

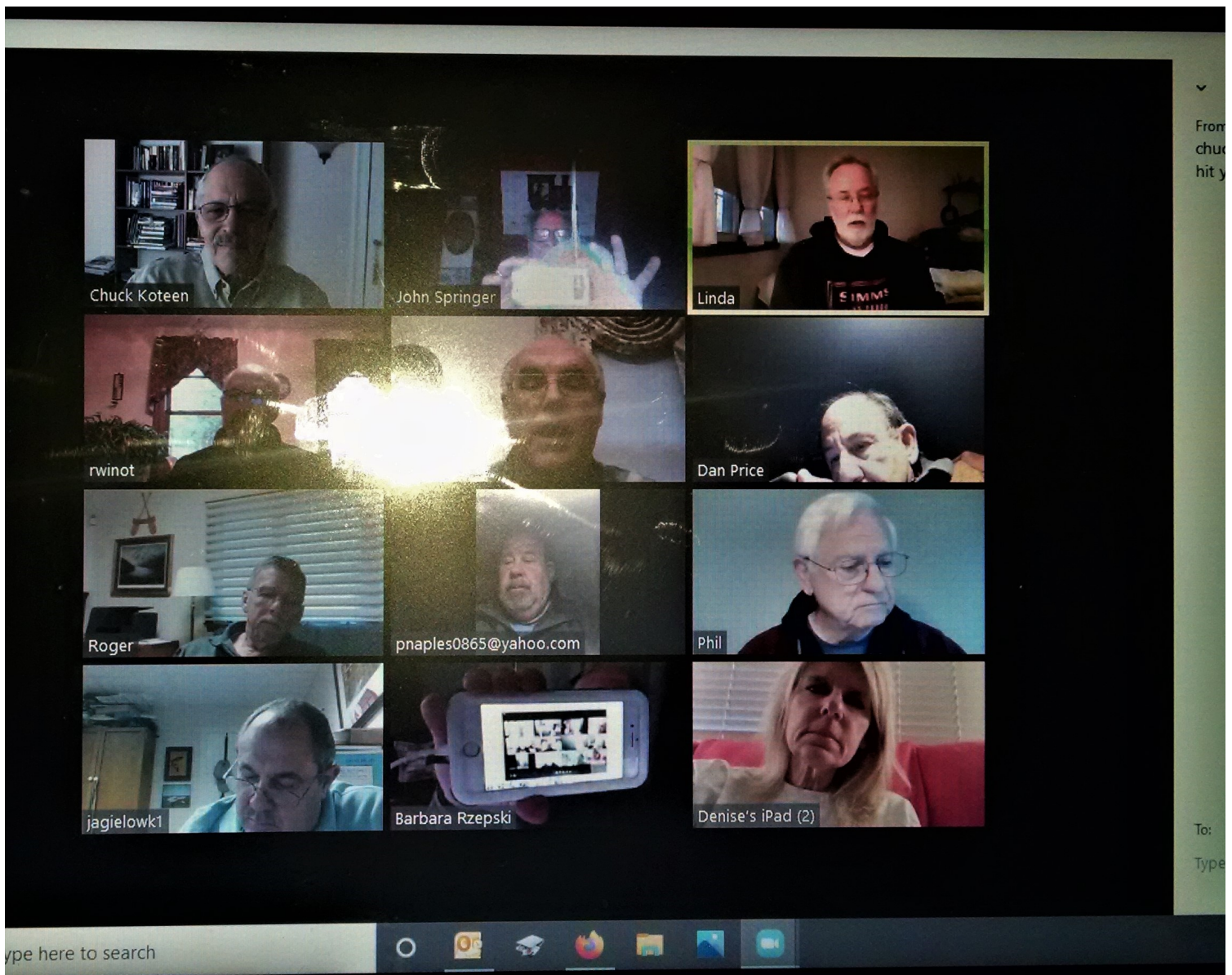
The Newsletter of The Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association

WWW.CTFLYFISH.ORG



September 2020

CFFA first board meeting was held of May 6 on Zoom, we were all very new and I will tell you it was funny with mistakes and everyone getting use to it. But like they say on TV and Radio, this is the new normal. So on September 9th come a bit early and have something to drink and nibble on as Phil won't be making coffee or having bags of cookies for us to enjoy for awhile.





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Our September meeting will be on some great fishing that takes place in North Carolina where fall comes late and spring comes early. The rivers down south start getting a very heavy stocking in late September and keep getting fish put in for almost 3 months. They are Catch and Release until spring, about mid June. Because the water in most places gets to warm for the fish to survive they are allowed to harvest them after that time. One area we fish in on the Cherokee Reservation. They have a C&R year round for 3 miles. I enjoy this area very much as it gets pressure during contests they run so it's a challenge. My friend Eddie Hudon is a guide and will be on with me during our Zoom meeting in September. He is happy to take questions on all waters he guides on.

From the vest of the President



As our CFFA moves into our fall season we will not be doing business as usual due to the current pandemic that exists around the world. We cannot have in-person monthly meetings due to Covid 19. We will have our regular monthly meetings using "ZOOM" and hope to see you all at those meetings. Watch your email inbox for your ZOOM meeting invitation. Live meetings will resume when CDC and State of Connecticut guidelines permit.

We do think it is important to stay in touch with our members and we are going to try our best to do just that. Our CFFA has opened a ZOOM account that will allow us to bring presentations to you without a time constraint. We fully acknowledge the important social aspect that our meetings at the clubhouse provide all of us and that will be sorely missed, no doubt about it. Our Zoom meetings will happen on the second Wednesday of the month just as all of our meetings previously. The information about the monthly presentation will be in our newsletter just like it always has been. For now we are only inviting CFFA members to the meetings and depending on how things go we will make a decision on opening them to non-members. We might be limited to the number of guests so we wanted to give our membership a first chance at attending. Members will receive an invitation to join our meetings from John Springer a few days before the meeting in your email inbox. This invitation will have a "Hot Link" to the meeting so do not delete it if you want to attend. IMPORTANT, You must have the ZOOM app installed on your electronic device to enter a meeting so do this days or hours prior to the time the meeting begins or you will be left out. We do realize some members are more familiar with technology than others but this is not to complicated if you follow

the instructions below. If you are unsure ask someone you know for assistance.

For those of you that are new to Zoom, it is actually very simple. You will get an email invitation to a meeting with a link to our Zoom session. All you need to do is click on the link. Zoom will prompt you to install their application on your chosen device and you just follow the prompts to complete the installation and enter the meeting. Do not wait until the last minute to do this, do it as soon as you receive the invitation this will install the app so you are ready on the day of the meeting. Once installed, the installation step is skipped for subsequent meetings and you'll be taken directly to the meeting by clicking on the hot link in your invitation. You may see a message saying "Waiting for host to begin the meeting", if you see this be patient you are at the right place. Be sure to click join with video and sound when those prompts come up also. You will need a laptop, computer, smart phone or tablet with a camera and microphone along with a connection to the internet. I know this is new to many of you and it is new to us also so please be patient as we work things out.

I hope all of you and your loved ones have fared well during this pandemic. Our state has done very well after a very tough start. Unfortunately I will inform you that Covid 19 did end the life of one of our long time members way to soon, his name, Richard Conway. I had known Richard for many years and always enjoyed being in his presence. CFFA member Paul Nott and Richard were fishing buddies and I had the pleasure of fishing with both of them only once but I will never forget our time together talking about and chasing Striped Bass on Cape Cod. I always looked forward to seeing the two of them at each and every banquet we held. Richard will be missed but never forgotten by anyone, especially CFFA members, that really knew him. Here is a link to Richard's obituary in case you did not know and may have missed it <https://legacy.co/3g2OYVS>. There is also a link on our CFFA Facebook Page to a story the Hartford Courant wrote about Richard that is worth reading. Please do.

Also at our BOD meeting in August we did vote to support the Farmington Valley T..U with their effort to change the classification of Freeman Brook. It is currently Class III WTMA and we supported their proposal to make it a permanent Class I WTMA. Freeman Brook has not been stocked in the last 18 years yet it maintains a self sustaining Brook Trout population. Our Conservation Chairman Ted Rzepski wrote a letter and presented it to our BOD. We voted to accept the letter and send it to Peter Aarrastad at our state DEEP.

So things are different for now and we are open to suggestions from all of you on how we should move forward during these trying times. Please consider and be

sure any suggestion falls in line with Connecticut Guidelines regarding the Pandemic before you send it along.

One thing for sure, our CFFA will be ready as always to promote the pleasures of Fly Fishing when a vaccine is found and this pandemic is behind us.

Stay Well,
Gary

Attention members

I have asked for pictures from you and some people have sent them, we all appreciate that very much. But I have not gotten anything in a while. I only have one more short story from a member for next month so I need stories also. As I have said before I see at the meetings everyone take out their phones to show off pictures so I know there are many out there. Please consider sending me some pictures, I have thousands of my own so that's what you will be seeing :-). I am going to share some pictures from fishing trips to North Carolina where my friends and I fished with Eddies.

John







Got this from a club member this past spring. Happy Elliot and his mom shared this moment with us. Here are some shots from an early April trip to a native fish stream in SE CT I went on with my son, Elliot Budney and a picture of my first CT brookie! He just left Wednesday to go work as a fly fishing guide at Four Rivers Fishing Co. in Twin Bridges; MT. Susan Davis PS Elliot has been fly fishing since he was 9. He made me promise not to share where his favorite spots are.

Paul's FLY OF THE MONTH

Rhody (Two Feather) Flat Wing Tying instructions & a video on how to tie this pattern can be found at <http://tightlinesflyfishing.blogspot.com/>



Hook: Gamakatsu SC15 Wide Gap Hook Size 2/0, or Eagle Claw 253, or preferred hook.

Thread: Uni Mono Thread or White Uni-thread 3/0.

Tail: White Bucktail over which is a white saddle hackle, topped with 2 strands of pearl Flash-a-bou, topped with a grizzly chartreuse saddle hackle, topped with 2 more strands of pearl Flash-a-bou.

Body: A few more pieces of Flash-a-bou, or Bill's Body Braid, or tinsel palmered forward.

Under Wing/Belly: White Bucktail.

Wing: Chartreuse Bucktail extending almost to the tip of the tale. On top of the Wing is 5-6 strands of Peacock Herl.

Eyes (optional): 3D Living Eyes to match fly size or Jungle Cock

"Two in the Net," by Rick Liegl

It was Sunday morning, July 4th weekend 2020. I pulled into a parking lot along the Farmington River. It was a gorgeous sunny morning and I was shocked that I was alone. "No cars?" I said to myself as I pulled into the lot. There were probably 100 cars, but they were further down in the lot: they were not anglers. I entered the thick woods and followed the skinny, overgrown trail and to my astonishment, I confirmed that the entire pool was empty. My buddy Darold was on his way but he was running a little late. I walked to the head of the pool, where the oxygenated water was rushing over the rocks at a quick pace. I set up my rod and there were two fly's tied on the line from the last time I fished this river. The dropper, about 18 inches above the point fly, was a nymph that I made up with a grey dubbing body and thin wire rib. It had darker dubbing for a thorax with bright yellow rabbit hair dubbing near the bead for a hot spot, on a jig hook with a 2.5 millimeter black bead for head. The point fly was a sleek perdigone that Antoine Bissieux, The French Fly Fisherman, taught me how to tie. It has a black body with a bright orange hot spot on a jig-style hook covered in a thin layer of UV resin with a gold 2.5 millimeter bead.

On that outing I was looking to harvest two keeper size fish for dinner. I quietly walked by several dry fly fishermen who were excellent casters to arrive at my spot. Within a few drifts of my nymphs I had a small brown that I released and then two keeper rainbows. A 14-inch fish makes a different, deeper tone while thrashing around in the water than a 12-inch fish. I got a few head turns to check out the 14 and then I quietly exited into the jungle along the bank. I was there, maybe a half hour and had achieved my goal. Bam! I am on, the line is tight. With the warm sun shining and a fish on the end of my line I was in the zone. I was happy I didn't change the flies. The fish shot straight out of the water three times. I could tell it was a 14 inch brown with the unmistakable golden butter colored belly. I had him on the reel and then the reel just stopped for a second and time slowed down. The fish was no longer jumping and its 20 foot run was long over. Had he gone under a log? I continued to reel slowly. After a few more moments of wondering, I looked in front of me and saw two beautiful browns, one on each fly. I got two! They were coming toward me separated by about a foot of water and they were not tangled up at all. I bent down and netted the 12 inch fish on my dropper fly, then netted the 14 on the point fly. I took a few pictures and released them back into the river. That was a great start to an excellent day of fishing.



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Monthly Meetings

7 p.m. on the second Wednesday
of the month AS USUAL!!

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