



# LINES & LEADERS

Newsletter of the Connecticut Fly Fishermen's Association  
Volume 27, No. 1  
September 1999

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

## SEPTEMBER MEETING

Ed Mitchell  
Bonito & Little Tunny

Our guest speaker for September is a very well-known saltwater fly rodder and the author of "Fly Rodding the Coast," Ed Mitchell. Ed is very involved in the conservation groups and helped found the Connecticut chapter of the Coastal Conservation Association and was its first president. He is also a lecturer and freelance writer for all the major fly fishing magazines. Ed is a great speaker and fisherman.

We can all learn something from his program. So bring a friend and come tell all your new fish stories.

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

**DATE:** Wednesday, 8 Sep

**TIME:** Fly Tying - 7:00 p.m.  
Program - 7:30 p.m.



## FROM THE VEST OF THE PRESIDENT

I went on both of the Cape Cod fishing trips this year. It was fun as usual, and the stripers were cooperative. I even caught a fluke on a Clouser. I think it was a keeper, but since we release everything, I don't pay any attention to legal size limits. I guess it's one of the side benefits of catch and release. You don't have to know what the legal limit is. I suppose you could bring the regulation book with you, but I guess I just don't feel like it.

As I said, the stripers were cooperative, but you had to be an early bird. Larry Johnson and I went to Great Pond at 3 am. one Sunday morning. Getting up wasn't easy since we had stayed up until midnight telling and listening to fish stories on the front porch. It seems that the closer to midnight it gets the larger the fish become. We set the alarm clock on; "if you don't get up I'll drive you crazy." It works. The alarm clock did bounce off the floor a couple of times. Hardy little bugger. However tired, the lost sleep was worth it because the catching was excellent.

This month's program is a good one. Just in time for the fall saltwater season. Ed Mitchell always has a good slide show and some great tips on fishing in the salt. Bring your questions, and if you happen to have a copy of Ed's book "Fly Rodding the Salt," bring that too, and get it signed.

As you may recall, at the May meeting Ray Riley was kind enough to raffle off a weekend fishing trip to a private club in Vermont, and donate the proceeds to CFFA. I was one of the lucky winners. Without going into too much detail, let me say this about the trip. The fishing was excellent, the food superb (Ray's cooking) and the company was wonderful. We laughed a lot. If this trip comes up again I wouldn't recommend buying a ticket, it was way too much fun. And besides, if you don't buy one, I will have a much better chance at winning.

About the only news I have from over the summer, is that we set our banquet and Expo for February 12, 2000. We don't have a speaker yet. As soon as we hire one I'll let you know who it is. I'm looking forward to seeing everybody in September.

Take care,

Charlie



## Club News

### **FOR SALE – FLY RODS:**

Call Albert Garbuglio, 860-742-7488.

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### **CLUB TRIP** **Cape Cod Fishing** **16 & 17 October 1999**

There may still be room!

Come and join fellow club members for fishing at the Cape. Here's your chance to fish the Cape's famous kettle ponds or go fishing in the surf. The stripers were lots of fun last year. In the ponds you can find smallmouth bass and rainbow trout.

Lodging will be at The Moorings Lodge in Falmouth Heights for the nights of 10/15 & 16. There is room for 16 people. Since there is limited room, the first 16 to sign up will get reservations. Your expected cost of about \$105.00 per person. includes tax, and provides two nights, two breakfasts and one buffet dinner on Saturday. If you would like to stay additional nights it will be extra.

Please call Larry Johnson, 860-246-0728 for availability and confirmation of costs. Larry will also be available at the September membership meeting.

### **COMING EVENTS**

CFFA Board Meeting	1 Sep 99
CFFA Membership Meeting, Ed Mitchell	8 Sep 99
CFFA Board Meeting	6 Oct 99
CFFA Membership Meeting	13 Oct 99
CFFA Fishing Trip	15-17 Oct 99
International Festival of Women Fly Fishers, Stratton Mountain, VT	21-24 Oct 99
The Fly Fishing Show, Marlboro, MA	21-233 Jan 00
The Fly Fishing Show, Somerset, N J	28-30 Jan 00
Eastern Fishing & Outdoor Expo, Worcester	3-6 Feb 00
<b>CFFA Fly Fishing Expo &amp; Banquet</b>	<b>12 Feb 00</b>
World Fly Fishing Expo, Wilmington DE	11-12 Mar 00

### **NEW MEMBERS!**

The CFFA would like to welcome the following new members:

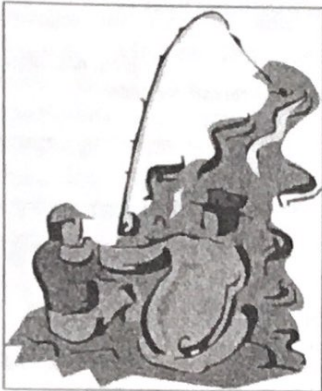
*James Hill III   Ed Sharpless   Mike Moran*  
*Paul Laferriere   Edward Dunghans*

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.

**BOOK REVIEW** By Bob Hurd of the Santa Lucia Flyfishing Club in Northern California.

(provided by FFF Clubwire Editor Shirley Fulton)



**"Fly-Fishing with Children" by Philip Brunquell, MD**

**Published by The Countryman Press, Woodstock Vermont**

Not many would argue that fly-fishing is easier than parenting. When is the last time your rod talked back to you or refused to eat its vegetables? But, with fly-fishing as difficult as it is, how do you get to the point where you can safely stand in a trout stream with your child, fishing and sharing your love of the outdoors? Dr. Brunquell's book, "Fly-Fishing with Children," has just the information you need to get your children on the water at your side enthusiastically with a fly rod. Clearly stated, the goal of the book is: "to bring parent and child closer together in a patient, loving way; to help them share an outdoor experience and to develop an environmental ethic together."

When fishing with your children and things threaten to take a sour turn, stop and think about the analogy that you are a guide and your children are the clients. Instead of missing out on the complex relationship that can develop between you and your children, remember that successful guides are patient, don't condescend, and never fish when their clients are. Your kids are in the same position as the clients, and whether they realize it or not, their needs are the same (though they are less likely to tip). It is this kind of common sense, down-to-earth, advice that Dr. Brunquell shares in his book.

The book is well organized, always keeping mind the goals, covering orientation, tackle, knots, outings, safety, the bugs, clubs, fly-tying, disabled children, and stewardship. Orientation establishes the basic premise that the whole enterprise must be fun, while recognizing some obstacles. Subsequent chapters provide the knowledge how to deal with the obstacles. Thankfully in the chapter "Tackle Time" Dr. Brunquell doesn't advise that you buy your child that new 5-piece Sage SP fly rod. He does, though take the time to explain the needs of children when it comes to rod, reel, line, leader, and flies. Knots is equally straightforward, foregoing the forty knots listed in Lefty Kreh's "Practical Fishing Knots" and all knot tying tools for one all purpose knot: the Duncan Loop. The result is the basis for an almost nearly knotless fly-fishing method. Outings provides guidance on that first trip along with techniques for dapping, dumping, and troll-walking. Safety describes the basic hat, safety glasses and sunscreen that should be on your child whenever fishing or casting. "The Bugs," continues with the same no nonsense information on water entomology as do the remaining chapters. Lastly, "Stewardship," builds on the notion of the environmental ethic with science and activities to do with your children on the water.

Even though ostensibly a book for fly-fishing with children, "Fly-Fishing with Children," is a good reading primer for any fly fisher. The quotation in the front of the book by William G. Tapply pretty much sums it up for parents though; "the patience of the adult must exceed the attention span of the child."

*(For you newer members, Phil is an active member of the CFFA.)*

### Dog-Faced President

(Reprinted from U. S. News & World Report,  
24 May 1999.)



Add Gary LaFontaine to the list of Republicans running for president. Gary who? you ask. Among anglers, LaFontaine is a fly-fishing god who has turned his passion into a popular catalog business out of Helena, Mont. In his latest "Book Mailer," LaFontaine announces his write-in bid and also asks voters to back his running mate, pet dog Chester. But can a dog be president? "He's loyal, he's mute, and he's neutered. Wouldn't these be refreshing qualities for a president?"

*(Gary is a long time CFFA member, and former Lines & Leaders newsletter editor.)*

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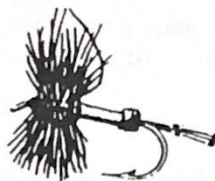
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**LITTLE KNOWN FISHING TIPS**

(reprinted from the FFF July 99 Clubwire)

**CAST DOWN STREAM**

When stream fishing for trout and bass, remember that the bigger fish will not chase a fly cast into the current and washed rapidly down the stream. Try casting down stream with a fly that will sink to the bottom. Slowly retrieve the fly in a back and forth pattern.

**SPIT ON FLIES**

Strangely enough, spitting on a fly can help with fish that have a good sense of smell. The stench of hand acid is so strong it can spook a fish away from your fly. Saliva has a substance called ptyalin that is an acid neutralizer. Spitting on a fly can mask human order and possibly catch more of some fish species.

**MUDDY OR STAINED WATER**

When fishing for bass in muddy or stained water, try a fly with a color combination of chartreuse, yellow and red flashabou mixed in. This color combination has proven effective over the years when fished in 1' to 2' of water, which is where bass migrate to during periods of off-color water.

(from the South Jersey Fly Fishers of Salem, New Jersey)

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## SPECIAL FISHERMEN

By Bob Cox

(Reprinted from the 17 Jul 99, Fly-Fishing Broadcast Network)

Wow, what a sight, the wind is gentle, the river is at a moderate level, the trees and overhanging brush is at it's fullest, and the fishing is looking to be good. Imagine this river to be a mountain river, just chalked full of great fishing. Now, imagine that you are 39 inches high, and in a wheelchair.

What type of obstacles do you think you may have to over come? First of all you have the terrain. How do you get to the river? Now you have the over hanging brush. How do you get through all that? Most "Walking" people think of things too, but try it from a chair with wheels. Not so easy, huh?

Well, there are fishermen, that try this everyday. And it is not just the accessibility, that they must overcome, but it is equipment, gear, and being able to use that equipment and gear.

First of all, your chair must be able to get through the terrain. Electric maybe, or a Sports Chair, which are quite mobile, and can handle just about any obstacle, except maybe rocks! Then you have mechanical adjustable rod holders, or even a special fitting on your rod, so that you can cast normally. You can get custom made rods to fit your special needs. Shorter or longer rods are available, too!

I think Float tubes were made just for us. We can float in the water and fish pretty normal, but now how do you get back in? I have a rope fixed to my tube and tie it ashore, and pull my self back in. There are single-man pontoon floats that are great for this too!

Fishing is for everyone, and that includes, the folks that cannot stand on their own two feet, or have only one arm or don't have any arms. If you want to fish, "where there is a will, there is a way." If you know of a Special Fisherman, and they can't get out as regular as you, invite them along. Yes, that fisherman, may need extra attention, but the joy you will receive from giving that attention is ten fold for what you have to do.


You may be able to get out on your own, and enjoy an early morning fishing trip, or even an early evening trip, but most challenged fishermen, cannot. They must have a partner along. I always say: Fish with a partner, you have more fun! Take a friend fishing, or even a stranger, you will have fun!

Bob Cox - FBNWaders  
an avid fly fisherman!

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**FLY TYING TIP**

"Fish-Like Scales"

(reprinted from the FFF July 99 Clubwire)

Many tiers have difficulty creating realistic looking "scales" on their streamers. Here's an easy way to accomplish this. After you wrap the hook shank with either gold or silver mylar, overwrap with closely butting turns of monofilament, 20-40 LB weight, depending on the size of the hook. Not only does this create an amazingly life like "scaly" look, it also increases the durability of the fly enormously.

(From the Rainland Fly Casters of Astoria, Oregon)

**Membership Form**

Check if address changed

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**DUES STRUCTURE**

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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**