



# LINES & LEADERS



The Newsletter of the Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association



Volume 34 No. 4

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

December 2006

## DECEMBER MEETING

### *Dave Brandt*

#### *"How to Read Trout Water"*



What can we say about Dave Brandt? His resume and involvement in the world of fly-fishing is quite impressive. Dave, a native of the Catskill, Ny area, is a founding member of the Upper Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited. He has subsequently served in all officer and director posts. He is also a founding member of the

Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Catskill Fly Tyers Guild. An accomplished and expert fly tyer, Dave has created the proportion gauge for Catskill dry flies, "Tied & True". He is also an artist, having illustrated the book, "A Master's Guid to Building a Bamboo Fly Rod", by Everett Garrison and Hoagy Carmichael.

Come on up to the Veteran's Memorial Clubhouse next Wednesday and listen to Dave touch on a broad array of subjects. (See page 2, Club News, for more on Dave Brandt)

- PLACE:** Veteran's Memorial Clubhouse, 100 Sunset Ridge, East Hartford, CT
- DATE:** Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2006
- TIME:** Fly Tying, Tackle Swap, Raffle:  
7:00 - 7:30 PM  
Program: 8:00 - 9:00 PM



## FROM THE VEST OF THE PRESIDENT

Once again I was pleasantly surprised to see the turnout at our November meeting. I hope all of you had a great Thanksgiving, I sure did. Cindy's pumpkin pie put us all in the mood for the big day. Thanks Cindy for the hard work and delicious pies.

Blaine Anderson's program was super to say the least. I never knew that there were so many species of fish right here in my own backyard. Roger and Steve continue to out due themselves with programs month after month. Just when I think they will never top this they turn around and prove me wrong. Great job guys, keep up the hard work and thanks.

I would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas / Happy Holiday and a Happy New Year. Speaking of the coming year we have lots to do. First order of business is coming in January with our election of officers. We then have our annual expo and banquet and I am convinced that it will be one of the best ones ever you won't want to miss this one. I'm excited about our guest and speaker Lefty Kreh. I have been fortunate to share a breakfast or two in Danbury with Lefty. Not only is he a wealth of fly-fishing knowledge he is also a great conversationalist and a very entertaining personality. I am looking forward to spending time with Lefty, I can't wait! Oh yea, almost forgot, our expo and banquet will be on Saturday February 3<sup>rd</sup> at Maneeley's 65 Rye St. South Windsor.

Our expo will begin at 9 a.m. and end at 3 p.m. our banquet will start at 6 p.m. until 11 p.m. The expo is free banquet reservations are \$39.00 per person with 3 choices of meals Mike Stewart once again has agreed to take reservations again this year

(See VEST - Continued on Page 5)

# CFFA CLUB NEWS



## **MORE ON DAVE BRANDT**

Living on the fringe of the Catskills has allowed Dave to meet, become good friends with, and learn firsthand from many of the legendary fishers and fly tyers of the area, including Art Flick, Harry and Elsie Darbee, Walt, Winnie, and Mark Dette, Lee and Joan Wulff, and many others.

Over the years he's been involved with Trout Unlimited, The Federation of Fly Fishers, United Fly Tyers, The Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum and the Catskill Fly Tyers Guild. He has been involved in the fly fishing show circuit for many years. Teaching both fly tying and fly fishing has become an important part of his off-stream fishing life, having been as instructor with the Wulff Fishing School for the last 18 years.

His presentation, "How to Read Trout Water", will take us on a guided tour of one of your favorite rivers, and his, with a look at various water types found in trout streams everywhere. The journey along this typical stretch of water will include tips on the approach and presentations used in the many situations encountered, with insights on where trout might be found, and why.

## **ALCOHOL AT CFFA BANQUET – PLEASE, NO BYOB!!**

This year our banquet will be held at a brand new location, Maneeley's in South Windsor. We have been advised that it is illegal to bring your own alcohol onto the premises. Please refrain from doing so! There will be a cash bar available. Thank you for your cooperation.

## **CALL FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**

If you have great article that you'd like to share with other members please submit to me at [dcasali5@cox.net](mailto:dcasali5@cox.net). We want to hear from you and would welcome your story.

## **TO ALL MEMBERS:**

Please make sure you advise Phil McCormick, our Membership Chairman, of any changes in your mailing address, telephone number, or e-mail address. We don't want to lose contact with you. See below for Phil's contact info. If for some reason, you are not receiving your hard copy newsletters please let Phil know and he will add you to the list.

## **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL:**

Reminder! December is the time to renew your membership. Please send your payment to CFFA or to Phil McCormick. You can mail your payment to Phil at 268 Buff Cap Road, Tolland, CT, 06084, Email: [phil.mccormick@alliedprinting.com](mailto:phil.mccormick@alliedprinting.com)

## **LEFTY KREH TO BE THE GUEST SPEAKER AT THE NEXT BANQUET**

We will have LEFTY KREH as the guest speaker at the next CFFA Banquet. This year's banquet will be taking place at a new location. It will be held at Maneeley's at 65 Rye Street, in South Windsor. It will take place on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2007.

## **ERNIE & JERRY STRIPER**



*(Ernie "Boots" Boutiette and Jerry Wade enjoying a nice autumn day in the Sound).*

## COMING EVENTS

**Next Board Meeting** DEC 6  
**Next Membership Meeting** DEC 13

### SHOWS AND EXPOS

**2007 Fly Fishing Shows** JAN 19, 20, 21 2007  
 -Royal Plaza Trade Center  
 Marlborough, MA

-Garden State Expo Center JAN 26, 27, 28,  
 Somerset, NJ 2007

**2007 Northeast Hunting and Fishing Expo, CT Expo Center Hartford, CT** FEB 16-18, 2007  
[www.fishinghuntingexpo.com](http://www.fishinghuntingexpo.com)

**2007 "The Springfield Sportsmans Show" at the "Big E," West Springfield, MA** FEB 22-25, 2007

**2007 Fly-Fishing Exposition, Shriners Auditorium Wilmington, MA** DATES TBD

### CFFA CLASSES/EVENTS - Dates

**2007 Advanced Freshwater Fly Tying Classes** 1/4, 1/11, 1/18  
 1/25, 2/1, 2/8

**2007 Freshwater Fly Tying Classes** 1/4, 1/11, 1/18  
 1/25, 2/1, 2/8

**2007 Saltwater Fly Tying Classes** 1/4, 1/11, 1/18  
 1/25, 2/1, 2/8

**2007 Rod Building Classes** 10/16, 10/25, 11/6  
 11/15, 11/29, 12/06

**2007 CFFA Annual Banquet And Exposition** Feb 3, 2007

**2007 Freshwater Fly-Fishing School** 3/1, 3/8, 3/15,  
 3/22, 4/7, 4/21

**2007 Saltwater Fly-Fishing School** 3/1, 3/8, 3/15,  
 3/22/ April\*. May\*

**2007 Cape Cod Fishing Trips:**  
**First trip:** Dates TBD  
**Second trip:** Dates TBD  
 \*Weather Permitting

### OTHER EVENTS

**HFFA Annual Expo And Banquet, Hawthorne Inn, Berlin, CT** Dates TBD

## CONNECTICUT FLY FISHERMAN'S ASSOCIATION



**Saturday, February 3, 2007**  
**at Maneleys**  
**65 Rye Street**  
**South Windsor, CT 06074**

*This year's banquet speaker will be*



**Lefty Kreh**

*In addition to this program, prizes will be offered through door prizes, a Special Raffle, and the General Conservation Raffle.*

**Anyone wishing to donate prizes for the banquet may contact John Baracchi at (860)895-1181. All prizes will be greatly appreciated and all donations will be acknowledged in "Lines & Leaders."**

*Reserve the date and time on your calendars! DINNER RESERVATION FORM can be found on our website at [www.ctflyfish.com](http://www.ctflyfish.com). An order form will also be in next month's LINES & LEADERS if you prefer to mail a hardcopy.*

## CONNECTICUT RIVER SALMON ASSOCIATION



**31<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL DINNER AND RAFFLE/AUCTION**  
**Saturday, January 20, 2007**

**The Hawthorne Inn 2421 Wilbur Cross Highway, Berlin, CT**  
**Tickets \$ 38.00 per person**

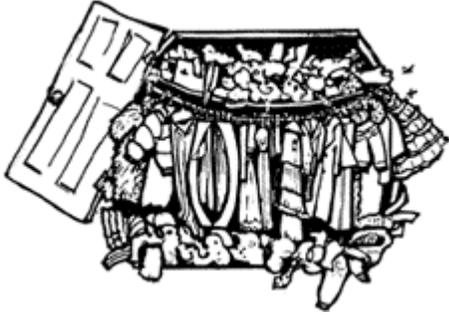
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For Reservations Call: Ed Ruestow at (860) 521-1426  
 or Jim Carroll at (860) 231-5181

# *Fly Tyer Gone Wild*

*By Charlie Place*



I've decided that I have too much stuff and have been spending too much time looking through feathers, tails, dubbing and such and not enough time actually tying bugs. So I've been trying to keep my collection of tying materials down to a half of a closetful. Some of my material boxes haven't been opened in months, because, well, they are behind the other boxes that haven't been opened for a while either. Anyway, when I do get in the back of the feather closet, it turns out to be more of a treasure hunt

than a bug tying session. I usually discover things that I don't remember buying, like my most recent find of six blue bucktails. What is anyone going to do with six blue bucktails? It's a good thing I found six packs of blue saddle hackles to go with the bucktails. I also found one large package of mallard flank, dyed blue. I bought that to go with the saddles, I guess. I know that I must have had something in mind when I bought all the blue material. I just wish I could remember what it was though.

Anyway, when you really think about it, all that tying stuff in the feather closet isn't doing you much good unless it's on a fish hook, is it? So, I decided to clean house, so to speak. I went through everything, box by box, Zip Loc bag by Zip Loc bag and culled all of the stuff that I hadn't used or seen in a long time. And parted with some of the things that I had way too much of, like rabbit dubbing. I mean could it be possible that there are that many bunny rabbits out there running around naked? I refuse to take responsibility for the scarcity of blue deer though, because after all I only have six of their tails. Well, actually seven because I have a spare bucktail box and a working bucktail box. I found another blue bucktail in the working box. Okay then. I'll take part of the blame for blue but not the pink deer because I only have one pink bucktail. And well, there is that sort of ruby-colored bucktail that I liked a lot, but the fish didn't. I don't even want to think about the chickens. But I will say that when I was a kid I didn't realize that chickens came in so many different colors.

I gave all the usable stuff to a friend that spends the bulk of his money on college tuition. The lousy stuff or you could say the stuff that I stored because thought that I might use some day, I tossed. It doesn't do any good to give it away because even though it's free, it's still lousy and may actually be discouraging to a new fly tier. While I was at it, I put most of the material in clear plastic storage boxes so that I can actually see what's in them before I open them. That saves me time, which seems to be at a premium lately.

Now this is not to say that when I see a bargain or some really neat fly tying material that I don't buy it. Last week I found some extra long Craft Fur in a bargain bin at a fly shop so I bought three packages, one tan, one cream and one brown. I brought it home and added it to the other packages of tan, cream and brown extra long Craft Fur that I have. I purchased it because, as you know, extra long anything is not easy to find, and you never know when you might want to tie up a bazillion bay anchovy imitations. There was a spool of bright orange, flat waxed nylon thread in the good buy tub that just kept calling to me too. I figured that I didn't have that color, and for a change I was right. I didn't. However, now I only have one spool, so I better get a spare.

I'm now almost down to a half closetful. This is good, because I was fishing stripers with Jerry the other day and he was using an experimental fly that the stripers couldn't resist. It had so much flash on it that he jokingly called it the Christmas tree fly. In any event, I don't have the flash that Jerry used on his new fly. I looked through my red bucktails too and I don't have the exact shade of red that he used to tie the festive fly with either. Nor do I have the hook he used. Well anyway, I figure now that I've "cleaned house" I have room for some new stuff.

**ABOUT CFFA:** *The Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association, Inc. is organized "To Preserve and Promote the Pleasures and Traditions 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 Veteran's Memorial Clubhouse, Sunset Ridge Drive, East Hartford, CT.*

*"Lines and Leaders" is the official publication of the Connecticut Fly Fisherman'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 add or \$40 for nine months. CFFA members may place for-sale or want ads of a non-commercial nature without charge. Newsletter correspondence should be sent to David Casali, 259 Longhill Drive, Glastonbury, CT, 06033. Change of address notice should be sent to CFFA, P.O. Box 380268, East Hartford, CT 06138-0268*

**COPY DEADLINE:** *The second Friday of the month.*

**VEST OF THE PRESIDENT** (Continued from page 1)

my thanks go out to Mike and his wife Lynn in advance for their time and assistance. You can print a reservation form from our website click on banquet please make your checks out to CFFA and not to Mike it will make things go a lot smoother. We do need volunteers for the expo helping Roger and Steve and the vendors to set up and also breakdown in the afternoon. February 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> is the Northeast Hunting and Fishing show we will also need volunteers to work our table at the show. Please contact Bob Winot if you are interested. You don't have to tie flies to work the show just come down for a couple of hours and meet people and enjoy the show. The show will be at the new convention center and not at the expo center as in the past.

Our rod building class is going well and Stanley is gearing up for a second class starting in January. So, if you are interested in building your own rod contact Stanley Calabrese. The classes are at the East Hartford Middle School thanks to the efforts of Bob Clark. Thanks Bob your contributions to the club are greatly appreciated.

The CFFA is sponsoring two schools this year with chillers and eggs for the Ct. River Salmon Association's Salmon in the Classroom program. The two schools are East Windsor Middle School and Windham High School. I am looking forward to meeting with the teachers and students.

Phil McCormick is our membership chairman and is available at most of our meetings by the coatroom if you would like to renew your membership. Remember, membership expires December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Gary and Ted are gearing up for the fly tying and fly fishing schools along with their very knowledgeable staff. We are offering once again freshwater fly-tying, saltwater fly-tying, and advanced fly-tying along with our fresh and salt water fly-fishing classes. I know that they will do their usual excellent job. Get your reservations in early you won't want to miss a single class.

Our sponsors are very good to the CFFA please be good to them by supporting them whenever you are in the market for fishing gear or tying materials. I try and visit as many of their shops as I can and I am always pleased and they are always worth the ride. Don't forget our sponsors that have guide services we have the best guides in the area and you won't be disappointed. A guided fishing trip on the Farmington, Housatonic, or Deerfield rivers would make that special fly fisher a wonderful Christmas gift.

Kurt is busy gearing up for the raffle at the banquet he has some wonderful prizes this year and I know the raffle will be a huge success as it always is. Any of you fly tiers that would like to donate flies for the raffle please get them to Kurt as soon as possible. I need to get busy and tie some for the raffle myself.

We took a road trip one Saturday Kurt, Charlie, Phil and I decided to take a ride to Somerset for the fly tier's symposium. Of course I had to buy some more stuff that I don't need but like Ernie says he's never seen a fly fisherman or tier go to a shop or show and not buy anything. I guess he's right. The symposium was impressive to say the least and all had an enjoyable day. I was extremely impressed with one tier, Tyler Befus from Colorado. Tyler has two flies in the Umpqua catalog and has written a book A Kid's Guide to Fly-fishing he put on a tying demo and I chatted with him for a while. He is quite a fly tier. By the way Tyler is 9 years old. He said he was going to be at the fly-fishing show in Somerset also maybe I'll take another ride for that one.

Please feel free anytime to contact myself or the board with any questions or concerns.

You will need to register and log in every time you want to leave a message on our board. I know it's a pain but for now we are going with it to discourage some of the spammers. We are doing this to protect you the members from computer viruses. If a spammer wants to leave a message at least we may be able to determine it's origin through the registration process. I apologize to any of you that this may inconvenience but for now at least it's worth a try.

Come on up and say hi at the meeting I would love to meet you. Like I said before, I don't remember everyone's name but I'm working on it. See you at the meeting, bring a friend: Tight Lines John

Tight Lines,

*John*

## ON THE RIVER

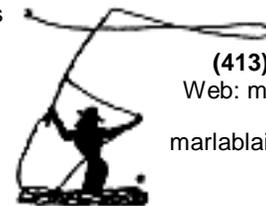
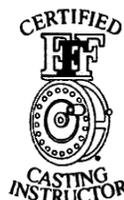
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**DUES STRUCTURE:**

- Junior (under 16) \$ 5.00
- Regular \$ 20.00
- Supporting \$ 30.00
- Contributing \$ 75.00
- Life \$ 300.00

**TOTAL  
ENCLOSED:**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Pimples of Light*

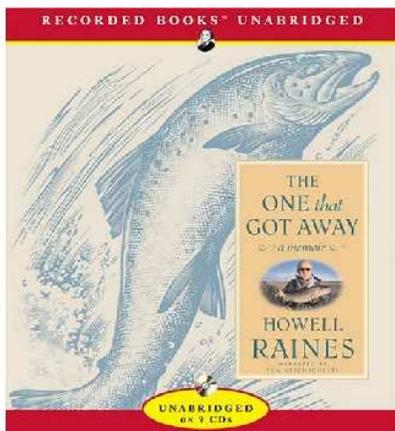
*Taken from the McKenzie Fly Fishers newsletter*



Trout do not key selectively on the imprint pattern of an insect, but those silvery, reverse pimples on the surface film do alert the fish to an approaching item. Underwater, these pimples glow with the color of the ambient light. In the evening, the walls of these dots shimmer with an intense orange. It doesn't matter what the colors of the natural insect (or the matching fly) are-it is the light, not the color of the object, that lends the color. The trout notices the light pattern well before he ever sees the insect. To a fish, this distinctive pattern is more of a hint, an advertisement of what's to follow. The light pattern by itself triggers only awareness, not recognition, and a trout doesn't respond selectively to the pattern alone (but he does respond to the general impression). Stony ties flies with some orange in the body.

*The One That Got Away by Howell Raines*

*A Book Review by John Springer*



There are many types of fishing books we all have read, some are about tying, about well known people and what are called "me and Joe" books. This book fits two out of three. Personally, I do not bother with many tying books, as I know I will not get much better than I am but I truly enjoy the last category of books. The title gives away what the main part of the story is about. Howell hooks the biggest fish of his life and he loses it. During the story of that fish he talks about his close friend who he shares this with, I know I enjoy sharing some of my fishing moments with several of my friends as I am sure you do.

He is not fishing from a thirty-foot boat with dual 150 horse power engines but a small wooden boat not really something that should be out as far as they are from land, this adds a great deal to the story as well as the guide who has taken him out. In between getting to his destination, hooking the fish, and losing the fish he tells the story of meeting his second wife how they both have a passion for fishing and

what happened at the New York Times when a report plagiarized a story.

I suppose I am biased about his book because I have known him awhile but putting that aside I found it a very good read and very different from other books I have read. I am sure if you get the book you will find it, a very interesting story about a man his life and a fish.



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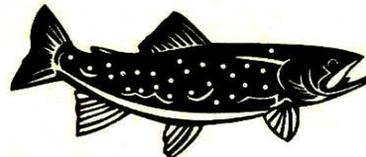
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*Use the message board to share your fishing experiences, get the latest reports, write stories and meet a friend!*

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**FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS**

