

THE ROLLCAST

Newsletter of Cape Cod Trout Unlimited

Chapter 460

February 2020

Ted's Presentation Handouts and Fly Boxes

Quashnet River Restoration Update

Banquet and Fly Fishing School

Paul's Trip to Yellowstone River

2019 Worm Hatch Memories

On the WEB: www.capecodtu.org

February 2020 President's Message

Fellow TU members,

January's Chapter meeting was well-attended as our membership turned out to hear Ted Patlen show us his tricks and techniques for finding and catching fish on Cape Cod and beyond. Thank you Ted for sharing your time and knowledge with us. Yearly elections were also held at the January Meeting and the following slate of officers was unanimously elected:

President: Roberta (Robbie) Mazzoli

Vice President: Alan Alai

Treasurer: Michael Howard

Secretary: Peter Schilling

Past President: Tim Lynch

Board Members: Fred Monahan (Fly Fishing School), Ron Reif (Rollcast), Charlie Orr

Thank you to:

Charlie for your service as Treasurer and for agreeing to stay on to help out as a Board Member

Tom Planert for your support and for leading the Kayak Cleanup project

Peter for stepping up as Secretary

We still have some important volunteer positions that we need help with. Would you please consider getting more involved and donating some of your time to these activities?

Coffee/Snacks for the Chapter Meetings

This can be as simple or involved as you'd like to make it. You can stop by Dunkin' on your way to the meeting and pick up a couple boxes of Joe or use the Chapter's thermoses and make coffee at home and bring it in. Either way, the only cost of doing this is your time; the Chapter reimburses you for any costs incurred.

Speaker Coordination

Dan Tobin graciously took on this task for several years (Thank you Dan!) We are now looking for someone to take this on. This involves lining up speakers for only 4 more speakers for this year (March, May, October and November)

Kayak Cleanup

Tom has done a great job of organizing these events during the non-winter months, which perform the really useful service of cleaning up trash from rivers and estuaries up and down the Cape. He is looking to pass the baton on this to a new leader. This involves setting the schedule for the different locations based on the tides and leading the event on the scheduled dates, gathering waivers from participants, etc. Tom can tell you more about it if you have interest.

Looking forward to seeing you at the February 12th Chapter Meeting and/or the following 2020 events:

2/12 Chapter Meeting

2/16 Quashnet Workday

4/5 Annual Fundraising Banquet

5/1-5/3 Fly Fishing School

Tight lines,

Robbie

Events

Board meeting:

February 5, 6pm, Liberty Hall, Marstons Mills (2150 Main St, Marstons Mills, MA 02648)

Chapter Meeting:

February 12, 6:30-8pm, Liberty Hall

Speaker: Warren Winders on Red Brook

Bring a friend

Quashnet River Restoration Workday:

February 16, 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.

Fly Tying Nights:

3rd and 4th Wednesdays Jan, Feb, and March

Liberty Hall, Marstons Mills



TROUT UNLIMITED

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

Quashnet River Restoration Updates

On Sunday, January 19, Peter Schilling, Charles Orr, Mark Hattman, Tim Lynch and Francis Smith proceeded to cut about 500 feet of sweet gale, (take note of that name) from the Quashnet's banks which is part of the process that will allow us to plant about 270 wetland loving trees on April 19, 2020. I am waiting to hear from AmeriCorps to see if they will be able to assist us with preparations prior to the April tree planting date.

In the meantime brush cutting will continue during the week as much as time will allow. The access road to the tree planting site is also being trimmed back of encroaching bear oak (also called scrub oak), its name derived from the fact that the only animal that will eat its extremely bitter acorns is a bear. We are also delivering compost, 8 tons of the stuff, to aid us in planting the trees Quashnet River style. Just what is that all about? Well, a lot of years ago, or once upon a time, we planted trees as 'lining- out bare root stock', unfortunately they did not survive very well so we had to come up with a different planting method which would give these trees a good chance to survive and accomplish the goal of helping to keep the Quashnet's water cold. While in Maine one November day, lost in a massive northern white cedar swamp (not really lost), I was looking at trees that were perched above the water in the swamp. That gave me the idea to plant the trees on the Quashnet in a manner that would simulate the condition of these northern white cedars I was looking at while trying to find my way out of the place. The trees on the Quashnet are planted on top of the abandon bog surface in the following way. Most of the trees we are planting in April are currently six to eight feet tall which will place them well above the brush as the brush starts to grow back after it has been cut. The trees are in pots and have been for two years. They are removed from the pots, placed on the abandon bog surface, and a pyramid of compost is applied all around the root ball and about two inches higher than the root ball surface. The latter part of this planting procedure allows for some wind and rain erosion that will invariably occur. This method keeps the roots out of the water which is usually only a few inches below the abandon bog's surface.

While loading my truck with the compost I had the pleasure of making the acquaintance of the Dirt Goddess! I am not sure but I think she was taking advantage of the mild January weather to accomplish getting a jump start on her gardens. I typically fill 3, forty two gallon trash cans and 22, five gallon buckets to be able to deliver a one-half ton load of compost to the tree planting site. I back my truck, with the tailgate open. Into the massive pile of compost and then start shoveling. The five gallon buckets are placed nearby until the trash cans are filled. Well the Dirt Goddess must have spotted those buckets and when I was busy filling the trash cans she took off with five of them. I guess she thought I didn't see her take the buckets and she began filling them up and placing them in her Subaru station wagon. When she was on the third bucket I asked her whom she thought those buckets belonged. She said she thought they were there for the taking! I said you didn't answer my question! She became somewhat annoyed and said 'Well, they belong to the Town Of Falmouth'. I said "I am not the Town of Falmouth, those buckets belong to me'. She said, 'Too bad, I need them, I'll bring them back when I am done'. She finished filling MY BUCKETS and drove away in her green Subaru! On my return trip from the river for my second load the front end loader driver that works the site for the Town of Falmouth had my five buckets. She returned them all cleaned up and ready for more compost. If I ever see her again I plan to hail her as the DIRT GODDESS! This occasion will be the last time we plant trees in Section 6 and cut brush in that section. Hopefully the trees will shade out the sweet gale and reduce its intensity. Sweet Gale is not shade tolerant. The next and last area to receive a similar treatment will be Section 8, the closest section to Martin Road. There is light at the end of the Tunnel.

Future Quashnet Restoration Dates are: February 16, March 15, and April 19

Cape Cod Trout Unlimited
2020 SPRING FUNDRAISING BANQUET
Dan'l Webster Inn & Spa, Sandwich, MA
Sunday April 5, 2020
Ticket Sales

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. *(See separate request for donations in this newsletter).*

Mark April 5 on your calendar! Tickets are now on sale- still just \$35!

Tickets can be purchased online at www.cctu.org, or by check given to a Board member at a chapter meeting or mailed in to Mike Howard, CCTU Treasurer, 40 Winfield Way, Osterville, MA 02655.

Contact Mike Howard (howard533@gmail.com or 412-418-7636) with questions.



Cape Cod Trout Unlimited
2020 SPRING FUNDRAISING BANQUET
Opportunities for Donations

Our Fundraiser's success will again be heavily based on donations of merchandise for our raffles and auctions. Please consider pitching in.

Do you have fishing equipment (rods, reels, flies, materials) in new or good condition you would like to donate? Can you tie some special flies for us?



How about donating a half-day sharing some of your best techniques and a few good fishing spots with another angler? Would you or someone you know support us by donating use of their vacation home/condo/camp for a week?



Do you know a local merchant who would like to help by donating some merchandise, including non-fishing items? Can you put together and donate a gift basket (food, wine, candies, goodies)?



Bring your donation to one of our upcoming club meetings, or direct inquiries to Mike Howard (howard533@gmail.com or 412-418-7636) or any of our Board members. Thank you very much.



Worm Hatch #5

5/11/19: Today I didn't feel like going, walking out onto the marsh in the full hot sun. So I took a nap, and then had an early steak dinner with double-dark chocolate gelato for dessert—that should get me in the mood I thought? I arrived late which is unusual for me, and then enjoyed a slow amble instead of the usual forced march. Upon arrival at 4:15 there were 3 or 4 stripers already swirling. An hour and a half later as I was about to leave, there were about 30 fish busting away at the spawning worms. After I caught and released 27 fish, I made myself stop—the largest was 26-inches. The bigger fish should arrive soon, just in time for the late-May tide cycle. Later, when I closed my eyes to go to sleep, all I saw was the vivid and animated vision of rise-form swirls dancing in my head.

I was looking forward to hopefully finding my 11th worm hatch during May of 2019, and found my last one on May 27th. I arrived at this location at 6 pm, and brought a beach chair along, because I might have to wait for a while. I had planned to leave at 6:30 if I did not see any encouraging signs, and go to another spot. At 6:20, I saw a couple of swirls, and by 6:40 I saw the first few worms, so then I relaxed and waited for things to slowly develop as they sometimes do. By 8 pm, I had caught 10 fish and I was quite satisfied with that. Over a period of 10 years, this was my 100th worm hatch, and it was fitting that it took place at the location of my first worm hatch ten years ago. This was the 4th hatch within this salt pond so far this season, and this spot was about 150 yards from the entrance, and closer to the source of cold water. With the 11 hatches this season, I was able to catch and released a total of 112 fish.

Woody Mills

Worm Hatch Inspector

The rest of my outings, 1-4, and 6-10, can be read on Strippers Online on the Fly Fishing board, now on page 9 or 10, titled Worm Hatch #5.



Changes to CCTU's board of directors:

Michael Howard will be taking over as the treasurer. Thank you Michael for taking on this position and thank you Charlie Orr for your service as treasurer.

Peter Schilling will be taking over as secretary. Thank you Peter for taking on this position and thank you Michael Howard for your service as secretary.

CCTU would not exist without all of our volunteers...thank you all for your continued service.



Fly Fishing School

1, 2, 3 May 2020 Weekend

***Oak Crest Lodge, Peters Pond
Sandwich, Cape Cod, Massachusetts***



Cape Cod Trout Unlimited (CCTU)

Additional Info and application at www.capecodtu.org

- *Experienced, enthusiastic instructors**
- *Hands-On Learning with lines, knots, fly tying & fly casting**
- *Techniques for fly fishing streams, ponds, and saltwater**
- *Trout stream entomology, conservation, and restoration**

All instructions, food, & lodging for one very reasonable fee

\$275.00

For information contact:

Fred Monahan

Cell 203-213-9419

Email: cctu.ffs@gmail.com

Four Pages of Handouts from Ted Patlen's Presentation:

FISHING IN PONDS OR...WHATEVER.
By Teddy P

Cape Cod Trout Unlimited 2020

There are a few things to consider when chasing fish in a pond.

#1 Pick a pond

Popularity	In season, weekend, are the Pats/sox playing
Water temperature	Season, surface, water depth. All important clouds, effects insect activity, rain or shine..... Air temperature
Time of day	Morning, afternoon, twilight or evening
Water	Depth, clarity, floatsom,
Rain	Season
Wind	Season, eddies, with or against, current...yes there is a current
Bottom	Mud, weeds, stones, drop offs, kayak,
Shoreline	Room for back cast, shade, waders with or without cleats,
Personal comfort	Hot, cold, buggy,
Rod	Length, weight,
Reel	Backing
Line	Wf, dt, long belly, level, floating, sinking, intermediate, sink tip
Leader/tippet	Length, diameter, regular, flouro

So far so good...

#2.

Food forms available

Midges? Mayfly? Caddis? Leeches? Minnows? Terrestrials?

Activity

Are birds feeding, picks? Swirls? Slashes? Gulps? None showing?
A million feeding at one time? A few intermittent rises?
Nothing moving? Which way are they moving?

Fish type

Freshly stocked? Holdovers?

#3 Which fly do you want to use.....????????!!!!!!

Floating

Size, type, color. (Harry Darbee)

Fly sink rate

Subsurface, deep, fast, slow

Fly design

Color, texture, hook size, wire size, weighted or unweighted,
sparseness, and a few more tidbits

Line/Leader/tippet

Greatly effects floatation and especially sink rate

Gather all this data, assimilate a strategy, then...throw the fly at the fish...

#4 Retrieve

Fast, slow, real slow, really slow, no retrieve

Short strip, very short strip, long strip, intermittent, hand twist, short pause, long pause,
ridiculously long pause

What does a take feel like. Are fish curious?

And the stuff that I forgot to put down here ..

All this is called presentation...

HOW TO FISH A RIVER, STREAM OR POND FOR TROUT WITH A FLYROD OR WHY AM I WEARING RUBBER PANTS TRYING TO FOOL A FISH?

Fly Fishing Questions by Ted Patlen

Okay, you did your reading, have the stuff, somehow put it together, and find yourself standing in water. Now what?

DON'T jump in and start flailing away.

Relax and Watch, Look and constantly ask WHY.

What does a fish need to survive?

Do they move around?

Are they smart?

Do they remember things?

Are wild fish smarter than a stocked fish?

When is the best time to fish?

Are they always hungry?

What are they eating?

HOW ARE THEY FEEDING? Listen to them!!!!

What fly do I use? HOW DO I USE IT!!!! (RAY BERGMAN)

Where are the fish but more importantly, WHY are they there?

There will be a few thousand other questions to be asked, but the answers to these simple questions will give you plenty to think about without worrying about highly technical and often, very confusing issues.

AND NOW THE THREE MOST IMPORTANT WORDS ABOUT FLY FISHING

PRESENTATION, PRESENTATION, PRESENTATION

I could talk about this till you run away screaming, so I'll just write down some key words and questions for you to think about and jot down a few of your own thoughts. There are hundreds of factors that affect fishing and when you think you have all the answers, a new batch of dynamics pops up.

PRESENTATION HOW TO THROW STUFF AT A FISH AND HAVE THEM GRAB IT

We don't really know why a fish grabs something (because they don't) but we do know that they will take all sorts of things, moving or not moving.



not these guys but the acronym... KEEP IT SIMPLE STUPID

How are the fish feeding? This tells you what the food form is doing. Remember how dumb they are but how perfectly they have adapted to their environment.

Slow movements (native American belly tickling) Stop and watch stuff, A fish will forget about you if you stand still.

Fish how you feel. When the birds feed so does all of nature. Remember how dumb they are.

How heavy is an insect? How does it float/swim? These two issues are directly *tied* to leader design.

What about baitfish?

Think before you cast. Less is more

If you do happen to hook a fish ask yourself how it happened. Did you do something different? In another word. WHY DID THAT THING GRAB IT!!!

Ray Bergman ...do something different from what the fish are used to.

Light level + rain + sunshine + shade + oppressive heat + frigid temps + any other related issues = ALL IMPORTANT water temperature

Remember how dumb the fish are (with brains the size of a pea) however, you will read hundreds of books, purchase many fishing related items besides rods, reels and flies; travel huge distances and finally try to sneak up to a creature that doesn't know what it is or what it is doing during its entire life.

KISS FANS Who's the dummy? ☺

Don't look Now! By Paul Richards

Sometimes you just don't know who's looking over your shoulder!

Almost 30 years ago my wife, Joan, and I made a trip to Yellowstone. Goals were to sightsee, view lots of wildlife and of course do some fishing. I was flyfishing and Joan was spin fishing as it was before she became a very capable flyfisher on her own. Of course, like any good tourist we did our due diligence regarding where to go for wildlife viewing and for fishing. Based on that info we chose to stay in the cabins bordering Yellowstone Lake and very near Fishing Bridge spanning the Yellowstone River at its outlet from the Lake.

Being so close to the Yellowstone River, that was to be one of my destinations while Joan continued on to the Hayden Valley to spot bison, elk et al. Joan dropped me off at a well-known easy access point to the river known as Buffalo Ford. That, adjacent to the road location, was written up as a good place to catch cutthroats. Seemed ideal to me.....and about twenty other flyfishers on both sides of the river. Good place to catch my first Cutt or so I thought. I went about my business. There were fish rising and cruising here and there, pretty exciting for a tenderfoot. With all the fish and good weather conditions what more could I want, eh?

I brought plenty of dry flies, nymphs, streamers. I was ready, oh so ready! Seems like the Cutts had other ideas though. After about 15 minutes of flailing about, I took a few minutes to watch my new companions, the twenty others flailing about. Lots of arm-waving exercise but nothing else. Not a fish was seen impaling itself on a fly anywhere in sight.

To my surprise I looked down and there was a beautiful Cutt finning away in the submarine wash of my waders, having a gay-ole time and paying no attention to me. A light bulb went off. Why not drop my fly so it drifts past the Cutt and watch the reaction. First fly----nothing. Second fly----nothing. Eighth fly-----nothing. What happened to the "Cutts are easy to catch" I kept hearing while prepping for the trip. I must admit though, I was totally engrossed doing my little fly drift,-change-fly, drift routine.

Then it happened. A flyfisherman across the Yellowstone started yelling at us and screaming, screaming something. He was pretty animated but I didn't know what all his antics meant. When I was about to test my umpteenth fly drifting past the Cutt in my wake, I happen to look to my right. Not 30 feet away was a bison that had ambled down from the woods to take a drink. I froze. Visitors are told over and over again upon entering the park that the bison are wild animals and folks get gored every year. Luckily I had been still playing with my little fishy friend and not flailing away with my fly rod. Draping a flyline over and setting the hook into the fur/hide of a bison by me or one of the other adjacent fishers probably would have caused a reaction on its part! I'll never know. I stayed still until it finished drinking and then retreated back across the road and into the woods.

When I mentioned the incident to park staff at the local park store, they simply said that's why it's called "Buffalo Ford", stupid!

Chapter	Date	Venue	Cost
Cape Cod	5-Apr-20	Dan'I Webster Inn, Sandwich, MA	\$35.00
Nor'east	7-Mar-20	Danversport Club, Danvers, MA	\$35/pp; \$280 for a table of 8
Central Mass	16-May-20	Audubon Sportsmens Club, Auburn, MA	
Rhode Island	4-Apr-20	Elks Lodge, West Greenwich, RI	\$35/pp
Pioneer Valley	3-Apr-20	Knights of Columbus (Castle of Knights)	\$35/pp
Taconic	6-Mar-20	Movie Night and Banquet; Barrington Brewery	
Greater Boston	late April or early May	TBD	
Deerfield	22-Feb-20	Deerfield Inn	\$40/pp
Southeast Mass	22-Mar-20	Monponsett Inn, Halifax, MA	
Squan-a-tissit	14-Mar-20		

January Chapter Meeting



What's Inside Ted's Fly Boxes?



Cape Cod Trout Unlimited

Officers and Board Members

President: Roberta Mazzoli

Vice President: Alan Alai

Treasurer: Michael Howard

Secretary: Peter Schilling

Board Member: Fred Monahan

Board Member: Tom Planert

Past President: Tim Lynch

Rollcast editor: Ron Reif (ccturollcast5@gmail.com)

