



LINES & LEADERS

Newsletter of the Connecticut Fly Fishermen's Association

Volume 24, No. 9

May 1997

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

MAY MEETING

Fly Fishing Montana Lakes and Ponds Dr. Carl Sieracki

Dr. Sieracki has written several articles for **Fly Rod and Reel** magazine and for **Fly Fishing** magazine. He also writes historical articles for a local newspaper. His program for our May meeting will be on "Fly Fishing Montana Lakes and Ponds." Carl's presentation will not be one hundred percent Montana. There will be some very interesting surprises.

PLACE: Veterans Memorial Clubhouse
Sunset Ridge, E. Hartford, CT

DATE: Wednesday, May 14

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



Connecticut Guide for Fishing, Boating Swimming...and Fun!

FREE For those looking forward to days spent in, on or around the water, there's a new, free **Waters Guide**. It features a keyed-map to 40 lakes and ponds, and 33 rivers and streams in the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers regions of Connecticut. These waterways and recreational areas are easily accessible from Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New York.

The guide, published with support from the Partnership Program of the Quinebaug Shetucket Heritage Corridor Inc., includes detailed information about boating, swimming, fishing and other recreational activities. The **Waters Guide** also includes tidbits about what kind of fish you can catch at different sites—trout, sunfish, largemouth bass and more—and lists areas especially for children, as well as sites with wheelchair access.

And of course there's information about boating and swimming, along with tours of hydro-power dams, and suggestions for where to find beautiful waterfalls. There's also a listing of places for renting boats and canoes, and information about overnight lodgings, and campgrounds.

For a free copy of the **Waters Guide** call (860) 928-1228. Or write: Connecticut's Quiet Corner, P.O. Box 598, Putnam, CT 06260-0598. An order form is also available on the Quiet Corner Homepage at www.webtravels.com/quietcorner.

From the Vest of the President



Geez, our last membership meeting for this season is already here. After our May meeting there won't be another until September. CFFA board meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month, except for the month of July. All members are welcome to attend. They are business meetings, but fishing stories do manage to slip in.

The good news is that fishing season is just starting to heat up. I'm really looking forward to it. By the time you read this, I hope to have caught a few trout on Hendrickson duns, and a few on spinners too. I'm also looking forward to going on the club's Cape trip. The stripers always seem to be in a cooperative mood at the Cape in June.

To say that the April program was a rousing success would be an understatement. The one hundred plus members that attended had a great time and learned from eight of the best tyers in the country. George Degen organized the program, so all the credit goes to him. *Thanks George!*

I spent some time at our fly fishing school's casting class Saturday, April 12th. I must say that I was impressed with the students and the instructors. After a couple of hours, you could look around the pond and watch the sixteen students casting on their own, and they were good. One of the best classes I've seen. We are lucky to have Gary Steinmiller as our Education Chairman.

One of the nicest things about CFFA is the number of active members that we have. There are many, many, members that do a lot of the so called "little things" that make our organization so special. A half hour here or an hour there of volunteer time add up to a lot of good things being accomplished. So, way to go guys! Keep up the good work.

Please call the CFFA hotline. Remember we're to keep John Springer busy with fishing information. Remember to send some articles or fishing tips or anything that would be of interest to our members to Lines and Leaders. *(The address is on the last page of this newsletter. Ed)*

If I don't see you at the May meeting, then I hope to run into you on a stream somewhere. Thanks for coming to the meetings and thanks for being a member of CFFA.

Charlie Place



Fly Fishing School - This year's school was another success. Sixteen students participated this year, one was a junior.

Everyone had a good time. Thanks go out to the following for their help this year. I apologize if I missed anyone.

Gary Steinmiller	Charlie Place	Ernie Boutiette
Mark Philippe	Gary Bogli	Myron Schulman
Ted Rzepiski	Dick Heffernon	Jerry Wade

FOR SALE: *Fly Tyer* magazines: Send self-addressed, stamped envelope for complete list and price to: Elmer Latham, 70 Northfield Rd., Coventry, CT 06238

WANTED: Looking for reels with disc drags that will handle 4 and 7 weight rods. Please call Jeff Mickiewicz, 860-749-8713.

MORE FISHING SHOW THANK YOU'S: The following were also very helpful in volunteering their time in making this year's success at CFFA's booth during the Fishing Show at the Aero Center:

George Degen	Ernie Boutiette	John Blake
Jack Smola	Ted Rzepiski	

ADDITIONAL OPENINGS FOR CAPE COD FISHING TRIP:

A few additional openings are available for 14-15 June 1997 at Falmouth Heights, Cape Cod. Please call Larry Johnson at 860-246-0728 for reservations.



COMING EVENTS

CFFA Board Meeting	7 May 97
CFFA Membership Meeting, Dr. Carl Sieracki	14 May 97
Riversplash, Simsbury, 10am-6pm	7 June 97
CFFA Trip, Falmouth Heights Cape Cod	7-8 & 14-15 Jun
International Fly Fishing Conclave Grand Rapids, MI. Contact National FFF Office 406-585-7592, or Show Chairman Bill Halls, 1289 N. Seymour Rd, Flushing, MI 48433	5-10 Aug 97
CFFA Board Meeting	4 June 97
CFFA Board Meeting	6 Aug 97
CFFA Board Meeting	3 Sep 97
CFFA Membership Meeting	10 Sep 97



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My Yearly Saltwater Fly Sale

Includes Deceivers, Clousers, Whistlers, Bunny Flies, Albacore and Bonito Flies: Twenty for \$25.00. Poppers & Squid Flies: \$2.00 each. Also indestructible Pike Flies: \$3.00 each. Also proven flies for fishing the Cape Ponds.

Also, 9-1/2 foot 10 weight Saltwater Fly Rod made from Scott blanks. Best of hardware: \$200.00. It's a \$450.00 value!

Call Ernest Boutiette, 860-289-3605.

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)

Fishing the Internet - by John Springer



A while back I read a story about one person's thoughts on computers and the Internet. This person had nothing good to say about either one and felt they had no place in fishing. I'd like to tell you how much more enjoyable and productive they have made my life. There was a time when I said we would never have a computer in our house. After my friend Jeff Passante showed me CompuServe and the Fishing Forum, I was hooked.

I went home and told my wife to get her word processor hooked up NOW! I had to have this. She laughed at me and proceeded to tell me that it would take several things to enable me to do that. Modems, upgrades and super VGA meant nothing to me. However, I found out fast what they meant and what they cost. For the price of a new rod and reel I was set to go. Initially I made mistakes and went to the wrong places and my "time on-line" added up. But after a month of mistakes, like lost messages and misplaced files, I got the hang of it. I began to meet new people and talk about places you never read about in fly fishing magazines.

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 month.
- Will only be rented at monthly meetings.
- First come first served.
- Rented after meetings at coffee table.

To best describe the Internet and the people you meet I would compare it to joining a new fishing club and meeting new people there. You might get one or two people that will come up and say "hello" but the majority you don't meet till you go to some kind of club function or help out on a committee. There are some people that don't turn out to be what you thought but this is like life itself.



We have fly swaps during the winter where some groups of us send a dozen flies to a fellow name Harry Mason in California. Harry divides the flies up and sends us back a dozen different flies. You'd be surprised how many different flies I have used doing this. You end up chatting with these people and learn where they had success with the fly and how they developed it.

As far as getting up-to-date and honest fishing information on a river you are going to, you can't beat the Internet. Since it is worldwide there is always someone that has been where you are going and can tell you something about it. Two falls ago I was headed to the Delaware River and had only been up there once and did not do well. I posted a message in the fishing forum and the next day was answered by a fellow fly slinger who lives up that way and fishes the river always. Unfortunately I never made that trip but Gary Sweet and I stayed in touch during the winter and in the spring we got together on the Beaverkill and fished for a day. After meeting him I made plans to go to his home and fish his local spots. This meeting on-line has developed into a friendship between two anglers that otherwise never would have happened.

At this time I might advise that I would never go to someone's house that I met on-line till I met them at a public place to see them. I guess you could compare it to

Fishing the Internet - continued

a blind date - always meet in a public place, and it's better for everyone involved.

I am in the Connecticut Rhode Island Salt Water Club and there are now 17 of us "on-line" and when we go out fishing we post a brief description of how we did and where we went and what flies were working. This beats any information you can get out of a fly shop or asking one or two people that you know have been out. In our little circle of "on-liner's" I have gone fishing for big trout during the Hex hatch. Very few people know that this hatch takes place in Rhode Island in a certain area. Lou Dutra knew of it and liked to fish it though it takes place just before dark on hot muggy nights. Lou told me that not many people wanted to fish the hatch because you had to go into the wilds of Rhode Island in the dark. After you finished fishing, you had to find your way down the river in a canoe back to your car. We had a blast and even got to do it a second time before the hatch was over.



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Ted Hendrickson introduced me to fishing for stripers in the Thames and Pawcatuck Rivers. He showed me a special color of tinsel he adds to his flies for the Pawcatuck River because of its "tea" color.

There are three people in Germany that I chat with that I may never meet. I have learned about the different rules for fishing and what kinds of fish they fish for in Europe. My on-line chats with these people extends beyond fishing and we end up talking about many other subjects. E-Mail has kept me closer in touch with many people that live in other states or are a toll call. I could never afford to call all the time and would never take the time to write a letter and mail it. It is so quick to just send out a short note and push "send" and it's done.

Through the fishing forum that I am in, when I asked for donations for my kids program last year several people responded. One sent me money for an outfit, another sent me an outfit he did not use anymore, and I got most of my fish hooks from another. People that I asked in person, or who read about what I do in club newsletters,

were very generous to me; but these three people I would have never met.

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This story could not have ended without me talking about sex. This is all you read about in the newspaper or hear about on TV. At the time I wrote this story I did a test and these are the results. When you want to find something on the Web, you use a search engine - this is what goes out and finds subject matter. After putting in the word "sex," I found there were 45,270 documents. 'Food' was 91,570 and 'plastic' was 24,853. So you can see where sex fits in. I might add that the word 'sport' has 135,629 documents on the subject. Kind at gives you an idea of where people's minds are at. I want to thank my wife for showing me how to use a computer and my good friend Jeff Passante for getting me started. Perhaps I will see you on the Internet. My address is now AMTRKANGLR@aol.com.

Alaska Fishing Trip

August 22-31, 1997, 8 days/7 nights accommodations at Fishing Lodge - all meals. 2-3 spots available. If interested call Phil at 203-888-4383.

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"I've Been Fishing The Hard Way"

by KevGleas@aol.com

One day my father was blue fishing, when we caught a big fish. My dad was cleaning it over the side of the boat when he dropped it into the water. He kicked off his shoes, took off his sunglasses and jumped in. My dad got the fish and brought it aboard. Meanwhile, on the other side of the boat, another boat drove past. All the guy in the boat saw was my dad jump in and bring up the fish. As he drove by with an amazed look on his face, we heard him say, "and for all this time I've been fishing the hard way!"



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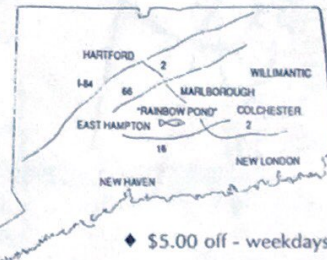
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Connecticut Saltwater Flyfishing--Accurate Access #4
by George Jacobi

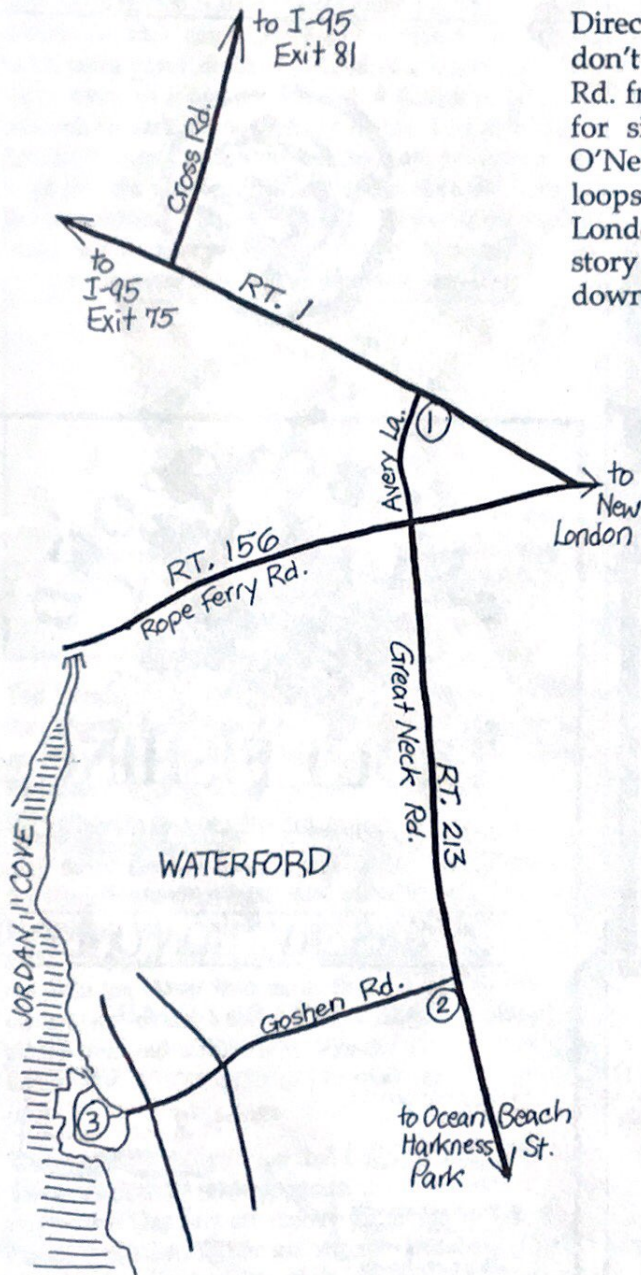
Pleasure Beach State Boat Launch

- Key: (1) Waterford Police Station
(2) Great Neck School
(3) Parking area

Directions: A tough place to get to if you don't know the area. Follow Rte 1 or Cross Rd. from I-95, or Rte. 156 from Niantic. Look for signs for Harkness State Park and the O'Neill Theatre. Turn onto Rte. 213, which loops around and back to central New London. Right at Great Neck School, an old 2-story bldg., and then just go straight ahead down to the parking area.

A small group of ledges and stone formations to the left of the boat launch are the only places to fish. It drops into fairly deep water -- no wading. Why come here? It's the only shore spot that's open to public fishing where you can consistently find bonito and false albacore in Connecticut. Try an incoming tide in the morning in September or October.

Crowded on weekends.



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:

- Conservation Program Indoor Facil.
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DUES STRUCTURE:

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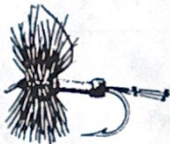
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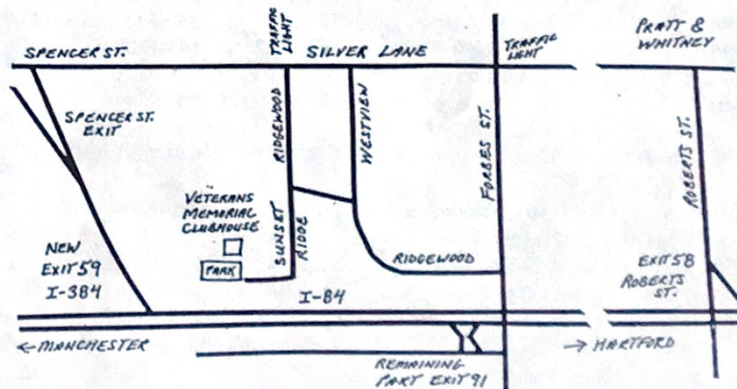


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MAY MEETING: Flyfishing Montana Lakes and Ponds - Dr. Carl Sieracki
- May 14, 1997

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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, East Hartford, CT 06138-0268.

COPY DEADLINE: Second Wednesday of month previous to publication.