



Credit River Anglers Association



LIGHT LINES

Volume 1, Number 3

Editor - Victor Beacham

Newsletter produced by: John Medeiros

EDITORIAL

Starting January 1, 1991 Erindale Park was opened for Rainbow fishing from Dundas Street to Burnhamthorpe Road.

I appreciate the opportunity to fish for early running Rainbows close to home, but several things concern me regarding this decision.

I am afraid that trout reproductivity will be severely cut back with anglers going out for hens loaded with roe, similar to what is happening to the Chinook run in the fall.

I hope that the "snaggers" don't take vulnerable fish from the holding pools in the search for roe, stripping the fish and leaving the carcasses strewn along the riverbank.

I am afraid that we will see limits of hens being carried out of the park only to have the fish tossed into the garbage.

As I said earlier, I appreciate the opportunity to go after these magnificent creatures, but we must use caution when opening more water for angling for spawning fish.

Why could we not have a "live release only regulation imposed from January 1 to the last friday in April, or at least reduce the possession limit to one or two fish for this period?

As a final report we could have the use of Rainbow and Brown trout roe banned, thus saving countless rainbows for generations to come.

In the meantime, as we take the opportunity to fish Erindale Park during the winter and early spring, let's practice live release and show the anglers fishing next to us what good sportsmanship is all about.

Until next time, good fishing...!

Victor Beacham

Congratulations to C.R.A.A. Lyle Nezon who, along with Paul Hill, have opened **UNCLE'S ANGLING EXCELLENCE** at 94 Lakeshore Road W. in Port Credit.

Lyle's tackle shop offers custom rods, rod & reel repairs, taxidermy services as well as all kinds of tackle.

Good luck Lyle!!!!

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ANNOUNCEMENT ** ANNOUNCEMENT **** ANNOUNCEMENT ******

A new fishing tackle and boat store has just been opened by another of our members - Paul Donaldson (who is also a member of Abu Garcia's Pro Staff). You will remember him as the angler with the 'Pepsodent' smile holding a huge brown trout (25 lbs. 8 ozs.) seen in many magazines and newspapers over the last year. That makes two C.R.A.A. member with a genuine interest in the business of fishing, (the other is Lyle Nezon, a co-owner of "Uncles Angling Excellence" on the Lakeshore in Port Credit.)

"Fishing Plus" is an apt name for Paul's store since it offers not only the popular lines of bass tackle but this is also your Toronto depot for 'Ranger Bass Boats'. Couple these features with Ontario **FIRST** Wildlife art gallery devoted to... you've got it - **FISH**, and you've got a shop that definitely deserves a 'look-see'.

They have competitive prices on the most popular lines of bass tackle and equipment (as well as trusty trout, walleye and panfish extras). This is Ontario's first wildlife art gallery featuring nothing but original fish paintings and prints by world renowned artists,

such as Curtis Atwater. Paul's place is one store you can't miss. (Especially when you look north just off the 401 between Dixon / Martin Grove and Kipling.)

Give Paul a call for direction at 614-1266, he just may have Bob Izumi's "Big Bass Book" there, just for the asking (with a minimum \$10.-00 purchase). Their address is 24 Ronson Drive, Rexdale and they are open from 10 - 6 pm Mon. to Wed., 10 - 9 pm Thurs. - Fri., Sat. 7 - 4 pm.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ROB AND DEB VAIL ON THEIR NEW BUNDLE OF JOY!!!

Member Rob and his wife Deb have just added a new fishing partner to their clan. Taylor Vail is only 2 months old and has already been introduced to fishing in Rob's old stomping grounds - Meaford, Ontario. Taylor made a great alarm clock for Rob at his normal start up fishing time of 4:30 a.m, and was an eager listener to the tales of the day on dad's return. Now there's a fishing buddy with potential...**WARM CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW MOM AND DAD!!!**

Ray Webb

CHANGE IN TROUT REGULATIONS SHOULD MEAN CHANGE IN HABITS

Credit River Anglers should be aware of the new changes regarding Rainbow and Brown trout along the Erindale Park section of the Credit River. The 1991 ONTARIO SPORT FISHING REGULATIONS (page 18) clearly state that the Credit River "in the City of Mississauga from the Queen Elizabeth Way to Lake Ontario and from the north side of Dundas St. bridge (Hwy. 5) to the south side of the Burnhamthorpe Road bridge is open year-round for Rainbow and Brown Trout.

I myself have been involved since the idea was proposed to the MNR at a public meeting three years ago. It has been a long time to implement and presently is only on a TRAIL BASIS. The MNR will closely be observing the activities of anglers once the river is open to determine the effect this regulation is having on the population of Trout.

I will be the first to admit that I love winter Rainbow fishing, but I also know when to cease my fishing to let fish move onto their spawning beds. The maintain

ing of this open season will rest almost solely on angling pressure and kill percentage of the fish. This rests a lot on individual ethics which vary from person to person and which no law can enforce. Leaving the river with a limit of egg laden fish in early April is no angling conquest but it is a sure sign that new measures are needed to protect the fish.

We as CRAA members have the choice of fishing for trout year long on the Credit as we do on other rivers with open seasons. As with any choice there comes some responsibilities. By using our judgement on personal limits, the spots we fish and the time of year we fish, we can make this open season a success and almost guarantee the continuation of the privilege. Let's face it, we as Credit River Anglers have the most to gain and also the most to lose with this new season.

Mark Tarnawczyk

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BOBBERS AND FLY FISHING

I was down at "Uncles" recently, trying hard not to yawn much, while the portly proprietor was expounding on the virtues of the float reel. Being a dyed-in-the-wool fly fisher type person who on occasion, has been known to dust off an old Cardinal 3, I wondered if we haven't borrowed too much from our English cousins. And, I'll use that chr

onology rather loosely, for as you can see by my last name, I ain't even close to being English.

If the English, and I assume it was the English and not the Scots, nor the Welsh, or any facsimile thereof, hadn't coined the phrase float, perhaps a lot of you would be fishing with bobber reels. The Americans call them "corks" - just watch Bill Dance on a Sunday after-

noon if you don't believe me. So I therefore assume the term bobber to be typically Canadian (le bobber, for you Francophones) - so what's all the guff about calling them floats.

I do admire, however, the tenacity and brave face most of you show when an on looking youngster admires to his mother; "look mommy, that man is fishing with a bobber just like me." And I truly revel in the bank accounts that some of you must possess. It takes a small fortune to fish with a bobber these days. All that capital invested, just to fish with bait. Uhhhhmm!

I see that more and more of you on the Credit these days, have turned to the more truly sophisticated, and genteel method of angling. The gentlemanly sport of kings - fly fishing (or do kings hang out at the race track or polo field or something... ?)

The true art of angling lies in the whisper of the wand, as it cuts an arc through the air. The gentle unfurling of line and leader, like a beautiful woman letting loose her hair to fall ever so softly about her shoulders. The all to subliminal touch, as the fly lands gracefully on the water. That my friends, is the axiom of the angling art..., all that is, except the catching fish part.

As the masterful, and prolific writer Arnold Gingrich once said; "Fishing is the least important thing about fishing." While you may or may not agree, I personally have become all too absorbed in the wonders of a riparian landscape (Webster's - ripa'rian [ri-] a. of, on banks of river). That's why I tend to notice stupid things like bobbers. Catching fish is the secondary purpose - a bittersweet consolation on many a day.

I guess if I analyze it further, floats aren't so bad. Even fly fishing has it's misnomers. Is it not really bug fishing? Dry flies are really non-alcoholic insects from the Mormon states of the western U.S.. And wet flies are what you get when the entire diving team does a full gainer into a pool, with their blue jeans on. Nymphs, well they remind me of Walt Disney's Tinkerbell, and one of my ex-girlfriends.

So you see, we are all in this together - thanks to the English. Now all I have to do is figure out who is to blame for camouflaged waders!

John Medeiros

Freelance Writer/Photographer
member - Outdoor Writer of Canada,
Outdoor Writers Assoc. of America

1990 C.R.A.A. MEMBERS SURVEY

I'm really not sure how to start this article, but the first word that come to mind is "WOW". We were hoping that we would get a good return of surveys, however we didn't expect this kind of response.

Usually, a 5 to 10 percent return on a survey is generally regarded as a good figure. You returned 35% of the survey's. This tells me that you really care about the future of the Association and the Credit River

fishery.

I would like to thank all of the members who took the time to fill out and return the survey, your response will help to guide the direction and actions that C.R.A.A. takes during the year. For those who were unable to get their survey in on time, you can still send them in.

We hope that the reason that you didn't return them is not because you just don't care.

If you're like me I think that you will find that following figures fascinating. Some of the information will fit in exactly with how you pictured the average C.R.A.A. member. I'm sure that you will find some information that will surprise you.

AVERAGE AGE:

<u>-16</u>	<u>16-24</u>	<u>25-35</u>	<u>36-46</u>	<u>47-60</u>	<u>60+</u>
2%	14%	47%	25%	5%	7%

NUMBER OF YEARS FISHING:

<u>0-10</u>	<u>10-20</u>	<u>20+</u>
25%	30%	45%

DAYS PER YEAR FISHED:

<u>0-30</u>	<u>30-60</u>	<u>60-90</u>	<u>90+</u>
21%	30%	16%	33%

DAYS PER YEAR FISHED IN ERINDALE PARK:

<u>0-15</u>	<u>15-30</u>	<u>30-45</u>	<u>45+</u>
50%	31%	60%	13%

WHEN DO YOU FISH:

<u>WEEKDAYS</u>	<u>WEEKENDS</u>
34%	66%

WITH:

<u>ALONE</u>	<u>GROUP</u>	<u>BOTH</u>
22%	54%	24%

HOW MANY:

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3+</u>
45%	32%	13%	10%

WHERE DO YOU FISH:

LOWER CREDIT	28%	LAKE ONTARIO	17%
GEORGIAN BAY WATERSHED	14%	HALIBURTON/BRONTE CREEK	6%
MUSKOKAS/EAST T.O WATERSHED	5%		
OTHER ASSORTED AREAS	20%		

WHEN DO YOU FISH:

SPRING	35%	SUMMER	28%	FALL	27%	WINTER	11%
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WHAT SPECIES DO YOU TARGET:

TROUT	34%	SALMON	26%	BASS	21%	WALLEYE	11%
PIKE	6%	MUSKIE	2%				

(trout and salmon include all species in family)

TOP 5 WAYS OF FISHING:

SPINNING	25%	FLOAT/TROLLING	20%	DRIFTING	13%	JIGGING	5%
		FLY FISHING	7%				

HOW MUCH DO YOU SPEND PER YEAR:

\$ 0-500	500-1000	1000-1500	1500+
24%	32%	16%	28%

* I promise not to tell your spouse!

DO YOU FEEL LIMITS ON TROUT IN THE CREDIT SHOULD BE:

DECREASED	INCREASED	SAME
55%	4%	41%

WHAT SHOULD THE LIMITS BE:

0	1	2	3	6
10%	17%	53%	17%	3%

SHOULD TREBLE HOOKS BE BANNED IN ERINDALE PARK:

YES	NO	UNDECIDED
70%	18%	12%

* to the number of bass anglers that responded no. I try to replace my trebles with Siwash hooks.

HAVE YOU CAUGHT ANDY ATLANTIC SALMON THIS YEAR:

YES	NO
73%	27%

* no the east coast doesn't count. For the rest of you, remember to treat them kindly.

Well that's the first section of the survey covered. Due to the volume of returns the second section results will be published in the next newsletter. In the mean time you will be able to see the suggestions we received in action during the events held throughout the year.

I would again like to thank all those who responded to the survey. I hope that with the knowledge that we have gained, we can truly make this an association that you are proud to be involved in. See you on the river.

Simon Backley

GREASED-LINING Mending your way to more Steelhead

Fly fishermen who are used to putting their offerings over brookies and browns in a small stream environment, are faced with a whole new ball game when fishing for migratory salmonids. The concepts of feeding lanes, which has been ingrained in most "trout" fly fisherman is suddenly out the window. Chasing these back alley mongrels of the Great Lakes with a fly rod, calls for a different presentation, and a totally distinct way of thinking.

Let me back track a bit here - actively feeding trout are no different whether you're talking the countless tiny creeks and washes in Central Ontario or the huge, well known trout factories of the western U.S. Trout will hold in water that brings food to them. Anadromous salmonids, (which is everything in the Credit, save the brown trout, since the re-classification of steelhead to the genus *Oncorhynchus*)

will run rivers using, if you will, the path of least resistance. Thus phrases like, holding pools, lies and runs - areas that trout and salmon use to move about, and/or rest in any given river. Float and drift fishermen have long been aware that steelhead often lay right up against the riverbank; were the current is often the easiest to negotiate. Unsuspecting anglers, wading a new piece of water can often spook these bank hugging fish.

During the fall, this scenario becomes complicated further still. Steelhead enter the river to feed on eggs from ripe salmon and brown trout females. 'Bows will place themselves directly downstream from the spawning fish. In essence these migration routes, then became feeding lanes for fall run steelhead. This analogy holds true for any river, and at any time that steelhead enter a river to feed. This is base line information for every angler, whether you are into drifting roe

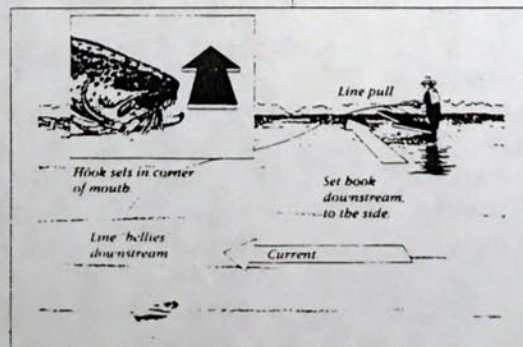
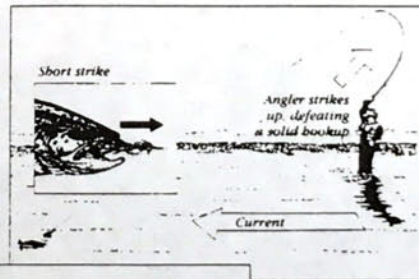
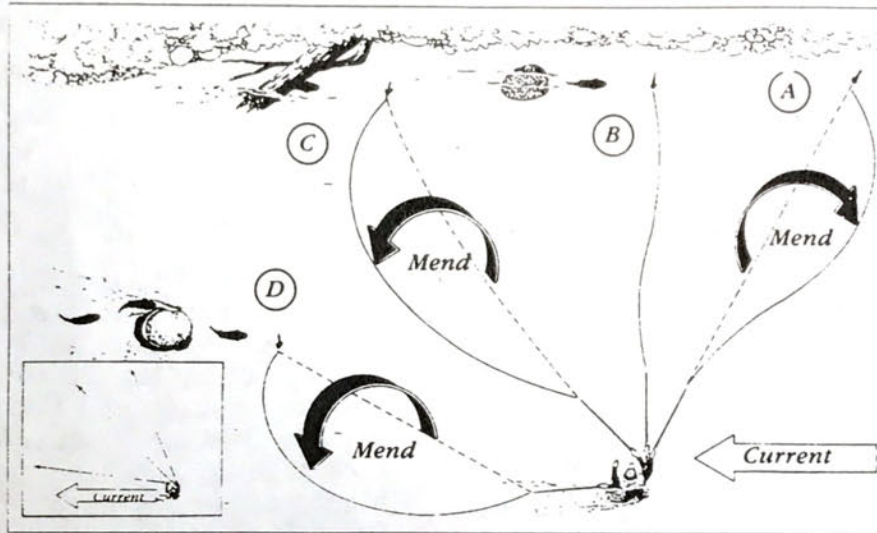
bags, or your main weapon happens to be the fly rod.

Getting a fly over active fish is the goal, regardless of the season, getting them to bite... well that's what fishing is about. The ideal situation is to present your fly in a manner that will ensure more hook ups and will land you more fish - sideways, which offers the best hooking angle.

The method utilized to get your fly sideways to awaiting trout

is know as "Greased Line" fishing. This term was coined in 1935 by Jock Scott as he described a fishing method used by a very well known, and highly successful Atlantic Salmon fisherman, Arthur H. E. Wood. In his book "Greased Line Fishing for Salmon", Scott detailed the unique manner in which Wood managed to land 3,540 Atlantic salmon in a 21 year period.

Greased Line simply refers to fishing a floating line while lett



ing the current swing the fly in pretty much a dead drift, to fish. Line mending is the crux of the deal, and it replaces the stripping action that you would normally apply as a trigger. The angler would start with a normal cast - across and quartering slightly upstream (see diagram). The first mend is upstream and immediately after the line hits the water. The fly is allowed to drift past the angler to a position slightly below. At this point you begin to mend downstream. This keeps the fly and line in the best hooking angle. If a fish strikes, the line will belly out downstream, most often hooking the fish in the corner of its mouth. Fish hitting the fly broadside like this, are usually moving into the current, thus hooking themselves (see diagram). Continue making downstream mends until you are at the tail end of the drift. This is where the alleged short strikes and missed hook up occur in the traditional down-and-across technique. Keep you rod tip low and bring the fly back on your side of the river, and always be prepared for a fish charging in from mid-river depths.

This line mending allows for a couple of advantages over traditional fly fishing for steelhead and salmon. First, as I have already mentioned, it provides for the best possible hooking angle which is sideways. It attempts to eliminate the short strikes that often occur when stripping the fly. This can, and does, pull the fly directly from the fishes mouth in the worst hooking angle. As Wood put it when talking about short strikes: "I do not believe any fish intentionally comes short; the fault lies in the way we fish."

A couple of points to remember, keep you rod tip low and level to the water. And when you see or feel a fish strike your fly, resist the temptation to lift the rod above your head to set the hook. Rather, let the current do most of the work for you and, only pull your line, setting the hook downstream and to the side.

diagrams reprinted courtesy of Fly Fisherman Magazine

John Medeiros

BOOK REVIEWS

SEX, DEATH AND FLY FISHING

by John Gierach - copyright 1990
238 pages, a Fireside Book
Published by Simon & Schuster
Rockefeller Center
1230 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10020

The irrepressible author, Gierach is at it again. Hot on the heels of highly acclaimed works, "Trout Bum" and "The View from Rat Lake", this newest collection of essays, proves once again that this author can mix insight with insult, and how-to with humor.

Gierach is your archetypical Trout Bum. Leaving the Mid-West without a trout to his credit the author wound up in the state of Colorado. Rattling through the Rockies in a beat up Chevy pickup, on yet another week long fishing extravaganza - hell why not two weeks, Gierach has logged more on the water hours than Elizabeth Taylor has collected husbands. The price he's paid is one that a lot of us "die hards" may find tough to swallow, yet often fantasize about.

Leaving everything behind (including two wives in the process), Gierach has worked at any and every job. Just as long as it didn't cut into his fishing time. In "Sex, Death and Fly Fishing", the author shares his insight "on mayflies and men, fishing and sport, life and

love and the meaning (or meaninglessness) of it all."

In my opinion, John Gierach is one of the finest writers chronicling the sport of fishing today. He was recently honored (March 9, 1991) with the Arnold Gingrich Angling Heritage Award for Distinguished Contribution to the Literature of Angling. It's a mouthful - but what it boils down to is, this man knows what the hell he is talking about.

All of his works are a must read by anyone who loves fishing, and also for those of you who just like to plain smile a lot. Definitely part of my "desert island" collection.

NB: Look for his latest, soon to be released novel:

"Where the Trout Are All As Long As Long Leg".

Lyons & Burford Publishers
31 W. 21 St. New York, NY 10-010

I have already ordered my copy in advance! I'll let you know about it in the next issue of Light Lines.

John Medeiros

PRODUCTION FLY TYING

by A.K. Best - copyright 1989
175 pages
Pruett Publishing Company
2928 Pearl Street
Boulder CO, 80301

Some wise old character once said that if you want to learn to shoot pool, don't go to someone who has a pretty house, with a pretty room, and a pretty pool table. Instead go down the dimly lit alley,

on the wrong side of town to the local pool hall, and learn from somebody who makes a living at it. No candy coating, just the school of hard knocks.

That about sums up "Production Fly Tying". A.K. Best is a full

time professional - he ties for groceries. The author manages to tie in the neighborhood of 3,000 dozen flies a year. That doesn't count ones for personal use, or prototypes. Anyway you shake it, that's one hell of a lot of flies.

This book is the seasons best seller because the advise the author shares with his readers is sound, and based on years of trial and error - what you end up with are results. The book is directed at every level, whether you are a beginner or an experienced hand, this book will improve your quality and your speed.

Production Fly Tying is full of details and notions that may perhaps, go against the mainstream thinking in fly tying today. A.K.

The Anglers Art
P.O. Box 148
Plainfield PA, 17081
(717) 243-9721

This shop is an exceptional source of books on a wide variety of topics dealing with fly fishing. It has been my experience that they usually have your order shipped to your door step within three days of taking your phone call. They have a catalogue available upon request.

Best is opinionated, but that is often characteristic of people who know what they are doing. In fly tying, details are what makes the difference between good flies and poor ones. While I will never tie for beer money, this book has helped smooth out some of the rough sessions I've had at the vise.

By the way, the old character I mentioned at the beginning of this review is none other that Lefty Kreh - a first class fly-tier in his own right. When he talks, I listen!

A special note - all of these books and many, many others are all available at:

John Medeiros

C.R.A.A. ELECTIONS

On May 21, 1991, at our general meeting (Dunn & Bradstreet Building - 5770 Hurontario Street) C.R.A.A. will be electing a new Executive Board for the term - Spring '91 to Spring '92. The Positions on the Board to be elected include:

- 1) President
- 2) Vice President of Operations (V.P OP)
- 3) Vice President of Administration (V.P. Admin.)
- 4) Secretary
- 5) Treasurer

The election will be run in the following manner:

- 1) Anyone who chooses to run for a position must be a member in good standing (Current dues must be paid in full).
- 2) Anyone who chooses to run for a position must be nominated and the nomination must be seconded both by C.R.A.A. members in good standing.
- 3) Upon accepting a nomination, a candidate will be given the following time to speak to the assembly:

President.....	5 minutes
Vice President O.P.	3 minutes
Vice President Admin.....	3 minutes
Secretary.....	3 minutes
Treasurer.....	3 minutes

- 4) Ballots are to be handed out before the beginning of the meeting, only to those who are in good standing with C.R.A.A.
- 5) After all candidates for a position are given the opportunity to speak (beginning in alphabetical order), pre-selected scrutineers will collect folded ballots from voters.
- 6) Proxy votes will be accepted in either of two manners:
 - a: via mail to the P.O. Box no later than the morning of the meeting
 - b: hand delivered to the Elections Officer prior to the election.

Proxy votes must be in sealed envelopes and must clearly display PROXY VOTE written on the outside.

All proxy votes must be legibly signed by the voter or be nullified

- 7) The order of the election will be as follows:

election of the President	announce new President
election of the Vice President O.P.	announce new V.P. OP.
election of the Vice President Admin.	announce new V.P. Admin.
election of the Secretary	announce new Secretary
election of the Treasurer	announce new Treasurer

If you have any questions about the elections or would like to run or nominate somebody for a position, please don't hesitate to call me at home - 440-1297.

Elliot Snitman
Presidential Advisor
Elections Officer