

October 2010



THE HAMMONASSET CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED

THE RISE

FROM THE BANK OF THE STREAM

President's Message



This Month's Presenter is Ben Bilello.

The scheduled program for October has been changed. Our presenter will be Ben Bilello and his program is titled Traditional Salmon Angling Techniques for Broodstock Atlantic Salmon.

Ben has fishing for Atlantic Salmon for several years and is an excellent Classic Salmon Fly tyer. Ben will provide all the pertinent info on everything from tackle, techniques, reading water, fly recipes. His favorite handmade flies may even be in the raffle. So don't miss this meeting.

This long dry period has been very bad for trout populations. Many of the Trout management Areas will not be stocked this fall unless we get enough rain to sustain the fish through the winter. Thankfully water levels on the Farmington River and Housatonic Rivers have improved and they have both been stocked to replenish the trout. The Naugatuck river will soon be stocked with Broodstock Atlantic Salmon and a group trip is being discussed.

I want to thank all the volunteers who supported the chapters fall activities. The past few weeks have been very busy for the Hammonasset Chapter (HCTU). Bruce Tubby organized the Trout in the Classroom (TIC) exhibit at the Durham Fair's Discovery Center. Many members spent time and demonstrated tying and over nearly 200 kids tied their own woolly buggers. Paul Gray organized our 8th Annual Youth Education Day at Chatfield Hollow. About 36 kids went through the program, many of the kids came from the Trout in the classroom program.

Our final scheduled fall activity will be a cleanup on the Farm River on Saturday October 23. The proposed fish ladder project is on hold for now, but time spent during the cleanup can be counted towards our matching contribution and means less money we need to raise in the future. This is a great way for members to get to see first hand one of the best wild brown trout streams in our area. Everyone is welcome and your help will be appreciated. If you cant help maybe you could just come and fish. I hope to see you there.

Kevin Fuller
President, HCTU

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Ed Albrecht
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Youth Education: Paul Gray
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**Fish Passage
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Raffle: Bill Glueck

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 21 Thursday, 6:30 PM
Chapter Meeting Wallingford Rod and Gun Club
Ben Bilello, Broodstock Atlantic Salmon Fishing

October 23 Saturday, 8:30 AM
Farm River Cleanup
**Meet behind North Branford Public Works Building on
290 Forest road Northford (Route 22)**

November 18 Thursday, 6:30 PM
Chapter Meeting Wallingford Rod and Gun Club
Jack Smola, Fly Selection and Presentation

December - No Meeting

January Thursday, 6:30 PM
Chapter Meeting Wallingford Rod and Gun Club
Jim Plante, Nymphing Techniques

February Thursday, 6:30 PM
Chapter Meeting Wallingford Rod and Gun Club
Walt Fell, Labrador Trip and Big Brook Trout

March Thursday, 6:30 PM
Chapter Meeting Wallingford Rod and Gun Club
Jim Plante, Nymphing Techniques

April Thursday, 6:30 PM
Chapter Meeting Wallingford Rod and Gun Club
To Be Determined

May 19 Thursday, 6:00 PM
Chapter Meeting Wallingford Rod and Gun Club
Special Kids Meeting, Fun Activities, Bring a Kid.
Casting instruction and more.

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Meeting Highlights



October Meeting

Our scheduled program for October has been postponed because our presenter Frank is recovering from back surgery. Frank's program Atlantic Salmon Angling in Nova Scotia will be **rescheduled** for another time.

Instead we are lucky enough to have a more locally seasonal program that features a slideshow from **Ben Bilello** and will be **Tradition Atlantic Salmon Techniques for Broodstock Atlantic Salmon** in local rivers like the Naugatuck and Shetucket. A group trip to one of these fisheries will be discussed at Thursdays meeting.



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November Meeting

Our November meeting will feature **Jack Smola**. Jack is one of the funniest guides you could ever fish with and his program on **Fly Selection and Presentation** is sure teach you something.

Farm River Clean-up

On October 23 We will meet at the river behind the North Branford Public works building on Forest road (Route 22). Then form groups to cleanup the Farm River are cleaning the Farm River as part of our fish passage project on the same river. 8:30A.M.- 11:30 We **need volunteers**. Bring your waders and gloves. We'll provide Plastic bags, water and coffee.



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Good Advice



Remember to Pinch Down your Barbs

Now I have been tying since 1986 and learned from my mentors to always pinch the barb down and I do. This was one time it was not down all the way as I have stuck myself many times. With a nice brown wiggling and jumping the second fly my secret caddis worm with UV dubbing got buried in my finger. The pictures tell the story as I could not get it out. Now I know there is a very nice clinic in Winsted that is very happy to take care of fishermen in distress. So the morrow of this story is pinch your barbs down and make sure they are down.

John Springer



John Springers secret to caddis worm hooked to to his finger. . . Ouch !

Stream Flow Regulations Final Push

Each year, we spend countless hours fishing throughout Connecticut and enjoying the scenery and wildlife in and around our rivers. The health of these rivers plays an important role in the quality of life for our state's residents.

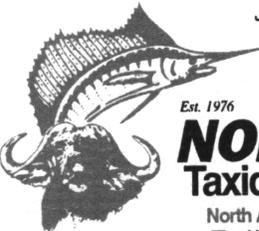
We have fought a long, hard battle for streamflow regulations to protect our local rivers by ensuring adequate flows year-round. The proposed regulations make significant strides in improving the health and future of our states rivers.

Now it is time for a final grassroots push to clear the last large hurdle, the Regulations Review Committee, which will meet **Tuesday, October 26** for its first vote on the proposed regulations. We need to let the Committee members know just how important the health of our local river ecosystems is to each of us.

The Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection has spent five years working with the various stakeholders interested in these regulations to craft a proposed set of regulations and guidelines which ensure enough water for our communities, our environment and our economy.

To support the revised Streamflow Regulations recommended by the DEP. Please send a letter to your state representatives, urging the Regulation Review Committee to pass the Streamflow Regulations as recommended by the DEP. Because healthy streams cannot survive without sufficient flow and if allowed to dry up for just a short time could takes years to recover.

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An Adventure Worth Sharing



Delaware River Trip 2010



Hugh McCutchens Big Brown Trout

This year's trip was attended by 10 members: Jim Woodward, Kevin Fuller, Rich Huntley, Bruce Tubby, George Merriam, Peter Augustak, Peter's neighbor and his neighbor's son, Hugh McCutchen and I, Bill Glueck.

We arrived Monday May 17th morning in Hancock N.Y, and went to at the Circle E restaurant for our usual "Fly fisherman's special. After breakfast we proceeded to the club. After unpacking, Hugh and I went shopping for last minute things and some local knowledge; fishing would be good, the air was in the 80's and the river ran clear in the 60's pulling half of the flow from the top of the dam up river and the other half from the cold bottom; flow was near 700cfs. At the end of the day fishing that evening, everyone compared notes and found there were no hatches on either the Beaverkill River or the West branch of the Delaware River. A few rainbows were caught. It is nice to see the rainbows return after 4 years absence since the two great floods had swept them from here. We all thought that the weather was too hot.

On Tuesday we arose to overcast skies with a steady rain that lasted most of the day. Everyone fished hard and no one complained. In the morning I caught a lovely rainbow in the upper pool and showed it to Rick and Peter's friend; to show them just what a West Branch wild rainbow looked like. Peter also

caught the brown trout of a lifetime. That evening over a glass of Ed Albert's wine, (Thank you Ed) Peter was being difficult and needed to be water boarded to report the location of a great sulfur hatch; it was on the Beaverkill River and came off just before dark. An Independent report said that it was about a foot long, but Peter said it was every bit of 20 inches; so we all drank to Peter's great fish. Everyone had high hopes for Wednesday because we had all encountered rising fish and hatching insects. One more note Kevin could not find "Kevin's Rock" but he did catch a lovely brown.

On Wednesday we arose to overcast skies, clear water adequate flows and plenty of rising fish. Bruce, George and Rich went north to their secret spot and again encountered rising fish. Jim and Kevin fished the upper Home Pool to rising fish. Hugh and I (Bill) fished the lower Home Pool to rising fish. Around 3:30 Jim and Kevin decided to leave hundreds of rising fish to check out the Beaverkill River and see the sulfur hatch. If you see Jim or Kevin, remind them of the old saying: "A rising fish in front of you is worth 100 fish hiding from you in the next river." That evening the Sulfur hatch never happened. They waited patiently until dark, then Peter saw one rise and got his fish on the first cast. That evening everyone talked of rising fish. As a bonus, everyone caught fish. Rich Huntley loved the river and that night dreamed of rainbows as long as his arm.

Thursday was a sad day as we all had to leave this heavenly spot for home. George stayed and reported that a Great Rainbow rose and devoured his fly then because he was fishing 6-x tippet; which is a no-no on the Delaware, the fish broke him off and took his favorite fly. Of special note this year Bill Glueck did not fall in the river this year but reports are that no one saw him fishing. Also Kevin finally found "Kevin's Rock" again and next time he won't lose it because he marked the trail back there with bread crumbs. Everyone including Bill caught fish, and we can't wait to get back next year.

Bill Glueck



TU Announcements



TU Angling Gear Tag Sale

The Farmington Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited will be hosting an Angling Gear Tag Sale on Wednesday evening, November 3rd, 2010 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Farmington Community and Senior Center located at 321 New Britain Avenue, Unionville. The Center is located approximately .8 miles downstream (southeast) of the Rt. 177 Bridge and adjacent to the river in the same complex as the Farmington Police Department.

This is an off-season event with many bargains and tag sale pricing. Individuals with excess items including fresh and saltwater fly and spinning rods, lures, flies, fly tying supplies and equipment, books, videos, clothing and other related gear are welcome as exhibitors. It's a great time to clean out your closet, and FVTU will be happy to accept donations. There is no charge for buyers or exhibitors, but each seller is responsible for his/her own items. Potential exhibitors should contact Bill Case at **(860) 678-7245** to reserve table space on a first come, first served basis. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. for exhibitors and 6 p.m. sharp for buyers.

Because of rush hour traffic in Unionville, we recommend avoiding the Rt. 177 bridge area and Rt. 4 if possible. Alternatives include coming in via Rt. 10 to Meadow Road, driving through the meadows and taking a right onto New Britain Ave. For those coming in via I-84 westbound, take Exit 38 to Rt. 6 (which becomes Scott Swamp Rd.) to the now closed Parson's Chevrolet complex, turn north onto New Britain Avenue and drive 3.5 miles to the Center. Those coming from the south or via I-84 eastbound, take Exit 37 and drive north to Rt. 6, then turn left and head west to the closed auto dealership as above.

James Prosek Print Membership Raffle

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

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**HAMMONASSET
CHAPTER OF
TROUT UNLIMITED**



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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 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.

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

Ben Bilello

Traditional Techniques

For Broodstock

Atlantic Salmon