

FISHINGFLIES DISPLAY: "LEW OATMAN"

OVERVIEW OF THE OBJECTS

Repository:	Crandall Public Library. Folklife Center Glens Falls, NY.
Creator:	Paul Sinicki, Ballston Spa, Saratoga, NY
Title:	Fishing Flies Display: "Lew Oatman"
Dates:	1956, 1977, 2013
Quantity:	1 object
Identification:	Folk Art

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Paul Sinicki is a fly fisherman, fly tyer, and member of the Capital District Fly Fishers, founded in 1977 to work with community organizations to offer fly fishing and fly tying as a form of therapy. The club is affiliated with the International Federation of Fly Fishers and works to pass on the tradition of the long rod through casting clinics, public demonstrations, conservation programs and fly-tying classes. In 2004 Sinicki incorporated fly-fishing into recovery from burns, mentored by Rodney Priddle. Over the years, Sinicki has spent hundreds of hours tying thousands of flies, especially enjoying teaching kids at the Saratoga 4-H Clubs and Double H Ranch. He is also an instructor at the Adirondack Folk School in Lake Luzerne, NY.

Lew Oatman (1902 – 1958) is known as the pioneer of the streamer fly patterns (bait fish imitations or young fries). He was born and raised in Greenwich, New York, then moved to White Plains, New York, where he was in the banking industry. Lew moved back to the area for health reasons, where he purchased a place in Shushan, New York. This is where Lew studied the baitfish or fries in the Battenkill River that his patterns were designed to imitate.

INDEX TERMS

Topics:	Fly-tying Fly fishing Fishing flies Physical therapy
Places:	Shushan, Washington, NY Ballston Spa, Saratoga, NY

Lake Luzerne, Warren, NY

Important People: Sinicki, Paul
Oatman, Lew

Form/Genre: realia

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Preferred Citation: Fishing Flies Display: "Lew Oatman"
Folklife Center
Crandall Public Library, Glens Falls, NY.

Accession Information: Purchased 2013.

Processing Information: Described by Erica Gonyea, 2019

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE OBJECTS

A glass front display case with a hinged lid 15 inches x 12 inches x 2.5 inches, featuring the biography of fishing fly designer Lew Oatman (1902 – 1858) of Shushan, Washington County, NY, and 2 of his original fishing fly patterns: "Doctor Oatman" and "Shushan Postmaster".