



# NUTMEG NOTES

## December '07

NUTMEG CHAPTER – TROUT UNLIMITED

P.O. BOX 1594, FAIRFIELD, CT 06825

[www.nutmegtu.org](http://www.nutmegtu.org)

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### MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE

WE MEET THE 3<sup>RD</sup> TUESDAY, AT 7:30 P.M.  
FAYERWEATHER YACHT CLUB, BLACK ROCK, CT

### Tues., Dec. 18, '07 – Holiday Meeting, Holiday Raffle, Ed Mitchell—"Flyrodding Saltwater Estuaries"

- Tues., Jan 15, '08 – Bob Sampson, Fishing the Thames River in Winter  
Tues., Feb 19, '08 – Mike Beauchene, Macroinvertebrates  
Tues., Mar. 18 '08 – To be announced  
Tues., Apr. 15, '08 – To be announced  
Tues., May 20, '08 – To be announced

## HOLIDAY RAFFLE

PRIZES WILL BE PULLED  
AT OUR HOLIDAY MTG DEC 18<sup>TH</sup>

**WINNER NEED NOT BE PRESENT**  
**EXCEPT FOR #5—MYSTERY PRIZE**

Here's the Prize Line-up:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Winston Fly Rod—"LT" model—8' 9" for 5wt, 5 pc.  
Beautifully finished emerald green rod with cigar grip, elder wood reel seat & nickel silver fittings. --- "The Perfect Travel Trout Rod."
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Abel Xstream 4/5/6 wt Reel
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Two videos: "Coastal Fly Fishing" (salt water) and Oz Ozefovich's "The Underwater World of Trout" (DVD)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Prize: Cabela's Ripcord Nylon duffle bag, green, extra large, non-mesh (not for boots/waders)
- 5<sup>th</sup> (Mystery) Prize: *It's always a great prize, but you must be present at the drawing to be eligible to win it.*

**MAIL-IN YOUR TICKETS NOW!**

**ADDITIONAL TICKETS AVAILABLE  
AT THE DOOR, DEC. 18TH**

### FROM THE PRESIDENT

*Dear fellow Nutmeggers,*

*With the holiday season upon us, most folks have turned their attention from fishing to shopping lists and preparations for holiday dinners with friends and family. During our November 20<sup>th</sup> member's meeting, Tom Gilmore gave an informative and interesting presentation on the four most popular game fish found in Connecticut's coastal waters. The holidays and the end of the fishing season for most anglers probably resulted in the sparse attendance. The folks able to attend were fortunate to hear some invaluable fishing tips on taking advantage of what many people fail to realize is an incredible gift to Nutmeggers--- Long Island Sound.*

*The slow but steady return of the striped bass and relatively abundant populations of blues, false albacore and bonito make the Sound a resource that draws anglers from very distant locations. Continued efforts to protect this resource can be helped by the establishment of a Connecticut salt water fishing license. But the salt water licenses are also vital for conservation of fresh water habitat since part of the funds obtained from existing fishing licenses are currently used for marine activities. With a combined saltwater/freshwater license and a reasonable saltwater only license, the revenues would enable significantly higher funding for freshwater conservation projects and increased funding for coastal activities. This is especially important since license revenues have significantly diminished over the last few years.*

*During this past year the establishment of a state marine license was debated in Connecticut. Federal mandates for marine registry will, in the end, force the state to come up with a plan or risk some sort of federal licensing. A state marine license would preclude any federal marine registry of anglers. Although many saltwater and freshwater angling organizations throughout the state seem to favor a saltwater license, the bill worked out in the legislature was not brought to a vote in 2007. With further support from both angling communities hopefully the bill will be revisited successfully in the coming year.*

Continued on page 3

**OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS 10/1/07 – 9/30/08**

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**Holiday Raffle:** Glen Gammill, [h-affle@nutmegtu.org](mailto:h-affle@nutmegtu.org)  
**Website:** Gian-Andrea "John" Morresi 203-330-8685; [webmaster@nutmegtu.org](mailto:webmaster@nutmegtu.org)

**Trout Unlimited Membership Service - 800-834-2419 or email at [trout@tu.org](mailto:trout@tu.org)**

**Board of Directors Meeting Schedule**

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

December 11, 2007  
 January 8, 2008    February 12, 2008  
 March 11, 2008    April 8, 2008  
 May 13, 2008

**All members are welcome to attend  
 Contact Bill Blaufuss for directions  
 203-856-2004    [prosit67@hotmail.com](mailto:prosit67@hotmail.com)**

**“TIC TALK”**

DATELINE: Staples High School, Westport—site of Nutmeg’s first TIC [Trout in the Classroom] program.

*On November 19<sup>th</sup> approximately 150 brown trout eggs were brought to Staples High School from the Burlington hatchery by TIC monitor and Nutmeg webmaster Gian-Andrea (John) Morresi. We were fortunate to have the help of Ken Balog, former Nutmeg Secretary and past president of the Norwalk Aquarium Society, to work out some problems with the testing of the tank before we introduced the fish. Ken also helped to acclimate the eggs into their new environment when they arrived at Staples. John told us Ken was surrounded by crowd of students anxious to learn more about the start of Nutmeg’s first venture into the TIC program. After two weeks, the eggs appear to be fine as we anxiously look forward to the day they hatch.*

**GREAT FISHING WEBSITES!**

- <http://ctfishingreports.blogspot.com/> CT Fishing Reports (sign up for its free email newsletter that will email you the latest fishing reports from the DEP and from newspapers and tackle shops around CT)
- [http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2696&q=322752&depNav\\_GID=1630](http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2696&q=322752&depNav_GID=1630) DEP Weekly Fishing Report (not year round).

**Connecticut DEP Emergency phone numbers**

--> Turn In Poachers (800) 842 – HELP  
 --> Emergency Spill Reporting (860) 424 - 3338 (24/7)  
 --> Fish kills - (860) 424-3474 - nights&wkends: (860) 424-3333  
 -->DEP Law Enforcement - (860) 424-3333 (24/7)  
 to report unsafe, illegal or criminal activity on public land.

**PLEASE PARTRONIZE OUR SUPPORTERS**

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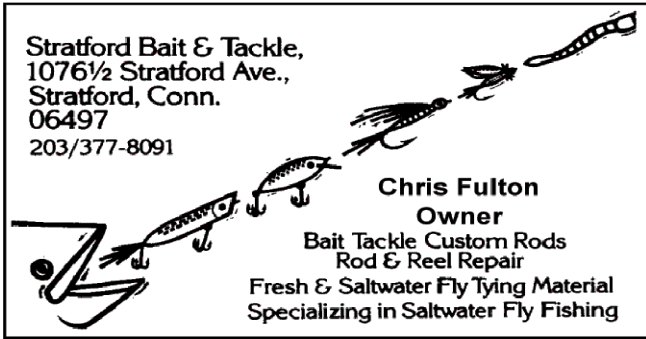
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**FROM THE PRESIDENT, cont'd**

*Our annual holiday party and raffle will be held on December 18<sup>th</sup> with a great selection of raffle prizes. We will also have platters of cold cuts, salads and dessert. To further our member's appreciation of the opportunities that LI Sound provides, author and fly fishing instructor Ed Mitchell will give a presentation on flyrodding estuaries. We hope to see a large turnout for the great food, prizes and presentation later this month.*

*Several weeks ago I attended a daylong seminar presented by the Saugatuck River Watershed Partnership on Protecting Watershed Health. The presentations suggested new ways to reduce the impact of development activities on the environment and new methods to assess the loss of habitat. The speakers were very informative and I was especially fascinated by the presentation on new technologies to minimize runoff from impervious surfaces. Apparently asphalt and concrete can be formulated to enable water to pass through what seems to be an impenetrable barrier. What is even more surprising is the fact that this technology has been used in Europe for some time. The costs do not appear to be insurmountable but there are manufacturing issues related to switching formulations between batches. At this time there is little usage of these pervious materials in the US. Sometimes I am amazed that the most technologically advanced country in the world can be so out of touch with the priorities recognized by other developed nations.*

*Runoff, as many people realize, has a profound impact on receiving streams causing spikes in flow and temperature during storms. Besides affecting the flora and fauna of the receiving waters, there are financial penalties to landowners and homeowners near the banks of these streams as temporary flooding damages property. Although the future impact of global warming is difficult to predict, it seems catastrophic rain events are on the rise. Our ability to deal with stormwater drainage is still remiss as some communities have not even attempted to implement the guidelines published several years ago by the state. I hope we will have the foresight to think carefully and critically about future development in all of our communities. I believe we need to be proactive instead of responding after the problem occurs.*

*Mike Beauchene from DEP discussed macroinvertebrate populations and sampling procedures that are used to assess the health of the river. He will speak on macroinvertebrates during our February meeting so be sure and mark February 19<sup>th</sup> on your calendar.*

*Steve Gephardt from the DEP discussed dam removal and fish ladders on the Saugatuck. The existing ladders that have been constructed, some with the help of TU, afford passage of river herring and others which use the Saugy to spawn. The increase in returning herring is heartening as their demise was notable in the recent past. The river herring is vitally important as a food source for other inhabitants of the stream and those animals that live nearby. American eels have also been helped by configuring some passages with netting and baffling to enable them to wiggle up the height of the dam. Their success is also important for the integrity of the ecosystem. There are still dams to be tackled and fish ladders to be built on the Saugy. If you are interested in lending a hand to establish passages, please see any Board member for contacts.*

*We are also aware that many of the culverts in Trout Brook Valley need attention to enable fish passage. Wild trout in those streams search for spawning ground and may move from one area to the next looking for the right place. Repair of the culverts is important to maintain the contiguity of the water flow in that area. If you're interested in becoming involved please see one of our Board members.*

*As always we are seeking volunteers for Board members. Although there has always been someone to fill vacancies on the Board in the past, it seems fewer and fewer folks can find time to lend a hand. There is no guarantee that our chapter will survive and so we are in dire need of volunteers as our numbers dwindle. Please consider helping us by volunteering some of your time.*

*Happy Holidays, Bill Moskalski*

**November Nutmeg Board Activities**

*The Board activities in November focused on reviewing and approving the chapter's financial statement which was subsequently submitted to TU National. The inventory of prizes to be used for the March banquet was reviewed and plans to assess the valuation of the prizes were formulated. Additional acquisitions were discussed and plans to complete those acquisitions was delegated to the banquet committee. Several years ago electronic storage and handling of the chapter's documents as PDF's was proposed. The Board agreed that this topic must be addressed in the very near future. The possibility of offering a fly tying course over the winter was also discussed. A brief review of the details for the upcoming holiday party and raffle was completed.*

**FOR SALE**

**“Trout Streams of Eastern Connecticut”** By Mike Goodwin, published by Thames Valley TU

Text & maps on 125+ trout streams E. of the Ct. River

Available only at chapter mtgs: \$18.00 [usu. ~ \$20 in fly shops]

***Seeing Wonders: The Nature of Fly Fishing***

**at the Yale Peabody Museum**

**Opening September 29, 2007 & on view through February 24, 2008**

**Fly-tying Demonstrations on select Sundays! – from Sept. 30, 2007 – Feb. 3, 2008 from 1:30 to 3:30 pm**

The Yale Peabody Museum's newest temporary exhibition comes to us from the [American Museum of Fly Fishing](http://www.amff.org) in Manchester, Vermont, home to the world's largest collection of angling and angling-related items.

*Seeing Wonders: The Nature of Fly Fishing* includes some of the finest artifacts in the AMFF's collections, and provides a comprehensive overview of the history of the sport and the techniques of fly fishing and fly tying. In addition to displays of historical rods and reels, the exhibition also showcases celebrity outfits and equipment such as Babe Ruth's rod and tip case, Winslow Homer's rod, Bing Crosby's fly reel and John Quincy Adams's fly box, as well as the fly fishing stories of presidential anglers. One of humankind's oldest and most popular forms of recreation, fly fishing captivates millions of people across the world and inspires fervent devotion. An introductory video, made especially for the Peabody's exhibition, aims to communicate that enthusiasm.

For more information: <http://www.peabody.yale.edu/exhibits/flyfishing.html>

**Directions to Fayerweather Yacht Club --- Brewster Street, Black Rock**

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 either side of road or in the lot in front of the condos.



Nutmeg Chapter  
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