

# The *FLYRODDER*



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

PUBLISHED BY  
  
LONG ISLAND  
FLYRODDERS

## *This Month's Meeting* *June 1, 2004*

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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)

### **2004 OFFICERS**

**Mike Gelber**  
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**Lee Weil**  
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**Cliff Dies**  
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*Housatonic Fly Fishing Association President Russ Bevan and Trip Coordinator Deryn LaCombe, flanking Paul McCain at the HFFA's annual tree planting and streamside clean-up of the Housatonic River, held on Saturday, May 1. They were both presented with Paul's wood carvings for their good work. See Dan Van Buskirk's article on Page 5.*



God Bless America

**GUEST SPEAKER:**

**Dick Jogodnik**

**"Fly Fishing New Zealand"**



## President's message

Fishing is really starting to pick up, flies are hatching, the water is warming up, fish are getting active and gas prices are going higher than a hand made bamboo rod. During the water shortages we saw the "save water-shower with a friend" bumper stickers. I think it's time to print some "save gas-fish with a friend" bumper stickers. One of the great features of belonging to our club is the fellowship. At the meetings it's the perfect time to see who is going where and to invite others to tag along. Car pooling is not just for work anymore. Trip captains should also be aware of single riders and help make introductions. The cost per gallon isn't as painful split 2 or 3 ways. Besides the radio doesn't work that great where we go so it gives you someone to talk to.

At the end of April the club was represented at two great community projects. Project Access and the Housatonic clean up. I want to thank **Dan and Peter Van Buskirk** for a great job at Project Access and **Paul McCain** for all he has done getting us involved in the Housatonic project. These are just two of the

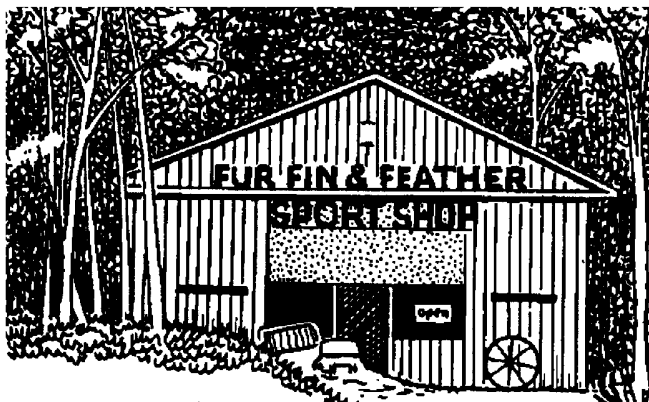
many reasons it makes me proud to be a member of this organization. Job well done to everyone involved.

Coming up at our next meeting we have **Dick Jodognick** giving us a slide show tour of **Fly Fishing in New Zealand**. Dick combines great photography and fishing insight in his presentations, and this one will have you calling your travel agent the next morning.

If you have not made plans for June's trips, talk to the trip captains at the meeting. June 8 is the **Peconic River** trip for bass. **Lee Weil** is the trip captain. See her at the meeting or call her at (516) 997-6743. **Lee Weil** and **Jeff Farrell** are running the **Farmington River** camping trip, and to close out the month we have a trip to **Eldred Preserve** captained by **Joe Caroleo** (718) 845-4225. The club is trying something a little different this year. We will be having a party boat trip on Sunday July 11. We have chartered the **Lady J** out of Point Lookout for a **full day private trip**. I will be coordinating this trip.

So come on down to the meeting, go on some of the trips...fish with a friend and make some new ones. Remember to car pool with a buddy.

Good fishing, Mike



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# For Your Nymphormation

by Lee Weil



## L.I.F.R. PECONIC RIVER TRIP & PICNIC

It's hard to believe, but this year we will be scheduling our **Fifth Annual Peconic River** day trip! This trip gives our members a chance to fish some great bass water close to home on one of the prettiest rivers on Long Island. We will be fishing for a variety of freshwater species, including chain pickerel, crappie, bluegills and largemouth bass. The scheduled date is **Tuesday, June 8th**. This river is a popular canoeing area and by fishing during the midweek we avoid the boat traffic and "canoe hatches". The best time to be on the water is sunrise, so we will be putting in at **6:00 am**. Those members who have their own vessels can put in at the DEC parking lot launch at the dam. Take the **L.I.E. east to exit 72**. Take **Rte. 25 East** and then the first right after passing the **Fisherman's Deli** onto the road across from the **Snowflake Ice Cream stand**. Those who need a boat may stop at the Fisherman's Deli where john-boats and canoes can be rented. The cost for **boat rental for the day is \$30.00** and you may possibly split the fee with another member. Please call me if you want to arrange to share a boat.

Most of your prime areas will be around lily pads and weed beds, so I advise using a **heavier tippet like 1X**. You may also use a length of 10 lb. test mono added to your leader, which will help prevent

having your fly bitten off by the resident pickerel. I have landed pickerel up to 21" from this river, and they are well equipped with sharp teeth, so **don't forget your forceps**. Rods from **5 to 8 weight** will suffice, with the heavier stick being more capable of casting big bass bugs and surface poppers. As the sun rises and the temps go up later in the day you should switch to streamers and nymphs. The pickerel seem to favor long style swimming patterns such as **marabou leeches, ghosts and Mickey Finns**, and crappie will readily take white patterns. One of my favorite bluegill flies is an oversized Zugbug, although these willing scrappers will take small surface poppers and foam beetles all day long when cast under a shady bush.

**Don't forget sunblock and a light colored cap!** A full day of sitting in a canoe without protection can fry you. Bring plenty of water or beverages in a small cooler and you're all set to go. For those who want to join us for lunch we will be having a **picnic back at the D.E.C. parking area** after the action slows down in the afternoon. Cost for the picnic will be \$7.00 per person. Please pay at the June 1<sup>st</sup> meeting and make sure you are signed up. **For further information call Lee Weil at 516-997-6743**



### Techniques for Better Knots

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1. Before snugging the knot tight, moisten it with saliva or water. This will cause it to seat more tightly.
2. For knots in stiff or heavy material, have a pair of pliers handy to snug the knot tight.
3. When the knot is properly snugged, trim the tag end close to the knot.
4. With tippet materials don't assume that the nylon of one brand is the same as the nylon of another brand without testing the materials first. If in doubt, stick with one brand for all your tippet material this is especially true for knots joining widely dissimilar diameters of leader material.
5. Do not attempt to create a burr in the tag end with heat. This can weaken the knot and damage the line or leader.
6. To straighten a leader, pull the leader taut and stroke it with your hand until it warms, then keep it taut until it cools.
7. To straighten a line, stretch it tight for 20 or 30 seconds.

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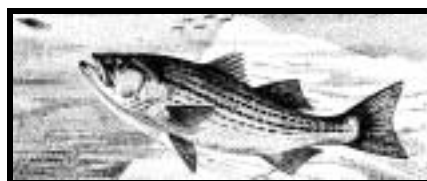
*by Paul McCain*

Father time is starting to get the better of me. The older I get, the less long time memory I have. I was talking to a couple of fishing buddies of mine and we were trying to remember a trip that we took. None of us had the same story. We couldn't agree on anything. Now, if I was keeping a log, I could prove to them that I was right. A log is more than just a record to prove your friends wrong. It is a learning tool. A log can be used for Freshwater or more importantly in Saltwater. All Saltwater fish follow patterns; fishing is best at this temperature, the flats fishes best at that tide, a certain beach is best with this wind and the back bays are best with a certain moon phase. The list can go on and on. By doing a little exploring and keeping records you will start to see the patterns. These logs can be simple fact recordings or you can put a lot of detail in them. They can be done on your computer, there are a lot of programs out there and on the Internet. Or be like me and hand write everything in a note book. My log is more like a diary. This way on a cold winter night I can sit by the fire and read about all the good times I had with my fishing friends.

It's always amazing to me that we will spent hundreds of dollars on equipment and yet hold back when it is for learning. This is penny wise and dollar foolish. One of the best ways to move up the learning curve is to get a guide. A good guide is someone who will give you a good day on the water but a great guide will be more like a teacher. He or she will show you different waters and how to read them, what flies to use and why. He should also know the flora and fauna of his area and most importantly you should feel safe at all times. You should get the full experience and not just a fishing trip. I have been fortunate to have fished with some fine Long Island guides; Capt Jim Levison, Capt Ken Kuhner, Capt Nick Karars and Capt Barry Kanavy; and I always came away with some more knowledge about this sport. It was money well spent.

So get a guide and start a log and pretty soon you will be catching not some fish, but a lot of fish and then others will be coming to you.

Tight Lines, Paul



## 2004 Housatonic Clean Up Trip Report

*by Dan Van Buskirk*

The club's trip to assist the Connecticut fishing and conservation club Housatonic Fly Fishers Association on their annual tree planting and clean up the streamside of the Housatonic River was held on Saturday, May 1. Thanks to HFFA President Russ Bevan, Project Coordinator Deryn LaCombe, and the other club members for inviting us. Along with a total of ten LIFR members attending, the work was completed by noon.

Paul McCain did the honors cooking up a great picnic lunch of Hamburgers, Franks, beans and Sauerkraut. The Flyrodder's also supplied beverages, chips, pickles, Etc.

After the picnic we split for an afternoon of fishing. Dan Van Buskirk, Cliff Dies, Morty Schneiderman and Nick Friedman Tony Agnese and Anthony, fished the stretch across from the Housatonic Meadows Park. Paul and Peter Yuskevich started by fishing one of the local tributaries and then joined the group at the park. John and Allan Manz fished up stream and were the high hooks of the trip. Tony and Anthony Agnese stayed for lunch, but had to leave early. Not only were trout caught but also a few bass.

Join us next year for a work and fish get away.

## 2004 Project Access Trip Report

*by Dan Van Buskirk*

The club's Project Access trip to refurbish handicapped access trails to the Willowemoc Creek was held on Saturday, April 24. With a total of ten LIFR members attending the work on both the Hazel Bridge and Covered Bridge sites was completed in less than the four hours. Mike and Coreen Gelber used their truck to move the wheelbarrows from the meeting place (Catskill Fly Fishing Museum) to the work sites and back. With Mike and Jeff Farrell manning the wheelbarrows, Lee Weil and Coreen doing most of the raking and Gordon Grimes, Jerry LeBoyer, Stan Paroly, Dan and Peter Van Buskirk doing the rest, the work was completed in short order. Pete did the honors cooking up a great picnic lunch of Hamburgers (with bacon and/or cheese), Franks, and Sauerkraut. Pete also supplied beverages, chips, pickles, Etc. After the picnic we split for an afternoon of fishing. Dan, Pete, Jerry and Stan ended up at an isolated lake where they caught native Brook trout. Lee, Jeff, Mike and Coreen fished a small tributary of the Willowemoc and Lee landed at least one Brookie. All except Gordon stayed at the Rockland House Motel and met for dinner at the Rockland House. Sunday dawned bright, but soon turned to rain with a windy front coming through, and the fishing was done. Join us next year for a work and fish weekend.

### ELDRED FISHING TRIP - June 30 to July 1:

Any member interested in taking this trip, please contact **Joe Caroleo or Bill Farrington** at the next meeting or call **Joe Caroleo at (718) 845-4225** between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. for information concerning this trip. We must let Eldred know how many members and family will attend so we can reserve the units to accommodate them. A twenty-five dollar deposit is required on or before the May LIFR meeting to lock in the package you select. You can sign up at any meeting or call Joe Caroleo.

The basic cost of this trip is \$80, plus tax, per person, based on double occupancy. It includes a one night stay at the Eldred Resort, a dinner and breakfast. Children, ten years old or younger, the cost is an additional \$22 for each child. It also includes free admission to the Catch and Keep Pond which is stocked with trout. Whatever you catch you must keep and will cost \$4.25 per pound.

You can also fish at the Catch and Release Pond for an additional fee of \$10.00 per day. Whatever you catch has to be released. In addition, they have two bass lakes available for an additional \$75.00. You get a bass boat which seats two passengers and can catch Largemouth, Smallmouth bass, a variety of pan fish as well as Hybrid Striped Bass.

They also have a Sporting Clay range available as well as horseback riding. RSVP ASAP.

## **Saving Wild Salmon** *by Linda Macy*

May 15, 2004

One of the great virtues of the Endangered Species Act - and the main reason for the bitter opposition the act has engendered over the years - is that in the interests of saving species, it requires the protection of the habitats where the species live. That usually means constraining human behavior in ways that help preserve a healthier environment all around. Humans themselves often come to appreciate that intervention, though not always. In the case of wild salmon, for instance, commercial interests have long resented the restrictions on logging, farming and development necessary to protect the fragile watersheds where salmon spawn.

The Bush administration has now found a novel way around these inconveniences: a new policy on counting fish. Its practical effect would be to eliminate the distinction between wild salmon and hatchery salmon, which can be churned out by the millions. This sleight of hand would instantly make wild salmon populations look healthier than they actually are, giving the government a green light to lift legal protections for more than two dozen endangered salmon species as well as the restrictions on commerce that developers and other members of President Bush's constituency find so annoying.

Policy makers at the National Marine Fisheries Service say they are merely obeying a federal judge who was unhappy with the way the government distinguished between wild and hatchery fish. But in drawing up the new policy, the service ignored the scientists who urged that the protections remain in place. It relied instead on a Washington-based political team whose key player was Mark Rutzick, a former timber industry lawyer.

Such a step may be good politics for the Bush administration. But it is bad science and bad news for wild salmon. Hatchery-raised fish represent a narrowing of the genetic diversity present in wild runs of salmon, and are makeshift at best. Few scientists believe that hatchery-raised fish can make a serious and lasting contribution to protecting wild salmon runs, which have been crashing under the pressures created by habitat destruction in the coastal streams where they breed. Indeed, this new policy has nothing to do with protecting salmon. Its only purpose is to circumvent the Endangered Species Act, without whose protections the wild runs will almost surely vanish.

## **Lead Fishing Sinker Ban Takes Effect** *By Linda Macy*

In 2002, due to the efforts of Audubon New York and our partners in conservation, the New York State Legislature passed, and the Governor signed into law a ban on the sale of small split-shot lead fishing sinkers weighing ½ ounce or less, a measure that will help protect over 25 different species of waterfowl that are extremely susceptible to the toxic effects of ingesting lead sinkers. We are proud to announce that on Friday May 7th 2004, this ban on the sale took effect in New York!

Loons are especially susceptible to poisoning from lead sinkers. They, like other water birds, use small pebbles to aid in their digestion, and frequently mistake the small round lead sinkers for pebbles. They also ingest them by eating fish that have fishing line with sinkers attached to it. Numerous scientific studies have indicated that 20 percent of loon mortality is from lead poisoning.

As this ban only effects the sale of lead sinkers in New York, this summer we are encouraging anglers across the state to make the switch to non-lead alternatives such as steel, and tin. These alternatives perform the same as their lead counterparts, but don't have toxic effects on wildlife or humans. Go to:

<http://ny.audubon.org/news/040505.htm>>  
to learn more about this important measure taking effect.

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## ANOTHER MAN'S POISON

by Lee Weil

Finally, a day off and my first opportunity to fish the Battenkill this summer. Now, the month of July is not the ideal time to target this stream but beggars can't be choosers. I knew I was rolling the dice as I drove north along Route 29, but a day of fishing beats just about anything else, especially on a beautiful summer day full of promise at 5:00 am. The sun was just beginning to peek in the East as I pulled up in the lot at the bridge. I stretched and opened the car door to inhale the fresh morning smells of wet stones and heather. As I walked down to the bank, I was disappointed at the sight of lower water than I had expected. While it wasn't bare bones, I felt I couldn't fish it with a clear conscience, knowing the temperature would be warmer than a stressed fish could handle. I stood listening to the shallow water running over the rocks and tried to devise Plan B. A deep pool I had once found behind an abandoned factory came to mind and I was soon behind the wheel again, the sun now fully awake and shining on my face.

The river looked a lot healthier at my next stop, and I opened my trunk and rigged my rod, foregoing my waders for shorts and Keds. As I stepped into the stream, I realized the water temperature was indeed cooler here, chilly in fact. I worked my way very carefully, to position myself at the head of the pool, surprised at the strength of the current and well aware that sneakers do not inspire the confidence of felt soles.

I had fished through several casts, with a small soft hackle, when I became aware of an old man standing on the bridge watching me. He smoked a cigarette and watched me for a few moments and then called down to me, "Any luck?" I replied that I had just arrived and hadn't seen any fish rising. He shook

his head and tossed his cigarette butt into the river below. "You ain't gonna get any trout up in here; this spot's only good for Smallmouth". He said it with disdain, as one would refer to trash, and after wishing me luck, he continued across the span and out of sight.

I reeled in and began searching through my streamer box for something I deemed "bass attractive". I tied on the largest black wooly bugger I had and flipped it into the current running along the bridge abutment. Before I could begin to strip, the line went taut with a sudden jerk and I was fast into a feisty Smallie. I grinned as I played the fish and laughed out loud at its outrageous leaps.

I brought the fish to hand and admired its brindle flanks in the sunshine. It was no giant, but for it's 10 inches it fought like a 16" rainbow.

I caught many bass that morning and even into the early afternoon; depleting my supply of streamers as one by one they fell to the bass assault, shredded by the tiny teeth and mauled by the savage takes. When the action eventually tapered off I realized I hadn't eaten anything and was starving, and planning on only fishing for a couple of hours I hadn't packed a lunch. My train of thought changed tracks from bass on the Battenkill to the Farmer's Daughter snack stand on Route 29. I could almost smell the burger and taste the rootbeer float as I headed back home. I smiled and thought how blessed I was by the old man's prediction. That day was the beginning of my long love affair with the bronzeback, and yet another reason to look forward to summers up north.

He was right; I did not catch any trout from that pool. But one man's poison is another man's meat, and I had been treated to a feast.

Answers  
to  
Long Island  
Flyrodder  
Puzzle  
# 8



Al Battistelli,  
Wolfgang Porté,  
and  
Jerry LeBoyer  
at the Orvis Store  
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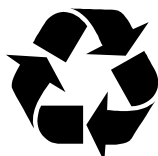
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**1-800-BERKLEY** or (712) 336-1520.

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. Berkley **recycles** the line into artificial fishing structures.



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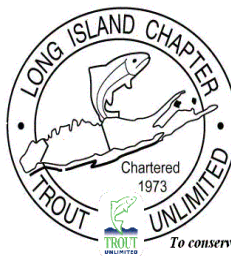
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## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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.

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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;

**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.** Cancellations must 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 - 2004

	June 14	July 19	
August 16	September 20	October 18	

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

# FIRST CLASS MAIL

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## LONG ISLAND FLYRODDERS COMING EVENTS JUNE - 2004

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| June 1               | <b>General Meeting - 8:00 P.M.</b><br>Speaker: Dick Jogodnik<br>"Fly Fishing New Zealand"                             |
| June 8               | <b>Peconic River Trip &amp; Picnic</b><br>See Page 3 for Details<br>Contact: Lee Weil & Jeff Farrell - (516) 997-6743 |
| June 14              | <b>Connetquot State Park - Monday Fishing Trip</b><br>See Page 9 for Details<br>Contact: Lee Weil - (516) 997-6743.   |
| June 17              | <b>Board Meeting</b><br>7:30 P.M. at the Levittown VFW Hall   |
| June 25 - 27         | <b>Farmington River, CT - Camping &amp; Fishing</b><br>Contact: Lee Weil & Jeff Farrell - (516) 997-6743              |
| June 30 to<br>July 1 | <b>Eldred Fishing Trip</b><br>See Page 5 for Details<br>Contact: Joe Caroleo - (718) 845-4225                         |

