



# LINES & LEADERS

Newsletter of the Connecticut Fly Fishermen's Association

Volume 25, No.4

December 1997

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

## DECEMBER MEETING

### *A Year in the Life of a Fly Fisherman*

*Jeff Passante*

Our speaker for the month will be **Jeff Passante**. Jeff was the president of the Housatonic Fly Fishermen's Association for five years and is still an active board member. He is a well accomplished fly fisherman and has had several articles published both locally and on a national level.

His program, "A Year in the Life of a Fly Fisherman," has received great reviews throughout the fly fishing community. Jeff is in high demand and we are very lucky to have him as our speaker this month.

**PLACE:** Veteran's Memorial Club House  
Sunset Ridge, East Hartford  
**DATE:** Wednesday, December 10  
**TIME:** Fly Tying - 7:00 pm  
Program - 7:30 pm

## TIME'S RUNNING OUT...

### REMINDER!!

Attention all CFFA Members...it is time to renew your membership for the upcoming year. Please fill out the enclosed form (on Page 6), include a check or give it to Bob Quinn at the next club meeting. It is very important that this form be returned to ensure that we have your correct address and telephone number. A pre-addressed envelope is provided for you. 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 your membership status, you can call Bob. His number is on the last page of the newsletter. If you have already paid your dues or are a lifetime member, thank you for your support and please disregard this notice.

## From the Vest of the President



Paul Morrissey, our November scheduled speaker, was unable to make our meeting due to health problems. All of us at C.F.F.A. wish him well and hope to meet him at a later date when he's feeling better.

I haven't done any freshwater fishing since I came back from Maine and have only been in the salt once. I guess the season is winding down, for me anyway. So I've started cleaning up my fly tying bench and sorting out materials that I haven't put away since last March when the season started for me. If the golden rule in real estate is "location, location, location," then for fly fisherman it must be "sort, sort, sort." Cleaning out the fishing bags is my next project, if only to see what's in them. I always seem to find a couple of bags of goodies that I bought at some distant fly shop. Then I sit and wonder why I purchased the stuff in the first place. Then I sort some more.

Jack Smola and Don Rose power-washed the rearing pool. There should be trout in it as I write. I don't know how many fish are going in, but usually the state gives us about one hundred and fifty to two hundred. They should be nice and fat by the time spring rolls around and hungry for woolly buggers. Thanks, guys.

Our expo and banquet will be here fast. February 21, 1998 is the date. A. K. Best will be giving a fly tying class in the morning. I will be passing around a sign up sheet at the December meeting. The class is an hour and a half and will cost between twenty and thirty dollars. Club members get priority. The class is limited to ten people. If we get more, I will phone A.K. Best and try to set up another class. He's going to be with us for the day so I don't see a problem with a second class. If you're not going to make the December meeting, call me or Larry Johnson to sign up. We will need a deposit by February 1, 1998. The price for the class and the deposit will be set at the next board meeting, so call after that or come to the general meeting to find out the final details. Check Lines and Leaders calendar for meeting dates.

Thanks,  
Charlie Place

Lines & Leaders



**Nominating Committee** - Our annual elections are coming up in January. Mike Stewart, Charlie Place, Gary Steinmiller and Bob Quinn have volunteered to be the nominating committee. If you have a desire to take a more active role in guiding the direction of the membership, let any one of these folks know. Of course, you can also talk to any Board member. Ed.

**COMING EVENTS**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| CFFA Board Meeting  | 3 Dec 97                                      |
| CFFA Membership Meeting   | 10 Dec 97                                     |
| Rod Building School   | 10 Dec 97,<br>8, 15, 22, 29 Jan<br>& 5 Feb 98 |
| Fly Tying School  | 8, 15, 22, 29 Jan<br>& 5, 12 Feb 98           |
| CFFA Board Meeting  | 7 Jan 98                                      |
| Southern CT Fly Fishing Show  | 10 Jan 98                                     |
| Hammonasset Chapter TU, Westbrook<br>Elks Club, 142 Seaside Dr, Westbrook<br>10:00-5:00 |   |
| Fly Fishing Show  | 23-25 Jan 98                                  |
| Garden State Exhibition Center<br>Somerset NJ. For info call 800-420-7582               |   |
| <i>Fly Fishing Expo, A.K. Best</i>  | <i>21 Feb 98</i>                              |
| <i>Annual Banquet, A.K. Best</i>  | <i>21 Feb 98</i>                              |
| Fly Fishing School  | 5, 12, 19, 26<br>Mar, 11 & 25<br>April, 98    |
| CMTA Fishing Show, Hartford   | 26-29 Mar 98                                  |

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**New Members**

The CFFA would like to welcome the following new members:

- |                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Phillip D. Griffin | Gene J. Raibeck |
| Rachel Salowitz    | Blair Howe      |

You 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 Line & Leaders are most welcomed. Ed

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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)

**Albacore Fever - The Sequel**

by Ernie Boutiette



Salt water fishermen wait all year for the Albacore to show up. This year, Jerry Wade and I decided to bring his trailer down a couple weeks early to avoid the high winds and cold that show up in October. We set up the trailer, went grocery shopping, and visited friends. Although we would have only about 2 1/2 hours of evening fishing, we motored

out to the reef. When we got there, all hell broke loose. Albacore were breaking everywhere. Very hungry fish as we were hooking up at almost every cast. The guides told us that it was the first time that they showed up in the Sound.

The next morning, with only a coffee, back to the reef. Ditto. Fish everywhere and again fish on constantly. Only two other boats, as the word had not got out yet. It was so hot that we went in during the day; but back at the reef in the evening. Same as before, fish everywhere and smashing our fly. We used a modified White Deceiver that I tie.

The word finally got around and next morning, counted 22 boats and all hooking up. The Deceiver worked for two days. We then changed to Jerry Wade's Copper Top, which we used until the end of the week. Page Rogers fished with us on the third day and boated 19 fish on her fly pattern. We had five doubles this day. We fished only about six hours a day, and Jerry and I boated 70 Albacore plus or minus. At times, they came so fast that we quit counting after we got to 40. More Albacore in this week than in a lifetime. Sometimes the fishing god smiles on you.

One day the tide was dead low at 5:00pm, and the ocean was as smooth as glass, the worst of conditions. But, we decided to go out and cruise around instead of hanging round the trailer. No birds and the ocean looked bare of fish; but we boated 10 Albacore. The weather god also smiled on us, as each day it was calm and we fished in tee-shirts. (The following week, as I write this, the temperature has not got out of the 60's!). A trip to remember!

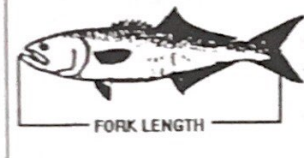
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- 2 tapes per person.
- \$2 per tape per month.
- Return at fly tying classes, board meetings, monthly meetings, etc. - to any Board member.
- \$2 late fee per tape per month.
- Will only be rented at monthly meetings.
- First come first served.

### Age, Length & Weight of Bluefish

Fork Length in Inches



INCH Fork	LBS	AGE (YRS)	CLASS YEAR
6	0.3	1	1996
13.5	1.3	2	1995
18	2.9	3	1994
22	4.8	4	1993
24	7.0	5	1992
27	9.2	6	1991
28.5	11.1	7	1990
30	12.7	8	1989
31	13.9	9	1988
32	15.1	10	1987
32.5	16.1	11	1986
33	16.8	12	1985
33.5	17.7	13	1984
34	18.6	14	1983

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## CFFA Annual Banquet - 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Plans are proceeding quite rapidly in preparation for all the festivities. **A. K. Best** will be coming for the banquet as the prime speaker. His program is titled, "Matching the Naturals - Not the Hatch." During the evening's banquet we will have our conservation raffle.

In addition we will have our publication, **The Flyfisher's Companion** on hand for anyone wishing to obtain a copy.

Please keep in mind that the banquet is the prime means of fund raising for the CFFA. Bring your friends and family. Your support is greatly needed. In addition, the banquet is a tremendous opportunity to enjoy an excellent meal, renew acquaintances and talk fishing (the latest inside tips are available just for the asking).

Keep an eye out for the next month's Lines & Leaders for the Banquet Reservation Form.

See you there!

**FOR SALE: Fly Rods & Rod Cases**

Sage RPL 9' 8 wt 2 piece - Ideal rod for bonefish, schoolies, bonito, blues, small salmon & pike. With tube. Mint Condition. \$250.

Sage RPL 10' 7 wt 3 piece - (custom) saltwater components. Nice shore rod for schoolies & shad. Mint. \$250.

Sage RPL 10' 9 wt 3 piece - (custom - Titanium Guides) Mint. Perfect stick for shore, canoe, float tube. \$250.

Fisher "Presidential III" 9' 9 wt 3 piece - New - Never fished. Versatile travel rod with tube. \$275 (A \$450 value!).

Two DB Dunn Oval "Bombproof" Cordura Rod Cases for 3 piece rods up to 9-1/2'. Each case holds 8 - 10 rods in rod socks. Color: Red with leather bottom. \$50 each.

Two DB Dunn Rod & Reel Holsters. Cordura covered tube, thick fleece lined reel cover. Chocolate lab color with leather tip protector for 2 piece rods up to 10'. Mint \$50 each.

**Call Page Rogers, 860-267-0287, on any of the above.**



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- ▶ The 5th Annual Women's Salmon Derby at Painter's Lodge in British Columbia
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- ▶ A book excerpt from Mallory Burton's highly-acclaimed *Reading the Water: Stories and Essays of Flyfishing and Life*
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#### DUES STRUCTURE

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Junior (under 16) | \$ 5.00  |           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular           | \$ 15.00 | TOTAL     |
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**Connecticut Fly Fishermen's Association  
Presents  
Beginning Fly Tying, Saltwater Fly Tying, Rod Building Schools**

**Classes:** Classes will meet downstairs at Veteran's Memorial Clubhouse, Sunset Ridge Drive, East Hartford, at 7:00pm on the following evenings: Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29, and February 5 and 12, 1998

**Beginning Fly Tying**

**Saltwater Fly Tying**

- Class:**
1. Marabou Leech, Wooly Bugger
  2. Dark Cahill, Soft Hackle
  3. Tellico, Hare's Ear Nymph
  4. Blue Wing Olive, Light Cahill
  5. Poly Spinner, Hen Wing Spinner
  6. Black Ant, Deer Hair Bug

- Honey Blond, Hy Tye  
Surf Candy, Squid,  
Clouser's Minnow, Cross Cut Deceiver  
Lefty's Deceiver, Whistler  
Epoxy Shrimp, Slider  
Bob's Banger, Sand Eel

**Equipment:** All necessary hooks and materials will be furnished. Students must supply their own vise, bobbin, thread, scissors, etc. It is also suggested you bring a portable lamp with you.

**Class Size:** Fly Tying classes limited to the first 25 people submitting applications for each class.

**Tuition:** Fly Tying class: CFFA Members - \$35; Non-Members - \$45; 16 & Under - \$25

**ROD BUILDING CLASS**

**Instructor:** E.F. Roberts, Custom Rodmaker

**Rod Selection:** 7 foot (3/4 line) Graphite • 8 foot (5/6/ line) Graphite • 9 foot (7/8/ line) Graphite

You may build a rod of your choice if you make an early decision to enter the class. Ed Roberts can be reached at 651-8402 between 5:00 and 8:00 pm to answer any questions relative to rod selection and material cost.

**Class Size:** Limited to the first 10 people submitting applications. Must submit application and make rod selection by November 26, 1997. First meeting will be after the membership meeting on 10 December, 1997.

**Tuition:** CFFA Members - \$15; Non-Members - \$20

-----  
**CFFA Enrollment Application**

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

CFFA Member \_\_\_\_\_ ( Yes ) / \_\_\_\_\_ ( No )                      16 or under \_\_\_\_\_

Check one 1. \_\_\_ Beginning Fly Tying   2. \_\_\_ Saltwater Fly Tying   3. \_\_\_ Rod Building

Rod Selection, circle one:   7 foot      8 foot      9 foot

For additional information contact Ed Fidrych, V.P. Promotion, 951 Glastonbury Turnpike, Portland CT 06480  
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**DECEMBER MEETING: A Year in the Life of a Fly Fisherman - Jeff Passante  
 Wednesday, December 10, 1997**

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	email:	TarponTed@aol.com	
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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, 215 Loomis Street, North Granby, CT 06060. Change of address notices should be sent to CFFA, P.O. Box 380260, East Hartford, CT 06138-0268.

**COPY DEADLINE:** Second Wednesday of month previous to publication.

**CFFA Hotline: John Springer - ☎ 664-3688 email: AMTRKANGLR@aol.com**