

Lines & Leaders

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February 2012

The Newsletter of The Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association

FROM THE VEST OF THE PRESIDENT

MARCH MEETING

Bill Keister

PERRY STREAM SPECIAL

By Dick Wemmell



CFFA's fly Tying Class



From The Vest Of The President

"If I told you all that went down, it would burn off both of your ears"

Lyric from "Deal"
Hunter/Garcia

CFFA's 42nd Annual Expo & Banquet on February 4th was a huge success! Fine weather set the stage for a day that was jam-packed with fly fishing fun, information, instruction, and gear. I can't possibly tell you all that went down, but I have to try to thank all the folks that made it happen.

Turnout at the expo was above normal with 227 paid attendees, plus there were over 20 exhibitor booths, 12 demonstration fly tyers, four program presenters, and a dozen members staffing the event. The exhibitors are the core of our expo, and they included the best our area has in the way of fly shops, gear makers and distributors, guides, resorts, authors, artists, and many more. The cast of distinguished volunteer fly tyers included Leslie

Wrixon, Mary Edwards, Mike Stewart, John Baracchi, Capt. Mark Dysinger, Bill Newcomb, Sean Murphy, Dave Benoit, Paul Rosman, Lee Schecter, Bruce Marino, and Shawn Britton. The Fly Tying with Kids program was led by our very own fly tying whiz-kid Kyle Dauray, with some help from Gary Bogli. Many attendees had great things to

say about all four guides that gave presentations: Marla Blair, Rob Nicholas, Capt. Ray Stachelek and Loren Williams. Many of us worked hard at the expo including Denise Dauray, Christine Rich and Seth York at the front door, and Phil McCormick and John Baracchi with the signage. The guy that plans and organizes our expo is Roger Plourde, and it just could not happen without his networking and his dedicated efforts. He always makes our expo rewarding for both the vendors and the guests. Many thanks to Roger and to all who attended, exhibited, demonstrated, presented and worked so hard to make our expo exceed expectations.

The staff at Maneeley's did an excellent job of hosting our events all day, providing lunch and serving about 140 dinners on time. Lynn and Mike Stewart put in a lot of time making sure all the dinner reservations



went smoothly. Working hard behind the scenes were Banquet Committee members Paul Edberg who especially helped with finances, and Kyle Dauray who arranged the donated flies. Gary Bogli gave an eloquent invocation.

The perimeter of the banquet room was lined with 80 different bucket raffle prizes that included quality gear, clothing, artwork, books, and beverages. I would have been happy to take home any one of those prizes. All the prizes were either donated by our members and friends, or provided by businesses – mostly local shops – at little or no cost. The fly raffle had over 50 boxes of flies, all of which were donated by our members. Debbie Jagielow and Sonia Rodriguez spent most of the evening providing everyone with raffle tickets.

Our Special Guest was USA Fly Fishing Team member and Pulaski-area guide, Loren Williams, who made this entire day uniquely memorable. His Expo presentation, "Nymph Tricks", was full to overflowing with interested attendees. Loren made himself available throughout the day to everyone with a question, which included giving impromptu casting lessons in the parking lot and teaching knot-tying between courses at the dinner table. The highlight of our banquet was his program that engaged all of our senses to experience the world through fly fishing with observations and photos from his travels with Team USA.

Kurt Jagielow works



March Meeting

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

Our speaker will be Bill Keister. He will give a presentation/workshop on nymph fish. His presentation will have particular relevance to Connecticut Rivers and Connecticut trout. He will define and explain long line and high stick nymphing. Flies which are particularly effective will be described. Rods, lines, leaders, strike indicators and weights will be covered. The importance of drag free drifts and casts and method for producing drag free drifts will be explained. Questions will be answered at any time during the presentation. Your interaction will make it a workshop.

If nymph fishing is a mystery this could be a very good presentation for you. If you think you know all about nymphing you may still learn something or be able to contribute to the discussion.

Bill Keister is a Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF) certified Master Casting Instructor (MCI). He ties his own flies and makes most of his fly rods. He has caught trout and salmon in Labrador, Newfoundland, Kamchatka, the Kola Peninsula, Alaska, Chile and three additional Canadian provinces and fifteen US states. Each spring he catches 200-300 fish nymphing on Connecticut's Salmon River. 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.ctflyfish.org

Vest Continued

throughout the year in preparation for this one day, which includes arranging all of the many raffles, the hall, and every other detail of our banquet. His tireless efforts have resulted in another home run for our club in 2012. We are deeply grateful to Kurt and to everyone else who participated in making our banquet so successful.

Our Freshwater and Saltwater Fly Fishing Classes begin on Thursday March 8th and each has four Thursday nights of classroom sessions plus two on-the-water sessions. Our next club meeting is March 14th and will feature Bill Kiester presenting "Nymphing for Trout"; there will be more about that in the March newsletter. For now, please remember we need some members to step-up and help with the raffle at the monthly meetings and to fill the Publicity Chair position on our Board of Directors.

><<)))*> Bruce

Coming Events

NEXT BOARD MEETING MARCH 7th
NEXT CLUB MEETING MARCH 14th

Fly Fishing Classes:

Fresh Water & Saltwater Fly Fishing Schools Begins Thursday March 8th at 7:00PM, taught by the Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association, Both schools have 4 classroom sessions held at Veteran's Memorial Clubhouse in East Hartford on Thursday nights, plus there will be two field trips; Casting and On-water instructions. The freshwater fly casting session will be in East Hartford and stream instruction will be held on the Willimantic River. The saltwater fly casting lesson will take place at a site TBD as will the fly fishing on water instructions. Cost is \$50 (non-members), \$40 (members), \$30 (16yrs. and under), call 860-839-2070 or www.ctflyfish.org for information and reservations



Catch of The Month



This "Catch of the Month" was submitted by John Springer. 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



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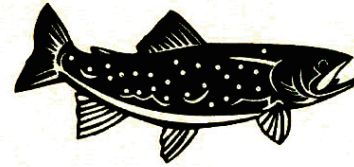
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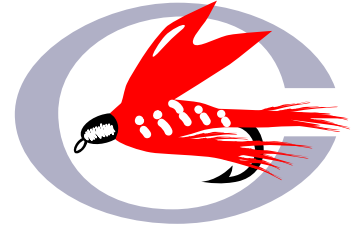
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 **Connecticut**
Fly Fisherman's Association

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FLY FISHERS**

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