

the FLYRODDER

PUBLISHED BY THE

LONG ISLAND
FLYRODDERS



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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.)

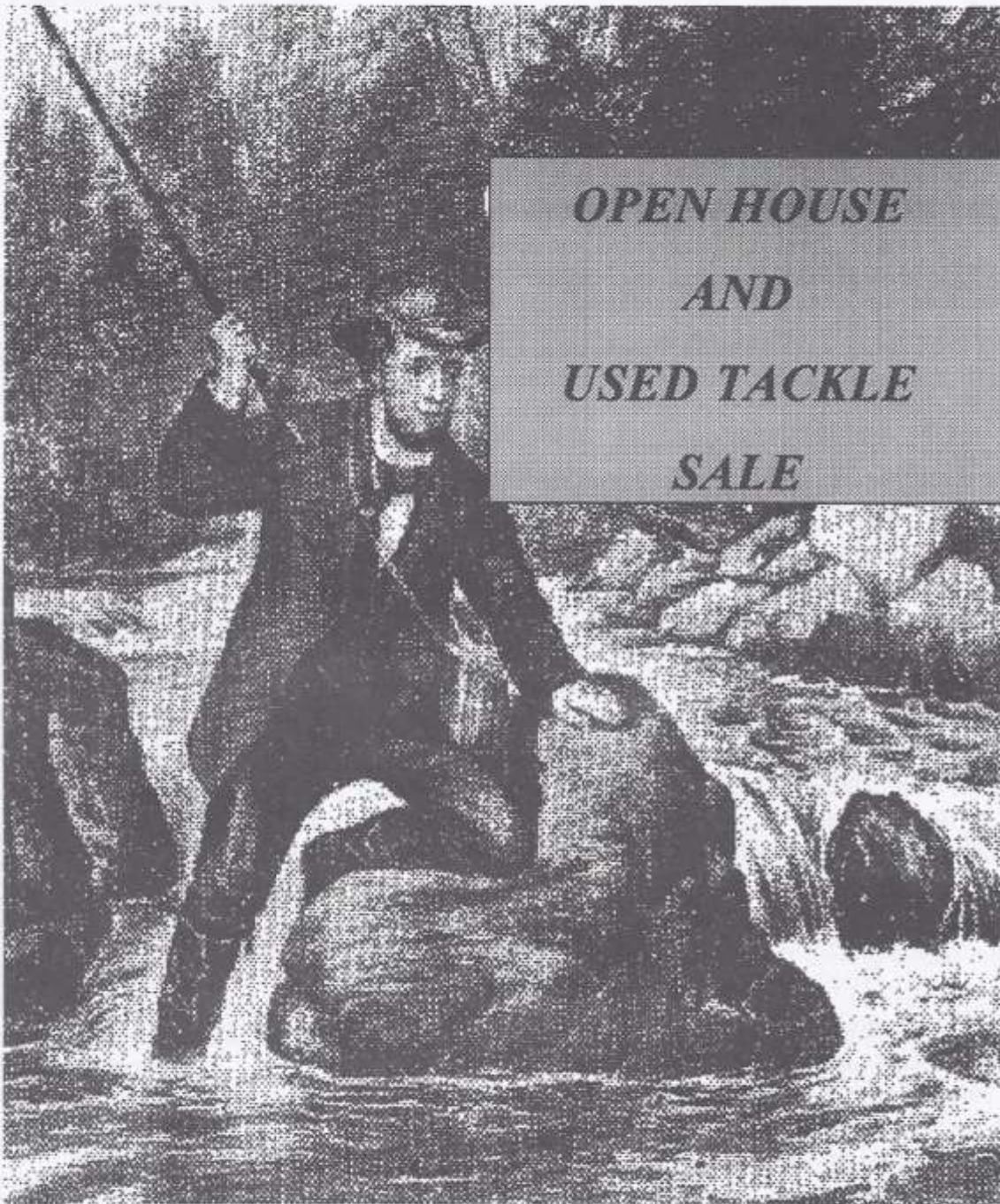
2001 OFFICERS
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*OPEN HOUSE
AND
USED TACKLE
SALE*

**This Month's meeting:
April 3, 2001**



Check our website
www.lifr.org



President's message

As the winter is slowly coming to an end, we can look forward to many pleasant fishing days ahead. Now is the time to start checking out your equipment like lines, leaders, reels and rods for wear. Last week I visited the Merrick Library and had the pleasure of watching Herb Schneiderman instructing members in his fly tying class. Herb is doing a great job. On **April 3rd** we will have our **Open House** meeting. The meeting is to enroll new members, have a bucket raffle, and sell or buy equipment one does not need any longer. On Saturday April 7th, Paul McCain has an introductory trip planned to the **Croton Watershed** in Westchester County, N.Y. The trip is only about 1 1/2 hours from L.I., but has some great streams for fishing for only a day out. However, you need a N.Y.C. watershed permit in order to fish. You can obtain the permit on the same trip. See Paul for details. The spring festival planned by the D.E.C. will be held on Saturday, April 21st at **Belmont Lake State Park**. The hours are from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm. Greg Kozlowski had asked at the last D.E.C. advisory board meeting, if we could help out. I told him I would make an announcement on his behalf. Greg would like us to fly cast and do some fly tying. And now, to the big week and **PROJECT ACCESS**. Everyone coming to help out should meet at the Catskill Fly Fishing Center at approx. 8:00 am on Saturday, April 28th for their work assignments. Bring shovels, rakes, pickaxes and if possible a stamper. We will work on the stream until noon. After work we'll all meet at the picnic ground for our barbeque, fly casting and to have a good time. I have reserved 5 rooms at the Rockland House in Roscoe. If any one needs a place to stay, call me, or you can make your own reservation. **Notice:** Gordon Grimes has been elected to the Board of Directors to replace me for the remainder of my term. He will be the Chairman of Good Will. Therefore, we ask that anyone with information concerning a club member who may be ill or had a loss to please contact Gordon at 631-549-1312.

Good fishing,
Herman



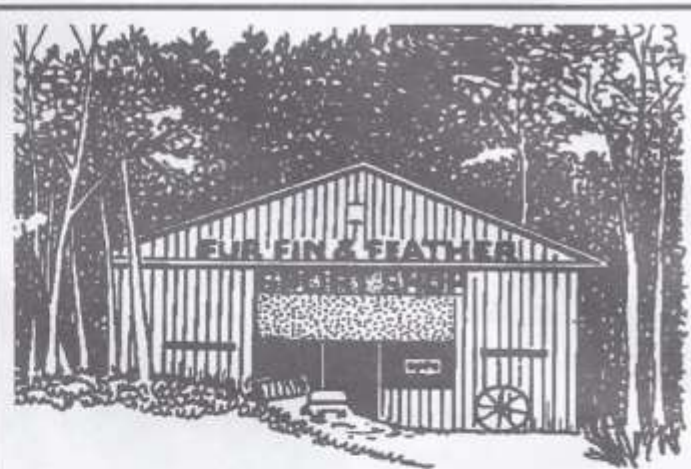
FROM THE EDITOR'S CLUTTERED DESK

The following was e-mailed to those members who have a computer and are on the Internet. It is reprinted here so that everyone can respond to the appeal. This means any member who has just joined, to the officers including ...Paul Mc Cain! How about it, Paul?

Hello LI Flyrodders;

I am currently working on the May issue of The Flyrodder and wondered if you could contribute an article or even a note toward it. After all, it is YOUR newsletter and your input is very valuable. You can either e-mail it directly to me or you can give a copy to Lee Weil or Morty Schneiderman. You could write about a favorite fly pattern, evaluate a rod or a reel, suggest a few tips, or brag about the big one you caught last year. Incidentally with a surge of interest in salt water fly fishing, anything you can contribute on that end will be surely appreciated. I am talking about fly patterns, best places and times to fish, techniques, etc. I am hoping to hear from you.

Gian



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Trout Closing Day

by Gian Padovani

AN ALTERNATIVE TO TROUT OPENING DAY

Of all the days in a year, there are few that can compare with the anticipation and the excitement of trout opening day. At least if you are a bona fide, dyed in the wool angler.

Trout Opening Day, usually the first Saturday in April, is the date that prods many fishermen to dig out their tackle and return to their favorite creeks. In some cases it creates such a circus-like atmosphere, that the seasoned or fastidious anglers are willing to wait a few days longer and descend to the streams

when things have calmed down a bit.

As I mentioned, Opening Day is very popular but in my case, I prefer Trout Closing Day. You won't find this date listed on any calendar because it is strictly a personal day in my own register. The date can be set for any month of the year, and it can fall on any day of the week. It is the day when I finally hang up my tackle, until the next Spring brings me out of the lethargy of Winter.

What I like about Trout Closing Day is the fact that, unlike the official opening date, it doesn't have to be planned for. My

fly rod is already set inside the truck, together with the waders, the vest and all the other "junk" I need to fish. It is a spontaneous decision to fish on an unspecific day.

This last Trout Closing Day was planned while I was shopping for groceries at a supermarket. It was way past the middle of November, and though many anglers had already called it quits, I had been hoping for one more memorable day of fishing. A day of memories that I could savor during a snow storm as I sat by the warmth of the wood stove. To my dismay, the weather had decided to wage war against me and the temperature took a drop into the thirties. The rain didn't help, and for a while I began to think that my yearly Trout Closing Day had already happened a few weeks before, when I had gone to a favorite stream. As I stored the groceries into the truck, I realized that the sky was a cobalt blue and the sun had flared the temperature into the fifties. There was not a cloud to mar the sky and I suspected it would be a repeat performance on the next day. I made the decision: Tomorrow, Wednesday, November 19th, year 2000 would mark my official Trout Closing Date.

The rest was easy. I called a friend and asked him if he would care to join me in this last venture of the millenium. Good experiences are always magnified if they are shared with friends, and he

agreed to meet me on the next morning. We drove to the Nantahala and as I looked at the river I couldn't help comparing the contrast of only a few months before. At that time it seemed like every fisher from every state in the country had decided to hop over to the Tar Heel state. This time, however, we saw only one other vehicle with a North Carolina tag parked by the side of the river. "I hate crowds.", my friend said, and I just smiled back. Trout fishing is different from any other and one of its main appeal is that it is a solitary, contemplative sport, just a fisher and the immensity of the outdoors. O.K., let's make it: An angler, the trout and a river with only a few other individuals. My friend and I had a good day and caught several good fish even if the temperature was courting the frigid side. So cold that away from the sun, the water on our feet felt even colder than it was, and after a few hours we threw in the towel. Once at home, my wife asked how the day had been. "Great, I had a terrific time", I answered and when she inquired if I was through fishing for the year, I was almost tempted to say "I don't know, we'll see how the weather is going to hold up." But I didn't, because a voice inside of me kept repeating the old adage, "Quit while you are still ahead."

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YELLOW BREECHES TRIP 2001

by Lee Weil

If I had to make a list of my 10 favorite streams, the Yellow Breeches would be up there in the top three. It's what I like to refer to as a "beginner friendly" stream, but it appeals to the seasoned angler as well. We try to fish it whenever possible, and usually manage 2 or 3 trips a year. I prefer to be there in spring when the fish are fresh and less pressured. Weekdays are even better, therefore, we will be running a club trip down to the Breeches on **April 23rd & 24th**; fishing Monday and Tuesday. We will be meeting at the Yellow Breeches Outfitters fly shop at 9:00 am on Monday to pick up PA licenses and get the latest fishing information, then head out to fish various locations on the Breeches or other nearby destinations, such as the Letort, Clark's Creek or Big Spring. When you've had your fill of fishing, you can check in to your room at the Sleep Inn in Carlisle. You can take a swim in the heated pool (in case you didn't get to take a dip in the river) or just clean up and relax before joining us at the *Boiling Springs Tavern*, across from the fly shop. There we will wine, dine and tell fish stories. The next morning you can step next door to the Cracker Barrel restaurant, adjacent to the Sleep Inn. Our favorite guide, Tom Baltz, taught us to wait till the river warms up and we've learned to follow his advice, having a leisurely breakfast before donning our waders. We'll fish through the day and later on in the afternoon we'll regroup at the *Market Cross Pub*, (preferably peeling off the waders before entering) and have a late lunch/ early supper before heading back home. Those who want to stay another night will have to book the rooms in advance, so let me know at the time you sign up. The cost for the room is **\$32.00 per person for double occupancy**. Your 3-day non-resident license will cost \$20.50, and you can pick it up at the Yellow Breeches outfitters on Monday. There are some very nice dry fly stretches suitable for a 3 weight outfit, but bring your 5 weight for nymphing, as the water can be high at this time of year and you may need some heavy flies or sink tip to get down into the deeper pools. In the past springs, I have had a lot of success with green Caddis pupa #14, Copper beadhead Pheasant tails #16, and Jeff's Black Angus #14. Be sure to bring warm under clothes and raingear. April is still chilly and you can't enjoy being on the stream if you're damp and cold. In high waters a staff will be a welcome accessory and may save you a dunking. To reserve your spot call Lee Weil at 516-997-6743. Deadline for signup is April 15th.



OPEN HOUSE

by Al Westbrook

The Annual Long Island Flyrodders Open-House event will be held on Tuesday, April 3rd this year, at our regular monthly meeting. The event is expected to be bigger than ever with goodies for everyone: a bucket raffle, regular raffle and an overview of the Club and where we're headed. It is our only actual fundraiser, but just as important, is the goal of attracting new members. So... bring down your friends and neighbors, sons or daughters, everybody interested in fly fishing and helping to better cold water fishing resource, as well as saltwater fly fisher. In short, all are welcomed. We would like to enlist some dedicated members to help us stay the first class Club we are.

And the night is usually an exciting one for all. One of the things that make it so interesting is the great prizes donated to the Club from the folks we look up to for quality fly fishing and other outdoor gear. The list below includes the companies that assisted us when we requested it for our event. Therefore, please read over the list and remember the names you read when looking for new or replacement tackle or sporting gear. They were there for us; let's patronize our friends!

American Angler, Abenaki Pubs
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Baker Manufacturing Company
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Buck Knives, Inc.
Buck's Bags
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Caddis manufacturing, Inc.
Cortland Line Co.
F.J. Neil Company, Inc.
Fin-Nor
Fly Rod & Reel
Frank Amato Publications
G. Loomis
Glacier Glove
Goodwin Manufacturing Co.
Greycliff Publishing Co.
Hexagraph Fishing Rod, Inc.

Hook & Tackle Outfitters
J.E. Sherry Company
Jim Teeny, Inc.
Judith Bowman Books
Krieger Enterprises
Lamiglas
Mann's Bait Company
Merco Products
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Pruett Publishing Company
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Regal Engineering, Inc.
Renzetti

Richardson Chest Box Company
ROE Manufacturing, Inc.
Ross Reels
Sage
Scott Fly Rod Company
Shakespeare
South Bend
St. Croix
The Anglers Art
The Wood River Company
Thomas & Thomas
Tru-Turn, Inc.
Umpqua Feather Merchants
Whiting Farms, Inc.
Wilderness Adventures, Inc.
Wind River, Inc.
Yakima Bait Company

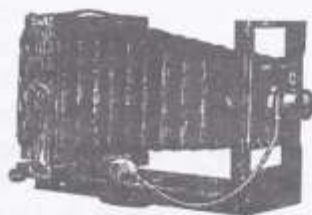
SETTING THE HOOK

By "Bro" John Manz

Can you remember the first trout you caught on a dry fly? I caught mine on my back cast! The poor frightened 4" Brown Trout went flying by my sweat stained tan or white floppy hat. I can't remember exactly what color it was. But I do recall both our eyes were wide with surprise. So began my descent into the obsessed world of fly fishing.

Today I no longer catch trout on my back cast. In fact there are days that I have traversed miles of stream without even seeing a trout. But I'm hooked on fly fishing and love every minute I spend in moving water, anticipating that ever elusive tight line. I am no longer racing from hole to hole trying to beat out my fellow fishermen or cussing out the passing flotilla of tubers and canoeists. The fish will rise again in the South, North, East and West. And if I'm fortunate to find a fly that will suit a passing trout's fancy, I may even get a chance to practice setting the hook.

The truth of the matter is I can't cast worth a damn, but like photography --if you snap enough pictures sooner or later you are bound to capture the moment. It's that moment that continues to draw me back to the river with "Great Expectation's!" Who knows, maybe today I'll successfully set the hook on a full grown Rainbow or Brown and have the joy of listening to my drag sing!



The Montclair State University, New Jersey School of Conservation, in cooperation with the Mid-Atlantic Council Federation of Fly Fishers and the North Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited will present a Fly Fishing Clinic for Women on May 4 - 5, 2001

Chief casting instructor will be Dawn Foley, a Joan Wulff certified casting instructor, and Mary Kuss, an Orvis-certified fly fishing instructor. The chief Fly Tying instructor will be Bill Skilton, owner of USA Flies. Enrollment is limited to 40 participants and is on a first-come, first-served basis. The \$40.00 fee includes a hot lunch. Please call 973-948-4646 for additional info and applications.

The Long Island Chapter of Trout Unlimited is proud to announce its 20th Annual National Conservation Banquet

The Banquet will be held on Friday Evening April 20, 2001 at the Imperial Manor in Bethpage

Tickets are \$44.00, available by contacting: Tony Jones at (631) 589-7248

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CONNETQUOT TRIPS RULES FOR 2001

For Paid up L.I.F.R members with valid 2001 N.Y. State fishing licenses ONLY.

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.

Sign Up is during Coffee Break ONLY.

If you cannot attend the meeting you may call me the day after the meeting for reservations. NO MAIL-Ins will be accepted. The following LIFR regulations are in effect : Reservations for 32 anglers per session; 64 for both sessions. The cost of each session is \$15. For the morning session you must arrive at the park by 7:30 AM.

CANCELLATIONS must be made by 7:00 PM the Saturday before the session or you lose your money. Call ins that don't cancel by the time stated will have to pay at the next meeting.

NO ADVANCE RESERVATIONS WILL BE TAKEN.

No checks will be accepted - Cash Only.

Note change of hours - AM Session will begin fishing at 8:00 and PM Session at 1:00

OPENING DAY

by Gian Padovani

Trout Fishing Opening Day. Not matter how many we have experienced, it is always a rousing occurrence. There is something exciting about the date, the same expectancy we experience before a great race. It is a ritual that most anglers perform, disregarding if the weather is balmy or miserable. After the winter's months of hibernation, it is time to go out into the world, step into a stream and flex a fly rod. When I lived New York State, the Opening Day was not always nice, with bad weather accompanied by sharp gusts of wind, and frost still lingering on the grass. Opening date on April 1st., coincides with April's fools day, and I often wonder if the pun is not intended toward the fishermen. After all, who else would be in the middle of a freezing stream at such a time?

On one particular opening day, I chose to skip going to work, and left early in the morning so that I could drive to the nearest stream. This particular place is considered a tidal creek, since the water eventually empties into the sea. The landscape is pretty much what an open tundra must be, with no trees and only dry grass on the sandy soil. I was in the water as the sun rose and surveyed all the other frostbitten hopefuls who were scattered about. At that time I didn't fly-fish and I was using an ultralight spinning outfit, dunking the worms I had dug out from my garden the day before. It was a bitter cold day, hampered by a stiff wind that came from the ocean, but I was so thrilled to be outdoors, that I just trembled and



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ULTRA POINT

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endured it. From what I could see, I was also doing better than the other fishermen and by early afternoon I had already caught my limit. Needless to say I was as happy as a kid at Christmas, and anxious to go back to a warm home and show off the catch. As I walked to where I had parked my car, I was confronted by a reporter from one of the city's leading newspapers. He was anxious to get the details and a possible photograph for the next day's edition. Most people would have been thrilled by such a prospective, but I declined the offer. The perplexed reporter couldn't figure why I would refuse an offer to become "famous", but he understood when I explained that I had played "hooky" from work, and was supposed to be at home nursing a trick knee! I mentioned that my boss was in the habit of reading the newspapers every morning.

Today things are different. I live in North Carolina where trout fishing in a way or other is open all year round. Several rivers are listed as Delayed Harvest which means that they are open to fishing all year, with a catch and release policy in effect for most of the year. There is also fishing in the Great Smoky National Park, where one can fish year around AND keep a legal limit of trout. Fishing in the park is fun since the fish are wild and colorful. A seven inch specimen is a good sized fish, but I have met anglers who have wrangled 12-14" monsters! There are Rainbows, Browns and Brookies but the last named MUST be returned unharmed to the water. The strain of the Smokies' Brook Trout is endemic of the area and is in the process of being re-classified as a separate species.



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.

In case of emergency, when reasonably feasible, contact:

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Phone: home () _____ Office () _____

Date: ___ / ___ 20 ___

MEMBER

Signature: _____

Print name: _____

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E-mail address: (optional) _____

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

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

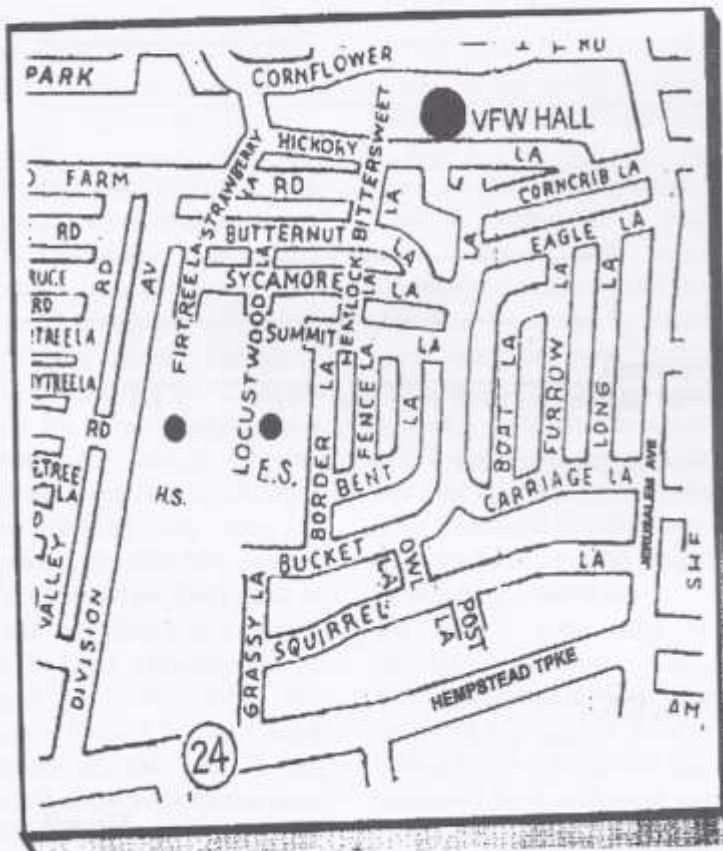
Dues: Individual \$30.00
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

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FLYRODDER



LIFR COMING EVENTS

April 3, 2001 - Open House and Used Tackle Sale
Only members may sell items!

April 7, 2001 - Croton Watershed Introduction
and Permit Pickup Day Trip
Contact Paul McCain
(516) 536-1418

April 23 & 24 - Yellow Breeches, PA Trip
Contact Lee Weil
(516) 997-6743

April 27 to 29 - Project Access trip to Livingston
Manor
Contact Herman Adams
(516) 593-6024