



# Trout Unlimited

## Thames Valley Chapter Newsletter

# Stream Lines

*The Voice of Eastern CT Trout and Salmon Anglers*

January 2021

## Invitation to Chapter Meeting Via Zoom

### Thames Valley Trout Unlimited January 19th Chapter Meeting

Meeting starts at 7:00 PM. Zoom opens at 6:30 PM for social time.

**Join Zoom Meeting via link below (easiest)**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81065692322?pwd=VFc1R0JHSWI2Mkc5VWVRHaWJna1F3QT09>

**Or, Join Zoom meeting via the app or website**

Meeting ID: 810 6569 2322

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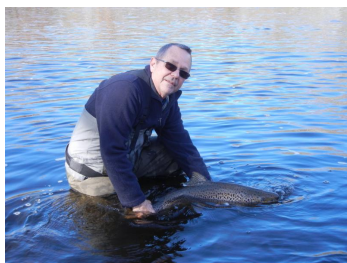
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### **President's Message....**

Happy New Year everybody!

Hope you all enjoyed the holidays. Well 2020 was certainly one year we'll all be happy to put behind us. It's been just about twelve months now since we first heard the mention of Covid-19 and it has gone downhill ever since. I personally miss being able to get to see everyone in person at the chapter meetings, but on the slightly bright side, must say that Zoom has been a great tool to mitigate that just a little bit. I think our chapter meetings have been going pretty well so far and technical issues have been almost non-existent. It has also provided us with some new opportunity otherwise unavailable or at least not so easily accessible. You should have seen the bulletins of the past two months where the CFFA has invited our members to attend their Zoom meetings. I have followed suit and invited them and all of the CT TU chapters to attend our meetings. This gives everyone some extended opportunity to see more speakers and programs to anybody that is interested.

I'm sure you've all seen that we recently held our first virtual sweepstakes fundraiser. Thanks to everyone who participated and bought tickets and special thanks to Charley McCaughtrey, Mike Carl and Jeff Yates for their generous donations of prizes in support of the chapter. We brought in \$1,660 and after expenses, we should make around \$1,300. Prize winners were selected at random by the computer program hosting the sweepstakes. Congratulations to all the winners and I'm sure you'll enjoy those prizes.

We have some very good news to report on our board membership and open positions. Jim Valuckas has agreed to take over as coordinator for the Trout in the Classroom program and has already stepped in to oversee the successful delivery of eggs to this year's participating classes on January 7. Only six schools are participating this year, down mostly due to Covid limitations, but we're

confident that we should see the remaining schools back in the program next year. Former board member and Secretary, Paul Rice is returning to the board and has agreed to take on the role of the Fly Tying Program Coordinator. Please join me in welcoming back Paul and thank you to both Paul and Jim for taking on these two roles.

See you at the next chapter meeting.

Tight Lines

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## Thames Valley TU Chapter Meeting Featuring Anthony J. Magardino " Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum "

Anthony J. Magardino grew up in Scarsdale, New York, and had the good fortune to spend his summers an hour and a half away in Roscoe, along a certain trout stream that's been written about quite a bit over the years...the Legendary Beaverkill.

There were anglers in his family, but no fly-fishers. There were fly-fishers on the Beaverkill, however, and they acknowledged Magardino and his brothers, watching with interest from the bank. One angler in particular, a World War II veteran, took the trouble to hand Magardino a rod and teach him what to do with it.

"It was something I learned, and was given the opportunity to become proficient at it, from complete strangers," recalled Magardino, who today finds himself the owner of the Beaverkill Rod Co.

Magardino still lives in Westchester county and considers the company to be based in New York, which makes Beaverkill at least the fourth brand of fly rod based in the Empire State. To my knowledge, Beaverkill is the only New York-based fly rod company whose rods are made in the United States. The blanks are rolled in Massachusetts; finishing work is being completed in New York, Naples, Fla. and the company has also announced a new sales and manufacturing facility located in San Francisco for 2014.

Magardino said he hopes eventually to consolidate the company's operations in Roscoe, near its namesake river. Those chance encounters with friendly strangers on the Beaverkill made Magardino a fly-fisher for life, and inspired him to name his rod company after the river. Though it was based in Maryland, the company already had the Beaverkill name when Magardino bought it from its founders, who had the bad luck to start a new business right before the Great Recession. Magardino had owned a Beaverkill rod and considered it one of his favorites.

"I'm from New York and I love New York, so I bought the company and moved it here," he said. "I truly believe the best way to make this company a real player that's going to be around for a long time is listening to everybody — listening to the people buying our rods," Magardino said. "My intention is to sell a \$495 rod that could easily sell for \$900, and make it here, on shore, (at a price where) people could buy it here, add it to their collection and still have a few dollars in their pocket to spend at their favorite fly shop."

The company offers a robust line of 26 rods from 3-12 weight, most with multiple action choices — that is, the lighter rods come in slow and medium actions, the 5-7 weight rods come in slow, medium and fast, and the heavier rods come in medium and fast.

Magardino currently serves on the executive board as treasurer of the Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum in Livingston Manor, New York. And, formally served on the board of directors of the American Museum of Fly Fishing in Vermont, his memberships include some of the more famous and exclusive NYC and Catskills Angling and Shooting clubs, like the Anglers' Club of New York, Debruce, Winton, and TMRP. Every year, Beaverkill Rod Co. hosts an outing for disabled veterans, including personalized rods engraved with each participant's name, rank and branch of the service, on Winton's prized private water on the upper Neversink River.

Magardino said he was delighted a few weeks later, when two female officers who attended told him they had taken up fly fishing as a result of the outing.

"They surprised me by showing me they had become excellent fly-fishers in a few weeks," he said.

"They told me they had never felt the peace that they had while standing in the river, and taking in all

## Thames Valley Chapter 282 2020 TVTU Sweepstakes Winners

### TVTU TOP PRIZE GIVEAWAY

Six great prizes including a TFO fly rod in any size you choose!



Congratulations to the following winners in the 2020 TVTU Sweepstakes!

- |   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| TFO fly rod   | - David Griffiths  |
| Guided trip with TU National Operations Director Jeff Yates | - David Redfield   |
| Guided trip with TVTU Board Member Mike Carl                | - Douglas Zehner   |
| Artwork by TVTU Board Member Charley McCaughtrey            | - Paul Liberty     |
| Orvis Slingpack   | - George Jacobi    |
| TU Logo Gearpack  | - Richard Tompkins |



## "Volunteers Wanted"



## Program Coordinator Needed

We are looking to fill a board position of Program Coordinator.

Duties of this position include:

Coordinating who brings refreshments.

Finding and arranging speakers.

Bringing coffee supplies & replenishing as needed.

If you are interested in helping the chapter by filling this position, please contact Gary Lussier [email](mailto:gary.lussier@thamesvalleytu.org)

## 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 [John Preston](mailto:john.preston@thamesvalleytu.org) or call 860-546-6690 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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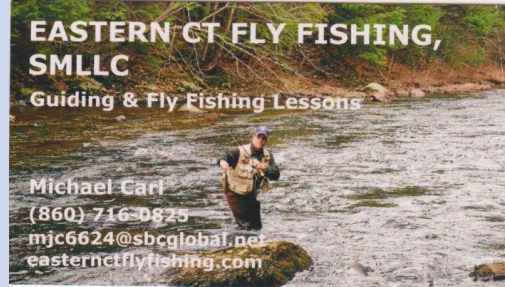
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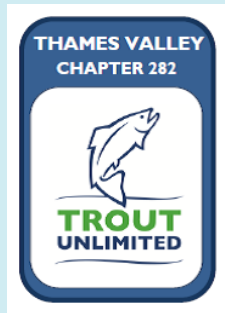
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## Stay Connected

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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

Ray Schaefer, Vice President (acting)

860-617-9948

rayschaefer9060@gmail.com

Glenn Levasseur, Secretary

860-204-1201

glenn.levasseur@gmail.com

Daniel King, Treasurer

860-642-4870

dking4870@gmail.com

Duke Preston, Ex-Officio	860-917-7154	dukeoa5599@yahoo.com
Michael Carl, Membership Chair	860-716-0825	mjc6624@sbcglobal.net
Jim Valuckas, River Cleanup/ TIC Coordinator	215-208-3873	jfvret@gmail.com
Paul Rice, Fly Tying Coordinator	860-942-2701	phr117@Gmail.com
Charles McCaughtry	860-429-1016	cmccaughtry@aol.com
George DeGray	860-546-9872	georgedegray@gmail.com
Bruce Danielson, Communications Chair	860-237-2686	bdanielson62@comcast.net
Zach Novosad, Social Media	860-917-6751	znovosad555@gmail.com
Conservation - Vacant	-	-
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