



Troutlines

Special Points of Interest

New Chapter Officers

Photos from Youth Fishing Day

Chapter Meetings and Events Calendar

*Chapter Picnic
Thursday, May 16
5:30 PM
Passaconaway Club
Garvins Falls Road
Concord*

Inside this issue:

Presidential Commentary	2
Editor's Soapbox	3
Annual Meeting	5
Calendar	6

April Meeting

April 18th was both the monthly chapter meeting and the annual chapter meeting for election of officers and board members. Under the newly revised chapter by-laws, the annual chapter meeting will be held in April in conjunction with the monthly meeting. All members present at the monthly meeting have the power to elect chapter officers and board members.

The officers elected for a one-year term are: George Embley – President; March McCubrey – Vice President; Nancy May – Secretary; J. Daniel Davidson – Treasurer. The complete story of the chapter elections is on page 5.

Prior to the evening's featured presentation, Roger Turcotte spoke on behalf of Hope on the Rise – a newly founded organization that introduces fly fishing to women with cancer of any type. Last year was the first event and the second is scheduled for June 7 – 9, 2013 at Tall Timber Lodge in Pittsburg. Roger's wife, Sally, is one of the organization's founders who wanted all chapter members to know there were three slots remaining and that if someone wanted to know more they could go to: www.hopeontherise.org. Last year, Doc Weiner donated a box of flies for each participant and the chapter donated \$1,000. At the April 4th Board of Director's meeting, the board voted to donate \$1,000 to this year's event.

Board member Bill Hall spoke about the annual Youth Fishing Day – April 20th. He has been the event coordinator for several years and wanted to keep everyone up to date on the event and called for volunteers as well. See the story on this page and pictures throughout.

April Meeting, continued on page 4

Youth Fishing Day - What a Day!

If you are a kid, Youth Fishing Day is your kind of day. There is a pond full of fish – 300 stocked brook trout and lots of panfish who love even the tiniest morsel of worm; rods and reels; helpful parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, friends, and TU volunteers ready to help; and did we mention hungry fish to catch?



Hailey Deflumrie is all smiles with her Brookie

This year's Youth Fishing Day had over 100 small to mid-sized anglers tossing their lines into the breezy waters of Merrill Park Pond in Concord. From 9AM – 3PM and beyond, the banks of Merrill Park Pond were full of kids having a ball fishing. It really didn't matter if they caught a 4 inch sunfish or a 10 inch brookie, a fish was a fish.

YFD, continued on page 5



Presidential Commentary - George Embley



In taking on the job of chapter president, I realize that Dan Stickney has set a high bar. For the past three years, Dan has consistently led the chapter with an evenhanded and patient leadership that any organization

would thrive under – as ours has. We have all been better off for having him around and fortunately, we will continue to have him around in his capacity as “president emeritus.”

I am grateful to March McCubrey for being willing to step up and become Vice President. March has been a long-time member of the board of directors and served as chapter president a number of years ago. I am also pleased that we can welcome three new board members. As a teacher at Shaker Road School, Alex Hicks was an early champion of Trout in the Classroom (TIC) and is always generous in helping other teachers who adopt TIC in their schools. Bob Ives has been an active member but, equally importantly, he entertains us with his fishing adventures through periodic articles in Troutlines. Steven Lowe spends time on streamside projects, works with kids in TIC, and repairs the chillers that are essential to raising trout. To make room for new directors, two of our long-term board members, Harry Perkins and Doc Weiner, have stepped aside after many years of dedicated service. I believe we all owe a debt of gratitude for the many contributions they have made to the chapter, the sport, and conservation of our cold water fisheries.



On April 20, the chapter continued a long tradition with Youth Fishing Day at Merrill Park in East Concord. There were plenty of chapter volunteers to help out, some serving double duty as a parent with a child eager to catch a beautiful brook trout. And as he has done for a number of years, Bill Hall was there to make sure that everything was in place to make it a memorable day for kids and their parents, or grandparents. Once again, everything went off without a hitch because of the hard work and planning that Bill put in long before the big day. As usual, Wayne Morse spent the day as a short-order cook preparing hamburgers and hot dogs that are the best deal in town. Youth Fishing Day is always on the same day as Discover Wild New Hampshire Day at NH Fish and Game Headquarters. George Cummings manned a table with a display of Chapter activities and drew peoples’ attention with his expertise in tying beautiful streamers like the Ripogenus Smelt.

I encourage you to come to the chapter picnic on May 16. It is always a good time. And keep an eye on the chapter website for volunteer opportunities. We need your help, and being part of the effort is rewarding. This year, we will be following up on the lower Warner River watershed stream survey that we assisted NH F&G with last year. This is a healthy watershed with plenty of wild brook trout and it can benefit from additional work. We maintain a list of volunteers for this project and send them periodic updates. If you would like to add your name, please contact us either through our website or by email at concordtu@yahoo.com.

Enjoy the summer. And take some time to go fishing.

George

Troutlines

May, 2013

Editor's Soapbox - Gordon Riedesel

We all know from experience that almost every pursuit has its own special words, terms, and twists on things. Baseball and football have given the world nearly an entire dictionary of these which are happily borrowed, reinterpreted, and transmogrified to meet just about any human enterprise. Sports metaphors bounce around English like kids in a jumping gym. Fishing in particular lends its share of terms and concepts to the world at large. Someone was angling for information, a line on a job, or casting aspersions. If I tried to sell this idea to you, hook, line, and sinker – I might be pushing too hard. But you get the idea.

For those of us afflicted with the need to fly fish, we should remember that when nymphing, we are not chasing mythical forest creatures. Nor does a hook up have anything to do with late night youthful revelries. Among fly anglers, leaders have no politics and a fly in the ointment isn't bad if the ointment is floatant. Backing has nothing to do with financial support. Blood knots, when tied correctly, are bonds that just don't break.

Fly patterns are loosely classed as either imitative, suggestive, or attractors. Paul Whillock's book "Flies as Art" shows how good some fly artisans are at mimicking nature. Most of the flies in our fishing vests tend towards the suggestive in shape, form, size, and color – they don't try to mess with Mother Nature. And, like



Fly drawings courtesy of www.davewhillock.com

many humans, attractors are there to be seen. The only evolutionary principle for attractors is to be seen. Most attractor patterns are like the biggest and brightest plumes in Mother Nature's Spring bonnet.

In the end, we hope that the fish we seek will simply view our offerings as something worth eating – or at least biting. Our flies are their metaphors - something that stands for something else. Humans are more complicated than fish - and symbols matter. We adopt the tools, techniques, and special vocabulary of fly fishing. When we go fly fishing, we are not always there to just catch fish. We love to be in the beautiful places where trout live. We relish being in a rushing stream at daybreak - or any time as long as it's not at work. We need to reconnect with ourselves and nature. We hope to capture the Zen of a perfect cast. We love how time slips away unnoticed. We are ready to catch and release a fantastically beautiful trout and to keep that memory forever and relive that moment over and over whenever we want. Fly fishing is a metaphor of many colors, shades, and shapes. And that is why we love what we do.



Chapter Chillers: Where Are They?

Our chapter has funded chillers at the Hanover Street School (Lebanon), Deerfield Community School, Rundlett Middle School, Belmont Middle School, Effingham Elementary, Shaker Road School, and Concord High School. All chillers are on loan except for one at Concord High which was donated.

Troutlines Reminder

The fishing season is a cast or two away which means *Troutlines* will be put away with the snow shovels until September. The chapter website is always up and running so you can check in for any news and announcements.

Back in September. Tight Lines!

April Meeting, continued from page 1

Youth Fishing Day is held on the same day as NH Fish & Game's Discover Wild New Hampshire Day. We had a booth and George Cummings took the fly tying lead to talk and tie and was assisted by March McCubrey and George Embley. They sent lots of enthusiastic young anglers down to Merrill Park Pond to wet a line.

George Embley reported on last summer's brook trout study in the Lower Warner River Watershed. George said that both follow-up work needs to be done as well as some additional stream work which would require volunteers. Volunteers can sign up through the chapter e-mail: concordtu@yahoo.com.

The evening's presentation was made by four very active participants in watershed and environmental education: Judy Tumosa of NH Fish & Game; Ellen O'Donnell (Deerfield Elementary); Lise Bofinger (Concord High School) and Seth Gosse (Senior at Concord High School). Their presentations were prime examples of why our TU chapter supports Trout-in-the Classroom and Watershed Education.

Judy's work at NH Fish & Game is in the Aquatic Resources Education Program which encompasses the Watershed Education Program, the Watershed Ecology Institute, and the well-known Let's Go Fishing Program. These programs are federally funded and the state matches that with watershed education programs in the schools and volunteer hours – such as those TU volunteers give.

Key components include: water quality data; aquatic macro-invertebrate inventories; watershed mapping and land use assessment; and others. TU involvement includes volunteering and purchasing and maintenance of chillers used in Trout-in-the-Classroom.

"Citizen science" is the underlying concept that gets young people and adults involved and attached to the fish, the bugs, the streams, and the ecology of watersheds. Many schools that adopt a Trout-in-the-Classroom often expand those efforts to multi-year, multi-grade curriculum. In Lebanon – where one of our chillers is in use – the 4th graders hold a Watershed Congress every year. High school students and college interns participate in natural resource inventories and brook trout studies. Partnerships with organizations like TU are essential.

In Lise Bofinger's science classes, everyone soon learns that science is a verb – not a noun. In her classes you are always out in the field and always doing something. Freshwater ecology activities get

students like Seth Gosse involved and committed. Seth said he is off to college this fall for a major in environmental studies.



Lise Bofinger, Concord High Science and Senior Seth Gosse

Ellen O'Donnell teaches 7th and 8th grade science in Deerfield. The next day, her classes were going to release the fry they had reared from eggs over the last three months. She showed a short movie made by her students at the fish hatchery – it was clear these students were involved. This is her first, but not last year in TIC.



New board member Alex Hicks of Shaker School and Ellen O'Donnell of Deerfield - Veteran and Rookie TIC Educators

It was rewarding to hear from people who have been in the field, working with young people, and seeing that hands-on science is simply great. Members came away knowing a lot more about what goes on in the classroom and on field trips and that our volunteer time and financial contributions are making a difference.

New Chapter Officers and Board Members Elected at the Annual Meeting

At the annual chapter meeting held in conjunction with the April 18th member meeting, officers and board members were elected.

George Embley was elected President having served as Vice-President during Dan Stickney's tenure. You probably know George either in-person from his constant activities in the chapter or from the pages of Troutlines. George has been instrumental in the chapter's participation in Trout-in-the-Classroom as well as his work as liaison for the Warner River Watershed Brook Trout Study that began last summer with New Hampshire Fish & Game. He has been on the annual banquet planning committee for several years and has been a dynamic member of the board. We welcome and thank George for offering to serve the chapter further by taking the reins as President.

March McCubrey, who served as chapter President prior to Tom Ives and Dan Stickney, accepted the nomination to be chapter Vice President. He has remained on the Board of Directors since he held the Presidency and is welcomed back as a chapter officer.

Current chapter secretary, Nancy May, gracefully agreed to serve another term for which the board is grateful. Dan Davidson, who took on the treasurer's responsibilities when Richard Kingston stepped down, also agreed to continue as chapter treasurer.

Two new members were added to the Board of Directors. Alex Hicks and Bob Ives joined the board for three-year terms. Steven Lowe agreed to fill an open term with a year remaining. Richard Kingston, Harry Perkins, and Doc Weiner have all recently left the board and we thank them for their enormous contributions and service. Gordon Riedesel was re-elected to a three-year term.

Peter Denoncourt, Bill Hall, and Brad Towle have two years remaining on their terms as directors. George Cummings, Ken Welch, and new member, Steven Lowe have one year left on their terms. Dan Stickney, ex-President, will serve as an ex-officio and voting member of the board until the next President is elected.

The responsibilities of the board of directors are made much easier thanks to our stellar advisors: Angus Boezeman, Paul Doscher, Jim Timmins, Richard Kingston, Harry Perkins, and Tom Ives.

YFD, continued from page 1

The chapter supplied 150 brook trout, New Hampshire Fish and Game donated another 150. The giggles and laughter as well as the intense faces of some youngsters made the day a good one. Bill Hall, who coordinates Youth Fishing Day saw to it that all the necessities were in place – brookies, approvals, tackle, food, tents, worms, and volunteers. Many thanks to all who volunteered – but it is the kids that make it worthwhile.



Ian McCubrey shows off his brook trout while his brother Grant hauls in another - maybe bigger.



This young angler was happily intense about her fishing on Youth Fishing Day.



Angus Boezeman and granddaughter Esha. Nice pink rod there Angus.



The banks of Merrill Park Pond were lined with hopeful youngsters and their support staff (parents, etc.).

Calendar

Thursday, May 2 Board of Directors Meeting. 6 PM Szechuan Garden, Penacook

Thursday, May 16 Annual chapter picnic. Passaconaway Club, Garvins Falls Road, Concord. 5:30 PM. Burgers and Hot Dogs provided. Bring something if you like - and a friend too.

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

Always check the chapter website for news and updates: www.concordtu.org

Other Happenings

Hope on the Rise - June 7-9, Tall Timber Lodge

2013 NH TU Kids' Trout Camp - July 24-28, 1st Connecticut Lake

Welcome New Members

We look forward to hearing from you and meeting you soon.

Greg Allsop

James Derosier

Richard Ayers

Gregory Allison

David Bibbins

Jack Lyman

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.

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
PO Box 3302
Concord NH 03302-3302**

www.concordtu.org

e-mail: concordtu@yahoo.com