



# Troutlines

### *Special Points of Interest*

- Youth Fishing Day
- Fly Fishing in Argentina
- New Board Members
- Last Issue until September

### **Chapter Meetings and Events Calendar**

Final Chapter Meeting of the Season May 17, 2012

*See Calendar on page 6 for more information.*

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## **Fly Fishing the Very Deep South: Argentina with Mark Foley**

The April chapter meeting proved to be an eye-opening adventure to the big fish waters and dramatic scenery of Argentina. Exeter based Mark Foley of First Cast Fly Fishing guided the group the length of Argentina - from the sub-tropical north to high latitudes of southern Patagonia. All along the way, Mark shared his experiences, photos of challenging trout, salmon, and the golden dorado.

Argentina is the world's 8th largest country in area and is home to 40 million people. The average elevation of the Argentine Andes is 12,000 - 13,000 feet. Argentina's northernmost point and Key West, Florida both lie 22 degrees from the Equator. Argentina's territory in Tierra del Fuego, extends to 54 degrees south latitude. For comparison, Alaska's panhandle begins at the same high latitude. Mark has fished many places around the world but has done most of his international fly fishing up and down Argentina's 2,200+ mile length.

Mark's first stop on the Argentina tour was in search of a powerful warm water fish with a big head, a toothy mouth, qualifies for the Olympic high jump, and is a fighting fish that rewards the fly angler. The golden dorado is found in the Parana River, 600 miles upstream from Buenos Aires and in other watersheds of northern Argentina. Golden Dorado averages between 6 and 20+ pounds with the largest known to have weighed 69 pounds. Both the "small" dorados and the larger ones are acrobatic and

*Argentina, continued on page 4*

## **Youth Fishing Day Adventures Saturday, April 21**

It was a new moon, only a few biting bugs were out, Earth Day was to follow the next day, Discover Wild New Hampshire was in full swing and lots of kids had plenty of fun trying to catch a trout. Burgers, hot dogs, drinks, and snacks were there for the kids and their families with earthworms, rods, reels, and TU volunteers were there to make Youth Fishing Day a good one for all (except for maybe the trout).



Lauren Nazer had lots of fun catching her Brookie

As in the past, the chapter purchased 150 brook trout and New Hampshire Fish and Game donated 150 for the day's adventures. Merrill Park Pond (off of exit 16 in Concord) has been the site of this get-kids-fishing event for many years. Because of the dry Spring,

*Youth Fishing Day, continued on page 3*

## Presidential Commentary - Dan Stickney

Hello, All~

We've reached the final issue of Troutlines for this active season; it feels like it went by fast, though that's probably a function of how busy life has been lately. I'm not alone there, and won't bemoan the fact - others are busier than I am, for sure.

I suppose that my closing thoughts for the season revolve, a bit, around being busy; more to the point, they revolve around making time for important things *while* being busy.

My son will be six months old in a few days. I haven't taken him out in the boat yet, but I plan to this summer, with his mother's blessing and help (I hope). He made it to the Banquet, a Chapter meeting, and Youth Fishing Day; he and I go Geocaching often on days when his mom is at work, or after I grab him from his daycare provider, and he seems to love the rides and time outside. Sarah takes him for walks in the park, and he loves watching the birds and chipmunks when he's with his Grammie and Gramp.

I guess that the point here is that we're busy, but hopefully it's in the right way as much as possible. There are always errands: groceries, laundry, and the odd trip to

the store take up lots of time, and evenings can be tricky too; the boy is, after all, only six months old. I assume that most folks with new families share the same balancing act: trying to remain sane and positive while running all the time takes effort, and so does getting outside and having fun.

There will be a few opportunities to do Chapter volunteer work this summer. I know I won't make all of them, but I hope to squeeze a few in, and it's just possible that the boy will come along if it's practical for him to do so. He won't be much help, yet, but I think it'll be good for him to be a part of whatever's going on, because the sooner he's exposed to both the outdoors and volunteerism the better, in my book; TU National stresses that the grassroots volunteers are the backbone of the organization, and I believe it. Without folks looking at culverts and monitoring water temperatures and all such projects we'd know a heck of a lot less than we do now.

Finally, here's hoping that you enjoy the summer outside if you can, and maybe I'll see you on the water - hopefully I'll have Elliott in tow.

All best~

Dan

## Editor's Soapbox - Gordon Riedesel

This may have happened to you. It is the urge to get organized, do spring cleaning, to finally get to that noble task of organizing your fishing gear. Jim Timmins' October Troutlines article on line cleaning is an example of an organized angler who is prepared for the Spring fishing season well before it arrives. If you know Jim, he stays on top of things. Some of the rest of us are not quite as anticipatory. Some of us prefer to work under pressure - so we wait until the last moment knowing our upcoming performance will be stellar as a result.

It was shortly after our premature 80+ degree days in March that I decided to take a look at my fly boxes. I normally carry a small box of dries and a larger one with nymphs on one side, streamers on the other.

It seemed like a good time to make sure all was in order. Unlike Jim's restored lines, my fly boxes looked "rode hard and put up wet" as my western Nebraska friends might say. Even though I make sure all my flies are dry before putting them back in the fly box, that doesn't mean they go in the same well-ordered slot they came from. Not only do the size 18 pheasant tail nymphs get stuck next to a size 8 golden stonefly, they sometimes gets put back in the box wherever there's a space. I don't feel bad about this because many of my fishing buddies have similar looking fly boxes. Maybe this is the "Code of the Stream" or something. It's always nice to belong to a group of like-minded individuals.

One of the key topics while teaching

Physical Geography at Plymouth State over the years was sedimentary processes. We covered the fundamental principles of sedimentary geology in order to understand that well-ordered process. These principles state that sediments are laid down horizontally; old sediments are covered by newer ones; sediments are more or less evenly spread; if there are fossils, older fossils lie below younger fossils; if there are intrusions into existing rock, they are newer; and finally, what happened in the past can be seen in the present. In places like the Great Plains where I grew up, sedimentary geology dominates. But things are not always so neat and orderly when it comes to what can happen to neatly laid down bedrock. Three prime examples of distorted and contorted sediments may help us understand

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A father's lesson: Sometimes fishing means catching.

*Soapbox continued*

our fly boxes in disarray: the Appalachians, the Alps, and the Himalayas. Each of these are made of former marine sediments now pushed, crushed, pulled, and folded like a NASCAR wreck. It's a normal process.

With apologies to physicists everywhere, another scientific phenomenon can help us understand our disordered fly boxes: entropy. Entropy is where a system undergoes increasing disorder and randomness during work. Applied to our fly boxes, they too are a system that, while working, undergoes increasing disorder and randomness. So it seems that spring cleaning one's fly box is an attempt to control nature. And we know that, in the long run, that never works. But at least we can introduced temporary order back into our system so that we can do the real work fly boxes were meant for. Tight lines.



chapter members Bob Ives and Peter Denoncourt raised the low water level by placing restrictors on the outlet culvert and placing sand bags around it. The City of Concord gave its approval and generously lets the chapter use Merrill Park Pond for this Rite of Spring.

This shallow, warm water pond can't support trout but does hold bluegill, perch, and a chain pickerel or two. The locals didn't have to worry about having too many brook trout occupying their pond for long. The kids pulled out nearly half of the newly stocked brookies and the rest usually find their way to the dinner tables of anglers who fish the pond after Youth Fishing Day.



Another father's lesson: Fishing is fun, catching or not. Jessica Caswell and her dad Chris.

Youth Fishing Day is not just for kids. Parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends line the banks of Merrill Park Pond to help, encourage, or just watch the youngsters try to catch one or two brook trout. The Basil W. Woods chapter supplies spinning tackle, hooks, and worms at no charge. Board member Bill Hall has been the unofficial Chair of the event which means he not only stores the rods and reels at his place, he also has to coordinate everything. As usual many participants bring their own rods and reels. We saw big lake spinning rigs and even a 4 foot, professionally made bamboo fly rod (made by the boy's father). The best thing we saw were lots of smiles, giggles, screams, and happy faces - which is why we sponsor Youth Fishing Day.

*Argentina, continued from page 1*

aggressive - rewarding the fly angler willing to make the journey to their home waters. In Salta province in northwest Argentina near the Bolivian border is what Mark calls "Dorado Nirvana". If you don't know much about the golden dorado, it's worth the time to find out about it. The Internet has lots of videos, photos, and stories - and books have been written too.

Mark's next set of adventures took the group to San Carlos de Bariloche. Bariloche is at the same southern latitude as central New Hampshire is north. A comfortable and safe city of 100,000, Bariloche claims to be the Tourist Capital of Patagonia. Fly anglers come here to fish for big browns in the Rio Limay. Less than 200 miles north in Neuquen Province is the Fly Fishing Capital of Argentina. The town of Junin de los Andes (nestled on the east slopes of the Andes near the Chilean/Argentine border) offers fly anglers abundant fishing opportunities on several large lakes, mountain rivers, and in Lanin National Park. The Alumine River is home to big rainbows and browns - which prefer big dry flies with droppers.



Bethany Reed, Mark Foley, and Steven Lowe talk trout after Mark's "Fly Fishing in Argentina" presentation.

In scenes reminiscent of the ethereal landscapes of the movie Avatar, the small Andean headwater streams are clear with a light green cast enclosed by large arching branches of streamside trees. Here you can hook a sizeable native trout that experiences very little fishing pressure.

Our last journey took us another 700 miles to southern Patagonia. The open country resembles parts of the American West - except the trout that are here are sea run browns. And they are very large impressive fish. Mark noted that it gets more expensive the further south you go in Patagonia. There are fewer cities, towns, and people. It is a remote part of the world made famous by Magellan's Strait.

Since 1999 Mark has been fishing much of South America and has come to know much of its fly fishing waters. One year, Mark worked as a guide at a resort on the Rio Chemehuin. Although resorts are not inexpensive, Mark feels they are a value if you have only a week or so to spend. However, he has found if you have time, learn some Spanish, and ask around, you can fly fish, have nice accommodations like our B&B's, and travel affordably in pursuit of your passion in friendly Argentina. It's worth the trip.

*Mark Foley's business "First Cast Fly Fishing" is organized to be a resource for fly fishing in New Hampshire, to be an educational organization. Mark's specialty is teaching beginners and is active in community youth programs, TU Kids' Trout Camp, and other similar endeavors. Mark is available for guiding in Argentina as well as discussing a particular knot. First Cast Fly Fishing is a donation only business. For more information go to: <http://www.firstcastflyfishing.blogspot.com/>*

*As we all gear up for the spring and summer fishing season, it seems a good time to remind our members of guides in our own chapter and how to reach them. For most, guiding is a part-time, labor of love which can always use our grassroots support.*

### Chapter Members and Friends of the Chapter who are Registered NH Fishing Guides

If you are wondering how to find a registered NH fishing guide, here is a list of guides who are members or good friends of the chapter.

Mark Beauchesne	Fish NH Guide Service	603 753-2993	nhbassguide@hotmail.com
Angus Boezeman	Broadside International	603 224-1766	flyfishangus@comcast.net
Peter Denoncourt	Peter J. Denoncourt	603 491-2011	deno4@comcast.net
Hope Eagleson	Loon Pond Outfitters	603 464-5405	twochicksonloonpond@tds.net
Richard Estes	Owl's Roost Outfitters	603 539-7354	info@owlsroostoutfitters.com
Patricia Gerber	Pat Gerber Fishing Guide	603 679-8038	rpgerber@gwi.net
Richard Gerber	Androscoggin River Guide Service	603 679-8038	rpgerber@gwi.net
Alan Karg	Soft Hackle Guide Service	603 456-2056	akarg@tds.cnet
Dianne Matott	Indian Stream Fly Fishing	603 538-6053	emigrantmt.@aol.com
Harry Mehos	North Star Guide Service	603 387-1801	hgmehos@metrocast.net
David Poole	Stinson Mountain Outfitters	603 254-7719	fish4fun@roadrunner.com
Robert Wyatt	Wyatt's Flys	603 344-8698	wyattsflys@comcast.net



### More scenes from Youth Fishing Day

Three generations of Bennerts came to Youth Fishing Day. James in the vest, his dad Andy, and his grandfather Donald (not pictured but there). Other kids and families lined the banks all day.

### Two New Board Members Elected at Annual Meeting

We want to welcome two new members to the Basil W. Woods, Jr. Board of Directors. Brad Towle of Chichester and Dan Davidson of Concord. Brad and Dan were elected to the board at the chapter's official annual meeting held on April 21st as part of the monthly chapter meeting.

Dan Davidson was also elected as chapter treasurer. Our long-term treasurer, Richard Kingston is stepping down. We will miss working with Richard but know Dan will fill Richard's wading boots just fine. A big Thank You goes to Richard for all of his seen and unseen work on behalf of the Basil W. Woods, Jr. Chapter.

### Volunteer: Lower Warner River Watershed Survey

As mentioned in previous newsletters, our chapter will be assisting NH Fish & Game with a brook trout survey in the Lower Warner River Watershed during June. Electro fishing will be used to characterize the brook trout population and a qualitative assessment of the habitat will be done (e.g., land use, stream type, and macroinvertebrates present). Results will be used to identify intact populations of wild brook trout and prime habitat locations and to recommend actions to protect these populations.

Ben Nugent of NH Fish & Game has picked 32 sites that will be surveyed in the Lower Warner River watershed between June 11 and June 22. A crew of two fisheries biologists and two to five volunteers can usually do three surveys per day. A number of chapter members have stepped forward and volunteered to help with this project. If you would like to join them for a day (or even half a day) please contact George Embley at 456-2315 (gembley@tds.net). This is a great opportunity to learn more about our local watersheds and to help protect the wild brook trout that inhabit them.

### Close to Success – TD Bank Affinity Program

New Hampshire Trout Unlimited has been working with TD Bank to obtain an annual donation through their Affinity Program. In order to qualify for a donation this year we need at least 50 members or friends to be signed up by the end of May. We have obtained 46 signups so we are very close to this goal – with a guaranteed donation of at least \$500. So if you are a TD Bank customer, please help. There is NO COST or RISK TO YOU! Five minutes of your time could make a difference in our coldwater conservation efforts. Just visit your local TD Bank (or call the Contoocook office at 603-229-5915) and ask to be added to the Affinity Program for Trout Unlimited, and they'll take care of the rest. You don't have to be a TU member to join this program, so if a friend or relative is a customer of TD Bank, ask them to help. You can find more information about this program at the chapter website: [www.concordtu.org](http://www.concordtu.org).



### Calendar

**Thursday, May 3, 2012.** Board of Directors Meeting

**Thursday, May 17, 2012.** Final Chapter Meeting of the season. 6:00 PM. Picnic at Fred Osgood's (7033 Hot Hole Pond Road) home. Bring a side dish, veggies, fruit, chips. Burgers and hot dogs provided.

Always check the chapter website for news and updates.

[www.concordtu.org](http://www.concordtu.org)

### Welcome New and Renewing Members

We look forward to hearing from you and all new members and meeting you soon.

Edward Atwell  
Pat Bradley  
Nate Crane  
Michael Eastman  
Paul Halvorson  
Carl Hawkins  
Mike Horton

Mark Johanson  
Jack Kozec  
Allyn Maffee  
Randy Montague  
Bruce Rose  
Scott Taylor

### REMINDER

This issue of TROUTLINES is the last one until September. It's fishing season and the choice is fishing or writing a newsletter. . .

However, the chapter website [www.concordtu.org](http://www.concordtu.org) will have news and updates so check there for news. If you need to contact any of the board of directors, you can send a note through the message section of the website and we'll forward your messages.

### Newsletter Information

**Troutlines** is published monthly except during the summer. 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.

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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