FlyFishing Views & Reviews

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APRIL/MAY 1992

Organization News

Atlantic Salmon Federation/Rewarded in Newfoundland

"A long, hard struggle has paid off for the Atlantic salmon," says the Atlantic Salmon Federation's president, David R. Clark QC, in commenting on the Honourable John Crosbie's announcement of a buy out of Atlantic salmon commercial licenses in Newfoundland and Labrador. The buy out will set the stage for New England. It will be a great incentive to the restoration program in New England, where a tag recovery program indicates that as many as two-thirds of salmon returning to New England rivers are taken by commercial fishermen off Newfoundland and Greenland. Recovery of salmon stocks in Newfoundland and Labrador will produce a healthy recreational fishery, which will give a boost to the area's outfitting accommodations and tackle businesses.

River Cleanup Week

An army of volunteers will take to America's rivers in canoes, kayaks, rafts, and on foot May 2-10,1992 as part of National River Cleanup Week. America Outdoors, the American Canoe Association, the American Whitewater Affiliation, American Rivers, the National Association of Canoe Liveries and Outfitters, and the National Paddlesports Association will be encouraging and organizing river cleanups within their memberships. Canoe Magazine is cosponsoring the cleanup week and will build support for the effort through ads and editorial support. Other groups and sponsors are invited to participate.

Goals of the effort include removing tons of trash and debris from over 3,000 miles of waterways, encouraging public involvement in the stewardship of river resources and fostering better working relationships between river interest

Cleanups in many locations will be coordinated by outfitters, outdoor retailers and paddling clubs who will conduct cleanups on their favorite streams.

For more information or for participation forms call David Brown at 615/524-4814.

FFF Event In Calgary

The Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF), will hold its 1992 Conclave

and Exhibition in Calgary's Convention Centre July 29th through August 1st, according to Conclave Chairman, Barry White of

The FFF's annual event will attract upwards of three to four thousand Canadian and U.S. flyfishing enthusiasts and feature comprehensive educational programs on all aspects of flyfishing as well as demonstrations and casting competition for all skill levels. Over 60 top Canadian and American fly tyers will display their talents through each day. Participating will be flyfishing notables Mel Krieger, Gary Borger, Maggie Merriman and Joan Wulff among many others.

"Some 120 exhibitors from lodge managers to line manufacturers will show their wares to the public at Conclave," White says. "As always it will be an event which appeals to families who enjoy the outdoors and who wish to learn more about the sport of flyfishing and the art of fly tying," he adds.

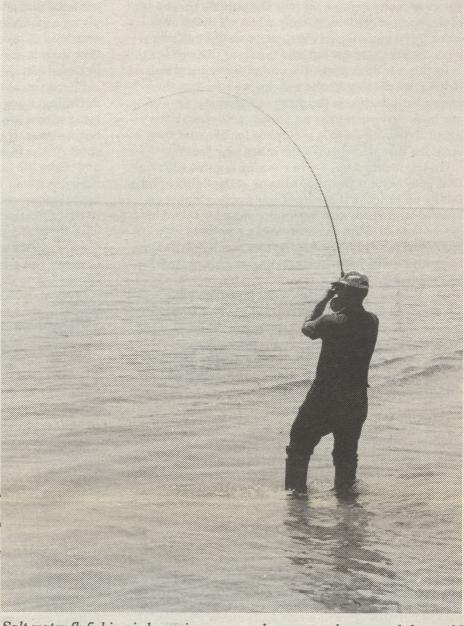
A small registration fee is required for the entire event or for entry on a daily basis. For more information write Gary Gow, 240/200 Rivercrest Drive Southeast, Calgary, AB T2C-2X5.

President Bush Signs Landmark River Bill

President Bush recently signed into law, major federal legislation to protect nearly 1,000 miles of 25 river segments in Michigan from adverse development and ill-conceived hydropower development.

The Michigan Scenic Rivers Act (H.R.476), which is the third largest national river protection act in U.S. history-and the most comprehensive national river protection act for a state east of the Rocky Mountains—was approved and signed early in February.

"This legislation marks the culmination of five years of effort by American Rivers and others to give these beautiful and important streams the protection they deserve," said Beth Norcross, Director of Legislative Affairs for American Rivers, the nation's leading river conservation organization. "In a single piece of legislation Congress has expanded the National River System by over 10% and we are hopeful that many more such statewide bills will follow."



Salt water flyfishing is becoming more and more popular around the world. In this issue we feature an article about salt water flyfishing on the East Coast. Photo is by the article's author, Ed Jaworowski.

Catalogs, Schools and Shows

We can always tell around here know both of those names you understand. haven't been around flyfishing very were full of wonderful items. Equally predictably, most of the items listed in Cabela's were appreciably less expensive than most of the items in the Orvis catalog. Notice that we did say most; the careful study of either catalog can reveal some surprises, both economical and practical. Plan on spending several hours with these catalogs, just to get the feel of them.

Orvis' 800 number is 548-9548. Cabela's is 331-3454. You should notice a slight in accent between the people at the Nebraska-based Cabela's and the Vermont-based Orvis.

A third catalog we received was from Madison River Fishing Company in Ennis, Montana. Their catalog is a more humble presentation, but the flyfishing items inside (and that's just about everything) is top name brand items. If you're a long ways from a good fly shop, getting a copy of this catalog would be a good idea. Call 800-227-7127.

Actually, that's the number you're when it's spring, because the cata- supposed to call if you're making an logs start arriving. Two of the order or requesting information biggest and best arrived recently, about their flyfishing schools. Say Orvis and Cabela's. If you don't what you want to say and hope they

The Madison River Fishing long. Predictably, both catalogs Company flyfishing classes will run June 22-25, July 12-15, 27-30, August 9-12 and 24-27. First day is an introduction to everything involving flyfishing; second day is on DePuy's spring creek near Livingston, Montana; the third day is on the Galatin River between Bozeman and West Yellowstone, Montana and the final day is a floating day (in McKenzie drift boats) on the Madison River upstream from the school's hometown in Ennis. Trust me folks, this is good country. The \$450 fee for the class is considerable but very reasonable when you factor in all the locations and four days of instruction.

Other schools we've heard about include those offered by the Ashland Fly Shop in Oregon (we believe it's Talent or Ashland, Oregon). Beginning flyfishing for trout will be offered May 24-29. Senior citizens can take the same

continued on page 2

Looking For Parameters

by Dennis Bitton

Since out very first issue, we've been searching for parameters for this publication. We knew we wanted to stretch the boarders of traditional flyfishing publications, but we didn't really have any specific goals in mind. It didn't take us too long to discover that what we were really looking for was the outside parameters of the sport of flyfishing. Only when we discovered what those boundaries were, could we set our own goals inside those far left and far right restrictions.

In this our 36th issue, the end of six years of publishing, we display by the articles we run that there are no boundaries on the sport of flyfishing. One of our book reviews quotes an author who speculates about flyfishing being a metaphor for life, and then opinions that perhaps it's the other way around.

On the facing page, we're running a guest editorial that goes beyond the comfort zone of the editor. I have family on ranches that view their grazing rights on federal land much as a bartender would think of his liquor license. Still, the author has a point of view shared by many. We're hoping that readers will write to us and let us know their feeling on this controversial subject.

The humor article in this issue (about the dog and his master) could easily be misinterpreted by a casual reader. There is more than one might think. And the article about the old man casting without a rod (The Fishstalker page 8) has a haunting quality about it. It should make readers look ahead and wonder where they'll be whey they're old, and what memories they'll be calling up.

The salt water article by my friend Jaws is a good where-to how-to piece about fishing in the salt on the East Coast. I think it's as good a piece as Ed has written, ever. And that's saying a lot. Flyfishing in salt water is not a new thing, but it is a currently popular thing, simply because so many people live close to salt water who have never thought about taking the long rod out to cast for the many different fish who swim there. Now they are. It's fun to watch.

The little article on our back page, by Bud Lilly, is a nice piece to close an issue with. It's one or two men's opinion as to what's important in flyfishing. Don't look for hidden meanings in a Bud Lilly story. He's not that way. It's a simple story told for simple effect.

If there's a central theme to this issue, and the overall direction of FlyFishing New, Views and Reviews, it's that we want you to think about this sport and the resources it requires. Evidently, the breadth of the sport is enormous. It can involve our lives on a highly personal and emotional level. It can also be used simply as a means of having fun. Each of us can pick our own level of involvement. It needn't be more important than it should be. It can involve as much of your personal sensibilities as you allow.

I hope you're comfortable with your relationship to flyfishing. I hope you can read all the articles in this issue with a grain of salt, and pound or two of light-heartedness. If I have any fear about the future of this sport, it has to do with those who take it too seriously and make life uncomfortable for others in the sport. Flyfishing isn't a competitive sport where scores are kept. I personally resist any activity that even leans in that direction My friends who have the most fun with flyfishing do it with a laugh and a giggle. A few are always worried about what someone else has said or done. The gigglers ignore it all, and they still have

energy left to fight conservation battles.

Flyfishing News attempts to mirror your thought. We know most of our readers read us as "something different". We need input to continue doing that. If you have story ideas, or leads on new products or potential advertisers, talk to us. We always need advertisers and new subscribers. Many of you have been with us since day one. You're more like family than subscribers. We try to treat you like family and we appreciate those of you who respond in kind.

I have one friend in Houston who says that he likes to read every issue as soon as he receives it in the mail.; He claims it reads like a letter from home. That casual style is something we strived for, but our erratic course of trying to something new seems to a permanent condition with us, so if you like something, say so. If you don't like something, say so too, just say it a little quieter, please.

Thank you for six years of support. Tell us what you'd like see in the next issue, the next six and the next six years.

It's a great sport, and there's room enough for all os us. Enjoy yourself.

of an outdoor store there called the

Swallow's Nest. She'll conduct a Fly

Casting Tune Up on June 5 from 6

Beginning Flyfishing Classes.

They're what you'd expect of a

beginning class, and the registra-

tion fee is \$60. All classes have lim-

ited registration, so the Swallow's

Nest suggests you call early for

reservations at 206/441-4100. Call

406/646-7824 for her summer

And finally we've heard of two fly-

fishing shows coming up in April.

The first is the annual Canadian

Fly Fishers Forum in Toronto, April

Sheldon Seale at 416/855-9369 for

Catalogs

continued from page 1

class October 11-16 or a steelhead flyfishing course April 5-10. Call mark Swisher at 503/535-5177 for more information.

The famous Maggie Merriman is

adding a new approach to her usual summer fare of personalized flyfishing courses in West Yellowstone, Montana. She's starting the year early in Seattle under the suspices

Montana. She's starting the year early, in Seattle under the auspices to 8 pm. The course is designed to help flyfishers correct existing casting problems and improve fishing techniques on the water. The fee is \$25 and includes use of a rod and reel during class time if students don't have an outfit. June 6 and 7 Maggie will conduct two all day

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All articles should be submitted on 8-1/2"x11" regular typing paper, clearly and cleanly typed (double spaced with wide margins) and accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return of material. Handwritten articles, articles typed on "onion skin or E-Z race" type papers or printed on hard-to-read computer printers will be returned.

Photography and Artwork

We are constantly looking for good artwork. For us, "art" includes b/w prints, line art, drawings, cartoons and similar materials. All artwork will be returned upon request only. Press releases concerning new fishing related items on the market will be published as room permits. Photos submitted with press releases will not be returned.

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Thank you

db

Press Releases



Neoprene waders for youths is the newest product from Neo-Sports out of Medford, Oregon. Alterations for growth can be made when the time comes. Neo-Sports supports Shot, Fat Flyfishers.

Neo-Sports Produces Youth Waders

ders of angling doesn't always leave the lasting, bonding images every parent wants from those first exposures to flyfishing.

Instead of remembering the joy of walking a streambank and stalking fall trout with their most important mentor-a parent-the memories are too often of cold legs, uncomfortable waders with huge feet and a tough time being a kid in a man's sport.

Children have a tough time fitting in when nothing fits. That is why Neo-Sports Manufacturing Company of Medford, Oregon now offers ifs new Trico "youth wader".

The youth wader is made of the same high quality, 3mm neoprene as their adult Trico wader, but

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> For more information about Trico youth wader and other Trico products, call or write to: Neo-Sports Manufacturing Company, 1600B Sky Park Dr., Medford, OR 97504, 503/779-8008

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Land Rover to Return to U.S.

Final environmental testing continues on the new Land Rover Defender which will go on sale in the U.S. early next fall. Range Rover of North America, Inc. announced it will import the Land Rover Defender as the first phase of a plan to expand its product range in the U.S. A limited production run of 500 of the aluminum-bodied fourwheel drive vehicles will be sold

Charles R. Hughes, president, said, "The legend created by Land Rovers over the years was earned under the toughest conditions imaginable. We're excited to be bringing this unique workhorse to the North American market.'

Although Land Rover was last sold in the U.S. in 1974, many examples are still running and commanding premium resale prices. The U.S. model is a highly refined generation of the One Ten Series that debuted in 1983.

The Land Rover Defender for the U.S. will be equipped with a 3.9 Litre, 180bhp V-8 engine, making it the most powerful production Land Rover built for consumer use. It will have Land Rover construction hallmarks featuring high ground clearance on a 110 inch wheelbase, a rigid boxed steel ladder chassis and permanent four-wheel drive.

The fuel injected aluminum V-8 engine is mated to a two-speed transfer case with manually locking center differential. A five speed manual gearbox will be the only transmission offered.

Front and rear live axles use long travel coil springs and telescopic hydraulic shock absorbers., Power brakes use discs in front and drums in the rear. The vehicle will be fitted with 16-inch Michelin X mud and snow tires, heavy duty roof rack and exterior rollcage originally developed for use on the Paris-Moscow-Beijing rally. An 8,000-lb. capacity winch will be optional.

The U.S. Defender will be a fivedoor model with front bucket seats, a rear bench and four folding jump seats in the cargo area for a total passenger capacity of nine.

The vehicle meets all applicable federal safety and emission standards for light trucks and multi-purpose vehicles.

The Land Rover Defender will be available primarily through those existing Range Rover dealers who meet the company's stringent franchise requirements. Some dealers have already started taking orders. While final pricing is yet to be determined, Hughes said the target is under \$40,000.





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April / May 1992

Fishing Consultants

The Last Trout

by Bud Lilly

had a customer who had been a friend for many years. Horace started coming to West Yellowstone in the 1930s, and by the 1950s he was in very poor health. His hearing was shot, he had to carry a little oxygen bottle with him and he could just barely see. He still wanted to fish, though, and so he showed up as usual one summer for some guided trips. We had taken him the year before in a boat, though that hadn't worked out well because it rained on the poor guy all day. The limitations of his health were catching up with him to the point there was hardly any fishing he could still

So Horace asked if I could take him personally. I agreed and said, Let's go down on the Madison. The salmonflies are on."

"Oh, God, I can't handle that anymore, Bud."

"All right," I said, I'll know a man who might let us get in and fish Odell Creek above Ennis," so we went down, and my friend, having some sympathy for Horace, let us fish. It was quite a production getting him out to the creek, what with his oxygen bottle and all, but we managed it, though I could tell he was pretty tired by the time we got there.

Luckily the salmonflies were hatching on the main river nearby, and some of them were flying over and laying their eggs in the creek. As I was leading Horace along, I watched the creek and saw a huge boil as a big trout took a fly. Trying to sound calm about it, I said, "I think I got one spotted, Horace." I tied on a Sofa Pillow, and he picked up his oxygen bottle and off we went. I could see a fish sloshing around, and could tell it was very

I got him into position. "Horace, he's about in there, just off that bank."

"Huh? What was that?"

"He's over that way!" "Oh. Okay."

After a little fumbling and a lot of coaching, he did manage to get a cast to within about three feet of the fish, which generously rushed the fly and took it. I yelled, "He's got it!"

"Whatsat?" Horace asked, as the fish hooked himself.

Now Horace, being an experienced fisherman, knew what to do once he had a fish on the line. So it wasn't long before the fish was in, and I got it close enough for him to admire. It was a gorgeous brown

"How big is he?"

"Oh, I'd say he's about twenty-one inches long, probably three or four pounds."

"What fly was I using?"

"A Sofa Pillow."

"What tippet?"

"4X, Horace." In that little creek, with its clear water, I had to put on a pretty fine tippet even for the

large fly.

"Let me see the leader," I handed him the leader, which he started coiling up, so I asked, "What are you going to do?"

"That's it. I'm quitting."

"Quitting? Hell, that's the first fish of the day. There are lots more big fish in here."

"That's right, but that's as fine a fish as I've ever caught, and that's the last one I'll ever catch. Let's go home."

That was my most memorable fish. That man had caught fish for 40 years and he dearly loved the sport, but he had the wisdom to recognize his last trout when it came along. No fishing memory I have will ever equal that one; no trout I catch will ever mean that much to

Flyfishing for trout has been an important part of my life for more than 50 years. I have no idea how many trout I've caught, though I do know that back in the early days I killed many more than I should have. There's no point in apologizing for that because at the time it was just something people did. You caught a fish, you killed it. But those early days did teach me that it isn't the killing that you remember best. It's everything that goes into the day, from the companionship, to the glorious western landscapes, to all the rises struck and missed.

It's amazing how much you remember. Every fish has a certain personality. If you hook a good fish, whether you land him or not, many

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years from now you will be able to ransack your memory and come up with all sorts of details of what happened right then, and what the rest of the day was like. You can replay those fish in your mind. The only parts you tend to forget are the unpleasant ones, like the times you caught none, or the times you got soaked in a storm. Fishing is kind of like having children-you soon forget, so you do it again.

Excerpted from A Trout's Best Friend, by Bud Lilly and Paul Schullery. Autographed copies of the book are available (\$14.95 clothbound, \$8.95 paper) from the authors at 2007 Sourdough Road, Bozeman, Montana, 59715.

