



# TROUT UNLIMITED

---

## CHAPTER NEWS

Thames Valley Chapter 282

February 2014

### Stream Lines

*"The Voice of Eastern Connecticut Trout and Salmon Anglers"*

---

President's message,

Your Thames Valley Chapter Board is working hard to meet the needs of the TU organization and, of course, the needs of the chapter's membership and community. We meet once a month (second Tuesday of the month) to tackle the many issues (internal/external) that confront the chapter: supporting local educational programs such as Trout in the Classroom (TIC); taking on conservation concerns to maintain, protect and restore cold water fisheries for the benefit of anglers today and future generations; and, how can we improve chapter? There is much that we could be doing that sometimes it feels overwhelming.

So, where to start? What project/effort should we undertake? Do we have the resources (funds and manpower) in place to take on a new project or event? Who are stakeholders involved? How to get the stakeholders (state/local/private organizations, individuals, and community) to support the effort? These are just a few of the questions that need to be asked/answered?

#### FEBRUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday, February 18th, 6:30  
Bozrah Moose Lodge

*"FISHING PATAGONIA"*  
By Rob Nicholas

#### **Fishing Patagonia**

The doors will be open at 6:30 pm for the February 18, 2014 Thames Valley TU Membership Meeting. Our featured speaker is Rob Nicholas. He is a full-time guide with more than 12 years' experience taking fishermen on the Housatonic (his home river) and the Farmington.

In winter, he leads fishermen to some of the best angling in the Chilean and Argentine sections of Patagonia. He will be talking about the vast fishing opportunities in South America.

Come join us for the night and escape to South

First, we could look at the organization's stated Mission/Vision (see below) and Goals for direction to confirm that whatever we choose is in alignment but then what?

Mission: To conserve, protect and restore North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

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

Well, I believe that the next step in the process is to understand what the chapter's members think is important to them and to their communities, because without your involvement and commitment the chapter's efforts will not truly succeed. The chapter cannot continue the way we are doing business without increased buy-in and involvement of the membership. The same, small cadre of members cannot be expected to accomplish much without the support and resources from its members.

So, how to quantify what is important and priorities of the chapter members, and how to identify who are willing to step up to the challenges? I believe it is simple (but not easy)... Ask you... what is important and how should we proceed? Therefore, in the near future the TV Chapter Board will construct a survey to find out how better to meet your needs and to how better get your support, involvement and commitment. When available, I hope you will take the few minutes to complete the survey so that we can

Just a few words on involvement and commitment...

"The difference between involvement and commitment is like an eggs-and-ham breakfast: the chicken was 'involved' -the pig was 'committed'"

"While we will want to involve as many people as possible, real

America!

Link to Rob's Website;

<http://housatonicanglers.com/>

**MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**Tuesday, March 18th, 6:30 PM**  
**Bozrah Moose Lodge**

**Salt Water Fly Fishing;**  
***"From Watch Hill to Cape Cod"***  
**By Capt. Ray Stachelek**

#### **Salt Water Fly Fishing**

Ray Stachelek of Cast-a-Fly Charters has been fishing the waters from Watch Hill, RI to Cape Cod, MA for nearly fifty years. He is a presenter at the National Fishing Shows along the East Coast and contributes articles to various national magazines and writes fish reports for online and newspaper.

A retired teacher by trade, Ray shares his knowledge readily and can help new anglers in the areas of fly selection, fly presentation, and casting. He has an innate sense of where the fish hold and can help all anglers of all skill levels "read" the water better.

Link to Capt. Ray's Website;

<http://www.castaflycharters.com/>

success will not occur until people are committed! Commitment:

- giving of myself
- change – starting with me
- hanging in when the going gets rough
- staying the course!”

As you can there is a difference between involvement and commitment, but there also many degrees or phases of the difference. Joining TU (dues), attending chapter meetings/events, donations (raffles, auctions, money), volunteering your time, joining a committee, taking on a leadership role, etc. Therefore, if you believe in the stated mission, vision and goals of Trout Unlimited... then become involved and commit yourself to work towards its realization.

John Preston

Thames Valley Chapter 282

[johnpreston@thamesvalleytu.org](mailto:johnpreston@thamesvalleytu.org)

**PS: A special thank you to Sue & Jim F. Smith for their donation to the Thames Valley Chapter and to all the people who donated items for the raffles.**

## CHAPTER EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

### Flies N' Pies Night

By John Preston

There was good turnout considering the regular membership meeting had been postponed because of snow. As you see from the photos below there was variety of favorite flies

## SPECIAL FUND RAISER WIN a Brand New Orvis Fly Rod! *"The Frequent Flyer"* 8 -1/2 ft., 3 wt., 7pc Only \$10 Per Raffle Ticket!

In addition to the regular raffle at our monthly meeting(s), we have a special fund raising raffle for a new Orvis 8-1/2', 3wt, 7pc "Frequent Flyer" fly rod and case, (\$250 MSRP). Tickets are \$10 each and will be limited to 50 tickets. Much better odds than the casinos or CT lottery!! Tickets can be purchased at the monthly membership meeting or by calling Jim Clark at (860) 546-6924.

### Frequent Flyer



Travel-ready, the Frequent Flyer™ packs right into your backpack, saddlebag, even your briefcase. It carries onto any plane to forever end any and all worry about your fly rod making it to your final fishing destination. Keep it right in your vehicle, out of the way, for quick getaways at lunch, or pack it into the backcountry for easier than ever a four

presented by the fly tiers... dries, nymphs, streamers and emergers. What better way to learn how to tie, learn what fly to use, and, how to use them on your next fishing trip, then to get it directly from our resident experts.

Robert Walsh demonstrated winding guides on to a graphite blank and displayed some rods he had completed. Of note were the cane (split bamboo) rods that he had constructed from scratch. For the bamboo fly rod fanatics out there... they were just beautiful works of art. Bob Walsh also teaches how to build cane fly rods to those interested in pursuing the craft. In addition to our special raffle geared to fly tying and free stuff, we had one table of fly fishing items to swap or buy.

What better way to spend a cold winter's night than swapping fishing conquests, learning about secret fishing holes, knowing what flies work best locally and afar with your fellow TU members.... Oh yeah, the delicious pizza didn't hurt either!



When I was young I could tie a #26 BWO without a vise & magnifiers.

piece rod. So small that you can hide it from your spouse when you say you're going on a business trip or on an errand. And if she/he finds out you have another "toy" you can say it only cost you \$10... Not \$250!

Once all 50 tickets are sold we will have the drawing at that meeting or the next scheduled meeting. You could be walking away with a very nice Orvis fly rod while also helping us raise the funds necessary to have great monthly meeting programs, undertake conservation efforts, and education programs like TIC and Fly Casting in our local schools.

For tickets, come to the monthly membership meeting or call Jim Clark, (860) 546-6924.







Bob Walsh demonstrates how to wrap a guide on a graphite blank.



You too could build one of these "lovely reed" fly rods!



Streamers Rule....







Watching an artist at work...



It is my secret weapon... Iris Caddis.



Who made this coffee?



Pizza!!!!



I guarantee these are winning tickets.

## FLY of the MONTH

### The Glo-Bug

By Bill Keister

This fly is my number one producer in Connecticut. It is, of course, the egg fly or glo-bug as it is more properly known. Some people have trouble with this fly when they first start to tie it, but be persistent. You must be able to tie a glo-bug, because you must fish the glo-bug.

**PLEASE CONSIDER A DONATION**  
Help our Youth Education Programs



### Donate

Please help keep Trout in the Classroom and other youth educational programs going here in Eastern Connecticut. Make a donation of \$50.00 or more and receive this cool, comfortable fishing hat with stitched TU patch and "Since 1959" across the back closure. Hat is custom embroidered "Thames Valley Chapter 282". Supply is limited and not available for purchase!

Send a check to:



Materials:

Thread: 140 denier UTC red

Hook: 14 or 12 standard or better yet 1X short wet fly hooks

Body: glo-bug yarn salmon

Detailed Tying instructions

Pinch down the barb of the hook and mount it in the vice. Start the thread just behind the eye. Wind the thread 2/3rds the way toward the bend of the hook and then bring the thread forward to the middle of the thread base you just put down. Cut two pieces of glo-bug yarn about 1 and ½ inches long. Place the two pieces side by side. Hold them with the material hand so that they are parallel to each other and lined up with their ends even. Place them on top of the hook so that they are parallel to the hook shank. Press them down so that one piece is a little on one side of the hook and the other is a little on the other side of the hook shank. They should be centered on the tying thread. Next, and this is important, take three (at most four) turns of thread over the glo-bug yarn. Because UTC tying thread will tend to unwind which makes the thread go on flat and wide you should spin the bobbin so the thread is tight when the wraps are made. The turns should be as hard as you can make them without breaking the thread. Make sure that each wrap is right on top of the one before it. While maintaining tension on thread lift the front ends of the glo-bug yarn and wrap the tying thread to the eye of the hook. This is necessary to maintain the tension on the wrap holding the yarn. Double whip finish. UTC tying thread is slippery so you should be able to make 7 or 8 turn whip finishes. No head cement. The final step is what makes the fly. Stoke all four glo-bug yarn ends straight up away from the hook shank. Holding your scissors horizontal cut all the yarn with one snip of the scissors. The yarn should spread into a nice ball.

Thames Valley TU

PO Box 211

Hanover, CT 06350.

Please be sure to include your mailing address and a note that your donation is for "Youth Education". Allow 6 weeks for delivery.

For more information on youth programs contact Dixie Goodwin at: [dgoodwin@thamesvalleytu.org](mailto:dgoodwin@thamesvalleytu.org)

**RIVER STEWARDSHIP**

**What: YANTIC RIVER CLEANUP**

**When: Saturday March 29, 9:00 AM**

**Where: Meet at Barstow Road cul-de-sac**

Shake off the winter woes, bundle up and join us Saturday, March 29, 2014 at 9:00 AM for our Annual Yantic River Cleanup. We will meet at the Barstow Road cul-de-sac and clean along the river banks and roads for the Trout Management Area.

We still have plenty of cleanup materials (bags, gloves, etc.) that were purchased with a grant from Last Green Valley and we'll make sure that hot coffee is available following the cleanup.

As in past years, the Lebanon Public Works Department will assist with trash removal. All we have to do is bag the trash and place it in a designated area for pick up by the town crew.



This explanation is a lot more complicated than actually tying the fly. The two things that make the fly are the three hard wraps and single cut with the scissors. With the exception of the WMS and spinning deer hair where I use 6/0 Uni, I tie with 8/0 Uni. UTC 140 is really tough stuff. But, when I start off tying eggs I break the thread on a few flies until I get into the swing of it. If you don't break the thread once in a while you're not pulling hard enough. Also four strands of glo-bug yarn is a very large glob. It is going to put a lot of strain on your scissors. If you use your regular scissors you are going to ruin them. Use old scissors, paper scissors, whatever, just don't use your good tying scissors. The problem I have the most is not cutting the yarn off close enough to the hook. This makes the egg too large. When you cut the yarn off so close to the hook that you think it will not work it comes out OK. But, you do run the risk of cutting the three wraps holding the yarn on the hook. If this happens just clean off the hook and start over you only have 60 seconds invested in the fly you just ruined.

The thread you use should be strong and thin. I use UTC. Some people use gel spun, but I don't have scissors that are sharp enough and the stuff is so slippery. WAPSI makes a glo-bug yarn, but the stuff called GLO-BUG yarn works better for me. There is also McFly Foam. MacFly Foam is very fine crinkly nylon. It works very well for smaller sizes, 16 thru 20. GLO-BUG yarn varies in diameter from one part of a strand to another. As you get more experienced with the fly you will be able to adjust the diameter by stripping some fibers to improve tying the fly. The color I use the most is a salmon egg color. In GLO-BUG yarn there are lots of shades. I like the one call apricot supreme. I also use Oregon cheese and egg shell which is a cream color. Most of my salmon colored eggs have a little red dot in them referred to by steel headers as a blood dot. You made the blood dot by adding a small strand of red glo-bug yarn in between your two large size strand of salmon colored yarn.

The recipe calls for two stands of glo-bug yarn, but that really depends on the size of the hook and to a lesser extent on the size of the glo-bug yarn which varies somewhat throughout the package. When I am tying 14's if I have cut a fat piece yarn I might divide it instead cutting a second piece. You have to play around to get the feel of this stuff. A small bunch usually fluffs up well but may be too sparse. A large bung may not fluff up well. If the fly does not turn out well just cut the holding wraps and start over. You only have 60 seconds and 3 inches of yarn invested.

To volunteer or discuss river stewardship opportunities, please contact: Gene Cyr, River Cleanup Coordinator,

Tel: 860-376-3350, Email: [gcyr@thamesvalleytu.org](mailto:gcyr@thamesvalleytu.org)

### **VOLUNTEER OPORTUNITIES** **Open Board Position** *Communications Chair*

#### **Become a Volunteer at Thames Valley TU**

The Communications Chair will be responsible for managing the Chapter's website, newsletter, and correspondence to Chapter members.

This position is available to a qualified individual that has an interest in communications and communications technology and wants to be part of a great organization. It will provide an opportunity for someone that is willing to share their established professional expertise or an individual looking to enhance and develop their burgeoning skills. There are additional opportunities to project manage the redesign of the Chapter's website and newsletter and work to improve the Chapters communications framework and tools.

Please forward your interest in this position to Chapter President, John Preston at;

[jpreston44@yahoo.com](mailto:jpreston44@yahoo.com)

I see a lot of instructions which call for more yarn, four stands instead of two. They also call for making thread dams in front of and behind the yarn once it is tied on. One even calls for making horizontal wraps around the yard after it is tied on similar to the method of standing up a wing post for a parachute fly. You can make the egg more full and round by tying one set of yarn on the top of the hook and spinning it around to the bottom of the hook shank with the first wrap. Then placing another set of yarn on the top of the hook. My method does not produce quite as full or round an egg. But, I think it has several advantages. It is a little simpler. It produces a sparser egg which is more translucent. And, it keeps all the yarn on the top of the hook which means that the gap remains open.

If you are cheap like me, once you become proficient with tying this fly you might want to use this trick to save materials. Instead of cutting off two 2 inch piece of material cut off one piece two feet long. Double over the piece and even up the two ends. Now use the two ends of this single piece of yarn just as you would have used the two 2 inch pieces. Do your horizontal scissor cut. Now without putting your big piece of yarn down go on to the next fly. Not only do you save materials but you save time because you don't have to cut off individual pieces of yarn.

### Fishing the Fly

Fish the egg as part of a two fly rig using the green bead head nymph we tied last month. Tie a 24" piece of 5X or 6X fluorocarbon tippet to the bend of the nymph hook. It is best if the fluorocarbon is on size smaller than the leader connected to the nymph. That way you break off the egg and don't lose the nymph lot of the time. Tie the egg to the other end of the fluorocarbon. The flies should wind up 18" apart. As you change flies the length of the dropper will decrease. When it gets less than 10" you need a new piece of fluorocarbon.

The whole rig should be fished right on the bottom.

And you will need a strike indicator, you know a bobber. Strike at any movement of the indicator. And, if you are not hanging up once in a while you are not fishing deep enough.

Good luck!

## **MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS**

**Come join us at a monthly membership meeting:**

- **Interesting speakers**
- **Fly Tying**
- **Raffles**
- **Meet New friends**
- **Learn Fishing Tips**
- **Learn about TVTU programs**
- **Discuss conservation issues**

Membership meetings are held at the Bozrah Moose Lodge at 115 Fitchville Road. This is just south of exit 24 from Route 2. If you are coming from the east on Route 2 take exit 24 and turn left at the bottom of the ramp and go under Route 2. The Moose Lodge is on the left just past the eastbound entrance ramp. Coming from the west on Route 2 you take exit 23. At the stop sign at the bottom of the ramp take a right onto Route 163 and follow it a short ways to Fitchville road. Turn right onto Fitchville Rd and go about 1-1/2 miles until you cross under RT 2 at exit 24 Moose is on the left just past RT 2.

**Thames Valley TU - 282**

**PO Box 211**

**Hanover CT 06350**

**[www.thamesvalleytu.org](http://www.thamesvalleytu.org)**

