

THE RISE

FROM THE BANK OF THE STREAM



President's Message

March 2010 Presidents Message

Get ready to fish because spring is finally here, the Hammonasset River TMA was stocked with over 1500 trout. Several TU members have been catching trout all week on the Hammonasset River as well as the Salmon River. Only the TMA's are open for catch and release until opening day. Little black stone flies and winter caddis usually appear during the warmest part of the day, while nymphs and streamers are fooling them underneath. I even caught my first trout of the year on a marabou streamer. The fifty degree days are slowly warming up the waters and action should pick up very soon. Friends tell me that pike also staging for spawning in the Connecticut River, and schoolie bass are just a few weeks way.

This Thursday's meeting will feature Mike Humphries from the DEP. Mike will give a presentation on our state's Wild Trout and fingerling programs. We will also have the usual raffle and Pizza, Hot dogs, cookies and drinks available for those who need to get something to eat before the meeting (while they last). Doors open around 6:00 for fly tying and the meeting will begin at 7:00.

I hope to see you at the next chapter meeting or on the river very soon.

Kevin Fuller

**HAMMONASSET CHAPTER
OF TROUT UNLIMITED
OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

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**Fish Passage
Project Manager:** Ted Gardziel

Raffle: Bill Glueck

CT Council Members: Ted Gardziel
Kevin Fuller
Ed Albrecht

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 18 Thursday, 6:30 PM

Chapter Meeting Wallingford Rod and Gun Club
Mike Humphries-CT DEP, Wild Trout and
Fingerlings

April 15 Thursday, 6:30 PM

Chapter Meeting Wallingford Rod and Gun Club
Ed Ochman, Secret Flies and Hammonasset River

May 20 Thursday, 6:30 PM

Chapter Meeting Wallingford Rod and Gun Club
Orvis 9 Hole Fly Casting Contest
Details to be announced

Visit our Website for More Details and Updates.
www.hammonassettu.com

Adventures Wanted!

Please contribute a story or photo from your
fishing trips. The newsletter would be MORE
ENJOYABLE WITH MORE STORIES
FROM OUR MEMBERS.

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MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



MARCH MEETING

Our March meeting will feature Mike Humphries of CT. Department of Environmental Protection and he will cover wild trout and fingerlings.

Mike leads the state's program to reintroduce, protect and grow wild trout in rivers throughout the state. He will discuss recent successes and how protecting wild trout should be a priority to all anglers.



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APRIL MEETING

Our April meeting will feature Ed Ochman with his secret flies and knowledge of the Hammonasset river.



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If you missed the meeting,
you missed something



Mike Bartolomeo gave a presentation on Saltwater Fly Fishing. He brought along two of his rods rigged up and discussed his experiences fishing from New England to Florida. His presentation included equipment, knots, flies, techniques, tides, weather, and the fish. Here in New England he preferred fishing for striped bass over blue fish and had some great photos of them. He covered cinder worms and another worm that lives along the Florida shore. During it's annual migration these worms excite tarpon into a feeding frenzy.

Mike's time in Florida is also spent in pursuit of bone fish and permit. These fish are more often found in shallow sandy areas and were caught on crab and shrimp patterns.

An hour of fly tying: Come early before the meeting and join several of our members tying flies. Also a fly swap will be held each month so members can exchange flies. Trade the fly that brings you luck and you can get in trade someone else's great fly.

The chapter will pay for all first year youth memberships, to keep the interest alive we are offering this to youth that attend several meetings.



HCTU ANNOUNCEMENTS



James Prosek Prints

HCTU Exclusive



Limited Edition

Brown Trout - Salmo trutta

In support of our "Farm River Fish Passage" project and conservation programs, James Prosek has signed 50 limited edition prints. There are ONLY about 20 prints remaining.

If you would like to purchase one of the remaining prints for \$200 and support our chapters conservation project, please contact Hugh McCutchen at 349-3122 or hmac3737@sbcglobal.net

New England Stream & Field

NEW ENGLANDS COMPLETE OUTFITTERS
Formerly Cubeta's Field & Stream



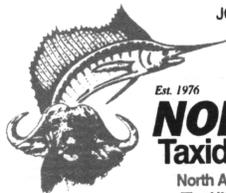
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Clinton Town Hall **Darby Hittle** is looking for members to attend the Clinton waste water treatment project. Meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month. The effluent may effect the Hammonasset river quality so it is in everyone's interest to get involved.

Fishing trip for this spring: The annual Delaware River trip is scheduled for May 17, 18,19 and 20th. Anyone wishing to attend should contact **Bill Glueck**.

Tying with the Vets: March 13th was the last tying session with the 10 Vets of the West Haven Veterans Hospital's Eastern Blind Rehabilitation Center. The tying will be followed by fishing trips for the Vets in both fresh and salt water. A desire to participate is more important than the level of skill you may have, and additional volunteers from HCTU would be welcomed. Please give Bruce Tubby a call at 860-349-8405

TU National Meeting in September: Waterville New Hampshire will host the 2010 National Meeting from September 17-19. The chapter is considering a trip on the 3rd or 4th week of June to visit the area.



Walt Fell in New Zealand



THE LAST BEST PLACE

Zane Mirfin, author, guide and outfitter of Strike Adventures refers to the South Island of New Zealand as such a place. Hearing many stories and rumors about New Zealand's fabulous trout fishing I decided to find out for myself so in early February my adventure began. Some 30+ hours later flying from Hartford to L.A. then Auckland and finally to Nelson I arrived. A short transfer and my group of anglers were at Motueka Fishing Lodge. We fished here for two days and on day one I hooked and lost at the net what my guide said was about a six pound Brown. That was all for the Motueka River so it was then off to the Owen River Fishing Lodge for four more days of fishing.

New Zealand fishing is mostly by sight fishing and Paul, my guide had a natural ability in doing this. The most frequent question he asked was "Do you see the fish right next to that rock", my answer was usually what rock or not really, but I cast there anyway. Results were astonishing. The first day produced my largest Brown Trout at 7lbs. Changing weather conditions made fishing difficult as the fronts usually put the fish down. So the next few days produced only a few fish between 1 and 3 pounds. But on the last day and with another front coming Paul suggested we fish the Owen River starting from the lodge. Paul spotted another fish and this time I even saw it so a cast with a dry Adams parachute resulted in my second largest trout of my life. This fish was in such skinny water it barely covered it's back. This one weighed in at 7.5lbs. A great way to end my stay at this lodge.

The next morning it was off to the Riverview Fishing Lodge in Hanmer Springs for the last five days of my adventure. Again weather fronts continued to hamper the fishing and we all experienced some not so great fishing. I did manage to catch fish from 10" to about 4lbs. each day.

My overall experience in New Zealand was enlightening. Fishing was more difficult than I expected but the rewards can be fabulous with double digit fish very possible. A good guide is a definite advantage not only to spot fish but to know what river to go to and how to fish it. A good six weight outfit will work but be prepared to cast leaders between 12 and 18 feet. This truly is a remarkable place. Someday I hope to return.

Until then, tight lines, Walt Fell

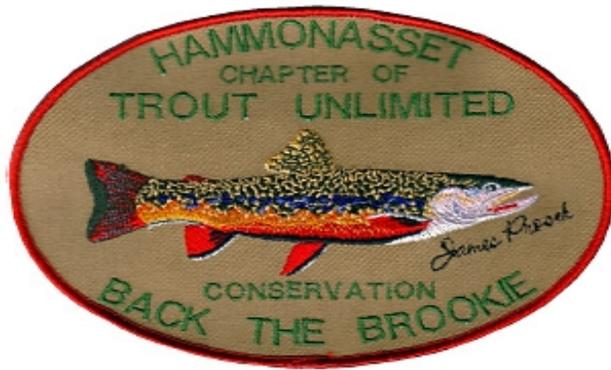


My 7.5 lb Owen River Brown trout

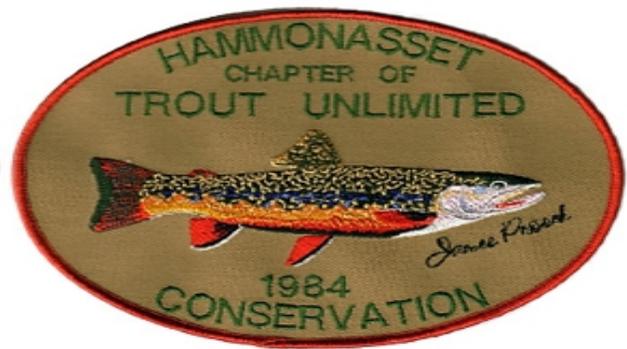


another nice 3lb brown caught in a small spring creek in the Hanmer springs area

The Back the Brookie Patch



The Chapter Patch



Chapter patches are still available: \$20 each. Proceeds go toward our conservation and Youth Education project. Choose either the Back the Brookie or the Conservation since 1984 patch.

Hammonasset Chapter of Trout Unlimited

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 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.

Monthly Meetings

Third Thursday of each Month
September Through May
The Wallingford Rod and Gun Club
411 North Branford Road
Wallingford CT 06492



This Month's Program

**Mike Humphries from
DEP and will cover wild
trout and fingerlings.**

