

LINES



AND



LEADERS

JULY 1972

C.F.F.A.

Vol. LXXII No. 5

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Summer Newsletter

It is always difficult to organize one's thoughts at this time of year, when the dry fly season is coming to its peak, but yours truly will give it a try.

To begin with, the dry fly season is finally arriving after a long delay due to our cool, wet spring, and nowhere will it be better than on our experimental stretch of the Jeremys. Water levels are now ideal, inchworms are almost ready to begin dropping to the surface, and the evening waters are coated with midges, March Brown spinners, and a small sulphur mayfly. I had excellent sport two evenings ago in Hewitt, Hemlock, and Stone Wall pools, and it should remain fine for several weeks to come. The stream is teeming with fish, and I urge you for the umpteenth time to enjoy this marvelous fishing experience.

We enter the summer months with two or three outdoor projects very much in the works. We plan to replace our temporary trout-rearing pool in Southington with a permanent concrete pool identical to those in the state hatcheries - hopefully we will be doing much of this around the weekend of June 24 - if called to help, please try to do so. Second, our work on the Jeremys will continue, to improve still further the great holding water we now have developed. Third, we hope to have a public water work-day such as we have had on the Farmington the past two seasons, one that emphasizes once again CFFA's concern with better fishing for all fishermen.

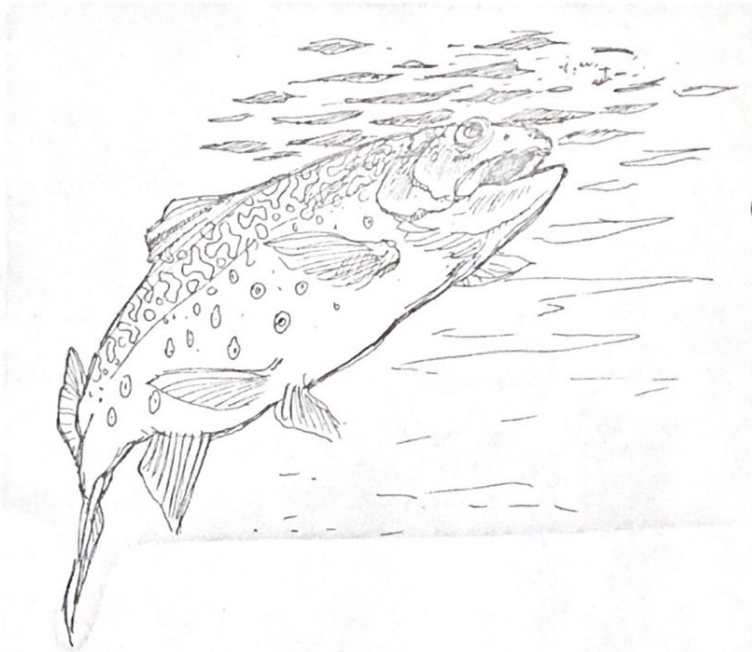
Al Dixon is working on the water monitoring program, and we hope to have something to announce very soon. We have several teams planned at various locations throughout the state, but the first one off the ground is, of course, the key one,

and Al Dixon's Farmington River team is probably going to be our first. This entire project is probably the most important continuing work that we will ever get involved with, as it has many ramifications and will undoubtedly spread beyond the CFFA membership.

Our someday private facility, the pond in Chaplin, is at a temporary standstill. Still, we hope to work on it by the fall and I am certain that in 1973 we will have a place that we can really call our own. Our fish-raising efforts are designed with eventual private water in mind.

With a new Legislature next year, we will once again get involved with a pet project, which we hope to pursue in the same fashion as we did the minimum flow bill two years ago. We will be fortunate if we can get our new bill passed, but feel that it is worth a concerted effort, and we once again expect strong support from state fisheries people. Our project will deal with making possible controlled-permit, limited access fishing on reservoirs, particularly secondary reservoirs. In our congested state we feel that we need more water for the ever-increasing numbers of sport fishermen, and that it is time that Connecticut joins the large number of states which now permit such fishing.

Lastly, a philosophical note. Ted Barbieri and I recently had the chance to chat informally with some state fisheries people who are themselves fly fishermen about why there are not more fly-fishing areas, or other types of special regulation areas, in the state. Their answer was clear -- fly fisherman are still a small minority of the state fishing population. This is really a sad state of affairs. We know there are more fly fishermen than ever, but we seem to be making little gain in the overall percentage. One of our charter goals was "to promote the pleasures



and traditions of fly-fishing." Are we failing? Or have we just not tried hard enough? Think about it. I'm sure that most of us feel we've done a good job in our four years of work. We have, no doubt about it. But what can we do to make it better? Your help and ideas will be most appreciated.

Tight lines,

Vin Ringrose
President

Federation of Fly Fisherman - -
Conservation News Briefs

The filling of our national estuaries and wetlands for the purpose of residential marinas, land dump areas, and kindred developments which require major environmental alterations, has seriously damaged our coastal areas.

These "nurseries of the sea" provide spawning and nesting grounds for birds, fish and mollusks that may live out most of their lives far away. It is calculated that two-thirds of the ocean's sport and commercial fish either begin their own lives in wetland areas or feed on other creatures spawned in wetlands.

Support current legislation - S. 3507 "Magnuson Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972" - to preserve and protect our coast lines.

Stream Channelization - The Corps of Engineers has agreed to reassess the future effects of channelization. However, it will take continued and concentrated efforts, by all conservation-minded organizations, to halt the devastation of our streams and rivers. If you have not yet written Congressman James Kee of West Virginia, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Watershed Development, please tell him what you think about it.

Snake River - Hells Canyon - The situation regarding SB 717 to create a National River of the Snake does not look promising at this writing. It is held up in the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. There will probably be no action on it before next year.

The National Wild Rivers Bill, H.B. 6856, is locked in the House Interior Committee chaired by Wayne Aspenall. Mr. Aspenall, listed as Environmental Public Enemy No. 1 by a national outdoors magazine, has once again bottled up valuable legislation through his powerful position as committee chairman.

++ A POST CARD WILL HELP ++
SPUR A GOOD LEGISLATOR TO CONTINUE TO FIGHT
LET THE BAD LEGISLATOR KNOW A TIME OF CHANGE IS HERE.

NOTES AND GENERAL INFORMATION - From the May and June Board of Director's Meetings, we can report the following.....Treasurer reports that cash balance continues to flow in a favorable position. If you are interested in any of the details, contact Treasurer Elliot Rosenthal at a future membership meeting..... Al Dixon has volunteered to set up our initial Water Watching Program and team monitor effort, - he'll be looking for your help!.....Vice President Karl Van Valkenburgh, one of CFFA founders, has resigned.....We continue to look for someone to take over the duties of Corresponding Secretary, (recording meeting minutes, preparing meeting notices, prepare mailings, correspondence, etc.,)..Mark Levy and Joe D'Addario to attend the next C.A.S.E. Meeting in Easthampton, Mass., as attention swings to possible Conn. River Restoration Program; possibility of clubs in lower river valley raising smolts if C.A.S.E. can get same funded.... CONSERVATION COMMITTEE..... Stocked 500 fish in Jeremys' on 4-13, 500 more on 4/30, balance stocked 5/14....Majority of trout came from our own rearing pond..... Jeremys' River shocked on 6/11, water very high - no small fish of any species recovered. Many average size fish still in stream.....Will continue with work days in July and August.....Conservation Chairman Lou Patria looking for able bodies to participate in work and fish days.....JEREMYS' RIVER COMMITTEE.....Fishing pressure has been heavy, many members not filling out cards, please note and fill one out properly next time out. Fishing average per man in May was 3 fish per trip; average for June at this writing was 5 fish per trip.....OUTDOOR FACILITIES.....Permanent rearing pond structure to be constructed starting week-end of 6/24.....FUND RAISING COMMITTEE..... The new CFFA patches are in, and they are beautiful, designed and manufactured by the same people who make patches for the Boy Scouts of America. Here is an outline of this new oval patch, -- colors are...background is white flat, rolled edge is gloss white silk, lettering is black, the "C" is glossy silver, the scarlet ibis fly is red, hook and head are black. If you desire to obtain your

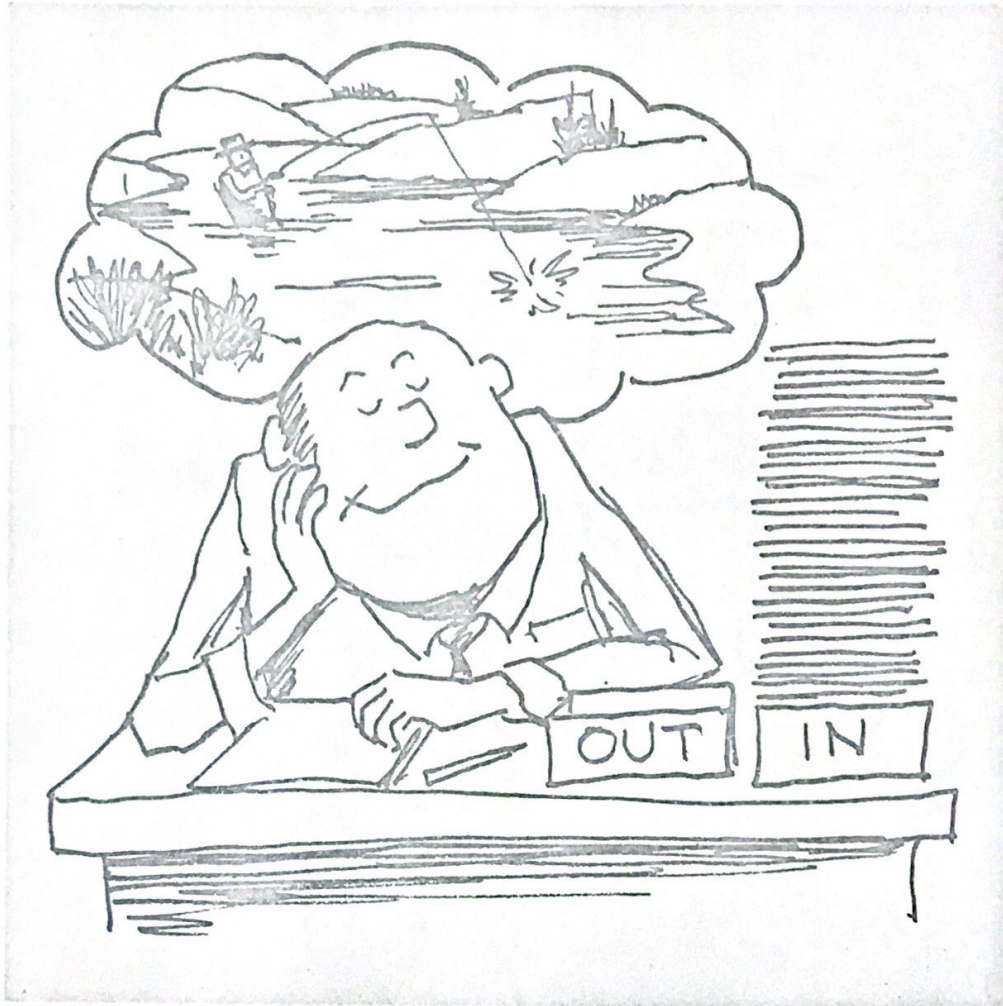
patch or patches now, you can write to Treasurer, Elliot Rosenthal, 42 Ranger Lane, West Hartford, Conn. 06117. Enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope, together with \$1.00 for each patch desired and they'll be mailed out immediately! Or, if you're not in a hurry, wait until the September membership meeting to obtain your patch.....PROGRAM COMMITTEE..... General theme for 1972-73 to be a practical and physical program, with complete membership taking and active part. The suggested theme for the year may be, "Fly fishing is easy, and fun!"



This type of programming will require more instructions, demonstrations, etc., to cover all phases of fly fishing.

OUR MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS START AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER, - a mailing notice will go out in latter August to cover same, - BRING A FRIEND!

W.G.Telke, Corres. Sec'y



The Salvation of Connecticut
by Peter Greenan

When someone mentions the salvation of Connecticut to a fly fisherman he invariably thinks of the Brown Trout. Well, partly true I suppose. Hatcheries around the state could supply enough fish in a pinch, but what do they eat? Our streams are not known for their great hatches of Mayflies and although we have an abundance of bait fish, we know that they are a lesser trout food. It is generally agreed that the most important food is the Caddis fly.

Many of our streams are of the fast water, gravel bottom type. Often they are bordered by groves of hemlocks where needles fall into the water. Two of the most important caddis are commonly called the stick caddis and the sand caddis. All of the species are found in abundance on Connecticut streams. They are many colored, including green, brown, tan, black, and gray. "Durable" is the description of this fly. Because of it's durability it hatches year round, although only intermittently during the winter. In March of 1971 at our first stocking on the Jeremy's, trout were feeding on the tiny black caddis in near freezing temperatures.

From opening day through October these insects are of utmost importance to the fly fisherman. I'm sure we all carry some caddis imitations to the stream. I know of one angler who carries them in his tie-clasp.

The most prominent specie is known as the green caddis and for this reason, I will expand on it. The life cycle and emergence method are well known so I will dispense with them. The imitations that I have faith in are found in "Matching the Hatch" by Ernest Swiebert. The pupa and larva are productive when fished just under the surface or rising from the bottom. The green sedge is often used to induce a trout to rise. For the less expert flytyer or nontyer there is an alternative. The wet fly imitations I like are the red hackle, the gray hackle, the picket pin, and the bull moose. These can be fished as nymph or wet fly. The dry fly imitation, of course, is the Henryville, and here is the pattern.


Body -- bright green
Rib -- 2 small grizzly hackles
 clipped on top
Wing -- 2 sections of natural
 goose tied down wing
 slightly tent fashion
Under Wing -- 4 or 5 woodduck flank fibers
Hackle -- 2 turns of brown
Silk -- black or olive

This pattern may not be original but it is a regional tie. The popularity of this fly has put it into the nation's leading fly catalogue.


I hope this information will make '72 a more enjoyable season for you.

In conjunction with Pete's apt article on Caddis flies, here are the tying instructions for the Henryville by Wes Sanford. -- ed.

The Henryville

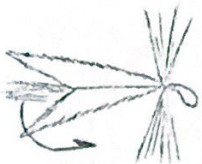


Tie olive yarn or floss at bend of hook (if yarn is used one thin strand is plenty). Just forward of the yarn or floss tie in two grizzly dry-fly hackles, leaving enough room between them. As the body is formed, stop 1/16 in. to 1/32 in. from the eye of the hook. Be sure to leave ample room for the head.



Palmer first hackle to start of head and tie off. Do the same with the second hackle, winding right through the first hackle. Clip all hackle above the body flat to leave room for the downwing tie.

Place small bunch of woodduck fibers over the body, extending 1/16 in. beyond hook.

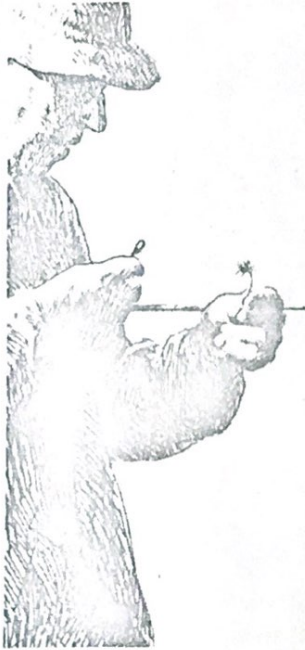


Next take matched slips from light goose or mallard wing and place them tent style over the woodduck. One is placed and tyed down before the other. They cannot be put on at the same time. The natural curve of mallard will be faced down.

At the beginning of the head put three or four turns of brown hackle and finish the head.

Jeremey's River Report

by Myron Schulman, Chairman
Jeremey's River Committee



The third season of trout fishing in the Jeremey's River is well in progress for many C.F.F.A. anglers. This year, the Board of Directors agreed to maintain the same creel regulation that was voted into acceptance by the membership of the Connecticut Fly Fishermen's Association in 1971. This agreement established a voluntary one twelve inch or larger fish per angler per trip rule to govern members fishing the stream. Several attractive signs acknowledging our work on the Jeremey's and asking sportsmen to help keep the area clean were posted along the stream to greet Opening Day fishermen.

On April 13th, our two mile experimental section of the Jeremey's River received a pre-season stocking of approximately 500 trout from the State Hatchery. These fish were mostly Brook Trout, one year removed from the wild, and fin clipped for later identification by our anglers and electro-shocking crews. In addition to these semi-wild Brookies, a few fat, sassy Rainbows were released in the Jeremey's.

Two later stockings were conducted by the Conservation Committee of C.F.F.A. On April 30th another 500 trout were introduced to the Jeremey's. Most of these fish were Browns, reared in our Southington pool with a few heavy Rainbows that were also released in the stream. The State added 147 fin clipped Brown Trout with wild sea-run ancestry. After this stocking, some time was spent cutting brush and making minor repairs on our stone dams which have done a remarkable job. It was most pleasureable to watch the Hendricksons dance on the water as we worked. The final stocking occurred on May 14th. At this time, the remainder of our trout from the Southington rearing pool, about 347 Browns, were put in the Jeremey's.

The first two months of the 1972 fishing season drew a much smaller number of anglers to the Jeremey's River than expected. This was true for C.F.F.A. anglers as well as non-members. The onslaught of fishermen anticipated as a result of Bill Clede's fine article in the Hartford Times, and its coverage on WTIC television and radio, and those who surely overheard talk about this secluded piece of fish-filled water, just never materialized. Several factors appear to be responsible for this poor early season turnout. Among these are the unusually cold and rainy weather we experienced in April and May, the difficulty in getting to and fishing the stream, and the initial wariness of the semi-wild Brookies that first tested the early angler's skill. We also must believe that some C.F.F.A. members are not filling out data cards.

Census cards turned in for April and May indicate the following:

APRIL

<u>Fisherman</u>	<u>Trout Caught</u>	<u>Browns</u>	<u>Brookies</u>	<u>Rainbows</u>	<u>Trout/Man/Trip</u>
23	35	4	30	1	1.52

MAY

<u>Fishermen</u>	<u>Trout Caught</u>	<u>Browns</u>	<u>Brookies</u>	<u>Rainbows</u>	<u>Trout/Man/Trip</u>
49	161	124	34	3	3.28

It should be noted that several of these cards were filled out by non-members who indicated their approval of our work on the Jeremey's. Also, a few large hold-over fish have been caught.

On June 11th the Conservation Committee of C.F.F.A. with the aid of Dick Modlin of the State and Professor Whitworth of the University of Connecticut, electro-shocked 2400 feet of the Jeremey's. This stretch of water is probably the most heavily fished in the stream. Despite the difficult condition brought about by high water, 92 trout were counted, including three fine hold-over Browns. It is very probable that many more fish were present in this piece of water, but were just not visible. Unfortunately no evidence of spawning was found. This should not dishearten us for few small fish of any variety were seen, and some very small trout have been caught in the past.

Needless to say, the Jeremey's will provide excellent trout fishing for determined and resourceful anglers throughout the remainder of the season. Please fish the Jeremey's and fill out a data card. Besides enjoying the tranquility of the outdoors, there are plenty of trout left, just waiting to be tempted.

* * * * *

The Mystery of Muskrat Hole

(a conversation with Joe D'Addario about Jeremey River angling)



Over a sketch pad scratched with swirls and eddies and pools, Joe talked about the productive spots of Hemlock, Henryville, and Apple. He spotted favorite niches in each pool, and he reminisced over fish that he had caught and released.

"There's one spot," I asked. "Deep, flowing in a bend against the high bank."

"Oh, that," he shook his head. "No, that's Muskrat Hole. I've never known of any of our members to catch a fish there."

The water is swift and dark, digging against the soft earth of the bank. The river bows widely here before hooking quickly around the corner. I fished it deep and careful, scraping the muskrat dens with a No. 8 Muddler. I sat on a little sand spit for over an hour; not fishing, but just watching with Polaroid glasses for a rise or a flash. I saw nothing.

Joe and I both nodded, "I don't know why. There should be trout there."

Maybe not a monster Brown scaring away all else, or any other romantic mystery. But why are there not many average size trout there?

"I don't even fish it anymore,"

Joe said. "I just pass by and look."

Where are the fish of Muskrat Hole? Has any club member caught a fish there? Or seen a trout working?

Let me know; and try Muskrat Hole next time out on the Jeremey's. Let's see if we can figure a few answers on the spot to report in the next Lines and Leaders.

-- ed.

Dave Whitlock's Nymph System

Describing himself as a "nymphetomaniac" from Oklahoma, Dave Whitlock introduced himself to the audience at the March meeting of the C.F.F.A. The guest speaker for the evening, Dave is a noted fly tyer, lecturer, and outdoors writer. With slides and pointer Dave explained that the "passion" he was overwhelmed with concerned a method of nymph fishing. Using nymphs to solve the varied angling conditions he encounters while fishing many parts of the country, Dave has developed a knotless junction of line and leader. Without knots to catch on moss or weeds he finds that it is possible to catch larger trout on finer leader tippets.

For those club members who wanted to try Dave's method, but did not take notes of the detailed system, here is an outline of Dave's method:



With a large needle hollow a 3/4 in. wedge into the end of the fly line.



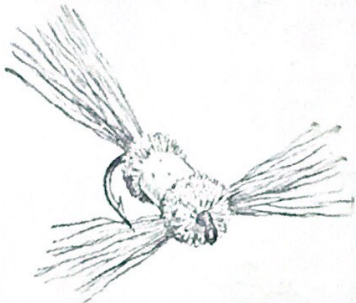
Prepare the butt of leader into a corresponding wedge by tapering it with a single edge razor blade. Rough the taper surface with a piece of fine emory for better adhesion.



Thoroughly coat the hollow in the fly line with epoxy resin. Insert the tapered leader butt into the fly line.

Slide a section, 1/2 in., of Orange demonstrator fly line up the tippet to the butt, forming a sleeve over the leader butt and fly line tip.

Bass Bugging Time!



As the days grow warmer, heating the water, the bass begin to establish a nocturnal foraging cycle. Late evening and early morning are good until the summer heat arrives to stay. Then the shallows do not cool until 2 or 3 a.m. in the morning.

If you wish to try fly rodding for bass, but do not want to purchase the weight forward line used to push out the air resistant bugs, cast a greased Muddler Minnow. Pull it across the surface in quick jerks.

Membership Report

by K. J. Parkany
Membership Chairman

Membership just a "midge" under last year's total, and we're only half-way through the year:

Jan. 31, 1971	180
June 24, 1972	170

ANNUAL FALL "BEAT INFLATION" MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Here's how your friends can beat inflation by joining C.F.F.A.:

Each new membership received on or after October 1, 1972, is good through the following year, expiring December 31, 1973. Yes, a full year and a quarter's worth for the price of only a year.

And here's how the drive works: Every member is to bring a non-member guest to the fall meetings, beginning with our next one in September. Don't ask him to join, just invite him to come and see how our meetings are void of business and full of fun for all! Once there, he may be interested in knowing how he can "beat inflation." And if you've got a friend who's been on the verge of joining now, tell him to hold off till October and "beat inflation."

See you in September, with a guest --

Good luck astream,

Ken Parkany

Fly Fisherman's Adage:

With wind from in front
You cast with a grunt;
With wind from the rear
The fly stabs your ear;
With wind from the right
A limb is caught tight;
Wind coming from port
Means death to the sport.

Author unknown,
Quoted from "Ye Gods & Little Fishes"
by Eugene E. Slocum, 1927

REC. By _____



CONNECTICUT FLY FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Date FALL

Please check all appropriate boxes, print required information, and forward with check to: Ken Parkany, Membership Chairman, 503 Bush Hill Road, Manchester, Conn. 06040.

Name _____ Home Phone _____
Address _____ Business Phone _____
City _____ State _____ Zip # _____
Occupation _____

Renewal . . . New Membership

Important: First learned of C.F.F.A. thru: (Check one) CFFA Member,
 Newspaper, Other (specify) _____

ANNUAL DUES: (Check one)

- | | | | |
|--|---------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> JUNIOR (under 16) | \$3.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> SUPPORTING | \$15.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> REGULAR | \$7.50 | <input type="checkbox"/> CONTRIBUTING | \$50.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAMILY | \$10.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> LIFE | \$100.00
or more |

If Family Membership, please list names of family members who desire membership cards _____

Also, please select one or more of the Committees listed below to which you could appropriate some time and apply your talent:

- CONSERVATION MEMBERSHIP OUTDOOR FACILITIES PUBLICITY
 PROGRAM LEGISLATIVE INDOOR FACILITIES FUND RAISING

Mail application and check to:

KEN PARKANY, Membership Chairman, CFFA
503 BUSH HILL ROAD
MANCHESTER, CONN. 06040

