



# TROUT UNLIMITED

## Thames Valley Chapter Newsletter

# Stream Lines

*The Voice of Eastern CT Trout and Salmon Anglers*

December 2016

### "Special Notice"

Please note that our membership meeting site has been changed for the rest of the season (November - May) to the:

Bozrah Firehouse, 239 Fitchville Rd., Bozrah, CT [Directions](#)

Dear John,

Hello Everyone!

We (Board of Directors) received some very good suggestions from the surveys (see below) from our members at the November monthly meeting which I want relay to all. Speaker fees can range from \$150 to \$300 or more. Last season we limited "professional" speakers to save money and use the savings to jumpstart our conservation efforts with a \$1000 budget and raising additional \$1540 with a special raffle. In fact, I thought the members who did presentations last season were as good or better than some of the speakers we have had. We have some very knowledgeable and talented members that we can utilize and learn from.

1. Destination Speakers (19 votes)
2. Local River Guides (18 votes)
3. Film Programs (16 votes)
4. Three way tie (10 votes each): DEEP Speakers; Local (CT) Fish & Game Wardens; and Fly Tiers

7. Two way tie (3 votes each): Travel logs and Manufacturer Reps

**Suggested topics for DEEP speakers:** Conservation & fisheries programs (2); Habitat improvement; Fishing access & acquisition; Legislation & funding issues; and Farmington River.

#### Comments & suggestions:

Entomology topics as it relates to fly tying & fishing (2); Someone familiar with the Wood River (RI) watershed; Shad Creek Flies does N.E. fishing presentations; Book Reviews; Good speakers with lots of useful info from various sources; Science talks of any species of fish; Would like a monthly Treasurer's Report; Eastern CT conservation issues, Last Green Valley and other organizations; Have speakers use a microphone/PA system; Use eBay for donated items you want to sell; and, Presentations on fly fishing techniques/methods.

You can see, from the above, it can be difficult to schedule the right mix of

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### Calendar

**Tuesday, December 20th - 6pm**

**"Movie Night" - Trout Bum Diaries II - "Kiwi Camo"**

Chapter Membership Meeting  
Bozrah Firehouse  
239 Fitchville Rd  
Bozrah, CT

**Tuesday, January 19th - 6pm**

**TBD**

Chapter Membership Meeting,  
Bozrah Firehouse  
239 Fitchville Rd  
Bozrah, CT

**January 20-22, 2017**

**Marlborough Fly Fishing Show**

**Royal Plaza**

**Marlborough, MA**

topics/speakers to appeal to our membership's varied interests. That said, we will try our best for future meetings to meet your needs and expectations.

This month we are going start with the #3 choice from the survey results... an excellent video "Kiwi Camo" from the popular Trout Bum series that takes us to New Zealand that I am sure you all will enjoy. And, to help bring in the holiday spirit, we will have some special refreshments, door prizes and raffle goodies for your enjoyment.

In closing, I personally want to thank all who become officers and Board members, volunteer, donate, attend our meetings, and advertise in our newsletter (by the way, we have new ad contributor from TVTU member Michael Carl.. consider him for your next guided trip). Without your support and commitment we could not exist.

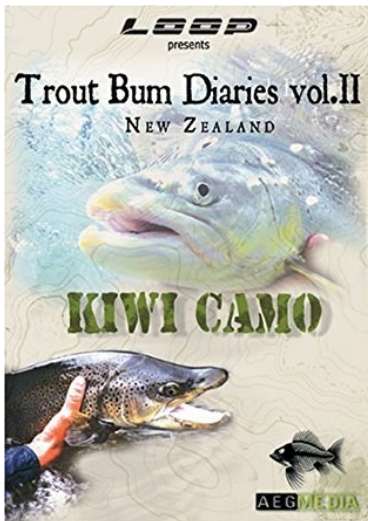
**To All, a Very Merry Christmas/ Holiday and Happy New Year....**



Duke Preston  
President TVTU  
[Email Address](#)

## Thames Valley Chapter Monthly Meeting Tuesday, December 20th, 2016

### "Movie Night" - Featured Presentation: Trout Bum Diaries II, New Zealand - "Kiwi Camo"



Prepare yourself for 75 minutes of pure fly fishing insanity with Trout Bum Diaries Vol 2: Kiwi Camo. In this installment, the usual suspects of the Angling Exploration Group take you on a hair-curling 4 month expedition into New Zealand's shadowland as they attempt to seduce the world's largest & most elusive backcountry brown trout. In addition to the non-stop trials & triumphs of these angling addicts, Kiwi Camo delivers a behind the scenes look into what drives the seemingly crazy trout-bum lifestyle.

#### [Watch the Trailer Here](#)

**The DVD of "Kiwi Camo" will given away as a Door Prize at the end of the meeting. Popcorn, soda, cookies & coffee will be served prior to the movie.**

**Door opens at 6pm.** Fly Tying demonstrations. The presentation will start (approx. 7:15pm) after an earlier than usual (6:45pm) short chapter "business" meeting.

#### [Raffle Table:](#)

**Saturday, FEB 4th  
CFFA EXPO & Banquet  
Maneely's  
South Windsor, CT**

### We are now on Facebook!

When you visit our website there is now a link to our Facebook page. Also see our Quick Links below. Jenn Miner is our administrator and we are looking for an additional person assist her. Please contact

[Duke Preston.](#)

## Quick Links

[Join TU](#)  
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[TVTU Website](#)  
[Contact Us](#)  
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## Donations Wanted

You can help our TU chapter out by donating your unused fly fishing equipment including rods, reels, fly's, books and other fly fishing related items. We will raffle the items off and used the money raised to support our chapter's programs including stream clean up, stocking, trout in the classroom, speaker expenses, and meeting hall rent cost to name a few areas of expense. Call Jim Clark at 860-546-6924 if you have something to donate or bring the item (s) to the next membership meeting. Thanks for your support.

## November Membership Meeting Recap: A Evening with Ben Bilello - "Traditional Techniques for Broodstock Atlantic Salmon"

By John Preston



Kicking off our first monthly meeting at our new digs... the Bozrah Firehouse... Ben Bilello gave a very fine presentation on fly fishing for Broodstock Atlantic Salmon in CT. He quickly covered the CT locations (Naugatuck & Shetucket) and regulations. He then provided some recommendations on equipment. Although a 6 weight can be used, especially, for the first stocking which normally contain mostly salmon 5 to 8 pounds, a 7 or 8 weight rod will be require for the later stockings when

## A Bravo Zulu...

Because he believes working to promote the chapter is reward enough (and besides the money could go to the business end of the chapter), John



Preston, reluctantly, accepts with a short and heartfelt speech, a commemorative fly box for his service as the Thames Valley TU Chapter President (2013-16) from current President "Duke" Preston. John continues to be active in the chapter as the website administrator, newsletter contributor and volunteer.

fish can up to 20 lbs. He uses a 7 weight rod mostly and occasionally two handed rods. A reel with a good drag is most important.

Ben spent more time on Identifying salmon lies and typical holding water and uses a 30 point system he learned from a guide he has used when pursuing wild Atlantics in Canada. The 30 point system is grading pools and holding water by assigning 10 points for each of the main factors that attract salmon to the holding water... depth, speed of the current and cover (structure). He recommends covering a river quickly and don't forget trying areas where the salmon are not placed when stocked. The fish tend to move relatively soon after being placed in the river. This also will take you away from the crowds especially on weekends.



Ben with a CT Broodstock.

## Choices...

By Ed Walsh



I am asking members a few questions about their fly fishing experiences and will share their responses in this, and upcoming issues of Stream Lines. I have found their responses to be very interesting. Don't hesitate to ask them to elaborate when you see them at a meeting or on a stream somewhere. The questions are:

1. **What's your favorite fly**
2. **What's your favorite hatch to fish**
3. **What's your favorite river to fish**

### John Preston



My favorite fly is the Iris Caddis. Although it is a terrific (deadly in the evening) emerging caddis imitation it is also a fine searching fly to use during the day during a no hatch situation. Easy to tie, easy to see and the zelon looped wing makes it float like a cork! Before I discovered the Iris Caddis my favorite fly was the Ausable Wulff.

It has to be a BWO (baetis) hatch on the Housatonic River and it also one of the most frustrating hatches. Especially, when you need #28 or smaller ... but when you finally fool a feeding trout it just brings a smile that never goes away.

Locally it is the Little River because I had many great times there with my dog Radar and of course, my son. For CT it is Housatonic in the fall (Sept - Oct)... great hatches and beautiful fall color & weather. But the place I love the best is the Soda Butte in Yellowstone NP. The fishing is just amazing for a small stream year after year, but is the environs, old & new Pebble Creek CG friends and memories that make it so special.

### Don Avery



BWO later in the year although being introduced to the Hex Hatch for the first time I have to include that hatch / Shetucket River - heavily stocked with trout in the spring and salmon in the fall



Nice turn out at our new meeting location.

The fishing strategy that he likes to use is to quickly move through potential holding areas trying to locate where the fish are especially when the water and air temps are "warm". He believes motion is critical to getting

the salmon attention. He will slow down the retrieve when the fish are down and when it gets colder (DEC/JAN) and high. He likes to fish the film/surface with dries (Bombers, dries and ruffle hitch standard patterns) first and, if he can't locate the fish, he then slows down his approach and fishes deeper and more deliberate. His experience is that a salmon leaping out of the water the fish won't be on the feed, but salmon that roll will be more incline to strike a fly.

After discussing the practice of fishing "in rotation" which not normally practiced here in CT, he talked about fly selection and types of flies. Surprisingly, the Mickey Finn (especially on bright days) is one of his "go to" flies. Ben also went into detail on using & tying tube flies and their benefits. After his presentation he invited the audience to look at some of the flies and fly boxes & plastic bags (he uses them for his tube flies).



Ben graciously donated a coupon for his eBook "Flies for Connecticut Atlantic Salmon - How to Tie and Fish Them"





### Paul Weeks

My favorite fly is a #16 bead head pheasant tail, gold tungsten bead, gold wire ribbed, with green ice dubbing added to the thorax. It's a great tail water fly in Tennessee. I sometimes fish this under an elk hair caddis.

My favorite hatch is the hex hatch on the Wood River in RI, which comes off about 1 hour after sunset in July. It only lasts about 30 minutes but it can get

crazy. To try to keep the flashlight off, I have about 4 extended body foam hex flies on my vest with pre-tied 4X leaders and a big loop to go loop to loop with my fly line. Can then put on a new fly in the dark.

Favorite river is the Wood River. Although I have fished all over the world, I enjoy learning the tricks of a river that only repeated fishing trips bring.



## Editor's Desk

The editors desk wants to wish each and every Thames Valley Trout Unlimited member the very best of the upcoming Holiday Season.

May the presents under your tree be that Orvis Reel, Thomas & Thomas Rod, Reo Sink Tip line, Simms Waders or Fish Pond Vest you've always wanted? And may 2017 find you making that fishing trip you've always wanted to take, catching that Hendrickson, Green Drake or BWO hatch you've always wanted to fish or just enjoying more time on your favorite stream.

Hope you all have a very Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah and a Happy and Healthy New Year. Hope to meet more of you at chapter meetings or on a stream in 2017.

Ed Walsh

## CFFA Expo is coming soon...



**Connecticut Fly Fisherman's Association Inc.**  
presents  
**47<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL**  
**FLY FISHING EXPO & BANQUET**  
Celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Founding of CFFA  
**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2017**



featuring  
**Greg Hoover**  
• Veteran fly tyer & fly fisherman  
• Entomology Professor, Penn State University  
• Co-Author, "Great River, Great Hatches"

For more info: [CTFlyFish.org](http://CTFlyFish.org)  
**Maneely's Banquets**  
65 Rye Street, South Windsor, CT

**EXPO**  
**9 a.m. – 3 p.m.**  
\$3 admission  
Children under 16 FREE

- Presentations
- Fly Tyers Row
- Kids' Fly Tying Table
- Vendor tables
- Demonstrations

**BANQUET**  
**Bucket Raffle & Presentation**  
\$45 per person  
6 p.m. Cocktails & Raffle viewing  
7 p.m. Dinner, Awards, Presentation, & Drawings  
*Some Personalities of Great Rivers of the United States*

**Reservations:**  
Phil Apruzzese (860)-489-4319 or  
[papruz@nol.com](mailto:papruz@nol.com) or [CTFlyFish.org](http://CTFlyFish.org)  
**RSVP by January 28**  
*Open seating or reserve tables of 10.*

Like us:  
[Facebook.com/CTFlyFish](https://www.facebook.com/CTFlyFish)

Come visit us at the CFFA Expo. We will be there for Public Relations, Fund Raising and Membership Drive. Detail info to follow...

for our raffle table. Here is a [link](#) for the book if you are interested. I highly recommend visiting his website and especially the "Salmon School" page for a wealth of information and insight on fishing for Atlantic Salmon.

## Fly Tying Tips

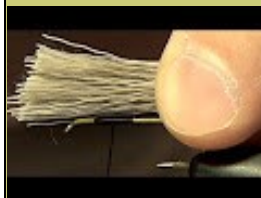
By John Preston

### A Couple of Video Fly Tying Tips...

Here are a couple of short fly tying tips I found online by "In The Riffle" that everyone (especially beginners) can use. They cover the "pinch tie-in method" of attaching materials to the hook; and, "how to tie a tail" to a hook. Very similar videos but methods you will use almost every time to create a fly. It takes a little time to get a feel for how do it correctly but as my trumpet teacher always said: "Practice, practice, practice makes perfect".....

[Pinch Tie-in video](#)

[Tail Tie-in video](#)



## Fly of the Month-

### "Mole Fly"

By John Preston



Video and tying by  
Tightlines  
Productions

This is Charlie Craven's "Mole Fly". It is very easy to tie, but does an incredible job of imitating small mayflies and midges struggling to free themselves from their nymphal shucks in the surface film. Think blue winged olives! When it lands on the water, the entire body of the fly sinks below the surface while the CDC prevents it from dropping further and resembles an emerging wing. Use other colors combinations (black, olive, etc.) to match the prevailing hatch. Another "must have" in your fly box.

**TIP:** (I got this from George "Midge-master" DeGray) For really tiny flies use Gamakatsu C12-BM hooks (#26-30). They have a bigger eye which makes it easier to attach to your leader, but also has a wide gape for better hookups.... and barbless too!



## 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 [Jackie Preston](#).

Thanks for your support!

## About Us

To join Thames Valley TU or for information please visit our website [www.thamesvalleytu.org](http://www.thamesvalleytu.org).

Questions or comments on the Newsletter contact: [walsh4613@cox.net](mailto:walsh4613@cox.net) | PO Box 211, Hanover, CT 06350 | Thames Valley Trout Unlimited | (401) 742-6536 |.

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

[Link to tying video](#)

### Fly Tying Recipe: Mole Fly

Hook: Curved-shank emerger hook (Dai-Riki #125), sizes 16-24

Thread: Olive, 6/0

Wing: Natural dun CDC puff

Body (shuck): Brown beaver dubbing

Head: Tying thread

Thames Valley TU would like to  
thank the following paid  
advertisers for their support

**EASTERN CT FLY FISHING,  
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