

# Lines & Leaders

January 2011

The Newsletter of The Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association

**FROM THE VEST OF  
THE PRESIDENT**



**JANUARY  
MEETING**  
Pizza & A Movie

**CFFA BANQUET  
& EXPO**

**MARY'S BLOG**  
By Mary Edwards

**THE "??"**  
By Dick Wemmell

Spey Rod on Ice By Mary Edwards



### From The Vest Of The President

I hope all of you and your families had a wonderful Christmas or holiday and I want to wish you all a very Happy New Year as well.

As you may or may not know, this will be my last Vest of the President message. I do hope that over the past years you have read and enjoyed my dimwitted opinions and comments.

I have decided to step down as president of CFFA. I have actually accomplished everything or at least mostly everything that I set out to do. Back in 2005 when I took the helm I wanted the club to be more "user friendly" so to speak, by that I mean I wanted us to be more receptive to the new members and guests that attended our meetings. I wanted anyone who had never been to a CFFA function to feel welcome as I was when I joined. I wanted our membership to feel like they could approach me or the board whenever they had a question or concern

or to just say hello. I tried to make each and every one of you my friend and I hope I accomplished that. I have made some wonderful friends in CFFA, I have learned a whole bunch of fishing tips, tricks and secret spots and I have even fished with some of

you and for that I am forever grateful.

Don't get me wrong I did make my share of mistakes but because of the dedication and advice of the members and board they weren't a big deal and it all came out in the wash.

I want to thank all of you, the members, for your support and kind words during my presidency. CFFA has the best members in the world and I know you will continue to support our new president in the future as I will.

I especially want to thank my board of directors. I could not do anything if not for them, Kurt and Roger worked hard every year to put on a premier expo and banquet, they raised money through raffles and always found the best presentations and speakers for our meetings. Bruce, Denise, Stanley, Mary, Lou,



Dick, Vinnie, Bob, Ted, Todd, Nils, and Phil, I could not have done anything without people like you behind the scenes doing the great job that you do and I thank each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart! To everyone that volunteered to work at our shows and banquets, I couldn't have done it without you, thank you.

The advisory board which I will now be a part of, your advice and ideas were invaluable and I thank the Lord that I had your experience to turn to when I needed it. So, before I go bonkers and get choked up, I just want to say thank you to all of you for your support, your help, and your encouragement. I know I will miss being president but it's time to go and it's time for a new face and some fresh ideas, so I respectfully step down and will be forever grateful for you, the members, allowing me to serve as president of the best fly fishing club in the nation second to none. I'm not going anywhere and now I will have time to tie at meetings and walk around and chat and visit with all of you which is something that I am really looking forward to.

I would like to offer our new president Bruce Rich my support and advice and I know he will continue to help CFFA grow and prosper. I want to wish Bruce the best of luck and offer any help I can give him. Thank you -- all of you; it has been one wonderful ride!

I think that by now the newsletter mailing problem should be resolved and I want to thank Todd and Phil and

Sir Speedy Printers for their understanding and for fixing the problem.

Well, my cell phone finally died after about 3 years the battery died and naturally they

don't make that kind anymore. So off to the AT&T store Donna and I went, and because we didn't have a contract in place we were allowed an upgrade so we both ended up with one



### CFFA Expo/Banquet

The Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association is pleased to announce its 41st. Annual Fly Fishing Expo and Dinner Banquet on Saturday, February 5, 2011. Our Honored guest will be Lefty Kreh. The Expo will be open from 9am until 3pm. There will be many fly-fishing shops and dealers at the Expo along with flyfishing programs and clinics throughout the day.

Our evening Banquet will begin at 6:00pm with cocktails followed by dinner at 7:00. Lefty Kreh will be the Banquet speaker. Awards and raffle follow dinner. Tickets are \$40.00 per person. Both the Expo and banquet will be held at Maneeley's, 65 Rye Street, S. Windsor, Ct. 06074.

Reservations for the banquet must be made in advance and received no later than January 29, 2011.

Checks need to be made out to CFFA. Please include a copy of the banquet reservation form for your meal choice which can be obtained from our website or later in the newsletter.

You have a choice of Chicken Marsala, Roasted Prime Rib of Beef with au jus or a Seafood Stuffed Filet of Sole for dinner. A garden salad with house dressing, penne marinara and dinner rolls with butter are served with each meal. Desert is warm apple crisp with vanilla ice cream. Vegetarian entrees are available upon request.

Mail checks and reservations to Mike Stewart, 215 Loomis Street, N. Granby, CT 06060. For more information contact Mike Stewart at 860-654-4288 or 860-653-4203 or go to [www.ctflyfish.org](http://www.ctflyfish.org) and click on banquet for more information.

## Vest Continued

of those iPhone thingy's. Now I'm not sure what texting is, it don't make any sense to me why I would write from a phone to someone else's phone. Why go through all that effort? Why can't I just call them and say what I wanted to say? I do like the fact that I can check my email and get sports scores, weather and news on it. I also like the fact that I can go online and Google stuff. Oh I almost forgot, it's got a pretty awesome camera and video cam also.

Lou, Steve and I ventured down to New Jersey in November for the fly tying symposium. As usual we got to talking and we got lost and I had to turn around and go back but other than that it was a pretty good show and

I chatted with old friends like Fishy, Bob Clouser and Bruce Marino to name a few. I saw our own Roger Plourde, Paul Rossman and Mike Stewart there tying as well. I didn't really see any new products at the show except for the fish skulls, forage flies and forage fly tails which have been around now for almost a year. I use them and I like them.

The December meeting was packed and we had to pull out more chairs, I hope you all enjoyed Rich Strolis and his fly patterns and also his program.

Don't forget to send your banquet reservations in early I think we just may sell it out this time. Also don't forget to renew your dues.

The board has decided that

we will not be attending the Northeast hunting and fishing show in Hartford this year.

John Springer will be sponsoring a bus trip to the Somerset Fly Fishing show Jan. 22nd which is a Saturday, I believe the cost is \$26 and the bus leaves from North Haven. The details should be in the newsletter and on the web site as well. For any of you that have never been to the show in New Jersey you need to check it out. It is absolutely awesome and I know you will enjoy it. I usually spend the whole weekend there and I can't wait to go back again.

Don't forget to show up early on expo day to give Roger a hand setting up, he can always use some help and I know he will appreciate it.

Please give our new president Bruce Rich all of your support and help. As I have said in the past it's your club not mine, not the board's but yours the members so help out!

January is pizza and a movie night so make sure you come hungry, I'm sure Bob has picked out a good movie as he always does.

If you have fish or fly pics or if you have an article you have written send it to Todd so he can consider it for the newsletter.

Remember as always to support our sponsors, see you at the meeting bring a friend.  
Tight Lines: John





### From Mary's Blog By Mary Edwards

On Thanksgiving Rob and I headed up to Pulaski, N.Y. As usual we started to monitor the flow rate of the Salmon River as well as the weather for the Pulaski region. Earlier in the week the flow rate on the Salmon was dropped to 350cfs. which made Rob very happy. However, the weather conditions were not as cooperative and as the week went by the predicted temperatures were getting colder and colder and then the possibility of snow flurries was also included.

Just a couple of days before we headed out the weather report had a, "Lake effect snow watch". Simply put, that means you may, or you may not, get a bit more than snow flurries in your area.

The day before we left the weather prediction had changed and was now printed in an ominous red type,

"Lake effect snow warning." And then another word showed up - wind. Interesting, heavier snowfall and wind.

We got packed up and headed out early Thursday morning. The skies here in Ct. were a dark slate grey but it was still a pretty ride. As we got about 30 miles from Pulaski Rob began to notice that the trees were starting to sway in the wind.

Rob looked at me from the corner of his eye and said, "See that? That's wind." I said, "Really? Ya don't say. It doesn't look so bad," at the same time he was saying, "Swell, just swell."

Now I will have to admit that during the night the wind did start picking up. I kept looking over at Rob to see if he could hear it and I guess he still has pretty good hearing because he would simply give me this look, shake

his head and mutter "Swell, just swell". Each time this happened I just tried to stifle my chuckle because I was really trying to see the humor of it all.

You need to understand why I thought it was humorous. Rob has been to Pulaski. He has been up there a couple of times. But each and every time he has made the trip the weather has always turned south, the water in the river rises and he gets the extra special steelie treatment of wind, rain, snow or some wicked combination of all. He has not, to the best of my knowledge made the trip when the weather was good.

The next morning we were up early and getting dressed in multiple layers of fleece when Rob turned on the Weather Channel for the Local on the 8's. Man, what a mistake that was.

## Mary's Blog Continued

The satellite map for precipitation came on and all you could see over Pulaski was green. A big ol' giant glob of dark green. As you all know, the darker the green the more rain was falling. To confirm what he just saw on the television he then proceeded to open the door to our room at Whitaker's and looked outside to see rain dripping off the porch.

Swell, just swell.

It was about then that Rob decided he was not going to head out for the day. Now I don't blame him, the poor guy sees enough bad weather as it is because he delivers the mail. When it is raining, snowing or whatever he has no choice but to go out. But not this time. He said no to a soggy day of fishing and decided to stay in a nice and cozy room where he wrote some letters and took a nap. On the other hand, I was on a mission. I had a new two handed rod (Deercreek 12'6", 5/6 wt. early Christmas present!!) that I was just dying to try out and I really wanted to land a steelie "on the swing" while Skagit casting.

We both walked over to the store to meet our guide, Loren Williams from flyguysoutfitting.com. Rob broke the news to Loren that he wasn't going to go and even though the rain had stopped we still couldn't get him to change his mind. So Loren took me up to S. Sandy Creek where we were pretty much sheltered from the wind. The rain never came back but we still had some brief snow flurries. It did end up being a rather pleasant day especially since I lucked out and landed three nice fish with my new toy.

That night I tried convincing Rob to come out on Saturday, our second day of adventure. I wasn't sure if he was going to commit or not until morning when he did get all geared

up to go.

This time Loren took us to the Douglasson Salmon Run. True, the skies were a bit grey and there was a slight breeze but it was nothing like it had been the day before or night. We were all confident that the weather was going to cooperate as well as the fish. We were set up and fishing for about half an hour when all of a sudden a wall of wind came straight up the river. It really did feel like we were getting slammed by the wind and I swear, the water was getting pushed back upriver.

We each tried a couple more casts but to no avail –duhh!! By now Loren decided it was time to hoof it out and head to another spot where perhaps the wind wouldn't be "so bad." We left the "gale force winds" according to Rob and headed up the stairs and back to the parking lot. Along the way out we were passed by another angler who commented, "I have never fished in a wind that was strong

enough to push 235 pounds off a flat rock in the river."

Think about it for a minute. That was a very accurate description of just how hard that wind was. Oh, and did I mention that it had also started to show? Just enough to sugar coat the ground and some trees.

And Rob? Well, all he could muster up was, "Swell, just swell."

So we drove to another spot and walked down to the river. It was a really pretty spot and true, it was sheltered from the wind. The plan was to take turns fishing through this one section. So you would think that we were set for the rest of the day, right? Well, think again. We weren't down there for too long before it started to snow. It wasn't too bad though, until the wind found us again. Swell, just swell.

I fished a bit more because I am, from what I have been told, crazy. Rob sat on a log and was content watching me attempt some Perry

### Connecticut River Salmon Association 35th Annual Dinner & Raffle/Auction

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Dinner details and a Reservation form can be downloaded from our web site at [www.ctriversalsalmon.org](http://www.ctriversalsalmon.org)

## Mary's Blog Continued

Pokes and C-spey casts while Loren tried to ignite the sterno to heat up the meatballs for lunch.

All the time the wind kept-a-blowing and the snow kept-a-fallin'.

I absolutely loved every minute. Even with the wind blowing the snow sideways and packing my reel. Even with Loren telling me to cast closer to the other side of the bank to which I replied, "Sorry! I can't hear you. I have snow in my ear. And bank??!! I can't see it to cast to!"

Swell, just swell.

I can't wait for the end of December when I go back up for some more fishin' adventures. Gotta wonder, what will the weather be like?

## Rod Raffles

Honored banquet speaker, Lefty Kreh is donating one of his personal rods for raffle by our club. Tickets will be sold at the January meeting, at the expo and banquet. The drawing will be held at the banquet. The rod is a TFO TICRX 9' 4wt 4 pc Lefty has signed the rod and given us a letter of provenance.

CFFA will also be having a raffle for a bamboo rod and reel package. The rod is a Highland Mills 7' 2/2 4 wt. rod and tube. The reel is a Hardy Cascapedia and the line is a Cortland Classic 444 Peach DT.

The tickets are \$20.00 each and only 50 will be sold. Tickets can be purchased at the January meeting, at the expo and the banquet if any are left. Tickets can be purchased by mail by sending a check to:

Kurt Jagielow  
14 Earl Ave.  
Hamden CT 06514.



## January Meeting

The Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association will present a fly fishing program on Wednesday, Jan., 12, 2011 at the Veteran's Memorial Clubhouse, 100 Sunset Ridge, East Hartford, CT., at 7:00 pm

January is our annual Pizza and a Movie Night!

Admission to our monthly club meetings is free, and as always the public is invited to attend.

For more information and directions to the meeting call 860-747-3324 or visit the CFFA

website at [www.ctflyfish.org](http://www.ctflyfish.org)

Now is the time to purchase your tickets for the CFFA's annual expo and banquet. It is Saturday, February 5, 2011 - 6:00pm - 10:30pm at Maneely's , 65 Rye Street, South Windsor, CT.

Lefty Kreh is the honored guest for our 41st. annual banquet. You can fill out a dinner reservation from on our website: [www.ctflyfish.org](http://www.ctflyfish.org)

Mary Edwards  
CFFA Publicity Chairman

# Dinner Reservation Form

Print this page and fill in your dinner selections. Verify that the number of dinners matches the number of guests you selected. The total amount to mail with the reservation should be noted on the form. You can also fill out the form online at [www.ctflyfish.org](http://www.ctflyfish.org) The dinners are \$40.00 per plate. You have to contact Mike Stewart if your reservation is for 3, 5, 7 or more people for seating at the same table. Use the Contact Us form and select "Banquet Seating" to let Mike know you how many guests you have.

Mail Reservation Form and Check **(by 1/29/2011)** To:

Mr. Michael Stewart  
215 Loomis St.  
N. Granby, CT 06060

Make Check payable to CFFA

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Number of Chicken Marsala Dinners: \_\_\_\_\_

Request for Vegetarian Dinners: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



## Coming Events

**NEXT BOARD MEETING JAN 5th**

**NEXT CLUB MEETING JAN 12th**



## Catch of The Month



This "Catch of the Month" was submitted by Mary Edwards. Mary was able to land some nice fish in spite of the weather on her recent Pulaski trip. If you have a photo of the great fish you have caught, please send it to the Editor at: [todd.gorman@mac.com](mailto:todd.gorman@mac.com)

## Dick Wemmell's Fly Box



"?"

Hook: Mustad 3366

Thread: 6/0 Chartruse

Body: Fluorescent Chartruse E-Z Shape Sparkle Body

Tail: Chartruse Marabou

Fly tied by Dick Wemmell

Stop by the December meeting to see Dick tie this fly and maybe pick up a few pointers from him.

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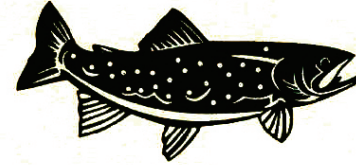
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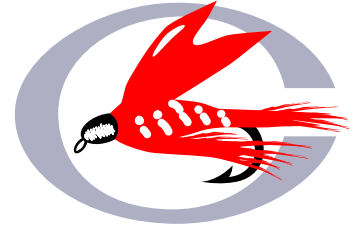
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# Lines & Leaders

January 2011

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 **Connecticut**  
Fly Fisherman's Association

P.O. Box 380268  
East Hartford, CT 06138

FEDERATION OF  
FLY FISHERS

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