The FLYRODDER

PUBLISHED BY
LONG ISLAND FLYRODDERS

This Month's Meeting:
November 3, 2026 - 7:30



Jimmy Pungello
at Montauk (archive)

GUEST SPEAKER:

Debbie Hanson

"Fly Fishing for Peacock Bass"

(Nominations for Officers and Board)

President's message

Presidentôs Message for November 2026

Is it me, or does this year seem to be flying by? We had a great time at the Awards Dinner. Thanks to those who came and to those who put the whole thing together. Our awards night is unique in that nobody makes a speech. We call you up, you get an award, take a picture, and sit down, lol. Even though thanking our members is our theme, weôre really there to socialize and let our better halves see what weôre like outside of the VFW.

I want to remind you that Connetquot stays open year-round, as does the Westchester, and Connecticut streams and rivers. Check out the TeamReach app if you start getting cabin fever. Iôll try and remember to post before I head out, anyoneôs welcome to join me. We have a few dates coming up, for anyone who would like to try their hand at giving casting lessons or acting as a fishing guide. As the holiday season approaches donôt forget our annual ñToys for Totsò collection drive and holiday party.

PS our elections are coming up. Itôs your club. Maybe you have some fresh ideas or just want to be involved. Anyone can run for the board or an officer position. If Iôm president for a third year, Iôm going to insist on being called Emperor Sullivan!

Regards,

Shawn



Awards Dinner - 2026

River Bay OUTFITTERS

- Trips, Seminars, Classes
- Rods & Reels,
- Fur & Feathers, etc.
- Weekly Newsletter & Fishing Updates

FLY FISHING SUPPLY & INSTRUCTION

Long Island's now largest and only shop dedicated to fly fishing located on the south shore.

Sign Up For Our Newsletter

RiverBayOutfitters.com

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Individual or Group Lessons available with Seminars for Clubs



*****If you know of anyone who is not receiving the Newsblast or Newsletter have them contact Shawn Shawnsul8@aol.com, 516 236-6554**

***** As you may have noticed at the last meeting, we now have to bring three extra tables and chairs from the shed out back and put them away at the end of the meeting. Thanks to those who helped at the last meeting, Anyone who can get to the hall 6:30-7 to help set up the tables would be greatly appreciated!**

***Time to renew your membership starting in December! Remember you must be paid up in order to participate in club activities, donôt miss out!. ALL members must fill out a membership form. You can print one out from the club website and weôve made it so that you can type in your info and then print it out already completed. We also have blank forms available at the meeting.

Hey Flyrodders: Here's your events calendar for the month of November 2026

We are saddened by the recent passing of former LIFR President and longtime member Al Manz. Our condolences to his family and friends.

***Thank you to **Ed Kohler, Ken Mattera, Bill Smith, and Lou Minghinelli** for helping out at the Womenôs Expo at Connetquot. There was a large turnout and we needed the help! Thanks to **Rich and Annmarie Cosgrove, Bill Smith, Bruce Kraebel, and Tom Scialdone** for Helping at ñCatch A Rainbowò day at Connetquot. Thank you to the Awards committee**, Bill Draghi, Andy Murad, Karin Stainkamp, and Harry Hessel** for all of their hard work. We had a great time at Borelli's, don't miss out next year!
*** We can use a volunteer to take over the coffee, and snacks from Harry. Harry has been doing it for a while despite his back injury. You donôt have to be a board member, but if you want to join the board that would be even better. See Shawn.

11/3 LIFR Meeting at 7:30 Guest speaker Debbie Hanson, www.shefishes2.com, ñFly Fishing for Peacock Bass ñ 6:30 used tackle sale, fly casting will be back in the spring.
***We will be taking nominations for four board members, and President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Any member can be nominated for any of these positions. We will vote in January; new terms begin at February meeting.
****We will start collecting dues for 2027 at the December meeting. A completed application must be submitted with payment. Cash or a check made out to the Long Island Flyrodders. We wonôt be setting up a credit card payment until next year.Please do not mail a check to our PO Box. Send to **Peter Harris**, his address is on the website.

11/5 Connetquot HS visit to Connetquot State Park
11/16 Club Day at Connetquot two sessions 8-12 and 12-4, cash only, pay at the gate, do **NOT** send me a check in advance! New electronic gate with entry code. After Shawn collects the money he will punch in the code at 7:45 and everyone will enter at the same time. He will stay up there until 8:15. If you arrive late you will have to text Shawn to get in. Afternoon session is the same. Pay at the gate. I will let everyone in at 11:30. I will stay until 12:10. Call me if youôre late. Text me if youôre canceling. There is no charge for cancellations. Contact Shawn Sullivan at 516 236-6554, or email Shawnsul8@aol.com to reserve your spot or sign up at the meeting (Ed Kohler will be filling in for me at the park that day)

11/12 Fly Tying at VFW 6:30, instruction for beginners and intermediate tyers, vices provided for beginners, free tyers welcome, bring your own food. Contact Bill Smith to sign up or for info:631 434-5200, wds0248@gmail.com Iôm going, who else is coming? Be there or be square!
11/17 Island Trees HS visit to Connetquot
11/22 Hampton Bays HS at Connetquot

11/24 LIFR Board Meeting 7 pm
11/26 Thanksgiving don't overcook that turkey! Have a great day!

Upcoming Events:

12/1 Holiday Party 7:30 and Toys for Tots Collection. Please bring an unwrapped toy for a boy or girl. Each toy gets you one raffle ticket for a special prize! We will have sandwiches, appetizers, mini pretzels, and a sheet cake!
1/5/27 Our annual fly-tying night
1/22-24 Edison Fly Fishing Show

Many thanks and Tight Lines-

Shawn Sullivan President
Long Island Flyrodders
Website : www.liflyrodders.org



October Meeting







Tthomas Weghorst
Raffle Winner






Award Dinner
2026
















Award Dinner
2026










Award Dinner
2026






Happy
Thanksgiving

A Perfect Day

By Shawn Sullivan

When it comes to fishing, what is a perfect day? Is it one where you do everything right and the fish show their appreciation by practically jumping into the net? Is it a day when youôve caught a dozen fish and everyone else is complaining about getting skunked? Is it a day when you havenôt had success with any of the tactics youôve tried until the very end of the day when you finally crack the code? Maybe itôs a day when youôre fishing with friends. Everyoneôs caught at least one fish, and most of the day has been spent laughing and cracking jokes. Iôm thinking about this because sometimes a day is perfect in a way that you werenôt expecting.

I recently helped teach casting and fly fishing as a guide at Connetquot River State Park as part of the Catch A Rainbow workshop for women with breast cancer. We start off with fly tying, which I wasnôt part of, then casting instruction, and finally go down to the river to fish. I always teach beginners to cast using the drill that one of our casting instructors, Lou, has taught me. It starts off with short sidearm casts, moves up to forty-five degrees, and ends with a straight overhead cast. We also teach the roll cast. One of the things that I do is show how to hook and land a fish. I grab the end of the leader, run around like a maniac, and pretend to be a fish, which Iôm strangely very good at (I was born an Aquarius). After they land me, theyôre instructed to rub my belly and throw me back. Just kidding, Iôm a keeper!

When we got down to the river, we picked a spot in front of rocks that formed a funnel where the fish would intercept food that spilled over. The cast had to be low enough not to hit the overhanging trees, that were both in front of and behind us. I tied on a black wooly bugger and she began to false cast. Her cast was perfect. I couldnôt believe it. I was both happy for her and green with envy. It had taken me years to manage that cast. She kept getting short bites and near misses. She was doing everything right; it was just one of those Connetquot days. I switched to a white mop fly, which brought even more short bites. I told her to try and fish the pool behind her by letting her back cast fall into the water. Sometimes having the fly come downstream instead of pulling it upstream, can make a difference. I wasnôt sure that sheôd be able to do it, but she wanted to try. She made a flawless back cast, underneath the branches, right to the head of the pool. I watched stunned, it was like viewing a slow-motion film.She followed the leader with the fly rod, pulled in the slack, and set the hook.

I could see it was a good size fish, and I was worried that she would lose it. After all of those near misses, she deserved to land one. When I was pretending to be a fish, I had shown her how to fight the fish from the butt of the rod, pulling the rod to your side, and then switching to a vertical when she would need to lift the troutôs head up and slide him into the net. I thought I would have to yell out suggestions, but I didnôt need to. She took control of the fish without over tiring it and steered it into my net. She told me that she surfs, and I was trying to figure out how surfing would relate to fly fishing. Maybe itôs the agility and reflexes required in both pursuits. Iôve never surfed. I have enough trouble not drowning while Iôm fishing.

I know this article ended up being mostly about me. Wait, you mean everything isnôt about me? I didnôt want to speak for her. I canôt presume what sheôs gone through. I know one of the things I love about fishing is that when youôre fighting a fish youôre not thinking about your car payments, your back pain, your leaky faucet, or what youôre having for dinner tonight. Watching her fight and land that fish made my day, and from the big smile on her face, Iôm sure it was a perfect day for her as well.

LONG ISLAND FLYRODDERS

Fishing with Friends

Fishing with Friends - Process

Process

- Sign up beginning at the April meeting
- Download the Team Reach App – allow the app to receive notifications
- You will be contacted with the code for joining the LIFR Fishing with Friends Team
- Use the app if you are going fishing and would like someone to join you or to plan a fishing outing
- Respond to notifications for fishing opportunities if you are interested

Fishing with Friends



- Create a forum to meet and fish with club members
- Centralized hub for members to post and respond to fishing opportunities
- Simple non intrusive communication process using the Team Reach app

Fishing with Friends – Team Reach App

- **TeamReach** has everything needed to manage and instantly communicate with your team, club, or group.
- It's **EASY, INTUITIVE, SAFE** and **FREE!**

  Team Reach reduces confusion by serving as a central place for all communications.
- Easy identification for when and where fishing opportunities will occur.
- Immediate notification of any last-minute changes



LIFR Instagram Page

Joe Coccaro, , has volunteered to manage an instagram page for the club. He would like to encourage our members to submit fishing pictures to him for inclusion on the page.

Please include your name, location, type of fish and any other info you think important with your photos. Photos can be emailed directly to Joe:

jvcoccaro@gmail.com Or text : 516-818-6265



LIFR MONDAYS AT CONNETQUOT

Because of changes at Connetquot River State Park, the Club is now required to pay the park for all members fishing that day, morning or afternoon session.
In order to accomplish this, effective immediately, if you want to fish the 12 noon to 4:00pm afternoon session, you must send a check, in advance, for $25, made out to
If you are fishing the morning session, you may pay at the park on the day you fish.
Text, email, or call to make your reservation.
Your check must arrive no later than the Saturday before fishing day. If you need to cancel for any reason, please do so by the Saturday before fishing day. I will hold your check aside for future visits to the park.

Unfortunately, no-shows who do not cancel, will forfeit their payment.



Monday Fishing at Connetquot River State Park - 2026

November 16

2 Sessions: 8am to 12pm - 12pm to 4pm
@ $25 per session

LIFR Connetquot Fishing - November 16, 2026

Good news members, our Board approved fishing for **this month.** Additionally, if you want to fish, there will be **2 Session: 8am to 12pm - 12pm to 4pm.** Please observe the rules listed below so all our members can safely enjoy their day on the river.

Please do not enter the park before 7:10 AM.

We will be restricting the number of fishermen on the river to 10 members per session.

All members that want to fish must register with **Ed Kohler** by phone, email or text; **first come first served**; he will confirm your reservation. If you need to cancel please do so 72 hours prior to **Monday, November 16** so that your reservation can be offered to another Flyrodder on the wait list. Please call, text, or email **Shawn**: **516 236 6554, or email** Members are restricted to one fishing session in order to give more LIFR members an opportunity to fish. You might be able to fish a second session if we fail to get 10 fishermen at each session. Ted will keep a waiting list to advise of another fishing session opportunity if requested.

At the park please place $25.00 in cash in an envelope with your name on it; there will be a box available for collection.

Stewards for the day will be Ed Kohler.



The Long Island FlyRodders now have a Group Facebook page (LIFR Group). This page can be used by LIFR Members to post fishing info, pictures, invitations, etc. Andy Murad and Bill Smith are the Admins for the page. If you haven't been added to the page already, just log onto LIFR Group and request to join the page.

Night/Sport Fishing Permit: The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation ï Long Island Region - will be accepting dashboard permit applications until March 31, 2025. They will go back on sale **September 7 through December 31, 2025**. There will be no mail-in or in-person sales. One application can be used for multiple permit requests for the same vehicle. Permit(s) will be mailed to the address indicated on the application.For questions, please call the Permit Department at (631) 321-3770.

To purchase a 2025 Dashboard Permit Apply online through DocuSign: visit ***parks.ny.gov***, Long Island Region to apply. Valid credit card is required for payment. Permit(s) will be mailed once processed.

Fees are as follows and determined by issuing state of the applicantôs driverôs license:

4 X 4 FISHING $80 (NY resident), $125 (out of state)

CAMP HERO FISHING $40 (NY resident), $75 (out of state)

NIGHT/SPORT FISHING $35 (NY resident), $60 (out of state)

To purchase a Night/Sport Fishing permit.

YOU MUST HAVE THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS WHEN APPLYING:

1. Valid e-mail address
2. Valid driverôs license of the applicant
3. Valid vehicle registration and license plate information
4. Valid NYS DEC Recreational Saltwater/Marine Fishing Registry ID # (required for fishing dashboard permits).

How to register with the DEC for the free MARINE REGISTRY:

-ONLINE: **https://decals.licensing.east.kalkomey.com/**



The Flyrodder
is a monthly publication of
The Long Island Flyrodders
www.liflyrodders.org

Morty Schneiderman

Editor

lifrnews@gmail.com

The Long Island Flyrodders
meet at 7:30 PM on the
first Tuesday of each Month
at the:

Levittown VFW Hall
55 Hickory Lane
Levittown, NY

(North of Hempstead Turnpike
& West of Jerusalem Avenue)

2026 OFFICERS:

Shawn Sullivan
President

Andy Murad
Vice President

Karin Stainkamp
Secretary

Peter Harris
Treasurer

2025 BOARD of DIRECTORS:

Joe DiClemente
Bill Draghi
Harry Hessel
George Musorrafiti
Mark Poris
Jim Pungello
Morty Schneiderman
Bob Skoy

MERCHANDISE CORNER

Come see Susan & Nora for the best deals in town on all our LIFR branded items.

Get ready for fishing season with LIFR merchandise at prices you can't refuse.

Everything is priced to move!!

Fishing Photos

We need your fishing photos for our website photo galleries!! Itôs a very easy process. Just email your favorite fishing related photos to **webmanager@liflyrodders.org**, with a brief description. If you're a fan of our Facebook page, you can add them directly there and we'll copy them to the website's photo gallery

LIFR Needs You!

Our club needs volunteers.
Please donate some of your time to help out at meetings and for other important club business.

If you can spare a little of your time, please see Pres. Ed Kohler or any Board Member for information. Thank You

Project Healing Waters Update

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, PHWFF, based in Northport VA, has **new fishing dates**. The Veterans will be fishing Connetquot on the **first Monday of every month**. And, as before, they look to LIFR for volunteers to guide and assist. If you would like to guide, assist and teach a Veteran fly fishing at Connetquot, call:

Jim Gilmartin, 516-241-5868



Online Hatch Guide for Club Members

I've been dealing with **Trident Fly-fishing (www.tridentflyfishing.com)** out of Massachusetts and found an interesting hatch guide for multiple states and streams within each state that might be useful to club members.

The webpage URL is **https://flyshack.com/HCState.aspx**. You scroll each state to find the stream you're interested in. I referenced the Schroon River in Lake George as my wife and I will be up there in early June. Thanks. Tight Lines.

Don Ghee



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www.YouTube.com/user/CatchMagazine

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The Long Island Chapter of Trout Unlimited meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at: Levittown VFW Hall 55 Hickory Lane Levittown, NY at 7:30 p.m.
Visitors are always welcome.

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

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

1-800-BERKLEY or **1-800-237-5539**

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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Lou Minghinelli
IFFF Certified Casting Instructor

Fly Casting Lessons

Huntington
New York

631 848 0369
Jacalou007@aol.com

INTERNATIONAL



How to stay in the fly fishing game for a lifetime

Many members have found the following blog post, **"How to stay in the fly fishing game for a lifetime,"** posted January 29, 2020, by Domenick Swentosky," on his blog, troutbitten.com, to be meaningful.

We include the link below:
https://troutbitten.com/2020/01/29/how-to-stay-in-the-fly-fishing-game-for-a-lifetime/

Thanks, Mike Postol

Saltydogfishingcharters llc

Saltydogfishingcharters llc@facebook

Saltydogfishingcharters@yahoo.com

(516) 647-5115

LONG ISLAND FLYRODDERS, INC. (LIFR)
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
or RENEWAL AND RELEASE

APPLICATION FOR YEAR 202 ____

The undersigned hereby applies for membership or renewal, in the **LONG ISLAND FLYRODDERS, INC.** ("**LIFR**"). The Undersigned verifies that I understand the inherent risk in participating in the activities and fishing or other trips (**Trip**) of the LIFR. I am physically fit, and I am aware of, and have sufficiently prepared for, the rigors of all such activities and Trips. I understand that a Trip 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. I assume the risk of undertaking the **Trip**, including traveling to and from the Trip destination.

I am fully aware of risks of contracting an infection and/or disease, including but not limited to Covid-19 and its variants, as a result of participating in such activities. I will comply with all CDC Guidelines.

The undersigned, intending to be legally bound, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, ("Releasor") waive and release any and all rights and claims for personal injury, infection, disease, death, and property damage or loss ("Damage"), that the Releasor may have against, and hold harmless, the Long Island Flyrodders, Inc. (ñLIFRò), its Officers, Directors, Trustees, Trip Leaders, and Members, VFW Post 9592, and any of their agents and representatives ("Releasee"), for Damage suffered by the Releasor, arising out of or connected in any way with the LIFR, the Trip, or related activities.

In case of emergency, when reasonably feasible, contact:

print name: _____ **relationship**: _____ **cell phone**: _____

By signing this Membership Application or Renewal and Release, I waive the right to recover money damages in the event I am injured, die, contract an infection and/or disease, or suffer the loss of property while participating in LIFR activities.

Annual Dues: Individual $60.00 / Family including children up to 16 yrs $70.00 / Junior (up to 18 yrs) $15.00

Renewal [ ]	
Applicant / Releasor: signature:	
Print Name:	
Print Address:	
Print email Address:	The Flyrodder: LIFR Newsletter will be sent here
Cell Phone:	

Long Island Flyrodders

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL AND RELEASE

PLEASE NOTE: If you change your PO or email address, you must notify LIFR by sending an email to webmanager@liflyrodders.org OR by writing to: LIFR PO Box 8091, Hicksville NY 11802. This will ensure our correct records and your timely receipt of your Flyrodder.

IF YOU PREFER TO PRINT OUT, FILL-IN, AND MAIL-IN THIS APPLICATION, PLEASE HAVE EACH MEMBER AND FAMILY MEMBER SIGN, AND MAIL WITH THE APPROPRIATE CHECK PAYABLE TO: *Long Island Flyrodders* PO Box 8091Hicksville, NY 11802

OPTIONAL ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- **Answering or not answering, or how you answer has NO bearing on your eligibility.**
- The Club places no restriction on its membership other than a boundless enthusiasm for the fly rod, its literature and traditions and a willingness to participate in the free and unhampered exchange of fly fishing information among its members.
- The following answers gives the Board information about the makeup of the membership.
- Knowing your expectations helps us to create the programs.

Print Name: _____ Age: _____

Occupation: _____ Retired [ ]

Do you use a fly rod now? YES [ ] NO [ ] How many years: flyfishing: _____ How many years salt _____

Where do you fish regularly? _____

If you own a boat, Describe: Length: _____ Make: _____ Model:_____

Do you kayak-fish? YES [ ] NO [ ] If you own a kayak, Make/ Model_____

In which committee would you like to help?

[ ]	CASTING	[ ]	HOSPITALITY
[ ]	CONSERVATION	[ ]	MEMBERSHIP
	FISHING OUT-		SHOWS &
[ ]	INGS	[ ]	EVENTS
[ ]	FLYTYING	[ ]	PUBLIC RELATIONS
[ ]	PROGRAM	[ ]	WEB SITE
			_____
[ ]	NEWSLETTER	[ ]	_____

LONG ISLAND FLYRODDERS COMING EVENTS
November - 2026

November 3	**Club Meeting 7:30pm** Guest speaker **Debbie Hanson -** ñFly Fishing for Peacock Bassò *****We will be taking nominations for four board members, and President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.** ****6:30: used tackle sale, fly casting will be back in the spring**
November 5	Connetquot HS visit to Connetquot State Park
November 12	Fly Tying at VFW 6:30 - **See Newsblast for Info**
November 16	**Club Day at Connetquot two sessions 8-12 and 12-4, See Newsblast for Info**
November 17	Island Trees HS visit to Connetquot
November 22	Hampton Bays HS visit to Connetquot
November 24	**LIFR Board Meeting 7pm (Zoom)**
November 26	**HAPPY TURKEY!!!**
December 1	**Holiday Party 7:30 and Toys for Tots Collection**

FLYRODDER
P.O. Box 8091
Hicksville, NY 11802

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