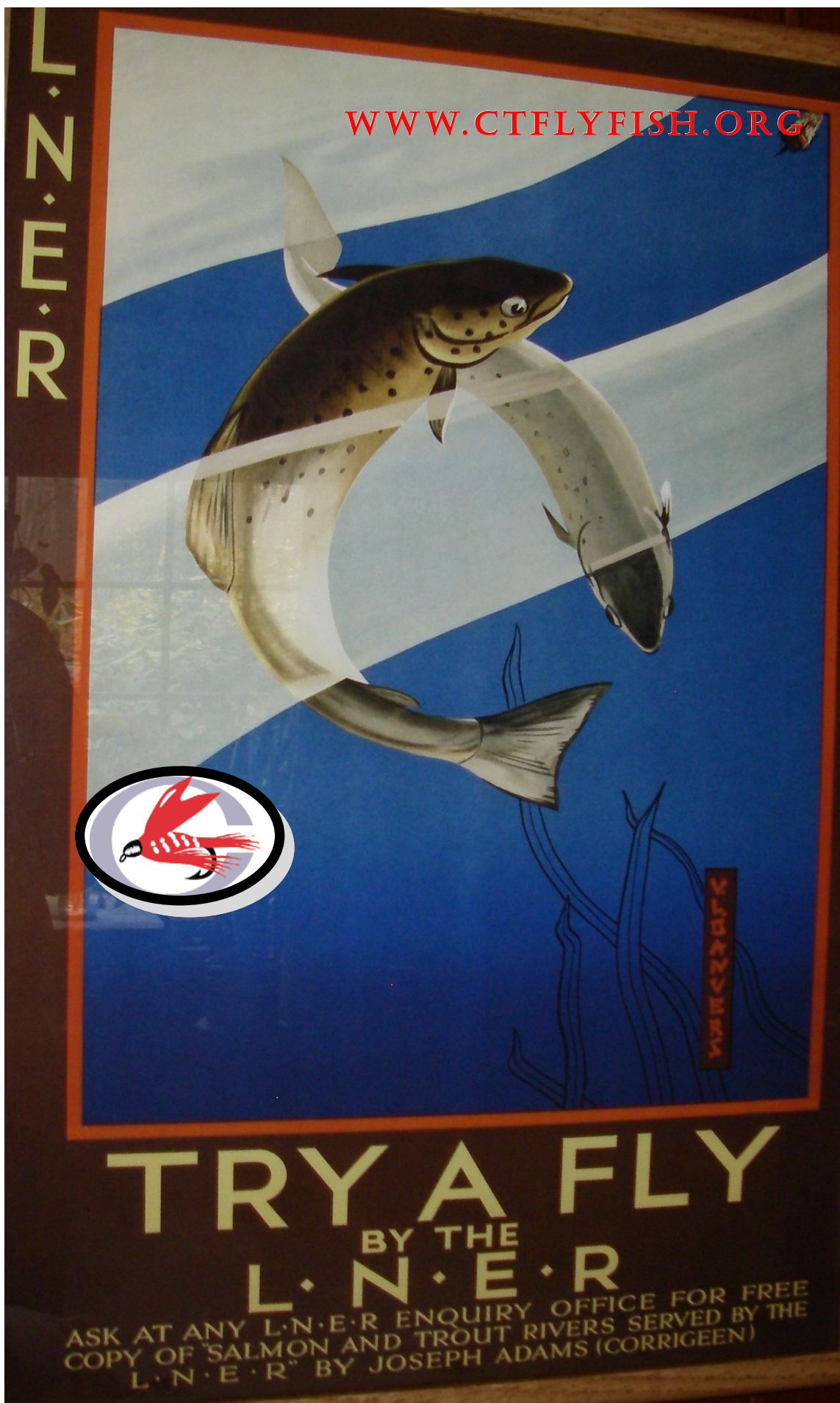


MAY 2016

WWW.CTFLYFISH.ORG



This poster that a good friend gave me is from the 1930's. This was an advertisement for the London & North Eastern Railway. They ran trains to take salmon & trout anglers to destinations to go fishing. Tony knew I loved fly fishing and trains so this was a special gift to me. Our own Roger Plourde framed it and as always did a great job.

Speaker of the Month

John Field, Author of "Fly Fishing Finesse" will be our speaker at this month's meeting. Weather permitting he will be doing some casting out on the lawn before the meeting.

From the vest of the President

It has been a busy 1st few months of spring. Our classes are complete, the trails along the Willimantic River TMA have been cleared and the trout are ready and waiting to inspect your offerings.

Bob Winot led a trail clean up that took place on Saturday March 19th. CFFA members with the assistance of Boy Scout troops 82 of Willington and 27 of Manchester removed trash, briars, and fallen trees and branches resulting in easy access for all.

On Friday April 15th CFFA members along with assistance of the state hatchery workers stocked the entire TMA with "Floating Live Carts". It was a great effort by everyone and your fly fishing ventures to the river should be better because of this. Doug at the hatchery actually offered to deliver the trout on Saturday the 2nd of April but we had something else happening that day. He said they could work Saturdays up until opening day. Next year I hope we can take advantage of the same offer and do it on a Saturday with the hope of getting some younger members to help. I know weekdays are tough for working people to get there and it's pretty physical work for retired members.

We held our casting instructions for this year's students on April 2nd and the river instruction on Saturday April 23rd. A nice group of members volunteered their time assisting these beginning fly fishers. This was a great experience for everyone involved.

This says it all, sent by one of our CFFA students. I second his sentiment and thank all of the volunteers that helped.

I just want to say Thank You to everyone from CFFA for an amazing day. My son learned so much and caught his first fish on a fly rod. He is hooked and after catching a few this morning, we ran to Stratton Brook State Park for an evening hatch. He caught a few more on dry's and a nice rainbow on a #18 BWO at sunset. On the ride home he asked me "if he took the fly tying class next year, if I would take it with him so we could tie fly's together"! What you taught him over the past few weeks and what he experienced today is priceless. Today was one of the greatest Father / Son days I could ever imagine and I have to thank volunteers like you for making it hap-

pen. Today will be a memory I will never forget!
Sincerely,
Rob Longo

Our fly tying round table was a success again this year with some very good tiers displaying their talents. I always look forward to this meeting and have been a participant in years past. This year I was able to walk around and learn a few things.

As May brings you the best fly fishing of the season I hope all of you get out, enjoy fishing your favorite spot. May also brings you your last newsletter and it is the last month that we meet until September, I wish you all a wonderful summer.

Gary

Here is a perfect shot that represents what opening day is all about. I think Marianna caught her fish on corn at Chatfield Hollow State Park



Fly Tying at our April Meeting with our members sharing what they know with everyone. Thank you to Mike Hiza for taking them.



A great E Book

If you are looking for a book about Connecticut's broodstock Atlantic Salmon and the flies used to catch them, this is the book for you. If you are interested in learning how to tie tube flies, this is the book for you. And if you want to learn how to tie salmon flies on those black, up-turned eye hooks you might have seen, this is the book for you. In Ben Bilello's eBook, [Flies for Connecticut Atlantic Salmon: How to Tie and Fish Them](#), you will learn about these subjects and much more. Besides step-by-step tying instructions, Ben explains how to fish the flies, why different colors work on different days, and how air and water temperature relate to fly selection, amongst other topics. The appendix of the book lists the addresses of material vendors and fly shops, so you know where to look for everything you need. Ben also describes how certain materials can be purchased at hobby shops in order to make tube flies as inexpensively as possible. Ben's color photography is as professional as his writing. "Stunning" is the word I would use to describe the color photographs of his flies.

Ben is a full-time musician. After his son Mike was born, he put this book together for us during his long, sleepless nights. Anyone interested in fly tying and/or Atlantic salmon will enjoy this book. The PDF edition costs \$14.99 but, if you have a Mac, I recommend the premium edition (with all the bells and whistles) for \$19.99. For more information, visit benbilello.com/salmonflies or email Ben at ben@benbilello.com.



A Sister of the Angle

3 years ago I joined the Railroad Museum of New England and met many great people. Only a few fished and I spent time with them and had a good time. One of the conductors I work with told me how much his wife loved fishing and did it very often with her grandfather when she was young, Tony did not fish and after meeting Nancy and seeing her enthusiasm about fishing I said I would be happy to take her. She did not fly fish but said it would be fun to see and perhaps try but she had always used worms. Nancy was in the battle of her life at that time with stage four cancer so I said next summer we will go I have a special place my friend Ben had shown me and you were allowed to kill fish so I took her there, but not before we went to Chatterley's for a great lunch. After lunch I stopped at Up County for worms and off we went. I carried in a chair as well as all equipment she would need. The treatments were knocking the hell out of her and she tired easy and we had to stop several times, but we made it to the river. She rested a bit and even though the spot I put her had no flow to it, she did

not last long fishing and went back to sit. So I fished and caught the 4 trout we could take home and we left. After helping Nancy take off her waders I took her home and that night Tony made a fresh trout dinner with wine and he told me how much they enjoyed it. I told her next spring I would take her again. On Sunday April 24 my sister of the angle passed on, I'll bet Nancy and her grandfather are catching some very big fish on worms now and having a great time. I only got to fish with her one time but I'll remember how much she enjoyed it when I fish that pool every time now I'll see her fishing for the last time. Perhaps you may know someone like Nancy even if they don't fly fish you might want to reach out and take them fishing with you it might be the last time they get to go.



Nancy used my dad's waders and his rod both spent many wonderful hours in the Farmington River years ago



Dick Wemmell's Fly Box



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**President Gary
speaks, everyone
listens, almost**





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Lines & Leaders

The Newsletter of The Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association



SAVE THE DATE

May 11th monthly meeting last
one till September 14th

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 17 Students from the American School for the Deaf will be taken fishing. Kevin Fuller needs help he would like to hear from you if you can give a hand 860-632 2171 kevinfuller27@comcast.net

I hope to have a story about that picture on the left your looking at for the fall!



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