



TROUT UNLIMITED

Thames Valley Chapter Newsletter

Stream Lines

The Voice of Eastern CT Trout and Salmon Anglers

October 2016

"Special Notice"

Please note that the October 18 membership meeting site has been changed to the:
American Legion, 7 South Main Street, Jewett City, CT. [Directions](#)

Dear Member,

We are still looking for candidates for the following positions: President and Vice President (vacant). Gary Lussier has volunteered to be the Stocking Coordinator and has big shoes to fill with Ray Shaefer stepping down. Ray has done a terrific job over the years and I am sure Gary will be great too. In addition, Paul Rice has placed his name for the Secretary (which has been vacant for three years) position. As reported last month Ed Walsh will be taking over the newsletter and I am sure you will agree that with this month's newsletter... we are in fine hands.

Although we are in a better state than last month, the chapter is still in danger of being dissolved unless we have a president or VP. Hopefully, members will step up at our October Membership Meeting and we will be able to present a full slate of candidates for an October/November election. Any current TVTU member may volunteer for the above positions. In addition, we are looking for someone to fill the website administrator position. Contact me or a Board member for any information or questions.

It would be a shame to see the dissolution of this fine chapter. This chapter has done much over the many years to conserve, protect and restore Eastern Connecticut's trout and salmon and their watersheds. Please consider taking on a challenging but rewarding leadership role for the continuation of the Thames Valley Trout Unlimited chapter.

On a more pleasant note, we continue to work on bringing you some great Membership Meeting presentations and events for the chapter. Don't forget that on October 15th we are conducting clean-up of the Yantic River TMA (8am, Barstow Rd. Lebanon, CT) and TVTU will be taking part in the Eight Mile River Fest at Devil's Hopyard from 1 to 4PM the same day. It is wonderful family event and there much to see & do at the event. And, of course, Jean Pillo of the Last Green Valley will be our featured speaker this month. Come November we have scheduled a program by Ben Bilello that I am looking forward to on fishing for Broodstock Atlantic Salmon.

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Calendar

Saturday, Oct 15th, 8am
Yantic River TMA Clean-up
Barstow Rd, Lebanon, CT

Saturday, Oct 15th (1 to 4pm)
Eight Mile River Feast 2016
Devil's Hopyard State Park
East Haddam, CT

Tuesday, Oct 18th - 6pm
Chapter Membership Meeting
American Legion
7 South Main Street
Jewett City, CT.
Jean Pillo - LGV Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program

Saturday, Oct 22nd - 10 am
Quinebaug Hatchery Tour
Central Village, CT

Art of the Angler Show
November 5 and November 6
Ethan Allen Inn, Danbury, CT

Respectfully,



Duke Preston
President TVTU

[Email Address](#)

October 18 Membership Mtg featured presentation:

Jean Pillo - "Last Green Valley Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program"



Jean Pillo is a Watershed Conservation Project Manager for the Eastern Connecticut Conservation District. This position includes coordination services for The Last Green Valley Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program since 2006. She also is the coordinator for the Thames River Basin Partnership. She earned an MS degree in Biology from Southern Connecticut State University. She is a Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control, and an active member of the Woodstock Conservation Commission. Her previous work experience

includes teaching at the high school and college level. Jean is a Connecticut native, and has a strong passion for a healthy outdoor environment.

For information on the Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program. Visit the [LGV website](#) for more information.

Door opens at 6pm. Fly Tying demonstrations. The presentation will start after a short chapter "business" meeting (approximately 7:30pm).

Door Prize and Raffle Table -

Getting to Know Our Regional Fly Shops

By Ed Walsh



Getting to Know Our Regional Fly Shops

This is the Fourth entry in a series introducing regions fly shops to our members. Although many TVTU members have patronized these shops for years there are others that might be visiting new waters and need to make a connection with the people who can answer their questions, and

Tuesday, Nov 15th - 6pm

Chapter Membership Meeting
Moose Lodge, Bozrah, CT
Ben Bilello - Traditional Techniques for Broodstock Atlantic Salmon

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

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Yantic River Cleanup - October 15, Saturday, 8 am.

We will meet at the Barstow Road cul-de-sac in Lebanon off Norwich Ave and clean along the river banks and roads for the Yantic River Trout Management Area (TMA). 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. To volunteer or discuss river stewardship opportunities, please contact: Gene Cyr, River Cleanup Coordinator, Tel: 860-376-3350. Email: gcyt@att.net

Welcome New TVTU Members

Tim Macierowski



Tim and his wife Jane have lived in Uncasville for 39 years. They have three grown children. Tim retired as an accountant having worked for a small software firm in Groton for many years.

His Dad encouraged a love of the outdoors introducing Tim to hunting and fishing at a very young age. He starting fly fishing and tying during those formative years and became fascinated at the thought that he could catch fish on a fly that he tied.

Starting a career and a raising a young family took Tim away from his outdoor passions. And other than an occasional fishing trip those activities were put on the back-burner as family responsibilities were the priority. It

supply their needs, for a successful experience.

The Bears Den Fly Fishing Company

While many TVTU members may not have visited the Bears Den Store you've probably stopped at their large displays at the Marlborough and Somerset Fly Fishing Show in January of each year. Located in Taunton, MA. the Bears Den isn't right around the corner but certainly



isn't your average fly shop. With over 12,000 square feet of retail and storage space you probably won't find a larger selection of fly fishing equipment and tying supplies under one roof and that includes the big box stores. One of the most impressive things I've learned during my many trips to the store is how knowledgeable the staff is. All are avid fly fishermen who have fished many of the same rivers, streams and salt water locations we call home.



And if you don't have time to drive to Taunton the Bears Den has one of the most extensive web sites I've even encountered. Not only does it include all the items you might find in the store it also included all sales items and traded-in equipment where you can find some

outstanding values. Take a look at their [website](#).

Couple the above with seminars and training sessions on fishing (both fresh and salt water) and fly tying that is presented almost every week of the year. Add to this product reps are on location on most weekends displaying their equipment, answering your questions and allowing



Scott Wessels shows a large streamer tied by Steve Silgario

customers to test their products. If this isn't enough examine the fishing trips organized by the Bears Den on the web site. Great fly fishing locations in Argentina, Mexico, Belize, Cuba and Florida are available. Again all seminars and product rep schedules are listed on their website.

Bears Den owner, Scott Wessels, tells me the store started out as a sporting goods venture in downtown Taunton in 1989. In the mid 90 they started focusing on fly fishing and moved to their present location, 34 Robert W Boyden Road, Taunton in November 2001. The present complex contains 3,000 sq. ft. of retail space, a 1,200 sq. ft. class room for seminars and a 150' long indoor test casting area. There are also two outdoor grass areas (30 x 300, 30 x 250) used for testing rods when weather permits.

I asked Scott what percentage of his business are on-line sales and was quite surprised to learn it's approximately 50% but he quickly added he finds many of those customers eventually find their way to the store because of the online experience.

Another attraction of the Bears Den is their in-house fly fishing show that is tentatively scheduled for March 4, 2017. This is an annual event that

wasn't until his recent retirement that the spark was relit and he quickly picked up where he had left off years ago.

Tim enjoys both salt and fresh water fly fishing and fly tying. He's also started to build rods and suggests although he doesn't hunt anymore he still enjoys shooting sports.

As a new TVTU member he wants to help with the stocking program and meet members willing to share the "spots to fish" in our area. He's also interested in joining members on day or longer fishing trips. I am certain Tim will find many of our members willing to share their knowledge of the South Eastern Connecticut rivers, streams and salt water best fishing spots.

Let us all welcome Tim Macierowski to Thames Valley TU.

September Membership Meeting Recap: A Evening with William Hyatt

By John Preston



Due to a scheduling miscue we had the meeting outside under the Moose Lodge pavilion. Except for some highway traffic noise and a few mosquitoes the meeting went on without any

major glitches and was well attended. In fact, it was refreshing change.

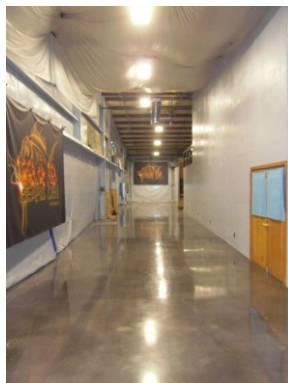
Mr. William Hyatt, Chief of the Connecticut Bureau of Natural Resources, was our featured speaker for the September 20, 2016 Monthly Membership meeting. Mr. Hyatt's presentation covered the State of Connecticut Fisheries and a very entertaining overview of the history of Connecticut Fisheries Program.

In 1866 the Fisheries Commission was created by the State Legislature. The Fisheries Commission was tasked with assessing the fisheries in Connecticut, and to rebuild and sustain this valuable resource. An interesting fact was that due to glaciers many CT lakes and streams were void fish. During the mid- to late 1800s, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, walleye, landlocked



First CT women game warden Edith Steohr at a "women anglers only" cabin

matches equipment reps, many of the northeast's most recognizable fly tiers and guides and Bears Den customers. It's become a Must-See event to many New England fly fishermen since its inception in 1998.



The indoor casting area lets customers test potential purchases



Editors Desk

As I was preparing my first issue as Stream Lines editor I knew there were a few items I wanted to cover. First let me say thank you to John Preston for the great job he's done editing this publication for the last few years and to Jim Smith for an equally outstanding job before John. Their consistency in production and development of a format that is reasonably easy to follow will make my job easier. I am hopeful both realize how grateful we all are for their past efforts.

Now John hasn't completely stopped his involvement with all chapter communications. He will continue managing the web site and announcements and equally important guide me for at least a couple of months until I am comfortable with the software used in the production of Stream Lines.

As far as any direction changes with this publication let me use a phrase we've all heard before: "IF IT AIN'T BROKEN DON'T FIX IT". Stream Lines keeps our members updated and informed of chapter activities and I don't expect that to change. I want to continue introducing new members to the entire membership using the "Welcome New TVTU Members" column and possibly introduce a column that tells about the people who manage your chapter. This entry would be titled: "Just When You Think You Know Someone".

But the most important responsibility I'll have is to get to know more members and listen to any suggestion you might have to improve this publication. Please do realize I might not have time to discuss your thoughts if you approach me at a meeting but rest assured I'll find the time to schedule a get-together to listen to your ideas.

I look forward to working with the Board of Directors and thank all involved for offering me the privilege of editing this fine publication.

Ed Walsh

salmon, brown/brook/rainbow & lake trout, bluegill, common carp, and calico bass were introduced to many waters. For a complete historic time line of the CT Bureau of Natural resources visit the CT [DEEP website](#). It contains some very interesting milestones, photos and information.

When covering the budget and funding of Connecticut's Natural resources another interesting fact explained by Mr. Hyatt was that contrary to what sportsmen believe all

licenses and fees go directly back to Natural Resources. In fact, these fees only cover about a third of the actual budget required.



In addition, Mr. Hyatt devoted much time answering questions ranging from proposed trout stamps fees & additional fees for "new" 65+ fishing licenses, stocking, to potential hatchery closings and services. It was a very informative, excellent presentation and evening with William Hyatt.

Fly Tying Tips

By John Preston

Magnetize Your Bodkin...

If you tie a lot of small flies here is tip I picked up from an A.K. Best's book "Advanced Fly Tying" some time ago. Magnetize your bodkin, pliers or even scissors to make picking up small hooks easy. Just stroke the needle or jaws with a magnet or store the tool with the magnet attached for a while. You may need to repeat the process from time to time to keep the tool magnetized.




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Jacqueline P. Preston
Owner



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Looking to reach a new and diverse audience? Presently we have over 470 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](mailto:Jackie.Preston@thamesvalleytu.org).

Thanks for your support!

Fly of the Month "Tups Nymph"

By John Preston



Video and tying by
Independence
Advisors/Dave
Hughes

This is a variation of a very old soft hackled pattern named the Tups Indispensable. It imitates various pale flies such as PMDs, Light Cahills, Sulphurs, Pink Ladies (use a pink-orange dubbing) and Yellow Sallies. This pattern saved the day this summer during PMD hatches and produced a 20 inch fish for a fellow angler on size 20 Tups Nymph.

[Link to tying video](#)

Fly Tying Recipe: Tups Nymph

Hook: Wet, 1X long, 1X heavy, size 14 to 20

Thread: Primrose yellow Pearsall's Gossamer Silk

Hackle: Blue dun or Ginger hen, one size undersize, one or two turns

Tail: Blue dun or Ginger hen hackle tips

Abdomen: Yellow Buttonhole Twist or Pearsall's Gossamer Silk, doubled

Thorax: Yellow and amber fur and Sparkle Yarn, mixed (substitute burnt orange fur or synthetic)

About Us

To join Thames Valley TU or for information please visit our website www.thamesvalleytu.org.

Questions or comments on the Newsletter contact:
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