

Trout Unlimited

Thames Valley Chapter Newsletter

Stream Lines

The Voice of Eastern CT Trout and Salmon Anglers

December 2022



President's Message

from Gary Lussier

Season's Greetings all!

'Tis the season.

This month's chapter meeting will be a social event. There will not be a speaker or movie, but the board members will be bringing in food and snacks for you to enjoy while just hanging out with some good company.

We will have a door prize as always so be sure to come out to the firehouse and celebrate the holidays.

Last month's meeting featured Tim Flagler zooming into our regular meeting at the firehouse. I have to say that the whole experiment went off as well as could have been hoped for and exceeded my expectations. From the technology perspective, it went perfectly in my opinion. As usual, Tim put on a great presentation sharing stories and pictures of his annual hosted trip with Linehan Outfitting in Northwest Montana. I got some good positive feedback from several members that night and from that I think this opens the door to do more of these in the future. This would certainly enable more speaker opportunities well beyond just those people

Chapter Events

Upcoming Events

You may have noticed that many TVTU events now have a click function to "register". By Buying registering (it is free), it helps to plan on how many folks will be attending. You do not need to print the ticket

Dec 20th

Christmas Party - Refreshments will be provided by TVTU Board of Directors

click [here](#) to register

Jan 17th meeting 2023

Presentation by Brian Eltz
- State Fisheries Biologist
Brian Eltz - Latest Trout Sampling Data
click [here](#) to register

Feb 21st meeting 2023

"Annual Flies and Pies"
Raffles, fly tying, displays and lots of pizza
click [here](#) to register

March 21st

Presentation by Darby Hittle
click [here](#) to register

Event/Meeting Cancellations Due to

close enough to be here in person.

Don't forget the 2022 Sweepstakes. There's still time to make your contribution to support our chapter and get chances to win one of 8 great prizes. We need your help to continue funding our operations and activities. But the window to participate is closing soon so use the link here to get your entries now.

<https://go.tulocalevents.org/thames-valley-sweepstakes-2022/Campaign/Details>

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and safe and happy holidays.



Inclement Weather

In the event that we need to cancel a scheduled meeting due to inclement weather, an announcement will be published on the website (click [here](#)) by 4:00 PM on the day of the scheduled meeting or event. Additionally, it will be announced on WFSB (Channel 3) [WFSB](#)



Thames Valley Trout Unlimited Monthly Meetings

Doors open at 6:00 PM for social hour and fly tying. Meeting gets underway at 7:00 PM.

Directions to the Franklin Firehouse:

Our meeting location will be at the Franklin Firehouse on 5 Tyler Drive (just off Rt 32) in Franklin. The meeting entrance is on the left as you enter the facility. The Franklin Firehouse is located just north of Route 2 ,exit 27. Go 6 miles north on Rt 32 and Tyler Drive is on your right. [Google Map Link to Franklin Firehouse](#)

We are always looking for fly tyers at our meetings.

If you would like to volunteer to tie flies, contact Ray Schaefer @ 860-617-9948 or [email](#).

Sweepstakes

The 2022 Thames Valley Trout Unlimited Sweepstakes is now live. This is one of our most important fundraisers of the year and the means by which we fund our monthly meetings, special events and conservation projects. Keep that in mind when you check out the link below. When you donate, you also get a chance to win one of eight great prizes.

At the end of the sweepstakes, winners are chosen at random by the computer systems hosting the sweepstakes which will also send notification emails to the winners.

Let's see if we can achieve our goal of 2,500. I hope you'll all show your support for our chapter and the great work we do. Thanks in advance for your generosity and good luck at the drawing.

<https://go.tulocalevents.org/thames-valley-sweepstakes-2022/Campaign/Details>





No, Not Trout This Time

by George Jacoby

Not everything natural is going from bad to worse (yes, you heard ME say that). What if I said you – or your enthusiastic youngster – could catch 20 aggressive jumping fish from 15 to 22 inches long, in an hour. No expensive waders or microscopic flies are necessary.

Would you go for some of this?



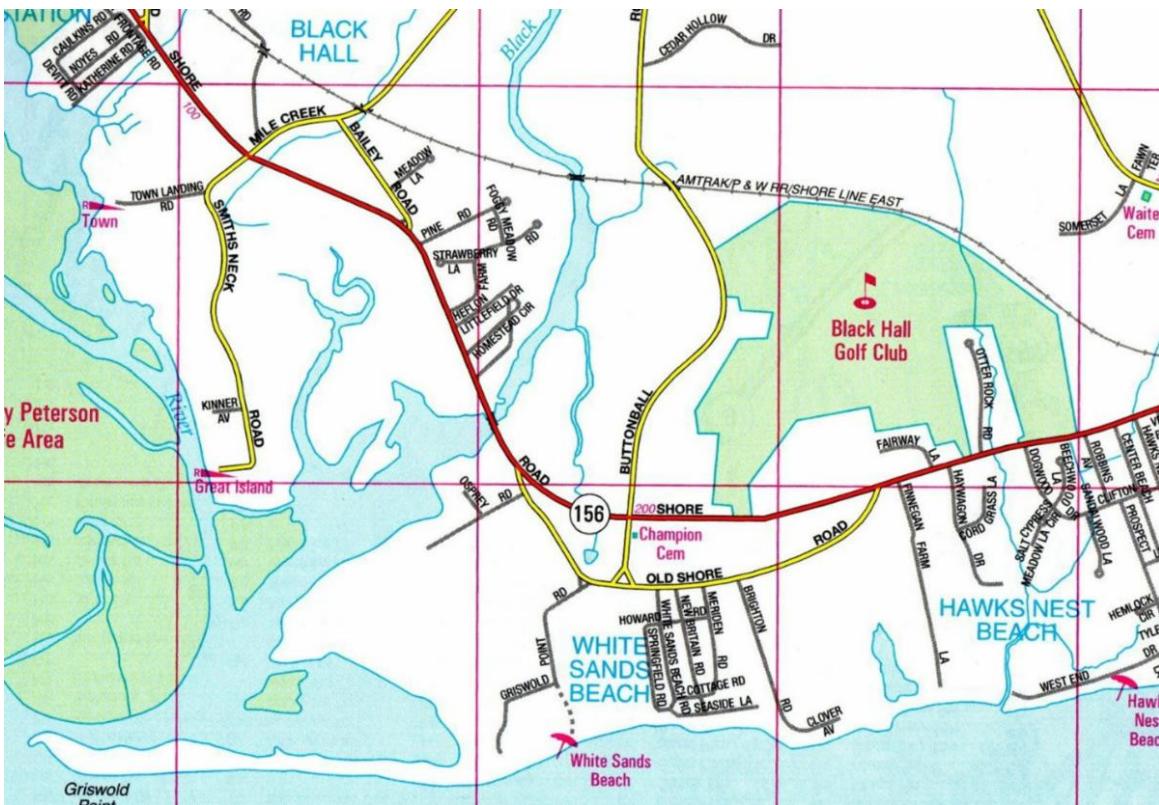
"Hickory Shad A Fall Surprise" was the name of the article in The Fisherman that appeared in October 1996. In it my daughter, who's now 36, held up one of her hickories, hooked and landed on a five-foot spinning rod and a 3" plastic grub affixed to a jig head hook. "Some days you can't be a hardcore angler because you have to be Dad instead", I wrote at the time. Well, surprise, those anadromous fish are still there.

Each year in late summer and fall hickory shad temporarily inhabit many of the smaller estuary areas in eastern CT and elsewhere nearby. They feed voraciously on the small bait, silversides and peanut bunker, that schoolie striped bass also consume, and seem to disappear along with the bait in November. It isn't yet clear if they spawn locally; most do so in the Chesapeake Bay system. These are not American shad. Hickories aren't commercially valuable, and you'd have to appreciate VERY gamy tasting fish to try one. Thus research on the species has been minimal. But they sure fight hard.



Everyone needs a good day on the water once in a while. To make up for those days when you can't tempt a trout to save your life, right? Last year we felt like that, and so reinvestigated the bridge on Rt. 156 over the Black Hall River in Lyme. Four bridge

abutments and a rock pile opposite the marina provide opportunities to cast. Sure enough, the three of us released about 50-60 hickory shad. This year they were there again in October.



How to: First, pick either moving tide. Use the chart for the Saybrook breakwater and add an hour. Dead low is the worst time. Many other local estuary river spots have populations of hickories too. The same light spinning gear as we used thirty years ago will work, and there are many more plastic bait options to choose from. Shorter-tailed ones increase your hook-up rate. Moderately weighted fly rod streamers are fine, too. Your lure just needs to get down a foot or more below the surface.

I wish I'd written this for September; it's up to you to remember when next fall comes around. Bring a kid or two. These acrobatic trout-sized shad will be waiting for you.



Caddis Fly Larva Art

Submitted by Steve Gerling

Caddisfly larvae build protective cases using materials found in their environment. Artist Hubert Duprat supplied them with gold leaf and precious stones. This is what they created.



"What's Going On" in the World of Trout Unlimited

Connect with the TU community across the country at these local in-person and online events hosted by TU staff, state councils and



local chapters. You'll find fun, engaging activities like tree plantings, trash cleanups, fishing trips, community science projects, youth education activities and veteran and first responder programs close to you. All TVTU events are scheduled on this webpage. Check it out at [TU Events!](#)

By **buying a ticket** for TVTU events (they are free), it helps the event planners know how many people to expect.



Open Positions

TVTU is in need of some volunteers to help keep the chapter active. We need volunteers for the following Board of Director positions:

President – *The President shall serve as general executive officer of the Chapter and shall appoint the chairs of all Chapter committees. The President shall oversee all activities of the chapter, preside at all membership and board meetings, manage the business and affairs of the Chapter. The President may sign and execute in the name of the Chapter all contracts, agreements, and other obligations of the Chapter subject to approval of the Board. The President shall have general supervision of all the other officers of the Chapter and shall see that their duties are properly performed. The President shall report to the members of the Chapter and to the Board on matters which may be of interest or concern. The President shall receive and review all bank statements of Chapter accounts and shall pass them to the Treasurer after review.*

Vice-President - *The Vice President shall assume the duties of the President if the President is absent or unable to perform the President's duties. The Vice President shall perform such other duties as assigned by the Board of Directors and the President.*

Secretary - *The Secretary keeps the minutes of all meetings of the Board and the membership, and is the custodian of all official records of the Chapter*

Program Director - *Coordinates monthly meetings including meeting speakers and other chapter activities.*

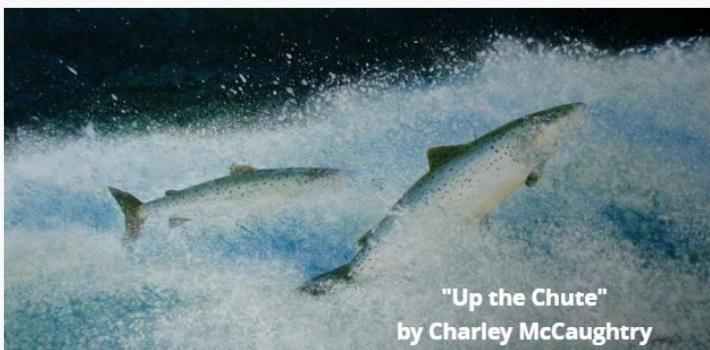
Fly Tying Coordinator- *Board of Directors membership is optional. Maintain the chapter fly tying class material and schedule fly tying classes. Also coordinates fly tyers for monthly chapter meetings.*

Please contact Gary Lussier at gelconn@yahoo.com or 860-861-9344 if you would like to help out the chapter and volunteer for these needed positions.

A Call for Newsletter Content... Contribute to "Stream Lines"

Are you a budding photographer or inspired writer? Are you interested in conservation and

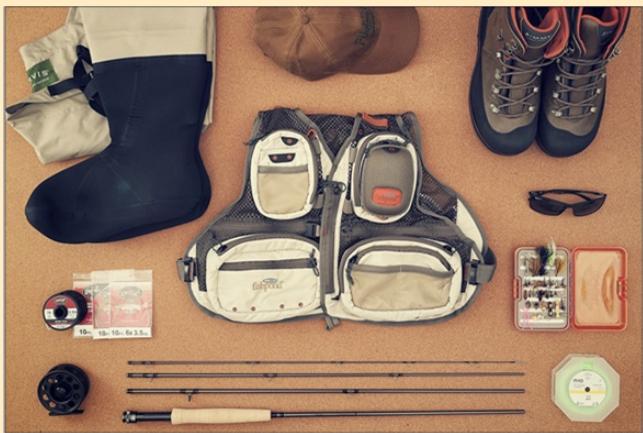
have news to share? We would like to include your work in Stream Lines, the TVTU newsletter. Don't be bashful, anything and all related content will be considered, including, poems, stories, gear reviews, photographs, paintings, conservation news, fishing & tying tips, etc. Visit Charley McCaughtry's [website](#)



Our goal is to get the membership involved in the newsletter and provide an outlet for creativity and sharing information. We have some very talented members in our chapter and Stream Lines is a great way to share information, stories, and art work.

To submit content, please contact Bruce Danielson (Editor) [email](#)

Donations Wanted



You can help our TU chapter by donating your unused fly fishing and fishing equipment including rods, reels, flies, books, fly tying and other reusable items. We will auction or raffle the items off and used the money raised to support our chapter's programs including conservation projects, stream clean up, stocking, TIC, speaker fees, and other operating expenses. Email [Pat Gaynor](#) or call **860-319-1690** if you have something to donate or bring the item(s) to the next chapter meeting.

Thank You... for Your Generosity and Support.

Thames Valley TU Chapter 282 - PO Box 2181, Columbia, CT 06237

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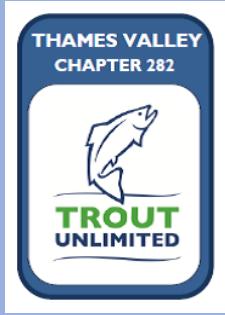
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About Us

TVTU Chapter's Mission

To conserve, protect and restore Eastern Connecticut's trout and salmon and their watersheds.

Our Vision

By the next generation, Trout Unlimited will ensure that robust populations of native and wild cold-water fish once again thrive within their North American range, so that our children can enjoy healthy fisheries in their home waters.

Questions or comments on the Newsletter contact Editor [Bruce Danielson](#)



Place an Advertisement in "Stream Lines"

Looking to reach a new and diverse audience? Presently we have over 450 members in Eastern CT and the newsletter is published September through May (9 issues). If you have a service or product and would like to reach out to our outdoor and conservation minded readership, consider placing an advertisement in the chapter's newsletter "Stream Lines" and website. The cost is only \$50 for the entire year (9 Issues).

For more information and to place an ad, contact [Daniel King](#).

Thanks for your support!

Board of Directors

Gary Lussier - President	860-861-9344	gelconn@yahoo.com
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Vice President (vacant)

Secretary - Vacant

Daniel King - Treasurer	860-642-4870	dking4870@gmail.com
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Duke Preston - Ex-Officio	860-917-7154	dukeoa5599@yahoo.com
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Michael Carl - Membership Chair	860-716-0825	mjc6624@sbcglobal.net
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Jim Valuckas - River Cleanup/ TIC Coordinator	215-208-3873	jfvret@gmail.com
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Charles McCaughtry - Membership	860-429-1016	cmccaughtry@yahoo.com
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Bruce Danielson - Communications Chair	860-237-2686	bdanielson62@comcast.net
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Zach Novosad - Social Media	860-917-6751	znovosad555@gmail.com-
Steve Gerling	860-429-4951	segerling@snet.net
Pat Gaynor - Fund Raising Committee Chair	860-319-1690	patjgaynor@gmail.com
Marc Caldwell - Conservation Chair		marcrc@att.net
Ryan Pike - Conservation Committee	860-428-6013	ryan.pike1984@gmail.com

Visit Our Thames Valley TU Chapter 282 [Website](#)



Trout Unlimited, Thames Valley CT Chapter | PO Box 2181, Columbia, CT 06237

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