

The Newsletter of The Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association

WWW.CTFLYFISH.ORG

September 2023



From the vest of the President



We ended our CFFA spring of 2023 with a flurry of very successful events that happened after the issue of our May newsletter. I write the following with the intention of filling you in on these events.

On Saturday April 22nd we held our casting instruction at the P&F pond in East Hartford. Eighteen students showed up and ten CFFA members also showed up as was written about in our May issue of Line & Leaders. Very soon after the casting instruction our final class happened on May 6 and took them to the Willimantic River TMA for an education on stream techniques and strategies. Each student was paired up with a CFFA member and spent the morning being guided along the river. Many thanks to all of the volunteers that participated in this very important

class and to Peter Naples for coordinating all of our Educational Classes throughout the year.

On May 13 CFFA gathered for our monthly membership meeting held on the banks of Salmon River. It was our 3rd Annual Tribute to Gary Lafontaine, Connecticut's most famous fly tier. Gary is a past CFFA member who started fly fishing at age 8, and published his first article at age 15. Winner of the Arnold Gingrich Memorial Award for Lifetime Writing Achievement, he published several books, with his "Caddisflies" gaining national attention. As a dedicated member of CFFA he inspired many members to try innovative approaches to tying and fishing for Trout and other species. In 1996, he was awarded Angler of the Year by Fly Rod and Reel Magazine. Gary left this world at the age of 56 due to Lou Gehrig's Disease. We celebrated his legacy once again this spring with numerous fly tiers tying some of Gary's famous flies, members sharing memories and stories that involved Gary and also doing some fly fishing and story telling of our own. Sitting in a circle with long time veterans of CFFA Ken Parkany, Mark Phillipe, Myron Schulman, Gary Bogli, Ed Fidrich, Phil McCormick along some newbies who listened to our stories of past and present was truly enjoyable and something I'm sure Gary LaFontaine was enjoying in spirit. This event has blossomed into a real success and we should all thank CFFA member Rick Liegl for his effort with initiating the idea and making it happen.

The following event was our annual outing with the students that attend the American School for the Deaf. Throughout the month of March and April a group students at the American School for the Deaf were taught to



tie flies under the leadership of Kevin Fuller with assistance from some members of CFFA. The outing took place at the Willington Fish and Game Club on May 23rd where each of the students got to test their hand made flies on the trout and panfish that inhabit the pond there. Once again we thank the Willington Fish and Game Club for the invitation to use their facilities while conducting this event. Not only did they invite us, their members participated and were the perfect hosts. Members of the club graciously used their boats to motor the students around the pond trolling their hand made flies they had created earlier in our classes. When a fish was hooked they stopped the boat and allowed each student to do battle with their prized catch. Other members that were not maneuvering a boat were busy preparing food for the wonderful buffet enjoyed by everyone in attendance. The students thoroughly enjoyed every aspect of the day and many sizable trout and panfish were brought to hand after being netted by "Al the Net Man". I believe Al also earned the nickname "Juggler" that day. Many photos of event can be found on our CFFA Facebook Page.

The final successful event happened on the University of Connecticut campus on June 10th. This is where our second annual Fly Tying Workshop took place. Staff members with the UConn's Biodiversity Research Collections and the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History began the day by educating the students with the identification, requirements, and life cycles of various aquatic invertebrates commonly found in a trout river or stream. Their presentation was followed by fly tying instruction aimed at imitating some of these invertebrates. This session was conducted by our CFFA instructors. Enrolled students surpassed all expectations and enjoyed being able to interact with experts in fly tying along with experts in the field of Entomology where they could observe and touch actual specimens of insects that are eaten by popular Connecticut gamefish. CFFA's contributions were coordinated by our Education Chairman Peter Naples with assistance from Bob Winot, Phil McCormick, and Phil Apruzzese. Thanks to everyone involved for making this event a success. We plan to do this in the future whenever we are asked to participate.

Throughout the summer many CFFA members could be found assisting the Newington chapter of Project Healing Waters. If it wasn't helping during a field trip involving fly fishing it was adding constructive advice during one of their frequent 30 minute Zoom calls. This is a very active chapter and it requires many volunteers to make it work. Your help is very much appreciated by me and the veterans registered in the program.

As we move forward to September and the resumption of our monthly meetings we will continue to meet in Wethersfield. The dates of our meetings beginning Monday September 18th through March of 2024 are listed on the

homepage of our website www.ctflyfish.org so add them to whatever calendar you use. See you soon.

Gary



Carl Ochino will be telling us about his trip out west soon and his waders as well as other things that happened during his adventure

Kevin Fuller and I fished in Vermont again this past spring. Just some of the pictures to tell about our trip.



Bait • Tackle • Fly Tying Accessories • Licenses

JT'S FLY SHOP

664 Buckley Highway, Union, CT 06076
860-684-1575
jtsflyshop@yahoo.com



WILLINGTON PIZZA HOUSE

Route 32 • 25 River Road
Willington Trading Center
Willington, Connecticut
(860) 429-7433

www.willingtonpizza.com

PROJECT HEALING WATERS FLY FISHING

Don LaChance
Program Lead
Newington Program

860-930-0184
don.lachance@projecthealingwaters.org
www.projecthealingwaters.org

*Home of the World's
Best Fly Fishing*

 www.alphonsefishingco.com
 reservations@alphonsefishingco.com
 +248 422 9705
 @alphonsefishingco



EAST COAST HOME INSPECTIONS, LLC

Providing Professional Home
Inspection Services in CT & MA



P.O. Box 558 Enfield, CT 06083

Mark Roy
Home Inspector

Cell: (860) 614-0728
Business: (860) 763-4030
mark@eastcoastinspect.com
eastcoastinspect.com

BFS | Bradley, Foster & Sargent, Inc.

Investment Management

BFS – Looking for new fish to fry.

185 Asylum Street
Hartford, CT 06103
www.bfsinvest.com
860-527-8050

Our advertisers exist to provide you with excellent products and services and they do need your support. Mention that you are with CFFA, they do appreciate feedback and patronage from club members. Plus they are an excellent source for information on gear, tackle, fishing tips and current conditions.

Charles McCaughtry

Original Paintings, Drawing, and Prints

44 Portland Drive Ashford, CT 06278
860-429-1016
www.mccaughtryart.com
charlesmccaughtry@yahoo.com

Peter Jenkins

Peter is grateful that his Grandfather gave him a love for fishing at a young age. He enjoys both surfcasting and fly rodding as the situation dictates and his favorite saltwater targets are striped bass, false albacore, roosterfish, and bonefish. He is the owner of the Saltwater Edge in Middletown, Rhode Island a retailer focused on surf, fly, and inshore fishing. He is the Chairman of the American Saltwater Guides Association a coalition of forward-thinking guides, small business owners, and like-minded anglers that believe in the value of keeping fish in the water. We realize that abundance equals opportunity and that such opportunity drives angler interest and therefore the sale of rods, reels, boats, and guide trips. Peter is the Lead Instructor at the Orvis Saltwater Fly Fishing Schools conducted in Newport, RI. Peter has presented at clubs and

fishing shows across the Northeast. He is a Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers Association member, Boston Fly Casters, Rhody Fly Rodders, and the Newport County Saltwater Fishing Club. Peter has recently been selected as an American Fly Fishing Museum Ambassador.

Program for September will be Albies on the Fly - The nomads of the Gulfstream are tremendous fly rod gamefish. These muscular torpedoes are 30% faster than bonefish. This talk will cover tackle and tactics to help you catch more albies on the fly. This presentation is made up of parts of the content presented at the Orvis False Albacore School held in Newport, RI, each September.

On Saturday May 13th we had our annual Gary Lafotain day on the Salmon River. This event is run by Rick Legel who is a great fan of Gary. This year Ken Parkeny who was friends with Gary and is sharing stories about this friendship came to join us.

I can't thank Vicky for spending the time taking many of the pictures you see.



On May 6 the students that Peter Naples and his group taught fly fishing to last winter met at the rest stop on 84 in Willington with a group of volunteers to take these folks out fishing. Everyone had a great time and fish were caught.



Kevin Fuller and my friend Jeff Passante fished in Montana this past summer. Some pictures from that trip. All of us used Tenkara rods many times during our trip. Definitely a learning curve for me! I'm looking forward to hearing from more people with pictures from trips they made anyplace.



On May 24th members of CFFA met at Willington Fish & Game club for the first time in 3 years because of covid the fly tying program was put on hold. This past winter Kevin Fuller and his volunteers taught fly tying again to the kids at the American School for the Deaf, as in past years the program taught kids that otherwise would never get to experience what many of us take for granted. We can't thank the members of this club for not only opening there club to us but cooking as well as taking all the kids out for a boat ride to fish.



Paul's FLY OF THE MONTH

Albie Whore

Hook: Mustad 34007 Size #1 or #2 depending on the Size of Fly to match bait.

Thread: White, UTC 140 Denier

Tail: Two White or Tan Saddle Hackle Feathers splayed outward. Two strands of Pearlescent Krystal Flash on each side.

Body: Pearlescent Chenille or Estaz in Char- treuse, Pink or Tan. Flanked by two more Sad- dle Hackles, splayed outward, the length of the body and tail; with a strip of Lateral Line on each side the length of Body & Tail. All affixed by a Hot Glue Gun or UV Resin.

Eyes: Stick on flat 1/8" eyes.

Tying instructions & video on how to tie this pattern can be found at <http://tightlinesflyfishing.blogspot.com/> If you have any questions about this fly or would like to submit a Fly of The Month I can be reached at pdinice@frontier.com .



Albie Whore
Tied by Paul Dinice
TightlinesFlyfishing.blogspot.com





Lines & Leaders

The Newsletter of The Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association

Board of Directors

President • Gary Steinmiller

(c) 860-563-0040 (e) steinmillergary@yahoo.com

Activities VP • Bob Winot (e) rwinot25@cox.net

860-292-1685

Environment VP • Phil Apruzzese

(e) pjapruz@aol.com

Promotions VP • Richard Gaudreau (c) 860-745-2695

Recording Secretary • Phil McCormick

(h) 860-871-8703

Treasurer • Chuck Koteen

Advisory Board • Gary Bogli (h) 860-858-5633

Banquet Chairman • Kurt Jagielow

Conservation Chairman • Ted Rzepski

Educational Director • Peter Naples

860-620-2317

Indoor Facilities Chair • Denise Dauray

Legislative Chairman • Vin Ringrose

(h) 860-828-4642

Publicity Chairman • Dan Price (c) 860-301-9696

Membership Chairman • Phil McCormick

(h) 860-871-8703

Newsletter Chairman • John Springer

(h) 860-510-2383 (e) cffa@comcast.net

Program Chairman • Roger Plourde

(c) 860-919-3513



INTERNATIONAL
FLY FISHERS



East Hartford, CT 06108

P.O. Box 380268

Fly Fisherman's Association

Connecticut

