

Lines & Leaders

www.ctflyfish.org

March 2012

The Newsletter of The Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association

**FROM THE VEST OF
THE PRESIDENT**

**MARCH
MEETING**
Bill Keister

WHITE GHOST
By Dick Wemmell



Barkhamsted Reservoir



From The Vest Of The President

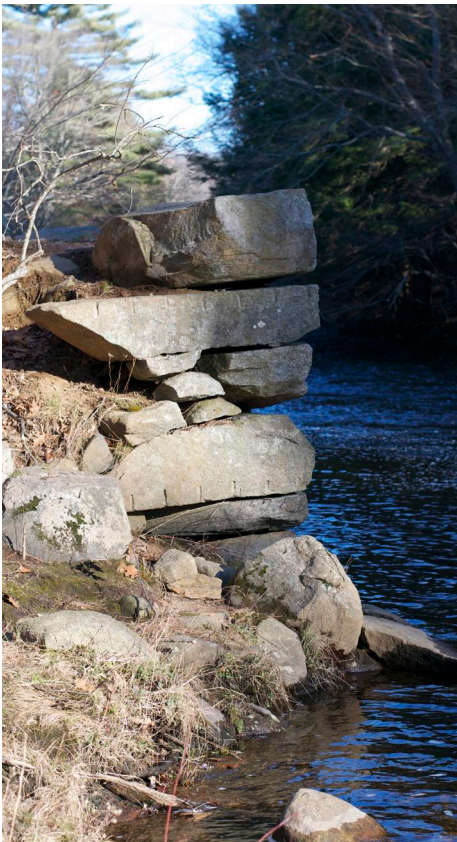
“Spend time on any shoreline and you are reminded that we live in a world of constant change.”

Ed Mitchell
Fly Rodding Estuaries

2003
The man who is now our club’s Conservation Chairman wrote those words in a book about marine environments, but they apply equally

well to the shorelines of rivers and lakes. Ed goes on to explain that in order to survive, fish depend upon their ability to adapt to nature’s ever-changing moods. Good anglers must also adapt to what they find each time they visit a shoreline. It is good to plan your fishing, however it is more important to be observant, open-minded and flexible while on the water. This adds a scientific component to our fly fishing. If the same tactics caught fish every time, we would miss the pleasure of trying to solve the mystery-of-the-moment, and fly fishing would quickly lose its excitement. That’s why the first fish of the day feels





like a great achievement, especially if it comes after many tactical changes and fishless casts. Even getting skunked affords us opportunities to learn and to enjoy nature. Our appreciation for the natural world grows when we study its changes both large and small, and appreciation is a pretty good state of mind. Humans often seek stability, but the only absolute guarantee from nature is constant change. Experienced anglers find great joy in that.

One way to embrace constant change is by keeping a detailed log of every fishing session. Try recording things like weather, water conditions, bird activity, bugs present, flies and



March Meeting

The Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association will present a fly fishing program on Wednesday, March 14, 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

Thank You

We had a lot of help this year with the Expo and Banquet. Many people stepped up to help. THANK YOU!!!

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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

Farmington Valley Trout Unlimited 2012 Banquet:

Friday, March 23rd, 2012
USS Chowder Pot IV – 165 Brainard Road, Hartford. Off of I-91, just south of downtown Hartford. Banquet begins at 6 p.m. with a cash bar, dinner at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$40 each

Contact Jerry Bannock at (860) 793-9929 or Bill Case at (860) 678-7245



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



White Ghost

Hook: 6X Streamer

Thread: Yellow

Body: Pearl Mylar

Rib: XS Silver Mylar

Wing: White Poly

Tail & Beard: Yellow

Eyes: Painted

Fly tied by Dick Wemmell

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Vest Continued

presentations used and the resulting interest from the fish. That is exactly what Bill Keister does. Bill will present a nymph fishing program at the March 14th CFFA monthly meeting. Bill is our fellow member and an FFF certified Master Casting Instructor. He has caught trout and salmon throughout North America and around the world. Bill will share knowledge from his years of detailed log-keeping and he will focus on the various nymphing methods that catch trout in our local waters. The audience will be encouraged to

ask questions and share experiences. Our meetings are free and open to the public, so bring a friend to experience our fly tyers, raffles and nymph fishing presentation.

A great place to start learning how to "read the water" is our Beginning Fly Fishing Classes. Scheduled to start on March 8th, they include four Thursday evening classroom sessions at the Clubhouse (not Cabela's this time), plus two sessions on the water in April. Both fresh water and saltwater beginner fly fishing classes are planned, providing a sufficient number of students register. The price for all six sessions

can't be beat at \$50 for non-members, \$40 for members and \$30 for anyone under 16 years old. If you or someone you know is interested, the registration form is on our website, or just call Gilli at 860-839-2070.

Like everything else, our club is changing too. The raffle at our monthly meetings is going to disappear unless someone steps-up to help run it. We are also looking for folks to help DEEP stock trout into the Willimantic River this season. Speak with any board member if you are interested in helping.

May all your changes be for the better.

><<)))*> Bruce





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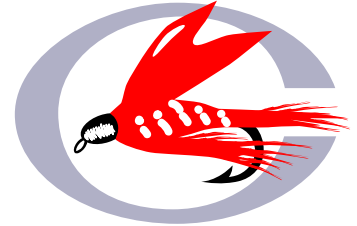
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 **Connecticut**
Fly Fisherman's Association

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FEDERATION OF
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