



## 1999 Annual Banquet

### Rod Walinchus

Fly fishing permeates all facets of Rod's life and career as a teacher, speaker, lecturer, published author, illustrator, and licensed outfitter in Livingston, Montana (where he's never far from great fishing). Rod literally grew up surrounded by fishing and never strayed far from the stream. "My parents have photos of me in a baby carriage in the middle of a Pennsylvania stream while they fished," he said.

Currently Rod is a member of the Fly Fishers Board of Governors for its casting certification program and has appeared on *ESPN2 Outdoors*. Rod and his wife, Evelyn, reside in Livingston, where they own and operate Vision's West Gallery amid some of the country's most stunning scenery. He even has a studio within casting range of the fabled Yellowstone River. He is the author of *Fly Fishing the North Platte River*, *The Flies of Southern Wyoming I and II*, and is co-author of *Fly Fishing the Yellowstone River*. Currently, he is editor and co-publisher of *The Angler's Journal*, a quarterly magazine dealing with spring creeks and tailwaters around the world. He is also on the staff of *Fly Fisherman* magazine as contributing artist and *Salt Water Fly Fishing* as an illustrator. His naturalistic watercolors of wildlife and sporting scenes have earned him numerous awards and the reputation as "the fastest pen in the west."

Rod is a certified casting instructor and spends much of his time on the water as a guide in the Yellowstone area. The constant exposure helps keep his art fresh, he said. "I draw, paint, write and fish - life is good."