



Taconic Chapter established 1974 The Backcast

January 2006

**Membership
meeting
Wednesday
January 25, 2006
Berkshire Hills Country
Club
6pm social hour
7 pm Dinner - \$21.00**

8pm Speaker - Free

Guest Speakers

Bill Bullock

Director of the American Museum
of Fly Fishing

Seline Skoug

Casting for Recovery



Crooked Staff Award



Congratulations, Karen

Karen Karlberg receives the Chapter's most prestigious award "The Crooked Staff" for her work and countless volunteer hours for the Chapter. Karen will take the lead again this year with the Atlantic Salmon Egg Rearing Project at Becket-Washington Elementary School. This is Karen's third year with the project; Karen has done an outstanding job leading this effort. The children are very fortunate to have the opportunity to learn about life of the Atlantic Salmon and the environment with Karen. It is her energy, dedication and commitment that help make learning fun for the children. When she is not volunteering in the classroom, she is lending a helping and steady hand with the Casting For Recovery program. The Taconic Chapter is very proud of you. Thank you for helping to make our Chapter strong.

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Chague's Place

December 12, 2005 was not a very good day for me. It all started when I checked the newspaper obituaries that morning only to find that a dear friend, Bill Hanford, had passed away at the age of 93. For those of you who may not have known him, Bill was a Taconic TU member for over 25 years. He never missed any events, be it the Frigid Frolics (our ice fishing events), the Conroy's Castle (summer picnics), the BCLS banquets, or whatever. He was a reliable acid rain monitoring volunteer for years, who teamed up with member Ed Desaulniers.

He was an active member of the board of the Friends of the Williams River. That, you may recall, was the group which was formed in the 1980's, when the Taconic Chapter partnered with the Lenox Garden Club and "adopted" the Williams River through the Riverways Adopt-a Stream Program. He was a member of the R.O.M.E.O's (Retired Old Men Eating Out) and missed few luncheons until his health began to fail him. He was an honorary member of the Board of the Taconic Chapter.

After putting down the newspaper, I opened my e-mails and had more disturbing news that morning from Berkshire County League of Sportsmen (BCLS) president, Mark Jester. Tom Keefe, DFW Western Wildlife District Supervisor had passed away. Tom was another personal friend who I would see at the monthly BCLS meetings, the HVA meetings, the ACEC meetings, and others. He worked hard on getting year round boat access for fishermen onto Lake Garfield. He was a great help in providing me info for the Berkshire Eagle Outdoor Sports column. You may recall that Tom received the BCLS Sportsmen's Appreciation Award for "going well beyond the call of duty to represent the interests of district sportsmen and conservationists."

That evening, I clicked on the e-mails again and there was a message from Joe Overlock, President of the Berkshire County Fly Fishers, with more bad news. Ernest Schwiebert, famous flyfishing author had passed away at age 74. To quote fellow author Dick Talleur, "Ernie was arguably the most brilliant mind the flyfishing world has ever seen." He wrote such books as *Matching the Hatch*, *Nymphs*, and *A River for Christmas*. Some of our senior TU members may recall seeing him at the Council Banquet in Northampton in 1983. At that event, I met him, conversed and got his autograph in a couple of my books. Although I did not personally know him, he wrote a very nice message. Still, I knew him well enough to be saddened by his loss.

After that, I clicked off the computer and went to bed. You know, some days are just not worth getting out of bed.

Happy New Year.....Gene

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The Chapter's Business

Officers

President - Paul Knauth	term expires October 2006
Vice President - Len Gigliotti	term expires October 2006
Treasurer - Herb Rod	term expires October 2006
Secretary - Marc Hoechstetter	term expires October 2006

Directors

Charles Wohl	term expires October 2006
Paul Ouellette	term expires October 2006
Ron Wojcik	term expires October 2006
Allen Gray	term expires October 2007
John Kastrinakis	term expires October 2007
Dave O'Clair	term expires October 2007
Steve Booth	term expires October 2007
Fred Moran	term expires October 2008
Marilyn Moran	term expires October 2008
Karen Karlberg	term expires October 2008
Larry Newmark	term expires October 2008

From the President

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year everyone.

We had a wonderful Holiday Celebration on December 14th, 47 guests were in attendance. Being together with your friends, the wine tasting and the presentation of the Crooked Staff made this a very special evening for everyone.

The wine tasting was terrific. A special thank you to Ralph and Cynthia Lichtenstein for organizing wine tasting event. We had fine a selection of wines from around the world. Ralph and Cynthia's expertise helped us feel more confident in selecting wines. They provided a fun and educational wine tasting experience that we all enjoyed. Thank you.

Karen Karlberg was presented the Taconic Chapter's most prestigious award "The Crooked Staff". On behalf of all the members of the Taconic Chapter, congratulations Karen well deserved.

For the raffle, Joel Giguere donated a 3wt Winston fly rod and Ross reel. Thank you for this generous donation to the Chapter. The lucky winner was Len Gigliotti.

Herb Rod and Marc Hoechstetter, the Holiday Helpers, thank you both for all your contributions to our Chapter.

We have a change to our speaker schedule, Marla Blair will be our guest speaker on April 26th. Looking ahead, we have a quality line up of guest speakers; please check the Taconic Chapter calendar. I know some of you cannot make the dinner segment of our meetings, if you can the program with the featured guest speaker will begin at 8pm; its free please come join us.

The dinner segment of our meeting will increase to \$21.00 per person; this increase is to cover taxes and tips for the wait staff.

Don't forget, Fly Tying night, Thursday January 26th at Berkshire West, come tie of few wooly buggers, or your favorite fly we'll donate the flies to Casting For Recovery. I look forward to seeing you Jan. 25th please travel safe and take care.

Paul Knauth

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Fred Moran

Bamboo Rod Restoration

Federation of Fly fishers
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Casting for Recovery Adams, am 01220

Our Wish List

1. Laptop Computer
2. Donations for postage
3. Donate raffle prizes

Please send check payable to Taconic
Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Paul W Knauth
Box 41
Hinsdale, MA 01235

Taconic Chapter 2005-06 Calendar

February

- 16 - Directors Meeting 7pm @ Crane & Co Inc. Research and Development Center*
- 22 - Membership Meeting @ Berkshire Hills Country Club 6:45 pm Dinner 7pm*
 - *Guest Speaker Pat Higgins - Fly Fishing the Green River in Utah*

March

- 23 - Directors Meeting 7pm @ Crane & Co Inc. Research and Development Center*
- 29 - Membership Meeting @ Berkshire Hills Country Club 6:45 pm Dinner 7pm*
 - *Guest Speaker Walt Geryk - Steelhead Fishing*

April

- 20 - Directors Meeting 7pm @ Crane & Co Inc. Research and Development Center*
- 26 - Membership Meeting @ Berkshire Hills Country Club 6:45 pm Dinner 7pm*
 - *Guest Speaker - Marla Blair - "Fishing Western Mass and North Connecticut Rivers".*

May

- 11 - Directors Meeting 7pm @ Crane & Co Inc. Research and Development Center*
- 19 - 22 Indian Hollow Weekend*



Membership renewal reminder

Keep an eye on your expiration date, there have been some tracking problems at TU national. As a result some members have been dropped from the mailing list and sadly do not receive our newsletter

Don't forget , Fly Tying night, Thursday January 26th at Berkshire West - its free