

Trout Unlimited

Thames Valley Chapter Newsletter

Stream Lines

The Voice of Eastern CT Trout and Salmon Anglers

November 2018



President's Message...

Hello everyone,

I am excited to take on the role of President of this outstanding chapter and look forward to working with all of you to continue the great work that we have done. As the baton is passed, I'd like to recognize the outgoing officers and board members for all of their hard work and dedication on behalf of TU and the membership.

President and Vice-President Duke and Jenn Preston who have led us for the last couple years and from my recollection have been at just about every single TU sponsored event – setting up display booths, our TU canopy, and our monthly meetings. Nobody will ever forget their hard work and culinary skills that went into the great meals they've provided at our numerous campouts and events.

Secretary Paul Rice whose insights and ideas as well as efforts to capture and publish meeting minutes and keep the record straight for the monthly board meeting was an invaluable assistance to all of us.

Membership Chair Charley McCaughtry is the longest standing board member (at least by my line of sight). His work and contributions as well as his in depth historical knowledge of TU at the local, state and national level has been a tremendous benefit to the board and our chapter.

On behalf of the entire chapter, I would like to thank Duke, Jenn, Paul and Charley for all you have done for TVTU. I know that you aren't going anywhere and look forward to continuing to seeing you at our meetings and working with you in the future.

Next, I would like to thank and welcome our new Vice President, Ray Schaefer and Membership Chair, Mike Carl. Anyone that comes to our meetings knows both of these gents. They are both very active volunteers who will continue to make significant contributions in their new roles.

Finally, a few of you may be wondering what I'm thinking about the direction and future of the chapter. For the most part, I see things mostly continuing pretty much the same. We'll continue have our regular meetings with the board always looking to find new and interesting speakers that make us anxious to get in to hear them. We'll continue assisting DEEP with stocking, stream cleanups, Trout in the Classroom and any new local initiatives that align with our objectives and mission. Of course we'll be doing our annual campout and breakfast and will look at possible additional outings at other locations like the Housatonic or the Farmington.

The one area that I plan to focus on is conservation initiatives. We have done some great work in the last couple of years but things kind of stalled in the last few months. I personally think that conservation project should be a primary focus as it was the basis for the foundation of TU. When I see the turnout and support we get for projects like the Versailles fish ladder, it just reinforces the notion of how many of us want to participate and contribute to causes that support the sport we all love.

I look forward to seeing you all at future meetings, events and hopefully on the water. Feel free to contact me any time with your thoughts, concerns or suggestions.

Gary Lussier
President TVTU
Gelconn@yahoo.com

Editors note:

We held elections at our October meeting. Gary was elected President, Ray Schaefer was elected Vice President and Mike Carl as Membership Chair. Congratulations to these new officers. We still need volunteers for Secretary and Conservation Chair.

TVTU Chapter Meeting - Tuesday, November 20th, 6-9 pm

Featured Presentation:

Paul Dinice - "Fly Fishing Cape Cod"



Just as fly fishing is a passion for Paul, so is Cape Cod. Paul has been visiting and fishing Cape Cod for the past 30 years, from Sandwich to Race Point in P Town. Many have called it the best Striped Bass fishery in the world. It's more than that. Beautiful beaches and sites abound. The program features, fly fishing

locations, fly patterns, tourist "must see", restaurants, and places and towns to stay. The Cape is one of the most reasonable fly fishing destinations in New England, especially in the recommended "off season". Come on a great journey of good friends, good times, and great fishing. At each presentation Paul will have a limited number of copies of "A Guide to Fly Fishing the Cape".

Paul is 64 years old and has resided in Derby, CT all his life. He began spin fishing and fly fishing at a very early age, all thanks to an uncle who took all the family kids fishing on his one day off a week. In 1980 his fishing focus turned exclusively to fly fishing. In 1985 Paul made my first foray into salt water fly fishing. He lives a stone's throw from the Housatonic River and Naugatuck Rivers.

Paul is a member of virtually every fly fishing club and organization in CT. He also very much involved in numerous environmentally based organizations such as Trout Unlimited, Connecticut Audubon Society, and the Coastal Conservation Association. Paul has made numerous written contributions to newspapers, local club newsletters, and periodicals.

Paul's "home" club/organization is the Housatonic Fly Fisherman's Association. For the past 35 years he has written "Fly of the Month" section of the HFFA newsletter and website. He contributed to a book entitled "Over-Winter Striper Secrets" by Captain Al Anderson. The contributions included photographs and writings which were incorporated in the section on fishing the Housatonic. Paul's 'closer crab' pattern appeared in the 2012 Winter edition Fly Tye Magazine. He has also organized numerous small fly fishing expo's here in CT. Visit Paul's fine [Tight Lines Fly Fishing](#) Blog.

Door opens at 6pm.

Our meetings are free and open to members, guests and the general public. Social time, fly tying demonstrations, refreshments, raffle, door prize & more... Please note the featured presentation starts shortly after short chapter business meeting at 7pm.

Chapter Events

Nov 20th, Tue., 6pm
Chapter Meeting
Moose Lodge
115 Fitchville Rd
Bozrah, CT
Paul Dinice - "Fly Fishing Cape Cod"

Dec 18th, Tue., 6pm
Chapter Meeting
Moose Lodge
115 Fitchville Rd
Bozrah, CT
George Jacobi - "A Season at the Grand Canyon"

Jan 15th, Tue, 6pm
Chapter Meeting
Moose Lodge
115 Fitchville Rd
Bozrah, CT
John Shaner - "Spiders & Soft Hackles"

Feb 5th, Tue, 6-8pm
Fly Tying Intro Class
Preston Library
389 RT-2
Preston, CT

Feb 19th, Tue, 6pm
Annual Event
Moose Lodge
115 Fitchville Rd
Bozrah, CT
Flies & Pies...

March 19th, Tue, 6pm
Chapter Meeting
Moose Lodge
115 Fitchville Rd
Bozrah, CT
Neal Hagstrom

April 16th, Tue, 6pm
Chapter Meeting
Moose Lodge
115 Fitchville Rd
Bozrah, CT
Abbie Schuster - "Striper Fishing Martha's Vineyard"

"Scholars have long known that fishing eventually turns men into philosophers. Unfortunately, it is almost impossible to buy decent tackle on a philosopher's salary." --- Patrick McManus ---

Gone Fishing... But Not Forgotten



TVTU Chapter 282 member Steve Misovich passed away on October 31st at the age of 77. Steve a chapter member since 1979 was an avid fly fisherman and expert fly-tyer. He fished Long Pond, Wyassup Lake, Hewitt's Pond in North Stonington, all along the Wood River in southern Rhode Island, as well as Weekapaug Beach and Quonnie Breachway. He also fished with cherished friends in the Catskills, the Adirondacks, and North Conway, NH.

See the full obituary at Legacy.com.



"Riffle Bioassessment Volunteer Program"

by Bruce Danielson

The Riffle Bioassessment by Volunteers program (RBV) is a statewide volunteer water quality monitoring program coordinated by the CT DEEP Bureau of Water Protection & Land Reuse

Each fall RBV volunteers participate in a 'treasure hunt' to find Connecticut's healthiest streams. To accomplish this, RBV volunteers are trained to collect 'macroinvertebrates,' or 'river bugs' from their local rivers and streams. Depending on the types of macroinvertebrates that volunteers find in a stream, the CT DEEP can assess it as a healthy stream.

Macroinvertebrates are organisms that are large enough to be seen with the naked eye ('macro') and lack a backbone ('invertebrate').

The RBV Program focuses specifically on aquatic, riffle-dwelling macroinvertebrates. These macroinvertebrates live within fast flowing, shallow, rocky stream bottoms. Examples of aquatic macroinvertebrates include insects in their larval or nymph form, crayfish, freshwater snails and clams, and worms. Monitoring sites are typically located on small, wadeable streams that flow year-round and are characterized by fast flowing, rocky habitat called "riffles."



Aquatic macroinvertebrates are excellent indicators of stream water quality because:

- They are affected by the physical, chemical, and biological conditions of the stream.
- They can't escape pollution and therefore show the effects of short- and long term pollution events.
- They are a critical part of the stream's food web.
- They are relatively easy to sample and identify.

I recently had the opportunity to participate in a training session to become a Riffle Bioassessment Volunteer. The training focused on the sampling technique using a scoop net and then the subsequent sorting and identifying the insects found in the stream.

The insects that are considered the "most wanted" as indicators of stream quality are:

- Mayflies
- Stoneflies
- Caddis flies



Do you remember Steve Babbitt's presentation about the Willimantic River and he was describing the water quality of the river. He noted that several pollution intolerant species of stoneflies and mayflies have become more abundant. This is an excellent example of what we, as fishermen, can observe to note the quality of our streams.

I have participated in three stream samplings and we have found significant numbers of these "most wanted" as well as many other types of macroinvertebrates. This information is then forwarded to the state for their analysis and used to determine the quality of streams in Connecticut.

Inland Fisheries Program Notes & Updates

FALL TROUT & SALMON STOCKING UPDATE:

DEEP's fall trout stockings have been completed. This fall, nearly 32,600 adult trout were stocked. This included 150 9-12 inch Brook Trout, 500 broodstock Brook Trout, 12,900 9-12 inch Rainbow Trout, 11,850 12 inch and up Rainbow Trout, 2,800 9-12 inch Brown Trout and 4,850 12 inch and up Brown Trout. Broodstock Atlantic Salmon stockings are ongoing. Note that stocked trout are standard 9-12 inch fish unless otherwise stated (broodstock, 12" and up, etc.).

Thanks for Voting!

For those of you who voted "yes" on the November 6th ballot item regarding the sale of public lands; **Thank You!**

Your YES vote has prevented valuable state-owned park, forest, wildlife management area, and farmland from being sold, swapped, or given away by the legislature without public notice or comment.

This measure passed by an 85% margin.

TVTU Chapter Fund-raising Raffle 2018

Only 50 tickets to be sold... \$15 ticket

Cabela's Theorem Fly Rod & Ross Evolution LT Fly Reel Outfit
(Value \$655)



Cabela's Theorem Fly Rod (9ft, 4pc, 5wt) - With Generation-II nano-silica resin and a high modulus graphite blank, Burl wood reel seat with high-polish aluminum hardware and a modified western cork handle. Rod case & Lifetime Guarantee

Ross Evolution LT® Fly Reel #2 (4-6 wt/4.2oz) - Conical drag; Heat-dissipating drag material; Triple redundant radial pawl engagement; Aluminum alloy construction; Quick release locking spool; Oil impregnated bronze bushing; Stainless steel spindle; Easily converts for right or left hand retrieves; Quick release locking spool. Rated for freshwater or saltwater duty. Lifetime warranty. Made in USA.
**** Includes: Cortland Precision Finesse WF5F Fly Line**

Thames Valley TU is continually working on our Mission of conserving, protecting and restoring our cold water fisheries in the Eastern CT. This takes a lot of resources... man-hours and money. Please help us raise funds for current and future projects

Raffle tickets are only \$15 each. The drawing will be held once we have sold 50 tickets. You do not have to be present to win. Tickets are available at our monthly meetings and through the Chapter's Board of Directors members. Or, send a check payable (with name, address & phone#) to: Thames Valley TU Chapter 282, P.O. Box 211, Hanover, CT 06350. A ticket will be mailed back to you and recorded.

Thank You for Your Support



"Angler's Pantry" - Sweet Potato Casserole

by Jenn & Duke Preston



Ingredients:

5-6 medium Sweet Potatoes
 1 bag of mini Marshmallows
 Salt and pepper
 1/2 to 1 stick of butter (depending on size of potatoes used)
 Packed brown sugar
 1/8th teaspoon cinnamon

- Preheat oven to 375*
- Peel sweet potatoes and cut into chunks
- In a bowl drizzle a little vegetable oil over potatoes only enough to coat potatoes
- Add in some salt and pepper, use 3 table spoons of packed brown sugar and mix again to coat
- Put on a baking sheet and bake until very soft fork should slide in and out very easily
- While potatoes are still hot put in a bowl and mix with an electric mixer or a masher whichever you prefer.
- Add your butter, some salt and pepper, and cinnamon to taste and ¼ cup packed brown sugar (if you like it sweeter you can always add more).
- Once mixed well put in a baking dish of your choice and spread in an even layer
- If cooking right away top with the marshmallows over the top and bake at 350* until golden on top.

** You can make this a day or 2 in advance but only add marshmallows when putting in to heat and you would bake the sweet potatoes for 20-25 minutes and once hot add marshmallows then bake until golden brown.

Share one of your favorite recipes with us! Please contact [Duke Preston](#).



October Presentation Recap

by John Preston



DEEP Fisheries biologist Tim Wildman provided a very informative presentation on the CT Sea-run Brown Trout

Program. Historically, he walked us through the ups and downs of past attempts at establishing a sea-run trout fishery in CT that ran from the 1950's through the present. In addition Tim provided a Sea-run Trout Project pamphlet and a copy of the Sea-run Trout Enhancement Annual Report (2017) which much of this article was taken.

In particular, CT sought to establish runs of sea-run Brown Trout beginning in the early 1960s with the introduction of sea-run strains of Brown Trout from Europe. This effort was discontinued due to limitations of the hatchery system and poor returns in the late 1970s. However, small numbers of sea-run Brown Trout continued to appear in our streams and be caught by anglers. Sea-run Brown Trout, which can tolerate the warmer water of Long Island Sound, may grow as large as Atlantic salmon and are highly valued as a sport fish.

There were numerous attempts along many coastal rivers and tributaries with existing Seeforellen sea-run stock from 2001 to 2013 with very limited success. This led to a search in 2008 for a new source of true sea-run strain of Brown trout.

After years of research and the convincing of management, Tim successfully imported a natural sea-run brown trout strain from Finland in 2014... the Iijoki Sea-run Brown trout. The eggs are imported from the Taivkoski hatchery (Finnish Game & Fisheries Institute) and hatched and reared at the Burlington hatchery. The Farm River, Latimer Brook, Menunketesuck River, and Shunock River are currently under study with this new strain of sea-run trout.



Adult Iijoki - This could be the future...

Fisheries biologist will be monitoring Latimer's fishway trap and any sea-run trout caught will be released upstream for angling. Depending on the stream location other methods such as electro-fishing surveys, fishtraps, video monitors and reports from anglers, will be used to evaluate returning fish.

Please look for clipped fins, note the size of the fish, release unharmed if less than 15 inches, and, report your catch (see form below). Please Report Your Catch... the success of this program relies on the information reported. Should you be fortunate to catch one of these amazing fish, please send an email to Timothy.wildman@ct.gov or call 860-447-4315.

Judging from the many questions and comments from the audience Tim Wildman's presentation and efforts were well received and much appreciated. Hopefully this Fisheries Program will be successful. Please let's do our part and Report Your Catch!

Tim used Latimer Brook as an example case/pilot study and the



approach that
the Fisheries
Dept. is

undertaking. Each March Latimer Brook is stocked with 2 year old smolts (about 8-9 inches) which are ready to migrate to the Long Island Sound. A smolt is a salmon, trout or charr that is undergoing the physiological changes required of a freshwater fish to adapt and thrive in saltwater. Holding fences are placed downstream of release points to ensure the smolts are imprinted. After at least five days they are released this will ensure the probability they will return to their "home" stream. These fish will have one of their ventral fins removed to help identify them. Since the legal trout length downstream of I-95 is 15 inches, it is very important to release fin clipped fish less than 15 inches. These trout have the ability to grow to trophy size starting in 2018.



Iijoki Sea-run Brown Trout Smolt

REPORT YOUR CATCH HERE

We encourage you to email or call-in your catch (use the contact provided below) in addition to using this form to report your catch to the project biologist.

DATE OF CATCH _____

RIVER _____

LOCATION _____

LENGTH OF FISH _____

WEIGHT OF FISH _____

NAME _____

PHONE OR EMAIL _____

PLEASE CIRCLE ALL APPROPRIATE

FIN CLIP (SEE DIAGRAM BELOW)

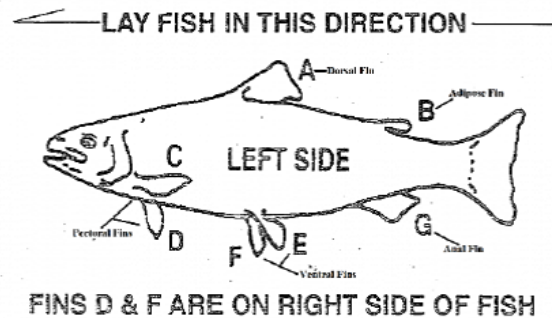
LV (E) RV (F) NONE

RELEASED KEPT

TO EMAIL OR CALL-IN YOUR REPORT:

Timothy.wildman@ct.gov

Phone 860-447-4315



More information that might be of interest to you are: the [Diadromous Fish Restoration and Enhancement 2016](#) and, a [2016-17 Annual Report](#) that contains a wealth of information on many Fisheries programs.

Items for For Sale

Bamboo Rod Oven (homemade) - The heat gun (not included) oven is FREE for the cane rod maker who will pass it on FREE to the next rod maker.

Teton 8/10 Fly Reel - Early LA model in good cond. with clear fly line (8-9wt?) and reel bag. - \$90

Orvis Trident XL Fly Rod - 9' 8wt, 4 3/4 oz, 2 pc with case - \$90

Sage Graphite II Fly Rod - 9', 10wt 2 pc with case, fighting butt needs TLC - \$50

St Croix Pro Graphite Fly Rod - 9', 8/9 wt, 2pc, no case - \$50

LL Bean Travel Fly Rod - 9' -7wt, 6pc w/ tube & bag, near mint condition - \$75

Umpqua Toketee Vest - New, never used, gray, one size fits all - \$65 (MSRP \$159)

Wanted

George Jacobi is looking for spare copies of "Trout" magazine, Fall 2016, and "Fly Fisherman", Aug/Sept 2018. If you still have one and can part with it, bring to me or John Preston at a meeting this fall. Thanks



Fly of the Month "Black Bear Green Butt"

by John Preston

It has been tough going thus far with the high flows, cool and rainy weather but the recent Broodstock Salmon stocking of the Shetucket River has THE "Shetucket Salmon Slayer" (aka Dale Pitkin) on the prowl and according to him dark flies seem to be the ticket so far this year... flies like the Same Thing Murray, Blue Charm even a black Bomber (that is water logged and swung without any pulse).



The following Bear Green Butt pattern has been around since the 1920's and is still very popular and effective for Atlantic salmon and Steelhead... give it a try.

Black Bear Green Butt Recipe:

Hook: Salmon/steelhead hook (here, a Dai-Riki #899), size 6.

Thread #1: Fluorescent green, 6/0 or 140-denier.

Tag: Silver Oval Tinsel, small.

Underbody/Butt: Fluorescent green tying thread.

Tail: Black saddle hackle fibers.

Rib: Silver Oval Tinsel, small.

Body/Thread #2: Black thread, 6/0 or 140-denier.

Thread #3: Black, 8/0 or 70-denier.

Throat: Black saddle hackle fibers.

Adhesive #1: Superglue (Fly Tyers Z-Ment).

Wing: Black bear hair cleaned and stacked.

Adhesive #2: UV-cure resin.

Video by Tim Flagler of [Tightline Productions](#)

Donations Wanted

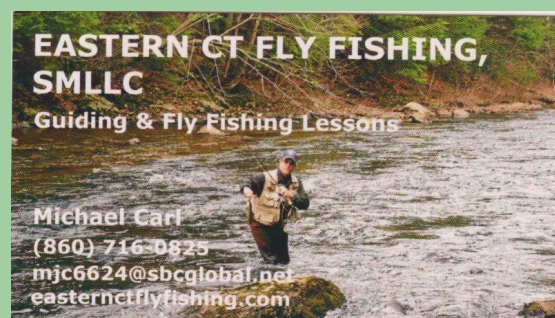


You can help our TU chapter by donating your unused fly fishing and fishing equipment including rods, reels, flies, books, fly tying and other reusable items. We will auction or raffle the items off and used the money raised to support our chapter's programs including conservation projects, stream clean up, stocking, TIC, speaker fees, and other operating expenses. Email [John Preston](#) 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 211, Hanover, CT 06350

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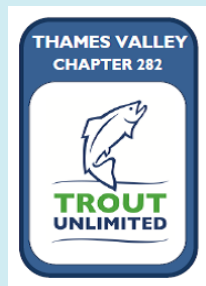


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About Us

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, Stocking	860-861-9344	gelconn@yahoo.com
Ray Schaefer, Vice President	860-546-9775	rayschaefer9060@gmail.com
Secretary (Vacant)		
Daniel King, Treasurer	860-642-4870	dking4870@gmail.com
Duke Preston, Ex-Officio, Fund Chair	860-546-6690	dukeoa5599@yahoo.com
Michael Carl, Membership Chair	860-716-0875	mjc6624@sbcglobal.net
Jim Valuckas, River Cleanup Coord.	215-208-3873	jfvret@gmail.com
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Conservation Committee (VACANT)		

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