

# **John W. Pinto, Owner**

## ***B&C Manufacturing & Import***

### **Personal Background:**

I have been involved in the fly fishing industry since 1971. I have been a retailer; a distributor; a sales representative (Scientific Anglers, Browning, Fenwick, Frank Amato Publications); an exporter and am currently a manufacturer with a facility in Diriamba, Nicaragua.

### **Notable Achievements:**

2010 Worked as Sport Fishing Coordinator for INTUR, Ministry of Tourism, Republica de Nicaragua.

2002- Present Co-owner of Mayaguana Trophy Bonefishing on Mayaguana Island in the Bahamas

2003 Fly Fishing Consultant for Emerald Palms by the Sea Resort, South Andros, Bahamas

1990 Presented with the title of *Honourary Fly Fisherman of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas* by an act of Parliament in Nassau, Bahamas for continued efforts in the promotion of fly fishing in the Bahamas

1996 Started Grey's Point Bonefish Inn, Acklins Island, Bahamas

1987 Instructor, Orvis Saltwater Fly Fishing School, Great Exuma, Bahamas

1986 Fly Fishing Instructor for guide training at Fernandez Bay Village, Cat Island, Bahamas

1986 Initiated the AuSable River Telemetry Study, a joint venture between the Michigan Fly Fishing Club and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Division. In this two-study study, radio transmitters were placed inside the body cavities of brown trout and their movements tracked and recorded over a two-year period. This program brought to light new information regarding brown trout migration and behavior and dispelled many antiquated ideas regarding the same.

1984 Fly Fishing Adviser for Browning Fishing Division, Browning Corporation (Morgan, Utah)

1977 Initiated the Midwest Fly Fishing Exposition, the largest and oldest Fly Fishing consumer show held annually in the U.S. This Expo today attracts over 4,000 fly fishing enthusiasts over a two-day period.

1972 Initiated the Huron River Project, a joint venture between the Michigan Fly Fishing Club and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Division. In this program, excess brood stock brown and rainbow trout were annually planted in an upper stretch of the Huron River and fly fishing-only regulations imposed for the entire month of April. This provided an early-season fishery for large trout within a 30-mile radius of Detroit. This program generated a cost-benefit ratio of 14:1 which is second all time only to the Lake Michigan coho salmon program of the late 1960's.

1972, 1973, 1976, 1978, 1986 President of the Michigan Fly Fishing Club

1970 One of the Founding Members of the Michigan Fly Fishing Club

My background includes a lot of international contact having exhibited at EFFTEX five times during the 1990's and have exhibited organizational skills with clubs, government agencies, etc. I believe these qualities can be useful to AFFTA moving into the future.