



P.O. Box 27141  
Houston, Texas 77227-7141

Editor: Ken Jacoby  
Graphics: Dave Hayward  
Writers: John Hannah, Eliot Tucker  
Fit To Be Tied: Norm (Lack O' Hackle) Crook

#### October Meeting

Date: October 29, 1985  
Place: St. John's Episcopal Church  
Room 010, Education Bldg.  
River Oaks and Westheimer  
Time: 7:00...Fit To Be Tied...The Whistler  
7:30...Main Program...East-Texas River Fishing

#### September Meeting

Program director Ralph Hutzler came up with another winner. A crowd of 70 members thoroughly enjoyed the Alaska Night program presented by Ray Brauer, Joe Doggett, and Bill Bush.

#### The Second Texas Conclave

As you read this, the STC is only hours away. If you haven't made plans, it's not too late. Throw your fishing tackle and your spouse into the car on Friday, October 25th, and head for the La Quinta Royale in Corpus Christi.

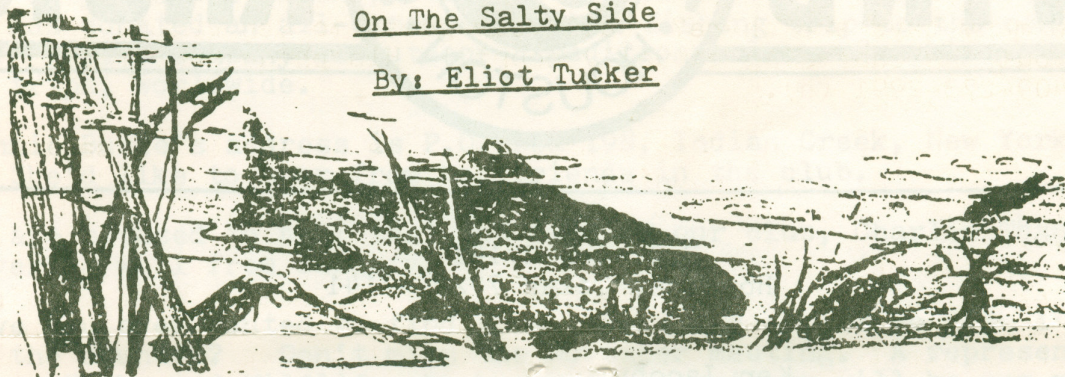
Don't miss Lefty Kreh, programs by Texas experts, a panel of all-star tiers, an auction, raffles, a banquet, and Sunday salt-water fishing.

#### New Members

We join membership chairman Tony Woods in welcoming John Kiibler, Sandra Harmon, Jerry O'Donnell, Philip Carter, Tatsuo Sato, Frank Potter, and a returning Mike Dryden.

On The Salty Side

By: Eliot Tucker



A Lifetime of Bays  
or  
A Lesson I've Never Learned

I have recently written about two areas I know rather well, Port Aransas and Port O'Conner. I have fished other areas of the vast Texas coast. About all I have learned from fishing elsewhere is that one could not learn to fish all the bays of Texas in a lifetime. A complete set of charts of the Texas coast will stretch across your living room floor. There are primary bays, secondary and tertiary bays. In some places bays are four times removed from the Gulf of Mexico. They come in all sizes, depths, levels of salinity, degrees of clarity, and accessibility and popularity.

I once counted the Texas bays on the charts. Guess how many there are! 5? 10? 100? Some other number?

While it is fun to fish different places, I have not found it particularly productive. The only way I know to consistently catch fish, that is, get skunked only occasionally, is to know a relatively small area well and only fish it when conditions are right in that area.

Exploring the Texas bays is a lot of fun, but it is tourism, not real fishing. Fish follow patterns dictated by season, tides, and weather. These can be learned, but it takes time. If you spread your limited time over the Texas bays, you are not likely to learn much about any one bay. So, if you are more interested in catching fish than sight seeing, limit the area you fish.

It's a lesson I constantly forget because I am fascinated by the variety of the Texas coast. I confess to being an incurable tourist of Texas' bays.

Trinity Bay has high bluffs on its eastern shoreline that are heavily wooded with a hardwood and pine forest. Espiritu Santo has serpentine bayous that pour through flats that are often exposed at low tide. East Matagorda has Chinquapin - a coastal community that

seems stuck in time. I suspect the Texas coast of the 40's and 50's looked like Chinquapin does today. The Laguna Madre has vast wide grass flats. Baffin Bay has boat-eating rocks and coyotes that howl from the King Ranch shoreline.

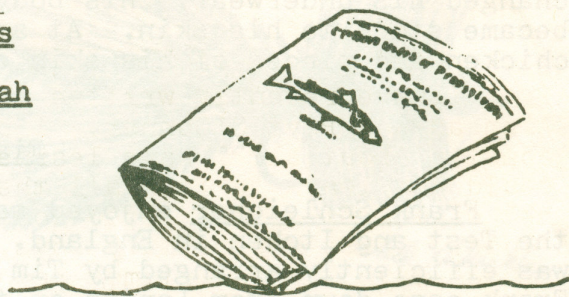
How many bays are there? Call your guess to Ken Jacoby (no fair getting out the charts to actually count.) His phone number is 873-6210 (o) or 409-273-2991 (h).

Sabine Lake is counted as a bay, but none of the other saltwater "lakes" on the charts are counted. Everything called "bay" is counted, but so is Laguna Madre. It is counted as one bay. Other "lagunas" and "cayos" are counted. The count includes all the little bays, if they are on the charts. Best guess gets two each of my two favorite salt-water flies. If anyone gets the number correct he will be disqualified for cheating unless he can establish that he knew the number before the contest was announced. The contest closes November 7th, 1985.



Book Reviews

By: John Hannah



A River Runs Through It and other stories, by Norman Maclean, University of Chicago Press.

TFF member Roger Anderson sent me an article from the book section of The New York Times about the "hook and bullet press," which is the term that some scornful critics apply to outdoor writing. The article mentions the two types of outdoor writing, instructional and narrative, and asserts that not many authors can successfully combine the two in one work.


Norman Maclean is one of those who can't. Some of his fishing lore is laughable. And being an English professor, he should know that the initial letters of brown trout and rainbow trout aren't capitalized. In his "acknowledgments" he says that he had an expert fisherman review the manuscript. He should have asked for a second opinion.

That's the bad news.

The good news is that Maclean is very good at the story-telling type of writing. When he wrote this book he was a septuagenarian, retired from the University of Chicago. The three stories that make up

the book are drawn from his experiences as a young man in Montana. Although fictitious, they contain a strong autobiographical strain: he wrote in the first person and the places and most of the people are real. Some of the characters, however, are obviously invented or else Maclean surely would have been murdered, or at least sued, by them by now. All three stories are about the outdoors. The one which gives the volume its name is about fly-fishing. And what the river runs through is his life, and his life is the better for it.

The plot of the fishing story revolves around the narrator's relationships with certain members of his family, particularly his brother and his brother-in-law. Both are irresponsible rascals; both are fishermen. But the brother is a fly fisherman while the brother-in-law fishes with bait. You and I know that it is the brother who turns out right in the end.

Here is an anecdote that will give you an idea of the tone of A River Runs Through It. Maclean tells about a sheepherder who never changed his underwear. His body hair grew through the fabric which became stuck to his skin. At a hospital he had to be plucked like a chicken and pieces of his skin came off with pieces of his long johns. 

#### Fishing News


Frank Schleicher enjoyed several days of chalkstream fishing on the Test and Itchen in England. The angling portion of Frank's vacation was efficiently arranged by Tim Healy's Rod Box shop in Winchester. Frank came down from London on the train. He traveled from Winchester to the Test in a taxi. What the cab driver thought about the wader-clad american in the back seat is not recorded.

Bob Leslie journeyed to far northern Canada for a great trip this summer. The highlight of the fly-fishing portion of Bob's trip was when he tangled with some beautiful grayling.


Charlie Thanheiser and Gary Shepherd were looking for some indian summer weather on their September trip to Montana, but when Charlie woke up and looked out of the cabin window, he saw the trees bending to the ground. Fortunately for the two dry fly purists, the wind was blowing upstream on the Boulder River, so they caught plenty of nice fish on Royal Wulffs.

Dave Hayward and Johnny (Levelwind) Ghrist caught some of the excellent school-bass action this month on Fayette County Lake. Dave used flies only; and Johnny? His court-martial is set for next month.

Vern and July Lehmborg spent their summer, as usual, in Yellowstone country. The summer was dry and hot, the rivers were low, but the Lehmborgs found great fishing in the Park, the spring creeks, the Madison, and the Henry's Fork. The latter river again produced their largest fish of the summer, a burly 24 inch rainbow caught by Verne, who also hooked and lost a much larger one.

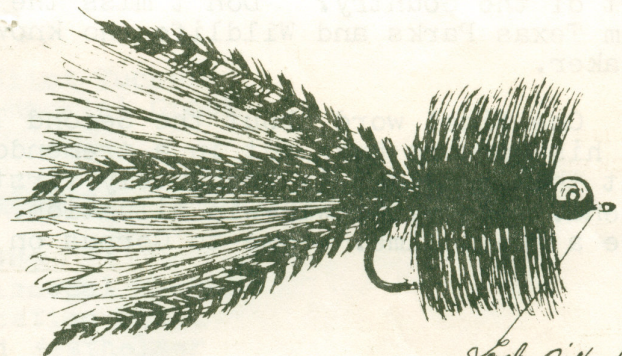
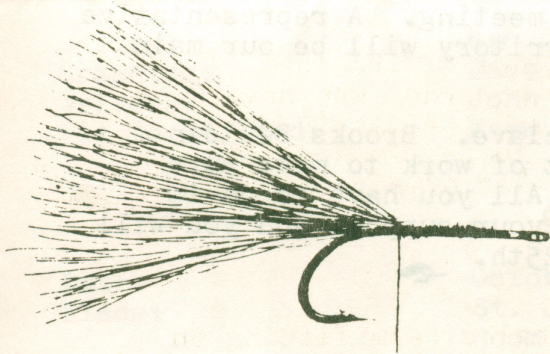
Call your Fishing News to Ken Jacoby, 409-273-2991 (h) and 873-6210 (o). 

# FIT TO BE TYED



In the last issue on this journal we discussed the Hackle Streamer as a fly for reds and trout on the flats. Here's another you might like to try. It has its origin in the San Francisco Bay area and evolved as a striped bass fly. Who should be credited with its first design is not recalled but it has been a producer in that area and now has become a producer in the Gulf Coast area as well. The reason, as you will see, is that it moves water when fished and creates a turbulence that triggers the strike instinct in game fish that inhabit our bays and surf.

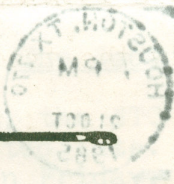
It can be dressed in the same colors used in the Hackle Streamer. To tie this Whistler you'll need Mustad Hook No. 34007 or Wright & McGill No. 318 - short shank, sizes 1 to 2/0, Red Super Thread, CSE., Nymo A or equivalent, white bucktail, 4 grizzly saddle hackles, 4 to 6 red hackles and a pair of large, 3/16", bead chain eyes.



1. Start the thread at a point about 1/8" back from the hook eye. Wrap back to hook point & tie in a large clump of white bucktail 3"-4" long depending on hook size. Cement well!

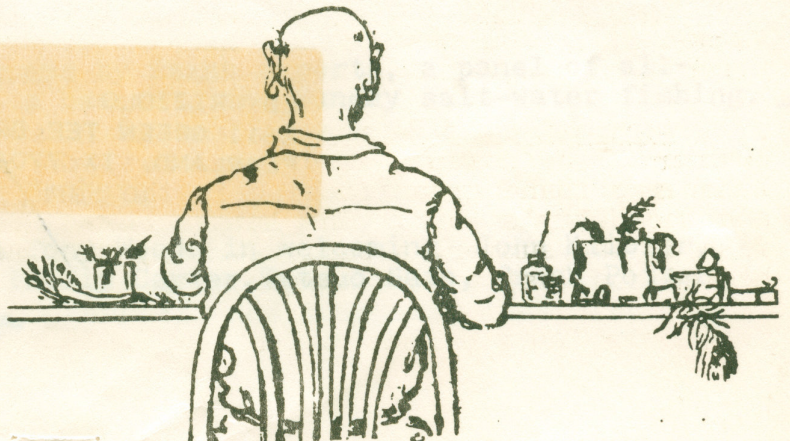
3. Prepare & tie in red hackles with concave side forward. Wrap each toward the eye and tie off leaving enough room for the bead chain eyes. Hackle should be dense.

Secure bead chain eyes on top of hook with figure "8" lashing. Whip finish and cement well.



A word of caution! Because of its weight this fly can be devastating. Not to the fish but the fisher. Wear a firm hat. It'll save your head. - and maybe your hair - Good fishing!

2. Tie in 4 grizzly saddle hackles. One on top, one on the bottom, one on each side.



Loose Hooks

Not only did Bill Bush participate in last month's Alaska program, he also has donated an all-expense Alaskan fishing trip to the conclave auction. Bill's company is Outdoor Expeditions, Inc. See him about fishing trips, worldwide.

Connie Burke's address is P.O. Box 198, Indian Creek, New York, 12842. She'd like to hear from her friends in the club.

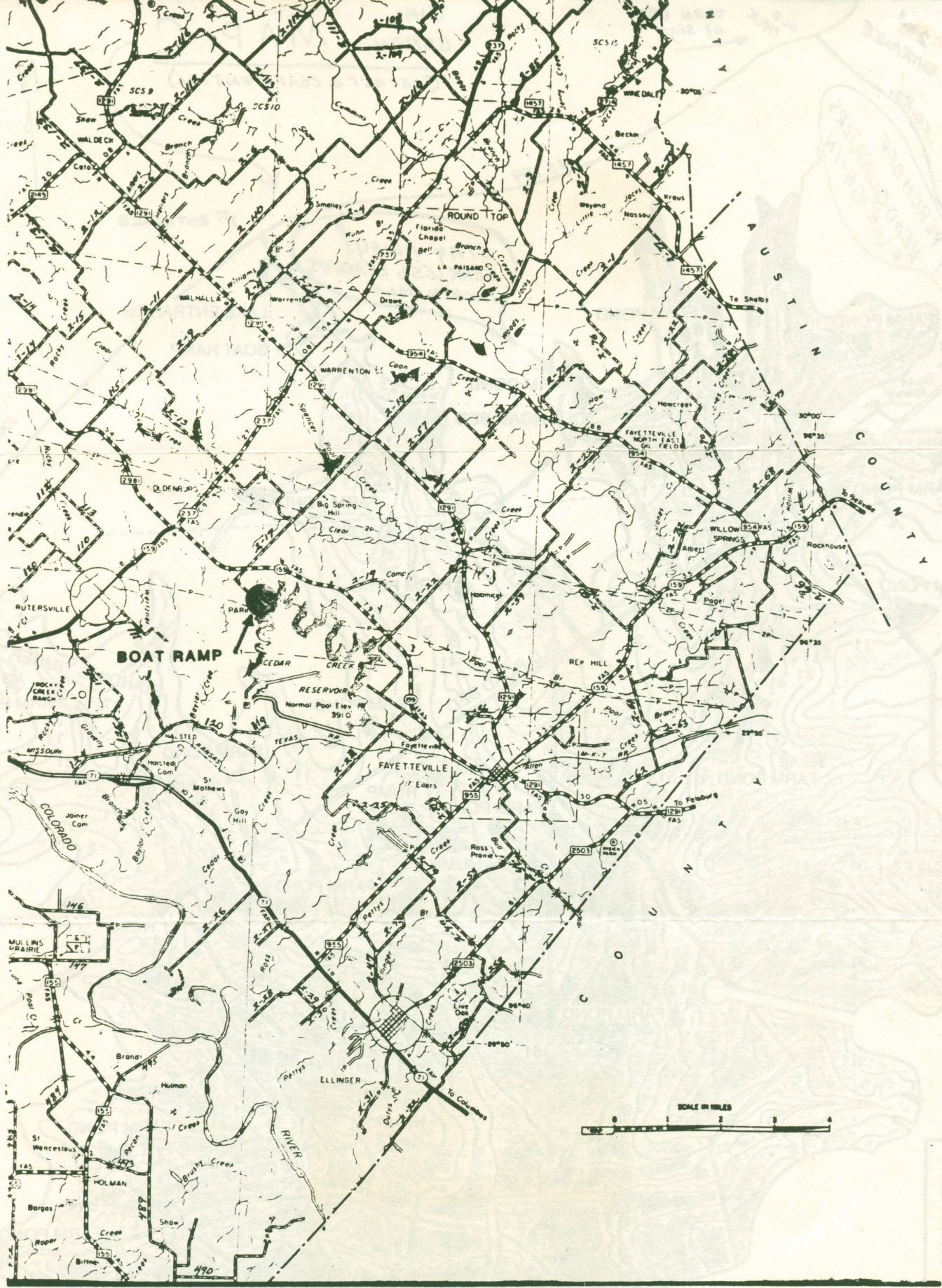
We are pleased to hear that the dean of our club, Charlie Thanheiser, is recovering well from surgery.

Have you ever wanted to find some rivers and creeks to fish in this part of the country? Don't miss the November meeting. A representative from Texas Parks and Wildlife who knows the territory will be our main speaker.

One final word about the Second Texas Conclave. Brooks Bouldin and his workers have put in a tremendous amount of work to make sure that this conclave is absolutely first class. All you have to do is attend. This is a win-win situation. We need your support and you will have a great time. Come to Corpus on October 25th.



ED RIZZOLD  
2611 GREEN TEE DR  
PEARLAND, TX 77061



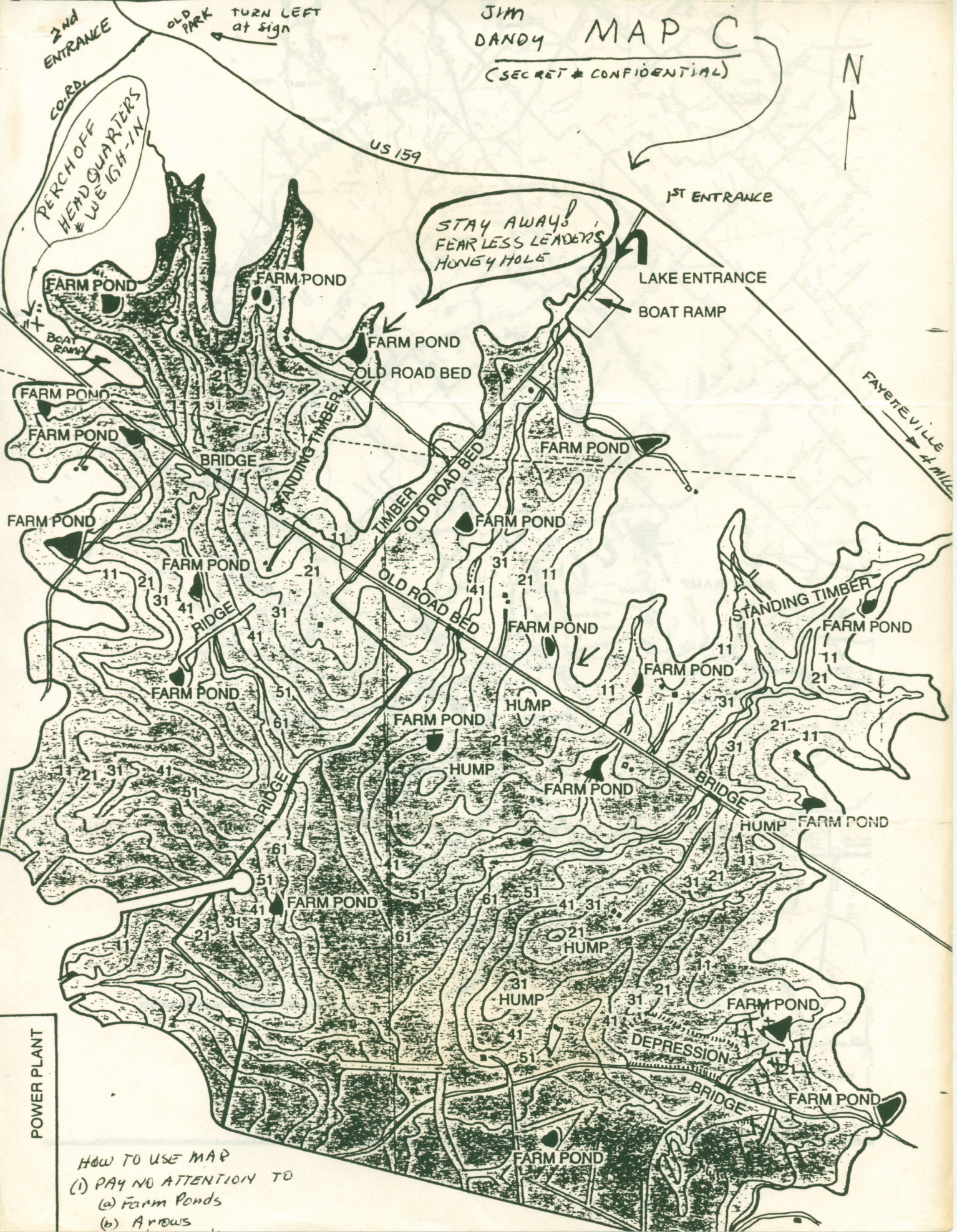
**BOAT RAMP**

**FAYETTEVILLE**



WALTON  
TOWN OF  
WALTON

JIM DANDY MAP C  
(SECRET \* CONFIDENTIAL)



POWER PLANT

HOW TO USE MAP  
(1) PAY NO ATTENTION TO  
(a) Farm Ponds  
(b) Arrows