

Lines & Leaders

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December 2012

The Newsletter of The Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association

FROM THE VEST OF THE PRESIDENT

DECEMBER MEETING

Capt. Mike Duclos

BROOK TROUT MUDDLER

By Dick Wemmell

CFFA EXPO BANQUET

CRSA ANNUAL DINNER



Bahamian Bonefish



From The Vest Of The President

“Nothing makes a fish bigger than almost being caught.”

Author Unknown

I hope you have been enjoying the fine fishing this autumn. Water levels in our local rivers have been good, and there have been plenty of fair weather days. Being on the water as a mild autumn afternoon turns into an early dusk is one of my favorite things to do.

I fly fished the salt water a couple of times during the week before Superstorm Sandy hit. Flies were an advantage the day I waded in at Charlestown Breechway because it was filled with two to three inch long baitfish. I caught numerous good sized schoolie stripers along with a number of shad that looked and acted much like miniature tarpon, complete with aerial displays when on the hook. Even smaller anchovy-type flies were the top producers when we put our kayaks into the Poquonock River at Bluff Point Coastal Reserve in Groton where we encountered schools of striped bass within sight of the parking

lot, and again near Bushy Point where the river meets Long Island Sound.

While visiting with family in northwest Connecticut over the Thanksgiving Holiday I snuck out one afternoon for three hours to visit the Housatonic River where streamers and nymphs brought ten trout to hand. Mostly above average in size, these browns and rainbows displayed various stages of brilliant fall colors. Despite the warm weather and great fishing, I never saw another angler.

I’ve heard several reports of hot broodstock salmon fishing on the Shetucket River this autumn, but I can’t personally vouch for that, although I tried twice. As I stood in the river one day the big salmon were using my legs as a current break, but all my Marabou Mickey Finn could catch were a couple of nice brown trout. On another day I had the thrill of seeing my wading Marabou Muddler crashed by an enormous salmon that gave me quite a tussle before spitting the hook back at my head. Ahh

... the ones that get away.

A lot is happening with CFFA these days. We are very grateful to Chuck Koteen for volunteering to be our next Treasurer. In case you don’t know him, Chuck is the guy holding that scary looking 33 inch brown trout on the cover of our October newsletter. We are also deeply grateful to outgoing Treasurer Paul Edberg for continuing to serve in that position during a time of upheaval in his personal life, throughout moving to another state, and for continuing to execute the office until now. Paul has also donated to our club a large amount of quality fishing gear, which will be put to good use in our classes, raffles and tag sales. Thanks Paul, for all that you’ve done for CFFA.

I want to thank Nils Christensen for his many years of service as our Webmaster. Nils will soon be leaving that post so we need someone with just a bit of programming knowledge to take it over. Speak to any board member if you want to know more about the Webmaster position.

Bob Winot has reserved the weekend of May 17th – 19th at The Baxter House in Roscoe, New York for any of our members and friends wanting to experience classic Catskill fly fishing on the Beaverkill, Willowemoc and Delaware Rivers. The Baxter House B&B loves to host our members, and its adjacent fly shop offers guide service including drift boats. However, guides are not required because a great many easily accessed fishing spots are just a few minutes’ drive. Contact Bob for more info on this very affordable club trip.

Mark your calendars for our

Vest

Expo (9am – 3pm) and Banquet (6 – 9pm) on Saturday February 2nd at Maneeley's in South Windsor. The special guest will be legendary fly tier and fly fishing tactician Don Bastian from Pennsylvania. Don will be tying flies during the Expo, plus he plans to conduct a technical seminar. His Banquet presentation will appeal to even non-fishing guests. Our recent Expos and Banquets have been very well attended, have received rave reviews and have been quite successful for the club. This is the single most important day of the year for CFFA, and we really need some more folks to step-up and help to run the event under the guidance of our experienced members. Please consider joining the Expo/Banquet Committee.

Our Beginner Freshwater Fly Tying Course runs for six consecutive Thursdays starting on January 3rd. Most of the classes will be led by one of our professional tyers, Leslie Wrixon or Mike Stewart. That makes this course a real bargain at \$50 per adult, \$40 per member and \$30 for kids. All tools and materials are provided, or bring your own. All classes will be held at Cabela's in the conference room upstairs next to the deli, and will run from 7 – 9pm. This would be a great Christmas present for someone interested in learning to tie. Space is limited so register now on our website or by phoning Education Chairman Richard Gilligan at 860-839-2070.

We are also considering a free advanced tying class for members-only in the other con-

ference room. Promotions V.P. Richard Gaudreau would like to show more members how easy it is to pack a few tools and materials into a bag and tie flies outside of their homes. Sharing favorite patterns is always fun, but we can only do this if we get enough members, so let us know if you are interested in participating.

This month's meeting on December 12th looks to be a great one with fellow member Captain Mike Duclos of Tiderunner Charters presenting an overview of fly fishing opportunities on Long Island Sound. Denise Dauray will have club apparel on hand that could make nice gifts. This meeting also features a special raffle for a TFO Professional Series 8'6", 4-piece, 5-weight rod. I've owned a rod in the TFO Professional Series for some years. It's built on an IM6 blank that blends a soft tip for protecting thin tippet with a powerful butt for fighting strong fish. A free ticket for this raffle will be given to every member that ties flies at the meeting (6:45pm setup). A free ticket will also go to every paid new and renewed membership (\$25 per adult). Even if you can't make the meeting, the club needs your support so please renew your membership by mailing it in.

This newsletter is supported by the advertisers, so support them if you can, and let them know you saw them on these pages. Your submissions to this newsletter are always welcome. Make a note of the upcoming events mentioned above. And have a safe and very merry holiday season.

><<)))*> Bruce



December Meeting

The Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association will present a fly fishing program on Wednesday, Dec 12, 2012 at the Veteran's Memorial Clubhouse, 100 Sunset Ridge, East Hartford, CT., at 7:00 pm

Our December meeting will feature Capt. Mike Duclos, Tiderunner Charter, fly fishing and light tackle charter out of Pine Island Marina in Groton, CT.

Mike's presentation will be, "A season on the Sound". An overview of the fly fishing opportunities from April to November. The primary focus on matching the hatch for Stripers, Bluefish and False Albacore.

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 or visit the CFFA website at www.cfflyfish.org

Expo/Banquet

The Connecticut Fly Fisher Association is pleased to announce its 43rd. Annual Fly Fishing Expo and Dinner Banquet on Saturday, February 2, 2013. Our honored guest will be Don Bastian. Don Bastian has been tying flies since 1964. He was a Pennsylvania fly fishing guide for 16 consecutive seasons and started tying commercially in 1989. He is the author of three fly tying DVD's; Advanced Classic Wet Flies – 2007; Traditional Streamers and Bucktails 2007; and Tying Classic Wet Flies – 2004.

Don was the featured guest author of the Ray Bergman chapter in the book *Forgotten Flies*. It contains 499 wet flies tied by Don. He has a combined total of approximately 765 wet flies, streamers, and bucktails published in *Forgotten Flies*. Don's classic wet and dry flies were regularly published in *Art of Angling Journal* - 2001-2003. He has been published in *Fly Fisherman*, *Fly Tyer*, and *Fly Fusion*, and other magazines.

Don is a fly fishing instructor specializing in teaching tactical dry fly, nymph, and streamer fishing techniques. He is a demonstrator and lecturer, and has participated at various shows, forums, and fly tying exhibits since 1991. He has been an amateur photographer since 1982. He has been a fly tying instructor since 1984, presenting fly tying classes at Trout Unlimited Chapters, fly shops, private clubs, and other venues. Don is a fly designer and has created nearly 125 original fly patterns. He has appeared as a Featured

Fly Tier at the Annual L. L. Bean Spring Fishing Expo in Freeport, Maine, four times since 2006.

Don is presently working on his first book, titled *The Favorite Flies of Mary Orvis Marbury*.

His flies can be purchased on <http://www.MyFlies.com>

Don Bastian Wet Flies website: <http://donbastianwetflies.wordpress.com> 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. Don Bastian 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 25, 2013. 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. 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, penna marinara and dinner rolls with butter are served with each meal. As always a great desert is included. 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 860-653-4203 or go to www.ctflyfish.org and click on banquet for more information.



Roscoe Trip

The CFFA is sponsoring a week-end trip to the birth place of fly fishing, Roscoe New York. Come join your fellow club members for a week end of fly fishing, May 17, 18 and 19th. Ken and Michelle Tutalo will be our host at The Baxter House River Outfitters. Enjoy the company of friends while fishing The Beaverkill River, the Willowemoc River and the East and West Branch of the Delaware River.

The trip will include lodging on Friday and Saturday night. Cost is \$100.00 for club members. Visit The Baxter House website for information about the lodging and available guide service.

Please contact Bob Winot at 860-292-1685 or rwinot25@cox.net for more information and reservations.

Coming Events

BOARD MEETING DEC 5th
CLUB MEETING DEC 12th
Beginner Fly Tying Classes Begin Jan. 3rd
Expo & Banquet Feb. 2nd
Roscoe trip May 17th -19th
CLUB POSITIONS THAT MUST BE FILLED
Banquet Committee

Catch of The Month



This "Catch of the Month" was submitted by Maria Ellis, she visited Glacier National Park in Montana this summer for her first ever cutthroat trout!

If you have a photo of the great fish you have caught, please send it to the Editor at: todd.gorman@mac.com

Dick Wemmell's Fly Box



Brook Trout Muddler

Hook: 3X Nymph Hook

Thread: Dark Brown 6/0

Body: Copper Flashabou

Wing: Yellow/Orange/Brown Marabou

Head: Enrico Puglisi EP Short Fiber Streamer

Brown Root Beer Two Turns

Fly tied by Dick Wemmell

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2013 CFFA Banquet 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 The dinners are \$40.00 per plate. Mail Reservation Form and Check **(by 1/25/2013)** To:

Mr. Michael Stewart
215 Loomis St.
N. Granby, CT 06060
Make Check payable to CFFA

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: Street: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Contact Phone No.: _____

E-mail: _____

Number of Reservations: _____

Number of Prime Rib Dinners: _____

Number of Stuffed Sole Dinners: _____

Number of Chicken Marsala Dinners: _____

Request for Vegetarian Dinners: _____

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Rod Raffle

This years raffle will be for a Winston Blix 8 1/2 4wt 4pc rod, an Orvis CFO III Reel w/spare spool Rio Select DT 4wt line and a Teeny 130 line Tickets are \$20.00 Only 60 tickets will be sold! Tickets will be available at the Dec. and Jan.monthly meetings or mail a check to:
CFFA c/o Kurt Jagielow 14 Earl Ave.
Hamden, CT 06514

FVTU Tag Sale

The Farminton Valley Trout Unlimited has rescheduled their Angling Gear Tag Sale. It will now be held on Thursday, January 3, 2012. It will be held from 6-9 p.m. It will be held at the Farmington Community Center at 321 New Britain Avenue in Union, CT. Admission is free.

CRSA Dinner

The CT River Salmon Assoc. will hold it's 37 annual dinner Jan. 19, 2013 at the Chowder Pot IV 165 Brainard Rd. Hartford, CT. Social hour/preview 5-6:30 pm dinner at 6:30 pm. Guest speaker is William Hyatt from DEEP Tickets are \$40.00 each. Download reservation forms at ctriversalsalmon.org or call Tom Chrosniak 860 519-7451 or Jim Carroll 860 236-5181



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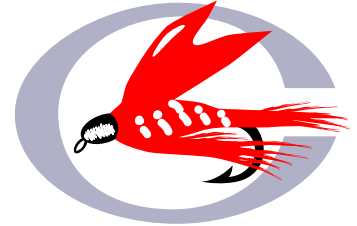
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 **Connecticut**
Fly Fisherman's Association

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FLY FISHERS

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