

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, off Rt. 107, north of Old Country Road. For more information call (516) 681-1418

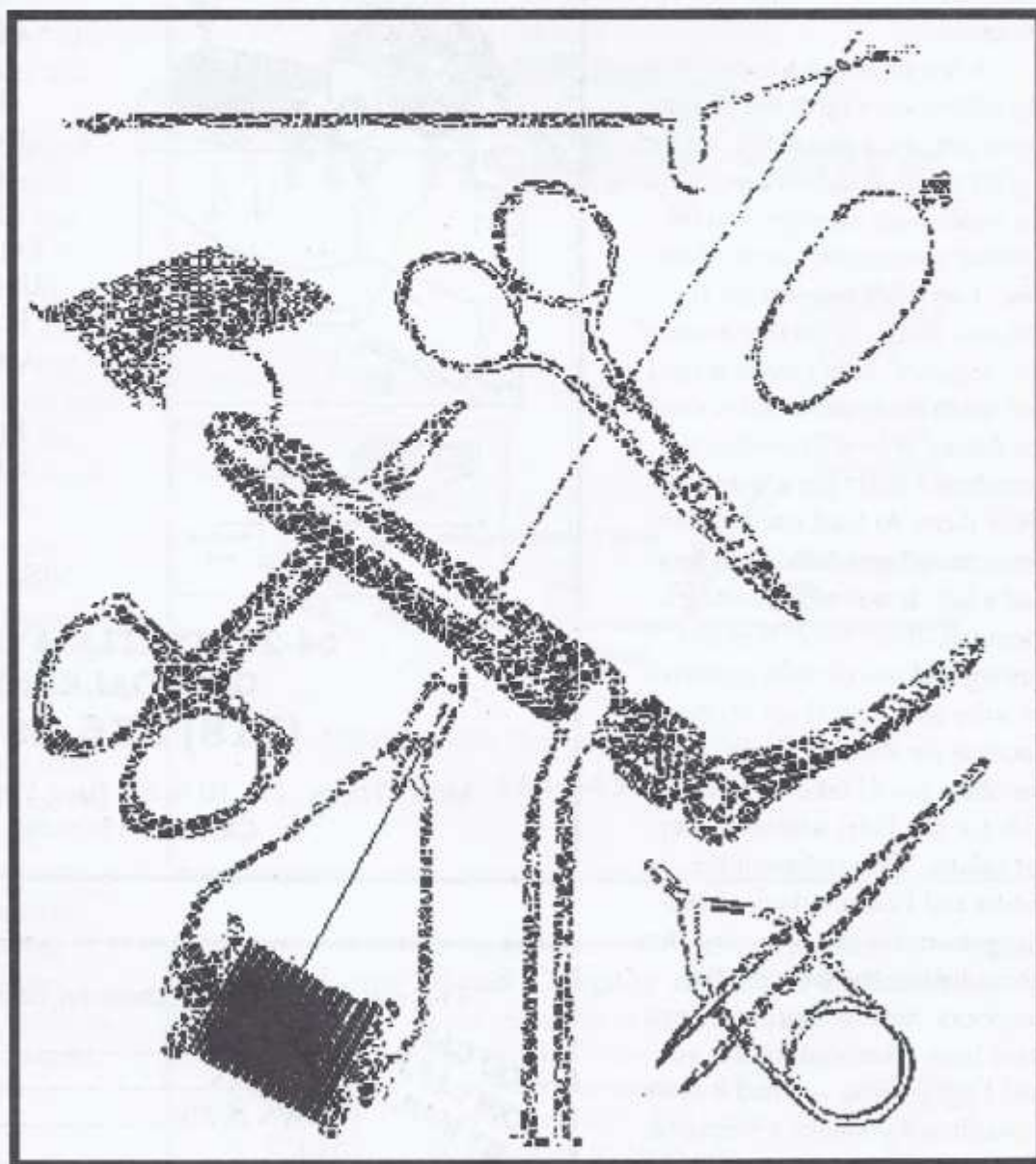
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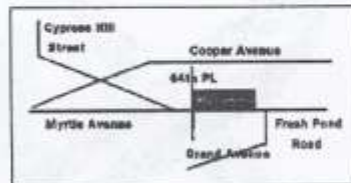
president's line

Is this the President's message? Well, yes and no. Since it is the Memorial's Day Weekend and as yet I haven't received Al Manz message, I felt compelled to write the column. After all, I WAS THE PRESIDENT on a couple of occasions.

A few days ago a bunch of us Flyrodders were up at the Hungry Trout and, as in past years, we had a great time. Everyone caught fish, the meals were excellent and the weather cooperated...most of the time. I certainly enjoyed the trip and was disappointed that some of the "regulars" didn't make it up. I had taken along some slides about the fishing in North Carolina but somehow I didn't get a chance to show them. At least one member brought up his two kids and they had a ball. It was nice listening to them talk about trout, flies and casting and one of them promised to write an article about his experiences at the Ausable. I wish more members would take along their kids (or any kids) whenever they go fishing. They represent the future and I cannot think of anything healthier and appealing than going fishing and enjoying the outdoors. Several more club trips have been scheduled for this year and I believe you will find it more rewarding if you take a youngster along. Tight lines;

Gian

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VESTS

by Gian Padovani

One of Spring's rituals, if you are a fisherman, is getting the gear ready for the season. This actually means looking at all the tackle and paraphernalia that was stashed away just a few months before, and checking if anything should be replaced or added.

Through the years I have collected enough rods and reels to open a small fly shop, but on my last check I discovered that I also have several pairs of waders and vests.

This last item is the topic of this article and you may benefit from it. As we all know the late Lee Wulff originated the first fly fishing vest so that he could store whatever wouldn't fit in the shirt's pockets. It was a great idea and since that time, manufacturers have been busy designing models for different situations. Today you can purchase vests made out of cool mesh material, "shorty" models for deep wading, inflatable vests, quilted affairs for the cold weather and in several colors to appeal to the different tastes of men and women. For those who do not wish to use a vest, there are multi-pocketed fishing shirts, hinged and stacked fly boxes, and tackle packs. These last items are really a take off of a shorty vest, except that the pockets are somewhat larger. When purchasing a vest several factors must be considered, including the cost. As you would suspect they range from about twenty to one hundred smackers, the price dictated by the material,

Continues on page 4

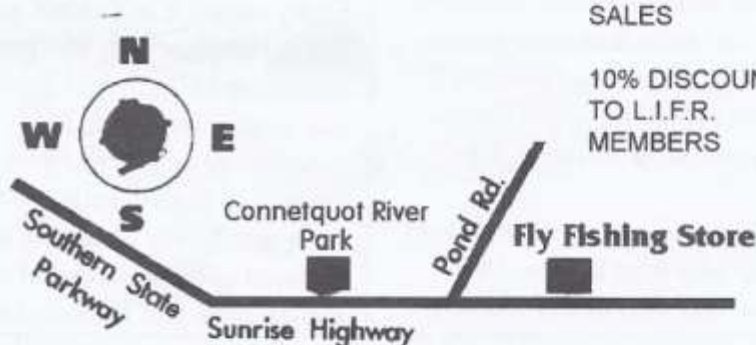
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Editorially

Times flies and it is difficult to believe that we have reached the mid-point of the year. This leaves roughly four more months of fishing, with the next two months in the peak of summer. Some of you will try fly fishing in salt water and I would appreciate a few articles about your experiences in that facet of the sport. Fly fishing is not an exclusive quest for trout and I am sure some of you will have had experiences pertaining to bass and panfish. If you could share the experiences, they would make it a nice July issue.

Jerry Berkson sent in a note about a friend who lives in Woodside, Queens, and who would like to go fishing as often as possible. He is physically handicapped and lacks transportation; if you could help contact Jerry at 516-328-8010 It was nice seeing some of the members again at the Hungry Trout and, as usual, we had a great time. I gave a mini-slide presentation of the fishing areas that are close to my home and wish all of you could have seen it. I am sure Allan Manz will talk to you about it. Have a great summer;

Crian

VESTS from page 3

the construction and the country of origin.

A main feature of many vests is the quantity of pockets that have been designed into the garment. The less expensive models have fewer pockets but this is not always a drawback. Too many pockets often create a dilemma on where such and such a thing was stored. One of my prestigious vests has so many pockets that searching for an item can become a guessing game; to make it practical I had to resort to a ball point pen and label pertinent reminders on the pockets. It also dawned on me that the kink on the back of my neck, after an afternoon of fishing, was caused by the weight of the "loaded" vest. I finally stored it in a closet and bought another one, less pretentious, considerably less expensive and gentler on my neck.

Before selecting a vest check the size of the pockets as much as the quantity. Fly boxes are manufactured in many sizes and chances are the ones you already have, will be either too small or too large for the pockets. This can be especially annoying if the boxes you own are expensive ones.

Most of today's vests use velcro on the pockets. Some people like it, but I personally prefer the "good ole" zippers, especially on those pockets where I store the items I would hate to lose.

An item that often comes with a vest is a lamb patch, supposedly to dry the flies that have



been just used. The problem is that the flies either get so entangled on the wool that they are a hassle to remove or vice versa and they drop off somewhere. For that purpose I use a 35 mm. film plastic container with a few small holes drilled around it, an idea I had many years ago. Two items that I strongly recommend, are a policeman's whistle and a safety pin. I keep a whistle in case I should need help in an emergency since its unmistakable sound can overpower even the sound of rushing water. The safety pin is great to clear the eye of a hook on a fly from head cement, to insure that a vest pocket stay closed (especially the one where I keep the car's keys) and after use, it can be pinned back on a shirt or on the inside of a vest, without fear of misplacing it. I also keep a length of string inside one of the pockets. The reason? I have used it as an emergency waders belt, as a stringer and for innumerable other things that needed to be tied.

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FISHERIES ADVISORY COUNCIL

by Perry Monitto

In an attempt to better serve the needs of the Long Island Fishing community, Edward Woltman of the NY State DEC has proposed the formation of the Long Island Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Council. On March 20 1995 I attended the initial organizational meeting as a representative of the L.I. Flyrodders. The meeting was well attended with representatives of the DEC, Suffolk Alliance of Sportsmen, LI Bassmasters, Outcast Bassmasters, East End Bassmasters, Freshwater Anglers of LI, Art Flick Chapter of TU, and the Idle Hour Fly Fishers. Additionally, future meetings should include DEC enforcement officials and local government representatives.

The council will meet four times a year to discuss and act on issues that effect all of us. As a delegate of the LI Flyrodders, it will be my responsibility to represent the views and concerns of our organization. This can be best accomplished by addressing any of your concerns during our monthly meetings. Through open discussion between our membership and board directors, an agenda can be agreed upon for presentation to the council.

We were provided with a brief update of important DEC issues. One of the most serious concerns regards how the statewide budget cuts will effect DEC programs and personnel. These cuts are hitting very close to home by placing the status of Nassau County biologist Greg Kozlowski in jeopardy. Greg has been with the department since

1991. He has been a tireless supporter of Long Island sportsmen, is responsible for many of the stocking and habitat improvement programs, and is the editor of the informative Sweet Water Angler. A forced layoff that effects Greg would be devastating to the entire Long Island conservation program. Ed Woltman has agreed to advise us if there is anything we can do to

support Greg and help maintain his current position.

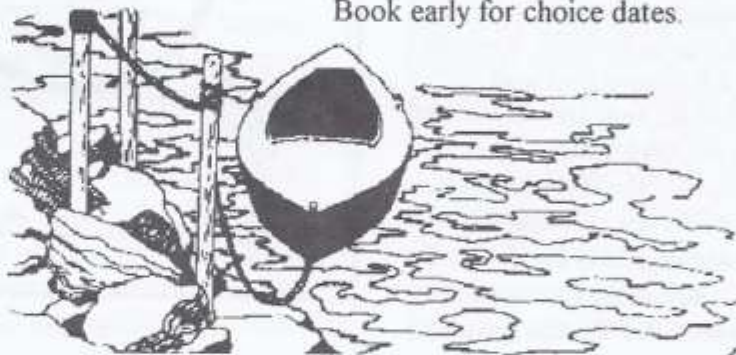
NOTE: If you are aware of a situation that should be considered by the DEC, please bring it to the attention of the LIFR board. Perry is a new member of LIFR. Participation in committees is the way to meet other flyfishers, and to enjoy and improve our sport. *Bob Skoy*

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DRIFT BOATING FOR STEELIES

by Stan Kornberg

This was my fourth trip to the Salmon River in slightly over a year. On my previous trips I limited my spots to the Fly Fishing section, School House Run, and Sportsman Pool. I had limited success in all prior outings. To possibly insure added success this time we (my father-in-law, Harold Liebling and I) decided to be guided downstream in a drift boat. All preparation were completed; our reels were rigged by Kenny of Campsite with 20 lb. backing, 100 ft. of running line tied by a nail knot to 10 ft. of 12 lb. leader and then harnessed to 3 ft. 3x tippet material by a No. 12 crane swivel.

Well the day of reckoning was here! Our guide, Bill Ferman knocked on the door of our room at the Portly Angler. It was exactly 5 in the morning. We had loaded our gear in the car the night before and followed Bill up to Pineville. It was still dark with a full moon overhead.

Bill launched the boat and we boarded with our rods, foul weather gear, and our morsels for the day, tuna sandwiches, 2 thermoses of coffee and a jug of water. Although it is customary for the guide to furnish the flies, my father-in-law insisted that for this excursion we take those he so arduously and carefully tied.

In a little less than fifteen minutes we were upon our first fishing hole, Ellis Cove. It was 5:45 and still dark. Our guide wanted to be the first at the hole. He told us that in recent days, Steelheads had sought out this area for spawning purposes. The water current was not fast. Bill said to try a Globug. He attached a slinky containing 2 small shots to a snap swivel. (The snap swivel freely was able to move up and down the 10 ft. leader more or less resembling a fish finding rig.) With a yellow Globug I casted about 25 feet across the current slightly up stream. My father-in-law decided it was wiser for him

to cast from the boat. After several casts, Bill advised me to wade further down stream and out further toward the middle of the river. This did not appear treacherous as the water was only fourteen inches deep and not swift running. I casted a black stone fly on a size 10 hook to the far bank which appeared to

be slower moving than the running current. Bill said, "It was a good holding area for the fish." Just as I proceeded with my third cast, a fish was seen thrashing in the water slightly up stream to where I directed the cast. Within seconds, I felt the fish hitting my line; I set the hook. My 9 ft. rod bent into a curve shape. I kept the line taut and within seconds, the

DRIFT TO PAGE 8

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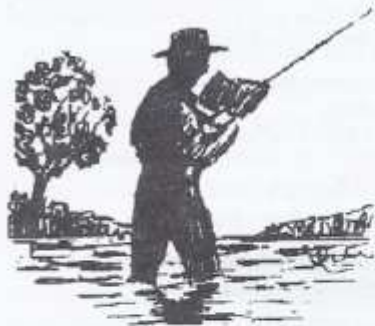

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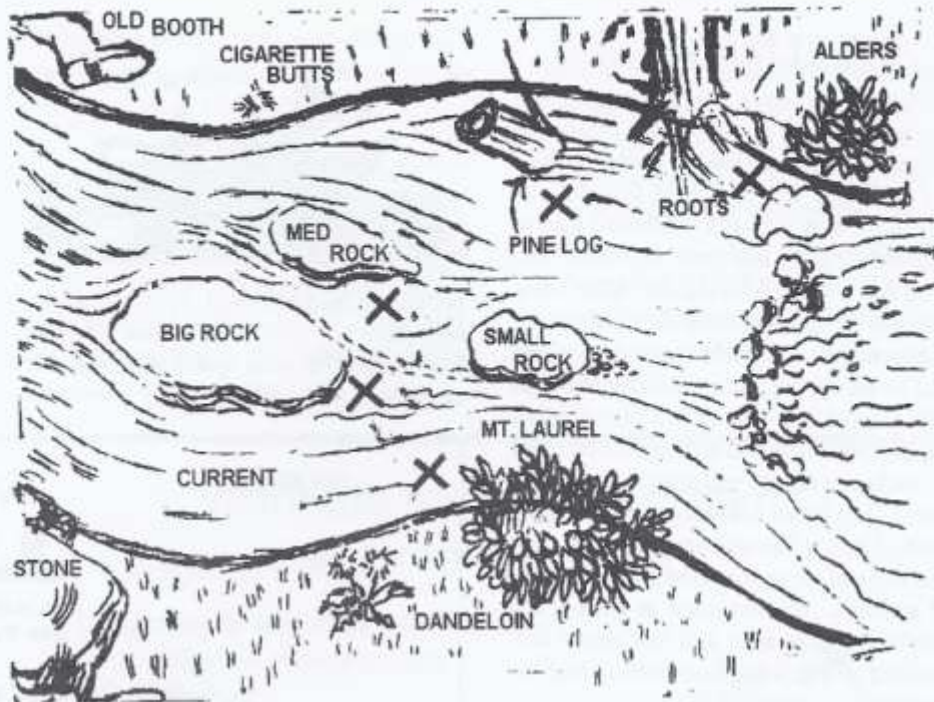
MAPS

by Gian Padovani

Once on the Beaverkill I saw an angler who behaved sort of peculiarly. He was fully rigged and dressed for the task, but there was something strange about the way he was wading about, not too far from the shoreline. He was keeping the rod tightly under the armpit of his right arm and gripping something in his hands. For all appearances it appeared as if he was reading a book. At the beginning I thought he was



some type of religious fanatic, praying in the middle of *the* natural temple, but since periodically he would lift his eyes and look around him as if searching for something, I couldn't control my curiosity and slowly edged toward him. Indeed, he *was* reading a book and as I got close to him I couldn't help saying, "Must be a hell of a book, to interfere with fishing!" The man acknowledged my presence, showed me the open page of the book he was holding and sort of irritated, answered, "Them guys that write these books should be shot...I have been looking



for a spot like this all morning and I'll be damned if I can find it!"

If you look through the multitude of fishing books you will see that several of them incorporate theoretical maps and charts to illustrate the areas where the fish could be holding. Some will elaborate and even show where to stand for the first few casts, where to move next, and so forth. Basically they are mythical areas that point how to read a stream and stress the best approaches to areas that may contain trout.

I have actually come across some of these textbook-perfect spots but either because the surrounding branches prevented me from casting properly, or because these particular trout didn't agree with the authors of the books, I never experienced much luck on them. The reason is that even a text-

perfect feeding lane is not always as predictable as it appears. The clue to where a trout may be holding on a feeding lane lays with the bottom itself. Although the surface of the water follows a steady, even flow, the current underneath is hampered by the stones and debris that form the bottom. Trout take advantage of the floating food carried on a feeding lane BUT chances are you'll find them where they are feeling most secure. Generally this means in an area around a stone or a branch big enough to shelter them.

I tried to explain this to the fisherman, and he looked at me as if I had tried to disprove a passage from the Bible. Finally he asked me if I had encountered any luck and when I confessed to him that I hadn't, he glared and told me I should've minded my own business!

STEELIES, from page 6

steelie started a run. Fortunately, he did not head too far down stream where the current was faster. Slowly I started reeling the line and working him toward me. Again he started to run. I allowed him to take the drag. By this time, Bill came running down to me with the net. After a few minutes of "playing" the fish and allowing him to run a short distance, I could feel he was tiring. I then was able to direct him toward Bill who netted him without any problem. The fish appeared to be about 30 inches in length and around the ten lb. range. My father-in-law as yet had not hooked into a fish although he tried various sizes of stone flies and various colors of globugs. We remained at Ellis Cove maybe about an hour and half before Bill decided it was "too uneventful" and we moved on.

By this time, we were drifting down stream in the full light of the morning sun. I don't recall the sequence of all the pools nor their names as we journeyed down river. However, I do remember another eventful encounter with a steelie This was at "the Trestle Pool" I had gotten out of the boat after our guide anchored. Bill directed me to cast an orange globug straight across 35 to 40 feet from where I was. After about four or five casts I felt a tap, tap, tap, on the end of my line. Again I set the hook. The fish was on, and feeling the restraint of my line he began to run. After a short run, I slowly began gaining some line on him. Within a matter of seconds, he again started to run down river, but this time I lost him. When our guide examined my tippet, less the globug, he said the line was frayed at the end. Apparently the tippet had gotten rapped around the sharp gill plate (which steelhead possess) and the fish broke off.

We didn't spend much time in this pool because with the majority of casts, our lines were getting snagged on the rocky bottom. In another noteworthy encounter (in a pool whose name escapes me) both my father-in-law and I casted into a spawning bed where a female steelie was lying and two males were "dogging" one another repeatedly. I kept casting a stonefly to the female, maybe thirty to forty casts hoping she would take the fly, but no luck! My father-in-law though did upset one of males into taking his fly. The fish did run down stream quite a distance. Bill decided it was best to



paddle the boat after him, as my father-in-law reeled in slack line. A taut line was kept on the fish as he took it from one side of the boat to the other. Finally, somewhat

tired out, and close to the boat, the fish was netted.

All in all, in the seven and a half hours we drift boated down the Salmon River, we totaled 9 strikes and netted five fish between us and all on the meticulously tied flies by my father-in-law. We truly insured our success this time by drift boating for steelies. (For River Guides and Drift boating, there is a directory published by the Oswego County River Guides Association, P.O. Box 571, Pulasky, NY 13142

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by Henry Zugaro

My heart bleeds listening to poor Gian begging for articles every month. Well, if you gentlemen will let me, I would like to introduce poetry to the Flyrodders. It came to me the other day why I like fly fishing. I think it has to do with the surroundings in which we practice our art. We don't fish boat docks or lakes surrounded by houses. We fish for a cold water species in river situations, and because of this, our fish habitats are less developed and tend to be the last frontiers on earth, such as Alaska, Canada, New Zealand, Patagonia and so on. These places with their natural beauty have inspired artists and writers for centuries. Couple that with the art of fly casting and fly fishing, the beauty the fish we seek, such as trout, salmon and steelhead. We have a potent brew of inspiration for artists. I often wonder why there hasn't been more literature like *A River Runs Through It* hit the mainstream.

Anyway I have compiled many poems and writings concerning our art and I would like to share them with you, ladies and gentlemen, on our monthly basis. By the way, during the November's Steelhead trip I have decided that our hobby is an art and not a sport in every sense of the word. I am sure that anyone who has ever had a steelhead on a line will agree. Before I get off on another tangent, here are the poems I have selected for this month.

WHAT THE TROUT SAID
Innocence is a wild trout, but we

humans being complicated have to pursue innocence in complex ways. by
Datus C. Proper, 1992
UNTITLED

When a trout rising to a fly gets hooked on a line and find himself unable to swim about freely, he begins with a fight which results in struggles and splashes and sometime an escape. Often, of course, the situation is too tough for him.

In the same way the human begin struggles with his environment and with the hocks that catch him. Sometime he masters his difficulties; Sometime they are too much for him. His struggles are all that the world sees and it naturally misunderstand them. It is hard for a free fish to understand what is happening to a hooked one. by Karl A. Menninger

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Black Beauty

by Gian Padovani

No, this is not a story about a stallion. Years ago the Heddon Company listed a cane rod called Black Beauty, but this story is not about that rod either. At any rate, for whatever reasons this spring I bought a rod at Wal Mart. The price was only around twenty bucks, reel included, and the rod appeared to be well made out of a graphite composite blank. Marketed by South Bend, it displayed its model's name: Black Beauty. Unable to resist the impulse I bought it, with the idea of keeping it permanently in the truck as a "ready" spare. A few casts in front of my house proved that it handled a three weight line like a dream. I decided to stream test it on my first trip of the season and drove to the Oconoluftee, confident that it would pass the test. I began to fish with my usual "killer" flies but three hours later I was still fishless. Another angler approached me and politely asked if I minded if fished the upper stretch of this particular run. He was using a short boron spin casting outfit, rigged for bait fishing, the hook already covered with a kernel of corn. He introduced himself as Dick and he confided that although he was a fly fisherman, he occasionally enjoyed using bait especially when fishing in the Reservation. The light rod he was using was very sensitive, and according to him, "you could feel if a leaf brushed against it." He added that a few fish were already in his creel. He moved upstream and as I fished, I occasionally glanced in his direction to see how he was doing. Surely enough, a few minutes later I saw him land a decent sized fish. He netted two more before moving downstream, out of my sight. Sometime later, still fishless, I decided to call it a day and as I walked toward my truck I saw Dick again ready to leave as well. I approached him and we chatted for a while about the different streams we have fished, and he furnished information

about local areas that I would like to check out in the future. Just before we parted he asked if I wanted some fish and since I had promised Judy a trout dinner I accepted his offer. He insisted that I should take all he had caught, the 10 fish limit, already all cleaned up, and after exchanging telephone numbers we parted company. Once I reached home I split the fish with a neighbor, but

crushed, I realized my fly rod wasn't in the truck; I had left Black Beauty by the river! I drove back to the area with my neighbor, but as you would suspect, it proved to be a futile search. I had lost new rod forever, together with the reel, line, leader and the March Brown nymph! I don't know what the morale of this story is and if you have a comment, I don't want to hear it!



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CONNETQUOT RIVER CLUB FISHING TRIPS

In response to the very heavy demand for the limited spaces available for our Mondays Connetquot R.S.P. trips, the following guidelines are in effect: Members attending the meetings have First Priority, followed by mail-ins residing beyond Nassau, Suffolk, Queens, Brooklyn, Bronx. Finally all others as chronologically received. If you don't get on the list, your check will be returned.

Check the dates with Ron La Chase.

June 19, July 17, Aug. 14, Sept. 18, Oct. 16

Standard park rules apply, and a valid NYS fishing license is a must. The following LIFR rules are in effect:

Reservations for 32 anglers per session, 64 for both sessions. The price for each session is \$15.00 Checks payable to L.I.F.R., P.O. Box 8091, Hicksville, NY 11802 by the second Wednesday of each month

(Club date)

For the morning session be at the park by 7:10 a.m. Cancellations MUST be made by 7:00 p.m. the Sunday before the session. For more information call Ron La Chase at 1718-769-6376

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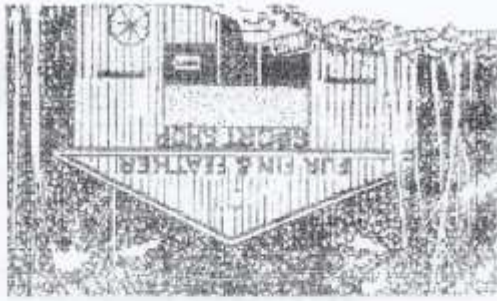
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