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,
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MEETING DATE: Wednesday, Feb. 8, 1995

president Sline

Well, it was bound to happen and I am sure you almost expected it. Our annual 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, .And, of course, 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 got to 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 a mandatory insurance agreement. The new fees are as follow: REGULAR \$25.00, FAMILY \$35.00, JUNIOR \$10.00 If you have any questions, please contact any Officers

> Tight Lines, Paul Mc Cain

or Board Members.

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Decisions, decisions!

by Gian Padovani



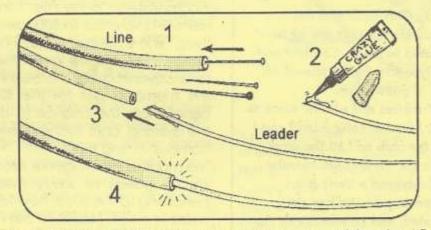




The essential items to fish are the rod, the line and a fly. It is as simple as that. Whenever I am in a stream, I am faced by a dilemma which is posed to me by the fly box. It is like a jewelry case, filled with gems, alluring and at the same time confusing. Which one shall I wear, which one shall I try? "Now this is a good one" I pick a colorful concotion of feathers and fur and tie it on to the leader. I begin to fish but quickly I begin to feel uneasy about the choice. It looked good among the others in the box but somehow now it feels as it was the wrong choice. Questions go through my mind: "Why do they have so many patterns?" "It is an attractive fly...but will a fish feel the same way?" "Why do I stock so many flies in the box anyway?" Since there is no take. I retrieve it back to me, snip it off the tippet and affix it on the lamb's wool patch on my vest. I open the box and scrutinize its contents once more, "Now this is a good one!" Sometime later, the fly joins the other on the wool patch, and by mid afternoon several more are affixed on the same place. The fish appeared not to have interest in any of the flies, but as I open the box I see one, not as colorful asthe others and as I tie it on I say, "Now, this is a good one!"

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Pescare, an Italian fishing magazine, contains many articles about fly fishing and occasionally it has valuable tips both on fly tying or angling. The above illustration shows a system to bond a butt section to a fly line for a knotless solution. Basically it means making a hole on the line, by using pins (or nails) of different diameters. Once the hole is of approximately the size of the butt section of the leader, a fast acting glue is applied to the leader, and the two pieces are cemented together.

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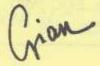


Editorially

If you can believe it, it has already been a year since I have relocated in North Carolina and the Flyrodder hasn't missed an issue of publication.

Nevertheless it is not the same as when I was in Long Island and I miss the club and all the guys that make LIFR great. Months ago I received a letter from Damon Lupu, who has also relocated, and he mentioned the same feelings I have. If you want to get in touch with him, his address is 2715 E. Rockledge Rd., Phoenix, Arizona 85048. The telephone number is (602) 759-6565

In his letter Damon also said that he would send an article about a huge trout he would catch on a 2 wgt. fly line. Damon, I need articles from the membership and I realize that you are in a state where the temperature courts the 100 degrees mark; it doesn't matter if you catch a 4" desert pupfish; just write the story and mail it to me - pronto! The picture on the cover was taken by my brother as we were fishing a remote pond in the Pisgah National Forest, NC. Unfortunately, with the scanner at my disposition, this is the best I can reproduce it. Sorry, Gil!



WANNA JOIN LI.F.R?

Why do you need to join L.I.F.R.? To be contrary, you do not NEED to join anything. After all, if you own fishing tackle and have a valid license, nothing could prevent you from driving to any body of water and catch a couple of fish. Well, to be blunt, a few things COULD; minor details like knowing how, when or where to cast, and what fly, balt or lure to use. Years ago a few fly fishing people decided to "hang out" together and share all their angling knowledge. Others began to join in and shortly after the group got organized as a bonafide club and duly incorporated. Today the "Long Island Fly Rodders, Inc." has a membership close to 500 members who obviously knew a good thing when they saw one. Interestingly, quite a few are from other states, but still join in for the fishing trips, where they can take advantage of the club's discount buying power. What do the members get for the \$25.00 yearly dues? The obvious benefits are the chance to attend the meetings, a newsletter, the casting and fly tying seminars, and L.I.F.R.'s annual and

"famous" fishing trips.

The monthly meetings are informal and usually feature nationally known quests or savvy members who give a presentation pertaining to the sport; how to cast, how to tie a fly, how to build a rod or a net, places to visit and fish, etc., etc. While attending the parley a member may borrow (free, of course) either books or videos from a library that is doubtlessly more stocked and current, than even the best commercial enterprises. There is always the occasion for a free door prize or for purchasing tickets to valuable raffle items. During the break, while enjoying free refreshments, members mingle together doing what they like to do best: Spin a yarn about the big one that got away or similar tales pertaining to the sport. The planned club fishing trips are also discussed and each year Long Island Fly Rodders have casted a line in the rivers of Montana, Quebec, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, and Utah. Of course, there are also the MONTHLY club trips to the local, well stocked, Connetquot River and in the warmer months, groups of L.I.Flyrodders will cast flies to the gamefish that swarm the briny waters surrounding Long Island. At least once a year a meeting is devoted to a "Used Tackle Sale" where members can buy or sell equipment at bargain prices. Incidentally, L.I.Flyrodders receive a discount from several advertisers of "The Flyrodder", the club's publication, L.I.F.R. is widely recognized as THE FISHING CLUB, but periodically the members get involved in other worthwhile causes, such as stream rehabilitation, helping the handicapped, or joining other groups in conservation and humanitarian endeavors.

If you still feel that twentyfive bucks a year is too much, remember that lifetime friendships have resulted from being part of L.I.F.R. And that's more than any sum of money can buy!

the spirit of pittsford mills

Text and art by Jack Hingher

It was many years ago that I was first introduced to a dry fly with the strange name of "The Spirit of Pittsford Mills." I read about this fly in an old Orvis newsletter which was mailed to my home. Since it was so long ago, i do not remember too much about the origin of this fly except that it was named after the town of Pittsford Mills. Vermont. Orvis was the only fishing store I know of that sold this fly. After visiting the Orvis retail store last week, it seems the fly has become history as it is no longer available.

Although the fly is no longer sold, I found it to be an interesting and productive dry fly. After reading the above mentioned article, I decided to tie up a batch of these flies to see how effective they

might be.

One evening while fishing the Battenkill River in Arlington, Vermont; I decided to try the "Spirit of Pittsford Mills" as I wasn't having much luck with the standard patterns. After 8 to 10 unsuccessful casts, I hooked up with a nice 12 inch native brown trout. I caught two more fish in the 10 -12 inch range that evening using this same pattern.

Like Paul Jorgensen once said of the "Adams Fly," also holds true of this fly. "It represents every fly there is, but doesn't represent anything at all". In his recent video "Lee Wulff On The Battenkill," Lee Wulff states "We can fish for a trout's curiosity or we can fish for their experience." When using the "Spirit of Pittsford Mills," I feel we are appealing to the trout's curiosity, as this fly does not represent any fly at all. For this

reason, I like to use the "Spirit of Pittsford Mills" when there is no hatch taking place or when the trout are refusing my imitations of a hatch.

I now always carry a selection of these flies (sizes 12-18) in my fly box for when the occasion might arise. For anyone who might like to try tying up some of these flies, the formula I use is as follows: Material

HOOK: DAI-RIKI 300 or standard dry fly hook

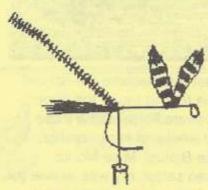
THREAD: 6/8 OR 8/0 Light Brown TAIL: Ginger Hackle Fibers (Stiff) RIBBING: Trimmed Ginger Hackle Stem (same as previously mentioned for Breadcrust Nymph) BODY: Fluff from stem of dyed Mallard Flank feather (imitation Wood Duck)

HACKLE: Ginger

WING: Barred Ginger Hackle tips

1. Tie in hackle tip wings in the
same manner that you would an
Adams fly. Wind thread to rear of
hook and tie in tail on top of hook

shank. Use stiff hackle fibers to give the fly good support. Tie in the trimmed hackle stem ribbing at the bend of hook.



2. Pluck the fluff from the stem of an imitation wood duck flank feather. Spin dub this fluffy material onto your waxed thread. Wind dubbing forward forming a nicely tapered body. Stop your dubbing slightly behind the hackle tip wings. Wind ribbing forward over dubbing (approximately 5 turns) and tie off. Trim excess. The ribbing

Continues on page 8

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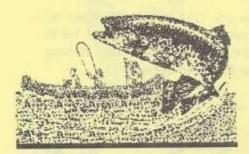
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A DELAWARE WEEKEND

by George Simon



What has become the annual June fishing trip to the upper Delaware River was a three day weekend to remember. Mike Biolosi, Mike Moritz, Bryan sartor, my wife Arlene (of the Montana trip fame,) and myself left early on Friday morning, my red canoe on top of the car, to get a full day of fishing. We arrived in Hancock, New York, at nine o' clock. Mike Biolosi was eager to get started fishing so I showed him three excellent spots to try. The rest of us proceeded to the Inn at Starlight Lake where we alerted the inn keeper that the members would soon be arriving.

With the preliminaries taken care of we headed back the three miles to Hancock. There is a new small fly shop located in an old gas station at the bridge that crosses the West Branch of the Delaware. We met four men who reported they had caught 117 trout the day before on Rusty Spinners and Blue Winged Olives in size sixteen. Purchases were soon made by us to cover those possibilities...we unloaded the canoe, the six men raft for the boys, and all the fishing gear for the four of us. Arlene and Bryan were left behind to

organize, while Mike and I dropped off the van at a public launching site on the Pennsylvania side, seven miles below for a shuttle when we were done.

The river was low when we began our journey, but the level was soon rising due to the opening of the Cannonsville Dam. This is done every year at this time; it does make the fishing harder so this year we are going up a week earlier. The surface feeding dropped dramatically but the "bows" still jumped throughout the trip. Bryan, on his first float trip, connected with a real beauty but lost it when the tippet broke. The same happened to Michel Gelber down on the islands. That trout was a good two feet long, as witnessed by Mike Bilosi and myself. The fish took three beautiful leaps straight across the pool like a Salmon

and earned a classic long line release. Wild fish do not act like their domesticated cousins when hooked.

There is something to be noted here as to the special bonding that takes place between family and friends, old and new. In today's fast paced life there are few things that we can partake to develop close relationships. Fishing trips such as this one is one of the best ways to accomplish this. There are many very good pools and runs along this stretch of the river. Enough of them so that they had an episode on ESPN with them taking a guided float trip. We have been doing it for several years...what took them so long?

Bill Guilditus and myself went fishing together at the Junction pool of the East and West Branch Saturday morning.

To next page

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PAGE 6

With the rise in the river from the dam release, the fishing was tougher than we thought. The wild fish were jumping along the seam created by the two rivers but not as readily as the day before. After an hour we decided to head back for breakfast with our wives. I might add that to the side of this pool I caught two nice rainbows along the shore. On the way out we encountered a young lad on his early teens, carrying an eighteen inch trout caught on two kernels of corn. I surmised that the total cost of his equipment was forty dollars, list! Bill and my equipment, along with flies and whatnots was in excess of \$2,000,00! We did something wrong and I wanted to ask the youngster what price he wanted for that fish, so that we could look respectable back at the Inn. Norman Rockwell did it in one of his paintings and the whole situation brought smiles to our faces.

Pat Hylan had success with several rainbows on the West Branch, I noticed a special little current that was caused by some rocks funnelling the water from both sides of the river to the center. With a suggestion that he start fishing at the top of the near flow and that I would cross and work the far side we converged at the junction. The strategy worked like a charm. The first brown hit right at the bottom of the convergence. This surprised my son as there was no sign of a feeding fish before the take. I advised him to move the fish out of the immediate area as there might be more willing fish at the spot. He landed his first wild brown with little trouble. I got the next one on a size 14 Light Cahill. He was able to pluck a third right after mine on the same fly. It happened rather fast but the

memory will last a lifetime.
Tony Manatrizio was able to land six beauties right under the Hancock bridge on Sunday morning. He had much success here; enough so that we at the club will refer to it as Tony's pool! Dinner Saturday night included 19 members and guests. The food was delicious with merriment in the air. Drinks were given to us from the hosts and we toasted to

our good times. By the way, the Inn was featured on TV's Travel Channel four times last year. Quite a recommendation, I think. There is tennis, canoeing, fishing and swimming in the lake in front of the Inn.

We are going again this year and early sign ups are necessary because last year was a full boat. A slide presentation will be shown at a future meeting.

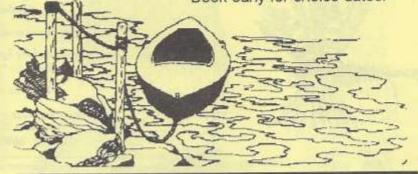
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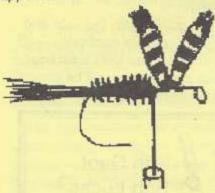
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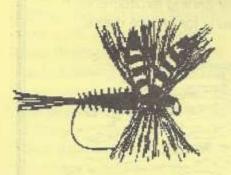
member of Niagara County Charter Fishing Association, Niagara River Angler Association

The spirit of Pittsford Mills from page 5

should give the fly a porcupine appearance.



3. Tie in one or two (depending on quality) ginger hackles and wind forward. Tie down and trim excess. Form a nice head and whip finish.



NOTE: I have experimented by substituting the ginger tail, ribbing, body and hackle with blue dun or olive. This has produced some interesing looking flies which I feel have a lot of potential.

As an angler or fly tyer, do you have a favorite fly? Why don't you write a few lines about it, sharing with the other members the reasons why you like it? A lot of new people have joined LIFR with the hope of learning more about our sport. YOU can make the difference.



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FLY FISHING; A DANGEROUS SPORT.

by Gian Padovani

Most people view fly fishing as a delicate sport, where a light wand is used in place of a heavy rod in a surroundings that is gentle, rather than rough. They do not know that wading a stream all day long is more strenuous than parking a butt on a boat seat and that whipping that light wand for each cast is more demanding than casting a spin rod or plopping a bait overboard. The only sport that comes close to fly fishing is surf casting with lures, albeit without the constant wading.

If someone tells you fly fishing id for "sissies" tell them to just wade upstream, without any tackle, on a stretch where the water goes over their knees. See how far they will go before puffing and sweating, or giving up.

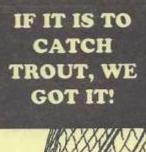
The same people who scorn fly fishing as a gentle pastime would laugh if you told them that it can be a potentially dangerous sport. If you wade a stream you know that danger lurks every foot of the way; Slippery as oil stones could cause a sudden fall, with disastrous results to bones. On certain stretches the current can be so powerful that nothing could stand on its way. Or an unseen depression, a hole, can suddenly let icy water flood in over the chest-high waders. A situation that could be critical, if not fatal.

A wind can hamper proper casting but, worst still, it can re -direct a fly toward the fisherman and impale itself somewhere in his anatomy. It is not difficult to imagine what would happen if that fsharp steel hit an eye. Graphite fly rods are great and a definite improvement over the heavy cane or fiberglass rods; they are also much superior if you want to attract lightning and wish to arc in a middle of a stream. There is an area on the Beaverkill that supposedly is a great spot to fish...if you don't mind threading through a tract of land that is a rattlesnake's heaven. Of course, this is not a everyday's place but there are other areas that may have territorial rotwilers, overly passionate bulls or



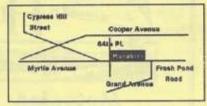
even a hot tempered landowner who shoots first and asks questions after. A final comment is to what dangerous lengths a fly fisherman will go for "just one cast." Ravines, mountain trails and gorges have been threaded by flyrodders without too much worry about a broken leg, or how they would get help in case of an accident.

I hope what I have written isn't too depressing and doesn't curtail anyone from continuing to fly fish. There are many perils but I doubt if there is the danger of anyone giving up the sport they love.











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WIVES and f;ly fishing

by Gian Padovani

If you have attended our annual dinners (and you should: it's a lot of fun) you would have had the opportunity to meet most of the members' wives or their enamoradas. Although they stem from different background all of these ladies share one thing in common: None of them fly fish or have any interest in it. They also seem to have a condescending attitude toward their men, "Look, you know, it is good for Joe and it keeps him away from bars and out of trouble."

Periodically, some national fishing magazine will publish articles where they mention that today, more than ever "Women are taking up fly fishing." They also feature photographs of lovely nymphets brandishing a rod! Ask yourself, "When was the last time you saw a women on a stream? Forget about it! Take a look at our membership rostrum; though hovering over the 400 mark, I doubt you'll see enough female names to count on one hand with several amputated fingers! A few of them will help out at some functions, like selling chance tickets or helping with an exhibit, but you will never see those same ladies in a stream, whipping a fly rod. I ask myself why this is so, and immediately eliminate the physical thing. Fly fishing tackle is very light, every stream has stretches that are easily waded, and for the figure conscious anglerette, neoprene waders can be as tight fitting and glamorous as

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Wives and Fly Fishing from previous page

leotards.

A few weeks ago I met an angler in the river and we started chatting about hatches. He introduced himself as Jeff, and I figured him in his middle thirties. He had just returned from Montana where he had driven to together with his wife. After a few minutes we parted and as I went around a bend a attractive woman saw an walking along the road. She was dress very outdoorsy, with jeans and a checkered black and red shirt. I stepped out of the stream and after the usual casual remarks, I asked what she was doing in such a seemingly remote area. She answered that she was with her husband but he was fishing somewhere upstream. It so happens that she was married to Jeff and when I told her I had just met him, she forwarded that she usually fished herself, except today she couldn't shake a headache! I know what goes through your mind; and I wonder if fly fishing has something to do with sex. I am not Freud and I can only think with a laymen brain, but I seem to recall reading about women and this thing they have about snakes, mice...and fish.

Through the years I have met a few (very few) couples that share a passion for fly fishing and I wondered if they had a great life together. In my case, before we got marry, my wife and I went out fishing a few times but I knew she wasn't really interested in the sport because after only a couple of hours, she would ask at what time we would go back home. I have seen other newly married

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must we
touch
those
slimy
things?

couples, where the wife relaxes somewhere by the stream reading a book, while her hubby fishes. Or maybe she just wanted to keep an eye out for him.

Many females do not like to fish with bait (Gosh, how do YOU put that slimy thing on the hook?) and I figured that fly fishing with all the PRETTY artificial flies would be appealing to them. I am half right; some do get involved with fly tying and supposedly are good at it.



'95 CONNETQUOT OUTINGS

The tentative schedule for the 1995 Connetquot outings are: Feb. 20, March 20, April 17, May 15, June 19, July 17, Aug. 14, Sept. 18, and Oct. 16. Be advised that there will be new hours for morning and afternoon sessions. These new hours are 8 a.m. - 12.noon, and 1 P.M. - 5 P.M. For more information see Ron La Chase at the general meeting.

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