



Jim Plante fishing big streamers on the Farmington River in November

The Newsletter of The Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association

DECEMBER MEETING CAPT. RAY STACHELEK TUNA HELPER

Dick Wemmell's fly box

FROM THE VEST OF THE PRESIDENT

Special Raffle to support YOUR club

60 Ticket Raffle

Winston Tom Morgan Favorite Rod

8' 4wt. 2 pc.

Hardy 4000CC Reel

Rio 4 wt. Line

Ticket price \$20.00

Tickets will be available for purchase at the November, December and January monthly meetings or by sending a check made out to:

CFFA c/o Kurt Jagielow

14 Earl Ave Ext.

Hamden CT 06514



Al Sonski Hatchery manager for our Salmon program at Limestone

From the vest of the President

"Some of the best fishing is done not in water but in print"

Sparse Grey Hackle



Seems like Old Man Winter has arrived early this year, and that has me wanting to curl-up with a good book on these cold nights. Thank goodness I remembered to borrow one from the Bob Goldman Memorial Library at last month's meeting. At our next meeting I'll return this one and borrow another book. In fact, I'll probably take out two books in December because I don't expect the nights to warm-up anytime soon. There are currently nearly a hundred books in the Goldman Library. What a treasure it is to have such a great collection of angling literature available for free to CFFA members. Our thanks go to Jonathan and Scott for making this library available to all of us at our monthly meetings.

I just finished reading a really good book titled "Along the Water's Edge" written by fellow CFFA member Ed Mitchell and just recently published.

This is the fourth book Ed has authored about saltwater fly fishing, and the first collection of his short stories and articles. Some of the material is new, and some has appeared in fly fishing magazines over the past two decades. It's a good read for any fan of fly fishing literature. It also belongs on the shelf for when you want to bone-up on a particular subject. I want to thank Ed for donating a copy to CFFA's bucket raffle at our upcoming banquet. Find out more about Ed's latest book, including how to order copies directly from Ed at his website

www.edmitchelloutdoors.com or email him at e.mitchell6@yahoo.com.

Speaking of CFFA's Banquet, it's going to be on Saturday February 7th, so save the date. If you have a raffle prize to donate, see our Banquet Chairman Kurt Jagielow. Our special guest this year is George Daniel, an extremely accomplished trout fisherman who has authored a fine book titled "Dynamic Nymphing". He will present a technical fly fishing program during the Expo and he'll be available throughout the day on the Expo floor. George will have a different program with broader appeal that evening at the Banquet. It's all shaping-up to be one of our best days ever, but Kurt and Roger could sure use some help, mostly with setting up and taking down the Expo exhibitors. Please let us know if you can do some work before 9am or just after 3pm on February 7th. It would be great to have some new folks helping out.

Which is why I am happy to announce that Dan Price recently stepped-up to

become CFFA's Publicity Chairman. Dan has already been busy advertising our December meeting. We welcome Dan to CFFA's Board of Directors and look forward to his contributions in this important position.

CFFA's Board usually meets on the first Wednesday of the month; however we have no Board of Directors meetings currently scheduled for January or February. Starting in March the Board will meet at a location other than the Clubhouse. It seems foolish to rent the entire Clubhouse for only about a dozen people, so starting in March the Board will meet at a venue that costs the club nothing. Any CFFA member can attend a Board meeting, but first check the newsletter or with a Board member to determine the correct time and place. Our regular monthly club meetings will continue to be at the Clubhouse as usual on the second Wednesday of the month, except there will be no monthly meeting in February because of the Expo and Banquet.

Our monthly club meeting on Wednesday December 10th will feature a presentation on saltwater fly fishing, especially for inshore tunas. Captain Ray Stachelek of Cast-a-Fly Charters took the photo at the head of this column and he was certainly my "tuna helper" that day. Albies and bonito prefer small baits, and that gives fly fishers some advantages that Ray will explain. This is a good meeting to bring a friend who enjoys fishing the salt and is interested in doing it with a fly. You can also do some Christmas shopping at this meeting because Denise will have club hats and other apparel for sale. We all enjoy seeing flies

being tied, so feel free to setup before the meeting and tie up a few. Every person tying flies at this meeting will receive 12 free tickets for the monthly raffle.

Our Beginner Fly Tying Class starts on January 8th at 7pm at Cabela's meeting room next to their deli. It runs for six consecutive Thursdays. At only \$40 for members, and \$30 per kid, this class could be a great Christmas present for someone you know. Experienced club members are encouraged to come out to assist the students to tie their first flies. For more information or to register contact Education Chairman Richard Gilligan by phoning him at 860-839-2070.

Remember that our Newsletter Editor John Springer always invites you to send him your fly fishing stories and photos. Don't forget to support our newsletter advertisers whenever possible. I also suggest that you make good use of the amazing Goldman Library and do some fishing in print this winter.

><<)))*> Bruce



Our Banquet and Expo Speaker for February 7th will be George Daniel

George Daniel began fly fishing at age 6 while growing up in Potter County, PA. Growing up along a native brook trout fishery designated as a “kids only section” and being the only kid in the village who fished, George developed a passion for fly fishing. Through his early teens, much of his fly fishing knowledge was self taught. However, his family relocated to central PA when George was 14, where he eventually ran into his fly fishing idol, Joe Humphreys at a local fly shop. Joe took George under his wing and provided began providing his first formalized fly fishing instruction. Joe began to provide instruction on all levels (e.g. basic cast to advanced nymphing casts) when George was 16 years old. George credits Joe Humphreys for the bulk of his knowledge along with many national and international fly fishing professionals.

Then in 2005, George had an opportunity to try out for Fly Fishing Team USA in Bend, OR. After qualifying for the team, George had the opportunity to compete in 6 World Fly Fishing Championships, coach both the US Youth

Team and Fly Fishing Team USA in 4 World Championships. During this time, George has had an opportunity to travel the globe and learn from some of the best anglers in the World.

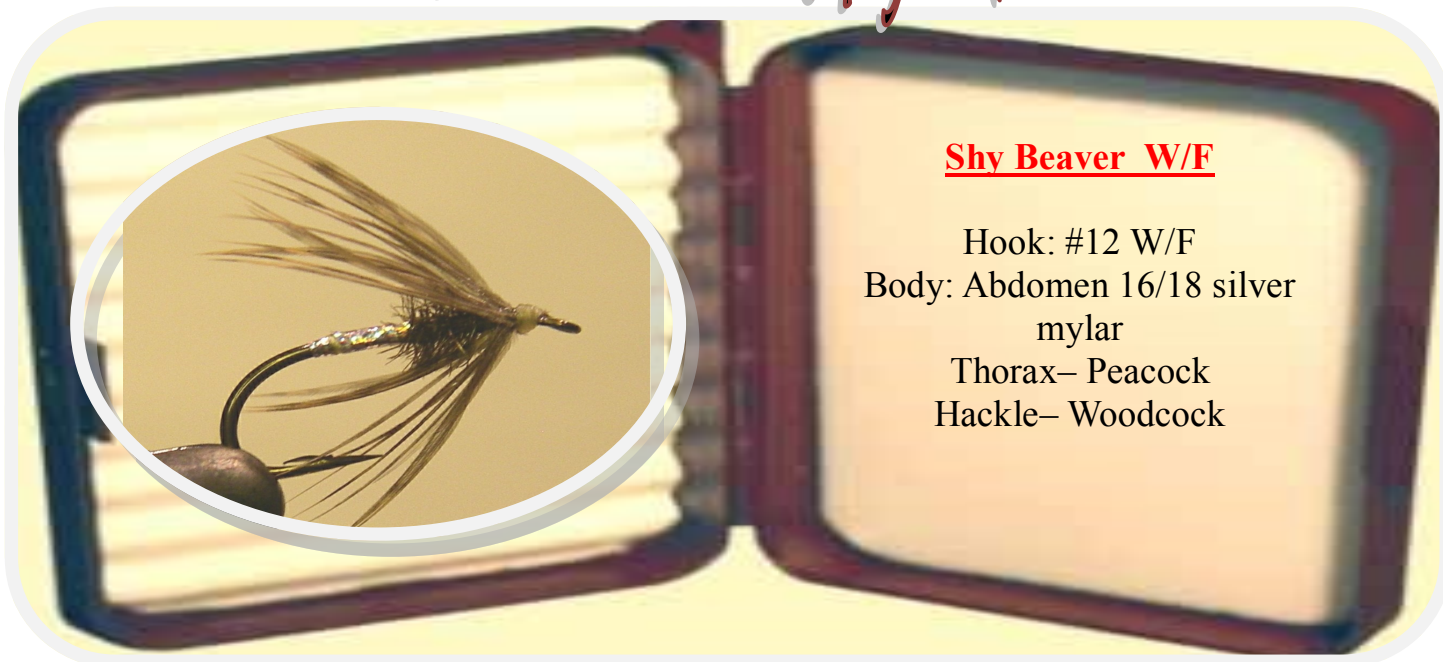
George is a two-time US National Fly Fishing Champion and was ranked as high as 5th in the World. Currently, George is head coach for Fly Fishing Team USA.

George’s passion is in fly fishing education, where he conducts lectures/seminars throughout the country. He logs over 200 days a year on trout waters near and far. George and his wife Amidea bought and restored an old home along his favorite trout stream, where they spend many hours with their two children walking along the banks, throwing stones, and sometimes even catching a fish. George is the author of the best selling book, “Dynamic Nymphing” along with being published in Fly Fisherman, American Angler and Fly Tyer magazines.

He’s pro staffer for a number of fly fishing companies including Simms, Orvis Fly Rods, Scientific Anglers, Smith Optics, Hatch Reels, Loon, Regal Vises. George is a fly designer for Umpqua Feather Merchants and recently joined the Fly Rod Chronicle’s Pro Staff.



Dick Wemmell's Fly Box



Shy Beaver W/F

Hook: #12 W/F
 Body: Abdomen 16/18 silver
 mylar
 Thorax– Peacock
 Hackle– Woodcock

Board of Directors

President • Bruce Rich

(c) 860-450-6390 (e) ergopro@comcast.net

Activities VP • Bob Winot

Environment VP • Stan Calabrese:

(h) 860-569-2923

Promotions VP • Richard Gaudreau:

(h) 860-745-0548 (e) readfr1@cox.net

Recording Secretary • Phil McCormick (h) 860-871-8703

Legal Secretary • Mark Barbieri (h) 860-623-8187

Treasurer • Chuck Koteen

Advisory Board • Gary Bogli (h) 860-649-4227

Advisory Board • Ray Riley (h) 860-721-0547

Advisory Board • John Baracchi

Banquet Chairman • Kurt Jagielow

Conservation Chairman • Ed Mitchell

Education Chairman • Rich Gilligan (h) 860-839-2070

Indoor Facilities Chairman. • Denise Dauray

Legislative Chairman • Vin Ringrose (h) 860-828-4642

Membership Chairman • Phil McCormick

(h) 860-871-8703

Newsletter Chairman • John Springer

(h) 860-510-2383 (e) cffa@comcast.net

Program Chairman • Roger Plourde

(h) 860-747-4297 (w) 860-747-3324

Publicity Chairman– Dan Price

Webmaster is open, we need someone to help out with this

YOUR club needs one of you to come forward to fill one open Position . Perhaps you have a few hours a month, if that to fill this position? As you already know some of us give many hours each month so everyone can enjoy themselves and learn more about fishing. And if you think your busy so are we but we enjoy doing this how about giving it a try? Bruce is waiting to hear from 1 member to be our webmaster.

THE WELL BY GEORGE JACOBI

©2014

Sometime between 9 and 10 AM, the September morning has warmed enough for the Pseudocloeons to begin floating down the long pools of the Housatonic. Nowadays they have a new Latin name, *Accentrella*. I still like ‘Pseudos’, or the common “Blue-winged Olives”. These tiny mayflies, the most consistent food source for trout during these fall days, swim up from the bottom and then struggle to hatch into a winged fly and get airborne. Drifting in the river for a long, long time, they are difficult for a hungry fish to resist. They sail past the rock and into the Well, where some disappear in a gentle head and tail rise.

A cloudy windless day in the 50s or 60s is a perfect recipe for a heavy hatch. The bugs may not peter out until 5 PM when the cold of the night comes on. Brown trout are podded up along the best current seams, and they work with an unhurried grace, tipping up only for flies that go right above them. Time seems to stretch out, a blessing for a dry fly addict. A Bald Eagle sails past overhead. Mergansers in packs crash-dive into pockets and then leave ten minutes later. The ubiquitous Great Blue Herons are frozen on their rocks hunting. Today is a harmonic convergence, where all dissonances have been resolved. It already feels as if it will go on forever.

Perhaps the fact that winter is lurking not far ahead makes it easier to ignore time and be immersed in the present. Still, you better adopt an attitude of peace and patience if you wish to play this game. The flies are a size 28 at best (the size of a capital letter here) and imitations are best fished with a 12 foot 8X leader. You don’t have to fish this way; it is terribly difficult fishing - but addictive. The riffles will call you to go find some easier fishing.

As the feeding settles into a rhythm, you can cast a short line and float your imitation BWO over the trout again and again without disturbing their concentration. Whether they think it’s a fake fly or just a piece of inedible twig is a moot point; they just ignore it and go on feeding. When you do almost everything right, a trout will tip up and stare closely at the fly. When you do everything ALMOST right, a trout sips in your fly, you have too much slack in the leader, and you miss the strike.

Sometimes I follow the fly with my eyes, seeing it as a perfect drag-free float, and then the fly (for it is a real one) hops and

skips a bit and takes off into the air. Where the hell is my own fly?

Once in a while, you hook a trout and have to resist looking around to see if anyone is watching. You’re a success! More often than you want, you stop and change the fly or the tippet, searching repetitively for perfection of imitation.

I’ve fished this hole for more than 35 years. Remarkably, it’s pretty much the same. The ‘Well’ is a deeper slot in the near part of the pool formed by two large rocks, one downstream of the other. Currents fan out and down on both sides and there are usually 30 or more brown trout in the living-room sized area. There is almost always a riseform dissipating, slowly disappearing. You can watch from the car as you go by and see a ring. On a fall day like this one, with a good hatch, there are usually ten or more slurps in various stages of spreading out, and a nose or two poking through the surface film. By two in the afternoon the river is carpeted with Pseudos and there are trout rising all over the place. I could stand here and watch this for hours.

The Well is just a deeper slot filled with moving stream water. The Well is a hole that one reaches into at will, filled with hope, trout, challenge, and sport. And sometimes the Well can become a magical space filled with dreams that look like red and gold reflections of trees. It’s a zone where everything pauses and there is no growing older, no penalty for just stopping and looking. Like Tolkien said in “The Fellowship of the Ring”, “Time doesn’t seem to pass here, it just is”. The old Housatonic Line may run up the other side of the river, but that train don’t stop here no more.

This is a moment where the energy and beauty of life is so much at peace with itself that even a human can feel it. Aren’t we looking for such a place? The music of a river, ever changing but always the same, is renewed minute by minute. The harmony of water and wind, the rich smell of falling leaves. There is always a mayfly and always a trout to eat it, the story of life and death, going on since the beginning of the earth. Constant movement, yet the sense that nothing happens. A well of timelessness. Never mind the trout, sometimes I think this is why I fly fish.

Editor’s note, I’ve known George over 20 years he is a good fisherman and writer and I thank him for sharing this.

Captain Mark Dysinger



T: 860-452-4154
C: 203-815-8412
E: fishstalker@comcast.net
W: www.flyosophy.com

MILL RIVER FLY RODS

www.MillRiverFlyRods.com

Lynn and Bill Lanzoni

(203)-506-6600

backcast@MillRiverFlyRods.com



OFFICIAL MEMBER OF TROUT UNLIMITED'S
Outfitters, Guides & Business Members Program

Stitched Concepts

Corporate Apparel

Apparel Embroidery for All Your Company Needs

Ted Koch

27 Naek Rd., Unit 7
P.O. Box 2065
Vernon, CT 06066

Phone 860-872-4455
Fax 860-870-4598
www.stitchedconcepts.com
info@stitchedconcepts.com



By Appointment:
(860) 747-3324

Cedar House

Looking to buy Fly Fishing Tackle, Tying Materials,
Firearms and related items. Custom Framing

I have some very nice used rods and reels for sale.

146 New Britain Ave (Rt. 372)
Rear Building
Plainville, CT 06062

Roger Plourde

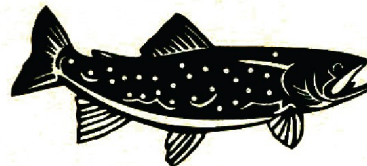


WILLINGTON PIZZA TOO

Route 74 Phelps Crossing
Willington, Connecticut
(860) 429-9030

www.willingtonpizza.com

UpCountry Sportfishing



352 Main Street, P.O. Box 44 • Pine Meadow, CT 06061

Phone: (860) 379-1952

www.FarmingtonRiver.com

Capt. Mike Duclos

• Tiderunner Charter •

Saltwater Fly, Spin & Drift Fishing
Stripers, Blues, False Albacore, Bonito

Pine Island Marina
Groton, CT 06340
(413) 427-1198

www.tiderunnercharter.com
mduclos@tiderunnercharter.com



MEMBER

Providing Professional
Home Inspection Services
In MA & CT

East Coast Home Inspections, LLC

MARK ROY

Home Inspector of the Year

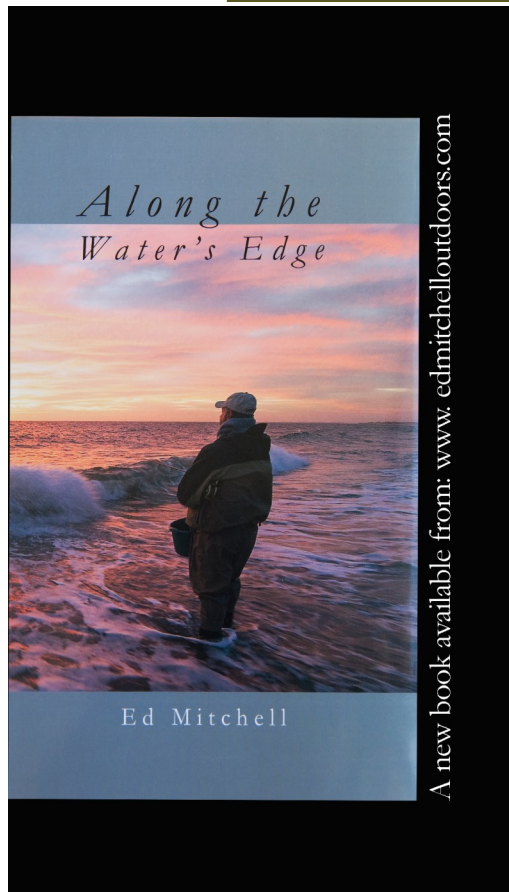
P.O. Box 558
Enfield, CT 06083
e-mail: mark_roy@sbcglobal.net

(860) 763-4030
(800) 263-2267
www.eastcoastinspect.com

Our advertisers exist to provide you with excellent products and services and they do need your support. Mention that you are with CFFA, they do appreciate the feedback and patronage from club members. Plus they are an excellent source for information on gear, tackle, fishing tips, and

Lines & Leaders

The Newsletter of The Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association



SAVE THE DATE

Monthly meeting Weds. December 10
7 PM at Clubhouse

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jersey Fishing Show Jan. 23-25

Garden State Convention Center Somerset NJ

Jan. 8th - Start of Fly Tying Classes at Cabela's

Feb. 7th - Expo/Banquet

No BOD meetings scheduled for Jan. or Feb.



P.O. Box 380268
East Hartford, CT 06138

**FEDERATION OF
FLY FISHERS**

