fish, the equipment and flies to use, etc.

What a pleasure when you board a float plane on the final leg of your journey. You forget the nine hours in a jet. I love flying in a float plane, no nicer sound than a piston engine roaring and a prop spinning. This is flying. The float plane flies at 1,000 feet, so you can view the scenery, and no finer scenery than flying over the Alaskan Tundra and you often see moose browsing. You know it's not a dream when your plane lets down on your home river and you are only a ten minute boat ride from camp. Sometimes a bonus awaits you. Last year as we got off the plane, an apparition appeared on shore. It was a beautiful woman waiting to take the plane to Anchorage! We later learned that she was a famous model. It is lucky that no one fell in the river as all eyes were not on the flimsy steps as we deplaned.

A quick boat trip to the camp. A quick snack and to our cabin to set up our fishing gear, clothes flying all over the place to be put away later. We are at peak tension now as we are only minutes away from our first cast to Pacific Salmon. One foot out of the boat and already stripping out line. Generally we are so anxious to fish that we forget to remove our life jackets. It's a

wonderful feeling to breath in clean air. Back to camp at 6:00 to clean up and then a cold beer at the lodge.

Now we finally relax, meet the other fishermen and discuss fishing. Next is a gourmet meal - the menu reads like one from the finest restaurant. Although our day starts at 4:30am and ends at 6:00pm, with these hours spent wading, the average weight gain is five to ten pounds in ten days!

Who won't stop fishing to view the sunrise highlighted by snow covered mountains or enjoy the haunting cry of a loon. Eagles are often your companions while motoring up the river. The eerie feeling that you get as you step ashore and see fresh bear tracks all along the shore. While fishing you observe the king salmon in the 25-50 pound class fighting their way through 6 inches of water to get to their spawning grounds, only to die after spawning and then to feed bears and rainbow trout. Ah! Mother Nature seems cruel at times.



continued on page 4

VIDEO TAPE LIBRARY RULES

- 2 tapes per person.
- \$2 per tape per month.
- Return at fly tying classes, board meetings, monthly meetings, etc. - to any Board member.
- \$2 late fee per tape per week.
- Will only be rented at monthly meetings.
- First come first served.
- Rented after meetings at coffee table.

Nature and Humor - Continued

As you can see, there is more to fishing trips than fishing.

At times there is a humor as the following story will show - a touch of humor can break up your day. We were fishing in a small river, an offshoot of the main river. Three of us are lined up on a clay bar fishing silvers with great success. First I must explain that Charlie Kelly stands about six feet tall. I thought I heard Charlie say that he needed help so I glanced downriver, and saw a man much shorter than Charlie and I continued fishing. With the noise of the river, I figured that I imagined Charlie calling for help. Again the call, "Boots, I'm stuck a foot deep in clay and can't get out." Now I knew the short man was really Charlie. I slid the boat down to him so he could leverage himself out. No luck. The next thing I saw was the emergency crew parading to Charlie, each with an oar over his shoulder. The guide and Roger Plourde were the crew. They started digging him out with the oars and every once in a while, a yell from Charlie when they banged his ankle. After 15 minutes we realized that we must record this event. All work stopped so we could take pictures. Of course, as good friends we cheered him up telling him that when he went under we would save his hat and send it home for burial and for him to make sure he handed us his rod before he disappeared. I know that I swore not to reveal this embarrassing event. But I figured that the 350 club members would enjoy it. Sorry Charlie.

P.S. Charlie was *at least* a foot down in the clay!

FOR SALE

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Kevin Pelletier
John Marona

The following were elected by the membership at the January 1996 meeting:

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>President: Charlie Place Vice President-Activities: Larry Johnson Recording Secretary: Ted Rzepski</p> | <p>Vice President-Promotion: Ed Fidrych Treasurer: Don Rose Legal Secretary: Mark Levi</p> |
|--|---|

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|--|--|

ALASKA FISHING COMPANION

I am looking for a fishing companion to go Salmon fishing in Alaska for ten days. It will be around August 15, 1996. I have five years experience in Alaskan fishing. More than one fisherman is OK. *Must have answer by February 15, 1996* so I can make reservations. Call 289-3605, Ernie Boutiette.

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MEMBERSHIP FORM

Check if address changed

Date _____ New Renew

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Tel. (h) _____ (work) _____

PLEASE CHECK A COMMITTEE YOU ARE NOW ON OR WISH TO BE ON:

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor Facil. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fund Raising | <input type="checkbox"/> Banquet | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Secretarial duties | | |

DUES STRUCTURE:

- | | | |
|--|----------|-----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Junior (Under 16) | \$ 5.00 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular | \$ 15.00 | TOTAL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting | \$ 25.00 | ENCLOSED: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing | \$ 50.00 | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life | \$200.00 | |



Late Breaking News

**NOTICE!
LAST REMINDER!**

There are a few members who have not yet sent dues for 1996. Please send your renewal to:

CFFA
Box 380268, Silver Lane
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For membership renewals not received, this will be your last reminder and the last issue of Lines & Leaders.



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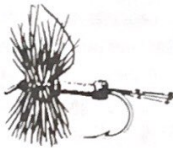
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Scrap Fly

Hook: #16 Wet Fly
Thread: Black
Tail: Aftershaft From Pheasant, Partridge, or Grouse
Body: Peacock Herl
Rib: Grizzly Hackle #14 or #16

- Tie the aftershaft on rear of hook keeping it flat with the concave side pointed down. The length should be about 3 to 4 hook lengths past the bend of the hook.
- Next secure 3 or 4 peacock herl fibers to rear 3/4 of the hook shank and right up to the butt of the aftershaft feather. This will form a smooth underbody for the herl when wrapped.
- Tie in a grizzly hackle securing the butt end to hook about 1/8" from rear of shank.
- Bring the thread back to the peacock butts and start wrapping the herl around the tying thread clockwise, six turns are plenty.
- Now start wrapping the herl and tying thread together around the shank making more wraps around the thread with each wrap around the shank. Two turns of the herl noodle around the shank will bring you up to the hackle butt.
- Continue wrapping to 1/16" behind eye of hook and tie off herl.
- Bring grizzly forward in a slightly open spiral to end of peacock herl. Tie off. Form a small head.

This fly works well in large slow moving pools in rivers and great in ponds and lakes fished with erratic 4 inch strips. About 15 years ago when I first started tying and fishing this fly, the aftershaft was considered scrap by most of us. Now they have become popular for emerger and pupa wings, gills on various nymphs, nymph bodies, leech bodies and trailing shucks.

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| CLASSES: | No. | Date | Subject |
|----------|-----|---------|--|
| | 1 | 3-07-96 | Rods, Reels and Lines |
| | 2 | 3-14-96 | Flies and Fish |
| | 3 | 3-21-96 | Water Types and How to Fish Them |
| | 4 | 3-28-96 | Leaders and Knots |
| | 5 | 4-13-96 | Casting Instruction and Fishing (Pond) |
| | 6 | 4-27-96 | Fishing a Stream with a CFFA guide |

LOCATION:

Classes 1,2,3,4 7:00pm, Veteran's Memorial Clubhouse, East Hartford, See Map below.
 Class 5 A private pond stocked with trout.
 Class 6 During this final session, students will fish the Willimantic River with a CFFA instructor and practice course techniques (approach, wading, stream reading, etc.) Note: Students must supply their own transportation and equipment, and have a valid Connecticut fishing license.

EQUIPMENT:

For class 5 only, CFFA will furnish equipment for students that do not own their own. We recommend that students do not purchase their own equipment until after Class 1. It is also suggested that students bring materials to take notes.

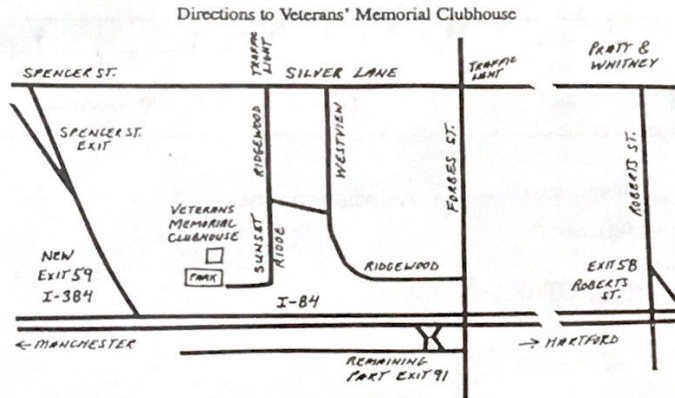
CLASS SIZE:

Average class size is 35 students.

TUITION:

CFFA members \$30.00, Non Members \$40.00, Sixteen years and under \$20.00

HOW TO GET THERE:



CFFA Fly Fishing School Enrollment Application

Please PRINT the requested information. Forward application forms and tuition (Checks payable to CFFA) to Gary Steinmiller, Education Chairman, 26 Pennwood Lane, Wethersfield, CT 06109

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Date: _____

CFFA Member _____ Yes _____ No

For additional information contact:

Ed Fidrych, V.P. Promotion, 951 Glastonbury Tnpk, Portland, CT 06480, Phone (203) 678-8233

Board of Directors

| | | Home | Office |
|-----------------------|-------------------|----------|----------|
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| Program Chairman | Vacant | | |
| Publicity Chairman | Ed Fidrych | 342-1173 | 566-8241 |
| 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.



FEBRUARY MEETING: Annual Banquet: Dave Whitlock FEBRUARY 10, 1996

Copy Deadline: Second Wednesday of month previous to publication



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