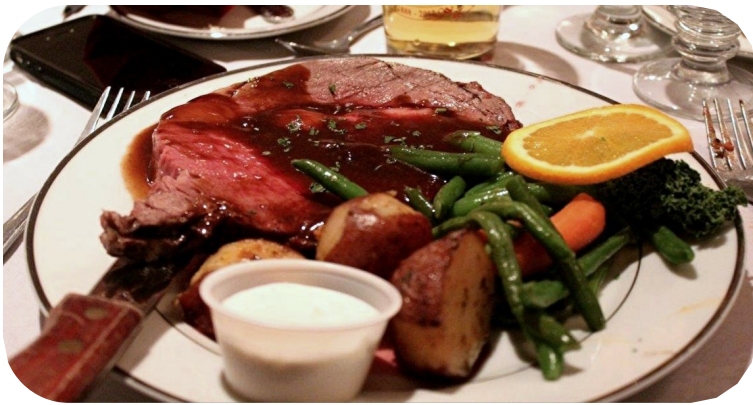




The Newsletter of The Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association

## "Banquet dinner"



March Meeting

**Bruce Marino**

**Fishing the Farmington River**

*Dick Wemmell's  
fly box*

FROM THE VEST OF THE PRESIDENT



President Bruce Rich presents Ron Dunleavy the Ted Barbieri award for all his work as a non board member.



President Bruce Rich presents the Scarlet Ibis Award to Richard Gaudreau

*Here is a interesting web site to look at so you can see  
what goes on at our Kensington Hatchery*

<https://www.dropbox.com//pSd01ABMKDKLaf0KD7xl9r>

## From the vest of the President

*“The gods do not deduct from a man’s allotted span the hours spent in fishing.”*

Babylonian Proverb



Hopefully “hours spent in fishing” includes attending fly fishing events like CFFA’s recent Expo and Banquet. Despite the snowy day, 287 people attended our Expo in February, just four short of the record-smashing attendance last year. That’s not counting the approximately 50 people working at the Expo as exhibitors, tiers, vendors, etc. Our Expo has really become a gathering place for Connecticut’s fly fishing community. Attendance at the Banquet was up about ten people this year and everyone seemed to enjoy the food, raffles and program. Our thanks go to Kurt and Roger for another fine job organizing our big day. I also want to say thanks to all our members, guests and exhibitors for making that day so successful for our club. Kurt is providing a detailed “thank you” list naming everyone that contributed.

Once again, the governor’s proposed budget calls for closing the Kensington Hatchery, which is the southernmost Atlantic salmon hatchery in the world, and the only one left in our part of the world. Closing Kensington would mean the end of stocking brood stock Atlantic salmon in CT rivers and lakes, the end of the Salmon-in-Schools program and the end of any efforts to restore Atlantic salmon migrations to our coastal rivers. Connecticut’s other two hatcheries, which are maxed-out anyway, cannot substitute for Kensington because it alone has uncommonly favorable well water. It is also our only hatchery with chilled water capability, which is essential not only for salmon egg development but also for trout eggs used in the Trout in the Classroom program – another child-oriented program that would be lost. Our uniquely viable and large-growing strain of Seeforellen Brown trout would also be lost to the world. The benefits of keeping this hatchery operational far outweigh the

\$195,000 in projected yearly savings from closing it, and that’s what we need to convince our legislators of before their decision is made in June. CFFA is coordinating with other groups statewide on this issue, so stay tuned to our upcoming meetings and newsletters for specific ways that you can help to save Kensington.

I want to welcome Peter Naples as the newest member of our Board. Peter is taking over for Richard Gilligan in the important role of Education Chairman. CFFA’s Beginner Fly Fishing Classes start on Thursday March 5th at Cabela’s. Students must register by phoning Peter at 860-620-2317. These six sessions are the very best value of their kind at \$50 per person, \$40 for members and \$30 for kids which includes one parent for free.

We will be participating in four fly tying classes for kids at the American School for the Deaf in West Hartford this spring. If anyone is interested in this amazing program please contact Kevin Fuller for more details: [kevinfuller27@comcast.net](mailto:kevinfuller27@comcast.net).

**Note that our Board of Directors has a new meeting place. At 7pm on both March 4<sup>th</sup> and April 1<sup>st</sup> the Board will meet at the East Hartford Cultural Center, 50 Chapman Place, East Hartford, CT 06108 in Room #104.** Remember this new location is for Board meetings only. Regular monthly meetings will continue to be at the Veterans Memorial Clubhouse.

Looking at the deep snow outside my window right now, it’s hard to believe that spring begins when the vernal equinox occurs on March 20th. Hopefully by then the snow will be gone and our streams will be free of ice. At least I’m getting a lot of flies tied now. I’m looking forward to learning more about Bruce Marino’s world-famous flies at our March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting at the Clubhouse when Bruce will present a program titled *Fly Fishing the Farmington River: CT’s Crown Jewel*. Hope to see you all there.

><<)))\*> Bruce



Jim Kennedy getting the First Hatch Award

# Thanks to all that have helped make this years Expo and Banquet a

## success!!!!

### The Tyers

Bruce Marino	Steve Culton
Ted Patlen	John Walker
Stan Fudala	Ray Stalachek
Paul Rossman	Rob Nicholas
Leslie Wrixon	Lisa Weiner
Mike Stewart	Dave Benoit
Mark Dysinger	Bill Newcome
Tom Baronowski	

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### Vendors

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Bruce Marino

Ted Johnson

Spey Casting Northeast

## Fishing the Raven Fork

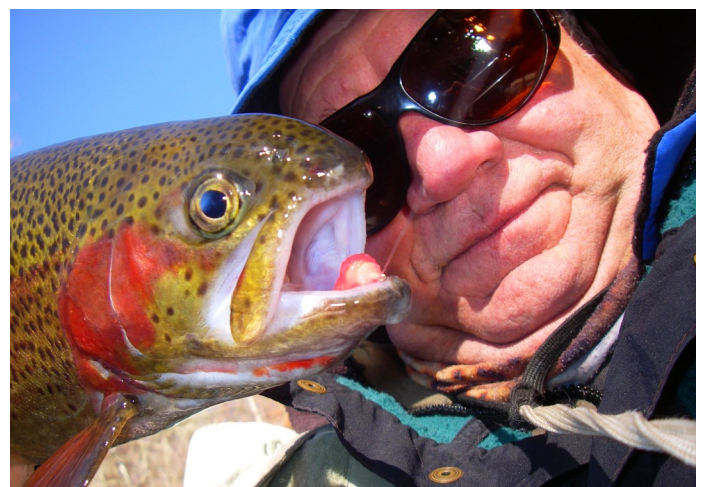
by John Springer

In the fall of 2014 I drove to Florida and did some fishing along the way, my second stop was the Cherokee Reservation located in Cherokee North Carolina. The reservation is a gambling destination for many people; they have many stores to shop in as well as a great museum. This is about the fishing opportunity's they have their along with times to go. In 2012 I was there and fished several days only having success on the second day but with the help of several great red necks I have met in my travels this trip was really something. The Cherokee have about 30 miles of river they stock from their own hatchery. For about ten dollars per day you can fish many miles of river, but the area you want to fish is at the top end of the river past the village and all the stores. They give you a map of the entire river, look for the trophy area. It is two and a half miles long. When you see the school there is a good place to park opposite it, this is about in the middle of the good water from what I have fished. There are several pools below the bridge one is a junction pool that is very deep and I understand in warmer weather this is a prime location to fish. At the bridge is a pool that held good fish and if you look upriver you will see a big pool that can be shared with anglers on both sides. If you drive up river from the school you cross the river and you will see a big field park at the far end and fish this water also as you go up the road you will see pull offs to fish, these of course are the locations that get stocked but the fish move and you will do well to move above and below those stocking points yourself. The river was between 33 and 38 while I was there, when the temperature dropped a lot at night the fishing was tough, but the day time temperatures come up as a rule and as soon as it does, fish start to feed. There is a nice fly shop right in town before you drive to the reservation they open early you can get your permit there to fish the reservation. You do not need a North Carolina license to fish this water, but there is another stream close by the Tuskahegee. I did not fish it but it is one of the delayed harvest streams. This means they load it up it with fish in the fall and it is Catch and Release until springtime. This is something

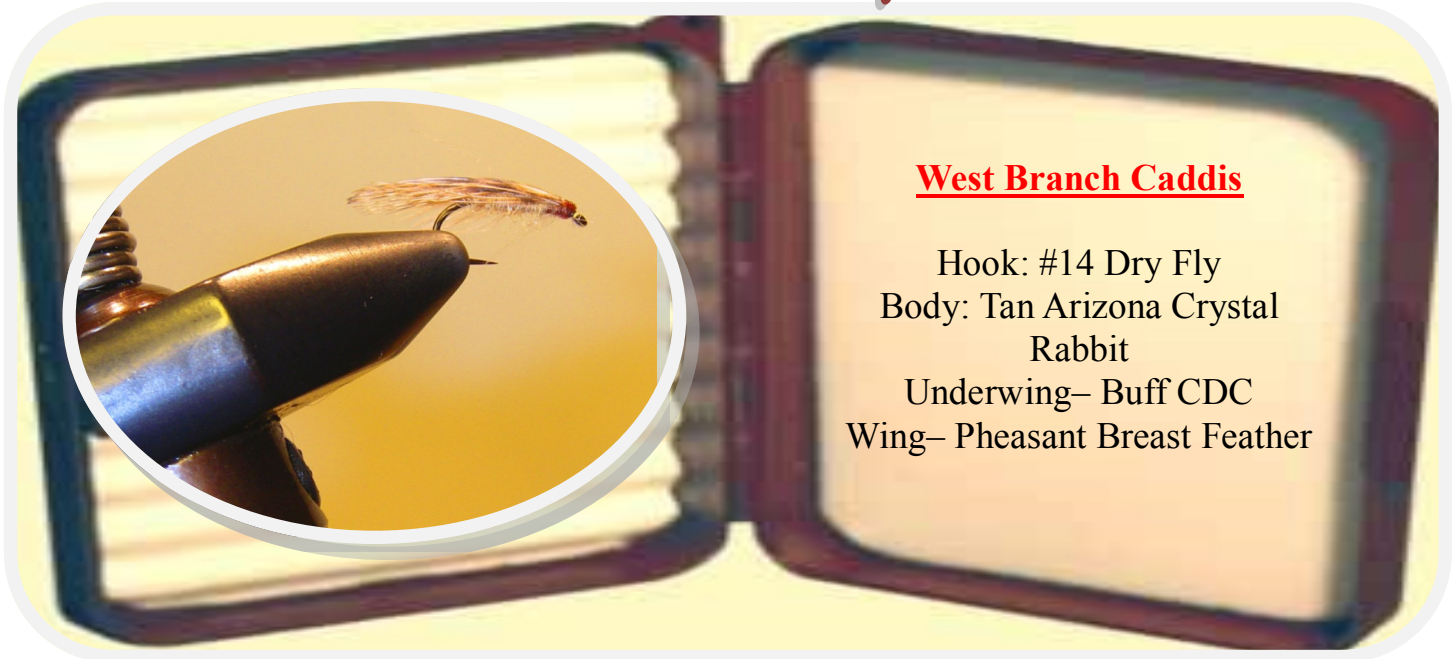
that is very big down south and works out very well for fly fishers to enjoy fishing many rivers for about 7 to 8 months before the fish are taken out. About four miles from the fly shop is bait and tackle store where you can get your license for the state waters. Four times a year they stock the river for a fishing contest. I happened to be there fishing about two weeks after the last contest of the year and when the weather was turning cold, this meant there were plenty of fish that had not been fished over plus the hold overs from other stockings. If you're planning a trip down you can go on line and find out about the contests so you know when not to go so you won't be dealing with the contest but also have a good idea when fish are stocked. I've fished in several southern states and there are many places you pay a few hundred dollars to fish for large fish in private area. This fishing will cost \$50 for 3 days. It's not all that far away either something for you to think about.

### Note from editor

Last month you saw some pictures from this area, with the winter you have had this year more than ever you may want to think about this as a place to go. Remember fall comes late and spring comes early down there and the other rivers are no kill till May and June.



# Dick Wemmell's Fly Box



## Board of Directors

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

Publicity Chairman– Dan Price

**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 Education Chairman**



On February 7 over 280 fly fisher's gathered together to learn from others, talk about trips, buy gear and materials and listen to great programs all about fly fishing. This event is put on by your very dediacted board members along with an army of volunteers to make it all come together. If you did not make it this year set the date aside now for next year and bring your friends. Some other clubs put on events but I can tell you from experience, ours is the best. When a position on our board comes up and the President asks for help, if you think you won't enjoy it because its to much work look around the room at the next meeting and when you spot a board member ask him or her if its rewarding. The answer may help you make a decision.

Editor



Captain Mark Dysinger



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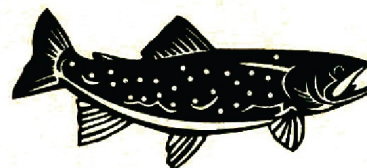


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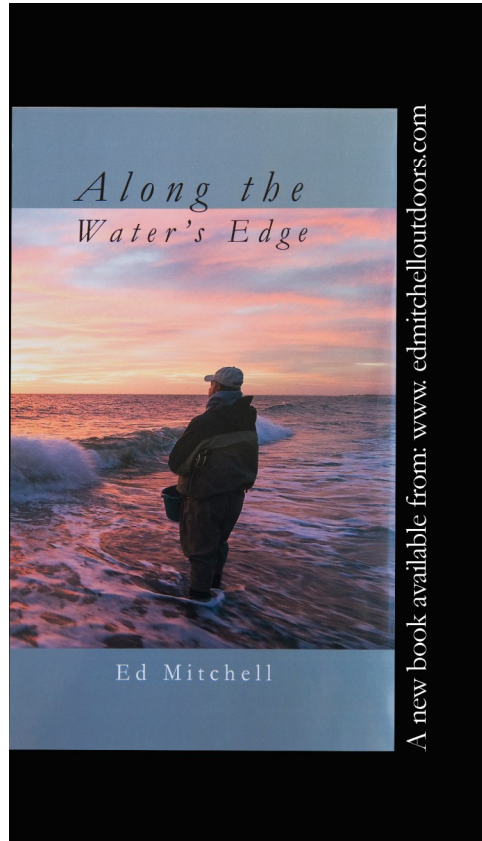
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## UPCOMING EVENTS

March 4th BOD meets at E.H. Cultural Center (not the clubhouse!)

March 5th Beginner Fly Fishing Classes at Cabela's- call Peter ASAP 860-620-2317

ASD Fly Tying in W. Hartford - email Kevin ASAP [kevinfuller27@comcast.net](mailto:kevinfuller27@comcast.net)

And if the snow melts and the weather warms and the Willimantic warms to about 50 Hendrickson's will be out.

**Monthly meeting** March 11 at Clubhouse Bruce Marino on Fishing the Farmington River



P.O. Box 380268  
East Hartford, CT 06138

FEDERATION OF  
FLY FISHERS

