

the

# FLYRODDER

PUBLISHED BY THE



Gian Padovani, Editor  
378 Gibson Branch Rd.  
Clyde, NC 28721  
gianp@dnet.net

**Morty Schneiderman**  
Correspondent

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 Tpke.  
West of Jerusalem Ave.)

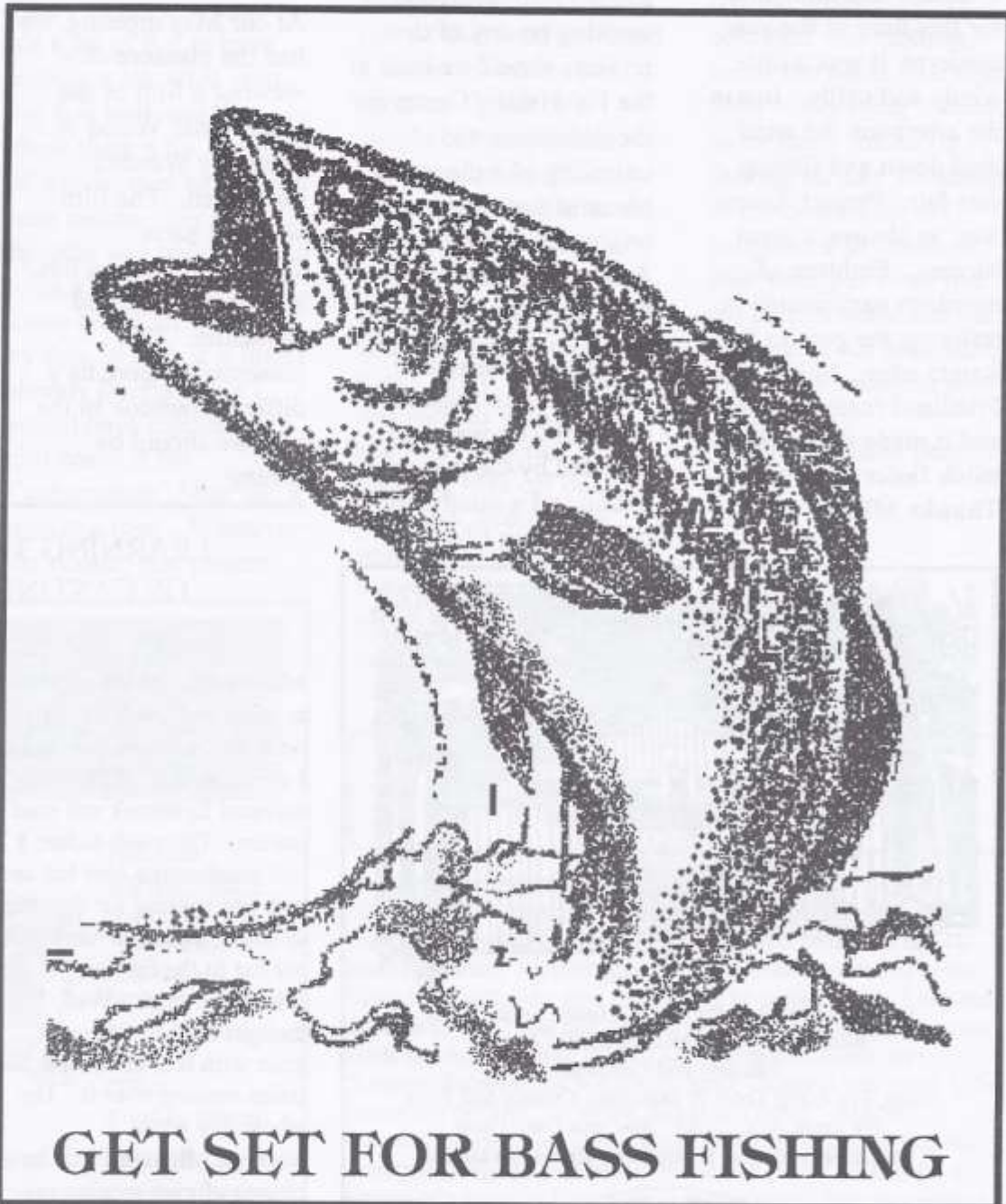
**2001 OFFICERS**  
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## GET SET FOR BASS FISHING

**This Month's meeting:  
June 5, 2001**



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# President's message

The Project Access weekend was quite nice for this time of the year, however, it was a little windy and chilly. But in the afternoon the wind died down and fishing was fair. Project Access was, as always, a great success. Eighteen of our members participated in restoring the path to the waters edge. Mike Friedland rented a stamper and it made the work go much faster and better. **Thanks Mike!**

In the morning, it was announced that about 11:30, everyone working on any of the projects should be back at the Fly Fishing Center for the dedication and unveiling of a plaque in honor of Joan Stoliar, the originator of Project Access. It was a very moving ceremony.

The Spring Festival at Belmont Lake State Park on April 21st was well attended by the general public and a number of other Fishing Clubs.

We gave casting demonstrations, Paul McCain showed the art of fly tying, and I demonstrated knots and connections.

At our May meeting, we had the pleasure of viewing a film of the Underwater World of Trout, by Wendell Ozefovich. The film was in 3 parts: Discovery, feeding lies, and trout vision and refraction. This presentation gave us a different outlook in the way we should be fishing.

On our next meeting, June 5th, we have the pleasure of being entertained by Richard Jogodnik.

Good fishing to all.

Herman

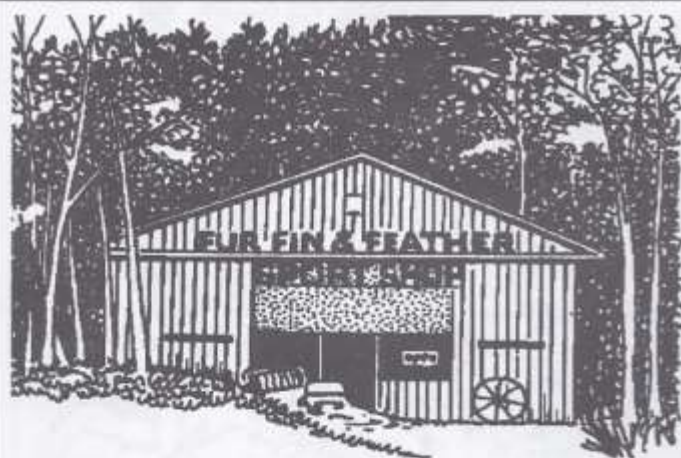


## LEARNING THE IMPORTANCE OF CASTING TO A TARGET

*by Herman Abrams*

Many years ago while going to work in New York City on a windy, snowy, morning, I was standing on the elevated Lynbrook rail road station. The week before I had purchased a new hat and as I was waiting for the train to come, a gust of wind blew my hat to the far side of the track. Well, I thought my hat was gone gone with the wind, sleet and trains running over it. The whole day while working I figured I had no chance of ever seeing my hat again. As I came home that evening, I wanted to pay my last respects to my hat and see what happened to it. Was it still there or was it in shreds or what? So I crossed over to platform "A" and lo and behold, there was my hat wedged in the snow

next to the track. I ran to my car which was parked at the station, and drove home at full speed. My wife asked what was wrong, but I did not even stop to answer. I went to my den, picked up my #6 wt. fly rod and drove to the station. As I ran up the stairs to platform "A", the people waiting for the next train to New York thought I was off my rocker but I did not care. I made one (1) cast, the hook connected and I retrieved my hat; a little out of shape and dirty, but otherwise OK. I still have it in my possession and once in a while I look at it for the memory. Therefore, **PRACTICE, PRACTICE** casting to a target and someday even you might need precision casting.



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# HORSE OF A DIFFERENT COLOR

by Lee Weil

On the way out to the barn last week, we decided to stop off at Campsite in Huntington to replenish my fly-tying materials inventory. The 15 dozen flies tied for the Fishing Show raffle, (which I refer to as Tyathon 2000), had depleted most of my more popular hook sizes. As I compared notes with A.J. and we discussed the use of non-conventional colors, I realized that some of my favorite original recipes were concocted during bitter cold days spent sitting at my vise, watching snow fall and wishing it were April. Certainly, the

traditional patterns will always work, but it is an added bonus to catch a fish on one of your own inventions; the more unorthodox, the better. And you have to admit, it's a lot of fun to have someone ask what your big fish took and then show them a fly, the likes of which they have never seen before. My personal favorite was once referred to as a "cockmamie" fly. I was not at all insulted by this; in fact, if it didn't already have a name I would have immediately christened it the Cockmamie. After all, a rose is a rose ... Whatever the reason, that pattern

has worked for me on many a day when all else has failed. A horse trainer I know once told me about tying horse hair flies for steelhead and I was inspired to try it as dubbing. I procured samples from my friend's curry combs and collected a variety of colors and textures. I tied up a couple of nymphs and christened them "Turbo nymphs", named after the steed who provided the best dubbing. I kept one for myself and gave the other to Turbo's mom, my friend Mary. We both had success with the fly, and Mary reported breaking hers off on a large fish, making me wish I had tied more. While not the easiest material to work with, it was extremely attractive

to the trout. The best part is I can get it in so many shades and it's free. Other friends have provided cat hair, dog hair and various pet bird feathers. My best smallmouth fly was created upstate when my cockatiel was molting; hence the name "Saratoga Sally". Fly tying should be as much fun as fly fishing, so take advantage of the down time off season and sit down at your vise, put away that old pattern book and get creative! Your brainstorm this winter may just turn out to be your Ace-In-The-Hole next spring.



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## BACCALA'

It is not unusual for me, whenever I work on a layout, to place "Greeked" text or phony pictures, just to get an idea what the finished pages will look like. This year, when laying out the TU banquet journal, I wasn't sure what art I would use for its cover. Thus, I just utilized a tone rectangle to be replaced once I decided on what to use. I also add a credit line, giving the name of the art work and the artist who did it. (As an example, it may say "Leaping Rainbow" by Joe Blow). Since I knew it was going to be one of my pictures, for layout purposes, I typed "Baccala," followed by my name. I went ahead with the journal, adding the correct information as it was received, and finally settling for a picture of a jumping Brown Trout for the cover. This was around the time when I had to go to the hospital for an operation, and I felt it would be better if someone else finished the journal. I sent all I had and had done to the chapter, and that was it. I received a printed copy of the journal following the banquet and there it was, on page 3 the credit line reads: "Baccala", by Gian Padovani. Baccala' (BA CA LAH) is the Italian name for the salted, dried cod which is a very popular dish in the Mediterranean and Scandinavian countries. It is a good thing I hadn't typed something

# The Lore of Bass Fishing

by Gian Padovani

Usually when people discuss fly fishing, the assumption is that they are talking about catching trout. Indeed, trout is the species most sought by fly fishing enthusiasts, and a visit to any fly shop will reveal a predominance of tackle marketed with this goal in mind.

Nevertheless each year sees an increase of merchandise for those who wish to focus on other species, either in fresh water or in the sea. In fresh water this could only mean fly fishing for Bass, and "Bass Buggin'", is truly the most exciting way of catching this particular fish. A bass' eagerness to strike a lure, the savageness of its strike, and its acrobatic, head shaking jumps have thrilled countless anglers since white man landed on these shores.

As for the trout, many fly patterns have been developed for bass fishing. Accordingly, flies that imitate either aquatic and terrestrial creatures are available. Several patterns have also been designed to duplicate the effectiveness of the plastic worm used by spin fishermen.

Streamers representing bait fish, frogs and crawfish are very popular, but for top action no fly can rival the effectiveness of a bass bug. A typical bug is tied with deer hair, the head

shaped to produce splashes as it is retrieved. Due to the high wind resistance of a bass bug, a heavier line weight than it is used for trout is recommended, usually an 8 wgt torpedo head or weight forward floating line.

Unquestionably, the Largemouth Bass is America's number one freshwater game fish. As such, it attracts a lot of attention and it is the reason why tackle shops display an incredible selection of merchandise targeted for catching this fish. Beside the tremendous variety of rods and reels, there are boats and electronics specifically engineered to help "track" this fish. It is truly a multi million dollars business, that is enhanced by clubs, tournaments and television programs.

In 1881 Dr. James A. Henshall published a book that is regarded by many as the Bible of Bass fishing. In it, the doctor made a statement that is still quoted today: "Inch for inch and pound for pound, the gamest fish that swims!" While I know of many fishermen who would dispute this claim, they would have to agree that a Black Bass on a fly rod is a very exciting event. The fish generally strikes with abandon, and repeated jumps are apt to follow before it gives up

the fight.

The Black Bass is really a member of the Sunfish Family, and is native to the North American continent. Originally its range extended from Eastern Canada to Mexico, but gradually it has been introduced to virtually every State in the Continental United States. Since Bass can tolerate a wide temperature range, it has been "exported" into areas outside this Continent, and today it would be correct to say, that it has gained a worldwide reputation. Had I written Dr. Henshall's book, I would have stated that: Inch for inch and pound for pound, the most popular game fish that swims!

There are several species of Black Bass, but the two principal ones are the Largemouth and the Smallmouth. In areas where the two species coexist, they can be told apart by the length of their maxillary bones. This is structure on the mouth, the "upper lip" for us humans. It extends past the eye on the Largemouth. The Largemouth is a dark green color and usually sports an horizontal black band. Its eyes are black. The Smallmouth is more brownish, and shows irregular vertical bands. Usually its eyes are red.

The preferred habitat of the Largemouth Bass are the areas that are close to semi-aquatic vegetation,

from where it can pounce on any unsuspecting small fish, frogs or large insects. The Largemouth can be encountered in some of the rivers, especially where the water doesn't flow too rapidly, but the best fishing is to be experienced in ponds or lakes where the need of some craft is obviously required. During the middle of the summer, the Largemouth retreats into deeper water but returns close to the shoreline in the evening. It is at this time and also in the early morning, that fly fishermen have the best results.

The Largemouth's cousin, the Smallmouth Bass, on the other hand, prefers faster moving water and a gravelly or rocky bottom. Generally this means a river, and for this type of fishing a lighter weight line is adequate, if the angler sticks to the wet flies that imitate crayfish, leeches and minnows. I prefer the use of a sink tip line, as it enables me to reach the deeper holes of a river.

Today, I would consider myself primarily a trout fisherman but I still enjoy catching bass. I generally concentrate on this type of fishing during the summer, when the trout season slacks off. At this time of the year the deeper, slower moving water of a bass river feels refreshing and makes a day afield even more enjoyable.

just  
when  
you  
thought  
it  
was  
over,  
the  
Moosehead  
Belle  
goes  
marine

Just about a year ago, my friend Jack Rooney and I were talking about fishing, praising the merits of the Moosehead Belle as a first rate fly. I mentioned that the streamer had caught almost all of the fresh water fish for which it had been tested, with the exclusion of species like the Muskellunge and the sea-going Atlantic Salmon. At that time I mentioned that the color pattern could be applied to different variations, a fact that was amply demonstrated by Jack Hingher, who tied several versions including a muddler, wooly bugger, and other types among others. I also mentioned that as yet I had never had

the opportunity to test the fly in salt water. Would a marine fish find the yellow, white and red combination as exciting as the fresh water species?

This past March, while at the Bahamas, Jack surprised me with two Moosehead Belles tied with chain (dumbbell) eyes on top of the hook so that the fly could swim upside down. This brought the point of the hook on top, no differently than on a Clouser or Crazy Charlie pattern. "Here you go Gian, test them on the Bonefish", Jack said. The time finally came for me to do just that, and it was a hard decision to



switch from a proven fly to the new pattern. I cast to the fish, expecting it to flee, but I was wrong. The bonefish zeroed in on the fly and took it. I caught three more fish before deciding to retire the "historic" fly. Later that day I mentioned the success to Jack, and over a beer we decided to call the fly (what else?) the "Bonefish Belle".

## gone fishin'

Three idiots are sitting by the side of a river holding fishing poles with the lines in the water. A Game Warden comes up behind them, taps one of them on the shoulder and says, "Excuse me, I'd like to see your fishing licenses." "We don't have any," replied the first idiot. "Well, if your going to fish, you need fishing licenses," said the Game Warden. "But officer," replied the second idiot, "we aren't fishing. We all have magnets at the end of our lines and we're collecting debris off the bottom of the river."

The Game Warden lifted up all the lines and, sure enough, there were horseshoe magnets tied on the end of each line. "Well, I know of no law against it," said the Game Warden. "Take all the debris you want." And with that, he left. As soon as the Game Warden was out of sight, the three idiots started laughing hysterically. "What a dumb Fish Cop," one said to the other two, "doesn't he know that there are steelhead in this river?"



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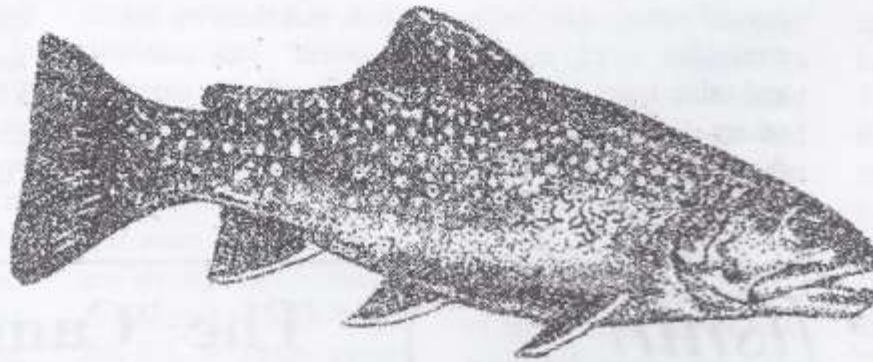
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# CONNETQUOT RIVER TRIPS

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 \$15.00. No checks will be accepted; CASH ONLY 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. Cancellations must be made by 7:00 p.m. the Saturday before the session.



**HOURS:** 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

For Details call Ron La Chase at 718-769-6376

## DATES FOR 2001

Feb 26.	July. 16
Mar. 19	Aug. 20
Apr. 16	Sept. 17
May 14	Oct. 22
June 18	



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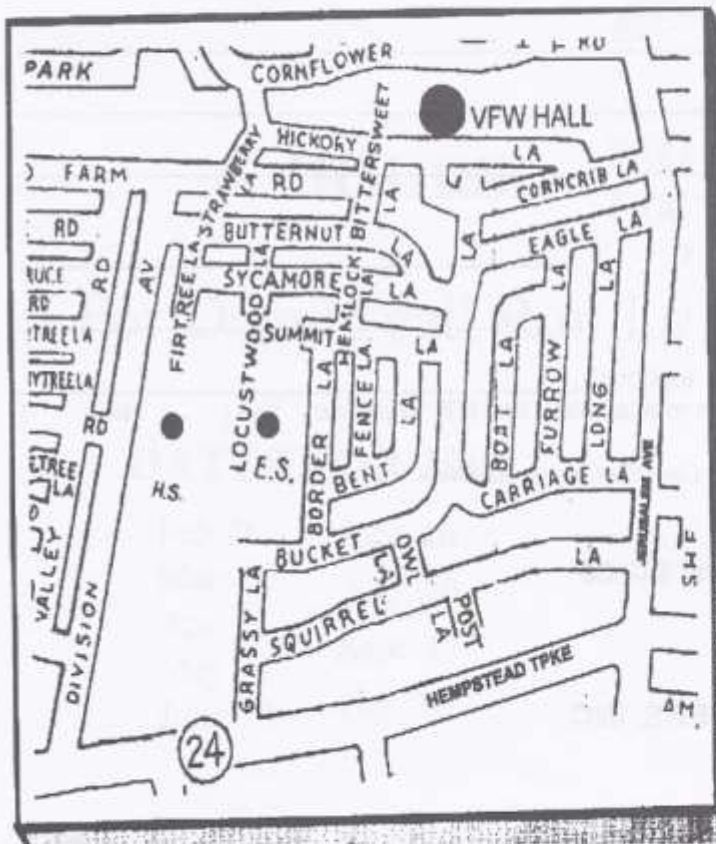
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## LIFR COMING EVENTS

June 5, 2001 - General Meeting  
Guest Speaker: Richard Jogodnik

June 21, 2001 - Board Meeting

June 22 - 24, 2001 -  
Camping Trip  
Farmington River,  
Connecticut  
Call Allan Manz for Details  
(516) 681-1418