

October 2013



THE HAMMONASSET CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED

THE RISE

From the Bank of the Stream

Marla Blair

Our October guest speaker

The Hatch and Body Language of Trout

Author of "*Positive Fly Fishing*" Published by Lyons Press, and owner of Marla Blair's Fly Fishing Guide service and instruction. "*The Hatch and Body Language of Trout, for choosing the right patterns.*" This is another way of looking at the hatch, and the way fish feed to help create more success. Tonights program is fun, interactive, and great for any level. Kids and newbies, are encouraged to come. At the end of the presentation there will be info about destination fly fishing locations, including info about Labradore, Patagonia, and other great places.

Bill Keister

Our November guest speaker

Effective Nymphing Techniques

Join certified FFFCasting Instructor and World traveler for a nymphing clinic. Is nymphing a mystery? Could your nymphing be more effective? The presentation is conducted as a workshop where interacion is encouraged. The program starts with definitions and explanations of long line and high stick nymphing. Particularly effective flies are described. Rods, lines, leaders, strike indicators and methods to get flies down are covered. The importance of drag free drifts is explained. The causes of drag are covered.

**THE HAMMONASSET CHAPTER
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Welcoming: Wayne Gustafson

Youth Membership: Jesse Gardziel

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct, 17th Thursday 6:30pm. Doors open at 6:15
Chapter Meeting Wallingford rod and Gun Club.
Guest speaker Marla Blair **The Hatch and Body
Language of Trout.**

Oct, 24th 6:30-8:45pm Wallingford public library
Culvert survey training session with DEEP Neil
Hagstrom contact Rick Huntley.

Nov, 21st Thursday 7:00 pm. Doors open at 6:15
Chapter Meeting Wallingford rod and Gun Club.
Guest speaker **Bill Keister Effective Nymphing
Techniques.**

Jan 16th Thursday 7:00 pm. Doors open at 6:15
Chapter Meeting Wallingford rod and Gun Club.
Guest speaker

Feb 20th Thursday 7:00 pm. Doors open at 6:15
Chapter Meeting Wallingford rod and Gun Club.
Guest speaker

Mar 20th Thursday 7:00 pm. Doors open at 6:15
Chapter Meeting Wallingford rod and Gun Club.
Guest speaker **Angus Boazeman Upper CT River NH**

Apr 17th
Wallingford rod and Gun Club. Guest speaker

May 10th Saturday 8:30am-1pm. **YED** Youth
Education Day Chatfield Hollow park Killingworth
Conn. **Contact Paul Gray** to reserve a place for your
help or a child's day of fun and learning.

May 15th Thursday 7:00 pm. Doors open at 6:15
Chapter Meeting Wallingford rod and Gun Club.
Guest speaker **John Springer**

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Speaker Highlights:

If you missed the May meeting,
you missed *Something*



Great fishing Trips Out West :

By John Springer stayed at the historic **Woods Landing Resort** alongside the **Big Laramie River**, 25 miles southwest of Laramie Wyoming. (south Wyoming) It was late August and the camper van road trip has begun. At \$60 per night stay, Saturday night dances great food and 100% wild trout in all of the rivers; the slide show began. Imagine a true free stone river that has high demands for irrigation causing flows to fluctuate drastically. Fishing is best in the early spring and late fall and try to avoid fishing wide flats, instead concentrate on riffles, deep holes, and undercut banks. You can expect to catch 10-16 inch wild browns but there are some fish in the Big Laramie that will go 10+ pounds. These fish are only in restricted access areas closer to Laramie.

Wind River/Bighorn (central Wyoming) and in the town of Thermopolis, part of Indian Territory and subject to a \$25 per day fishing fee. The trout are rainbows and cutthroat fished from a drift boat with bright red San Juan worms. Local attractions were a dinosaur park and hot pools.

South Holston River (eastern Tennessee) and part of the Tenn. Valley Authority rivers. **Cherokee trails campgrounds and stables** in Bristol Tennessee. \$33 per day, 2 person cabin, \$150 per week camper with hookup and internet. The trout are browns and rainbows with many in the 12" range. 10 lb fish aren't unusual. Sulfur hatches run from April through early November, daily. John was here late November early December and the hatches were midges, black flies: sized 18 and 24 and fish eggs. Spawning bed areas were closed to fishing. The best pattern was the egg. Take care to clean your kit when leaving, Didymo is in the river.

Landlocked Salmon trips:

HCTU members have been on two recent landlocked salmon fishing expeditions.



Kevin Fuller went to the Upper Connecticut River in New Hampshire and fished between the Connecticut Lakes.



Elsewhere, Bruce Tubby, Ed Albrecht, Rick Huntley, Bill Martin and Wayne Gustafson all fished for Landlocks and trout on Grand Lake stream in Maine (way up near New Brunswick)

Everyone had a fantastic time.



Speaker Highlights: If you missed the September meeting, you missed *Something*



September Speaker:

Steve Culton presented **Wet Flies 101:** Wet flies were developed centuries ago and the fish haven't gotten any smarter over that time. While the wet fly has fallen out of favor in the US decades ago they are still worthy; often the best match for a hatch.

The wet fly is a loose copy of sub-surface insect life put where trout are most likely to take their food. They imitate emergers, cripples, egg-layers spinners and drowned terrestrials. **Fly types include:** *Soft hackle(spiders)* a sparse creation of thread and water absorbing hackles of hen, starling and game birds. *Wingless wet*, spiky air bubble trapping bodies, any dubbing is thin enough to show the thread through, hen hackled over the first third of the fly. *Winged wet*, the wing material varies from natural color to vibrant to cover hatch specific or gaudy attractors. *Fuzzy nymphs*, bridge the gap between nymph and emerger, often un-weighted with fine wire hooks.

Basic rig: using Maxima for the leader helps because the extra thickness and stiffness makes knot removal easier. The leader is made of 2+ feet of either mono/fluro/co tied together with short tags off the trailing end of the knot called droppers. Three lengths yields two droppers and a point fly on the end. The fly attached to the top dropper is meant to look like what is hatching. The middle dropper is what is likely in the river. And the point fly is often the largest and heaviest of the three.

Tackle: using a fly rod of 9' or longer, with a slow action blank; a floating fly line floatant paste to put on the line, not the leader ; Maxima Chameleon #4-#6; and a wading staff.

Where to fish wets:

Ideal parts of the river include, snotty pocket water with depths of knee high or deeper. The surface of the water is broken from underwater rocks moving at a brisk walking pace. Look for structure of trees, rocks and boulders. But do not ignore slow-smoother water where egg laying insects dance on the surface. Occasionally you may find birds working overhead on a hatch swarm.

Cover more water and keep moving:

Target the aggressive fish feeding, vary the lengths of your casts, remember to slowly wade and fish the entire run. Make the mental notes for changes in bottom structure.

Presentation:

Upstream dead drift, the fish don't see you. The key is line management by gathering the slack line at the speed of the current. The fly line tip ackts like a strike indicator. *Short line deep*, Here you are using a downstream quartering cast, with a series of upstream mends. If there is no strike let the flies swing below you and dangle the flies in the current. In this position do not set the hook into a fish strike; instead ask "*are you still there*" then lift the rod slowly.

Books Recommended:

"The Soft Hackled fly and Tiny Soft Hackles" by

Sylvester Nemes

"Wet Flies" by **Dave Hughes**

Steve Culton can be reached at
currentseams.wordpress.com and
swculton@yahoo.com



Youth Education Day

11th ANNUAL

HAMMONASSET CHAPTER TROUT UNLIMITED



YOUTH EDUCATION DAY

SATURDAY May 10, 2014

8:30am - 1:00pm

Rain or Shine

- FLY TYING
- FLY CASTING
- RIVER ECOLOGY & ENTOMOLOGY
- ASSIST WITH A TROUT STOCKING
- FREE PICNIC LUNCH
- FISHING FOR TROUT IN STOCKED POND
- CONNECTICUT FREE FISHING DAY
- FREE RAFFLES & PRIZES
- AND MUCH MORE ...
-



To register for this FREE event just email RON GRAZIANI at rongraz70@sbcglobal.net to reserve your child's spot. Please be 100% sure that you can attend this event prior to registering.

Space is limited to 36 children that must be at least 8 years of age to participate.
Don't be late and miss out on this great day of learning and fun.

This event will be held at Chatfield Hollow State Park, on Route 80 in Killingworth, CT. The day will start promptly at 8:30. Children should wear old sneakers for wet wading and bring a pair of dry socks and sneakers for afterwards. Parents are required to stay for the entire event with their children and are encouraged to fish with their children as part of "CT Free Fishing Day". Bait, hooks & rods will be supplied to those who need them.



TU News



Kensington Hatchery

All monies to support the hatcheries were funded in the final State budget and it will remain open.

UConn Stores campus expansion

A new pipeline to bring water halfway across the state of Connecticut to UConn would threaten the future ecological health of the Farmington River and the water needs of the communities within the watershed. This cross-basin transfer of water - with the potential for far greater withdrawals in the future - is a poor precedent to set in an increasingly uncertain water future and especially in the absence of regional and state-wide water planning. Already, periods of prolonged drought have led to inadequate flows below the reservoir system which have placed significant stress on the trout and aquatic life in the river and pose further economic hardships on the riverside communities which rely on the angling and recreational tourism the river provides.

That's why I signed a petition to Susan Herbst, President, University of Connecticut and Governor Dan Malloy, which says:

"We oppose a solution to UConn's water supply needs that would further divert water from the Farmington River watershed reservoirs in the absence of comprehensive and environmentally sound state-wide water planning and improved flow management policies. Additionally, we ask that University leadership strongly consider alternative sites for the Technology Park other than the Storrs campus."

Will you sign the petition too? Click here to add your name:

http://signon.org/sign/voice-your-support-for?source=s.fwd&r_by=7650839

Thanks!

Fishing with Aidan Morgan,

Join us for monthly fishing on some of the better rivers across the state; from the Farmington to the Salmon or any river that you enjoy. Held on Saturdays:



Aidan on The Farmington Oct12th



James Prosek

Brown trout Print

In 2008 the Hammonasset Chapter commissioned James Prosek to paint a Farm River brown trout to raise awareness of our fish passage project on the Farm River. The project is moving forward to the fund raising stage. We need to raise money this year for construction in 2014 and we have fewer than 20 prints remaining.

Raffle Drawing:

The Farm River Brown trout Print was won by Paul Gray.



Promoting TIC & Kids Activities



Vinal Tech Health and Wellness Fair Apr. 30th Tuesday 8:00-1:30

Daniels street Middletown. Set up in the gymnasium for a school wide outreach to promote interests beyond the classroom we attended to promote TU (TIC) with fly casting demonstrations and soliciting help for students to complete community service hour's requirement. (IE, the September Hammonasset River clean up) In attendance were Jim Woodworth, Ron Graziani and Richard Carter

Youth Education Day May 11th Saturday 8:30-1:00 Chatfield Hollow park Killingworth. The event coincided with the statewide free fishing day Along with promoting (TIC) we taught fly tying, entomology, fly casting helped to stock the lower pond and had a free picnic lunch for the kids. Rain was part of the day and several kids caught trout. In attendance were Paul Gray, Mrs Woodworth, Jim Woodworth, Kevin Fuller, Ed Albrecht, Ron Graziani, Rick Huntley, Wayne Gustafson, Bruce Tubby, Rich Carter, Ed Ochman, John Amendola, Richard Moore, Richard Moore and a special thanks to Andy Moskowitz who provided the lunch.

Connecticut Rivers council BSA Expo Saturday June 1st Starting at 8:00- 4:00 was held at the Hebron Lions fairground Saturday June 1st. Set up alongside the pond at the entrance to the event, complete with tank and trout. We spoke to the scouts about (TIC) Trout in the Classroom, tied flies with them, backyard bass casting and fly casting into the pond. Starting at 8:00 am and ending at 4:00pm. In attendance were: Ed Albrecht, Jim Woodworth, Kevin Fuller, Ted Gardziel, Rich Carter



Jim at Vinal tech



Stocking fish at the YED



Ed taking his fish to BSA

Durham Fair was September 26-29 in the “discovery tent” HCTU promoted (TIC) Trout In the Classroom with an aquarium of trout, fly tying and promoting membership in TU. Thank you to everyone who helped at the booth. A special thanks to Bruce Tubby for organizing the event.

Hammonasset Festival

October 5-6 at Hammonasset park Madison. HCTU promoted (TIC) and fly tying, backyard bass casting activities. Thanks to everyone who helped. A special thanks to Kevin Fuller for organizing the event.



Ron Graziani at the Hammonasset Jamboree 2012

Directions to Our Meetings

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Directions to our meeting place:

Where: Wallingford Rod and Gun Club, 411 North Branford Road Wallingford, CT 06492

When: Third Thursday of the month, From September through May at 6:30 PM.

Coming from the I-91

From I-91 South take exit 15, Turn LEFT onto CT-68 East / Barnes Rd (1.7 Miles)
Turn RIGHT onto N BRANFORD RD. (0.6 Miles) Turn Right into Driveway at 411 North Branford Rd.

Coming from the Shoreline through Route 17 in Durham

Follow Route 17 to junction with CT-68, Turn onto CT-68 West, follow CT-68 (3.5 Miles)
Turn LEFT onto N BRANFORD RD. (0.6 Miles) Turn RIGHT into Driveway at 411 North Branford Rd.