



# LINES & LEADERS

Newsletter of the Connecticut Fly Fishermen's Association  
Volume 26, No. 3  
November 1998

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

## NOVEMBER MEETING

*Fishing our Local Rivers*  
*Dr. Carl Sieracki*

Dr. Sieracki has done some interesting programs for us in the past and this should be another one. His fishing program will be about fishing our local rivers; The Farmington, Housatonic, Willimantic and the Deerfield Rivers.

For fishermen, new and old, who always fish the same stretch of river this will be an opportunity to learn about new rivers and new pools from one of our most knowledgeable local fishermen.

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

DATE: Thursday, November 12  
TIME: Fly Tying 7:00 p.m.  
Program - 7:30 p.m.

## ATTENTION ALL CFFA MEMBERS!

It is time to renew your membership for the upcoming year. Please fill out the enclosed form (on Page 5), 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.



Did everybody notice that in last month's newsletter there was a date change for the November meeting? November 11<sup>th</sup> is Veteran's Day and the clubhouse is closed. The general membership meeting date has been changed to

Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup>.

We have another Thursday meeting that will be coming up on February 25, 1999. Our guest speaker for that evening will be Gary LaFontaine. Gary is a club member and a past board member, so of course he holds a special place in our hearts here at CFFA. It's odd how things turn out. I had already had informal discussions with several board members about having Gary come to Connecticut for a meeting rather than the banquet. The reason is that a general meeting is much less structured than a banquet. Putting it simply, we get more time to spend with Gary in a more relaxed atmosphere. So when an opportunity came up, we booked Thursday, February 25, 1999, at the clubhouse as an extra meeting. It gets better - we shouldn't have any club business to attend to. So our plans are to introduce Gary and let him take it from there.

Gary is going to be featured at the CMTA Fishing show at the Hartford Civic Center in February, along with a number of other top anglers. CFFA will be participating too. We'll have plenty more to say about the exciting new show in future issues of Lines and Leaders.

It was decided at October's board meeting to make a change for our September outing at the Cape. The fishing has not been good. Ray Reily has already done some checking with local anglers up there and found out that October would be a much better month for striper fishing. The bad news is that we probably will not be able to stay at the Moorings. So Ray is checking on places to stay also. More news about this as it becomes available. Thanks, Ray.

Here is some more good news. Gary Steinmiller will be staying on as our Education Chairman. Everybody knows what a good job Gary has done with our schools. Jack Smola will be running our expo in February. Jack ran the last one and it was the best ever. I haven't talked to the rest of the guys yet, but I don't expect any major changes.

Lastly, you should find out what the DEP has decided to do about the problems with the salmon fishing on the Shetucket and Naugatuck rivers in this issue. Read it carefully and we'll discuss it at our November meeting - as to what our position may be. It's up to you.

Charlie



## Club News

year.

**Membership** - We are currently at 327 members which is an excellent position for membership at this time of

**Willi Stocking** - The Rainbows from the rearing pool (about 200 fish) were stocked in the Willi on 8 Oct.

**For Sale** - An outstanding opportunity!!! 5 Barrels (30 Gal size) of fur and hair, moth-free tying materials. Will sell as one lot for reasonable offer. Call Walt Telke, 860-628-6055 for Inventory List.

**For Sale, Saltwater Fly Rod** - Lamiglass 8/9 Wgt, 9 ft. Two piece with an extra (7 or 8 inch) fighting butt that can be replaced with the standard 2 inch butt. \$125. Call Patrick Brady, 203-755-2833.

### COMING EVENTS

American Museum of Fly Fishing, Dinner Auction, Farmington Marriott, Info: 802-362-3300	5 Nov 98
CFFA Board Meeting	4 Nov 98
CFFA Membership Meeting <b>NOTE DATE CHANGE!!</b>	12 Nov 98
Fly Tying Show, NJ	Nov 98
The Fly Fishing Show, Garden State Exhibit Center, Somerset, NJ	29-31 Jan 99
The Fly Fishing Show, Royal Plaza Trade Center, Marlborough, MA	13-14 Feb 99
CFFA Expo, The Colony, Vernon	20 Feb 99
CFFA Banquet, The Colony, Vernon	20 Feb 99
CMTA Fishing Show, Civic Center	25-28 Feb 99
World Fly Fishing Expo, Wilmington, MA	13-14 Mar 99

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## Just for the Fun of It!

### Martha's Vineyard Rod & Gun Club Striped Bass Fly Rod Catch & Release Tournament

By Gary Bogli

For years my buddy Bill and I have wanted to take part in this annual spring event. June 1997 was our chance. Finally the date and the winter, not too many snow days, worked in our favor. We had been planning months in advance by getting ferry reservations and securing the use of a lovely cape in Edgartown. The only other catch (besides fish) was that we agreed to paint the 20 or so screens on the very comfortable port of the cape. They took two coats and more time than we anticipated. The job went smoothly until I flipped the last screen to paint the back and hit it on the corner of the table, tearing it. The last screen, can you believe it? We did manage to fish a few times prior to the tournament and I landed a 34" striper on my new Orville rod which was presented to me as a retirement gift. Overall, I have to admit Bill caught more.

Part of the process of scouting out this tournament is to visit the local fly shops. We chose Coops and Larry's. Both have an outstanding selection of equipment, flies and materials. Best of all, they have the knowledge and are willing to share, which is even more important. At Larry's we met "bonito" Ed Lepore, a member of CFFA. Ed is famous, or maybe more accurately, infamous as an excellent fisherman and fly tyer. He lives with his wife in a trailer in one of the campgrounds on the Vineyard all summer and fall. I'll have more to say about Ed later.

This tournament is unique in many ways: you are randomly paired with an Islander or experienced Martha's Vineyard fisherman, making it a team event; you fish from 7PM until 2AM Saturday night; everyone entered and attending the Sunday breakfast is eligible to win one of the myriad of marvelous prizes; and winners of the different categories get plaques. There are no losers - the registration fee of \$25 goes to sponsor numerous youth oriented causes on the island. There is a new twist this year, as only fish over 20" can be entered. You can only fish beaches accessible to the public and no boats may be used to get to unwadable waters. Your partner measures and records all your fish. There are three categories: most fish caught over 20", largest fish of at least 34", and single fly. In the last category you must use the same fly all night so if a blue bites you off your are done, except you may still fish for the largest.

On Saturday afternoon, 265 excited fishermen gathered at the high school and anxiously listened to see who their partner would be. This piscatorial gathering presented an amazing variety of fly fishing tee shirts which would

make an interesting pictorial essay. I was so eager that when they were reading the pairings I misunderstood and met the wrong partner. My real partner turned out to be Mark Lovewell, the fishing editor of the Vineyard Gazette. We agreed to meet later and Bill and I went off to grab a meal and make final preparations. As it turned out, Mark had not been fly fishing too long but was a genial host and brought along his very enthused 15 year old son. We headed up island to Lobsterville, along with many others, and managed to find a parking place (parking is very limited at Lobsterville.) The fishing was slow. I think I caught and released one or two fish, nothing big. About 10PM we decided to try a different spot. As we were walking to his truck, we noticed a lot of activity. We were approached by a local constable who asked if we had seen a young boy in a canoe. It seems the boy had gone out from the beach near his home and was missing. There had been a steady southwest wind that evening, making fishing tough and canoeing even tougher.



Tragically the young man drowned. This incident has left me with a haunting memory of an otherwise wonderful evening. Our next stop was to Vineyard Haven to a beach just beyond the drawbridge on the way to Oak Bluffs. Again I picked up a couple more small fish. Unfortunately Mark had not caught any yet. After an hour or so we went on to West Chop and clambered down among the rocks, but to no avail. Our last stop was the ferry dock at Oak Bluffs. This had been the site of the previous year's winning catch, but it wouldn't be this year. The wind was difficult and the wading even more challenging. Mark's son caught a couple and Mark finally landed one. It was not 2AM, time to quit and get some rest.

Sunday morning breakfast is served from 7AM until 10AM. Bill and I were both famished and enjoyed the hearty offerings of pancakes, eggs, bacon, juice and coffee. The breakfast is put on by the high school culinary arts students. During this breakfast interlude, the banter was lively with everyone sharing tales of the past evening. 1,233 bass were caught and released. The largest was 45.25 x 24.25", the most caught was 69 and the most caught on one fly was 54. Forty-two of the latter were caught by Ed Lapore on his Black Epoxy Sandeel. Incidentally, Don MacGillivray, one of the partners who caught 69, also used Ed's fly. It was a fun event and I am looking forward to doing it again this year. If you want more information and an application you can contact Catch & Release, M.V. Rod & Gun Club, P.O. Box 1799, Edgartown, MA 02539. Interested in Ed's pattern? I thought you would be, so I asked Ed's permission and here it is:

**Instructions:**

- Thread: White flat mono or other suitable white thread  
 Hook: Eagle Claw 066 2x long or Mustad #2 34011  
 Tail: Craft fur black over white with some flashabou in between  
 Body: Clear or white EZ body or 1/4" Corsair tubing coated with epoxy, or I tried Softex and like the outcome but don't know about the durability  
 Eyes: #2 silver and black stick-on

1. Attach thread and tie on white fly fur extending 1 to 1 1/2" beyond the bend. Cover the hook shank if it is long enough to add bulk.
2. Add flashabou over which you tie black craft fur as in #1.
3. Slide tubing over shank and tie off at front, forming a head.
4. Color the back with a black permanent marker.
5. Coat body with a thin coat of epoxy or Soflex.
6. When dry, add eyes and a red gill line and finish with a second coat.
7. The upper body is colored with black permanent marker and #2 silver and black stick on eyes and a red gill line are added after one thin coat of epoxy. After the first coat dries, a second thin coat is added.

Fish it in good health and good luck!



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**NOTICE**

**Surplus Atlantic Salmon Broodstock Shetucket and Naugatuck River Fishery**

The DEP is expected to hold a public information meeting in the near future. The date has not been announced but we expect it to be some time in November 1998. At this meeting the following DEP proposed recommendations will be discussed:

- Continue stocking of all surplus domestic Atlantic salmon broodstock raised at the Kensington Hatchery in rivers that have suitable habitat and access.
- Expand angling methods to include spin fishing using a single hook artificial lure beginning in the fall of 1999.
- Designate separate areas for fly fishing and spin fishing.
- Restrict angling in salmon open areas to either fly fishing or single hook artificial lures (applicable to all species) during the fall/winter salmon season Oct 1 – Mar 31 to minimize angler conflict.
- Designate new open areas to accommodate increased angler participation and to ensure equitable opportunity for spin and fly fishers.
- In 1999, equally distribute the salmon broodstock to the fly and spin fishing areas. After 1999, the number of fish released in each area will be based on angler participation as measured by a creel survey.
- Consider options to maximize angling and catch opportunities including, but not limited to:
  - 1) Delayed harvest, i.e., a catch & release period followed by a harvest period;
  - 2) A season harvest limit of two fish (note: currently there is a one fish per day creel limit and no season limit).
- Consider expansion of the fishery to include selected lakes using surplus broodstock that may be available from federal hatcheries.

**Membership Form**

Check if address changed

Date \_\_\_\_\_  New  Renewal

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_

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

- Conservation       Program       Indoor Facil.
- Education       Publicity       Membership
- Fund Raising       Banquet       Legislative
- Secretarial Duties

**DUES STRUCTURE**

- Junior (under 16)      \$ 5.00
- Regular      \$ 15.00      TOTAL
- Supporting      \$ 25.00      ENCLOSED:
- Contributing      \$ 50.00
- Life      \$200.00      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**NEW MEMBERS!**

The CFFA would like to welcome the following new members:

**Liam Rosati      Tim Lemons**

You folks are encouraged to participate in all the activities the 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.

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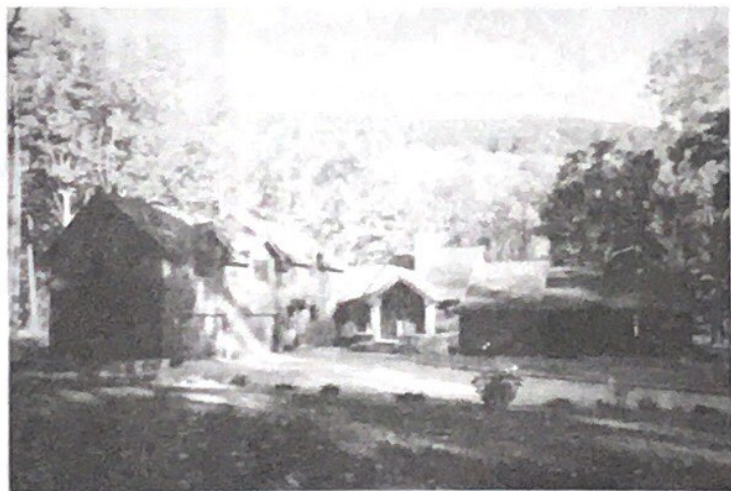
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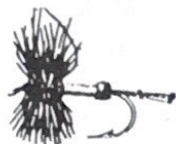
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**FISHING CONDITIONS  
HOTLINE NUMBERS**



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)



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**NOV. MEETING: Fishing Local Waters - Dr. Carl Sieracki - Thu., Nov. 12**

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Publicity Chairman	Ed Fidrych	342-1173	566-8241

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**