



Basil W. Woods, Jr. Chapter
Trout Unlimited

Troutlines

www.concordtu.org

JANUARY 2016

Chapter Meeting
Basil W. Woods Jr.
Next Chapter Meeting
January 21, 2016

Jack Noon
Atlantic Salmon
restoration effort on
the upper Pemi in the
late 1800's



Programs on the
2015-2016 Agenda

- Jessie and Rich Tichko - Trout Fishing in New Zealand
- Warner river Progress and Beyond

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Fly Tying Classes Combine



Looks like the good weather has got folks outside and not tying flies so the Basil Wood TU Fly Tying classes are being combined. Beginner and intermediate classes will be held simultaneously Tuesday evenings at the Passaconaway Club on Garvins Fall Rd. Concord beginning, February 16, 2016 through March 15, 2016.

This new format will feature small group, individual, hands on instruction from some of Basil Woods Jr. most experienced tiers. All materials are provided. We are continuing to accept entrants for the Intermediate class. Please Send registration and payment of \$75 to: Basil W. Woods Chapter TU

PO Box 330

Concord NH 03302 – 3302

Questions? e-mail us at: concordtu@yahoo.com

January 2016 Chapter Meeting Author, Historian, NHF&G Chronicler

Jack Noon

Atlantic Salmon Restoration in Victorian New Hampshire

We are fortunate to have Jack Noon joining us as our guest presenter for the January meeting at the Forest Society. Jack is a well known author revered for his knowledge of New Hampshire fisheries and work to collect and preserve the history of fishing and natural history in New Hampshire over the past 400 years. Mr. Noon will present a preview of his current work on a book chronicling the efforts to restore Atlantic Salmon to the Pemigewasset River during the 1870 and 1880's. This was one of the initiatives taken by the Commissioners of Fisheries (precursors of today's Fish and Game Commissioners) as they began to recognize the economic importance of sport fishing under the leadership of Commissioner, Elliot Hodge.

Jack is the author of *Fishing in New Hampshire - A History*, *The Big Fish of Barston Falls*, *Up Mooselauke*, *The Bassing of New Hampshire*, and more. He will have some of his books available at our meeting.

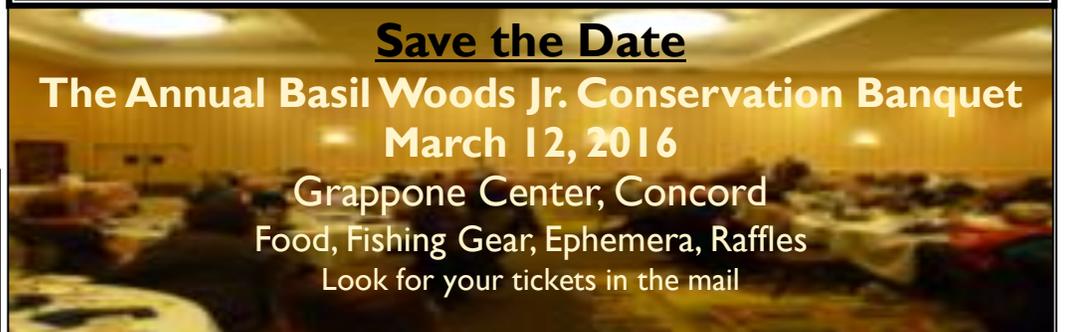
Save the Date

The Annual Basil Woods Jr. Conservation Banquet March 12, 2016

Grappone Center, Concord

Food, Fishing Gear, Ephemera, Raffles

Look for your tickets in the mail



Presidential Commentary — Alex Hicks

Hi Folks,

Well, the warmer weather has finally packed up and headed out for the season – more so in the North than hereabouts, but at least it's beginning to

feel a little like winter. While it's a little harder to move about outside, word is that there are still plenty of opportunities to be had for a little casting before the water hardens up. As someone who likes to visit the lakes this time of year, I might have to try my hand at a little of that cold-weather casting 'till the lakes harden up. A recent email from Fish and Game had a few locations and reminder about where we could get out and about. The article can be found with this link, if you'd like to take a peek: <http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/newsroom/news.html?news=277> If you haven't renewed your license(s) yet, remember to do so before you head out.

The warmer weather has changed the schedules of many Trout in the Classroom schools, too. Mother Nature has a way of influencing the best laid plans. This year, many schools had anticipated picking up the eggs for their classrooms toward the end of January. The warmer water allowed the eggs to develop a bit faster than planned and as such the classrooms will be getting the eggs sooner than anticipated. No peril, just a change of plans. There may be more detail about the Trout in the Classroom program in this newsletter – if not, we'll have it here soon (with baby pictures!).

As you know, there wasn't Chapter meeting in December. November's meeting was great – Jim Timmins and George Cummings shared their adventures and insight on fishing for Salmon in Canada. This month's meeting will feature Jack Noon with a presentation on the Atlantic Salmon restoration effort on the upper Pemi in the late 1800's. If you haven't made a meeting yet, this would be a great one to attend. Aside from a great presentation, we always seem to have some things to raffle off and at least a little while to socialize and trade stories. It's also a great opportunity to catch the ear of one of the Board members. If you have a concern or project that

you think we should be aware of, we'd love to hear about it. Please remember that this is *your* chapter, your input (along with our mission) help to guide us in what we do. There are only a few regular meeting left before we get to spring activities (hard to believe, isn't it!). We'll soon be making plans for the banquet, cook-out, and summer conservation projects.

Speaking of making plans, have you thought about signing up for this years combined Fly-Tying classes? It is going to be a great opportunity to get hands on individual instruction. I know that there are still seats available for the intermediate classes. They're a great opportunity to re-fill your fly boxes and meet some great folks. Space is limited to ensure that you'll have the best instructional opportunity possible. If you're interested in the classes, be sure to let us know.

As always, we'd love to hear what you think – your guidance, support, and concerns help us to help the chapter meet its mission. Please reach out to us by email, Facebook, or regular mail. We're doing our best on your behalf, but input from chapter members helps us make sure that the chapter is working in the right direction. Our PO Box works well, but make take more time to have your concerns addressed than if you email them. If you're a Facebook user, that's a great way to keep up to date on what's going on between meetings (you should try and make a meeting :-)) and newsletters. Either way, love to hear from you!

Tight Lines~
~Alex





Basil Woods Jr
Concord New Hampshire



Remember, you can now find us on Facebook. Facebook users can use the Facebook search tool for “Concord TU” or “Trout Unlimited, Concord NH.” We will use Facebook as another method to share information about what is happening regarding chapter and important cold water conservation activities - maybe even a few fish stories, too! Not a Facebook user but still want to check out the page? Here’s the direct link: <https://www.facebook.com/ConcordTU>. Questions? Ask Alex Hicks, our Webmaster – ConcordTU@yahoo.com

Editors Soapbox

Tim Pease

Hot Stove Fishing & Conserving



There are only a few places to wet a line this time of year and organized field work is usually curtailed by a bad case of the chills. Metabolism, the slow kind, puts the fish off their feed and folks next to the woodstove. This lovely spot on Nash Stream will likely go unvisited by fishermen and conservationist alike till springtime.

That doesn’t mean you can’t do anything. If you really need to fish, wade gently into the Newfound in

Bristol, the Pemi in Franklin and right now the Merymeeting in Alton (not sure the fish are still there but.....) As recently as mid December I heard of folks taking trout out of the Cocheco in Dover and the Lamprey is supposed to have a few trout about too. Just check periodically to make sure your feet and ankles still meet and enjoy. Looks like we are in for a relatively mild winter so you might get in more of this than normal.

While you are outside scouting you might take it upon yourself to do a little personal conservation work. With the streams sharply outlined on the snow it is sometimes possible to see conservation projects that would go unnoticed when the steams and woodlands are in full flower and leaf. Help us find those unnoticed pipes draining all sorts of stuff into our streams and be on the look out for bad culverts or blockages that prevent access to spawning grounds and cool water in summer. You might even find a spot and situation where a landowner would conserve the waterway and adjacent land for future generations; good and important things to do as you are out and about.

Then there is the inside stuff. tying flies , fixing tackle, haunting websites and dog-eared catalogs . It can take a few cold weather weeks just to inventory your stuff so you know what you need to get. For fly fisherman that usually means January since the big show in Marlboro Massachusetts is upon you early

Parson Ponders

Parson Weems, north woods guide savant, periodically leaves his cabin and campfire to offer a few words and insights that can only come from a dark sky view of Orion's Belt on a clear north country night

This last storm here got me cabin bound for the first time this season so I took the time to straighten up a bit; to beat back the piles and dust kitties that had started to gather. It is usually a tiresome job but this time I found a book that a sport left for me a couple of years back. Never got around to readin it before so I took the excuse from cleanin to dive in and see what he was all ravin about. Book was written by Ernie Schwiebert. I heard of him but I never saw any of his stories before only stuff about flies, Well the book turned out to be both sort of.

The Book "Remembrances of Rivers Past" is a collection of stories by Mr. Schwiebert; all good, but my favorite is tucked in the middle of the book; it is called the Time of the Hendricksons. He spins a story of fly tyin and fishin in the legendary Beaverkill River during the Hendrickson hatch.

I won't tell you the story as he does it much better than me. It got me to thinkin about all the flies I make to catch fish when them bugs are around. I make a bunch; and, my sports always seem to have a few I don't too.

My favorite is the original made by some guy in New York named Steenrod. It's a floater and its got a wood duck wing and a urine stained fox fur body (I don't care if the fox peed or not I use light pink stuff) and dun hackle for the tail and legs. This is sposed to be the lady Hendrickson and you use a fly called the Red Quill for the guy. It's a size smaller #14, but it is made the same way only you use a brown hackle quill in stead of the pink stuff for the body. These are great. but those flies can spin up your leader and if the fish are finicky they don't work so good.

So then, there is this one called a Compara Dun that has no hackle, use the pink body stuff or brown dubbin, upright deer hair for a wing and divided hackle for the tail. Works good in soft water but won't floats so good in heavy current. Sport showed me a different one that is a better floater and still takes the picky trout. It was first make by a fella named Rene Harrop and he ties lots of different mayflies this way. Its got the pink or brownish body and split tail but the blue dun hackle is wound on and trimmed off at the bottom . then an elk hair wing is put on just like it was an elk hair caddis. It works great.

A whole bunch of trout are caught under water when the Hendricksons are about. Try floating a pheasant tail soft hackle quarter and down and see what happens. The tug's a treat. Hendrickson and red quill wet flies, made just like you would expect, are real good too. Fish em the same way or even up-stream like a dry. Just don't put too much stuff on the hook; the sparser the better.

Don't do much nymphing myself but I rig up the sports with them as they sure do work. If you're in a pinch a standard hares ear nymph will do just fine but better if the hares ear is reddish brown and the wing case almost black. You can get by with bigger Pheasant tail nymph too just use the original one that's made only with pheasant tail.

There are some "hang down flies" that could be floaters or wet flies depends on how you dress em. Just put some pheasant tail on the back of curved hook then some pink stuff after that with a parachute hackle or if you don't like to parachute hackle just put some snowshoe hare's foot on for the wing and it will work just fine. I do both myself.

You get spinners too when the Hendrickson are around. Just before dusk (sometimes I've seen them in the morning too) the swallows and the waxwings start darting around and when you look up you see what seem like giant mayflies with curved tails and tiny colored egg sacks in back. I make a parachute fly with speckled dun hackle split tails with either green or yellow dubbing just in front of the tails for the egg sack. The body wants to be rusty brown . It is important to see the naturals when they first come out cuz this part of the spinner fall is some times real short. The trout rise is real splashy to these egg layers.

You are nigh on dark by now so stay sharp and tie on your rusty spinner before its too late to see. Yup, the trusty rusty spinner; split tail, rusty brown body and wings made out of hackle trimmed top and bottom, or hen hackles splayed on the water, or any glittery stuff like organza, krystal flash, or clear plastic. Trout go to sippin these guys.

Seems I better get tyin stead of cleanin. More fun anyway.

Parson Weems



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in the season. This year it is late; the 22nd through the 24th . The shows for the hardware guys are later in the winter so they have more time.

Catalogs have been mostly supplanted by internet websites displaying every need and half need for angler and outdoorsman alike. Few will ever match Hunter Angling; or the for, the really old, the Herters catalog. Bob Story's Feathercraft is a pretty good approximation of what we used to get but it is for me not eastern fishing enough. Of course Cabela's, Outdoor World, Orvis and LL Bean will carve out catalogs in the merchandizing campaigns for us fishermen but it seems like they are a loss leader for seasonal jackets and khakis sales.

Web sites abound so browse on. I recently found an outfit in Illinois that was in business for the same 50 or so years I have been fishing and tying and I had never run across them before. Great find! Check them out; its is Whitetail Fly Tying. Great inventory, so they still have some stuff that has been replaced in the broader marketplace . Be sure to look at the sites in Great Britain and the continent. They are unique with great ideas and products that you can put to good use hereabouts.. I am not a Czech nymphmer but if I were it is to the European sites that I would go. I have used a few sites and they all seem pretty safe but use your usual internet precautions.

Old time sporting magazines long a purveyor of hope from January to April had been generally in decline. The old general outdoor mags like Field and Stream Outdoor life and Sports Afield have morphed or been replaced. Today's offerings embrace the cyclers, paddlers, trekkers, ATVers that now share the great outdoors with the hunters and fishermen of old ; or, they are conceived to break apart the interests of fly, boat, bass, walleye, panfish, steelhead, and Atlantic salmon, fishermen (I am sure I missed a few) into niche interests and plunderable markets. When first they came out I loved them but after 4 years of stories elaborating the history of the Quill Gordon complete with its subsequent evolutions and myriad construction techniques I began to long for the old days when the stories were more romantic, less technical . The old mags could spoof themselves/ Ed Zern was particularly adept at evidencing the inbred foibles of hunters and fishermen. Lord knows the technical stuff has made me better astream but

has done little to carry my imagination through the shoveling months. Of course there is always Grey Sporting Journal to get you through but you need to imagine a winning lottery ticket or an inside broker to participate in much of its reverie.

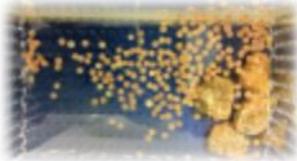
When you and your other are out for lunch to break up those winter doldrums; go find those bistros cut into the old mills along some now forgotten trout streams . Gaze from your stream view table and see the magical serpentine flows of waters gone by, inquire into their histories and imagine their futures. Some will surely be places revisited with rod and waders during the halcyon days of May. You will find these "through the looking glass" restaurants throughout the state and finding them will be part of the fun

Every two and four years we have the added theater of our local and national electoral process. It shortens the winter with its points and counterpoints never dull but sometimes not too civil either. Regardless of your spot on the political spectrum remember that the fate of our natural resources and likely our climate so long left in the hands of private enterprise now resides by default in the hands or our local and national governments. The choices we make at the polls will reflect on how our lands and streams will be used, or abused in the future. We will need to study or candidates and choose wisely. It will be hot stove time well spent.

Take the winter time to plan you fishing trips. At least half the fun of the trip is in the anticipation. So start early; talk to your outfitter, guide, or camp owner. It's a good time to figure out camp menus so that hotdogs and beans don't foul another camp. Find out the skinny on recommended tackle, gear, flies et al. You will need it for your winter shopping. We can revel in a winter that looks to be mild and home fuel prices low. That should mean a few bucks left over for those trips to Pittsburg or wherever.

Gotta go lug some firewood. Please don't forget to join us at our monthly meeting . We would like to see you, hear you, and help you help us preserve our New Hampshire trout waters. Our meeting are casual informative and you find a lot of fishing going on ; good cookies too. See you this month on the 23rd at the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, 54 Portsmouth Street, Concord at 7 PM.

Trout Unlimited Undertakes Broad Youth Initiative



Chilled Trout Eggs



New Hampshire Students



Rainbow Trout

This time of year in over 50 New tending hatchery eggs learning the spring release of the hatched eggs into with field work and field study. All for of the NHF&G Watershed Education er NH TU chapters donate and maintain unteer hours in education and field work to New Hampshire youth.

Hampshire class rooms students are trout life cycle and preparing for the the streams. Some will go on to help the Trout in the Classroom project part programs.. Basil Woods Jr. TU and oth- incubation equipment and provide vol- preaching the benefits of clean water

Basil Woods Jr supporting TIC as well as Youth Fishing day in Concord, and Youth Trout camp is proud to announce that board member Mike Petrun will take on responsibilities as Basil Woods Youth Education coordinator. In this capacity will act as a local leader of a larger TU endeavor know as the Headwaters Youth Education Initiative. Mike will work closely with chapter volunteers and community partners such as schools, youth organizations, summer camps, and colleges to promote, grow, and sustain a series of initiatives within Headwaters called generically Stream of Engagement. The Streams of Engagement will foster, encourage and support a new generation of conservationists

New Hampshire and Basil Woods Jr are doubly contributing to this new effort as Chapter Vice President and New Hampshire TU National Leadership Councilman March McCubry has been named Chair, NLC Youth Education Workgroup spearheading this effort nationwide.

Thank you March and Mike. We look forward to the fruits of your efforts.

Newsletter Information

Troutlines is published September through May. Chapter members who have given TU national their e-mail address will receive an e-mail notice from us through the TU national server that the latest newsletter is online at our chapter website. Paper copies are sent to members who don't have an e-mail address listed with TU national.

We periodically get returned emails announcing the newsletter is available on line. Almost always this happens because your e-mail address has changed. Please log onto the TU national website and update your email address so we can stay in touch. Only you can do it.

If you would prefer to receive paper copies of **Troutlines** rather than electronic copies, drop us a line to either our e-mail or mailing address. If you now receive a paper copy and would prefer to read it online, drop us a note and update your membership information with TU national.

**Basil Woods Jr. Chapter TU
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e-mail: concordtu@yahoo.com**

Calendar

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| January 21, 2016 | Chapter Meeting |
| February 18, 2016 | Chapter Meeting |
| March 12, 2016 | Conservation Banquet |
| April | Youth Fishing Day |

All chapter meetings at 7:00 PM, Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, 54 Portsmouth Street, Concord unless posted otherwise