

Thoughts from the Professor Vol. 3 Chapter 5

I want to start this with a request of the readers or those who I hope are reading this column. My request is a simple one. If you have something you would like me to review let us know. Whether it be a book, DVD or Tape I will do my best to try and accommodate your request. My first review is one that was a surprise to me in that it had more to it than I expected. **The Landlocked Salmon in Maine** by **Kendall Warner and Keith Havey** is put out by the **Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife** (120 pages) and is a book filled with lots of data and graphs and statistics. Now I need to point out that it was issued in 1985 but much of the information is as relevant today as it was then. In addition to all the data about growth rates and mortality and predation there is a lot of info on a number of lakes including Schoodic, Moosehead and other lakes. If you are the kind of person who relishes data and statistics you will be in heaven. If however, this bores you to death you should take heart because there are segments that focus on the History of Landlocks in Maine with applicable pictures and stories. It also has information about different fish like Togue and Burbot and Pickerel and how they come into play in growth and life of landlocked salmon. This is certainly not a book for all but I found useful information and it may be worthwhile for some especially if you are a numbers person.

The next item is a VHS tape called **Advanced Fly Casting** with **Doug Fisher** and is part of 3M's Mastery Learning System. (note the club has a player that you can take if you do not have one) This is about a 1 hour tape with some additional plugs at the end for the rest of the 3m Videos. There are two things I need to point out at the start.

First, this is not a good starting point for the beginner. The Second thing is that this an old tape completed when Fly Fisherman were taught that the wrist was the most important part of a Cast. Today this is generally thought to be the wrong method of teaching fly casting. If you mostly ignore the use of the wrist in the video then you will find this to be an extremely useful video for those wanting to improve their casting skills. Doug will take you through all the various cast, straight line, slack line, reach curve and more. What is most important about this video is that Doug does this on the water so you get to see the advantages of each cast in a realistic setting. This video uses slow motion and detailed instructions and the delivery by Doug with such ease of presentation that it makes learning easy. Doug's presentation on the water covers almost every situation that you are apt to find on flowing water. One of the nice pieces of this video is the section where Doug shows you how to cast the clock. This is instructions on being to cast effectively to all segments of the stream whether casting upstream, downstream, across the stream or quartering up and downstream. Now much of this is addressing the casting of dry flies but the casting techniques apply equally whether fishing nymphs, streamers or dries. This is definitely a worthwhile watch especially for the fly fisherman that wants to add to his repertoire of casts. So until next time.....

Tight Lines
The Professor