

THE BACKCAST

www.southeastmasstu.com

Trout Unlimited, SE Mass Chapter 241

May 2018

Next Meeting: : : May 8th at the Mitchell Club (29 Elm St.) Middleborough MA, Doors open at 6:00PM for fly tying, General Meeting begins at 7:30 PM and, as always, admission is free.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jim Augenti

Hello Everyone,

We have had a busy couple of months between the Banquet, meetings, fly tying and fly fishing classes. Thank you to all who pitched in to help, especially on Wednesday nights when our volunteers were split between commitments at the VA in Brockton, class in East Bridgewater and Plymouth County League of Sportsmen's meeting!

Our annual Opening Day Fishing Derby and Cookout was last Saturday, on a refreshingly spring like day at Little Pond. While the fishing was slow, several TU members saw large (and sadly inactive) trout finning and a non member landed a beautiful brookie on a small swimming plug. Doug Edwards took the honors and a \$25.00 Bears Den gift card for a "good enough" rainbow trout that he jokingly asked me to ignore. He had a better day the previous Saturday at Little Cliff Pond, where he managed a big rainbow and 5 browns on a flashy gold streamer.

We round out the year with our meeting on May 8th, and another pizza night; followed by a presentation by Blake Dinius, and the awarding of our "Participation Prize" a TFO Switch Rod. Planning into the end of the May, you would be remiss in not considering our camping trip to Chesterfield at Indian Hollow campground. Mass/RI council holds a meeting, hosts a complimentary cookout, raffles, a huge bonfire, excellent camaraderie, and some of the most beautiful water to fly-fish in all of Massachusetts. This year's dates are May 18-21. The campground (less than 2 miles below Chesterfield Gorge) is beautiful and TU has it exclusively for the weekend. FYI there are hot showers, sinks, and flush toilets, its not 'primitive camping', some folks use small RVs also. Maps will be available at the meeting. Come to the meeting and we can give you more details.

The season to fish is upon us, seize the day!

Thanks Again,
Jim Augenti



VETERAN'S FLY TYING

BROCKTON V.A. HOSPITAL

Members of our chapter and Project Healing Waters meet with the veterans the third Wed. of every month for fly tying at 5:30p.m. Building #4, Brockton V.A. Hospital. All are welcome. The address for the Brockton V.A. Hospital is 940 Belmont St. Brockton. That is route 123 just off route 24.

Tom Magee contacted me and wanted to thank everyone for their cards, phone calls and prayers wishing Tom to Get Well Soon.

Next Meeting

May 8th

Speaker:

Blake Dinius works as the entomologist educator for the Plymouth county extension program.

Subject:

Educating people on how to fight against ticks and tick-borne diseases

Bio:

As a fisher, Blake understands the impact that ticks can have on our capacity to enjoy the outdoors. His goal is to get people outside safely enjoying the activities that they love.

Synopsis:

With a reported Lyme disease incidence rate 14x the national average and climbing, Plymouth County is at the heart of the tick-borne disease epidemic. As anglers, we are at increased risk for encountering tick populations due to our time spent outside. Therefore, it is critical that we employ the correct methods to protect our bodies. In his talk, Blake will relay the facts on ticks, the diseases that they carry, and proven methods of protection. These methods will effectively reduce the risk of contracting ticks and tick-borne diseases to minimal levels. After all, we live in one of the most beautiful parts of the country. Why shouldn't we be able to safely enjoy the outdoors?

Note: There will be pizza for all at the May meeting

Upcoming Events

If anyone has any ideas for a group fishing trip or outing , please contact Larry.cook205@gmail.com and I will send an email out to our chapter to let everyone know about it.

Fly Box

Rattlesnake Streamer

The Rattlesnake Streamer is a large, articulated fly originated by US tyer and guide Ray Schmidt.

In 1985 I started guiding a stretch of water on the Manistee River in Northern Michigan known as Hodenpyl. This is a remote piece of water directly below Hodenpyl Dam.



Rattlesnake/Jeff Creamer

This water was and is renowned for its exceptionally large brown trout. We were successful with these fish two ways. First, during the famous "Hex" hatch, we drummed these monsters up after dark with our big dry offerings.

The second method was not so easy. I met a fellow angler on the river as I floated. We hit it off and he shared with me his secret for his success. Looked like a half chicken and deer tied to a 6X long hook size 2 hook. We nicknamed our copy "The Youngblood Special" after this man, Ed Youngblood.

I always take things to the extreme.

I always take things to the extreme, so I increased the fly size and hook length to a Partridge CS 10 size 2. 10X long!

The fly brought fish, no question, but it lacked the ability to hook and keep them thru the fight. After much frustration and observation I discovered that the fish were grabbing the fly by the head and when they were tired of the fight they simply opened their mouth and let go.

The light bulb blinked on. A short shank hook up front and a stinger trailer.



Ray Schmidt's Rattlesnakes

Ray Schmidt

I love the Muddler style fly, and since there are tons of Sculpins in this river, I was headed down the right track. I separated the front hook and the back hook with brass beads and proceeded to tie a Rabbit Strip Muddler. The fly reminded me of a Rattlesnake for two reasons, first the beads looked like a Rattlesnake tail and second while tying the fly the trailer hook would frequently bite me.

Hmmmm... looks like a Rattlesnake and bites like a Rattlesnake...

The Rattlesnake was born!

Rattlesnake Streamer

Pattern type: Streamer

Originator: Ray Schmidt

Materials:

Hooks: Dai-Riki #135 size 10 (Stinger), short shank nymph hook size 4 (Body)

Thread: 3/0 pre-waxed white Monocord

Connector: Coated, braided wire (Nylostrand) or 20lb. Maxima snelled on the stinger and lashed through the eye of the body hook

Eyes: Black bead chain eyes

Body: 1/8" (3mm) diameter brass or nickel beads

Wing: Rabbit Zonker Strip (color of your choice). Red Krystal Flash and three pieces of silver/gold holographic Fly Fiber

Head: Deer body hair (muddler spun)

Difficulty: Medium

Instruction: To Watch a video of the tying of this fly paste the line below into your Web Browser: <http://globalflyfisher.com/video/rattlesnake>

Sign up to help South East Massachusetts Chapter of Trout Unlimited acquire a Bamboo Fly Rod for Chapter Fundraising

And you'll get a coupon to save 30% on any Headwaters Bamboo Product! If you click on the link below and enter your name & email address This will sign you up. If we get 250 people to sign up the Headwaters Bamboo Rod Company will donate a Deluxe Series Bamboo Rod to our chapter.

<https://headwatersbamboo.com/tu-se-ma/>

Environmental News

Westport River Stream Team Update and Work Party Schedule

Work party are scheduled for:

May 5

June 2

All of these dates are Saturdays.

Call John Kokoszka to confirm.

We meet at the Brookside Conservation Area on Rt. 177 in Westport at 9 AM. Everyone is welcome. For the up to date information of Westport visit the Chapter website www.southeastmasstu.com.

Open Invitation to join our fishing trip to Rangeley, ME

First of all, I hope that you enjoyed the presentation of the Old Farts Fish Camp to Rangeley, ME. This coming September 2018 we will again be going to Rangeley from the 22nd to 29th. If you would like to join us, you are welcome to come along. The first house is currently full but we can rent the house next door if there are enough people interested. The cost of the trip should be less than \$200 per person depending on how many are sharing the house. Also, each person is responsible for cooking dinner 1 night. So plan on bringing the ingredients for however many end up staying at the second house. Fishing License for Non-Residents is \$64 for full season and \$43 for 7 days. If you are interested please contact Larry Cook at larry.cook205@gmail.com or (617) 413-9307. I should be able to answer any questions that you may have.

SPEAKERS WANTED

Each month the chapter invites a speaker to do a presentation at the monthly meeting. We are always looking for new speakers and new ideas. If you would like to recommend a speaker that would be appropriate for a chapter meeting, or if you as a member have something to present at a monthly meeting, please contact Rick Robinson at 508-992-7024 or extractor27@aol.com

PHOTOS WANTED

We are looking for photos or videos of any and all TU gatherings over the past year or so. We would like to create a presentation of "A Year in Review" of all of our events. If you have any photos that you would be willing to share please email them to me at: larry.cook205@gmail.com

The Board of Directors have discussed this as a good idea for a May meeting in the future.

MASS TU TEAM

Send all mail to Trout Unlimited SE MA Chapter
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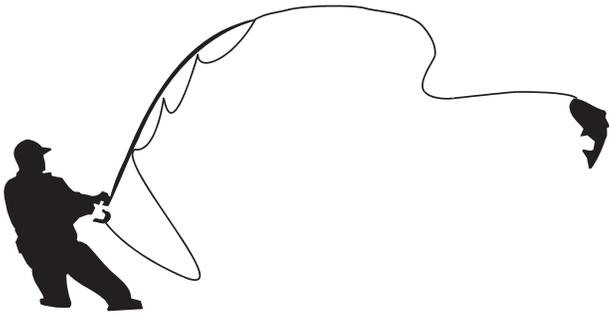
Speaker Coordinator:

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Thanks to the following businesses for distributing the Backcast to the general public:

North Country Angler, North Conway, NH	603-356-6000
Red Top Sporting Goods in Buzzards Bay	508-759-3371
Bear's Den Fly Fishing Company in Taunton	508-977-0700
Fisherman's Outfitter on Union St in Plymouth	508-747-7440

TROUT UNLIMITED
South East Massachusetts
PO Box 121
Bridgewater, MA 02324



Happy Spring!



Directions to our monthly meetings:

Meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month September to May; 6 PM Fly Tying 7:30 PM Meeting Admission is free and visitors are always welcome. We meet at the Mitchell Memorial Club is near the intersection of routes 28 and 105 in Middleboro. It is also near exit 4 on route 495. From Route 495, head toward Middleboro. Take a left at the lights. If you are coming from Middleboro center, take a right at the lights. The Mitchell Club is a white building that is 1/8 of a mile on the right (29 Elm Street) from that intersection. If you cross the RR tracks, you have passed it.