

# Trout Unlimited

## Thames Valley Chapter Newsletter

# Stream Lines

*The Voice of Eastern CT Trout and Salmon Anglers*

September 2019



### President's Message...

Welcome back from summer vacation. Hope you had a great summer and got to do some fishing - even if it wasn't for trout. I don't know about you but the fishing seemed to be a little bit off this year compared to years past – at least it was for me. Rivers ran a little higher than usual for longer into the season (which should have been a good thing) and by the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in June, water temps were getting consistently above 70 – so I was done fishing. As of the first

of this month, I do see that the cooler evenings are already starting to slowly bring down the river temps. Hopefully that trend continues and we get some rain to fill up the rivers and we'll be back at it again soon.

We weren't completely dormant for the summer and had a few events since our last meeting in May. We participated in the Thames River Basin Partnership Floating Workshop at the Yantic Park on Stockhouse Road which had a pretty good turnout. There, we provided information on the TU organization, conducted some fly tying demonstrations, gave casting lessons to anyone interested and even had on the water demonstrations of fly-fishing and opportunity for newcomers to give it a try. A week prior to the event, a number of people helped plant a rain garden at the Bozrah Town Hall to mitigate warm water runoff into the river. We helped Nathan Hale School with a trout release from their TIC program and also gave casting lessons to a bunch of the students. We also provided assistance to a couple of youth fishing days, first with the Audubon society at the Hampton reservoir and a multi-day event with the Boy Scouts at the JNW Scout Reservation. I personally find that these fishing outings with the younger kids to be some of the most fun. Watching their enjoyment as they reel in sunfish on their spinning rods brings back memories of my own early fishing days. I really want to thank all of those members that volunteered their time to support these events. These were all great events, they are important to the chapter, and they can't be done without you – so Thank You all!!

For an update on our work on conservation grants, I told you last year that we had applied to Long Island Sound Stewardship Fund for a grant to do some work on the Merrick and Latimer brooks and to consolidate some of the available local stream and river data into a cohesive online web view. Unfortunately, that grant was not approved. Late in May, we applied to National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for a grant to do a fish ladder design for the old Papermill Pond Dam on the Little River in Sprague. This is the next impoundment above the Versailles Fish Ladder we helped rebuild a couple of years ago and this would reconnect 2.75 miles of migratory habitat and 60 acres of spawning habitat for diadromous fish species which has been inaccessible for over 150 years. We are still waiting to hear a response on that application.

In some state news, one of our own chapter members, Sal DeCarli, has been elected to the TU National Leadership Council for CT. In his new role, Sal will be representing the CT TU chapters at the national level. Please join me in congratulating Sal and wishing him the best of luck in his new role.

And finally, you probably already know from a previous special bulletin that we have a new meeting place starting in September. We were unable to retain the Moose Lodge and had no choice but to find a new location. We did our best to find something centrally located to make it as convenient as possible for everyone. We'll be meeting at the Franklin Fire Dept at 5 Tyler Drive. It's a fairly new facility with a large hall and easy ground level access that should serve us well. I'm looking forward to our upcoming season and hope to see you all at our next meeting.

Tight Lines!!

Gary Lussier  
President TVTU

## Don't forget we have a new meeting place!

Starting with the September 17th chapter meeting, our meeting location will be at the Franklin Firehouse on Tyler Drive (just off Rt 32) in Franklin.

The facility houses the library, town garage and the firehouse. The meeting entrance is on the left as you enter the facility.

The Franklin Firehouse in Franklin 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 to the Franklin Firehouse](#)



## TVTU Summer at a Glance



Rain garden installation at the Bozrah Town Hall



The Last Green Valley Floating Workshop fly tying and fly casting demonstration



Audubon Society Day Camp fishing class





## Chapter Meeting Tues., September 17th, 6 to 9pm

### Featured Presentation by: Bill Keister "Fly Fishing in Chile"



if you do not know.

Bill Keister's first trout was caught when he was 12 on a dry fly. He fished through high school and college years but stopped when he got out of the Navy in 1968.

Contemplating retirement in 1999 he made an academic decision to come back to fly fishing. In four months he had built four fly rods, updated his 1966 fly tying materials used his own flies to catch nine trout on the first day of fishing on the Rush river during Wisconsin early March trout season.

He is an FFF Certified Master Casting Instructor. He ties his own flies, has put together over seventy fly rods and keeps records of each fish he has caught since May 6, 2002.

Trout and salmon have been caught in Labrador, Newfoundland, Alaska, Kamchatka, the Kola Peninsula, three additional Canadian provinces and fifteen states. Bill has made eight trips to Chile, six to Argentina and five to the Kanektok River in Quinhagak Alaska.

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

Have you ever wanted to fish Chile? Is the price tag for a high end lodge package holding you back? Learn how to do part or all of a trip yourself. Bill has been to Coyhaique Chile 7 times. He will tell you about the area, the rivers, self-guiding, local guides, river access, language, local transportation, getting to Patagonia, lodging and high end lodge combinations. You can't go

### Chapter Events

**Sept 17th, Tue.  
6-9pm Chapter Meeting**  
Franklin  
Firehouse  
Tyler Drive  
Franklin, CT  
**Bill Keister**  
*"Fishing in Chile"*

**Sept 28th, Sat.  
9:00 AM,  
Moosup River Clean Up**, meet at the Quinebaug Hatchery, coffee and donuts

**Oct 15th, Tue.  
6-9 PM Chapter Meeting**  
Franklin  
Firehouse  
Tyler Drive  
Franklin, CT  
Steve Coulton  
*"West Branch of the Farmington"*

**Nov 19th, 6-9pm Chapter Meeting**  
Franklin  
Firehouse  
Tyler Drive  
Franklin, CT  
Gary Bogli  
*"Fishing the Kanektok River in Alaska"*

**Dec 17th, 6-9pm Chapter Meeting**  
Franklin  
Firehouse  
Tyler Drive  
Franklin, CT  
Neal Hagstrom

**Jan 21st, 6-9pm Chapter Meeting**  
Franklin

## Stocking Coordinator Volunteer Needed



The chapter still needs a volunteer for the position of Stocking Coordinator.

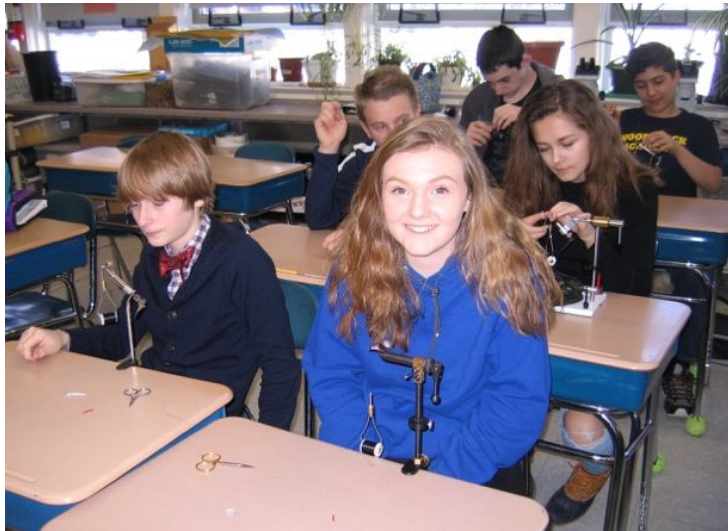
The position entails working with the hatchery management to schedule the stocking times, locations and sending an email to the stocking volunteers to establish a rendezvous for the stocking.

We are getting close to stocking season and we

could use the help. If you are interested, please contact Gary Lussier [email](#)

# Do You Have an Extra Fly Tying Vise?

The fly tying classes have been very popular lately. If you have any spare vises or tools, please contact Charley McCaughtry [email](#). Also contact Charley if you would like to help with some of the classes. There are a couple coming up soon.



Firehouse  
Tyler Drive  
Franklin,CT  
Michael Brucato  
*Tying and  
Fishing Wet  
Flies"*

**March 17th, 6-9 PM**

Franklin  
Firehouse  
Tyler Drive  
Franklin,CT  
Jeff White  
*"Delaware River  
Club"*

**April 21st, 6-9 PM**

Franklin  
Firehouse  
Tyler Drive  
Franklin,CT  
Tommy  
Barnowski  
*"Bonefishing in  
the Bahamas"*

## Event/Meeting Cancellations Due to Inclement Weather

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



## Items for For Sale

**Korkers Wading Boot (NOS)** - Size 11 w/ walking/hiking sole only - \$35  
**LL Bean Travel Fly Rod** - 9' - 7wt, 6pc w/ tube & bag, near mint condition - \$75  
**Cortland CL Fly Rod** - 9' - 8/9 wt, 6 pc w/bag & tube, excellent condition - \$65  
**Umpqua Toketee Vest** - New, never used, gray, one size fits all - \$65 (MSRP \$159)  
**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.

For the above items or to place items for sale, contact [John Preston](#) 860-917-4485

## 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@ctfish.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**

**Thames Valley TU would like to thank the following advertisers for their support... Please patronize them.**

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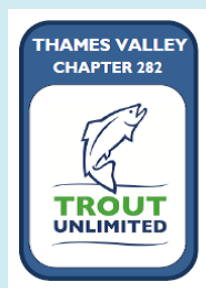
**EASTERN CT FLY FISHING, SMLLC**  
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Michael Carl  
(860) 716-0825  
[mjc6624@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mjc6624@sbcglobal.net)  
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**STAY CONNECTED**



### 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](mailto:Bruce.Danielson@ctfish.org)



### 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](http://www.ctfish.org). The cost is only \$50 for the entire year (9 Issues).

For more information and to place an ad, contact [Daniel King](mailto:Daniel.King@ctfish.org).



[Visit our Website](#)

## Board of Directors

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