



Basil W. Woods, Jr. Chapter Trout Unlimited

Troutlines

www.concordtu.org

May 2015

**Chapter Meeting
Basil W. Woods Jr.
Picnic
May 21. 5:30 PM
Passaconaway Club
Garvins Falls Rd, Concord No**

- * Burgers, Dogs, Beverages
- * Find out about local fishing
- * Talk up your spring catch
- * Learn about planned fishing trips
- * See your fishing and fly tying buddies
- * Maybe a little casting
- * Check out the summer conservation programs
- * Come early. Stay late
- * *Bring your favorite dish to share*
- * BYOB!

Following elections at the Basil W. Woods Jr. Chapter Meeting held April 17, 2015 the Officers and Board of Director are:

Officers

President:

Alex Hicks

Vice President

March McCubrey

Secretary:

Nancy May

Treasurer:

Brad Towle

Directors

Bill Hall

Sally Turcotte

Mike Petrun

Tim Pease

Bob Ives

Steven Lowe

Ken Welch

Charlie Stumb

George Embley

Inside this issue:

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Presidential Commentary | 2 |
| Editor's Soapbox | 3 |
| Parson Weems | 4 |

A Message from Chairman Tom Ives New Hampshire Trout Unlimited Council

Dear TU Members

Over the recent months there have been several developments in and around our state that will in one way or another impact our environment. Here are some of the major events and projects that the TU council as well as the local chapters need to be aware of and contribute to appropriately.

- * Ongoing funding for Fish and Game.
- * The Balsams Development and its effect on the Androscoggin River.
- * Northern Pass with the monies being given for habitat and stream restoration.
- * The Gas pipeline proposed in the south tier of your state.
- * Sand Oil pipeline terminating in Portland Me

The council attended a presentation by Director Nomandean. He talked at length about how Fish and Game was funded and the need for increased funding. At the end he asked us to send mail in support of three things that Fish and Game feels would stabilize their funding. One to receive state money from the general fund, two is to have Fish and Game have the ability to set license funds. and three to set a \$5.00 fee on boat registration. All three of these things will produce the \$3 million dollars needed to maintain level spending.

We at the council strongly support the current Fish and Game agenda

Youth Fishing Day Huge Success



Scores of kids with their moms and dads had a fine day on the water thanks to the Basil W. Woods Jr, annual Youth Fishing Day extravaganza. Finally spring looked like it had arrived. No frost greeted the set up crew and the coffee and doughnuts served as nourishment rather than warmth.

With the food tent in place and the grill ready to fire for great burgers the rods were readied and worms sun warmed to elicit some movement. All was ready for the 9 AM arrivals.

On they came throughout the day. It was a tad slow at first but the warming sun spurred the trout to action. No doubt the initial barrage launch of red and white bobbers could easily have been the other reason for a slow start.

Most fished with worms but some began their careers as fly fishermen; true, with a modicum of success but with a great deal of enthusiasm. Instruction in said art of fly casting was provided by a few grizzled chapter members with



Presidential Commentary — Alex Hicks

Hi Folks,

As spring finally starts to show up, I hope this message finds you well and warm.

In taking on the role of Chapter President, the first thing that needs to be done is recognize the great work that has been done by the folks that came before you. First up, we need to recognize George Embley. As president he helped our chapter grow in numbers, volunteered a tremendous amount of time toward conservation efforts, and kept us on task and meeting our mission. In short, he's done a wonderful job and is stepping down with the chapter in great shape as an organization.

We'll be missing a couple of other folks from the board meetings, too. George Cummings has been a great asset, helping to find and organizing the folks that share their insight with us at the monthly chapter meetings. He's also been a great help with outreach programs, like working with the fly tying classes and representing the chapter at Wild NH Day. We need to recognize Dan Stickney, too. Dan, after his run as president, has continued to organize fund-raising opportunities and a number of other duties. Both of these gentlemen have contributed greatly to the chapter and with any luck, won't be going too far (rumor has it that they'll still be helping us out with the tasks mentioned above!).

The rest of the crew remains unchanged, with the exception of two new board members. We're fortunate to have Sally Turcotte and Mike Petrun join us. They've both been active in chapter activities and we're looking to see what new ideas and insight they have to share.

While I certainly have a tough act to follow, I'm looking forward to helping the chapter to continue to grow and support the great programs and activities that we've been involved in. While this season's regular meetings are coming to an end, we have plenty of work ahead of us. We'll continue to support great conservation efforts, like stream surveys and help with culvert assessments. We'll continue education and out-reach programs, too – like fly tying courses, youth fishing day, supporting trout in the classroom, and participating in outdoor and sporting interest events.

I'd like to encourage you to come to the chapter picnic on May 21st. It's always a good time and provides a relaxed atmosphere where we can share some ideas on new opportunities for the chapter to grow and expand its efforts. As spring and summer progress, please keep us posted on your adventures. You can always share your fish stories or conservation ideas with us. Reach out to us by email (concordtu@yahoo.com) or on Facebook – or even through the postal service. We love to hear from you!

One final thought, have you considered attending this year's Northeast Regional TU meeting? The meeting(s) will take place between May 29th and May 30th in Providence, R.I. We'll have good representation there, but would love to see others there too. This is a great opportunity to discuss common conservation concerns and challenges, as well as meet and greet with some wonderful, like minded, folks. More details can be found here: <http://www.tu.org/get-involved/national-events/2015-northeast-regional-meeting>

~No worries,

~Alex

Pittsburg Anglers Association Ready to Go



This brand new LLC is dedicated to enhancing the fishing on the Upper Connecticut, improving angling opportunities through conservation, selective stocking, and regulatory advocacy. These guys look serious. Check them out and see at. <http://pittsburganglers.com/>



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

Our fishing season is made up of those sustaining visits to local streams and ponds, and those signature trips to hallowed places famous or not. We here in the northeast are in plentiful supply of both. I thought perhaps a brief fishing travelogue highlighting some “close at homes” and “further aways” might get me out of a more thoughtful piece this month so here it goes, “through the season”.

The Newfound River opens the new year with a few diehards. It soon dies out and most of February and March are reserved for the bob houses.

April opens with iced out on the big lake, like you don’t know which one that is. Eager fishermen on the docks at Alton and Wolfeboro are soon followed by intrepid trollers both enduring harsh north winds and companion white caps. Some years it is good others not so. Tributaries to the big lakes will find devotees too along with the trollers on Sunapee, Squam and Newfound

Opening day later in April marks the beginning for most folks. Think ponds like Stonehouse, Clough, Hot Hole, Mount Williams. Get your small boat and young sons and daughters and wrestle some fine trout into your craft. The Piscataqua in New Boston river is a great early season spot along with the Isinglass, the Lamprey and the Cocheeco. Forget not the Suncook and the Soucook too. Many of the small brooks and streams that wind through the woods and across many of our secondary roads harbor trout best caught in the early season before the leaves complicate your casting. No need to go far away in April unless course there are good early hatches on the Beaverkill call first but be sure to check it out if classic waters is your bag..

May is the grand daddy of the fishing season. Afternoon hatches in the warmth of the day-nothing

like it. You cannot go wrong almost anywhere but should you travel be sure to consider the Farmington river in Ct and the Catskill streams like the Beaverkill, Willowemoc, and the East and West branches of the Delaware for their classic Hendrickson, March Brown and caddis hatches. Go mid week and you will have plenty of water to yourself. Locally you want to hit the Contoocook and go upcountry to Pittsburg for the landlocks chasing smelt in the Connecticut river. Explore the Pemi in and around Bristol and Franklin as soon as the water shapes up. If your hankering for pristine country and big fish overwhelms you look to New Brunswick for spring salmon. Both the Miramichi and the Restigouche have had good spring runs and while these fish are skinnier than their prior fall run self they are a good tussle and will put serious bow in your 8wt rod. You will need a guide though so plan a little ahead.

Never sure into which month to include that three miles of Maine magic call Grand Lake Stream. In May its hefty landlocks with streamers and mayflies and in June its caddis and stoneflies But the biggest and best landlocks are reserved for later in June and into July on the West Branch of the Penobscot. The river has not been stocked in many a year. These are stream bred fish with shoulders. Bring you streamers and your caddis and a canoe might be handy for some of the larger pools and deadwaters. Tighter to Concord get up to North Conway and fish the Saco. The grey drake spinners bring up some good trout. The water is gin clear so watch you wading. What looks like 3 ft deep water is likely to be 6ft. While you are up there trundle over to the Androscoggin and give you best alder fly imitation a shot. Catch it right and you have a cocktail hour story for life. Do not overlook the Sulphur hatch on the

Page 3

Farmington it will span 4 weeks or more and brings up big fish on light tackle. Isos too abound. It is pond time again now with Sky, Profile producing many and large trout particularly during the celebrated Hex hatch. Atlantic salmon fans head for the Gaspé in June buying day tickets for the Matapedia and the Bonaventure looking for fresh fish. You can cast your arm off and you can have a 20 pounder pull it off too.

Saving Pittsburg and the upper Connecticut till July is just good strategy as the southern waters warm up then. The Back Lake Hex hatch is legend and the both the trophy stretch and the water below Murphy dam are resplendent in bugs sulphurs and caddis; and trout. In Maine the West Branch of the Penobscot, the Roach (maybe not this year with the dam problems last fall), and the East and West outlets of the Kennebec round into shape for landlocks and brookies alike. Bring your bug spray! The Pemi above Plymouth is nice in the early part of July but

Page 5

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

As I was gettin ready for another year on the water I made list of some ponderables hoping that maybe this year some things might change. Check' em out and see what you think.

Let's start with the big one:.

- * Why after a winter of tyin and a vest full of flies do you never have the right fly in the right size?

Then:

- * Did you ever wonder why when there are two bugs on the water one wants a 4x tippet and one wants a 6x tippet? The 4x fishes a #18 dry like a floatin snowplow and the 6x spins up a Dun Variant so that your leader looks like twisted Krystal Flash.
- * How come the best indicator on your nymph rig always comes loose and floats away in the best part of the run and you feel like a dope. But, when you see someone else's indicator float by you feel secretly that yur even , not at all sorry for the fella who is missing his bobber.
- * Why is the magic of castin streamers upstream offset by the frequency of loopin the leader round the wing so your fly to swims like a foul hooked catfish?
- * Ever notice how the guy up river who hollers they are taking #14 blue wings always seems to have a #18 on his leader when you stop to chat him up after the hatch? Didn't he catch all the fish too ;and you caught the only rainbow with an eye patch known to exist.
- * The fly patch thief gets more flies than the pucker brush every time . But, it's ok . We find out about the

patch thief back at the car' too late to do anythin; about it but, the pucker brush makes us try to save our flies; puttin our necks, rods and and cuss words right out there

- * Yup, the best fly with the unsplit jungle cock will find the alders on the first cast.
- * How come wet flies float and dry flies sink? Maybe it is so that Xink and Gink stuff can give us bad spellin
- * Wondering why now that the breeders give us hackle that will float a submarine that all the best flies don't need no hackle.
- * Seems when you hook a big fish; the net guy looks like he never netted a fish before.
- * Ya always find the lost spool of tippet at the foot of your waders the next time you hit the stream; and it hurts.
- * Ever notice how much you like your wadin staff gettin into the stream and how much you hate it is when yur there.
- * How come when you are catchin all the fish and, your fishin buddy is not, you feel sad and want to help him; but when your buddy is catchin all the fish and, you are not, you are sure he is showin you up and not tellin you what bugs they really want.
- * How humblin is it when the guide on the water thinks you are a rookie and wants to give you some help cause you are not catchin many fish; and, you know you have been on this pieced of water for 10 of your over 40 years of fishin. .
- * How to feel, when rummagin through your fly boxes and you look up to see a bright eyed smilin 12 year old kid draggin a huge trout and, when ya asked what he took it on he tells ya "a piece of bacon"?
- * How come the seat not 3 feet away from ya is always the best spot in the boat to be for trollin
- * How come the guys in the kayaks never seem to git it. You want to be behind the big rock for the same reason they do?

Lets just see how yur season goes. Good luck on the water.



Parson Weems

Page 1

and urge you to echo our support with your letter to your state senator. Your letters should be directed to the senators listed here.

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|--|--|
| Jeanie Forrester 78 Tracy Way Meredith, NH 03253 (603) 279-1459 jeanie@jeanieforrester.com | John Reagan 53 Mt. Delight Road Deerfield, NH 03037 (603) 463-5945 john.reagan111@gmail.com |
| Gerald Little 75 Woodburn Road Weare, NH 03281 (603) 660-2248 Jerry.Little@leg.state.nh.us | Lou D'Alessandro 332 St. James Avenue Manchester, NH 03102-4950 (603) 669-3494 dalas@leg.state.nh.us |
| Chuck Morse (603) 271-8472 18 Brook Hollow Drive Salem, NH 03079 chuck.morse@leg.state.nh.us | Andrew Hosmer 8 Summit Avenue Laconia, NH (603) 496-2078 anrew@andrewhosmernh.com |

The Balsams expansion is a hot button item because of the sequent benefit the north county will receive. The taking of water from the Andros-coggin River and the added snow melt in the spring all will affect the fish population in the river.

We all have been barraged with the pros and cons about the Northern Pass. Cutting trees will open stream to more sun light increasing water temps impacting aquatic life. Silt run off during the construction will damage streams. A vista of high tension wires will mar the landscape with potential adverse impact on tourism

A gas pipe line is being proposed to run through a number of towns in southern N.H. The crossing of streams, rivers and other bodies of water has the potential to cause hazards

Another proposal will have a pipeline originating in Canada; traverse the whole state, carrying sand oil to Portland Me. This proposal looks to be particularly troublesome.

These are just some of the higher profile projects that bear watching and your consideration and perhaps action for New Hampshire and the surrounding states,

Something to think about while you're out casting a fly.



Tom Ives

Council Chair NHTU

Page 1

success no doubt attributed to the stellar learning qualities of the students. All in all, fish were caught. fun was had; and maybe a life of time on the water began for some. Lets hope so. It sure looks like they at least had fun



At days end the drawing for the annual raffle took place the lucky winners are below. Thanks to all who took a chance. Your contribution funds our conservation efforts.

- Grand prize - Kayak
Iana Parliman, Contoocook, NH
- 1st prize-Fly Rod
Ken Robichaud Canterbury, NH
- 2nd prize - Board of Flies *
Jim Timmins Loudon, NH
- 3rd prize HMM Fly Tying Vise
Grace Bassi Concord, NH
- 4th prize Signed copy of Holy Ghost Creek
C. Dwinal Laconia, NH
- 5th prize Cut your own Christmas Tree
Iana Parliman Contoocook, NH

*donated back to the chapter



**April Chapter Meeting
Provides
North Country Perspective
2015**

Count on Angus Boezeman to give us the skinny. When to go where, what water flows to look for, what bugs to use and when, leader tips and knots to use ; we got them all. In addition we got some Fish and Game info both now and proposed. You should have been there! Angus spent a few moments discussing the efforts of



**WILDLIFE HERITAGE
FOUNDATION of NH**
SHARING THE PAST, SHAPING THE FUTURE.

Check them out :
<http://nhwildlifeheritage.org>.
They do good, necessary work.

Thanks for a great evening!

you need to dodge the canoers and kayakers.

August is a toughy. Cool waters get scarce; so turn to the tail waters like the Farmington, the East branch of the Delaware, below Murphy dam in Pittsburg and of course the toughest water to fish in all of New Hampshire Archery pond in Bear Brook park. There are some codgers that haunt Archery who are on a first name basis with those trout but the rest of us are held hostage to the whims of 6 inch brookies that have seemingly seen and rejected every fly ever tied. Try the Pemi below the dam in Franklin. The oxygen rich flow there seems to hold trout throughout the summer. Evenings will be best for sure.

Early September is a bit of August but as it moves along so does the fishing improve. The Kennebago and the Upper Dam Pool are legendary fall venues. It usually takes that first burst of tropical rain in September to get them going but once they are in the fun is on. Not sure what the new dam at Upper Dam means to the fishing but some I have talked to say its still fine. Give it a shot an let me know. The Magalloway and the Middle Dam, Lower Dam section of the Rapid are good now too. You will need a boat to get to Middle Dam or go in on some nasty logging roads access below Lake Umbagog.

Mid month eyes start to wander westward towards the Salmon river and other Lake Ontario tributaries. King salmon and early arriving steelhead are the attraction. If you can stand the crowds it the least expensive way to catch big fish in the north-east. The salmon crowd can be a bit rowdy but the steelheaders are better mannered. Luckily while the

main pools are real busy the river holds more than enough fish for those want to wander down the less trod trails. It is not pristine but you can water ski behind some of these fish. Late season fishing on the upper Connecticut can be great. As far down as Stratford is productive. Try some grey soft hackle caddis imitations for some fun. The upper Connecticut is now free of summer traffic and the late September foliage is a grand addition to your trip. Fair warning foliage brings leaves to the water and can be a bother. Elecoya state park provides access to Winni where the Elecoya brook enters. On a good year landlocks are hungry and plentiful It is always worth a look. The Contocook comes back now too. Atlantic salmon stalkers return to the Miramichi from late August through September. The Cains is a great side trip .

October means spawning fish . The steelhead are into the Lake Ontario tribes in numbers and will bust up your best tackle. Returning Atlantics in Nova Scotia find anglers casting to them on the Margaree and numerous spate rives on both the east and west shores of Cape Breton. Fish in or not it is a grand way to spend time in October. The Merrymeeting river fall run of landlocked salmon usually wraps up the local season for travelers there is that November trip to upstate New York for steelies. Fishing is good but it is cold. and the crowds though smaller are not gone.

Hope you have a good year. See you in September

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.

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Calendar

September 17, 2015 Chapter Meeting

May 21, 2015 Chapter Meeting Picnic
5:30 Pm
Passaconaway Club
Garvins Falls Rd
Concord, NH

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