

# The FLYRODDER

PUBLISHED BY  
**LONG ISLAND**  
FLYRODDERS



*The Flyrodder*  
is a monthly publication of  
The Long Island Flyrodders, Inc.  
Editor, In Memoriam, Gian Padovani

## *This Month's Meeting* *June 5, 2007*

**Morty Schneiderman, Editor**

90-60 Union Turnpike  
Glendale, NY 11385  
LIFRnews@aol.com

**Jeff Farrell**

Circulation Manager

The Long Island Flyrodders  
meet at 8:00 PM on the  
first Tuesday of each Month  
at the: **Levittown VFW Hall**  
**55 Hickory Lane**  
(North of Hempstead Turnpike  
& West of Jerusalem Avenue)

**2007 OFFICERS**

**Paul McCain**

*President*

2839 Cherry Court  
Oceanside, NY 11572  
516-536-1418  
Prespaul@optonline.net

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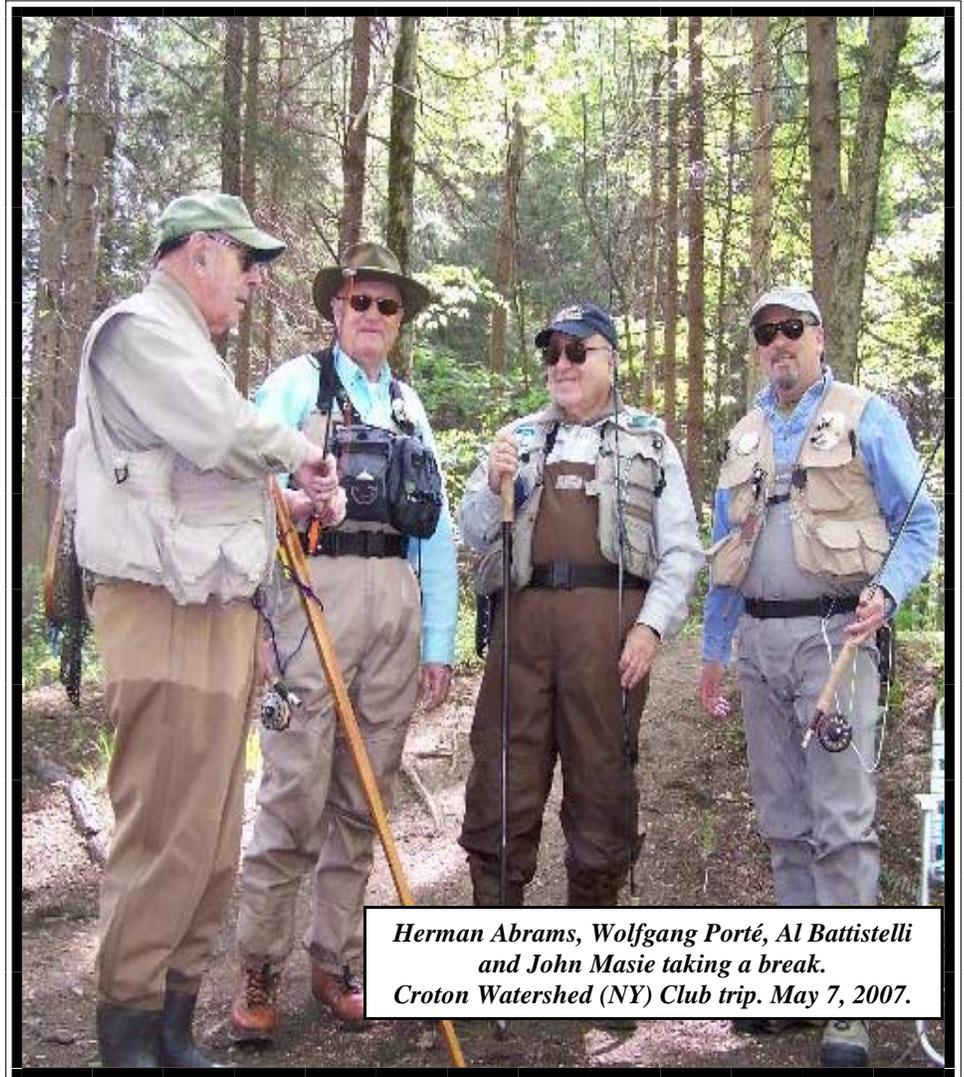
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**Gil Padovani**

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God Bless America



*Herman Abrams, Wolfgang Porté, Al Battistelli  
and John Masie taking a break.  
Croton Watershed (NY) Club trip. May 7, 2007.*

*Guest Speaker:*

**John Fischer**

**“Saltwater Access”**



My left eye twitches as I sit here trying to write a "President's Line". No one has any ideas for me and Paul remains unconcerned. " Just write about the reason we are the best fishing club on Long Island". What a great guy, he always makes it seem so easy.

**Here are the Top Ten Reasons that the Long Island Fly Rodders is a great club.**

- 10) We reach out to others like Casting for Recovery and river clean ups
- 9) Our Jr. Fly Tying classes help the next generation learn to appreciate the outdoors
- 8) We have great fishing trips
- 7) Our monthly meetings always have a terrific guest speaker
- 6) You can extend the fishing season by attending the fly tying nights at Panchos

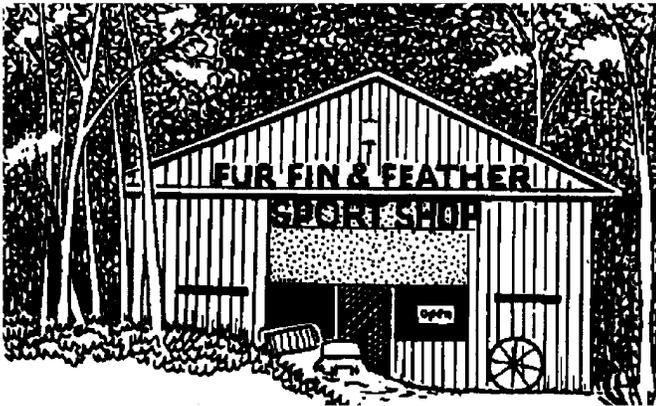
- 5) Our video library means that there is always something on t.v.
- 4) The summer monthly meetings come complete with a delicious barbeque supper
- 3) Our annual awards dinner gives us time to brag and talk about fishing
- 2) Our fly casting lessons are helpful to anglers of all levels

And the number 1 reason that the Long Island Fly Rodders is a great club is.....

\_\_\_\_\_ will be our next President (Insert YOUR name on the line)

**Don't forget to come early for the barbeque and fly casting between 6:00 till 7:30**

*Tight lines from the President's wife, Julie*



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# FoF Your Nymphormation

by Lee Weil



When you've got a twelve-hour drive to make and two days to do it in, it doesn't hurt to have a designated stopover. It's even less painful when that stopover includes an opportunity to wet a line while you're there. On the way back from our trout fishing vacation in North Carolina, we decided to take a detour and visit our friends Irene and Patrick, who moved down south last fall. Irene mentioned in passing that she had a "little" pond on her property, and I have to admit that made my ears go up. After all, the 8 weight and a chest pack of bass bugs wouldn't take up much room in the truck and I had some new patterns I was just dying to test drive. We were on a mission.

I have learned in the past that small pond bass can be very friendly, and I looked forward to introducing myself. As we drove up the dirt road in front of Irene's place we both looked at the pond in the back and said, "This *can't* be the place". It was huge, about 3 acres, and the brush was cut back to allow plenty of room for backcasts. The few willows and clumps of cattails seemed to be strategically placed to provide perfect cover for the fish. When we pulled around to the side of the house, I saw their car, confirming that it was indeed the right place and I thought "jackpot!"

After a warm welcome from our friends and a tour of the grounds we were offered typical Southern hospitality; a beer and a seat on the porch. Even while I sat there talking about horses I kept watching the pond, looking for rises around the dock and under the trees. In spite of a rather stiff breeze I was seeing the telltale rings, and when Patrick finally said, "if you guys wanna fish" ... I was out the door before he finished the sentence. On my second cast I felt a hard tug as a feisty largemouth did it's best to tear off with my Clouser. Not a giant, but a nice fish. After that it was just one thing after another. The bass were all eager to participate and

## Bass Pond Paradise

took pretty much every fly I tied on. Our friends came down to join in and pretty soon we all lost count of how many fish were landed. We did have a scorekeeper, however. Irene's little black dog Cookie became obsessed with checking each and every fish we landed. She watched diligently and soon figured out that a bent rod brought the promise of yet another wet, wiggling creature to be inspected and sniffed. She became more and more excited, and if the fish were big enough to be keepers (by her standards) she would jump in to swim after them when they were released. I gave her the title of Game Warden, and she took her job very seriously, barking her approval at the bass and turning her nose up at the pumpkinseeds. We eventually stopped long enough to eat dinner and then went back out for a popper fishing session, catching fish till it was too dark to see.

The next morning I was up before everyone (including the Game Warden) and after hitting the button on the coffeemaker I walked through the wet grass out to the dock. The trees were shrouded in fog, with the only apparent sign of life being the geese, who were not happy about my presence at that hour of the morning. I tied on a deer hair mouse and made a cast onto the pontoon of the yellow paddle boat tied to the dock, then eased it off and allowed it to plop onto the water. I twitched it twice and watched it disappear in a swirl. The line came off my reel as the fish hauled fin out to the middle of the pond, and when I landed it after a good fight I measured it at 14". Big enough to eat mice for breakfast. As I stood there and watched the sun burn off the fog I did some calculating in my head. Yeah, one more day wouldn't be a problem.

Especially here in bass pond paradise.

*Tight Lines & God bless, Lee*

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# Flyrodding for Bluegills

By Dave Lengyel

In my opinion, bluegills are one of the most challenging and fun fish to go for, especially when you catch them on a fly rod. They can be found in almost any lake, stream or pond on Long Island, and pound for pound, bluegill are probably one of the best fighting fish ever.

I tie my own flies, so naturally I have a big selection when it comes to bluegill. The only two flies I ever really use, however, is an ultra small popper or a gray hackle wet fly. The small popper is dynamite in the summer when bluegill feed off the top. When it is windy and the fish go a little deeper, a gray hackle sinks just enough to get them. You should also carry "special occasion" flies, such as an adams, black gnat, weighted nymph or a grass shrimp, so you can be prepared for anything.

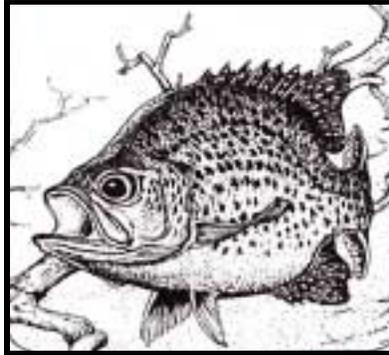
I use a 5 weight rod with matching reel,

weight forward floating line, 20 lb braided Dacron backing and usually a tapered leader that starts at 10 lb. test line and ends in 2 lb. test line. If you want more of a challenge, consider using a lighter weight fly rod, such as a 1,2 or 3 weight. With these weight

rods, do not overplay the fish if you are planning to release it. There are several good places to fish for bluegill on Long Island. One of my favorites is the Peconic River. This place is ideal because it is not over-fished, most of it is shallow and weedy, and there are a good amount of predators to help control the bluegill population. Other good places to try are BIydenburg Lake, Lower Lake and Upper Twin Pond.

So...if you get a chance this summer to go flyfishing for bluegill, don't miss it.

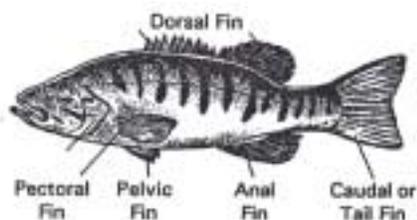
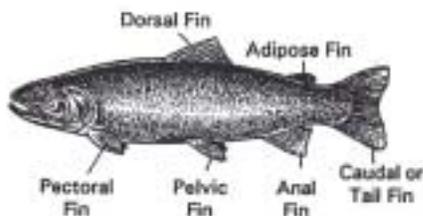
David Lengyel is a member of the Long Island Bassmasters and is a supporter of catch and release fishing.



## Fish Facts - Fins by Keith Holley

Up, down, forward or backward, fish can move wherever they want in the water. To do this they use their fins. Fish have several different kinds of fins. The pectoral fins are the pair of fins found on either side of the body nearest the front of the fish. The pelvic fins are also on both sides of the fish, and are found further back on the body or below the pectorals. The dorsal fin is found on the top of the fishes body and the anal fin on the bottom of the fish. And finally, the most important fin of them all the is caudal or tail fin.

All the fins have a special job that they do. The pectoral and the pelvic fins help the fish go up, down, stop and turn. The dorsal fin and the anal fin are used by the fish to keep the fish from turning on its side. It also helps the fish to move forward and backward. The last fin on the fish is the caudal fin. This fin gives the fish the ability to move forward fast. It allows the fish to escape predators or to capture prey. All of these fins are able to do the job of the other fins. This helps if the fish losses a fin.



Keith Holley is a Region 1 Fish and Wildlife Technician for the NYSDEC

## Book Review

### **Fly-Fishing for Smallmouth** by *Bob Clouser*

Stackpole Books, Mechanicsburg, PA, 2007  
226 pages, hardbound, illustrated, Color and B&W,  
suggested price \$39.95

Bob Clouser and river smallmouth bass go together like peaches and cream. They are inseparable. Thus, a course book by Bob on fishing for smallmouth bass in rivers and streams is something to take note of. The author's book is a complete fly fishing guide to fishing for one of the finest game fish that swims. The book opens with chapters on the smallmouth bass story, seasons for fishing smallmouth, finding smallmouth in moving water, and what smallmouth eat. Next there is a chapter which allows the reader to look into the fly boxes of one of the premier smallmouth fly fishers. This is followed by chapters on casting tips and presentation strategies useful for smallmouth bass fly fishing. The book then provides a chapter with 10 tips to catching a trophy smallmouth bass, and a chapter on equipment suited to smallmouth bass fishing. The final chapter is a collection of comments on smallmouth bass fishing in various parts of the United States by some of the finest smallmouth bass fly fishing guides in the country. A very useable index completes the book. The color photography is top notch and is well designed to compliment the text. The line drawings illustrating techniques are also very well done. The writing is good though a bit wordy in a few spots.

Overall, the book is very well written, designed, and edited. There are not a lot of books that have been printed on fly fishing for smallmouth bass. This one is a wonderful addition to the list. It is not only informative, it makes the reader want to get out the 8 weight rod and give it a go in a river or stream near home.

## ELDRED PRESERVE FISHING TRIP SEPTEMBER 18 – 19, 2007

We ran this trip three years in a row and it was a great success. We caught a variety of fish – bass, very large blue gills, big crappie, pickerel, as well as some nice trout. We also shot a couple of rounds of Sporting Clays. Overall, we had a good time and enjoyed the camaraderie. The accommodations were very good and the food was excellent. Eldred is located approximately two-and-a-half hours from New York City and it is a pleasant ride. This is a great trip to bring family and friends and a great opportunity to introduce children to fishing. The dates are September 18 – 19, 2007.

The cost for the trip is as follows: The room is \$75.00 plus tax, double occupancy. This means you would split the cost of the room with someone. An extra cot in the room costs an additional \$8.00. Dinner is a la carte – you pay for what you select. The restaurant is excellent. They will provide coffee in the rooms. We will provide some Dunkin Donuts in the morning or you can make arrangements to provide your own breakfast.

We are going to have a Bass Tournament on September 19. The cost of the bass boat is \$80.00 plus tax, again, double occupancy, so you split this cost, also. There are two people per boat. The entry fee is \$10.00 for each angler and the entry fees collected will be distributed to the First, Second and Third longest bass caught. Further details will follow.

They also have two large trout ponds. One is Catch and Keep. It is stocked with trout. You have free access to the Catch and Keep pond but must pay \$6.25 per pound for whatever you catch. They will clean the fish for you and pack it in ice for your journey home. The cost for the cleaning is fifty cents per fish.

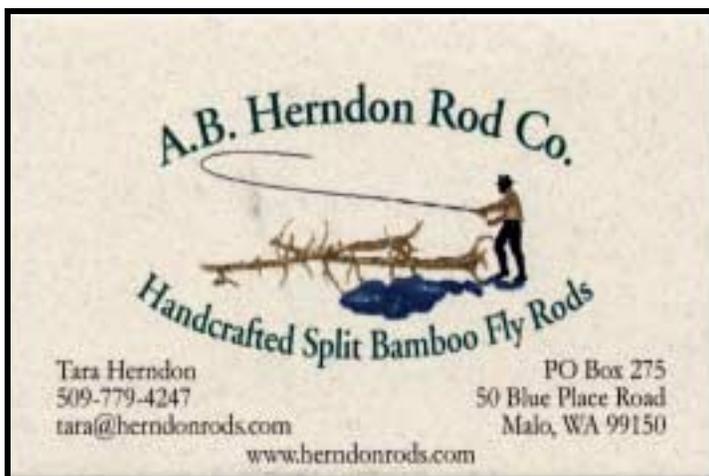
The other pond is Catch and Release. It is stocked with trout and big catfish. It is for fly fishing only, barbless hooks only. The cost for this pond is \$12.50 per person and you can fish all day.

You can also go fishing nearby at Mongaup Pond, Rondout Reservoir or the Delaware River.

They also have Sporting Clays available. We shot the Sporting Clays each time we went and had a lot of fun doing it. The cost for a round is \$8.00 for twenty-five clays. You can bring your own shotgun and ammunition or you can rent a shotgun there for \$5.00 and purchase ammunition for \$8.00 for a box of twenty-five rounds. They provide ear protectors while you are shooting.

They have a computerized gambling casino only minutes away if you want to try your luck.

You can sign up at any meeting with Bill Farrington or me, Joe Caroleo, or you can call me at (718) 845-4225 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.



## Fly Fishing is 1807 Years Old Today (more or less)

*Taken from the Backcountry Fly Fishers Naples Newsletter*

If there is any truth to the reports about the origins of fly fishing, 2007 will mark the 1,807th year of the sport. Apparently, somewhere in what is now northern Greece an enterprising fisherman noticed that fish would rise to the surface to gulp down a newly emerged fly. This man probably caught one of the flies and tied it on to a primitive hook. No such luck; the fly would wilt and fall off the hook. The ancient fisherman then fastened a piece of red wool around a hook, attached a couple of feathers and found success in attracting what were most likely trout. Thus the sport of fly fishing was borne in frustration and the natural human quest for a better way. Why he selected red wool when the natural flies were dark brown will never be known. The length of the rod, the makeup of the line and the reel, if there was one, are lost to history. But the almost 2,000 year development of fly fishing was born. It is probable that fly fishing migrated from Greece to Italy and then north to Germany and Britain. Records from medieval times in Germany mention catching trout on feathered hooks. Few details are known about the rods, reels and lines used in the sport. But it is known that rods were made from ash and hickory with bamboo eventually coming into use.

The real emergence of fly fishing owes much to the interest in Britain beginning around 1800. Bamboo rods in the lengths of 12 to 16 feet were commonly used. Then brass ferules were introduced that permitted long rods to be made in sections and more easily carried. Reels in this period resemble today's bait casting reels. They were positioned at the butt end and on top of the rod. Narrow and below-the-rod reels produced in America ultimately replaced the British designs. Lines presented the largest challenge. Made from a mix of horsehair and silk, they readily absorbed water and sank and wore out quickly. Casting into the wind proved impossible. The partial solution was the braided silk line. It enabled longer casts (18 to 23 yards with a 16 foot rod) and durability. Silkworm gut came into use for leaders and hooks and fly patterns were vastly improved.

Rapid industrialization and development of new materials as the world entered the first half of the 20th century gave rise to improvements in virtually every aspect of fly fishing. Availability of affordable equipment and transportation opened the sport to fishermen below the gentry set. A few of the develop-

ments were: Cork Handles, Standard reel seats, Fast-winding, single-action reels, Floating lines (at least for a few minutes,) Shorter rods, Ultra-light split cane rods, and better gut for leaders.

But nothing in the development of fly fishing had occurred in any prior period that compares with the improvements since 1950. A few of the really big steps include: Fiber glass rods, following closely by Graphite fiber rods (how did we do without them?), Nylon lines followed by hollow PVC lines with nylon cores, Monofilament leader material of all sizes and types, Light, strong, large diameter and narrow drum-reels with variable drag (reliable and sealed) These lists do not do justice to the unending array of improvements to equipment and flies over the centuries. In addition to equipment, one of the major developments in the sport in the last 40 years has been the growth of salt water fly fishing. I say growth, because fishing for salt water species harkens back for centuries. Salmon fishing is mentioned in very early writings about fly fishing. And no doubt a key factor in the emergence of fly fishing was the formation of fly fishing clubs. Many were established in Britain in the 1800's and now they flourish all over the world. For comprehensive information on the history of fly fishing go to:

[www.flyfishinghistory.com](http://www.flyfishinghistory.com) or  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fly\\_fishing](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fly_fishing)





The Long Island Chapter of Trout Unlimited meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at:  
 Hicksville VFW Hall  
 320 S. Broadway  
 Hicksville at 7:30 p.m.  
 Visitors are always welcome.

See [www.longislandtu.org](http://www.longislandtu.org) for more info.

To conserve, protect and restore North America's cold water fisheries and their watersheds.

For fly tying classes, contact:  
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For casting classes, contact:  
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**Berkley** has a program for recycling **used fishing line**. If you call them and you are a **business**, they will send you a shipping box (prepaid) to send in the line. Their only stipulation is that the line be clean and free of all debris, hooks, and metal attachments.

1-800-BERKLEY or (712) 336-1520.

If you are not a business and you have a bag of line, send it to the following address.

Remember that birds and marine animals become entangled in fishing line. Do what you can. Make sure the line is clean of debris, hooks, and metal attachments.

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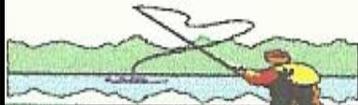
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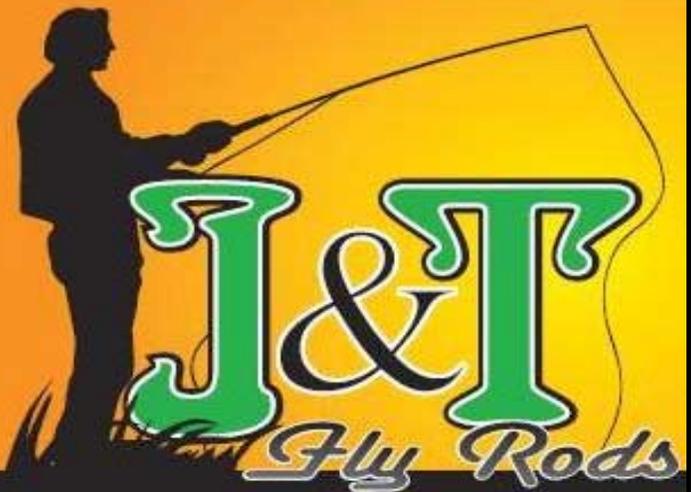
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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The undersigned hereby applies for membership or renewal, in the LONG ISLAND FLYRODDERS, INC. ("LIFR"). I understand the inherent risk in participating in the activities of LIFR, including fishing trips, of one day or longer, which LIFR may make available to members. I understand that LIFR activities may take me into remote areas, and that I may not be able to be promptly evacuated or receive proper medical care in the event of injury or disease. I further understand that I am solely responsible for all costs of medical treatment and transportation.

Intending to be legally bound, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, except to the extent that indemnity insurance is available, I waive, release, indemnify, and hold harmless, LIFR, its Officers, Board of Directors, and members, against any and all claims for personal injury, disease, death, and property damage or loss, that I may incur, arising out of or connected in any way with any and all LIFR activities. I assume the risk of undertaking all LIFR activities, including related travel.

Member Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print name: \_\_\_\_\_

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E-mail address: (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Consent given to post e-mail address on LIFR Web Site: Yes ( ) No ( )

In case of emergency, when reasonably feasible, contact:

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Family Application must be signed by each Family Member or Guardian, as applicable.

Dues: Individual \$40.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Family (including children under 16 yrs) \$45.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Junior (under 18 yrs) \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form to: LONG ISLAND FLYRODDERS, INC
P.O. 8091
Hicksville, NY 11802

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CONNETQUOT RIVER TRIPS - 2007

In response to the demand for the limited spaces available for our Monday Connetquot River State Park trips, the following guidelines are in effect:

Members attending the meetings have first priority, followed by those members, chronologically received, who call in the day after the meeting for the remaining spaces available. Reservations are available for 32 anglers for each session; 64 for both sessions. The cost of each session is \$20.00. No checks will be accepted;

EXACT CHANGE, CASH ONLY, NO SINGLES,

to be paid at the general meeting or at the park for call-in reservations. Anglers fishing the morning sessions must be at the park by 7:30 a.m. Cancemust be made by 7:00 p.m. the Saturday before the session.

No advance reservations will be accepted.

Hours: 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM & 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

For Details call Lee Weil - 516-997-6743.

CONNETQUOT DATES - 2006

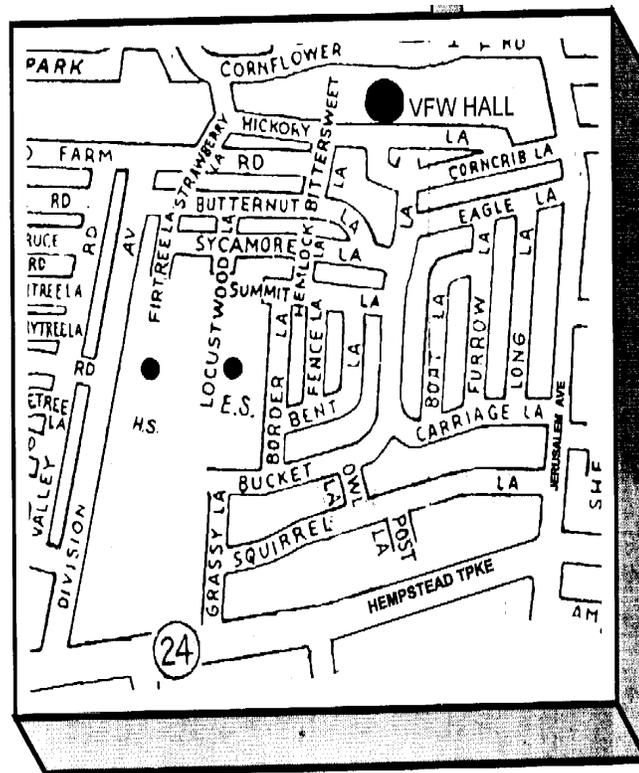
Table with 4 columns: June 18, July 16, August 20, September 17

You must have a creel in your possession to fish in the park and on the stream

Only members with 4 weight rods or larger will be allowed to fish on the Monday Sessions

**LONG ISLAND FLYRODDERS COMING EVENTS**  
**May - 2007**

- June 1-3 **Farmington River, CT (Camping)**  
 Contact: Tony Agnese (516) 822-3353
- June 5 **General Meeting - 8:00 P.M.**  
 Barbeque & Fly Casting - 6:00 until 7:30  
 LIFR Photo Contest - Jim Foley 516-766-4531  
 Guest Speaker: John Fischer  
 "Saltwater Access"
- June 18 **Monday Fishing at Connetquot State Park**  
 Contact: Lee Weil (516) 997-6743  
 See Page 9 for details & info
- June 19 **Peconic River Bass Trip**  
 Contact: Lee Weil (516) 997-6743
- June 26 **Board Meeting**  
 7:30 P.M. at the Levittown VFW Hall



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 P.O. Box 8091  
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2007 Dues are Due

FIRST CLASS MAIL