

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
June 7, 2005

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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
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Counsel

Paul McCain
Speaker Coordinator



Members of Long Island Flyrodders, Long Island Trout Unlimited and Housatonic Fly Fishers at the annual Spring Clean Up at the Housatonic River in Connecticut. April 2005



God Bless America

GUEST SPEAKER:

Mark Sedotti

“Fishing Long Island Sound”



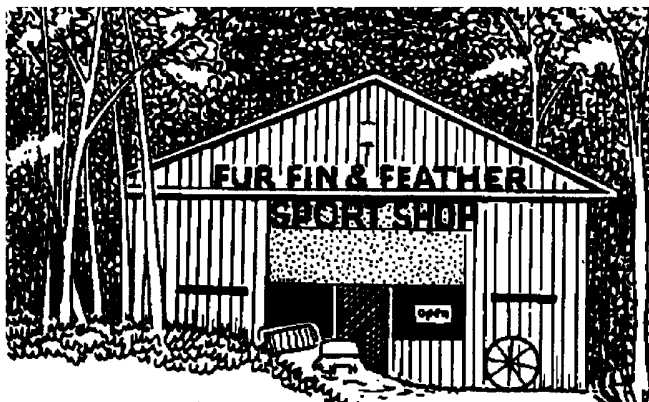
President's message

Was that Memorial Day weekend that just flew by? I think I just put away my snow shovel and took the snow tires off of the Oldsmobile. Now that the season is in full swing, a lot of folks have that "gotta" go fishing look in their eyes. We have some great trips planned for the next few months, as well as our regular Connetquot fishing. Check out the list on our web site, it has all the trips, as well as the contact person and phone numbers. Some of the trips are already booked up, so don't wait for the last minute to sign up for the others. Besides the regular weekend trips, we do have some weekday trips where the crowds are gone and there is less fishing pressure.

Those of us who tie, or attempt to tie, are constantly amazed at some of the great talent we have amongst us in the club. If you have been to a fly tying night at Pancho's or one of the specialty fly tying nights, you might have seen some nifty knitting by some of the crew. **Lee Weil** beat out some stiff competition and won the fly of the month for April at the Orvis Greenvale tying contest. If you've ever seen some of her deer hair flies, you'll know why she

won...**congratulations Lee, well done!**

Everyone who attended the May meeting was treated to a great presentation by **Marla Blair**. She shared with us some of her insight of the Farmington River, along with a great sense of humor. Between the great fishing and the jokes, I know why her clients were wearing such big grins. Coming up at our June meeting, we have **Mark Sedotti** talking about fishing Long Island Sound. Mark is a Scott Flyrod Pro Staff member and prior to the meeting, he'll be giving casting demonstrations on the "great lawn" next to the VFW hall. Mark is the head casting instructor for Scott rods in the Northeast and is famous for casting bunker flies, the size of small dogs, over 100 feet. To make things even more interesting, our own **Paul McCain** is putting on the chef's hat and will be cooking up hot dogs, hamburgers and his famous baked beans before the meeting. **All this is happening at 6 o'clock.** So come on down a little early and watch Mark Sedotti, while eating some of that famous McCain cooking.



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For Your Nymphormation

by Lee Weil



One of the biggest advantages of belonging to the Long Island Flyrodders is the opportunity to tap into the information resources available through our fellow members. We are fortunate to have many experienced casters and tyers who are more than willing to share their knowledge and expertise. Such was the case last Wednesday evening, when **Wolfgang Porté** gave a class on tying flies with rabbit fur strips.

It's one thing to look at a fly and see the materials used in it's construction; it's quite another to figure out the technique involved. I had seen his patterns and was interested in learning how to put the pieces together. We were instructed on three different rabbit strip patterns, and walked through each one, step by step. This was the second in this year's **Favorite Flies** series of classes and I'm looking forward to more classes in the future.

Speaking of fly tying, I would like to extend our appreciation to **Peter Mancuso** who donated a box of materials and tools to be used for our junior fly tying programs. These programs include classes, Boy Scout seminars and sporting events and show demonstrations where we invite the kids to sit down and tie their own fly. I believe it's one of the best ways to pass along the

passion we feel for the sport, and to see the interest sparked in the young members is more satisfying than landing a fish.

Members who fished the Connetquot on our May outing were treated to a day of fantastic dry fly fishing. I was eager to try out a new pattern of Caddis to check it's durability and the feisty rainbows sure gave it a good test run. Happily, it held up even better than I expected, and I will certainly be adding it to my "Conny Combination" package.

Those who are interested in joining us for some bass and pickerel fishing on the **Peconic River Canoe trip and Picnic** can sign up and pay at the **June 7th meeting**. The cost for the picnic is **\$7.00 per person**. (See the article in this issue for further information). If anyone needs bass flies or has any other questions you may call me at 516-997-6743.

Don't forget, now that the weather is warming up it's even more important to practice **CPR (Catch & Proper Release)**. Keep those fish submerged while removing your flies and don't play them too long. You can make a big difference in their survival percentage by just doing the right thing.

Tight Lines & God Bless, Lee



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 14th**. This river is a popular canoeing area and by fishing during the midweek we will 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 johnboats 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 the Deli at 631-727-4291 to reserve a boat and call me if you want to arrange to share a boat with another angler.

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 2nd meeting and make sure you are signed up.

For further information call Lee Weil at 516-997-6743

2005 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 30, with a total of five LIFR members attending the work on the Hazel Bridge site.

Hurricanes in September of 2004 and additional flooding earlier in April had washed out the path. The path could only be reconstructed about halfway as larger sized gravel would be required to prepare a base to the lower section.

The crew consisted of **Herman Abrams, John Maise, Stan Paroly, Peter and Dan Van Buskirk.**

As usually occurs on a Fly Rodder trip, we had rain showers on and off all day. After the all the work that could be completed by the crew, we enjoyed a warm meal to help warm us, if not dry us off.

Because of the damage done to the river's banks, an additional reconstruction project may be scheduled for some time later in the season. The **Catskill Fly Fishing Center** will get advice from the state on adequate materials and methods to complete the existing paths or have new paths proposed.

While working at the Hazel Bridge site, there were a group of fly fishers from Pennsylvania that were consistently catching trout on dries and emergers. So the fish seemed to have survived with out harm.

Later that day and on Sunday, Dan caught 15" and 17" Browns on the Willowemoc.

Join us next year for a work and fish weekend.

2005 Housatonic River Clean up Trip Report By Dan Van Buskirk

On Saturday, April 23, about 15 members of the **Long Island Flyrodders** drove to the Housatonic River to assist the **Housatonic Fly Fishers** in their annual spring clean up. The Flyrodders and members of **Long Island Trout Unlimited** met at the rest area on I-684 for coffee and bagels, and then proceeded to the area of the Housatonic where the work was to be done. Workers split up into small groups and collected garbage along the banks, posted signs containing special regulations and planted trees and bushes to supply shade during the warm summer months. Around 1:00 everyone met at the Housatonic Meadows Picnic Ground for a cook out supplied by the Flyrodders. With **Paul McCain** doing Franks and Sausages and **Allan Manz** cooking hamburgers, along with beans, chips and soda, over forty workers had plenty to eat.

Four boxes of trees and bushes were planted and over twenty bags of garbage collected.

That afternoon Allan Manz landed a beautiful Brown Trout in the nineteen-inch range. Nice Going Allan!

Join us next year for a work and fish day on the Housatonic.

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**Housatonic River, Ct Annual Spring Clean-up
April 23, 2005**



**Chef Paul McCain doing duty at the grill
Club Members cleaning up at streamside**

100 years ago, group photos were taken in front of the Ice House at the Southside Sportsman's Club, now The Connetquot River State Park. At 7:30 AM on June 20, 2005 we will gather for our monthly fishing trip at the Connetquot and since we meet up with Lee about 50 feet from the Ice House, it would be a perfect opportunity to try and recreate this piece of history. Together with Gil, we will have an opportunity to mark LIFR's place in history.

Wear something appropriate, old fashion clothes, equipment and bring your camera. If someone has a high quality digital camera please do not hesitate to show up. This is a great opportunity for us and for each member to say "I was there". A hundred years from now some one may be saying "That's Mike Gelber".

Bill Medlow

CONNETQUOT RIVER TRIPS - 2005

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 **\$20.00**. 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 - 2005

June 20		July 18	
August 15	September 19	October 17	

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

**The club is putting together a book of club members and their favorite flies.
See Paul McCain at the meeting for details.**

ELDRED FISHING TRIP

July 16 – 17, weekend, the cost is \$125 plus tax for two people. The cost for children is \$8.00 each, plus tax, maximum of four persons per room. Food is not included in this package. You can purchase food from their restaurant. This entitles you to overnight accommodations, free access to the Catch and Keep Pond, and you have to pay \$4.25 per pound for whatever you catch. Fish cleaning is available at fifty cents per fish. They will pack your fish in ice free of charge.

For an additional \$10.00 per day you can fish in the Catch and Release Pond. This Pond is for flyrodders only, with barbless hooks.

Boat rental. They have two lakes available for bass fishing and pan fish. The cost for this package is \$80 plus tax for two people. They furnish you with a bass boat and you can fish from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.. If you want to add another person on the boat it is an additional \$30 plus tax. You can keep the pan fish but must return the bass. You must have a valid NYS fishing license for the lakes.

September 20 -21, weekday, the cost for this package is \$80. per person, double occupancy. This package entitles you to overnight accommodations, free access to the Catch and Keep Pond, and you have to pay \$4.25 per pound for whatever you catch. You are also entitled to dinner at their restaurant, but no breakfast. The \$80 also includes tax and gratuities. The cost for children, ten years old or younger, is \$29, tax and tips included. This includes overnight accommodations, dinner from the Children's menu, free access to the Catch and Keep Pond and they have to pay \$4.25 per pound for any fish caught.

You can also fish for bass and pan fish in one of their two lakes. See the previous paragraph concerning the rates for the boat rental.

Also available are Sporting Clays. The cost for a round of twenty-five clays is \$8.00. You can bring your own shotgun and ammunition or rent a shotgun from them and purchase ammunition from them. The cost to rent a shotgun is \$5.00 and a box of twenty-five shells is \$8.00. Ear protectors are provided.

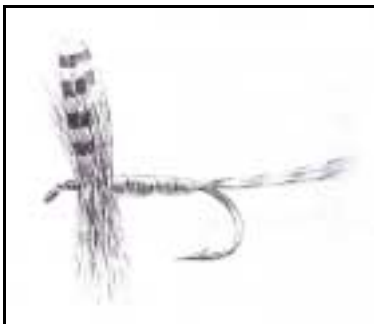
Horseback riding is available nearby at an additional cost. The rates for the horseback riding are not available at this time.

RACINO: They have computerized gambling available at the Monticello Raceway only ten minutes away for those of you who want to try their luck.

In addition, within a half hour from the resort you can fish at Mongaup Pond, Rondout Reservoir or the Delaware River.

**Any one interested can sign up for the trip during the coffee break or call me,
Joe Caroleo, at 718-845-4225 anytime between 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m.**

The third class in the *L.I.F.R Favorite Fly series*, to be held on Wednesday, June 8th at the Levittown VFW Hall.

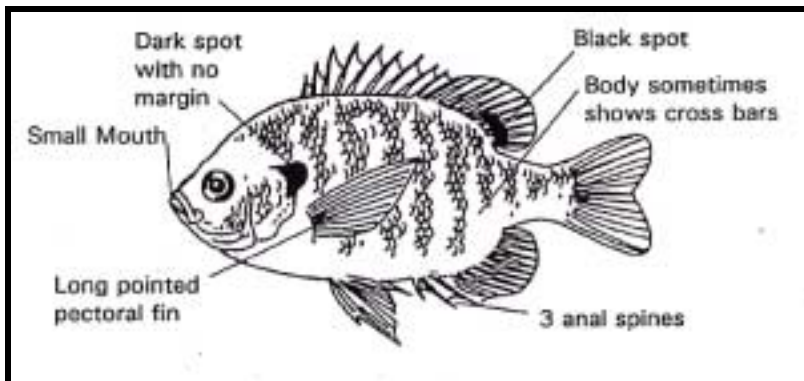


This class will focus on the use of hackle, hair and other materials to construct dry flies. Intermediate level tying experience is required. Space for this class is limited and you must call to register. Please call Morty Schneiderman at 718-846-5960 to reserve your place at the table. Class is free of charge to LIFR members only. A list of suggested tools and necessary materials will be provided for each registered student, and students will be responsible for obtaining enough materials for 3 flies, to be described in the information letter.

BLUEGILL

by
Gregory Kozlowski

If you were to ask most fishermen, “What was the first fish you ever caught?” they would probably tell you that it was a bluegill (*Lepomis macrochirus*). This plentiful, hungry fish has introduced most people to the joys of fishing and provides hours of fun for young and old alike.



making it hard to reel in. They can be caught with a variety of techniques, including worms, jigs and flies. A size 6 to 8 size long shank hook is best when fishing with bait. Use as small a bobber as possible to reduce resistance for the fish.

When using jigs, they should be 1/32 oz. Small nymphs or poppers are best when fly fishing.

Whatever the technique, bluegills are a lot of fun to catch. Don't forget to try a few for the table. Even though they are a small fish, they are very tasty. Enjoy!

Surprisingly, the bluegill is not native to Long Island, but you would never know it now. It has been introduced into most Long Island ponds and has become an important part of the fishery community. Long Island ponds and streams are ideal for the bluegill, which prefers standing or slow moving water where there is vegetation or other cover.

Bluegills are a small fish, with the adults averaging 4 to 8 inches in length; however, they can get bigger. The state record is 2 lbs 8 oz, and 2 lb fish have been caught on Long Island. Bluegills have a greenish-olive color on their backs that fades out to a pale color on their stomachs. Often, bluegills have several dark bands on their sides. Bluegills have a blue-black opercular flap and a dark dusky spot on their rear dorsal fin. These characteristics help distinguish it from pumpkinseed sunfish (*Lepomis gibbosus*), which have a red margin on the opercular flap and no dusky spot on the rear dorsal fin. Often, there are color differences between the two species; however, color (except for the opercular flap) is an unreliable characteristic.

Bluegills spawn from May until July in shallow water 1 to 3 feet deep. Usually, bluegills nest in colonies that can include hundreds of nests. The males fan out nests 8 to 12 inches in diameter on sandy or firm mud bottoms. The male then attracts a female bluegill to spawn with. After spawning, the male aggressively guards the nest. At this time, they will strike almost anything to defend its young.

Bluegills are a fun fish to catch because of plentiful numbers and fighting ability. On light tackle, the bluegill can put up a good fight, especially when it turn its broad side perpendicular to the angler,

Rewritten with permission from the NYSDEC.
Greg Kozlowski is a Region 1 fisheries biologist for the NYSDEC and is the *Sweet Water Angler* editor



Streamside Panfish

- 4 - 6 panfish
(bluegill, crappie, rock bass etc.)
- 4 - 6 strips of bacon
- 1 lemon
- ½ of an onion, chopped fine
- ½ tomato, chopped
- Lemon pepper
- Foil

Lay out enough foil to seal in the panfish. Place panfish on foil and sprinkle heavily with lemon pepper. Lay strips of bacon along the side of each fish and squeeze lemon juice on top. Add chopped onion and tomato and fold over foil, rolling up all edges to make air tight. Take sealed package and place directly over live coals. Approximate cooking time should be 10 to 12 minutes, or until meat flakes easily

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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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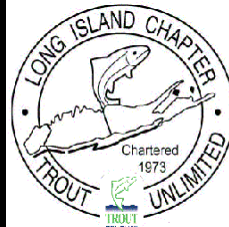
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The Long Island Chapter of Trout Unlimited meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at:

Hicksville VFW Hall

320 S. Broadway

Hicksville at 7:30 p.m.

Visitors are always welcome.

See www.longislandtu.org for more info.

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

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Mike Gelber: (516) 221-9508

For casting classes, contact:

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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**
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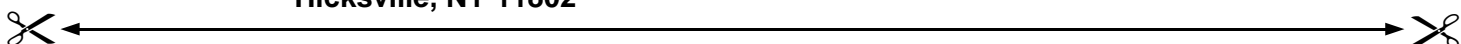


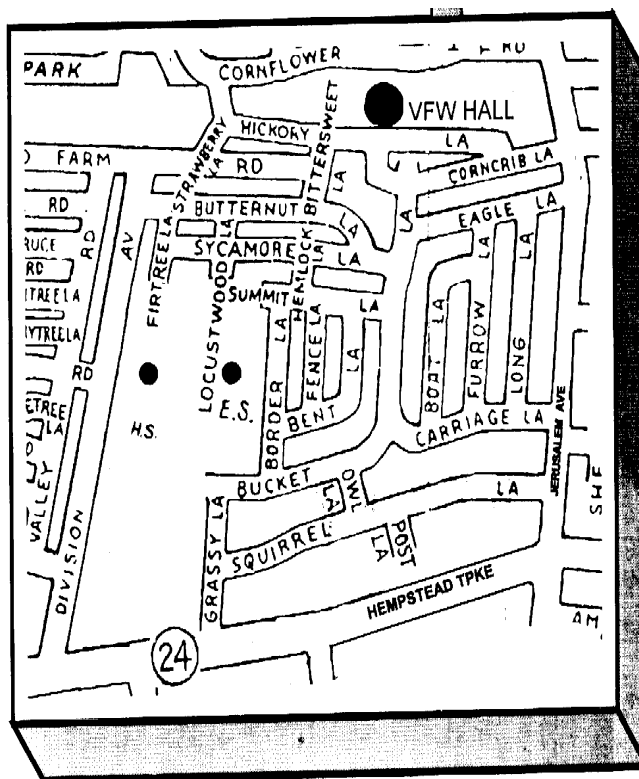
PHOTO CONTEST RULES

1. **PRINTS ONLY 4" x 6" (color or black & white); subject fly fishing**
2. **Put your name and phone number on back of the photo in small letters**
3. **All photos submitted may be used by LIFR, e.g., *Flyrodder* and lifr.org**
4. **There will be play-off contests at each Club meeting June through October**
5. **Three winners will be picked by members present at each of those meetings**
6. **All winning photos will be entered in the Dinner Dance GRAND CONTEST**
7. **Members present at the Dinner Dance will select the three Grand Prize winners**
8. **In case of a tie or dispute, the decision of the Chair will be final**
9. **All photos are to be handed or mailed to:**

LIFR Photo Contest
% Bob Skoy, Chair
328 Bedell St
Freeport NY 11520-5132
516 379-7600
flyline@hotmail.com

LONG ISLAND FLYRODDERS COMING EVENTS
June - 2005

- June 3-5 **Schoharie Creek, NY (Brown Trout)**
 Contact: Ken Battcher (516) 795-6543
- June 7 **General Meeting - 8:00 P.M.**
Casting & Cookout on the lawn at 6:00
 Speaker: Mark Sedotti
 "Fishing Long Island Sound"
- June 8 **Favorite Fly Series**
 See Details & Info on Page 6
- June 14 **Fifth Annual Peconic River Trip**
 Riverhead, NY - Bass & Pickerel
 See Details & Info on Page 3
 Contact: Lee Weil (516) 997-6743
- June 16 **Board Meeting**
 7:30 P.M. at the Levittown VFW Hall
- June 20 **Monday Fishing at Connetquot State Park**
 Contact: Lee Weil (516) 997-6743
 See Page 5 for details
- June 24 - **Housatonic River, CT (camping & fishing)**
- June 26 Contact: Tony Agnese (516) 822-3353



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