

the

# FLYRODDER



PUBLISHED BY THE

**LONG ISLAND**  
FLYRODDERS

**This Month's Meeting: Dec. 4, '01**

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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 Tpke.  
West of Jerusalem Ave.)

**2001 OFFICERS**  
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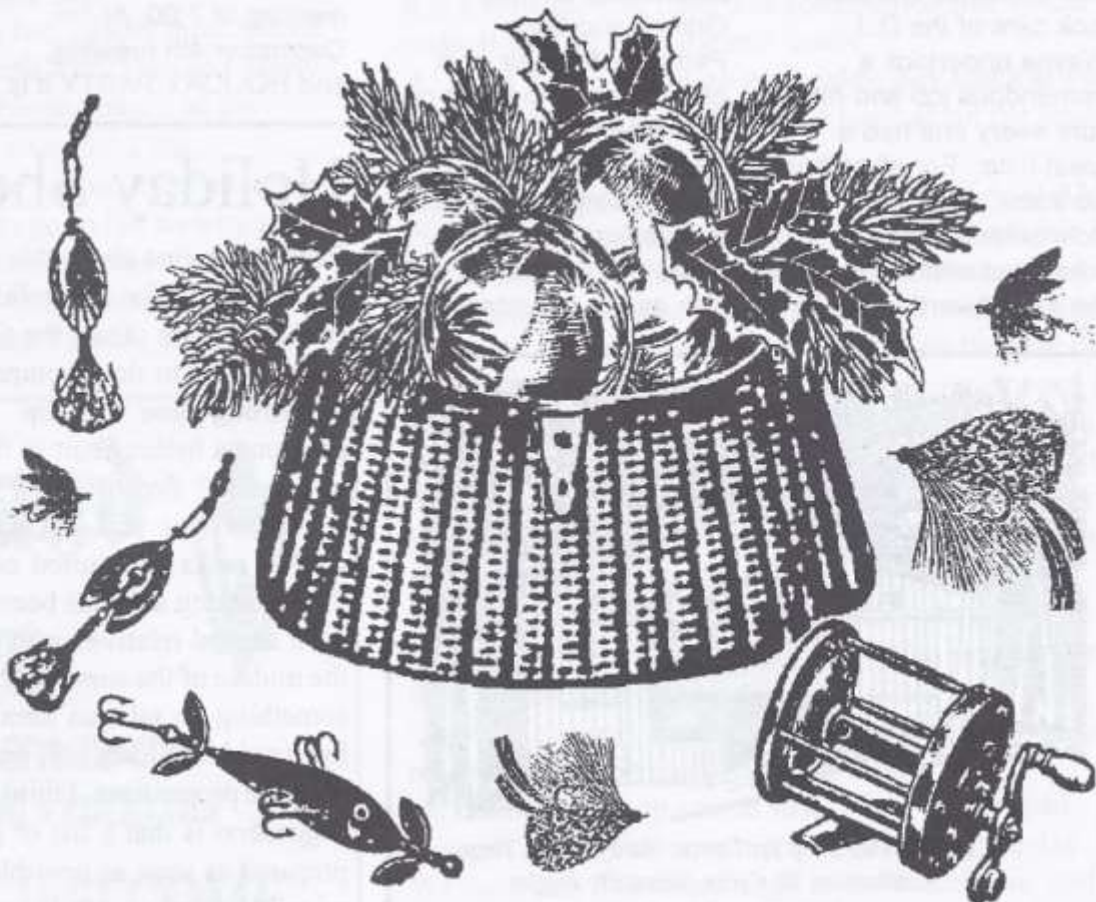
**Paul McCain**  
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**Al Westbrook**  
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**Cliff Dies**  
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**Robert Skoy, Esq.**  
Counsel

## SEASON'S



## GREETINGS



*God Bless America*

*This Month's Event:*  
**HOLIDAY PARTY**



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# President's message

I want to thank every one who worked so hard to make our Dinner Dance a great success. A special thanks goes out to Wayne Becker for his many hours of work. He made arrangements with the restaurant, selected the menu, took care of the sale of tickets and also took care of the D.J. Wayne undertook a tremendous job and made sure every one had a great time. For all of that, we thank you. Mort Schneiderman was presented with the Man of the Year Award which he

deserves for his unselfish time and devotion getting the newsletter from Gian Padovani and then sending it back to Ed Conte for distribution. A number of awards were presented to the following members; Henry (Hank) Patterson, John Menendez, Gordon Grimes and Gian Padovani for their work effort in order to make our club a better club. I presented Lee Weil with the outgoing President's plaque for the untold hours she devoted to the club as our President. In

addition Paul McCain presented Lee with an engraved fly reel. Lee deserves every honor the club bestows on her since she is always ready and willing to do the job. As far as the trips for the next year are concerned, any member can suggest a trip during the months of November and December. The final decision is to be made at the January meeting during our Trip Committee meeting to be held prior to the general meeting at 7:00. At our December 4th meeting, and HOLIDAY PARTY it is

customary that we have a Grab Bag. The following rules are to be maintained; any member who brings a gift receives a ticket. All gifts received are put in a box. After a short meeting Santa will start the party by collecting the tickets and presenting each ticket holder with a present. Only members with tickets can participate in this event. Coffee and holiday cake will be served and a good time will be had by all. Wishing everybody Happy Holidays,

*Herman*

## Holiday Shopping by Gian Padovani

Every year, just about this time, the question of what to buy someone for the holidays comes up. It becomes a stressing chore since the time to shop is limited, with a limited time to do a comparison shopping. Clearly, it is the wrong time to shop. Would you consider buying someone a bathing suit in the winter? Or gardening tools in January? Preposterous! Go to any large department store and you will see what I am talking about. The clothes racks are stuffed only with winter clothing, and the gardening area has been replaced by fireplace items. I have several relatives who begin the holiday shopping in the middle of the summer. Not specifically, but if they see something on sale, an item they know someone on their list would like, they will buy it as a gift and store it away until the proper time. I think it is a wise idea to follow. My suggestion is that a list of gifts and recipients should be prepared as soon as possible, following the holiday. This principle works equally well if you are considering a computer, a camera or fishing equipment. Probably the biggest advantage of early shopping is that one can take advantage of the sales. Some stores sell tackle competitively near the end of the fishing season, but will reinstate the full prices just before the holidays. Smart shoppers buy before the holidays but they also know that some of the best bargains are available the week AFTER, when the shops want to unload the overstocked, as well as the returned merchandise. Check the newspaper ads, as well as the flyers from the big discount stores and if you have a computer, do not neglect the web sites from the big fishing suppliers.



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# UP THE RIVER WITH A PADDLE

by Dan Van Buskirk

I was feeling bad, because of various circumstances, I would not be able to go on the May club trip to the Hungry Trout on the Ausable River.

Paul McCain was in the same boat, and we felt we should do something about it. A plan was hatched that would get us out fishing for a day. Even if we couldn't physically be fishing with the club, at least we could be in spirit. The plan was brilliant, even if I say so myself. My son Peter had picked up a used Grumman canoe a year ago, which we had never put in the water.

Paul had a canoe that he hadn't used for a while.

- ◆ Step 1: It would be a canoe trip.
- ◆ Step 2: Since there were two canoes there should be four people on the trip. Both Cliff Dies and Morty Schneiderman would be unable to make it to the Hungry Trout, but could get away for a day.
- ◆ Step 3: Where to go? The process of elimination solved this. We didn't want to go to far, so why spend time driving when you could spend time fishing? We would take one car with both canoes and four participants. Paul suggested the Peconic River in



Riverhead, a great choice. At this time of the year, the weeds and lily pads have not covered the water.

It is a slow moving river/lake combination that would make it easy to learn the new canoe.

- ◆ Step 4: We would go on Sunday, buy lunch at the convenient Fisherman's Deli, and learn about the latest conditions and fishing tips.

Finally the day arrived, bright and early (OK 9:00 AM) Paul came to my house with his van loaded with his canoe. Morty and Paul helped me load the canoe and the Grumman weighted less than my Coleman. I liked it already. Off we went to pick up Cliff on the way out east. We arrived at the river around 11 a.m., stopped at the deli for lunch, directions to the launching site and, of course some of the latest in flies. Since we would be fishing for Bass, Pickerel and Pan Fish, and the water is not deep, I bought some poppers. The directions to the put-in were simple, and launching the canoes was as easy as possible. The state had built a slide from the parking lot to the waters edge, and within minutes we were on the water.

Since we had only one car, we would have to leave and return to the same place. Because of this we decided to go up stream first, while we still had strength and let the current return us later in the day. We were into fish within sight of the launch site, and for the rest of the day we had action. After a while we let the current (which is not strong at all) carry us down into the lake, were we tied the canoes together and ate lunch on the water. Around 5 P.M. we called it quits, and were home two hours later.

This is an example of a day trip, with lots of potentials for fly fishermen. Don't have a boat, no problem. Canoes can be rented from the Peconic Paddler, Rt 25, Riverhead (631-369-9500) Rowboats can be rented from the Fisherman's Deli, Rt. 25, Riverhead (631-727-4291). Both places are right on the river.

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## HOLIDAY SHOPPING LIST

As some of you may know, I write a fishing column for a local newspaper here in North Carolina. I have been doing this for roughly five years and I must confess, at times, it can be a demanding task. The biggest obstacle is deciding what to write about. As I like to say, "How many ways can you dunk a worm?" And no matter what I write about, you can be sure it has been written before, either by me or someone else. Usually when the holidays roll around, I write a column that is partially a list of items that can make an angler happy. Rather than listing rods or reels, I concentrate on all the "incidentals" an angler may need or want, such as fly boxes, wading staffs, tackle packs, tools and such. I also mention the basic items that one may need to tie flies, such as vises, whip finishers, bobbin holders, etc. In addition I may list books, videos and outdoor/angler art. I have also suggested water-resistant watches and cameras. From what I was told, many people use this particular column as a shopping guide and look forward to it every year. The list is generally published a month in advance, to give ample time for shopping.

If you are wondering why I do not mention the "heavies" like rods, reels, or waders, it is because, aside from being costly, they involve sizes and measurements, and most fishers like to buy their own.

This year I thought of making a variation on a theme. Rather than simply listing the items, I went to the store, checked out what was available and selected the merchandise along with the selling prices. While I was at the fly shop, the owner's wife Diane, told me that this year she has initiated a Customer's Christmas Wish Book. Somewhat intrigued, I admitted I didn't know what she was talking about, and she promptly informed me. Basically, it is a notebook where a customer writes down his name, and the gifts he/she hopes to get for the holidays. As an example, next to the name the person may write: Redington 8 1/2' rod for 4 wt. line, Simms breathable waders - medium, etc., etc. Two conspicuous signs in the shop invites the customers to fill in and check the wish book, as an aid to shopping. Naturally, I have mentioned this novel idea in my column, and I am curious to see how it will work out.

## Christmas Party at the meeting



OK, you guys! It is that time of the year when the club has that Holiday Exchange Gift ritual. You know the drill: You bring to the meeting a properly wrapped present, preferably one that has to do with fishing, and at the given signal you can pick a different one as an exchange. Keep the gifts within ten bucks, unless you feel extravagant and want to shell out more.

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# FISH & OTHER TREASURES FROM THE SEA

by Gian Padovani



One of the fascinating aspects of visiting the seashore, is that relaxing indulgence called beach combing. Almost everyone seems to love walking along the edge of the sea, searching for unusual seashells, invertebrate exoskeletons and castaway treasures.

Nowdays it is not uncommon to see people combing the sand with electronic metal detectors and recovering lost coins and other metallic things.

The last time I went to the beach, I drove there with my son-in-law John Gerbitz, who is as fanatic about fishing as I am, and owns a 4WD sport utility vehicle. Once the tires have been deflated to a lower air pressure, these vehicles are great for riding on the soft sand and ideal for riding back and forth along the beach in search of fish's feeding clues.

We stopped at an area where another vehicle was parked, and a man was casting a lure into the sea. He had his two kids along, a boy and a girl possibly eight or ten years old. When I inquired if he had met with any luck, he answered that he had caught two small bluefish earlier in the morning, but as a compensation his daughter had found a twenty dollar bill, and a watch, while beach combing the area. After chatting for a while the man wished me luck and drove away, leaving John and me alone. As we began to assemble the tackle, we realized we had left some of the tackle at home and John offered to drive the short distance back to the local bait and tackle shop to get it.

Now alone, I stripped down into my bathing trunks and after a quick plunge into the water, I began to walk along the shoreline. The thought of that little girl finding money and a watch, prompted me to look at the seaweed that was being washed ashore by the waves, together with empty seashells and man-made refuse such as the ubiquitous plastic containers and soda bottles. Absorbed in thought and criticism toward those who pollute our environment, I reached an area where the surf collided with a rocky jetty. This prompted the water to swirl around and cast the floatsom onto the beach.

I approached a clump of seaweed and upon examining it I realized it was held together by lengths of lost or discarded monofilament lines. In fact, I actually uncovered a few pieces of tackle, such as hooks, lures and connectors which were still in usable condition.

Now intrigued by these finds, I continued to beach comb the area, my eyes glued to the ground. The thought of that little girl finding money and a watch was still in the back of my mind, and wished I had such a luck when the glimpse of something shiny hit my vision.

If this sounds incredible to you, it will be the same of what I felt: There, at the edge of the sea and cuddled by seaweed was a perfectly working, waterproof watch! I just couldn't believe it. Had the watch been lost by someone who had been skin diving? Fishing? Surfing? When John returned he asked me what had I been doing during his absence. As I showed him the watch I told him that if he had waited a little longer, I may have found a twenty dollar bill as well!

We began to fish with our medium sized surf spinning rods, and John opted to fish with bait. He had brought along a selection of baits which are normally and successfully used for Striped Bass and Bluefish. One of these were big surf clams out of the shells, a favorite bait for big bass. Naturally, the same clams attracts other denizens as well (weakfish, rays, croakers, porgies, etc.) and unless the crabs or smaller fish pick it to bits, it is a fairly durable bait.

It was a beautiful day and after repeated casting with a metal lure, I decided to just sit down and watch John fish. His procedure was to bait the hook with the clam, cast it as far out as possible, secure the rod into the sand spike and wait for a strike. It was getting hot, and soon I was back in the water letting the refreshing waves splash all over me. It was at this moment that John decided to walk back to the vehicle to get something to drink from the cooler.

The few minutes that took to go to the truck were enough for a band of marauding sea gulls to attack the plastic bag and gobble down every bit of clam.



## A Day Away From The "Real" World

by Lee Weil

October 15th was a good day to get out and enjoy the Indian summer weather, and what better way than to wet a line on a beautiful trout stream? Being able to go fishing on a regular basis is a privilege that most of us take for granted. We are physically and mentally able to participate whenever we want, barring work and family obligations.

Unfortunately, there are those who are unable to do so many of the things we consider run-of-the mill activities. Physical and mental challenges make a day on the stream a rare opportunity. On October 15th, eight members of the Long Island Flyrodders, graciously volunteered their time and helped to provide that opportunity for a group of special people. Stu Minsky, our Fishing For The Handicapped Program Coordinator, arranged for a visit from the folks from AHRC, also known as "Drew's Gang". For a few hours, we shared our rods and leisure time, giving back just a little of the pleasure we derive from fly fishing. What I found even more wonderful was the fact that for that short time, we were spared the presence of conversation concerning the sadness and tragedy of the events of September 11th. Instead, we talked about Halloween costumes, orange and black nail polish and the amazing colors of the male brookies in their fall ensembles. I believe it was a much appreciated respite for all of us.

On behalf of Drew and the folks from the AHRC, I would like to thank the following members who unselfishly offered their assistance, once again making for a successful outing, and also thank the participants themselves for reminding us of the beauty around us, seen through the eyes of those who really "see" the wonder of it all.

Paul Granger, Gordon Grimes, Stu Minsky,  
Jerry LeBoyer, Wolfgang Porté, Bob (The Bear) Stapf,  
Eileen Stapf (Photographer), and Lee Weil.



TO OUR FRIENDS AT THE LONG ISLAND FLYRODDERS ORG.!!!!

THE GANG WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO FOR US!!! WE ALWAYS HAVE SUCH A GREAT DAY AND THE WEATHER WAS ABSOLUTELY BEAUTIFUL!!! WE WISH YOU ALL A HAPPY AND HEALTHY YEAR!! LOVE YOUR FRIENDS AT AHRC,



*Itelen*  
*Drew & Karen*  
*55555*  
*Sig/Elizabeth*  
*Mammun Weddabun*  
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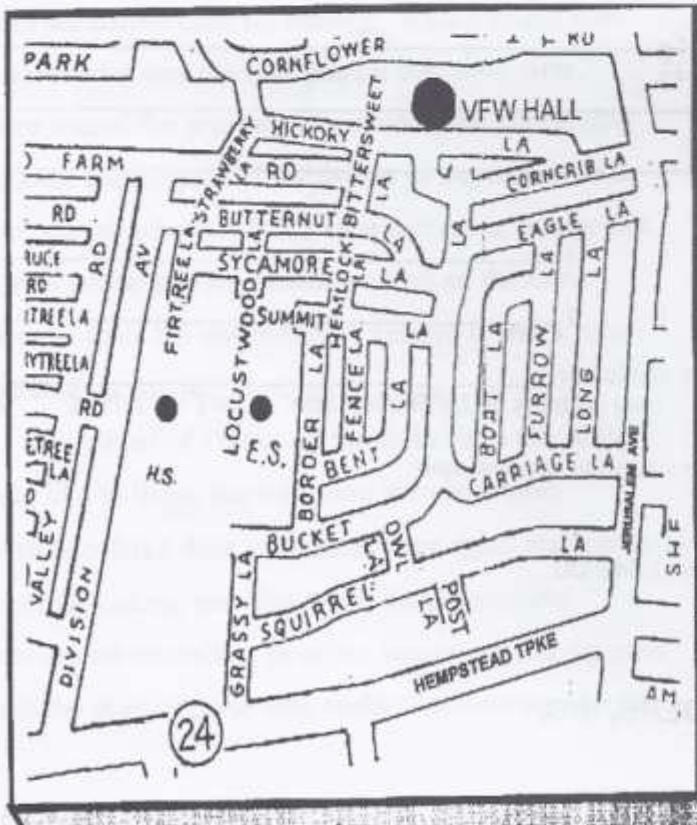


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# FLYRODDER



## LIFR COMING EVENTS - DECEMBER

December 4: General Meeting -  
Holiday Party with Gift Exchange  
See Details in Newsletter

December 20: Board Meeting