

A close-up, low-angle shot of a person's hands and arms as they fish. The person is wearing a light-colored jacket and a pink shirt. They are holding a black fly rod with a silver reel. The reel has a large spool of green line. The rod is extended over a body of water, and the line is cast. The water is rippling, and there are some green plants or trees in the background.

THE ROLLCAST

Newsletter of Cape Cod Trout Unlimited

Chapter 460

January 2020

Cuba Top Ten

January Speaker: Ted Patlen

Banquet: Mark the Date

Quashnet River Updates

On the WEB: www.capecodtu.org

January 2020 President's Message

Fellow TU members,

Happy New Year! Wishing you all a year filled with health, happiness, peace and a lot of landed fish!

It was so nice to see so many of you at our Holiday Party in December. Thank you so much for your generosity... with your donations, we were able to provide two car loads of toys to needy children right here on Cape Cod.

Our 2020 is starting off with a presentation from CCTU chapter member, Ted Patlen. Ted fishes the Cape ponds on the regular, as well as the Swift River, the Catskills and his home waters in New Jersey. He has fished on multiple continents, including for Marble Trout in Italy. He is also an expert level fly tyer, participating in shows and exhibitions across the country and in Europe. Many chapter members have improved their tying skills due to Ted's generous tutelage, for which we are most grateful. Ted is always quick to help out the Chapter at the Fly Fishing School and on the Quashnet. Thank you Ted for your invaluable support of the Chapter and we look forward to your presentation on January 15th!

Thank you all for participating in the Chapter Member Survey. We will be publishing the insights gained from the survey in a future Rollcast.

Finally, I would like to ask that you consider helping the Chapter out in a couple of areas:

1. The Secretary position on the Board of Directors is open. Please consider taking on this role, which only requires a few hours of your time each month (September-May) taking notes at our Board meeting (first Wednesday of the month) and publishing them out to the Board members for review. Thank you so very much to our prior Secretary, Mike Howard, who has graciously agreed to assume the position of Treasurer as our By-Laws dictate that Charlie Orr step down due to term limits. Charlie has agreed to stay on to provide a smooth transition. Thank you Charlie for your wonderful service as Treasurer!
2. We are in need of new Speaker recommendations for our 2020 Monthly Chapter Meetings. If you have suggestions on topics or specific speakers, I would love to hear from you. We want to keep the topics interesting and relevant to our members and prospective members as well. Please give me a shout at rob-erta.mazzoli@yahoo.com with any ideas.

Looking forward to seeing you at the January 15th Chapter Meeting and/or the following 2020 events:

1/19 Quashnet Workday

1/26 Massachusetts/RI Council Meeting

2/12 Chapter Meeting

4/5 Annual Fundraising Banquet

Tight lines,

Robbie

Events

Board meeting:

January 8, 6pm, Liberty Hall, Marstons Mills (2150 Main St, Marstons Mills, MA 02648)

Chapter Meeting:

January 15, 6:30-8pm, Liberty Hall

Speaker: Ted Patlen

Bring a friend

Quashnet River Restoration Workday:

January 19, 9am-12pm

We'll be meeting at the Martin Road gate at 9:00. Come on down and join the gang as we continue to work to improve the habitat for wild native brook trout in this river. Bring waders, gloves, bug spray, drinking water, etc. The work to preserve wild fish is very important here on Cape Cod! Please join us.



TROUT UNLIMITED

CONSERVING, PROTECTING AND RESTORING NORTH AMERICA'S COLDWATER FISHERIES AND THEIR WATERSHEDS

Quashnet River Restoration Updates

From Tim Lynch: December Quashnet workday report: Fran Smith, Peter Schilling, Tom Planert, Mark Hattman, and Tim Lynch met at the Quashnet; the water levels were extremely high. We went to Plan B and drilled holes in logs and then repositioned them upstream so that they will be ready for a future project next Summer.

From Francis Smith: New Eagle Scout. Over the duration of the Quashnet River Restoration we have had four Boy Scouts conduct their Eagle Scout Project on the Quashnet River helping move the effort along in some important ways. Dillon Cakebread, from Mashpee, recently completed his Eagle Scout Project on the lower end of Section 6 by cutting a good size area of brush which enabled him and his fellow scouts to plant ten Eastern Redbud Maples. These are very showy spring flowering trees that will add a lot of color to the river banks and as they grow from their current seven foot height they will also provide critical shade to help keep the Quashnets' water cool. Thank You Dillon.

Next Restoration Date is January 19, 2020

Our last outing revolved around making headway despite the high water in the River. The plan was to cut brush in preparation for planting 270 wetland species trees this coming April in Section 6. Can't plant the trees if there is no place to put them. Unfortunately the river was too high to safely cut brush in Section 6. This area has always been problematic as the gradient slows down here and as a result the banks become quite wet. When we first entered this area back in the early 80's parts of this 1,200 foot long section were 60 feet wide and only inches deep. Today there are places so deep that 6' 4" Peter Schilling has difficulty wading the pools. I have to swim!

With high water we had to fall back and punt which was a great move. For over a year there have been 5 very large and heavy Eastern Juniper, also know as red cedar, logs laying on top of the old slice dike that delineates the boundary between the lower portion of Section 5 and the upper portion of Section 6. Those logs were rolled and thrown end over end into the river and tied off to a couple of large trees in Section 5 that were planted 20 years ago so they can soak and become water logged. It is absolutely necessary that the large wood we strategically place in the river has lost most of its buoyancy. These logs will soak for about 4 to 5 months before we place them as deflectors or 'J' Vanes which will then be armored with rock. With the dike now cleared of those logs we will be able to bring in large amounts of top soil and mulch to use when planting those 270 trees this April.

The river is dropping as of now and if the precipitation will remain at normal levels between now and our next project date we will be cutting brush. Remember, we need a place to plant those 270 trees, many of which are 7 feet tall after two years of growth in pots. I am hoping you will make an effort to help us clear the way for the tree planting.

Other scheduled restoration dates are:

February 16, 2020
March 20, 2020
April 19, 2020. (Tree Planting)
May 17, 2020
June 21, 2020. (This is Fathers Day and the date will likely be changed)
July 19, 2020
August 16, 2020
September 20, 2020

For the next few months plan to wear waders, dress warm, as if you were going winter steelhead fishing, and bring a pair of gloves and a sense of humor. If you have not had the experience of a morning working toward our goal to restore the best population of Salter Brook Trout in Massachusetts you must give it a try. We work hard and tell lots of tall tales. Please find the time to join us. Happy New Year!

December meeting was devoted to our holiday party. Thanks to Robbie and Peter for taking care of the food. Thanks to all attendees for bringing unwrapped gifts for children in need.



Our January meeting will feature Ted Patlen, who has been fly fishing and tying since late 1950's. "Lucky to have fished in rivers, streams and ponds in many different countries and have noticed that trout are the same dumb creatures everywhere", says Ted. Winner of seven fly-tying world championships, has demonstrated at fly-fishing venues from the rocky shores of the Pacific coast, across the states as well as Canada, from a 12th century convent in Italy, north to Scandinavia, to the heart of Great Britain...as well as on a hot dusty parking lot in Roscoe, New York. Looking forward to seeing Ted!



Cuba Top Ten

By Ron Reif

Six of us traveled to Cuba for a fly fishing trip. In no particular order here are my top ten from this trip:

Tarpon: Two tarpon were landed by Rick Enz and Tim Lynch and one was jumped by me. Our tarpon were caught at night off the dock where the flats skiffs were tied up. My tarpon cut through 50-pound line and I got a lesson in the importance of 'bowing to the fish'. It was quite an accomplishment for Rick and Tim to land the tarpon and required a team effort and the help from Avalon's evening/dock guide. (Actually Joe O'Leary and Rick landed two juvenile/baby tarpon which were about the same size as the flies.)

Incredible Wading Opportunities: Tim and I told our guide on the first day that we wanted to wade fish. We waded every day, usually a full morning or afternoon. There is something very special about hunting and catching your own fish (especially when you see it without the guide, execute a perfect cast, and strip set the hook into a healthy bone fish).

Tim's GPS Watch: On the last day the wading event turned out to be a bit too long – we did not get back to the skiff until around 2 pm. On the walk back to the skiff we lost our guide in the mangroves. I had a general idea where the skiff was last anchored but was not sure if it was a right or left when we reached the ocean. Tim's GPS watch showed us exactly which way to go (right) and we soon found the skiff with water and lunch waiting for us.

Endless Flats: There were about 20 guys fishing the Cayo Cruz area during our fishing week. There were several days when we did not see another boat and the flats appeared to go on endlessly towards the horizon. Unlike my experience at other bone fishing destinations, you largely have this place to yourself.

Excellent Guide: Our guide (Antonio) was great. He worked very hard to put us on fish and was more than willing to relocate when the fishing slowed. Antonio spotted a permit 300 yards away from us. His ability to see fish amazed me.

Friendly Hotel Staff: Everyone at the hotel was great and eager to please the guests. While I ended up getting travelers sickness, I never blamed the staff, as I realized they were all doing their best. Most of them, including the guides, work long days and had to take a 60-90 minute bus ride every morning and evening after their shift.

Help from my fishing buddies: From the best flies to use, to recommended gear, to medication/vaccinations for Cuba, I'm grateful for the advice and help from my fishing buddies that were in Cuba before our trip. Great guys.

Permit: This trip to Cuba gave me the first real shot at permit. Tim and I both got our permit on the same day and apparently this was a big deal back at the marina. The permit were schooled up, which I found interesting to witness. Two others, Joe and Dennis, also got permit. Tim had a great shot at a larger permit on the calmest morning of the trip. The guide saw the permit at about 300 yards and closed the gap to less than 70 feet with some very fast poling. This permit was always swimming away from us and never got a good look at Tim's fly.

Bigger Bone Fish: It seems like the bone fish grow bigger in Cuba than in Andros. Perhaps it's my imagination, but the fish seemed bigger and stronger.

Time for a Swim: Tim and I managed some double hookups while wading and on the skiff. When we were on the skiff, this involved me moving to the back of the skiff to land my fish and while Tim started casting for fish under the guide's watchful eye. Not sure what happened, but I found myself falling over the side and getting soaked from head to toe when trying to land a bone fish and avoiding Tim's fly line. Fortunately my phone is waterproof and I managed to land the fish. It also helped that I landed in about 2 feet of water.

Fly Fishing Cuba



Save the Date!!!

**Cape Cod Trout Unlimited
2020 SPRING FUNDRAISING BANQUET
Dan'l Webster Inn & Spa, Sandwich, MA
Sunday April 5, 2019
12:30-3:30 pm**

We are happy to alert you that our CCTU 2020 Spring Fundraising Banquet will be held on Sunday April 5 from 12:30-3:30 pm. The site will be the historic Dan'l Webster Inn in Sandwich, where we had a great time last year. The Inn will prepare a substantial luncheon buffet for us with multiple entrees, as well as serving plated salad and dessert courses.

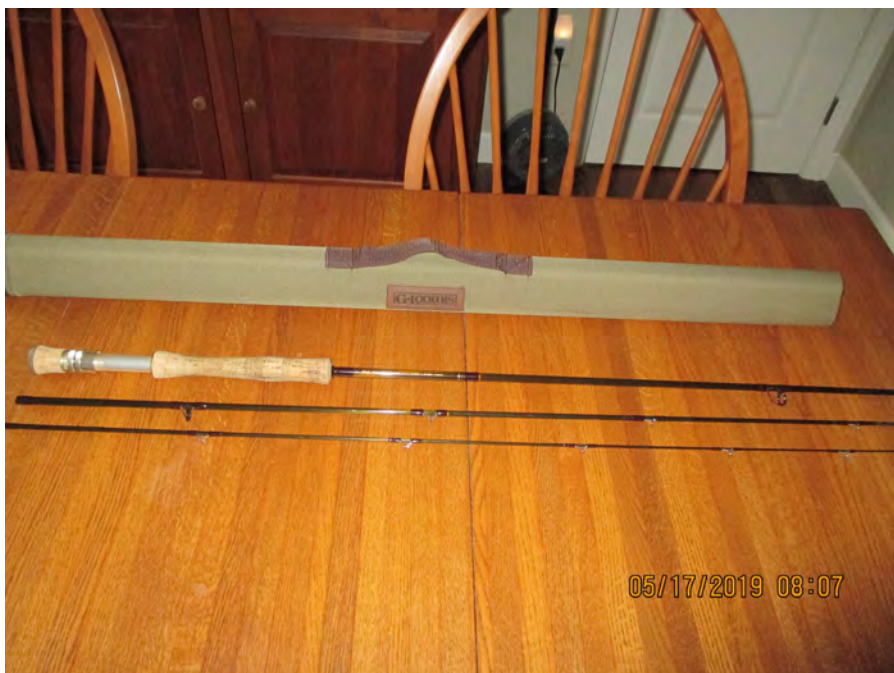
As you know the Banquet is the main fundraising event for the Chapter. Proceeds will be used to promote coldwater conservation on and around Cape Cod, including support of specific projects such as the Quashnet and Childs River restorations.

Along with anticipating great fellowship and outstanding cuisine at the banquet, we will have the usual auctions and raffles, which are always fun and a chance to win valuable goods and services. *Note we are now accepting donations; bring them to a chapter meeting or contact a Board member for assistance.* Thank you.

So mark April 5 on your calendar! More information including event registration procedures will follow shortly. Contact Mike Howard (howard533@gmail.com or 412-418-7636) with questions.



For Sale:
G. Loomis CrossCurrent
7wt, 9ft, 3pc with tube
VG condition
\$150 cash & carry



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