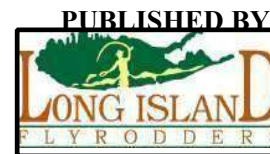


The FLYRODDER



This Month's Meeting:

September 1, 7:30 PM



VP Andy Murad with a huge Pike



I remember when I first decided to take up fly fishing, how hard it was then to find anyone to talk to about it. I tried to teach myself from some dusty old books that I found in the library. If

felt like it took forever just to be able to get twenty feet of line out. I don't know how I found the resolve to keep at it. I wasn't going to a river or a bay, I was fishing in South Pond in Rockville Centre. That was my home water..I guess that's why I get a kick out of teaching and guiding. When you see someone's face light up as they start to get it, well that's a million dollar smile right there! Why not volunteer and experience it for yourself!.

EVENTS CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 1, 2026

9/1 Meeting at 7:30, casting out back 6:30, Used Tackle Sale 6:30

Guest Speaker Karin Miller of Zen Tenkara (Zoom)

9/21 Connetquot 8-12, 12-4. In-person pay, cash only. Reserve with Shawn 516 236-6554, Shawnsul8@aol.com

9/25-27 Beaverkill Trip at Riverside Lodge,

9/22 LIFR Board Meeting

10/14 Awards Night at Borelli

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

September 12 Woman's Expo at Connetquot 10-2, help with casting, man info table, fishing guide. Signup sheet at the September meeting.

MEMBER NEWS

Shawn, Rob Scott, Joe DiClementi, and Bill Smith had a great time helping the Scouts earn their merit badge in flyfishing. A couple of them caught their first fish on a fly they tied themselves!

Bill Draghi with help from the LIBBA crew put together a great club picnic at Belmont Lake!

Bill Smith's day trip to Forge Pond went very well with lots of panfish, bass, and pickerel caught.



PIC OF THE MONTH

Flycasting instructor Peter Mancuso
And his wife with a couple of
nice Bass caught at Disney!

Guest Speaker

Karin Miller of www.ZenFlyFishingGear.com

“Flyfishing Tenkara Basics”

Website



Home Waters

By Shawn Sullivan

Home water can be any water that you fish on a regular basis. I always thought of it as “sneak out” water. You know, that water that’s within a fifteen-minute drive from your house. That water that you’re thinking of when you say you’re going out for milk, and you show up two hours later with a big smile on your face, and even worse, you forgot the milk! (not that I personally would ever do something that sneaky).

My home water for many years was South Pond in Rockville Centre. It wasn’t big, and it didn’t get a lot of fishing pressure until they stocked it with trout in the late fall. It had a trail that was sometimes navigable, sometimes not, and I usually entered from a hole in the fence on Peninsula Boulevard. It had Largemouth Bass, Pickerel, and very small Perch. It was there that I developed my technique of finding deeper holes without using a depth finder. I would just blunder into them until I swamped my waders and try to remember where they are for the next time. The best side was the side that ran along the fence on Peninsula. It had a nice drop-off about twenty-five feet out from the shore, where the bass and pickerel liked to stage up. I never left there without catching something: sometimes fish, sometimes poison ivy, and sometimes a car tire.

South Pond is where I learned to always make a short cast before stepping into the water. I had spooked quite a few, within a foot of the shoreline before I had an “aha” moment. South Pond is where I learned to have the “patience of a saint” when untangling my fly line from the sticker bushes behind me. South Pond is where I learned that loose dogs are generally not friendly. South Pond is where I learned that not everything found in the water deserves a closer look. South Pond is where I learned that people driving by like to shout rude things at fly fisherman, and occasionally lob something over the fence, hoping for a direct hit.

My sneak-away fishing season usually began on Easter Sunday, which was always at my house, with mainly my in-laws. I would head over to the far side of the lake, near Lakeview Avenue to where the spillover damn was located. I knew the water was deeper there, and the piers made good structure for bass. I always caught at least one, and I would be in a pretty good mood for the rest of the day, which my wife attributed to the honey baked ham.

When they started stocking the pond with trout, my season extended into winter. Once the temperature started dropping, so did the number of fishermen. Eventually it was me and one other guy, mailman Ben. I called him “mailman” because, well, never mind. He was an expert with in-line spinners. He instinctively always knew the best spot to find trout in freezing cold temperatures. At first, I just figured he was the luckiest mailman I was ever going to meet, but eventually he began to teach me the ways of the pond. I learned to read the wind and its effect on the baitfish, how to lead a fish rather than casting it right on its head, and how not to be standing where I should be fishing. He was the calmest person I’ve ever fished with; he had a Zen-like demeanor. Not at all like the mailman on Seinfeld. I asked him how it was even possible to enjoy fishing without ever cursing or throwing an occasional tantrum.

He would just smile and say, "you have a lot to learn grasshopper". I still miss that "home water", but as they say, "you can't go home again".

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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