

## A Report of the Year 2010 to the Members

The Fly Fishing Museum of Canada Inc. at Waterloo has ended its fifth year of existence.

On the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> February 2010 the museum volunteers displayed many objects from the collection and animated a kiosk with the group Pêcheurs à la Mouche de la Haute-Yamaska (PMHY) in the exhibition hall of the Forum de pêche à la mouche Québec/Maritimes in Granby. This event is an excellent occasion to promote the Museum and its objectives, to renew the interest of its members and to attract\* /incite new people to join the ranks of those who protect the culture of Canadian fly fishing.

On the occasion of the benefit banquet of the Forum, Saturday evening on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2010, the recipient of the Paul Plante Honorable Mention Award was named. This mention is accorded annually to a person from Québec who has done much to protect and to improve habitats for fish, as well as the promotion of fly fishing in Québec.

**Gérard Bilodeau is the recipient for the year 2010.** For many years he has been involved in several fly fishing associations, and collaborates with different specialized journals such as the FQSA's "Saumons Illimités".

He is also co-author of two books about salmon, and he represents Québec on the selection committee of Fishing and Oceans Canada's prize for Canadian Recreational Fishing.

He is one of the first people to promote and practice 'Catch and Release' fishing.

### Presentation of GÉRARD BILODEAU

*Recipient of the Honorable Mention Paul Plant Award, 2010*

*I met our recipient in 1978 while on one of my first salmon fishing trips, this time on the Petit-Saguenay River. I was then accompanied by the founding president of the Confrérie des pêcheurs à la mouche ATOS, Mr. Michel Lavallée. This river had recently become accessible to the public after many years of private use.*

*Gérard is a senior executive of the Caisses Populaire Desjardins for Canada and the United States. A fisherman for more than forty years, he fished as a child with his father and his brothers, and has been a fly fisherman since his adolescence. He started at a young age to fish for Atlantic salmon.*

*Becoming a self-taught entomologist, he started at an early age tying his own flies.*

*Being adept at team work, he is implicated in many fly fishing associations and federations, such as A.T.O.S., (Achigan, Truite, Omble, Saumon) (i.e. Bass, Trout, Arctic Char, Salmon), A.P.S.S.Q. (Association des pêcheurs sportifs de saumons du Québec), F.Q.S.A. (Fédération québécoise pour le saumon atlantique) and the Club de 20.*

*A sought-after speaker by tie flying clubs and by managers of specialized boutiques, Gérard has given courses in fly tying and in fly fishing for Atlantic salmon.*

*He has participated in many fly fishing forums, such as ours in 2009, as an animator and teacher.*

*He has collaborated, and still does with specialized journals / magazines:*

*'Lacs & Forêts', 'Sentier Chasse-Pêche', 'Saumons Illimités', of which he is still a member of the editing committee. He has participated in the creation of films for cinema and television, such as the celebrated 'L'homme à deux truites', (The Man with Two Trout).*

*He has been co-author with Gilles Aubert and André A. Bellemare of the famous scholarly book 'Saumon atlantique' published in 1987, and of the book 'Le saumon: 400 ans d'histoire et de passion au Québec' published on the occasion of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation of the City of Québec; he is now working at editing a new book on the modern techniques for fly fishing of the atlantic salmon*

*In 2004, he replaced me as a member of the selection committee for the Canadian recreational fishing awards, which Fisheries and Oceans Canada presents annually throughout the whole country.*

*Our laureate has been one of the first fly fishermen of Québec to promote the release of his catches.*

*Now, I have the great pleasure to introduce you to the recipient of the \*\*Mention Paul Plante Award for the year 2010, Mr. Gérard Bilodeau.*

During this same banquet, the announcement was made of the recipient of the **Jean-Guy Côté Award**, to be presented to a Canadian who is very implicated in the promotion of fly tying. The 2010 prize was awarded to none other than the creator of the salmon fly *'Undertaker'*, **Warren Duncan**.

The official presentation of the Jean-Guy Côté Prize to Mrs. Ann Duncan was made on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> March at the Fly Fishing Forum in Dieppe, New Brunswick.

**Presentation of the Jean-Guy Côté Award 2010 to Warren Duncan**

*He has tied thousands of Atlantic salmon flies, for hundreds of fishermen both ordinary and celebrated. He has regularly tied his flies, and has been fishing in the Miramichi River accompanied by Ted Williams of the Boston Red Sox, who is a member of the Baseball Hall of Fame.*

*Around 1995 Jean-Guy Côté was extending the series of colours of his Uni-Stretch threads. He told me that he was in close collaboration with a renowned fly tier who really liked his product line, and that he really liked to display it in one of his creations for fishing Atlantic salmon. This complicity led to the appearance of the new Chinese Red and Chartreuse threads.*

*This creation is known to us all - the 'Undertaker'.*

*Our recipient was born in Campbellton but made his career over 32 years with the Irving Petroleum Company*

*His hobby was the tying of flies. Many 'connoisseurs' consider him one of the speediest tiers to have ever squeezed a hook into a vice. While giving a demonstration of speed allied to perfection, he mounted a Rusty Rat ready for fishing in one minute and 13 seconds. He certainly has used a lot of Uni thread in his 25 year career!*

*He was a bon vivant; he loved to eat a good lobster, to smoke a cigarette, to tell stories, to laugh while enjoying his glass of rye. He had so much pleasure with his friends that often he didn't pay attention to his health, offering them all that he enjoyed so much.*

*In 1993 the government of New Brunswick asked him to create an official fly for the province. His 'Picture Province' was presented to the leaders of the G-8 in Halifax in 1995.*

*It was at his boutique, Dunc's Fly Shop on Hickey Street in St. John, N.B., that a client found him, having collapsed at his tying table, the bobbin still in his hand. He died on 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2007*

*To have contributed so much, both by the excellence of his fly tying and his writing, as well as by his ability to be creative; and with his huge involvement in popularizing the tying of flies for all enthusiasts, he is today, posthumously, the recipient of the Jean-Guy Côté Award.*

*I have named Warren Duncan.*



Claude H. Bernard and Anne Duncan (Warren Duncan's wife)

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During the two days of the Forum thousands of amateur fly fishers took the time to meet and to speak with the exhibitors in the exhibition hall. Many of them discovered the Museum and its objectives, either by becoming a member or by renewing their membership.

On 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010 you had been convened to the Annual General Meeting of the Fly Fishing Museum of Canada Inc., held in Waterloo, Qc. on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2010.

Thirty of you were in attendance.

At this meeting our legal councillor Mr. Serge Racine became secretary of the meeting of constituents, and he explained **the statute of the Museum, within the framework of its federal incorporation**. Following questions from the members and responsive explanations **the statute of the Museum was adopted**.

The eleven members of the administrative council were nominated as well as the members of both the executive committee and the finance committee.

As the Museum is incorporated, the accounting firm Marc Brosseau C.A. Inc. was chosen as financial auditor.

After the meeting there were many door prizes as well as a prestigious fishing rod mounted by Jean-Marc Lacroix to be drawn.

During the week-end of 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> March, Jean-Pierre Martin was at the Museum to give a training session on the rudiments of casting with a fly. The Saturday was dedicated to basic theoretic elements. All the explanations were executed with the aid of

his little 'Fly-0' cane with orange wool. On the Sunday much more elaborate notions were followed.

This course will be offered again on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> March 2011.

Our webmaster, Gilles Beaumont, a member of the administrative council, provides the high level of quality and efficient updating of the Museum's website.

The explanatory version of the Museum's prospectus was prepared by Benoit Gaucher, also a member of the C.A.; in 2010 large quantities of this were distributed in many tourist centres of the region around Waterloo. The bilingual version will be available in 2011. More than two hundred visitors came to appreciate the artifacts on exhibition.

Since our activities began, an important financial assistance has been offered to us by the Town of Waterloo, the Forum de pêche à la mouche Québec/Maritimes de Granby, by the Waterloo Caisse Populaire and of course by our members.

Two new books have been added to the list of the Museum's promotional objects. One is 'Fly Fishing the Grand River', by Ian D. Martin and Jane E. Rutherford, and also 'River Talk' by Mike Crosby.

Canadian flies for collectors, wading staffs and books are always available, and represent an important financial support to the Museum.

As a gift or for yourself, these high quality articles are a good resource for you.

(for the complete list see the web site under 'promotion')

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On Saturday the 1<sup>st</sup> May, our team of seventeen Museum volunteers directed the activities of 'Pêche en herbe' (*Kids' Fishing*), which was sponsored by the Wildlife Foundation of Québec for 30 young girls and boys of the Waterloo region, in close collaboration with the recreational services of the Town of Waterloo and the Municipality of Shefford. An indoor session preceded four practical stations in the brook of the Jean-Forand Ecological Park. After lunch the children were driven to Réjean Choinière's fishing pond to put into practice the concepts they had learned earlier in the day. Each youngster received a fishing permit valid until the age of 18 years old, as well as a fishing rod, thanks to the generosity of the Wildlife Foundation of Québec.

At the end of June with the collaboration of the recreational services of Waterloo, fifteen young people were taken to the Discover Nature Park in Baldwin for a rewarding day. One of the places they fished was in the section of the Niger River which had been stocked with large trout and specially designed for catch and release fishing.

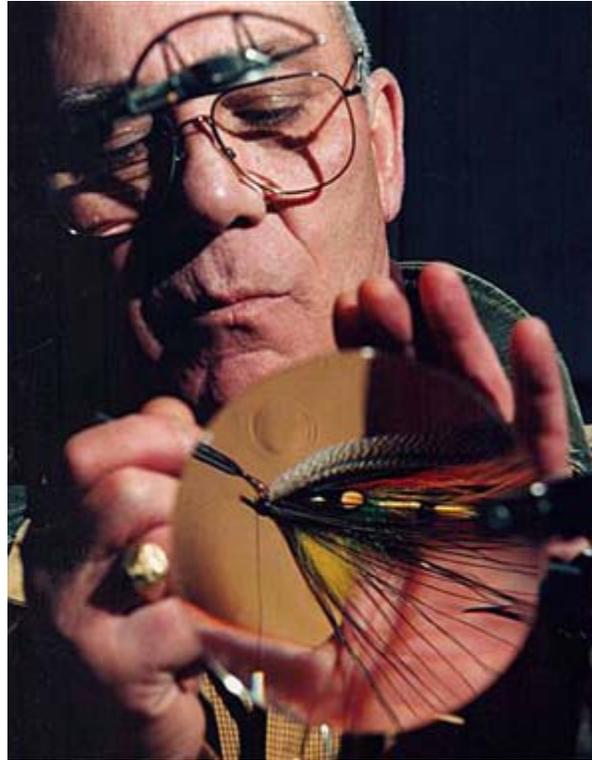
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In the summer of 2010 the museum was open to the public the afternoons of Thursday to Sunday inclusive. As well, since 2009 the Museum is open in the afternoons of the second and fourth Fridays of each month for you the members. Our secretary Gisèle Dupuis will be there to welcome you even as she continues her administrative work.

On the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> September, for the Québec cultural days, our volunteers received several visitors. After all, a Museum is a repository of culture!

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The friend of the Museum Steeve Brideau has accepted to prepare and submit a biography of a Canadian fly tier of high reputation. for this first endeavour Steeve introduces you to Marc Madore of Blackville in New Brunswick.



Robert Marc Madore

*Robert Marc Madore*

*Born at Larder Lake, Ontario, on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 1942, Marc spent much of his youth fishing from the banks of the lakes and rivers in the Timmins, Ontario region. Later he was drawn to fly fishing. A perfectionist by nature, he wanted to obtain the top quality of flies for fishing, at the least cost. Fascinated by the flies and how they were made, he threw himself into this adventure with all the enthusiasm for which he was known. This hobby quickly became a passion for him – ‘for the challenge involved, and an excellent way of releasing stress,’ as he says. He tied his first fly in 1958, a **Dark Montreal**, the classic model of a trout fly.*

*He started tying without a..., with using a or by anchoring the hook solidly in a block of wood. \*\**

*In 1961 he joined the ranks of the Canadian Armed Forces.*

*Since 1965 he has bought his first, the tools necessary for fly tying, and photocopied pages of the book 'Mastering the Art of Fly Tying'. In 1967, on his return from Germany, he started to tie flies more seriously and took a course in this. As he says: "The problem is not in the complexity of the fly itself, but in the quality of the material used and to understand the best technique for its use. I could take any material, a feather or a shoe lace for example, and tie it directly on the hook with the appropriate technique".*

*His most influential fly tying mentor was his close friend the late Garnet Red Tweedie, of Burton, New Brunswick. They had met in 1975 while at a training session. As Marc has said; "He more or less obliged me to perfect my techniques, as he refused to sell me his flies!" As a foot-note, Garnet Tweedie had fished for salmon and tied flies for many years with the legendary Lee Wulff.*

*When he was transferred permanently to Oromocto, N.B. in 1981, Marc met up again with Red', who for the next two years from 1981 to 1983, taught Marc about fishing for Atlantic salmon on the Miramichi,*

*St. John and Nashwaak Rivers.*

*He retired from the Canadian Armed Forces in 1995, when he chose to live in Blackville, near the south-west branch of the Miramichi River. Come what may, he ties about 12,000 flies each year, as well as fishing for salmon from the opening to the closing of the season – almost every day!*

*Always concerned about the next generation, Marc is an invaluable source of information, for those who would listen, in the tying of flies and fly fishing – and his good humour is contagious! He is a renowned professional fly tier around all of North America and of Europe.*

*Never having sought his own recognition, here however are some of the huge accomplishments of this passionate man.*

*His work was often presented in different fishing magazines as well as in books, among which are **Modern Atlantic Salmon Flies**' by Stewart and Allen, and in **Shrimp and Spey Flies for Atlantic Salmon and Steelhead**'.*

*In 2001 he was mandated by the Province of New Brunswick to mount a fly - the **Classic Miramichi** - for when the Miramichi Celtic Pipes and Drums Band went to both England and Scotland. To commemorate the occasion, he created the **Miramichi Viking**. This fly was presented to Queen Elizabeth II, to Prince Charles, Prince of Wales and to several other Scottish dignitaries.*

*Also it was presented to George Bush Sr. and George Bush Jr.*

*Marc is a member of the Canadian Museum of Fly Fishing, and has many times acted as our honoured fly tier at the forum de pêche à la mouche Québec/Maritimes de Granby.*

*Marc Madore, a great example of this passion and of teaching for the next wave of fly fishing enthusiasts!*

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During the past year several new collector items have been received; flies, books, rods, reels, journals and magazines, and archival material.

At the beginning of the year we will remind you to renew your Museum membership card.

For every occasion, you will find a gift to offer from among our promotional items.

**Suggestions for gifts from the Museum:**

- a membership, to become a Museum member
- one of four groups of Canadian flies
- a wading staff made of maple & treated with tung oil
- one of our six Canadian fly fishing books
- or, for your hat, the brooch of the Waterloo Spey, the Museum's emblem.

*The delivery of your purchases could be made while visiting the Museum's kiosk at the forum de pêche à la mouche Québec/Maritimes au Castel de Granby in February 2012.*

*For access to the Order Form please click [here](#).*

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### **What is the value of your collectable objects?**

The heritage of fly fishing is this gathering of articles inherited from our ancestors which constitutes the raison d'être of the Canadian Fly Fishing Museum. All these objects form part of our wide national heritage. Several types of values are attributed to these cultural objects. Among others, historical value is attributed to the items which show a facet of our society or our family, or which constitutes an eloquent witness of earlier times. With this view, the more an object is well preserved and of proven authenticity, the more it is valuable as it demonstrates more precisely a part of its era. The historical value is also invoked when an item has been used by a well-known figure. This object may not have artistic value but the fact that it was used by a celebrated person or at an important event gives it a distinctive character.

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### **Exclusive rods supporting the Museum!**

Members of the administrative council are using their skills towards the Museum's profit.

After the establishment of a group of promotional objects which will help finance the operations of the enterprise, the treasurer Gérald Lefebvre and the vice-president Jean-Marc Lacroix have conceived quite a project!

Starting in 2009 Jean-Marc Lacroix has built five prestigious rods numbered from 001 to 005, dated and signed.

Available in lengths of 7'6", 8', 8'6", and 9', each rod is built on a blank of IM6 graphite, wood reel holder insert, the handle made of cork and a rod bag.

The beauty of each rod is assured by fine lines of burnt orange color sealed with epoxy which retains the stripping and snake guides, a delicate decoration of tiny jungle cock eyes placed to simulate the wild iris, accompanied by a description in white ink of the specifications and of the origin of the rod, from the calm hand of Michel Villeneuve.

Rods of the 2010 series were available at the Museum's kiosk at the Forum de pêche à la mouche Québec/Maritimes de Granby on 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> February.

The cost of the rods is as follows:

- 7' 6", 8' for \$175.00

- 8' 6" for \$200.00

- 9' for \$225.00

Visit our booth at the Forum and you will find Jean-Marc at work building his superb and exclusive rods made for the Canadian Fly Fishing Museum in Waterloo.

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**The members of the administrative council of the Canadian Fly Fishing Museum Inc. thank you for the support that you have given to the Museum's objectives, as well as for the protection of our Canadian fly fishing heritage.**

**Claude Bernard, President.**