



NUTMEG NOTES

May '08

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

IN THIS ISSUE...

PAGE 1...President's Message, Meeting Schedule, Special Events
...Welcome New Members
PAGE 2 Fishing Without Falling, TU's new TV Show, Sponsors
PAGE 3...Fishing Report, News from Nutmeg's Sponsors,
News from TU New England Regional Mtg 5/3
PAGE 4 Pres's Msg cont'd, TIC Talk, April Board Activities

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

May 20th ----RON MERLY
FISHING THE EXTRAORDINARY WOOD RIVER in R.I.

OUR FINAL MEETING OF THE '07-'08 SEASON

About the presentation at our 5/20/08 meeting Fishing the Wood River in Rhode Is.

Nutmeg board member Ron Merly has long been raving about this river's sizable trout and not much farther a drive than the Hous or the Farmington. From over 20 years experience,, Ron will tell us about locations, techniques, equipment, hatches, lures, wild and stocked trout, the size of the fish and how and why the stocking program differs from ours in the state of Connecticut.

He will mention the areas in which there are broodstock and fingerling Atlantic salmon and present the regulations pertaining to them.

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.

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

**Sat., May 31—Stream cleanup—Joint Effort w/Nature Conservancy
8-10AM—Saugatuck River TMA, Ford Rd., Westport
email Ron Merly (rimerly@yahoo.ca) for info**

**Fri.-Sun., Jun. 6-8—Nutmeg Spring Trip--Housatonic River,
SEE DETAILS THIS PAGE**

**Weds., Oct. 15 – Annual Trip -- Connetquot River, L.I.
DETAILS TO COME**

WELCOME NEW TU MEMBER

We welcome those who have joined TU since April

Steve Cranford (Monroe)

Please join us at chapter events & monthly meetings.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear fellow Nutmeggers,

This is our last newsletter until the fall so I want to wish all of you a wonderful summer and good fishing.

We have some great activities planned before the summer. I hope you can find the time to join other chapter members on the Housatonic in June (see below) and at our last monthly meeting when Ron Merly will talk about the Wood River. As always if you are looking for someone to fish with now or over the summer email me and I will try to connect you with other members with similar interests.

The Board was remiss in asking the nominating committee to provide a list of nominees for the election of officers for next year as required in April by chapter bylaws. The slate of candidates as proposed by the nominating committee during the May Board meeting is described in a special section on page 3. "Nominations from the floor" will be accepted by email or at the next Board meeting on June 10.

In April I joined several other chapter presidents, Council president Bill Blaufuss, and other concerned TU members for a meeting with Bill Hyatt of the DEP to discuss a survivor trout program for the Housatonic. Cont'd on p. 4

Nutmeg Spring Trip--Housatonic River June 6-8

The Nutmeg TU Chapter Social Committee is coordinating a weekend fishing trip and campout at Housatonic Meadows State Park in Sharon, CT. The event will take place on Friday, June 6 through Sunday June 8, and is open to all Nutmeg TU members, family and friends. You can come up for one day, both days, camp out Friday and/or Saturday evenings, or just make day trips. The Housatonic River should be full of hatching insects at this time.

Here's how to reserve a camp site: You make your own camping reservation as soon as possible via [online at Reserve America](http://www.reserveamerica.com). Housatonic Meadows will only accept a two night reservation at that time of year. Your total cost will be \$35. All campsites will accommodate up to 6 persons and 2 motor vehicles, so hook up with a non-snoring fishing buddy and split the cost. NOTE: Housatonic Meadows is alcohol free. Try to reserve a spot within Sites 25-50 if you want to be near the Nutmeg TU gang.

After you reserve your campsite, please e-mail Gary Anderson at gande61211@aol.com so he can get a total count. That way we can look at opportunities for carpooling, meals, etc.

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

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
Treasurer: 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: Bill Blaufuss: 856-2004, prosit67@hotmail.com
Membership: vacant
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
May 6, 2008

All members are welcome to attend

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

TU's new TV show, On the Rise begins Friday, April 4 at 8 p.m on the Outdoor Channel.

Hosted by Frank Smethurst, accomplished Telluride fly-fishing guide, the show takes viewers to some of the best fly-fishing locations around the country and highlights places where TU's conservation work has made a difference.

From the first episode where Smethurst drives his trout-patterned Airstream trailer to Montana's Madison River, to the season's final episode where he stalks winter steelhead in Ohio, **On the Rise** is a 30-minute weekly adventure for people who appreciate fly-fishing and the beautiful places it takes them.

The show airs weekly on the Outdoor Channel on **Friday nights at 8 p.m.**, with encore airings of each episode on **Saturday at 2 p.m.** and **Sunday at 7:30 a.m.** Check with your local cable provider to see if it carries the Outdoor Channel.

To see the show's schedule, go to www.tu.org/ontherise

Know an angler who's physically-challenged?

FISHING WITHOUT FALLING

by Bobbi Kurman

Many individuals find that, in retirement when fishing is a primary goal, mobility on the stream becomes a problem. This is also true of returning military forces, who may not have the physical agility as before they left our shores.

I am leading a new project to identify fishing spots in CT where people with impaired mobility can safely fish. Easy access to these spots, and mobility on the stream, are the chief concerns and the goal is to identify 10 fishing spots per county (80 spots in all).

We ask your support for the initial two phases:

- Submit stream locations that might be applicable. A check-list form is available at monthly meetings, the banquet, and soon on www.nutmegtu.org to help you identify key areas of concern.

- Go to a spot with a handicapped person to test the viability of it – we need the input of those whom this project is to benefit.

Send forms, suggestions and comments to:

bobbikurman@sbcglobal.net or to:

FWF Project 175 French St. Watertown CT 06795

**PLEASE SUPPORT THESE SPONSORS
 THEY SUPPORT US**

The Compleat Angler
FINE TACKLE, CLOTHING & GIFTS
NOW OPEN AT NEW LOCATION

555 Post Rd.
 Darien, CT 06820
 203-655-9400

Scott Bennett
 GENERAL MANAGER

www.compleat-angler.com

Westport Outfitters, LLC

Outfitters, fresh & saltwater fly tackle
 Fly tying material, waders & accessories

44 Calf Pasture Beach Road

Eric C. Johnson
 Owner

Norwalk, CT 06855

ph: 203-831-8036

Fax: 203-831-8591

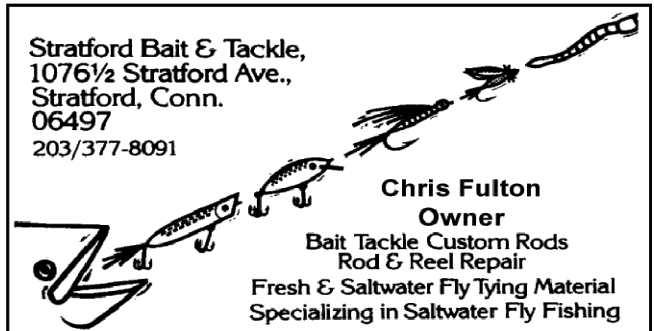
ejohnson@westportoutfitters.com



RONDELL BALL
 Store Manager

THE ORVIS COMPANY, INC.
 432 BOSTON POST ROAD
 DARIEN CONNECTICUT 06820
 TEL 203 662 0844 FAX 203 662 9517
 RETAIL022@ORVIS.COM

Stratford Bait & Tackle,
 1076 1/2 Stratford Ave.,
 Stratford, Conn.
 06497
 203/377-8091



Chris Fulton
 Owner

Bait Tackle Custom Rods
 Rod & Reel Repair

Fresh & Saltwater Fly Tying Material
 Specializing in Saltwater Fly Fishing



Fly fishing specialists
 Striped Bass, Bluefish, False Albacore, Bonito, Tuna & Weakfish
 USCG Licensed and Insured
 Lessons and instruction for all ages
www.saltyflies.com

203-561-9683
 33 Pine Point Rd
 Rowayton, CT 06853

Capt. Paul Koopmann
captkoop@saltyflies.com

Nutmeg Fishing Report by Ron Merly

May 1, 2008

Trout season has officially begun for 08' and although the rivers have been low, the fishing has been steady. Hopefully, the recent rains will bring the levels up and spread the fish out. The upper Housy has had some decent spinner falls as of late so make sure you get up there for the hatches.

Congratulations to my neighbor 14 year old David Redford Jr. who, on opening day hooked and landed a 10 lb. rainbow! The very next day he asked his dad to take him to another spot where he caught a 7lb. rainbow!! Wow.

On the sound, the Flounder are still around. Blackfish are being taken on sandworms in the rocky areas. The softer baits are working better as their mouths are still a little soft at this time of the year. There are large bunker running around and the stripers are right behind them. Keeper bass are being taken out of the mouths of the rivers and the schoolies are all over. Whatever your quarry might be, make sure you get out there soon; this seems to be the best time for many different types of fishing.

ELECTIONS OF '08/'09 CHAPTER OFFICERS

Our Chapter Bylaws specify that officers shall be elected by the Board for a one year term corresponding to the TU fiscal year, 10/1/07 through 9/30/08. They state that the chapter Leadership Development & Nominating Committee shall nominate members for each elected office and publicize the nominations one month prior to elections in our newsletter with the notice that the slate of nominated officers will be voted upon at the next Board meeting. The Bylaws further provide that additional nominations may be made by any chapter member at the Board meeting.

The Board of Directors schedule is as follows:

- hold elections at the Board's June meeting. [The date of this meeting will be Tuesday, June 10th.]
- announce nominations of candidates in this newsletter the month preceding the election
- solicit any other nominations from any Nutmeg member from receipt of this newsletter through the June 10th Board meeting.

The slate of nominees proposed by the Committee consists of:

- President: Bill Moskalski
- Vice President: Bill Blaufuss
- Secretary: Gary Anderson
- Treasurer: Bobbi Kurman

Please email Bill Moskalski with any further nominations at twozacrowd@hotmail.com prior to June 10th, or bring your nomination to the Board meeting on June 10th.

REPORT FROM the Spring '08 TU New England Regional Conference, Sat., May 3rd

Bryan Moore and Liz Maclin of TU HQ led our annual Spring Conference in Leominster, MA on May 3rd. Liz, as Eastern Conservation Director, demonstrated a new interactive facility at <http://tuksi.spatialdynamics.com/> that shows the status and threats to brook trout habitat in *local detail*. Log in and check this out! The information will startle you, and will underscore the task before us and the reason we are all members of TU.

Bryan, as Director of Volunteer Ops, described the many sources of funding for stream restoration projects. Money is 'out there' from foundations and government agencies, e.g. US Fish & Wildlife Service. Additionally, federal money will start becoming available in the next couple of years for projects that seek to preserve wildlife species in the face of increased global warming.

Our own TU staffer in New England, Kirt Mayland, discussed Legislative Action and his activity in Hartford in influencing bills in the CT Legislature, including spurring we grass roots members to write to our legislators. While we like to stick to legislation that is directly related to 'saving fish,' Kirt reminds us that in practicality, we need to support related legislation as advocated by other non-profit environmental orgs in order to gain these orgs' support for legislation that we want their support in passing. *For anyone who questions what TU is doing for we who live in the Northeast, please know that since Kirt was hired about 2 years ago, he has had a tremendous influence on many pieces of legislation, notwithstanding the Streamflow Bill that was passed in '06.*

In response to grass roots appeal, HQ is elevating the attention to Youth Education, and has incorporated it into TU's new Strategic Plan. In various presentations, the message is resounding that young people are the future of TU. Several states—CT, NY, and NJ being the most active—have created robust Trout in the Classroom programs in just 2-3 years. ME, NH, and PA have created Trout Camps—summer programs where kids learn to fish and learn cold water conservation. In reaching youth, we also reach the public via parents and neighbors, thus broadening cold water conservation awareness beyond the angling community.

NEWS FROM OUR SPONSORS

COMPLEAT ANGLER of Darien—

HAS NOW REOPENED!—at its new location 555 Post Rd., Darien—same phone 655-9400

Scott Bennett and his staff offer a complete line of fly-fishing gear and clothing, including rods from Winston, Thomas & Thomas, Sage, G Loomis and Temple Fork, and reels by Abel, Islander, Ross, and Lamson.

Visit this new location -- about halfway between I-95 exits 12 & 13. Southbound on I-95, exit 13 & turn left onto Post Road. Store is less than 1 mile on rt.

WESTPORT OUTFITTERS—

UPDATED 5-1-08- Please log onto <http://www.westportoutfitters.com/> and click on the fishing reports tab to view our most recent report!

Fly Casting School with Lou Tabor and the W.O. Crew-May 31st-Log onto the homepage for all the details, email or call the shop.

Westport Outfitters-Featured in Sounding 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!

(President's Message cont'd)

Since some funds remained from the coalition of individuals and organizations [of which TU was but one] to provide for run of river, TU hoped that the coalition of donors might be amenable to roll the funds over to other efforts to further improve the quality of the Housatonic fishery. The goal of the survivor program would be to breed fish better able to survive the Housatonic's conditions from a selection of strains of wild fish harvested from other naturally-producing streams in the state. The expense of the program however unfortunately appears prohibitive and so other options like enhancement of thermal refuges is being considered.

On opening day of fishing, Board member Ron Merly organized a welcome center across from the TMA on the Saugatuck. A number of interested anglers stopped by and various Board members gave them an overview of what TU is all about. Thanks to Ron for organizing this effort to enlist new chapter members.

Good fishing, Bill MoskalSKI

"TIC TALK"

TIC programs have been concluded throughout the state and at Staples we are in the process of exchanging chillers and packing up until next fall. This is the time when teachers and monitors need to start thinking about the program for next year. We have schools that would like to start a program but we are in dire need of volunteer monitors. We have *none*. We know that TIC would be welcomed at other schools if we had volunteers to "carry the message." If you're interested in helping please see any Board member.

APRIL NUTMEG BOARD ACTIVITIES

This past month the Board concluded discussion of the banquet and recommendations for next year. We also discussed participation in earth day activities in Fairfield on May 10 and the welcome station on the Saugy on opening day. We decided to pursue an opt-in provision for those desiring to receive a paper copy of the newsletter and provide email copies to everyone else.

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
Trout Unlimited
P.O. Box 1594
Fairfield, CT 06825

