

The Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association



MARCH SPEAKER

Tim Wildman from the DEEP
doing a program on sea run
brown trout program in Ct.

FROM THE VEST OF THE
PRESIDENT

MEMORABLE MOMENTS
FROM THE EXPO
AND BANQUET



FROM THE VEST OF THE PRESIDENT

When our outgoing president Bruce Rich called and asked me to be president of our CFFA he took the time to explain all the responsibilities that come with the position. One of these requirements is an article from the vest of the president to be in each newsletter we publish. Well our editor is going to have his work cut out for him. I should've applied myself a little more in my school days. If the seats in a class were not assigned I always chose the one near a window. Inevitably I would end up in the front row. I think they called it daydreaming back then not "A.D.D".



I am honored to be selected as the new president of our CFFA and I promise to do my best to uphold the traditions of the past and explore goals for our future. I am a believer in the saying "If it ain't broke, don't fix it". And our CFFA is not broken in any way.

Getting back to Bruce Rich, I thank him for his recent tenure as president of our CFFA. He has served us well with a passion and determination that was evident during his entire term. He mentioned in our January newsletter that I have been a member for 30 years and in those years I have had the good fortune of serving on our BOD with many of our past presidents. I hope to serve you and maintain the high standards they have set over those years.

The fond memories I have and the good friends I have met through our CFFA are many. I felt the enthusiasm, passion and willingness to share in the first educational class I attended, "Beginning Fly Tying" way back when, it was there that I met Ernie "Boots" Boutiette and Gary

Bogli. They drew me in without trying. They were infectious and I caught it. I was like a sponge soaking in everything they offered and that has not stopped. Ernie is no longer able to fish with me but ask him a question today, as I did many times over the years, and you better have a chair.



For those of you who don't know him he is now closer to 100 than he is 90. I don't know very many hobbies that bridge generations as well as "Fly Fishing" does. Gary Bogli and I do fish together yearly and talk fly tying and fly fishing on the phone long enough to make my ears sore. Thank goodness for speaker phone. He is an inspiration and keeps up with me every step on the river. They are just two of the many CFFA members that volunteer to share their time and knowledge promoting the sport of fly fishing. I wish I could list them all but the list is just too long. Some have departed over the years but the bonds created allow me to remember them with pleasure when I'm at my vice or on a stream casting that fly I created encouraged by our CFFA.

Please continue to do the little things that make our CFFA what it is today. If you've be away a while, consider coming back, you never know who you may influence just by sharing your passion. The simple act of tying a fly on the night of our monthly meeting may be redundant to you, but very new that person watching. You never know, that person could end up being one of our CFFA instructors, education chairman or even president someday.

I am grateful to be your President and I urge everyone to contact me with any concerns or ideas they may have

concerning our CFFA.

As spring moves in and winter moves out we will have completed another season of Fly Tying Instruction at the American School for the Deaf and at Cabela's. We have also successfully held our Annual Fly Fishing Expo and Banquet. As we move forward through March, April & May we will still remain busy conducting our annual Beginning Fly Fishing School and meetings each month.

Pete Naples, our Education Chairman did a fine job coordinating this year's fly tying school. We had 13 new fly tiers participate in this year's class. They were taught by a host of CFFA members. I know from past experience the instructors get a just as much enjoyment teaching, as the students get learning a new hobby. There also were a good number of CFFA members assisting with the class. I can assure all of them their efforts were appreciated by Pete and every one of the students.

Kevin Fuller who coordinates our CFFA involvement with the American School for the Deaf also does a fine job along with CFFA members that assisted teaching the hearing impaired how to tie flies. I encourage all CFFA members to consider helping in these classes in the future. It is a very rewarding experience. Contact him at kevinfuller27@comcast.net he would love to hear from you.

Wow, what about our Expo & Banquet? Roger & Kurt once again provided all of us a very pleasurable day and evening. The expo is just flat out an enjoyable day for anyone that has a passion or an interest in fly fishing. A fair table rental for the vendors and a fair price for admission keep's everyone in a good frame of mind. There is really something for everyone. I had more than one past CFFA student stop me and say they love their new hobby and expressed their gratitude to our CFFA for providing them their introduction. I also talked to some fly fishermen from Massachusetts that informed me they love coming to this event and love the fishing our state of Connecticut provides. Positive feedback ruled the day. It is also a chance for us long time members to reunite with each other. The 1st two people I encountered were Myron and Ed. They both volunteered many hours to CFFA and were big contributor's years ago like our current BOD members are doing today. But it is not only BOD members that make this day successful, many members' help in little ways that all add up. I can't say enough about what this Expo has become and everyone that lent a hand in it should feel very proud. If

you attended and enjoyed it give Roger a handshake and a thank you when you see him. He is the heart and soul of this event.

Our banquet dinner, raffle and program were equally superb and we all owe Kurt and his wife Debbie a great big thank you for this. I see a future for Kurt as a wedding planner when he retires from his current job. He went above and beyond this year adding reservations to his resume. Next year it would be nice if someone steps up to accept our reservations. I'm sure Mike Stewart and Kurt would assist whoever does. Kurt has enough to do. Next year will be our 50th anniversary and although this banquet just ended, I'm sure Kurt is already thinking about next year.

It really does take a team effort to make all of our events and programs successful and it's the little things that make a big difference. So please consider helping these wonderful members that coordinate them for all of us to enjoy.

Gary



On his last night as President with his wife Chris by his side and our new President Gary Steinmiller



Kurt and Kyle Dauray pulling raffle tickets. Kurt and his wife Debbie run our banquet don't be afraid to give him a pat on the back and to tell his wife what a great job they do.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



Larry Golet receiving his special award to a non member for working for the benefit of anyone that fishes. 21 years as a Game Warden and making sure the Salmon river and its anglers were well taken care of by spreading the fish around, and even in retirement will be there for us.



Dominic La Rosa saying a few words after receiving the Ted Barbieri award for his over 15 years of helping kids at the American School for the Deaf

I want to thank Bruce for presenting me with the Scarlet Ibis award this year at the banquet. It was a big surprise and very humbling. And I do not get very humble. Next year will be 30 years I have been a member of CFFA and I am very proud to be of help like the many who have stepped up before me. Without my wife, I would not be doing the newsletter and would not be as happy as I am. Sandy has always encouraged me to enjoy myself and when asked she has helped me achieve this. The hours a Railroad Engineer works are nothing like most people can ever imagine. Nights, weekends and holidays, when you throw in the 2 kids programs I ran as well as other volunteer hours I put in at TU I was not around much, but my wife never held me back. When Bruce asked me to take over the newsletter I knew it would be time consuming as well as deadline each month. With Sandy's help the job gets done. I know that many of the people now as well as in the past and also in the future have wives helping them. Kurt is the perfect example as we all saw at the banquet.

When we got home, I gave Sandy my award for all of her help. You see after almost 30 years at CFFA I've attended about 150 meetings at least and learned a great deal from my fellow fly fisher's as well as the speakers. I've met a number of people I look forward to seeing each time I go and our library? All I can say is wow what a treasure we have. So I have gotten much more over the years than I have put in. I am a member of 3 other fishing groups and I can tell you first hand as I see it in their newsletter how hard of a time they have filling board positions. We are very fortunate that our members when called upon, step forward almost always in a very timely fashion, and if you look at many on the board they have been working for this club for many years. And you know what? That says it all.

John Springer



CFFA would like to thank the following people for there dona-
tions that helped out our organization tremendously. If any-
one's name is missing we apologize for missing you.

Carl Barney	Shawn Britton
Orvis of Avon	Tommy Baranowski
Dave Foley	Mark Dysinger
Project Healing Waters	Sean Murphy
Rich Strolis	Steve Culton
Frank's live bait	Leslie Wrixon
CFFA Tying with kids	John Barrachi
Jack Smola Fly Fishing Adventures	Ted Rzepski
3 Tand Reels Ron Poehailos	Kyle Dauray
Brad Gage Sage Rep	Chuck Koteen
Nick Masi Enterprises	Mystic Fly Rods
Irv Stanley	REC Corp
Dick Heffernon	Jim Stack HDI
Acompora Taxidermy Pete Acampora	Stan Chase M&R Liquors
Dan Trela Rods	Shawn Gerwein
Charlie McCaughty Artist	John Walker
Thames Valley Trout Unlimited	Paul Dinice
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Spey Casting Northeast	Dave Goulet
Up Country Sports Grady Allen	John Troiano
JT's Fly Shop	Matt Baranowski
Lakewood Camps	Mark Seymour Fish Hook Vineyards
Marla Blair Guide Service	Jack Balint Fish connection
Bruce Marino	Deb Jagielow
Ted Johnson	Christine Rich
Driftsmith Outfitters	Steve Douville
John Marona	Christine Rich
Team 7X	Denise Dauray
Bob Lamson Scott Rep	Margaret Apruzeese
CT DEEP	Mark Lucas
Bob Romano	Mid River Motel and Campground
John Chapin	George Degen
Tom Chrosniak	Seth Walter
A Friend of the Club	



Kevin Fuller teaching a future fly fisher how to make her first fly



Fly tiers giving pointers for the "right" fly that's sure to work!



Ben Bilello Author of
Flies for Connecticut Atlantic Salmon
how to tie and fish them

Beautiful day for **Lisa Weiner** of Spey Casting North-east, left, exhibiting casting to Jerry Jon, eager to learn



CFFA 46TH ANNUAL EXPO AND BANQUET

BY DAN PRICE

What started out the day before as a 12" snowstorm, and threatened the turnout for 46th Expo and Banquet, became one



of the best events for CFFA. Over 275 persons visited our Expo, with persons coming from as far as the Bronx, New York. Thanks to everyone from vendors to tiers to speakers for helping to make this event the premier non-commercial show in Connecticut. An added event that went over real well



this year was the kids fly tying table. We had many youths with their families experience the fun of fly tying and hopefully launch a lifelong love of our sport.

We also want to recognize the many volunteers that put the show together and helped on the 6th, including: Roger Plourde, Kurt Jagielow, Debby Jagielow, Chris Rich, Bruce Rich, Gary Steinmiller, Dan Price, Rich Gaudreau, Pete Naples, Phil Jackson, Denise Dauray, Phil Appruzzese, Kyle Dauray, Chuck Koteen, Kevin Fuller, Ted Rezepski, and many more. A special thanks to Ed Mitchell, Bob Romano and Lisa and Jerry from Spey casting Northeast for providing excellent educational seminars.

To a person, everyone that attended as well as the vendors, tiers, speakers all commented on the quality and professionalism of this great event. Steve Culton, local guide and fly fishing author commented, "It really is the best little fly fishing show around. (Somerset, eat your heart out.). Many echoed Steve's words. And a big shout out and thanks to Captain Ray Stachalek, for producing and publishing a great video of the show on facebook. We very much appreciate his participation and support.

Moving on, the Banquet was well attended with at least 150 in attendance. Bruce Rich, outgoing President gave an outstanding presentation and moved the awards and raffle along with his usual skill. We will miss Bruce's able shepherding of our monthly meetings as well as his leadership for five years. Gary Steinmiller, incoming President will have very big shoes to fill.

Leading off the Banquet presentation were the annual awards:

Special Award: Larry Golet – Conservation Officer for the DEEP. Larry was retiring from DEEP after more than 20 years serving CT's sportsmen and fisherman. He received a special commemorative CFFA Fly Box in recognition of his service and willingness to get to know anglers that showed up on the various rivers.

Scarlet Ibis Award: John Springer - The Scarlet Ibis Award is the symbol of our club and is given to a Board member selected solely by the President. This award is in recognition of John's efforts in publishing and editing the CFFA newsletter with the help of his terrific other half, Sandy. John is a Life Member, active in the School for the Deaf program, an avid fly angler and a 30 year member of the CFFA.

Ted Barbieri Award – Dominic La Rosa: Named after one of our club's founders, the Ted Barbieri Award is given annually to a member who is not on the Board and is decided by the entire Board. Dominic has been a CFFA member for over 38 years, and is a driving force for the American School for the Deaf fly tying and fishing program. This program works with students and teachers at the school to help each participant overcome their particular physical and/or mental challenges to experience the sport of fly fishing. At every tying or picnic session, Dom would select the student with the most difficulties and work exclusively with them. For the past 15 years Dom has been a leader in this program and a terrific representative and role model for the CFFA.

We salute these worthy persons and look forward to a great year and an even more successful Expo and Banquet in 2017.



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Roger Plourde

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Ed Mitchell sharing his experience's from many years of fishing in the saltwater with several of the 285 plus people at our Expo

SAVE THE DATE

March 9 monthly meeting will be Tim Wildman from the DEEP doing a program on sea run brown trout program in Ct.

April 6 Board meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

HFFA Expo March 5th 10:00 AM TO 3:00 PM

WHERE: ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

65 N. Main St., WALLINGFORD, CT

FRAA ANNUAL BANQUET SATURDAY

MARCH 5, 2016

860-309-5510

HFFA banquet March 19

IL Monticello, 577 South Broad Street, Meriden, CT

from 5:00 PM - 10:00 PM

203-530-9984



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