



NUTMEG NOTES

November '08

NUTMEG CHAPTER – TROUT UNLIMITED
P.O. BOX 1594, FAIRFIELD, CT 06825
www.nutmegtutu.org

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MONTHLY MEETINGS -- 3RD TUESDAY, 7:30 P.M. FAYERWEATHER YACHT CLUB, BLACK ROCK, CT

November 18th ---- Rob Parkins, former Nutmeg Member and professional guide

Remaining Meetings:

December 16, 2008	January 20, 2009
February 17, 2009	March 17, 2009
April 21, 2009	May 19, 2009

About the presentation at our 11/18/08 meeting

Fishing the Snake River and Grand Teton National Park

Our Speaker at the Nov. 18 meeting will be Rob Parkins, a past member of the Nutmeg TU chapter and former manager of the Fairfield Fly Shop and fly fishing guide on the Housatonic and Farmington rivers. Rob will be in CT to do a slide show presentation for the Farmington River Anglers Association and the International Fly Tyers Symposium and has agreed to speak at our November chapter meeting.

Rob, now a resident of Victor, Idaho, just over the pass from Jackson, Wyoming, will present a slide show on fishing the Snake River and fishing around Grand Teton National Park. In addition, Rob will donate door prizes of flies and/or photos for the raffle.

Please come hungry -- we'll have fresh hot pizza! We meet at Fayerweather Yacht Club: 51 Brewster St., Black Rock, Bridgeport. Meetings are free and open to the public. Doors open at 7:00 p.m., and meetings start at 7:30 p.m.

See back page of this newsletter for directions to Fayerweather Yacht Club.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear fellow Nutmeggers,

This past October the chapter sponsored our annual trip to the Connetquot which turned out to be quite a success. Bill Blaufuss, who had the opportunity to take advantage of the perfect weather to catch lots of fish, gives us a summary elsewhere in the newsletter.

Hopefully you will be receiving raffle tickets in the mail for our annual holiday raffle and party. We have a great selection of prizes and an assortment of cold cuts and other goodies at the meeting. Please plan to attend, as we will also have a presentation by Marla Blair.

More than ever we need folks to help with many of the tasks we hope to accomplish this year. Please consider giving some of your time (even a few hours) by becoming a Board member. We have volunteers that help out when they can and are not required to attend Board meetings.

Please note that in January we will be sending the newsletter by email except to those of you that still want a paper copy. We believe that this is being environmentally responsible. It also saves the chapter a significant amount of money, which can be better spent elsewhere. Please fill out the enclosed form if you want to continue receiving a paper copy or if we do not have your current email address.

I hope to see all of you at one of our membership meetings this year.

Good fishing,

Bill Moskalski

First Annual CT TU/Rotary Clean-up Day—10/4 By Bill Blaufuss

On Saturday October 4th, 50 Rotary clubs in CT joined forces with seven southern CT TU chapters to clean up streams and shorelines in the southern half of Connecticut. Billed as "Make a Difference Day," the effort was a resounding success with many teams reporting having filled up entire pick-up trucks with trash.

The effort coincided with the Connecticut River Watershed Council's annual "Source to the Sea" cleanup, and the Rotary Clubs and TU chapters in eastern CT collaborated in that effort as well.

If that weren't enough, in Norwalk, Westport, Fairfield, Ridgefield and Bridgeport, 200 young people from "Builders Beyond Borders"—a youth habitat improvement group—worked alongside of the TU and Rotary volunteers in those towns.

Following on this success, we're going to do it again in '09.

OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS 10/1/08- 9/30/09

President: Bill Moskalski, 218-5171, twozacrowd@hotmail.com, president@nutmegtu.org
Vice President: Bill Blaufuss, 856-2004, prosit67@hotmail.com
Secretary: Gary Anderson, gande61211@aol.com
Treas.: Bobbi Kurman; bobbikurman@sbcglobal.net, treasurer@nutmegtu.org
Conservation: Mike Piquette; conservation@nutmegtu.org
Social: Gary Anderson, gande61211@aol.com and Ron Merly, rjmerly@yahoo.ca
Newsletter Editor: Steve Selby; sjselby@att.net
Membership: Ron Merly, rjmerly@yahoo.ca
Program: Jeff Wade; wade1923@hotmail.com
Banquet Chairman: Bill Blaufuss; 856-2004, prosit67@hotmail.com
Banquet Prizes: Bob Eck, bnqt-prizes@nutmegtu.org
Holiday Raffle: Glen Gammill, h-affle@nutmegtu.org
Website: Gian-Andrea "John" Morresi 330-8685; webmaster@nutmegtu.org

Trout Unlimited Membership Service - 800-834-2419 or email at trout@tu.org

Board of Directors Meeting Schedule

Second Tuesday; note holiday exceptions, 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
 Fairfield Public Library

Nov. 11, 2008 Dec 9, 2008 Jan.13, 2009
Feb. 10, 2009 Mar. 10, 2009 Apr. 4, 2009 May 12, 2009

All members are welcome to attend

Contact Bill Blaufuss for directions 203-856-2004 prosit67@hotmail.com

Catskill Fly Fishing Center & Museum presents
ARTS OF THE ANGLER SHOW
 November 15 [9-5] & 16 [9:30-4], 2008

Featuring demonstrations, seminars, classes, and a fine group of purveyors at the Danbury Plaza Hotel [formerly the Sheraton], 18 Old Ridgebury Road, Danbury, CT, located off exit 2, Route 184, in Danbury, CT

Free Seminars include: Selecting a Bamboo Fly Rod, Refinishing Bamboo Rods, Fishing the Catskills Streams, Lake Ontario Tributaries Salmon and Steelhead, For Beginners in the Salt, Creative Fly Tying and others. Special Book Release and Signing by Keith Fulsher Sunday Noon-2PM

Fly Tying Classes: Catskill Dry Flies-David Brandt, Streamers and Baifish for Fresh and Saltwater -- Mike Martinek, Make a Mead Lady Bug-Bob Mead, Deer Hair Management and Bug Making, and others. Call 845-439-4810 for registration information, fees apply.

Vendors: of the finest in hackle to tackle include: Baker's Bamboo Flyrods, MC Flyfishing, Housatonic River Outfitters, Badger Creek Fly Tying, Richard Bradley Reels, Housatonic Valley Rods, Bamboo Mike Longuil, Belvoirdale, Whitewater Flies/The Variant, Jerry Girard, Chesapeake Rod & Reel and others.

Non Stop Tying Demonstrations: by America's best of the best tyers: Dave Brandt, Jay' Fishy' Fullum, Mike Martinek, Bob Mead, Ralph Graves, Bruce Marino, Paul Rossman, Ed Burgholzer, Bill Hrinko, Roger Plourde, Ted Patlen, Harold Williams, Jack Pangburn, Peggy Brenner, Leslie Wrixon, Bill Newcomb, Catskill Fly Tyers Guild, Thomas Farmer, Bruce Corwin, Joe Soma, John Klemm Jr., George Cherundolo, Andrea Van Benschoten, Greg Belcamino, Shawn Davis, and more.

Antique Fishing Tackle Roadshow: Is it TRASH or TREASURE? This is the place to bring attic discoveries and find out just how much they are worth. A panel of museum appraisers will be on hand each day to help you find out just what you have in lures, hooks, magazines, rods, reels, or other fishing related items.

Live Auction, Saturday 7pm

For more/updated info: www.cffcm.net or contact CFFCM @ 845-439-4810

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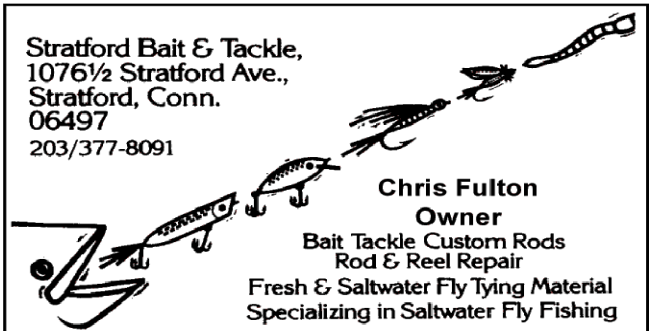
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captkoop@saltyflies.com

Connetquot River Trip 2008

By Bill Blaufuss

On Wednesday, October 15th, the Chapter made its annual outing to the Connetquot River on Long Island. We had great weather and a better than average turnout of 29 anglers which included three TUErs from Hammonasset Chapter. For the third year, the condition of "Infected Pancreatic Necrosis" remains present in the river. This is a condition that does not affect humans, and any fish caught and taken are safe to eat. However, as a result of IPN, some changes have taken place. First of all, wading with felt soles has been banned from the river, the reason being is that NYS DEC does not want the introduction of other diseases into the river, e.g. whirling disease, didymo/"rock spot", etc. Given that the Connetquot is also an NYS hatchery underscores this concern.

Also, wading with chest waders has been banned, the reason being that the fabric that waders are made of has some porosity and could harbor disease as well. Also it is reasoned that, as wading is so accessible due to the narrow width and shallowness of the river, the Connetquot Park authorities are trying to discourage wading into the deeper pools. As a result, only rubber hip boots are allowed in the river, and wading is only allowed downstream of the hatchery. (wading has never been allowed upstream of the hatchery.) Some of our anglers have registered disappointment at not being allowed to wear chest waders, or felt for that matter. However, with the structure of the river being what it is, those who wore hippers had no complaints and were fully able to access the entire river. Hippers are not that expensive either; some anglers found them at Dick's Sporting Goods for \$29-39—Hodgemans no less. As for felt, it is advised that if you're buying any waders or wading shoes, avoid buying felt. Due to the disease carrying properties of felt, one major manufacturer (Simms I believe) has already announced that felt is being phased out of their product line within three years and TU has recommended this to all manufacturers.

One of our members has owned a pair of LL Bean's "Aqua Stealth" (special rubber compound) rubber-soled wading shoes for 12 years and has little complaint on their performance vs. felt. Materials are getting better and better anyway, so expect new rubber compounds that are even better than "Aqua Stealth" to come.

This year as last year, we found fewer fish upstream in the hatchery, and this is due to the fact that the Park, in response to the IPN situation, has not stocked upstream in the last two years. There are fish up there, but they are wily! This year we were allowed to take up to six fish. That is unusual because some years we can take only one or two, and other years, it is strictly catch and release. The reason for six this year was because the Park wants to cut the population density. IPN is propagated through reproduction and by physical contact. By reducing fish density, NYS DEC reasons that this will help cure the river of the disease.

Despite the upstream stocking and the wader issue, lots and lots of fish were caught and a good time was had by all.

Nutmeg's Annual Holiday Raffle

This year, first time ever!

FIRST PRIZE

YOUR CHOICE OF ROD

see details below

The Holiday Raffle is one of our chapter's only two main fundraising events.

We need funds to sustain our programs, activities, restoration, and advocacy efforts.

1st Prize: Orvis T-3 Rod, 5 wt 8' 6" hand made by Dan Trela.

*OR Choice of any GRAPHITE OR FIBERGLASS T&T Rod [any wt., any length]
From T&T 2009 Catalog (Winner must select NLT 12/23/08—no exceptions)*

2nd Prize: Ross Evolution 2.0 Reel for 4-6 wt (black)

3rd Prize: Cabela's Pro Guide Carry-on Tackle Bag (approx. 17"x11"x10"), forest green w/ black trim

4th prize: Two videos: "Coastal Fly Fishing" (salt water) and "Flycasting II"A both by Mel Kreiger

5th (Mystery) Prize: *great prize, but you must be present to win it.*

Drawing December 16' 2008—at our Holiday Meeting

You need not be present to win (except for the Mystery Prize)

Nutmeg Fishing Report by Ron Merly

October 25, 2008

I have been seeing a lot of boats being pulled out of the local marinas recently and the only logical reason that I can come up with for this is that they must not be fishermen. The bunker showed up in Black Rock Harbor and in Fairfield in the spring and they are still there in full force, which of course means that there are plenty of bluefish and stripers in the area as well. Blues are consistently being taken from Fairfield Marina all the way into Ash Creek at high tide, north of the Fairfield Ave. bridge. Some large stripers have recently been taken from Penfield Reef in the early morning and late evening hours and one lucky angler fishing flies at the mouth of the Housy took a 51" striped bass that he hooked in four feet of water. Blackfish and sea bass are consistently being taken from the rock piles. In the fresh water, the Naugatuck has been stocked with Atlantic salmon up to 25 lbs. I was out there two weeks ago and caught two on a Sunday afternoon and there was no one else out there fishing for them. Granted, these are stocked fish but they are extremely acrobatic and strong. All of the TMA'S have been stocked with trout and are productive but with the lack of rain and low water levels, the fishing can be tough. Look for sea-run browns in the estuaries any time now. With all that action, there are no excuses for not fishing so get out there. Send stories or reports to rjmerly@yahoo.ca.

NEWS FROM OUR SPONSORS—Nov. 2008

WESTPORT OUTFITTERS—Please log onto <http://www.westportoutfitters.com/> and click on the fishing reports tab to view our most recent report!

Fly Tying Classes are set, stay tuned for the posting under the News Tab on the web page. -Log onto the homepage for all the details, email or call the shop.

Westport Outfitters-Featured in Soundings Magazine -Check under the "NEWS" tab on our website for all the details! Please log onto <http://www.westportoutfitters.com/> and click under the "NEWS" tab to see the entire list of upcoming FREE seminars!

Patagonia Day 10/25 Report By Gary Anderson

Nutmeg TU Ron Merly, Bob Eck and this writer manned a table at the Patagonia store in Westport on 10/25. Visitors put their names on a mailing list and we are hoping this results in new members for the chapter. James Prosek stayed for about 2 hours, and Eric Peterson tied a bunch of nice flies and gave them to the chapter to auction off. Thanks to all for their participation!

Directions to Fayerweather Yacht Club --- 51 Brewster Street, Black Rock [Bridgeport], CT 06605

I-95 (N or S) to Exit 24. South on Black Rock Tpke, Go past Sym's and BJ's Wholesale Club, to Fairfield Avenue. (Black Rock Tpke becomes Brewster)

Go across Fairfield Ave., then go 0.3 miles to flag pole At stop sign at flagpole, Brewster turns 90-degrees to the left.

Stay on Brewster Street and go another 0.3 miles (just past "Port 5") to the Fayerweather Yacht Club. Park on either side of road or in the lot in front of the condos.



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