



Editor's Eddy

Once again, a great deal of time has passed (more than three months) since the last issue of this newsletter, but things have been very busy. And you'll note that we have been searching for quite some for a replacement Editor, at least on a temporary basis. Please bear with us as we get through this period of transition. And if you can help out in any way, we'd be glad to hear from you.

Bob Kuehnbaum, December 31, 2006

Quotable / Notable Quotes

Fishing is complexly irrelevant, and its very capacity to absorb men completely makes it the more valuable to them – and the less intelligible to women. A woman may not like the idea of a mistress, but another woman is something she can understand and fight. Fishing – unintelligible and irrelevant to the uninitiate – is, as the wise judge Robert Traver wisely notes, worse than adultery. The very intensity of the passion – often private, occasionally even religious – is of course what creates fishing widows, and I doubt if the strange predicament of the women, the frequent chauvinism of the men, can be understood or appreciated without some disclosure of how deeply the fisherman's passion runs.

– Nick Lyons, *Fishing Widows*, 1974

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This issue is dedicated to the memory of **Bob Lundy**. It is with deep regret that we announce his death on November 19, 2006, after a fight with cancer lasting more than three years. He leaves behind his wife Vickie, son Sean and daughter Caitlin. We extend our sincerest condolences to all.

Bob's presence shall be sorely missed by IWFFC. His contributions were numerous, and I believe that he was as dedicated as anyone to the objectives of our organization. Bob served ably as President from 2001 to 2003 and Vice-President prior to that. But the bulk of his work was done quietly in the back-ground as our founding webmaster; Bob was a "techie" by vocation, and shepherding the website was something that, I think, was not only easy for him, but also satisfying. In Bob's own words, he was "old school" – a fact readily evident in the unassuming yet professional look to the IWFFC site.

On another (personal) website, Bob had a page called *Bob's Gone Fishin'* where he related some of his adventures. The last posting on the site was an article on the "Water Boatman" which is reproduced in this issue.

As recently as the 2006 Forum, Bob co-presented a seminar on "Getting Started in Fly Fishing". At the same Forum, IWFFC presented him with the President's Award in recognition of his efforts through the years.

Bob regularly wrote articles for the *Single Haul*, about fishing trips, fly patterns and tips (in addition to a brief stint as Editor). As recently as this past August, Bob described his success on the West Branch of the Ausable River during a trip with family members to the Adirondacks.

Bob had an emotional attachment to the resident trout fishery on the upper Credit, and his favourite quarry was brook trout in the water downstream from Highway 24; he loved recounting the events of a successful after-work outing. When circumstances changed a few years ago, he joined the Upper Credit Trout Club and became proficient at still water angling.

We shall feel for quite some time the loss of Bob as a friend, angling colleague and supporter of our group. I shall miss his biting sense of humour. He was one of the good guys.

"If you're not having fun, you're not doing it right" – Bob Lundy

Right on, Bob. – Ed.

Club News & Events

Rod Draw Winning Ticket Number

At the rod draw held at the last meeting in December, the winner was either not in attendance, or was asleep. We announced the winning number again at the January 9 meeting, and **Peter Repath** came forward to claim his prize: a 5-weight Redington rod.

Congratulations, Peter!

New Treasurer

We're please to announce that **Tim Brown**, a relatively new member, has boldly stepped forward to take up the position of Treasurer of both IWFFC and the Forum. Tim's previous life as a banker gives him solid credentials for the job.

Thanks go to Tim, and to Ken O'Brien, a former Treasurer who has been filling in after the departure of Mike Retallick.

Vacant Club Positions

Conservation Chair: We have not yet located a replacement for Pat Kelly, our current Chair. As a member of the Conservation Committee, Pat will retain responsibility for the workdays and community event days, which will make the task considerably lighter for the new Chair.

Single Haul (Co-)Editor: We are looking for someone on an interim or long-term basis to assume some or all of the responsibilities of editorship.

If you think that you have the skills and /or would like to discuss either position, or the position of Conservation Committee member, please call Bob Kuehnbaum at 905-276-6684.

Meeting Schedule

Please mark your calendars with the following fall meetings. In future issues, the "TBAs" will be filled in. Our website is not currently updated, so if you have any questions, contact Bob Kuehnbaum by email (box on page 1).

January 16 – General Meeting: Elliott Deighton and Jim Wenger, our resident warm-water gurus,

will reprise their Forum presentation on bass fishing, and will discuss other warm-water species.

February 6 – Tying Meeting: Elliott Deighton will demonstrate flies discussed in the January 4 meeting. Elliott is one of the best warm- and saltwater tyers around, so don't miss this!

February 20 – General Meeting: Silvia D'Amelio will discuss "coaster" brook trout" and Gapen's Pool on the Nipigon River. This is relevant in view of IWFFC's sizeable donation for land purchase (see page 3).

March 6 – Tying Meeting: TBA

March 20 – General Meeting: John Flack will do a presentation on the brown trout of Penn's Creek, Pennsylvania.

April 3 – Tying Meeting: TBA

April 17 – General Meeting: Beginners Program

May 1 – Tying Meeting: TBA

Nominations for IWFFC Awards

We invite members to nominate individuals for the annual IWFFC awards presented at the Forum in April. The Kettle-Knott Award is new; the recipient of a sixth award, the President's Award, is determined by the President.

The awards are:

Gregory Clark Award: contributions in the arts of fly fishing.

Roderick Haig-Brown Award: contributions and achievements in aquatic conservation.

Jack Sutton Award: creativity and innovation in fly tying.

Kettle-Knott Award: contributions and achievements in education of fly fishing.

Maurice How Award: enthusiasm & involvement in the affairs of IWFFC

With the exception of the Maurice How Award, nominees may be members or individuals from outside the club. In the past, the Roderick Haig-Brown Award has been granted to organizations.

Please contact Bob Kuehnbaum for nominations or for any additional information.

Kettle-Knott Award

As mentioned above, IWFFC has dedicated a new award in honour of two of the best-known fly

fishing educators in our region. Phil Kettle (d. 1996) was a founder of IWFFC, conservationist and prolific writer about our sport. Ted Knott (d. 2005) was a long-time member, well-known for teaching the art of bamboo rod-making. Both were educators by profession, and they were committed to passing on their deep knowledge to other anglers.

IWFFC's awards plaques have script reflecting the work or contributions of the honouree. We invite submissions of poetry or prose, say 20-30 words, for the Kettle-Knott Award. For the submission selected by the club executive, there will be a small gift (as yet undetermined). For further information, contact Bob Kuehnbaum (p. 1).

Fly Tying DVDs

Pat Kelly and Don Arthurs have recorded the last two tying meetings with Henri Lemieux and Ken Collins. Pat has created a DVD for each of them. He has also gone through some of our old VHS (and other tape) recordings and created DVDs of Dave Whitlock at the Forum in 1981 and 1986, and of Chico Hernandez (saltwater flies) at the 1982 Forum. There are more to come!

The DVDs will be available at club meetings for \$10 apiece.

Brian Greck Lauded for Credit R. Work

Brian Greck, a long-serving and stalwart director of TUC's Greg Clark Chapter and an equally long-time IWFFC member, was recently given an Award of Distinction by Credit Valley Conservation. We congratulate Brian on his efforts and achievements in the watershed. The following is CVC's announcement.

"Brian has been involved with the Greg Clark Chapter of Trout Unlimited for 27 years and has been instrumental in planning many of TU's most successful projects throughout the upper reaches of the Credit River.

"As a water resources engineer with considerable experience, Brian's professional advice has been invaluable in getting projects completed and Brian's personality has made him a fantastic partner for CVC staff.

"Amy Doole, who is the coordinator of the WeCARE initiative in the West Credit, provided an excellent testimonial to Brian. 'Brian has brought an amazing combination of professional skill and personal passion to the WeCARE steering committee, the Fisheries Management Implemen-

tation Committee and through habitat projects that he has planned. Brian is always willing to help others better understand rivers and the watershed.'

"Examples of Brian's work over the past couple of years include building many garbage kiosks as shown in the slide to help keep the Credit litter-free. Brian's engineering skills have been invaluable as he has donated his time to design and oversee the construction of rocky ramps in Terra Cotta and Erin to help fish move upstream past road culverts that had been barriers.

"We ask that Brian Greck come forward to receive his Award of Distinction for longtime service, excellent collaboration, and significant personal contributions to the restoration of the Credit River."

Conservation Corner

Conservation Workday Report

Pat Kelly

October 28: Brown Trout Spawning Survey: The survey was cancelled due to inclement weather. Some work was done later by CVC.

November 5: Brook Trout Spawning Survey: The survey covered parts of the West Branch of the Credit River around Erin. Members Pat Kelly and Mike Warrian helped out, along with a number of local residents.

November 12: Tree Planting, Centreville Creek, sponsored by TRCA. Pat Kelly represented IWFFC, but the 650-tree planting was done in rapid fashion by about 150 Sparks and Brownies.

For information, contact Pat Kelly at patckelly@look.ca or 905-277-2505.

Funding Announcements

Following the consensus of the club executive, the Finance Committee and the membership attending recent club meetings, IWFFC has recently made the following commitments and contributions to conservation-related projects in Ontario:

- **\$5,000** (paid) to Trout Unlimited Canada towards the purchase of property adjacent to Gapen's Pool on the **Nipigon River** just north of Lake Superior. Gapen's Pool is one of the major

spawning sites for Lake Superior “coaster” brook trout, and TUC’s purchase of the land will prevent development of the site with attendant threat to the spawning area. Long-range plans are to include the land in a National Park.

- **\$2,000** (paid) to the WeCARE project on the West Branch of the **Credit River** to partially fill an overall 2006 project funding shortfall.
- **\$3,000** (committed) to a PIT tag study of the over-winter movements of brown trout in the **Grand River**, the ultimate aim of which is to determine and alleviate high mortality of recently-stocked fish.

As you know, IWFFC works very hard to raise funds for conservation, and it is often a difficult choice where proceeds can be most effectively spent. We consider the above projects very important to the sustainability of fisheries enjoyed by our members or, in the case of the Nipigon River, of major heritage significance.

Tips and Trips

Club Thread – the Mystery Unravalled

Ron Chandler

I use “club thread”. Many ask: What do you mean by “club thread”? The following is a summary of the history, properties and uses of this wonderful synthetic resource.

Jim Wenger, current “keeper of the thread”, discovered this material and, with the help of Mike Scanlon (Ono club), tracked its origin to the Dupont factory. Three ten-pound reels were obtained and distributed to some of the local fly-tying clubs.

This 37-strand thread is available to IWFFC members free of charge! For convenience, provide Jim Wenger with plastic or metal sewing machine bobbins and he will return them to you filled with thread at an ensuing club meeting. These small spools can be used directly with on small-jawed tying bobbins or re-spool them to a standard wood or plastic spool if you prefer that type of tying control. To do this, use a standard hand drill with a bit that fits the spool opening (an elastic band around the bit will hold the spool steady for winding), attach the thread to the spool and start the drill slowly controlling the thread with your free hand. Advance the drill speed as you get more thread control. Voila! You’re ready to tie.

“Club thread” has the following properties and uses:

1. Has at least 40-lb strength. Will spin deer hair as well as floss.
2. Very durable. Designed for marine sewing, life vests etc. Does not rot with water usage.
3. Accepts colours readily (any permanent marker). Use plain thread on the tail, brown for the body and black for the head; just regulate the amount of colour for each purpose all on the same thread.
4. Strand numbers may be reduced for smaller hook sizes. One of these strands will hold materials on the hook.
5. Separates handily with a bodkin point and, so divided, may be used as a dubbing loop (Wenger technique).
6. Doubled, twisted, coloured and treated with flex cement, this thread can be used as flexible legging material when figure-eighted in at the thorax.
7. Single, double or tripled stands may be used as gilling material on nymph bodies or saltwater shrimp bodies (Jorgensen/Lemieux technique)

The hardcore fly tyer who is steeped in tradition may find fault and produce reasoned argument in relation to the above. “Feel free”, say I; but if your goal is to save time, storage area and the almighty buck, then give this a try. I don’t think the fish will mind.

*If the wind is blowin’ gale-force eight
and your fly line won’t cooperate,
Reflect a moment where you are-
it’s a dab of heaven in a jar!*

The Vise Quad

Where members share favourite fly patterns

Water Boatman

Bob Lundy

I took advantage of a nice late September day, between some cold windy rainstorms that have been moving through, and headed up to the stillwater club. I was determined to try a water boatman that I’ve put together, based on the patterns of some other tyers including, most notably, one of my mentors, Don Moore.

As I approached the first casting platform, I saw a nice fish hanging just off the outer end, so I stopped and prepared to cast. I dropped the landing net and tossed the fly and loose line into the water in front of me, preparing to strip line off to make the

10m cast. It turns out I didn't need to bother with pulling any line off. There was a fish lurking just off the cattails, and he hit fly with a vengeance as soon as it hit the water. So before I even made the first cast, I landed a nice rainbow, just short of 3 pounds.

After releasing this nice fish, I moved out to the end of the platform and proceeded to cast. For real, this time. Short casts were in order, and the fish were fine with the fly running just under the surface. I continued to land some nice fish (well, they're all nice, if you want the truth). After a bit, I started moving around the pond. I still had that first fly on, the 3X tippet holding nicely, even if the raffia shellback was starting to show some wear and tear.

From my perspective, the nicest fish was a fully grown male speck. He had his kipe, his back humped up like a salmon and that outrageous vermilion colour in full bloom down the flanks of his belly. Not a lot of fight (as we have come to expect from specks) but, still, a miraculously beautiful creation.

In all: seven rainbows and six specks landed and released in about 2½ hours; several fish lost in the fight, lots more hits and uncounted follows up to the surface. All on one fly. A great day, made better by some great fishing!



- Hook: TMC 2487 (or similar) sizes 16 through 12
- Thread: 8/0 Yellow
- Shellback: Black (or dark brown) plastic raffia
- Underbody/weight and head: Silver wire wrapped near the front of the hook, but well back from the eye to about the midpoint of the shank, with the extra "legs" of the wire bound down to the sides of the hook, under what will become the abdomen
- Body/Abdomen: Yellow Hareline (or similar)
- Legs: A piece of medium "Rubber Legs" tied in by the middle across the hook using the Figure-8 technique, just a bit forward of the middle of the

hook shank and trimmed to length – each leg about equal to the length of the hook shank

- Finish: Bring the raffia forward over the body, lock down with a few turns of thread, then wrap in front of the excess raffia to form a "brow". Trim the excess raffia. Throw on a few more wraps of thread over everything, whip finish and trim the thread. Apply some head cement, then reinforce the shellback with a liberal coating of head cement (Dave's Flexament is recommended).

The silver wire used in this pattern represents the air bubble that the natural uses to manage its own buoyancy. You can vary the mass, and thus the buoyancy, or lack thereof, by applying different amounts of weight. Try an iridescent plastic bead in place of the silver wire for a very shallow running fly, or a silver metal bead for a deeper fly. Cast it out, let it drop a bit, then retrieve it in a very jerky motion, varying the lengths of the retrieve and the pauses between for a natural presentation. Oh, and hold on as the fish seem to take this fly without the usual hesitation.

The Stimulated Madame "X"

Sheldon Seale

In the second half of the summer when I have been fishing with people with many more years of experience than I, they will frequently tell me to put on a bigger fly. "Those size 18 dry flies have their place but you need to convince the fish to come up with a big meal in the summer". Who am I, a relative tyro when compared to these 40+ year veterans, to argue with their logic?

When looking for a pattern that works, it's not uncommon to take characteristics from two or more patterns and combine them into something that works for you. That is the origin of this pattern. The back-end and legs of the Madame X combined with the head and hackle of a Stimulator. The result is the Stimulated Madame X.

This pattern, like so many of these large searching patterns, is not intended to imitate any one food item. In fact, it could be argued that it imitates nothing and is merely a large attractor pattern. In either case, the arguments are moot. The pattern works, can be tied from readily available material and is easy to tie.

Hook: Any 2X or 3X long nymph/streamer hook, sizes 8 to 2
 Thread: White, 3/0
 Tail: Elk hair

Body: Yellow floss or Unistretch
 Wing: Elk hair, tied down wing style like a Caddis
 Hackle: Grizzly, palmered over the head
 Legs: White rubber hackle
 Head: Orange seal's fur or substitute

Tying Notes:

1. Start 1/3 back from the eye and put down a layer of thread returning to the starting point. Clip a small clump of elk hair from the skin; remove the short hairs and even the tips. Tie the hair in at the starting point with the tips out over the hook bend and parallel to the hook shank so the tips will stick out about a hook gap or less. Trim any excess hair ahead of the starting point and return the thread to that point. Tie in a length of floss at the starting point, wrap back to the tail and forward again forming a neat body. Secure the floss and trim any excess.
2. Clip a larger clump of elk hair and tie it in to form the wing. It is best to even the tips of the hair before tying in the wing. The wing should extend back to the end of the tail. Trim the excess hair at an angle and wrap the ends down with the thread. Prepare and tie in the hackle for the head. Then, tie in two lengths of rubber hackle on the sides of the fly just forward of the wing so they form an X when viewed from above.
3. Dub the seal's fur and form the head. Make sure to take a wrap or two at the tie in points of the rubber hackle to help separate the legs. Now, palmer the grizzly hackle forward through the head. Be sure to take one turn over the tie in points of the rubber hackle. Secure the hackle at the front, trim any excess feather, tie off and coat the thread with head cement.
4. I have included a picture showing the fish's view so you can see the way the rubber legs look.

Fishing Notes:

Fish as you would any dry fly. However, it makes a great "slider" for Smallmouth bass and it will even dive a little if you give the line a good strip. This pattern floats very well and is quite durable. This makes it an ideal pattern for the "dry and dropper" technique.

Best of luck with the pattern and enjoy the "dog days" of summer pulling up the big ones with the Stimulated Madame X.

Book Review

Tying Classic Freshwater Streamers by David Klausmeyer
 Countryman Press, Woodstock, VT, 2005
 150 pages, hardbound, illustrated, colour
 Suggested price US\$39.95
 Reviewed by Bruce E Harang

This is another fine fly-tying manual by David Klausmeyer. Here for the first time is a book that explains and illustrates the process of tying classic freshwater streamers of every type. The book starts out with chapters that explain the anatomy of the classic freshwater streamer, and the materials needed to tie these beautiful flies. Following these two chapters are chapters with step-by-step tying instructions for the Carrie Stevens-style streamer; the upright featherwing streamer; tandem hook streamers; a chapter showing how to tie one of the most involved classic freshwater streamers; marabou streamers; bucktail streamers; thunder creek streamers; and the muddler minnow. The final chapter is an excellent selection of classic style streamers both old and new, tied by some of the foremost streamer fly tyers practicing the craft today. The book concludes with a list of materials suppliers, a bibliography, and a list of the streamer tyers showcased in the book.

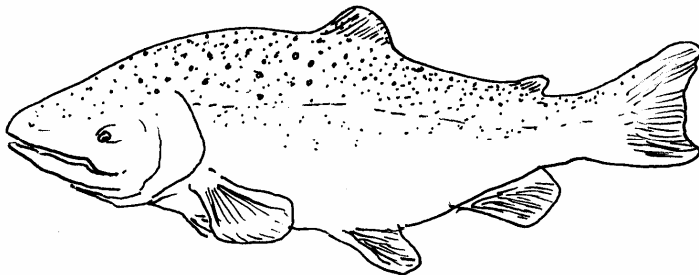
The step-by-step photo sequences are extremely well-thought out and illustrate all of the nuances of tying this style of fly. Unfortunately, many of the photographs are of poor quality with the texture of the materials completely gone and the images looking like someone had painted them with latex wall paint. The use of a black background in many of the photographs makes the images so startling that they are hard to view. In addition, the text for each step needs to be placed along side the photograph to which it pertains to help the reader clearly understand what that step encompasses. Finally, the materials are not listed in the order they are tied on in the various steps. For example the text in a step will say to tie in floss for the body and tinsel for the rib which is exactly in reverse of the tie-in order necessary.

Overall, this is a beautifully illustrated book that will teach everyone interested how to tie some of the most gorgeous freshwater flies, but it needs some serious editing in the next printing.

Courtesy FFF ClubWire newswire service

Miscellany**The River Chinook**

Sharon Cook



S Cook

The day is cool and grey, it is the beginning of September. The Credit River is clothed in a rich palette of greens, except for the few leaves that are tinged with devil red. The river is flowing fast and the Chinook salmon are stalking its corridors. I am casting my fly into a fast moving pool. I can see salmon porpoising up and down the water column as faint outlines smudged against the watery background. I make another cast and – oop! – I feel a fish take the fly. Or is it a fish? No, it is a hippo. The giant Chinook takes off downstream like the cannon ball express, parting the shallow water like a water skier. What's that? A rattlesnake? No it's my reel calling, and I am into my white backing already. Why am I watching my backing spool off instead of the fish? The Chinook is now parked in some fast water, no amount of horn honking is going to move it. I wait ... the fish waits ... I wait ... longer ... longer ... And it's off again like a slingshot. Another run. Actually it's more like a slide, like sliding into home plate. Now I feel the monoharp tension – the monoharp—a specialty one stringed instrument, in a rod-line-salmon tuning. I feel the tension on the eight pound tippet. It won't last long. Wading staff is following me, trying to trip me, no time to retract it. I settle back, knees bent, rod high, river gushing, arm getting tired. I'm waiting again, this time for the third movement to begin. The second was *andante* and I am sure the third will be an *allegro vivace* in the key of riffle. The Chinook circles back like a gust of wind, my reel bleats in synchronous rhythm. Now my arm really is tired. A hush takes over. The fish has been moved to quieter water. It's ready. I feel that the tippet can't take any more. Assistant Ken holds the fish while I quickly remove the fly. Yes, the tippet is frayed. Bravo for this giant female Chinook salmon! Her pectoral fins are larger than my hands

and she has a golden glow, meaning she is “fresh run”. She glides away like a bowling ball, so long gigantic Chinook!

Fishing Alone

Daryl Crowley, West Michigan Hacklers

I like fishing alone but it seems I work hard at trying to avoid it. I call all my fishing buddies and make considerable effort at trying to locate a fishing partner for the day's outing. Having a fishing companion certainly has advantages: conversation in the car to and from the river, or sharing coffee on the bank, while relaying the hard-won information on “what the fish are biting on today”, are certainly hallmarks of trout fishing pleasures. There is safety in numbers too, and as we get older that begins to take on a real importance. And who can deny that it's always cool to hold up a nice trout for someone to see? But occasionally you find that everyone else is either busy or lacking in the political capital department with their spouse, and despite all your phone calls and pleading, it's apparent that today you fish alone, or not all. No problem, fishing alone has its advantages too.

We seem more prone to engage in research and development when we are alone. Maybe we're more comfortable then because no one can see us fail. You can try that latest outrageous fly pattern before you put your reputation on the line in front of a witness. Sometimes you are willing to try new places and you are assured that if they turn out to be major flops, you can cover up the fact that you were stupid enough to go there, and if they turn out to be really good spots, you can cover up the fact that you were ever there at all, at least for awhile.

When you fish alone you can arrive at the river or leave whenever you want. You can take a break when you want. You can go upstream or down or start one way and change your mind; nobody cares. You can fish slower and more methodically when you are alone. After all, you're not engaged in any real or perceived competition. You can spend more time studying a run without the danger of your partner saying “to heck with this” and making a gravy cast into the middle of the run and pulling out a 20-inch trout right from under your over-scrutinizing nose. No, when you are alone you can savor the anticipation of each and every cast.

You can fish however you want; meticulously or sloppily, no one will comment. You can take the time to tie on a new tippet every few minutes, or fish with the same ratty one all day. If

you lose a fish by being careless, you can just say you caught it and let it go; who's going to know? Stretching the truth to enhance the fishing alone experience may be acceptable, but outright lies never are, and you will be discovered eventually. Fishing alone is not a license to compromise basic fly fishing principals. But you can also be selective in what you tell; you may freely convey every nuance of the large trout you caught, but you can completely forget to mention that you fell in the river or broke your rod. That's not lying; that's editing.

Once, many years ago while fishing alone, I caught an exceptional brown trout. Not a record fish, but real dandy, one of my best at that time. As I let the fish slide back into the water, I resolved at that moment to never tell anyone about that fish. This would be my personal and secret trophy, one that would be made even greater by not telling anyone about it; or so I thought. And for a while it was special. I took more than a little pleasure and self-importance in being able to keep such a nice fish a secret. But I wanted to share it with someone it the worst way. For all the esoteric magic of my secret trophy, it paled by comparison to the pleasure I would have had from telling all my friends about it. And now I find, many years later, that I can't remember much about catching that fish except that he was a dandy; the memory lost for lack of use. Now it wouldn't matter who I told as it is no longer important and it happened so far in the past that no one would give it a second thought or would just assume it was the deranged ranting of old man about "the good old days". In retrospect, I'm not sure that it's wise to keep the catching of good fish to yourself. You should share the memories of those big fish you catch. It makes them immortal, at least in your own mind.

Fishing alone can be a lot fun and the prospect of fishing alone is certainly not something that should not put you off from enjoying a day on the river. And while I enjoy fishing alone, I must confess that I would rather fish with one of my friends. I enjoy their companionship, which is why we are friends in the first place. I like not having to make all the decisions and when something goes wrong; you have someone to share the blame with. But mostly, fly-fishing is a sport that begs to be shared, and it's more fun to hold up a nice fish for someone else to admire or to admire someone else's fish, than it is to release it to total obscurity. There is a magic in the sharing that goes beyond what can be delivered by a single pair of eyes. And besides, it keeps us honest.

Courtesy FFF ClubWire newswire service



Photo – Mike Retallick

Does anyone remember scenes like this one, taken a year ago in Forks of the Credit Provincial Park? What happened to winter, anyway? Unusual times have, of course, increased the rumblings of climate change. We've all appreciated the warm weather, snow-free driveways, and lower heating bills, but this unusual weather is a bit disturbing and, well, unnatural.



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