

## NEWSLETTER #42 - NOVEMBER 2005

If you have access to Microsoft Word, open the attachment above to see the information below in a more "reader friendly" format.

### Leland Fly Fishing Travel Newsletter

#### TOPICS IN THIS ISSUE:

- A RETRACTION: WE WERE "CONNED" IN THE FINEST POSSIBLE MANNER
- DESTINATION DAY AT THE BUSH STREET SHOP
- SOUTH AMERICAN COMBO: CLEARWATER PEACOCK BASS IN THE AMAZON, PATAGONIAN ANDES TROUT, AND THE CHILEAN FJORDS
- *THE HUNT* AVAILABLE AT [WWW.FFHUNT.COM](http://WWW.FFHUNT.COM)
- DEFINING THE BELIZE MOTHERSHIP EXPERIENCE WITH CAPTAINS McCORD AND WESTBY
- REMAINING OPEN DATES FOR BELIZE MOTHERSHIPS - 2006
- QUIPS AND QUOTES

We are in the fourth year of publishing our monthly newsletter with updates on great fly fishing venues and insights for our traveling fly fishers. We want to help you match the right location with your fly fishing goals and objectives and properly prepare you to fully enjoy the experience. We've been to most locations and pride ourselves on our ability to research new sites. One of our services is to compare and contrast different lodges/outfitters. Whatever unbiased information on timing and locations we can provide comes at the same cost to you as booking direct – i.e., no extra cost.

#### **A RETRACTION: WE WERE "CONNED" IN THE FINEST POSSIBLE MANNER**

If you read our newsletter in August of 2004, you may remember the fantastic story about the pike caught by Andrew Hine who was fishing the Minipi River system in Labrador (the finest remaining giant brook trout destination) with his Dad, Jim, and my son, Scott, and I. Inside that pike was found a 6 inch long hook plastic hook remover, two mice and a gold Canadian dollar. I watched that fish cleaned – it was an 8+ pound pike that was being cooked and served by the lodge. I found it unbelievable to watch all that stuff come out of his stomach..... turns out, it was unbelievable. After 15 months of sitting on the truth, the Hines have come forth with the whole story – that fish was literally "stuffed" for my benefit and I bought in 100%. In the spirit of great fly fishing pranks, this is the best I've seen and I was the dupe. What discipline to hold off the "rest of the story" for this length of time!!!! Jim and Andrew are joining us again on our semi-annual trip to the Minipi next year – the plan for revenge is already in the works.

#### **THURSDAY, BUSH STREET SHOP DESTINATION DAY**

I'll be in the shop next Thursday, for our monthly Destination Day. We'll have slide shows available on a variety of destinations including our New Zealand tour, Patagonia, Labrador Brook Trout, Alaska, and Belize and all the saltwater destinations, etc.

If you'd like to get together and view slides and discuss different possibilities, it's best to set an appointment so I will have time set aside for you and won't have you waiting when you come in. Just hit "reply" and let me know what you'd like to view/discuss and we'll share some fly fishing excitement together.

#### **SOUTH AMERICAN COMBO – CLEARWATER PEACOCK BASS IN THE AMAZON, PATAGONIAN ANDES, AND THE CHILEAN FJORDS**

I'm a big fan of combining different types of environments on trips when we have the time available. An example of that principle is our annual trip to New Zealand which includes a stop in the tropical South Pacific (Fiji, French Polynesia, or Christmas Island). In South America, we have done the same thing by combining a week in our favorite area of the Patagonian Andes with 3 to 5 days in the Chilean Fjords at a very comfortable hotel/spa with a fly fishing program.

Now, a new possibility of adding a unique Amazon jungle element to the trip has been discovered. I've often been intrigued by pursuing the Peacock Bass of the Amazon, but after further research, was turned off because most of the operations weren't really geared to fly fishing and were "dirty water" fishing experiences. A referral from a respected source got me excited about exploring a superior jungle lodge on a clearwater Peacock Bass fishery – actually sight casting in crystal clear waters to Peacocks. Additionally, this lodge has been recommended as a spot where a non-fishing spouse can enjoy the overall Amazon experience and bugs are somewhat limited. The prime time is similar to the Patagonian fishery – December through early March.

One of the reasons I've not heard much about this particular lodge is that it is almost fully booked with repeat clients so the big fly fishing marketers don't pay much attention to it – not enough space to sell. However, limited spots are open each season, but planning far in advance is recommended.

To actually combine all three of these (Amazon, Andes, and the Fjords) would be a three week adventure allowing for travel time; however, combining two of them can be done in 14 – 16 days. I already have this combo trip "penciled in" on our fly fishing travel calendar for either late '06 or early '07. If any of you may be interested in joining us or examining a trip on your own schedule, hit reply and let me know and we'll get you additional info.

### **Fly Fishing Greatest Adventures: THE HUNT now available at [www.ffhunt.com](http://www.ffhunt.com)**

After several years of gathering the perfect photos and 18 months in production, our book is finally in print and now available through the website [www.ffhunt.com](http://www.ffhunt.com). The early reviews and comments we've had on the preliminary copies have been very encouraging and rewarding. Descriptive quotes such as "...without a doubt, the finest collection of fly fishing photographs ever...." and "*THE HUNT* is one of the great fly fishing classics of all time" have given us warm, fuzzy feelings. Many comments and the review from the publisher of *Fly Fishing the West* magazine are on the web site. Many more magazine reviews will be coming soon. Price is \$45 and we hope it will provide some relief for your Christmas gift giving anxieties.

### **DEFINING THE BELIZE MOTHERSHIP EXPERIENCE**

We get many very positive reports each year from all the repeat clients who fish Belize with Martin McCord and Charles Westby from their motherships Meca and Seaduction. The following report comes from a well traveled and seasoned salt water fly fisher, John Bobbitt, about his experiences (excerpts only - the full report is available): "This was the fourth year that two of my sons and I fished Belize with Captain Martin McCord using his mothership as our base. In the early years, we took the standard 7 day trip, but we've elected to go for 10 days the last two years because we enjoy it so much. Martin and his crew make you very welcome and work very hard to make sure you are comfortable, well fed, and on to fish. Excellent guides. On the average day, you are in the skiffs fishing the flats for at least 11 hours starting at 6:00am and continuing, with meal breaks, to dark or sometimes later.

Although there are destinations where you can catch more of a specific species (usually bonefish), there are very few places you can go for the diversity of species that can be found in the coastal waters of Belize. I have never found a better deal."

Each year, we have clients who take their first tarpon, permit, snook, and/or bonefish on a fly fishing with McCord and Westby. It is my personal favorite saltwater experience. I spend three weeks a year fishing with them and have for many years. It does require casting skills, including the ability to double haul, to fully enjoy the experience as salt water provides challenging casting situations. We have a video/DVD available on this adventure. The web site is [www.flyfishbelize.com](http://www.flyfishbelize.com)

### **REMAINING OPEN DATES FOR BELIZE MOTHERSHIPS FOR 2006**

Now that the repeat clients from '05 are rebooked for their '06 dates, we can release the remaining open dates for next year. The Seaduction charters for one or two people (\$5,800 for 7 nights) and the Meca for 3 or 4 people (\$8,800) or a joint charter for both boats for parties of 5 or 6.

Dates Open	Seaduction	Meca
1/4 – 11	xxx	xxx
1/15 – 22	xxx	
2/15 – 22	xxx	xxx
4/28 – 5/5	xxx	
5/9 – 16	xxx	xxx
7/3 – 10		xxx
8/16 – 23	xxx	
9/15 – 22	xxx	xxx
Oct, Nov and Dec – all open		

### QUIPS AND QUOTES

Nancy Badovinus, after a fall trip to the Missouri where she fished with different guides, had this comment about what she looks for in a good guide: “I want to fish with a predator – someone who approaches the water as a hunter.” Great description of what to look for in a good guide!

Either phone or drop us an e-mail if you have questions or would like more information about any of our destinations.

An enthusiastic traveling fly fisherman,

Don Muelrath  
Leland Fly Fishing Adventures  
888-347-4896  
[flyfish@napanet.net](mailto:flyfish@napanet.net)

[www.flyfishingoutfitters.com](http://www.flyfishingoutfitters.com)  
e-mail Josh Frazier at [Josh@flyfishingoutfitters.com](mailto:Josh@flyfishingoutfitters.com)

If you want to be removed from our e-mail newsletter list, just hit “reply” and let us know – you’ll be removed immediately.

