

September 2012



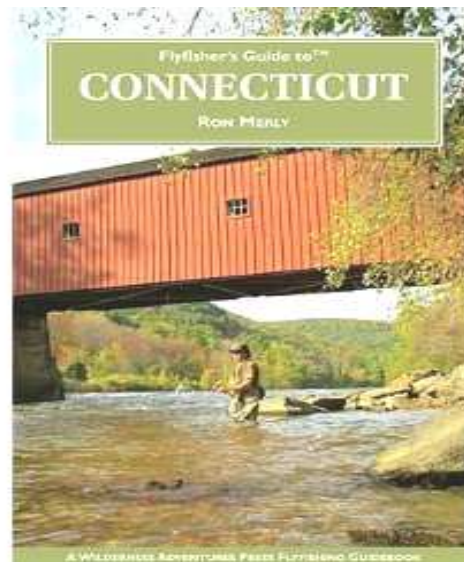
THE HAMMONASSET CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED

THE RISE

From the Bank of the Stream

Whats New At HCTU?

The Hammonasset Chapter's **Annual meeting** is September 20. All members are invited to vote on a new slate of officers and directors for 2012 and 2013. **See page 5.** Doors at the Wallingford Rod and Gun Club open at 6:30. The meeting begins at 7:00 sharp and our program will begin after our chapter announcements, election and raffle.



HCTU is very lucky to have the **hottest fishing presentation in Connecticut** at our meeting on Sept 20. This month's program will be presented by author Ron Merly. Ron will be speaking about the many fly-fishing opportunities that we have right here in Connecticut. Ron is an avid fisherman and Nutmeg Chapter president who has personally visited nearly 300 streams that are contained in his new book **Flyfishers Guide to Connecticut**.

This fall HCTU will be participating in a trout in the classroom exhibit at the **Durham Fair** September 27-30 and another at the **Hammonasset Jamboree** at Meigs point. A signup sheet will be available at our September 20 monthly meeting. **See page 4 for details.**

Our **October 18 meeting** program will feature a presentation from Frank Plona of the Farmington Valley chapter on **How to Catch large holdover "Survivor" brown trout** on the Farmington River in the fall.

Jesse Gardziel from Guilford attended the first-ever TU National Youth Summit. **Jesse's story is on page 5.**

A summary of this summers **Northeast Regional TU Meeting** is on page 6.

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

President: Vacant

Vice President: Kevin Fuller
860-632-2171 kevinfuller27@comcast.net

Treasurer Hugh McCutchen
Mccutchen.hugh@gmail.com

Secretary: Jim Woodworth
jwoodworth@snet.net

Newsletter: Richard Carter
203-457-0685 arthurcarter2006@comcast.net

Membership: Ed Albrecht

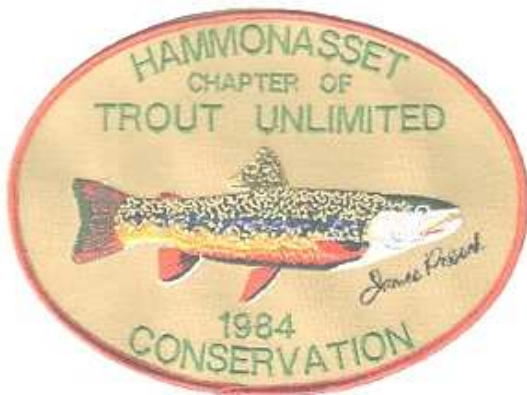
Youth Education: Ron Graziani
Paul Gray (860)349-2109

**Fish Passage
Project Manager:** Ted Gardziel

Raffle: Bill Glueck

CT Council Members: Ed Albrecht
Kevin Fuller

The Chapter Patch



We still have some chapter patches and James Prosek prints available at the meetings, or contact Hugh at email above.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept. 20th 6:30pm - Chapter Meeting
Wallingford Rod and Gun Club. - **Ron Merly**
Flyfishers Guide Connecticut

Sept. 27-30th Durham Fair 2012: TIC (trout in the classroom and fly tying exhibit) in the Discovery tent. We hope to have more tiers to help man the booth this year. It is a great chance to share your talent, so keep the fair in mind and join us this year.

Oct. 6-7th Hammonasset Jamboree
Meigs point meadow, Hammonasset State Park .
Park at the Nature center parking lot. **TIC** booth. Free event, free parking and admission entrance to the park.

Oct.18th 6:30pm - Chapter Meeting
Wallingford Rod and Gun Club. - **Frank Plona**
How to catch Large "Survivor" Brown Trout in fall

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May Highlights:

If you missed our May events,
you missed *Something. . . .*



Youth Education Day



Volunteers preparing for the 2012 Youth Education Day

Last spring we moved our Youth Education event date to May 12th to coincide with DEEP's (Department of Energy and Environmental Protection) free fishing day at Chatfield Hollow Park in Killingworth. Catching fish in May was much easier than in October. Many volunteers were in attendance and quite a few trout were caught by the public. The format was altered without registration for everyone at the park, HCTU loaned out CARE rods to several families, but overall participation was down. We will resume the more successful pre-registration only format next spring. If you want to bring a kid to our next Youth Education Day next spring event to learn fly casting, fly tying and entomology please contact Paul Gray. (860)349-2109

New Chapter Bylaws

Our by-laws were updated and voted on and passed at the May meeting. Our new regulations agree with the new TU National non profit mandates and policies.

Electronic Recycling

Thanks to everyone who donated their used equipment to our electronic recycling fundraiser last May. We filled two tractor trailers with thousands of pounds of electronics and raised about \$500 with very little effort. No further recycling dates are planned.

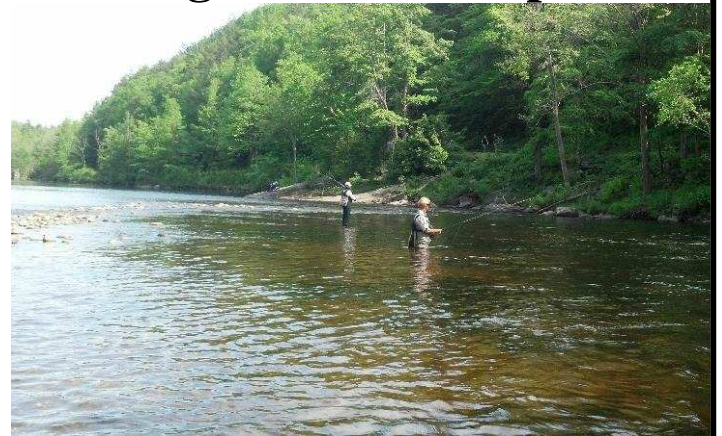
Girl Scout: 100 year Jubilee

HCTU members participated in a casting event held at the Durham fair grounds May 19th.

Our attraction was a hand's on casting gallery: six closed face spinning rod/reel set ups on the lawn with plastic fish as the targets. Casting was a hit with over 500 girl scouts enjoying the activity and prizes. The event was also supported by CARE Connecticut Aquatic Resources Education fish identification displays. We also had fly tying, hand tied feather earrings and our Trout in the classroom exhibit.

This event was important to introduce to encourage more women to participate in Trout Unlimited activities.

Girl's Night Out on the Farmington River - Sept 14th



Sept14th 5:30 pm - Let's go fishing, girls! Meet at Upcounty Sportfishing parking lot at 5:30 pm. An evening of fishing will be followed by dinner at Michel Angelo's in New Hartford. Contact [Alecea Charamut](mailto:Alecea_Charamut@hotmail.com) if you plan to attend. Alecea_ski@hotmail.com

Girl's Day Out on the Saugatuck River - October 20

Alecea Charamut of the Farmington Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited is organizing some girls only outings, its open to any ladies interested as a way to introduce more women to TU activities. – contact Alecea_ski@hotmail.com



Upcoming Fall Activities



Trout in the Classroom Exhibit At Durham Fair Friday Saturday and Sunday September 27, 28, 29, 30

Our Chapter exhibit will be located centrally in the Discovery Tent on the fairgrounds all three days of the fair. The trout in the classroom TIC program is now active in more than 70 schools in the state and growing. The chapter needs volunteers to staff the beginner Fly Tying exhibit at the Discovery Center at the Durham Fair September 27 through Sept 30. This is very popular event, now in its sixth year, this is in conjunction with our Trout in the Classroom exhibit at the Fair. We want to have two staff instructors for each of the 14 shifts during the four day event.

Since we typically tie basic Woolly Buggers or Mickey Finns with young kids, you don't have to be an expert tier to participate. Instruction sheets and all materials and tools are provided. Reimbursement of entrance and parking fees is available from HCTU if necessary. If you are willing to help out, [please contact Bruce Tubby by email \(btubby@snet.net\)](mailto:btubby@snet.net) or phone [\(203\) 349 8405](tel:2033498405) for further information and shift assignments.

Hammonasset Jamboree

Music. Native Skills. Nature

October 6th and 7th HCTU will be manning a Trout in the Classroom exhibit / kids casting activity. Free admission to park, food vendors will be there. We are seeking volunteers - If you can help, [Contact Kevin at 860-632-2171 or kevinfuller27@comcast.net](mailto:KevinFuller27@comcast.net)

October Meeting

Our October meeting program will feature a presentation from Frank Plona of the Farmington Valley Chapter on **How to Catch Large Holdover "Survivor" brown trout** on the Farmington River and other places in the fall. Don't miss it.



Walt Sanford & Jim Woodworth at HCTU Durham fair Exhibit

Chapter Fishing trips

The chapter will be scheduling fishing trips each month on the Saturday before each meeting. Time and place will be announced in the newsletter or the meeting preceding the trip. If you would like suggest a trip or would like to join us. Please contact Aidan Morgan at Sadmorgan@yahoo.com

Chapter Request for Email Addresses

Our chapter mails out the printed newsletter once a year. The rest of the year we send out the newsletter by email to the members that we have a valid email address for. We only have valid emails addresses for one third of our members. Please help us save postage by providing your email address so we can keep you informed of all the things going on at HCTU. We will only send our chapter new announcements if you request to be contacted. If you want a newsletter each month sent to your email [Please send your address to Mccutchen.hugh@gmail.com](mailto:Mccutchen.hugh@gmail.com) Otherwise our meeting announcements, calendar of events and activities can be found at our new website that should be available in October. The future website for the Hammonasset Chapter will be at HCTU.org Check it out later this fall.



Elections / Directions and TU Teen Summit



HCTU Officer Elections

The September 20 2012 meeting will include the election of officers. The directors have nominated a slate of willing candidates. Anyone else interested in a position or committee will be able to attend this month's meeting to run for an office.

Officers:

President: Jim Woodworth
Vice President: Rich Carter
Treasurer: Kevin Fuller
Secretary: Hugh McCutchen

Directors:

Trout in the classroom: Ed Albrecht
Publicity: Bruce Tubby
Youth Education: Ron Graziani
Youth Education: Paul Gray
Fish Passage Project: Ted Gardziel
Raffle: Bill Glueck
Website/Grant Writing: Rick Huntley

Committees:

Welcoming Committee: Wayne Gustafson
Youth Membership: Jesse Gardziel
Fishing Trip/Programs Aidan Morgan

Directions to our meetings

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 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 thru 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.

TU Teen Summit

On the weekend of August 16 – 19, thirteen teenagers and I met up for the first time at the Stackhouse in Bellefonte, PA on the banks of Spring Creek for the Trout Unlimited Teen Summit. Together we are the first members of the Trout Unlimited Youth Leadership Council. Separately we each came representing different states with unique experiences with Trout Unlimited. During a span of four days we held daily meetings where we discussed what we called the stream of engagement. The overall idea of the stream of engagement is to keep youth engaged through a variety of programs such as TIC and TU Camps. We figured the best way to keep youth engaged is use technology to our advantage.

We have already built a Facebook page for teen members and a twitter feed. It is not only a way for the members to stay in touch but to also keep up with their local TU Chapters. For example, as teenagers we all need community service hours for college. We are hoping they will find opportunities for volunteering with conservation/restoration projects at their local chapter. The youth leadership council is also working with Franklin Tate and Rochelle Gandour preparing a special presentation for the TU National meeting in Asheville, NC.



You can see our video wrap-up of the TU Teen Summit <http://blip.tv/chrisjohnstonttc/tu-teen-summit-6326337>

Jesse Gardziel HCTU Teen Member (2nd row center)



Northeast Regional TU Meeting



I attended the Northeast Regional TU meeting in Springfield in July. It was a great event and a powerful reminder of all we're accomplishing together at Trout Unlimited. I got to have lunch with TU CEO Chris Wood and listened to how much he believes just a few dedicated passionate people can make a difference and inspire others to believe they can make a difference too.

When Jeff Yates our CT NLC representative was asked to give examples of successes in Connecticut Jeff mentioned two things. (1) That our State was the first in the country to pass minimum stream flow regulations. (2) That five HCTU members introduced over 500 girl scouts to fishing and Trout Unlimited with a casting event at the Girl Scouts 100 year jubilee in Durham last May.

Some of the things that I discovered about Trout Unlimited at the conference were that over the last 10 years Trout Unlimited has grown from an 8 million dollar to a 38 million dollar per year non profit organization. TU has also grown from 30 paid staff to 175 staff across the country. But membership has still hovered at the 140,000 to 150,000 range.

There are several paid staff right here in the Northeast. Five years ago Kirt Mayland, TU's first Eastern Water Project Director, helped to form the stream flow bill that was passed in CT recently. We have a new paid staff person here in Connecticut overseeing the Salmonkill Creek restoration (an important tributary to the Housatonic River). TU has paid staff in Maine working on native brook trout ponds and dam removal to restore Atlantic salmon runs. There are two paid staff working on Connecticut River tributary restoration in New Hampshire. There are paid staff in New York State, monitoring water quality in areas affected by shale fracking for natural gas. New York city also has TU staff to support the Trout in the Classroom projects and there is paid staff in New Jersey working on Musconetcong River home rivers restoration.

Membership building is also a priority. I learned that 95% of TU members fish, 90% fly fish or want to, 65% also spin fish but 70% of members fish 10 times per year or less. TU described our members as passionate anglers that want to give back and be a part of an organization that makes a difference. TU is looking for ways to connect to more anglers and increase membership. Many members join TU just donate to a good cause and not to volunteer, and that's fine too.

The conference also covered last falls flood damage that gave several towns and land owners in New York, Massachusetts and Vermont emergency permission to clean up debris but channelization went way overboard and totally destroyed rivers beyond repair, and needlessly destroyed additional miles of trout habitat by creating channels and berms and removing all structure and natural flood plains. TU is calling for mandatory training guidelines for operators on what not to do in rivers after storm events like we had last fall.

I learned a few things through the workshops and networking and I will be bringing back their ideas and enthusiasm to our chapter. Topics included best practices for chapters, fundraising, building partnerships, the Pebble Mine on Bristol Bay in Alaska, TU's new Veterans Service program, and some website tools to help chapters.

Oh yeah, there was also a barbeque planned on the river and a fishing trip on the Swift River.

It was a great experience. What a great organization we have that is making a difference and it was also nice to share those experiences with others and put faces to people in TU national.

Kevin Fuller HCTU