

The Newsletter of The Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association



Retired State Trooper Peter Naples with a line up of CFFA instructors looking for the one bad one. You can see one person giving him a hard time.

FROM THE VEST OF THE PRESIDENT OCTOBER MEETING BOB SAMPSON

“Toothy Critters to Tunoids



From the vest of the President

"There's more B.S. in fly fishing than there is in a Kansas feedlot." Lefty Kreh



It was nice to see so many friends at the September meeting and to meet some new folks, too. Our meetings are free and open to the public, and it has been a great tradition of CFFA to welcome new guests so bring a friend whenever you can. Our members are always glad to help new folks learn about our club and about fly fishing, and that's one of the great things about CFFA. The speaker at the meeting was John Springer who took us on an entertaining tour of fishing the Missouri River in Montana and we all left with a lot of useful information.

Thanks to Ted Rzepski for tying flies at the September meeting, as he so often does, and for always sharing insights about his patterns with the folks who stop at his table. We'd like to see more tyers at the meetings, so anyone that ties at the October meeting will receive a dozen free tickets for the monthly raffle. You do not need to be an expert tyer to setup a vice at our meetings. Our club has all types of tyers, including non-tyers, and it's always interesting to see someone else's creations.

This edition of Lines & Leaders contains a nice story by Gary Steinmiller and future editions could use more sto-

ries from our members. Editor John Springer would love to receive your stories and/or pictures, whether they are true, fictional or pure B.S. You'll notice that John has also sprinkled throughout this edition photos taken earlier this year at our Fly Fishing Class. Thanks to Dan Price for taking most of those photos and for putting more of them onto our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/ctflyfish.

There will be no haunted house at the Clubhouse this autumn so our October and November meetings will be held there. Due to Veterans Day, the November meeting will occur on Thursday November 12th which is one day later than normal. Our speaker at the Wednesday October 14th meeting will be long-time New England fishing specialist, and DEP's first Marine Recreational Fisheries Biologist, Bob Samson. Bob's program titled "Toothy Critters and Tunoids" will feature both fresh and saltwater fishing. Bob is a widely published author, and I often find myself referring to his book, "Fishing the CT & RI Coasts", for potential places to wet my line.

On Saturday October 10th, starting at 7:30am, there will be an informal gathering of CFFA members at the Whittemore Parking Area of Peoples State Forest for some fall fishing. If you plan to attend, phone Dan Price at 860-301-9696 so he can plan for enough coffee and donuts. I have always found October to be an outstanding month for fresh water fly fishing in New England. Fall trout stockings are being completed and all fish are eager to fatten-up before winter. There is also a lot of saltwater action in October, as evidenced by the photo at the top of this article. With only about eleven hours of daylight, we can fish at dawn and still get a good night's sleep. We can fish through dusk and still be home for dinner. The fish we stalk are feeding aggressively right now, so I hope you get out there and meet a few. That's what I'll be doing ... and that's no B.S.

><<)))*> Bruce

**Join CFFA Members on the 10th of October, 2015
for a CFFA Member On Water Day**

**Where: Peoples State Forest - Matthies Grove,
Barkhamsted**

Park in Lot on Left for Fishermen

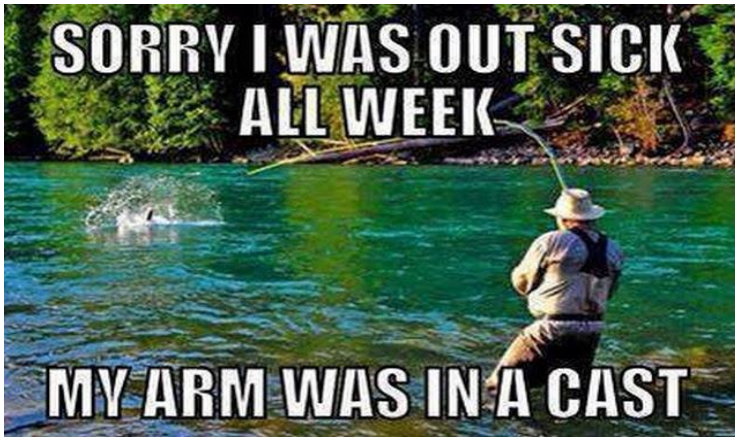
Time: 7:30 a.m. to.....

Free Coffee and Donuts from 7:30 to 8:30

**Sign Up by October 7, 2015 – Email: Dan Price -
waidanconn1@sbcglobal.net;**

or call Dan: 860-301-9696

**Thank you to the members who sent in pictures,
looks like Albie fishing so far this fall is great!**



Montana October 2008

GARY STEINMILLER



September's presentation by John Springer on the Missouri River refreshed my memory of a fall trip I took to Montana in 2008 with CFFA members Jerry Wade, Guy Bagdasarian and Charlie Place (passed on but not forgotten).

Our 1st day was a drift on the Missouri with hired guides. The guides taught us what we needed to know to catch fish but most important where we could access the river the next few days on our own. We did not expect snow when we made our plans for our trip but here it was when we woke up the next morning. Luckily we had the clothes for it. The trout did not care that it was snowing and we didn't either. They continued to feed on the millions of midges that were hatching so we used the flies that our guide showed us and we caught fish. Nice fish.



The next part of our trip was spent in Dillon where we fished the Beaverhead and the Big Hole Rivers. Again we hired a guide for our 1st day on the Beaverhead and again we learned enough to help us when we returned on our own. The river was very low (too low to drift) and

Typical Beaverhead Rainbow



the banks were snow covered. These two facts kept the crowds away. We had the river to ourselves

And once again the fish were willing to eat despite the cold. Small insects were hatching so we fished small flies to match them. We ended our trip with a drift on the Big



BestProducers



Priceless

Hole River which had the best native scenery of the 3.

We would fish while drifting and stop and wade also. The fish here were not as large as the Missouri & Beaverhead

fish but were every bit as strong and beautiful.

That trip was 7 years ago. The clock continues to tick and the rivers continue to flow. I am so glad I met Charlie through our CFFA and had the opportunity to enjoy fly fishing with him and his friends.

About our speaker this month



Lets call the presentation: “Toothy Critters to Tunoids” which will cover many of the angling options we have around this area. I will focus on the ocean fishing. With a small mention of the pike and some northern species that would be a huge thrill for fly rod fishermen to catch. Saltwater rigs can handle either pike or muskies.

You want a fly rod slant, which I will give, but I do not use the long rods, decades of casting make it painful and difficult for me these days. Though back in the 70's for about five minutes I had a fly rod caught striper that beat the then current IGFA world record at 15 or 18 pounds, which was promptly topped by a fish twice plus times that size.

I'm now retired for about three years. Taught an “at risk” population of high school kids for about 23 years. Was regional director CT and RI for Ducks Unlimited for five years prior to that, and was a the Recreational Fisheries Biologist for the Connecticut then DEP, now DEEP.

Have been a free lance writer photographer for the entire time. Learned to take photos because they sell stories. Have a column in the Norwich Bulletin every other Thursday (was weekly for 43 years but budgets shrunk so now it is biweekly), have published in national and regional magazines ranging from species specific publications such as Musky Hunter Magazine, to Outdoor Life. I have a story coming out in September 2016 Deer and

Deer Hunting, a feature that the editor told me was going to be the “back page” feature , which is an honor of sorts.

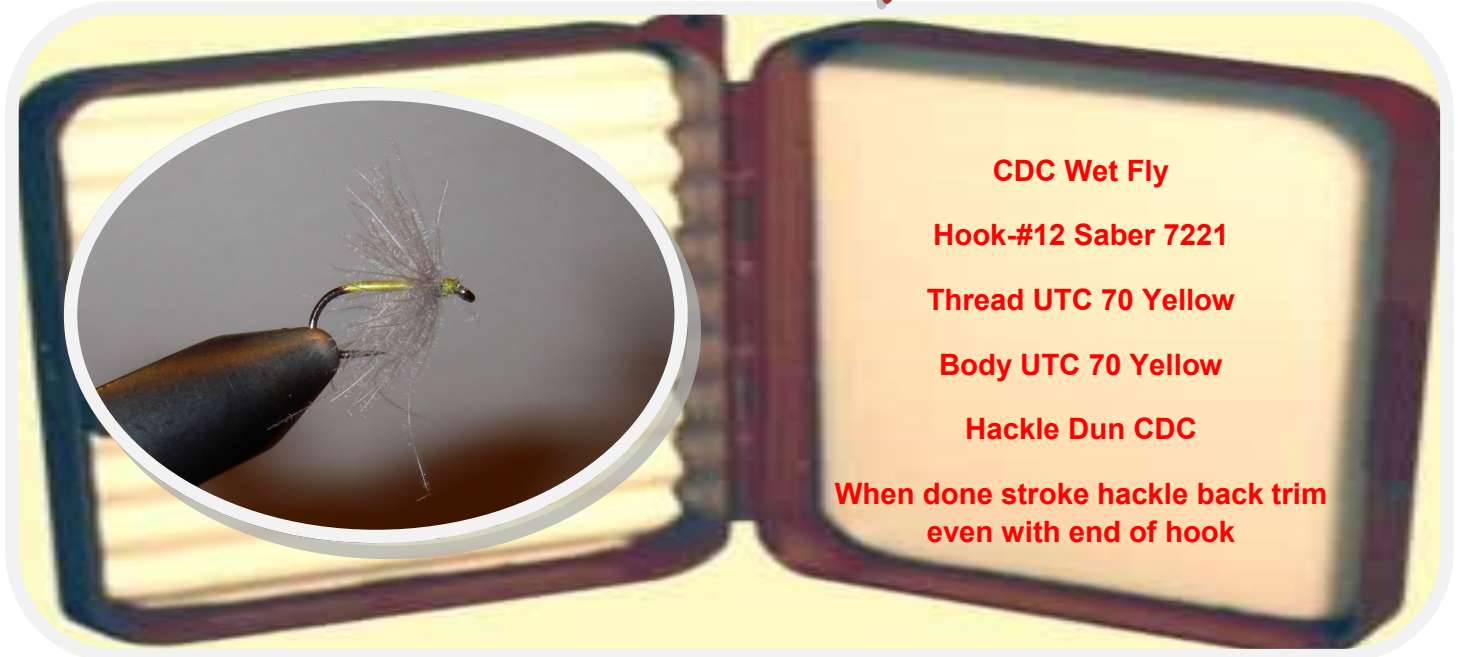
Fishing, hunting and writing are the three things I'm best at and enjoy the most. I am currently working on rebuilding my freelance writing and seminar business, being I'm on a fixed income that keeps me pretty well “fixed to my home” much of the time.

The gear that is perfect for stripers in the ocean is a perfect size for the large pike lurking in some Connecticut lakes these days.



Your looking at 3 generations of fly fishers that came to our fly fishing course this past spring

Dick Wemmell's Fly Box



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Roger Plourde

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Lines & Leaders

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SAVE THE DATE

October 14 monthly meeting

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat. Oct. 10, 7:30am Fishing at Peoples State Forest Whittemore Parking Area

Wed. Oct. 14, 7pm Monthly meeting at Clubhouse

Wed. Nov. 4, 7pm BOD meets at EHCCC

Thurs. Nov. 12, 7pm Monthly meeting at Clubhouse (one day later than usual)



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FEDERATION OF
FLY FISHERS

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