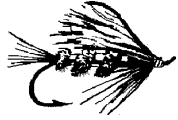


The FLYRODDER

PUBLISHED BY
LONG ISLAND
FLYRODDERS



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

This Month's Meeting March 2, 2004

Morty Schneiderman, Editor

90-60 Union Turnpike
Glendale, NY 11385
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Dennis Aron

Circulation Manager

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
President

Jim Foley
Vice President

Lee Weil
Secretary

Cliff Dies
Treasurer

Robert I. Skoy, Esq.
Counsel



Changing of the Guard

Past President Paul McCain, (r) congratulating newly-elected
President Mike Gelber, (c) and **Vice President Jim Foley (l).**
The 2004 list of Officers and Directors is on page 3.

GUEST SPEAKER:

Tom Brtalik

“Winter Fly Fishing in Pennsylvania”



God Bless America



President's message

Here we are in March with the trout season just around the corner. This past winter was a tough one with plenty of ice, snow and just plain bone chilling cold to go around. As we move into the spring with all its new changes, our club changes as well. We say goodbye to some old friends who are no longer with us and remember the good times we had together.

I would like to thank Paul McCain for his devoted leadership over the past two years. He left some pretty big shoes for me to fill, and he also established some great pro-

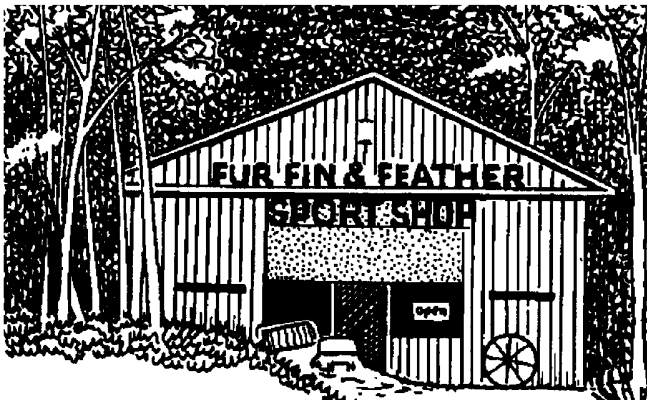
grams. Two that I would like to see continued are the welcoming committee and the fly tying evenings.

The LIFR is not just a fly fishing club, we are a respected organization that believes in giving back to the community, showing respect for the environment as well as other fishermen...even if they use a spinning rod. Over the years there have been many officers and board members who have helped grow this club to where it is today. I'd like to welcome Jim Foley as our new Vice President, new board members

Dennis Aron and Joe Otterstedt plus returning board member Herb Schneiderman.

We have a great speaker for our March meeting; Tom Brtalik will speak on winter fly fishing in Pennsylvania. We also have our junior fly tying class at Pancho's on Saturday March 6th and our last fly tying night at Pancho's on Tuesday March 9th. Come on down and try that new barbeque flavored fly floatant.

Good Fishin'
Mike



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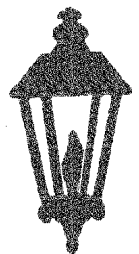
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For Your Nymphormation

by Lee Weil



The weather is beginning to tease us with whispered promises of warm sunshine and spring thaws, and it's time to do an inventory of what didn't get repaired, replenished or replaced at the end of last season. Everyone thinks of the usual routine checklist; i.e. cleaning fly lines, stocking up on flies, etc. But some of the most important details are often overlooked. For example, those spools of tippet that have been hoarded away in your vest may be older than you think; especially the less used sizes such as 7X and 8X. While 4X may age better, the smaller diameter mono can become brittle and weakened. A quick test can be done by pulling off about a yard of the material and try the breaking point of a section that was wound inside the spool. If it snaps easily when tugged it's probably not up to it's test strength, and you're better off replacing it than waiting till AFTER you lose a big fish.

I carry a small plastic squeeze bottle of bug repellent in my vest. If I don't refill it now in February, I won't think about it until about 7 p.m. on a summer night on the river, when the fish are rising and the mosquitoes are just beginning their assault. If you don't have any in your vest, I suggest you purchase a small bottle or some of the convenient packets and stock your vest now.

In"Vest"ory

A first aid kit is one of the most overlooked items in a flyfisher's gear bag. While I don't carry a whole medic's bag on the stream, I do keep a few Band-Aids and a packet with aspirin, Pepto Bismol and single use saline solution and bacitracin. It doesn't take up much room and you can patch up little "mishaps", if you're out in the woods, without having to hike back to your vehicle in the middle of a hatch.

A compass, a whistle and a firestarter stick with matches may sound like overkill, but if you fish remote places and frequent those streams "off the beaten path", it's not a bad idea. If you do get lost a fire is a good way to help someone locate you, and will keep you warm till they arrive. A whistle can alert your buddy if you step in a sinkhole or twist an ankle, and it can be heard a lot better than your voice at a distance, especially over the sound of a river.

So, when you pull out the waders and reels to gear up for Opening Day, take an extra minute or two to go over the "other" essentials. That way, when you stumble out of the house at 4:00 am, you can rest assured that you're prepared for whatever comes your way; big fish, bugs or bad backcasts.

Tight lines and God bless, Lee



This month, I'm pleased to announce, we will be running our **Junior Fly Tying Class** again for 2004. This will be a mixed level class, open to young adults between the ages of 10 and 18 who want to learn to tie their own flies or improve their skills and try new patterns. The class will run for one day in the afternoon, **Saturday March 6th**, from 12:00 to 3:00 PM, at: **Pancho's Border Grill** - 4119 Hempstead Turnpike - Bethpage, NY 11714 - (516) 579-5500.

There is no charge and all equipment and materials will be provided. There will also be a light lunch served. Upon completion, each student will receive a certificate of graduation. To sign up, please call:
Lee Weil at 516-997-6743, or see me at the general meeting on March 2nd.

LIFR OFFICERS & DIRECTORS 2004

Officers:

- President:** Mike Gelber
- Vice President:** Jim Foley
- Secretary:** Lee Weil
- Treasurer:** Cliff Dies
- Counsel:** Robert I. Skoy, Esq.



Board of Directors:

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- Al Battistelli**
- Jeff Farrell**
- Gordon Grimes**
- Stuart Minsky**
- Joe Otterstedt**
- Wolfgang Porté**
- Herb Schneiderman**
- Al Westbrook**

Somerset Fly Fishing Show - January 2004



LIFR volunteers manning the booth at the show

(L to R)
 Jerry Berkson,
 Gil Padovani,
 Mike Friedland,
 Cliff Dies,
 Herb Schneiderman, &
 Morty Schneiderman



(L to R)
 Peter Van Buskirk,
 Herman Abrams,
 Gil Padovani,
 Jerry Berkson,
 (seated)
 Dan Van Buskirk, &
 Herb Schneiderman

Editor's Note:

Although author Steve Schweitzer's article, "Three Steps to Fresh Lines", (February *Flyrodder*, Page 6), states that he has been using Rain-X as a fly dressing for years, finds it safe and has never "had a fly line melt-away," LIFR member **Peter Sikinger** has advised me that the label clearly states: "Do not use on plastics unless pre-approved by the manufacturer of the plastic to be treated".

It is entirely possible, as stated by the author, that Rain-X is safe for the type of plastic used for fly-lines and will cause no harm.

In the meantime, I would advise our members to refrain from using the product on fly-lines until I can get a clarification from a fly-line manufacturer.

Morty

HUNGRY TROUT TRIP - Friday, May 21 to Monday, May 24, 2004

COST PER PERSON: Two to a room \$359 - Three to a room \$317 - **PACKAGE INCLUDES:**

FRIDAY (Check-in): Gourmet dinner. Full use of the Hungry Trout Dream Mile on the famous Ausable River.

SATURDAY: Breakfast, Boxed Lunch, Gourmet dinner, free drink at McDougall's. Full use of the Hungry Trout Dream Mile.

SUNDAY: Breakfast, Boxed Lunch, Gourmet dinner, Full use of the Hungry Trout Dream Mile.

MONDAY (Check-out): Breakfast, Boxed Lunch, Full use of the Hungry Trout Dream Mile.

EXTRA DAY PER PERSON: Two to a room \$97 - Three to a room \$87

2 DAY PACKAGE PER PERSON: Two to a room \$269 - Three to a room \$239.

ALSO AVAILABLE: Guided canoe trip (two anglers) on a 2,000 acre private brook trout preserve. Cost per day per person is \$165 (plus tip)

IF YOU WANT TO GO: Fill out the bottom of this form, enclose a deposit check for \$50 (\$75 if guided trip is included) payable to "The Hungry Trout" and either mail to "Gil Padovani, 9 Longbow Drive, Englishtown NJ 07726 by April 10 or hand them at the 4/2 (or earlier) meeting to Danny Van Buskirk.

A list of the participants who have enclosed their deposit checks will be sent to the Hungry Trout on 4/20 (or sooner if all rooms have been booked). After that, reservations will be on room availability and on a first come first served basis. Deposits will be forfeited on cancellations made after 5/1. (Unless a substitute is found)

NAME	DEP	ROOM WITH (If known)	CANOE WITH (If known)

If not three day package: Check-in date: _____ Check-out _____

Big Jim's New Rod

by Shawn Sullivan

I get the call at three o'clock in the morning. "Let's go boy, get yer butt in gear if'n you want to go fishin'!" Ordinarily I'd have told the person on the other end to take a long walk off a short pier, but it's Big Jim, and when Big Jim speaks I'm bound to listen.

I pull up in front of Big Jim's house just as the sun is beginning to throw down long blue shadows across the Long Island Expressway and there's Big Jim sitting on his porch picking away on his banjo. He sees me and starts to sing some backwoods, mountain trail, keep those Deliverance rednecks away from me, kind of song. I'm mostly a rock and blues fan, but I can't help myself and before I know it I'm hopping around and stomping my heels like some refugee from an Appalachian insane asylum. Windows start to fly open up and down the block and Jim says "Come inside boy, I want to show you what I found."

Big Jim's walls are covered with drawings and carvings of woodland scenes and creatures fowl and fair. As Big Jim is not

schooled in the ways of the professional artist, many of the drawings are made on the backs of scrap paper with whatever materials may be at hand; soot, china markers, red clay, even blackened motor oil. He hands me what appears to be a bamboo rod, only that half of the guides have electrical tape where their should be thread wraps and the top third of the rod is a fiber glass tip that's been duck taped in place. Big Jim notices my visible cringe and says "What'd you expect boy, one of those sissy swizzle sticks? Wait'll you see how this mother lays out line, sweet and slow. You could drop a clouser on a box of nitro and not have to worry!"

We head out back to test cast this monstrosity. I strip off a few feet of line, false cast twice and immediately wrap my line around one of Big Jim's homemade weather vanes. Big Jim yells "Doggone it boy, slow down, yer horsin' that rod around like yer havin' an epileptic fit. Bamboo don't fish like one of yer two hundred dollar plastic rods!" He takes the rod from me and I watch as

with one false cast he sends most of the line sailing out across his yard in a tight even loop. This irks me to no end because I spent a lot of money on my perfectly wrapped and re-finished bamboo rod, but every time I fish with it I get a severe case of tennis elbow.

Big Jim's got Smallmouth fever and I have a pretty good idea where the old goat is headed. "You ain't never told none of yer friends about this ol' pond I been takin' you to, have you boy?" I quickly shake my head no and look horrified to be so accused but Big Jim says "I know you're a good kid, but you might want to be impressin' some of yer friends." "Well, (I'm thinking) there was this one time I brought a friend up there, bragging all the way about how Big Jim and me had this place beat, but of course I ain't Big Jim, and we were dutifully skunked." Sometimes I wonder why Big Jim trusts me with his secret spots but Big Jim says I'm a good listener and that I ain't like other fishing partners he's had who were always yappin' to hear the sound of their own voice.



Four married guys go fishing. After an hour, the following conversation took place. First guy, "You have no idea what I had to do to be able to come out fishing this weekend. I had to promise my wife that I will paint every room in the house next weekend." Second guy, "That's nothing, I had to promise my wife that I will build her a new deck for the pool." Third guy, "Man, you both have it easy! I had to promise my wife that I will remodel the kitchen for her." They continue to fish when they realized that the fourth guy has not said a word. So, they asked him, "You haven't said anything about what you had to do to be able to come fishing this weekend." "What's the deal?" Fourth guy, "I just set my alarm for 5:30 AM. When it went off, I shut off my alarm, gave the wife a nudge and said, 'Fishing or Sex.' And she said, 'Wear a sweater.'"

Between a Hook and a Hard Place

(As Told To Lee Weil)

This fascinating account was related to me by a friend (who shall remain nameless) about an incident that occurred to her in the line of duty. I will relate the events as accurately as possible, and apologize in advance for any discrepancies.

It seems that my friend was recording inventory of the fly stocks at her place of employment (which shall remain nameless) and decided to get comfortable and take a seat on the carpeted floor in front of the fly bins. After finishing up the count she attempted to get to her feet, but was brought to an abrupt realization that this was not possible due to the fact that she was attached to the floor. The cause of the attachment turned out to be a small fly (the pattern shall remain nameless) which was imbedded in the carpet AND unfortunately, also imbedded in the posterior part of her anatomy. This presented her with, to say the least, a very embarrassed situation, made even more so by the fact that she was relatively new on the job.

Try as she might, she was unable to dislodge the hook from her (ahem) pants seat. At this point, B ... (oops!) that is, my friend, called over a female co-worker (who shall remain nameless) to assist her. Unfortunately, her struggles to remove the hook were unsuccessful as well and they were forced to seek the service of yet another co-worker (nameless as well). He assessed the situation and

went in search of a suitable tool to perform the required surgery ; returning with what Bet ... (oops, again!) described as a huge wrench / pliers of some sort. The sight of this equipment prompted a panic and Betty ... (Oh, drat!) redoubled her efforts to escape but to no avail.

It soon became apparent that the right tool for the job was a wire cutter, and once the rescue committee obtained one it was only a matter of time before Betty A (uh, oh) was free, but the fly was damaged beyond repair and had to be euthanized. This, however was not the end of her discomfort. She then retired to the ladies room with said co-worker (the female one) to peruse the damages. First Aid was rendered and she tried to put the experience "behind" her (excuse the pun), but upon her arrival at home she was to discover that the miracle of telephone communication AND e mail had made the event into a newsflash to be made available to Betty Ann's family and friends. (Did I say that she shall remain nameless?) Her husband John (he shall remain nameless, too!) was laughing on the phone as she walked in the door, and I believe the news spread as far as New Jersey in record time. Again, I am relaying this information second hand, and was given permission to write this story by Betty Ann Tim .. (almost gave it away that time!) with the solemn understanding that I promise not to divulge any names. As a responsible, ethical journalist I have complied with her wishes.

THE MYSTERY OF THE "X" IN YOUR TIPPET

By Jim Smoragiewicz
Black Hills Fly Fishers in S. DAK

It was a passing thought that I had many times over the years but never took the time to look into it. What does the "X" on packages of tippet and leaders stand for? This was one of the things that I thought every flyfisher but me knew. As I came to discover, however, most other anglers didn't know the answer to this either, and prompted some research on my part.

A little history on some of our first mass-produced tippet material. For some time early in the century, leaders were tied out of a silk strand that came from a caterpillar in Spain. The caterpillars were killed and then processed in chemicals to toughen their silk sacks. The silk sacks or "gut" were then removed from the caterpillar (usually two caterpillar). This packet of silk was then stretched out, usually reaching a length of 12"-15". Lengths of silk longer than this were scarce, and brought a premium price.

The silk strands were uneven in diameter and needed to be uniform in diameter for use in building a leader. The way this evening process was accomplished was by using diamonds to cut away the excess material. The diamond that had a round hole drilled in it and was polished on one side to form a cutting edge on the hole. The silk strand was then soaked in a solution to soften it, and then drawn through the hole in the diamond with all excess silk being cut away.

This uniform piece of "silk cat gut" (gut from a caterpillar, and not a house cat) was considered to be 1x in size because it had been drawn through a diamond one time or 1x. Next it was drawn through a diamond with a smaller hole to reduce the diameter even further. This piece of silk was now a 2x in diameter, or drawn through diamonds 2 times. This was continued until a 5x tippet size was reached, the smallest most flyfishers felt was usable at the time.

Flyrodder Crossword Puzzle #7

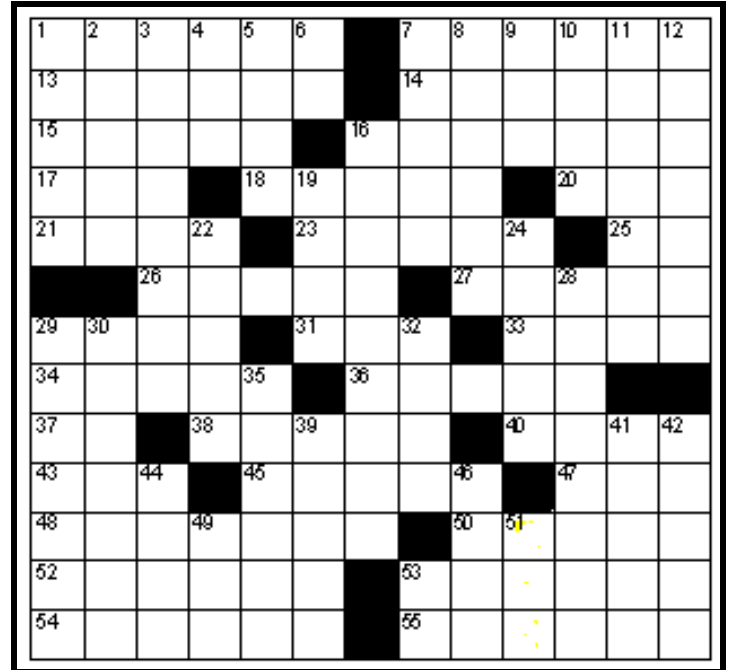
by Gil Padovani

ACROSS

- 1 Burning Ashes
- 7 Flowering tree
- 13 Atlantic Fish
- 14 Ta Ta
- 15 Reliance
- 16 Atlantic Fish
- 17 Netherlands piano city
- 18 Japanese car model
- 20 Sellout
- 21 Break
- 23 Poland city
- 25 French you
- 26 Angry
- 27 Killed
- 29 Container
- 31 Historical period
- 33 Merry
- 34 Yellow pigment
- 36 Hindu term of respect
- 37 Not LFT
- 38 Passover meal
- 40 Grandma
- 43 Excavated
- 45 Area and Zip
- 47 Atlantic Fish
- 48 Milky glass
- 50 Treasure
- 52 Atlantic Fish
- 53 Nighthawk
- 54 What a L.I.
Flyrodder is
- 55 Remington ____

DOWN

- 1 Chemical compound
- 2 French Tuesday
- 3 Atlantic Fish
- 4 Germany river
- 5 Roster
- 6 Tin symbol
- 7 Houston Player
- 8 Living Reefs
- 9 Clay, afterwards
- 10 Policemen
- 11 Lethargy
- 12 Stranded
- 16 Replace
- 19 ___ d'Azur
- 22 Kilmer poem
- 24 Illinois city
- 28 Atlantic Fish
- 29 Argentina city
- 30 Have an effect on
- 32 Rhine River tributary
- 35 Describe
- 39 Contributor
- 41 Uncommon
- 42 Fred Astaire's sister
- 44 Chain ____
- 46 Proofreaders' mark
- 49 ___ Abner
- 51 Road direction (abbr)



Answers to this month's puzzle will be in the April Issue

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Berkley has a program for recycling **used fishing line**. If you call them and you are a **business**, they will send you a shipping box (prepaid) to send in the line. Their only stipulation is that the line be clean and free of all debris, hooks, and metal attachments. Here's the number for Berkley:

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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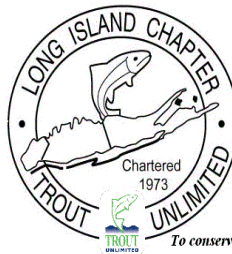
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OPEN 7 DAYS



The Long Island Chapter of Trout Unlimited meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Hicksville VFW Hall, 320 S. Broadway, Hicksville at 7:30pm. Visitors are always welcome.

See www.longislandtu.org for more information.

To conserve, protect and restore North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

For fly tying classes, contact:
Herb Schneiderman: (718) 468-5519.
For casting classes, contact:
Herman Abrams: (516) 593-6024
or **George Simon: (516) 483-1824.**



37 MAIN STREET, COLD SPRING HARBOR, NEW YORK 11724
631 673-8937
WEBSITE: coldspringfly.com E-MAIL: captken@villagenet.com



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.

Member Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print name: _____

Address: _____

Home phone: () _____

Office phone: () _____

E-mail address: (optional) _____

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

In case of emergency, when reasonably feasible, contact:

Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Home Phone: () _____

Office Phone: () _____

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

Dues: Individual \$30.00 _____ Family (including children under 16 yrs) \$40.00 _____ Junior (under 18 yrs) \$15.00 _____

Mail this form to: LONG ISLAND FLYRODDERS, INC
P.O. 8091
Hicksville, NY 11802

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

Table with 2 rows and 4 columns of dates: Mar 15, Apr 19, May 17, Jun 14; Jul 19, Aug 16, Sep 20, Oct 18

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

FLYRODDER
P.O. Box 8091
Hicksville, NY 11802

LONG ISLAND FLYRODDERS COMING EVENTS MARCH - 2004

- March 2 **General Meeting - 8:00 P.M.**
Guest Speaker: Tom Brtalik
"Winter Fly Fishing in Pennsylvania"
- March 6 **Junior Fly Tying Class - 12:00 - 3:00 PM**
Saturday at Panco's Border Grill in Bethpage
Contact: Lee Weil - (516) 997-6743.
- March 9 **Fly Tying Night**
at Pancho's Border Grill in Bethpage - 7:00 PM.
Contact: Paul McCain - (516) 536-1418
- March 15 **Connetquot State Park - Monday Fishing Trip**
See Page 9 for Details
Contact: Lee Weil - (516) 997-6743.
- March 17 **Board Meeting**
7:30 P.M. at the Levittown VFW Hall
- March 20 **Beginners Fly Fishing Class**
Levittown VFW
Contact: Herman Abrams (516) 593-6024

