

# the FLYRODDER



Published by the Long Island Fly Rodders, Inc.



The Flyrodder is the monthly publication of the Long Island Flyrodders, Inc.  
*Gian Padovani, Editor*  
Rt. 3 Box 133-B  
Clyde, NC 28721

The Long Island Flyrodders, Inc. meet at 8:00 P.M. the 2nd. Wednesday of every month at the Hicksville Elks Lodge on Barclay Street, off Rt. 107, north of Old Country Road. For more information call (516) 681-1418

#### 1995 OFFICERS

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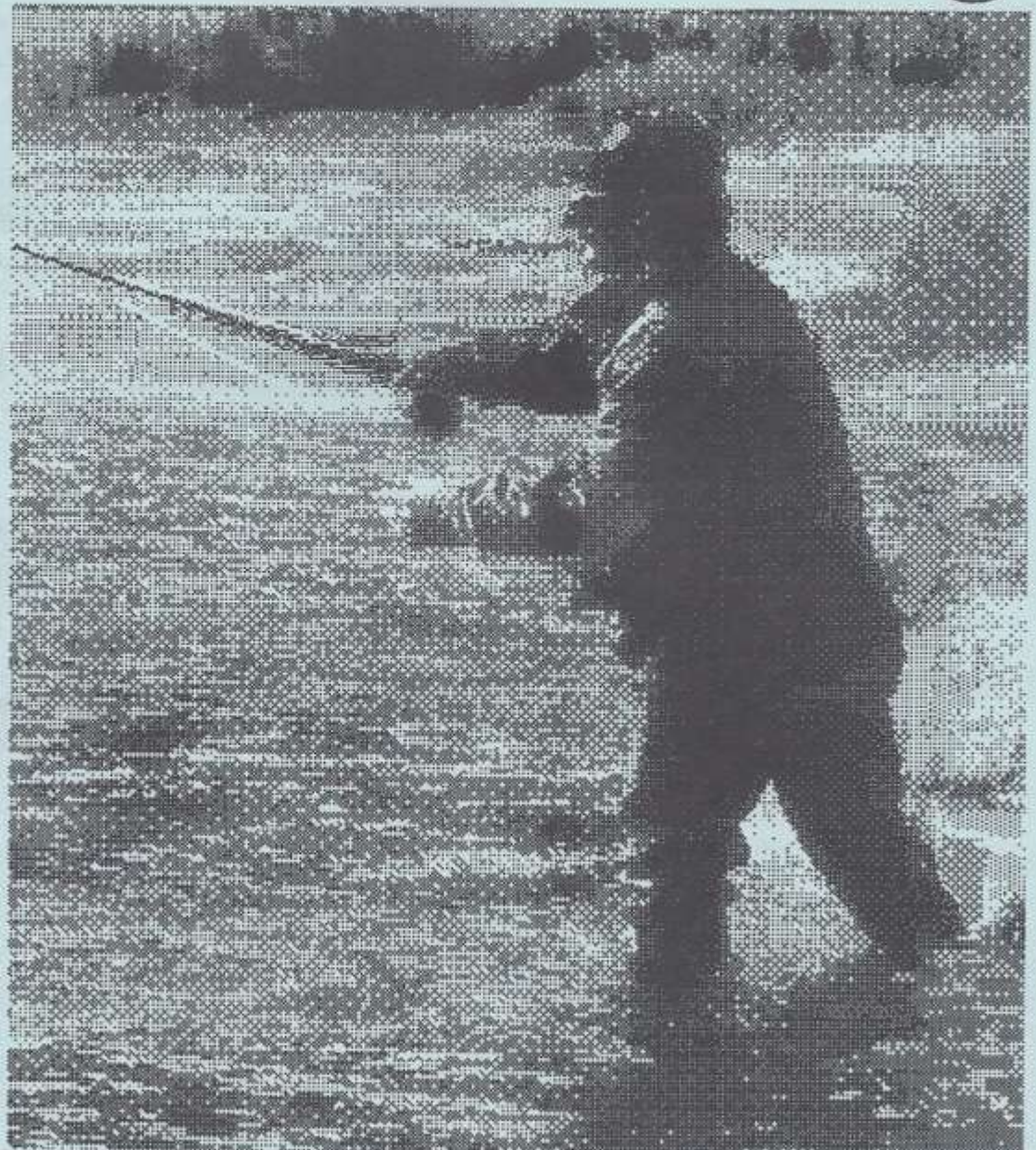
*Vice President*

Al Westbrook

*Secretary*

Herb Schneiderman

*Treasurer*



MEETING DATE: Wednesday, March 8, 1995

# president's line



A President's job is as good as the Officers and the Board Members that were involved in making all the decisions for the past year.

I feel honored and lucky to have had a great team behind, and I am indebted to them for the job they did. We have had lots of club trips and the amount of the members that went to these fishing outings, attest that they will be even more popular this year. As an example, the Hungry Trout trip to the Ausable river has proven to be so popular that this year we have to restrict it to the first 30 members. Although the Trip Committee has already formulated a tentative schedule for this year, your input is always welcome. We are open to suggestions as to where and when and why. Keep also in mind if lodging is possible for more than a few people.

As I welcome the new Officers and Board Members, I also want to thank those individuals that have contributed their input to make the club what it is today.

It is only with this effort, be it either by attending the meetings, writing articles for the Flyrodder, or just giving your support that L.I.F.R. will be even a even better fishing club in the years to come.

*Tight Lines,  
Paul Mc Cain*

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SEE PAGE 2  
FOR A MAIL IN  
MEMBERSHIP  
APPLICATION.



The following appeared in last month's FLYRODDER. We are reprinting it for the benefit of those who may have missed it.



Well, it was bound to happen and we are sure you almost expected it; the annual L.I.F.R. membership dues have been raised. It was a hard decision to make, and we knew that some members would just say, "The heck with it!" and quit. But when you consider that EVERYTHING has gone up you'll have to agree that even at the new rates, a membership to LIFR with all of its benefits, is still a great deal. In order to participate in any club activities **you must be a member.**

What prompted the decision more than the increased operating costs, was that as an incorporated club we must have some type of insurance, and the coverage we require is more expensive than we expected. On top of that, when you renew (or join as a new member,) **you must sign** the mandatory insurance form on the right top side of this page.

The new fees are as follow:  
REGULAR \$25.00  
FAMILY \$35.00  
JUNIOR \$10.00

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL AND RELEASE

The undersigned hereby applies for membership or renewal, in the LONG ISLAND FLY RODDERS, INC. ("L.I.F.R.")

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, I waive, release, idemnify, and hold harmless, LIFR, its officers, directors, trustees, and members, against any and all claims for personal injury, disease, death, and property damage or loss, that I may have arising out of or connected in any way with any LIFR activity. I assume the risk of undertaking all LIFR activities, including related travel. In case of emergency, when reasonably feasible, contact :

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## Editorially

The article on this page could have been incorporated into the editorial column, but I felt an elaboration was needed. Although L.I.F.R. is a fishing club, and we leave the problems to such organizations as Trout Unlimited, most Flyrodders ARE concerned conservationists and, indeed, are also T.U. members. Problems do exist and you cannot be always the proverbial ostrich, hiding your head in the sand and hope the problem goes away. If you really love trout fishing, you should care enough to see that nothing should spoil it. Obviously without trout, you cannot have trout fishing. I have known Maurice for many years and he is a sincere, dedicated laborer. Why don't you call or write and give him a hand on this project?

Look at this month's cover and think about it; cold weather, winter algae, lots of clothes, the ever present rain... Oh Boy, I can't wait for the trout season's Opening Day!!!

*Cian*

## WHAT IS THE "WHIRLING" DISEASE?

I received a letter from Maurice Mahler, conservation chairman for the Long Island Chapter of Trout Unlimited, annotated in red ink: **IMPORTANT-** It is a special conservation report pertaining to the "whirling" disease that affects fish and it is presently a threat to our trout population. This disease is caused by a protozoan, *Myxobolus cerebralis*, and it is carried by Tubifex worms. Maurice does not elaborate on these particular worms, but since I have been aware of these invertebrates for many years, let me expand a little. Tubifex worms, (incidentally, not Tubifex, as some people miscall them,) are aquatic, dark red, hair-thin worms that thrive in sewage discharge areas but are especially relished as a food by the small tropical fish that are sold in pet shops. Concerned salespeople usually inform the clients that although nutritious, Tubifex can be carriers of many diseases. The usual procedure, before being fed to the fish, is to partially purge the worms by repeated water changes. In contrast to earthworms, Tubifex live in "colonies" and are massed together. Once introduced in an aquarium they bury into the gravel, and if not promptly eaten, they turn a pale color and die, possibly because of the high water temperature required by tropical fish.

Although the possibility exist, there are OTHER hosts that could carry the disease as well as the proper conditions. The fact is that a trout will become infected when it eats another living creature carrying the disease. I

personally would not even exclude certain insects. The second part of the scientific name of the offending protozoan, "cerebralis" indicates that it has something to do with the brain. Appropriately, after eating its way through the tissues it attacks the brain and the host fish (trout) will begin to swim on the surface in "whirling" motions before dying. According to the report the disease was introduced from Europe into Pennsylvania in the 50's, it has spread into other states and it is now a major concern in Montana. Interestingly, the disease does not seem to attack the Brown Trout.

Maurice concludes the report with his own theory: He feels that either the worms or the spores may be transported from one place to another in the crevices of felt soles (usually present on waders and wading shoes.) It is an interesting theory, but I cannot agree. How did the disease get here from Europe? When you talk about microscopic life anything moist and reasonably cool can be a carrier. Once a disease gets into a food chain several lives are affected. Supposedly there is no cure for the "whirling" disease and if you wish more information or would like to help form a coalition contact Maurice at

(516) 623-1349,  
or write to:

Maurice Mahler,  
Conservation Chairperson,  
L.I. Trout Unlimited,  
817 Bonnie Drive,  
Baldwin, NY 11510

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# THEY NEVER MENTIONED MARCH

by Al Westbrook

As Pat McManus once stated, "March was invented for fly fishermen in case eternity proved too short!" And no truer words were ever intoned.

Sure when you got started in fly fishing it was probably mid June and warm as toast. There were sultry, non-evasive breezes, the birds were in full song and the future never looked brighter. But they never mentioned March.

Come late October and your gear has already been cleaned for the fifth time in readiness for the next season and you eagerly await opening day' you retreat to the confines of your dwelling to pass the winter. Of course you have wonderful ideas of being gainfully employed at the tying bench. And, indeed, you set out with zeal and the greatest of intentions.

After you've tied enough flies for several lifetimes, you've watched all your fishing videos a mere six hundred times apiece, made dozens of trips to the library, and read your vast collection of subscription magazines you find it is still snowing as you peer out the frosted panes of the den window. Not to worry, we'll just fill out one more order blank from the fly fishing catalog and purchase one more gadget you must have for the season just around the corner. Never mind you'll likely forget you even have it, tucked away in the shadowy depths of the vest come spring. So what now?

Well the usual procedure is to begin a religious crossing off of the days on your Orvis calendar, noting that it is the beginning of March! Could it be? Opening Day a mere month away? Okay! Now you eagerly retreat to the basement and line up the rods,

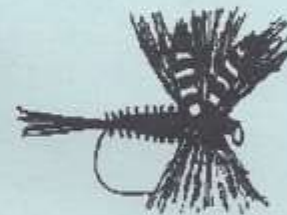
reel, the vest, the bag of other essentials, and begin the planning of the first trip. As you wake up, day after day, crossing off your calendar you notice about a year or so has gone by and it's still March!

Alright, we'll just tie up a few dozen more Hairy Harry nymphs, about a gross of Pecky Penguin streamers and a bushel or so of 'Lil Yeller dries. That done it's time to check the calendar. Oops! Must have forgotten to check off a few days here and there; ain't that a gas? But, no, you find, by checking in with the radio station, it is still March!

Your gear is polished like an assembly of fine jewels. Even your waders have been lavishly cleaned, although you saw no real good reason to do so. You spouse is pretty near fed up with you alternating looking out the window at the snow-covered yard and making violent swipes at your calendar with a magic marker. "Opening Day", you keep muttering, "gotta be soon, gotta be!"

Then, finally, a glorious, sun shiny morning. The snow is magically gone, you spot the first robin redbreast. On further inspection your hopes are dashed. It is still mid March. Your muttering begins in earnest now. You begin to wish you had taken up bowling instead. Divorce becomes a frequent topic of conversation when ever you spouse can cut through you blabbering about Opening Day. There simply seems to be no end to the suffering.

You begin to harbor evil thoughts about the folks who, one short season earlier, extolled the virtues of fly fishing And lured you into this misery. They were nice guys, oh yeah, I'll give you that. But they never mentioned March!



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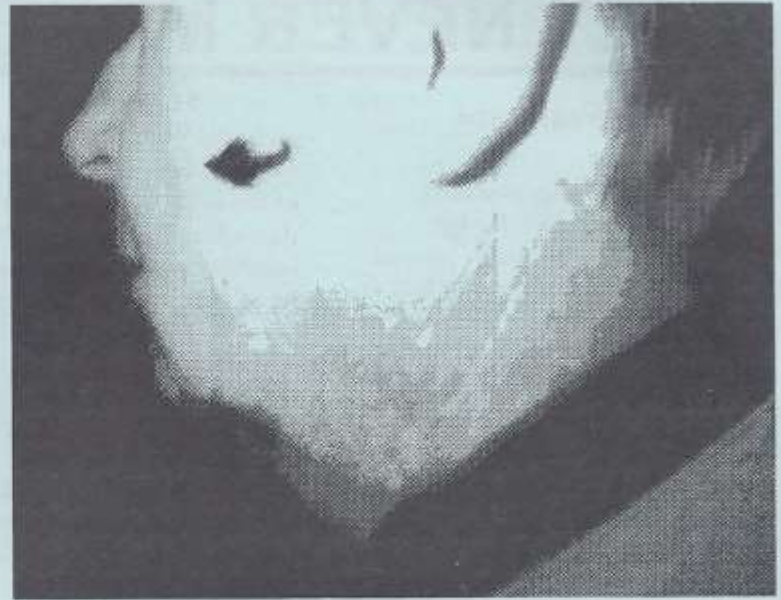
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"Well," I always say, "It takes all kind of people!" Some use fly boxes, others take advantage of the convenient fly patch, while still others use a woolen hat band. But, not, not Danny Van Buskirk. He will resort to anything to be noticed and this time he wanted to be the first flyrodder to safekeep a fly on his cheek!  
Kidding aside, the picture shows a potential danger in fly fishing; a careless backcast, a recalcitrant wind and before you know it the fly could land anywhere. It should stress the importance of ALWAYS wearing glasses and a hat. Danny was lucky; due to the cold he barely felt any pain, he was able to get hold of a symphatetic doctor and...he got his nymph back!



## CONNETQUOT RIVER CLUB FISHING TRIPS

For paid up members with a valid New York State fishing license. Check dates with Ron La Chase. Feb. 20, March 20, April 17, May 15, June 19, July 17, August 14, Sept. 18, Oct. 16

Standard park rules apply. Feb. & March Catch & Release Only. Other months, only 2 fish to be kept. The following L.I.F.R. rules are in effect: Reservations for 32 anglers per session, 64 for both sessions. All checks payable to L.I.F.R., P.O. Box 8091, Hicksville, NY 11802 by the second Wednesday of each month (Club date) For the morning session be at the park by 7:10 a.m. Cancellations MUST be made by 7:00 p.m. on the Sunday before the session. For more information call Ron La Chase at (1-718) 769-6376 Checks sent in before time of the month that we will fish will be sent back. NO ADVANCE RESERVATIONS NEW HOURS: 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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# A COLD DAY IN DECEMBER? NO, NOT YET!

by Matt Handelman

"Well Gil, I guess that's the last of our fishing for this year," I said as we headed back home from the Salmon River. But then again I've been known to be wrong before.

There I was, walking down the street (Wed. Dec. 21) with the sun shining brightly and the temperature in the mid fifties, wishing more than anything, that I was on a small trout stream casting to wary but catchable fish. But alas, I'm not a wealthy man and I like to eat, therefore I work. However, the next day (Thurs) I had off and the weather seemed promising; a decision was made, I would go fishing. I place a call to Gil Padovani, "Hi Gil" I said. Gil answers, "Hey Matt, calling to see if I want to go fishing?" "Natch," I respond. So there it is, I find myself going fishing Dec. 22, certainly the latest I have ever gone fishing.

Morning bestowed bright sunshine and azure blue skies, slightly chilly but with the promise of a warming trend as the day wore on. A quick stop at the bagel shop for breakfast and I was on the Long Island Expressway at 8:00.

No traffic, zoom up the Hutch, bear left for 684 and head on up for Golden's Bridge. The rest area is closed, but there's enough room to park. "Where's Gil?" I exclaim. It's nine o'clock, where is that guy? He's going to be late! He shows up at 9:15. Exit ten, right turn, another right turn, left, park, and we are there!

"I left my flies home, I don't have my big fly box" Gil says. "Don't worry, you can have some of mine" I told him. Gil did bring something useful, lunch. We might not have enough flies but we will have chicken.

Well on to fishing, that's what we went up there for. Rig up, Montana style, it has worked all year why not now? Three casts and Gil brings in a thirteen inch brown. Not bad, for I certainly wasn't having any luck, eight casts and nothing to show for it. The action wasn't heavy but who cares, we were fishing, in December, when

normal people are home. Don't ever accuse me of being normal. I finally had a fish on, if you consider two and a half seconds as having a fish on. But feeling the rod wiggle and waggle is a thrill I'll never tire of. After that first hook up I seemed to have better luck. I hooked into fish left and right, a fish not quite like your normal trout

but a true monster of the deep. "Salmo Grassio," a fish not many of you can catch. A deep emerald green with dark mottled areas around the gill plates and a long wavy dorsal fin. Gil and I head downstream and came upon an area that I knew from past expeditions. I was

*Next page, please*

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## A COLD DAY IN DECEMBER

using a Hare's Ear on top and a long shank, green Serendipity on bottom. Four casts and a torpedo arose from the depths and engulfed the Serendipity in a ferocious attack. This trout was coming in like he was going to a party. Just below the surface Mr. Trout must have realised what was happening. With a swish of the tail he was off and



heading downstream, line peeling off the reel. Around the fallen tree, through the branches and I was left with a hooked branch. Sixteen inches of brown trout, lost to a tree. You know, the average man has an IQ of 110. The average trout has an IQ of 4. Why then is it so difficult to catch one of these buggers? A break to have lunch and Gil and I decide where to fish in the waning hours of the afternoon. Downstream, head downstream I say. Fishy water, pockets and boulders, but no fish to be had this day. A productive spot in the past but this day nothing.

Those who know my philosophy know that I don't grade my day on how many fish I catch. Just being out there is enough, producing that feeling of not having a care in the world. This day is no different, being there rejuvenates the soul. So I didn't catch a bucketful of fish, but I had a good time. Like always, fishing with a friend is the best part of the experience.

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# ABOUT CUSTOM RODS

by Gian Padovani

**angling** (an'gling) *The act, process, or art of fishing with a hook and line and usually a rod.*

However the dictionary defines it, to me the difference between fishing and angling is that while the first word describes the process of catching fish, the second describes the lore and finesse of fishing. You may conclude that it is a snobbish way of saying the same thing. After all the intent is the same whether you plop a worm with a department store bought pole or a thousand dollars cane rod. Whenever we get really interested in a subject we tend to elaborate on it and this usually means upgrading to better equipment. You graduate from a simple camera to one that has all the latest features, from the inexpensive radio to the finest stereo, and from the basic pole to the indefectible rod. Many companies do make rods in different weights and sizes and if you look through the catalogs you may be able to find one that comes close to your ideals. I do have a rod like that, but after using it for a while I concluded that it left me disappointed.

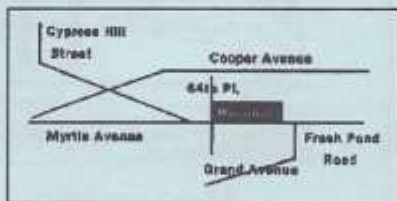
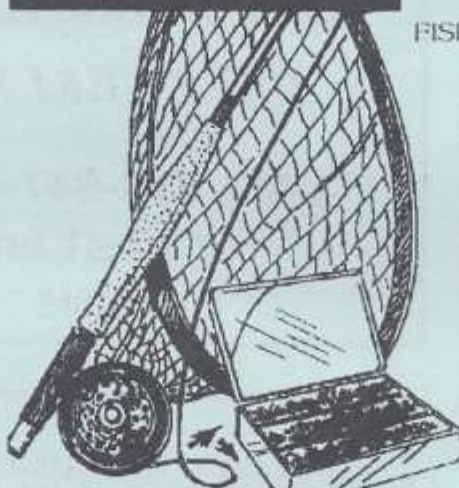
Some time ago Bill Smith, one of the advertisers in the Flyrodder called me up about something in regards to his advertisement. As you would imagine, the conversation eventually shifted to the sport and, before you knew it, I asked him to build me a rod. Now, you may ask yourself, why does Gian need ANOTHER rod? I would answer that, in fact, I do

not NEED another one, but the truth is that I WANTED another rod, one that would be made to my specifications, for the type of fishing that I do and for the way I fish. In short, my own personal rod. Years ago I had Ed Fody do the same thing for me, a beautiful cane rod, that is one of my prized possessions. This time I wanted a short graphite fly rod, light to use and

carry through the woods, and for the many small streams that abound around where I live. I wanted it for a 3 wgt. line but to have power when I needed it, and the sensitiveness to transmit a thrill even from a small Brook trout. I wanted it to have the classic cigar shaped handle, and azure wrappings around the guides. Bill Smith

*Cast on to next page*

IF IT IS TO  
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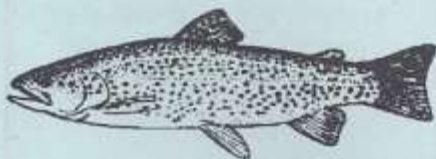
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promised that he would try to accommodate my wishes and try his best as quickly as possible. Not too long after our conversation, a package was delivered to my house and its shape immediately confirmed that my rod was home. I examined it and was impressed by the meticulous workmanship, well worth the little extra expense, when compared to a stock rod. As my luck would have it, the weather was not too cooperative for the next few days and I was forced to field test the rod after the rains ended. Finally one morning I drove into the Smoky National Park, and headed for the Cataloochee, a beautiful stream which is open to fishing all year long. There are different stretches, some fairly wide with others requiring tight casting. In short, an ideal stream to check out my new prize. It performed beautifully, casting the 3 wgt. Wulff triangular taper line effortlessly. I was using a weighted nymph and since the last time I had fished this river I got skunked, I expected to have the same results. It was thus an expanded thrill when suddenly the rod transmitted the jolt of a take. It was a small rainbow, maybe



11" long, but it proved what I had hoped for. Since I was beginning to feel chilly (we are talking about the middle of January,) I packed it up and drove back home. On the way I felt good about everything, about the fish I had caught and released, and thinking how it would feel to catch a respectable size fish on that small, beautiful "custom" rod.

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Club member Frank Grist sent the charming story about a fishing trip, written by his son Gary, who got an A+ in his 9th grade English class. /Ed

## A FISHING TRIP

By Gary Krist

The date was November 8th, 1994, Election Day. My Father, Brother and I decided to go fly fishing on the Housatonic River.

We arrived around 8:00 in the morning. When we arrived it was cold, clear and sunny. When I stepped into the cool crystal clear water the scenery was fantastic. The trees were gold, orange and yellow. The smell of the pine trees rushed to my nose. As I let out my line to cast I saw a Blue Heron on the other side of the stream. He was trying to catch small Trout in a little pocket of water.



I made my first cast behind a large rock. I watched the fly drift to the end of a long run. Just as it was at the end of the drift. I saw a large splash. After a long fight I landed a beautiful 12 inch Brown Trout. His colors were very beautiful. He had a yellowish brown body with a white belly and black spots on his fins. At that moment nothing could be better.

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS by Bob Skoy

At a meeting of the Trip Committee on January 5, 1995 to which all members of L.I.F.R. were invited, the following trips were scheduled for 1995. This is a preliminary list and is subjected to change. To participate in these trips, you MUST be a member of L.I.F.R. If you hold an Individual Membership, it may be converted to a Family Membership by paying an additional \$10.00. Children under 18 may be included in a family membership.

March 24 - 26 Salmon River, Pulaski, NY

April 28 - 30 Project Access, Beaverkill, NY

May 19 - 21\* Hungry Trout/Ausable, NY (1st 30 members only)

June 2 - 4 Farmington River,



CT - Camping

June 9 - 11\* Starlight Inn, PA /E.Delaware - Shad & Trout

July 14 - 16 Float tube or boat- Small mouth bass

August 11 - 13 West Branch Delaware, NY

Sept. 18 - 22 Libby Camp, ME

October 6 - 8\* Striped bass, Montauk or Martha's Vineyard

November 17 - 19 Salmon River, Pulaski, NY

Trips with \* also of interest to non fishers. You may participate on one or two days of some trips.

You have not registered for a trip unless your NON - REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT IS PAID

Check at meetings and this column for more details.

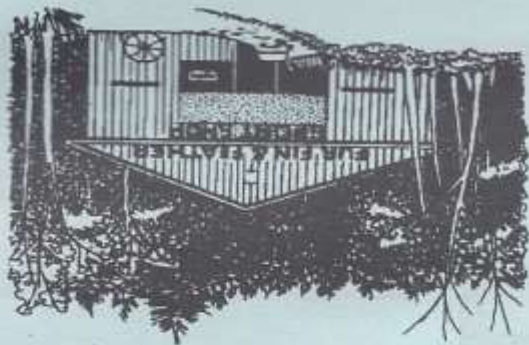
Plan Now! L.I.F.R. ANNUAL DINNER Saturday Night, November 4, 1995

**The Long Island Chapter of Trout Unlimited**  
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