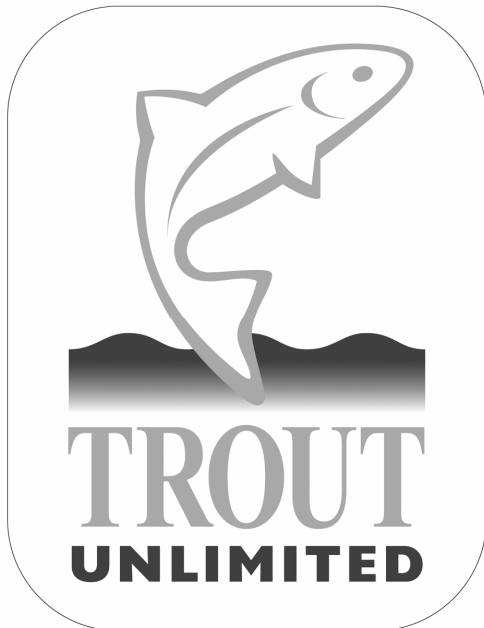


In The Trout's Window

Issue 1, 2008/2009

January 2008

Pioneer Valley TU Chapter 276



January 8, 2008 Meeting

Our next chapter meeting will be held at 7:30PM on Tuesday, January 8th at the West Springfield/Agawam Elks Lodge, 422 Morgan Rd., West Springfield, MA.

Guest Speaker: Ken Simmons “Stream Insect Ecology”

Join us on January 8, 2008 when we welcome a very special guest speaker, Dr. Ken Simmons, as he provides our audience with a general overview of aquatic insects, their trout stream ecology and their role in fly fishing. This is certainly a topic most near and dear to all of our hearts!

Dr. Simmons' professional research and work have focused on trout since 1985, and for the past 10 years he has served as the Chief of Hatcheries for the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. Dr. Simmons holds an AS Degree in Environmental Science from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture, a BS Degree in Entomology from the University of Massachusetts, as well as a MS and PhD in stream ecology and aquatic insects from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

The breadth of knowledge Dr. Simmons brings with him with respect to trout and their habitat is amazing, so this is a meeting not to be missed by anyone. Bring a friend.

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*Happy New Year to all
Chapter Members and their
Families...
...and Best Fishes for 2008!*

Welcome to New Officers and Board Members

The following Chapter members were voted into Officer and Board of Director positions at the December 11, 2007 membership meeting:

President: Paul Beaulieu
Vice President: Ed Bauchiero
Secretary: Tom LeBlanc
Treasurer: Joe Babineau

Board of Directors: Jim Turcotte, Gary Metras
Jim Lafley, Terry Connolly
Stan Gula, Barry Coppinger

All positions take effect on January 1, 2008 and are two-year terms. Your new Officers and Board of Directors want to remind you that their monthly meeting takes place immediately following our regular monthly meeting, and all members are warmly welcomed to observe these sessions.

New Committees Shaping-Up, Sign-ups Still Sought

New committees have been established to address the needs and the future direction of our TU Chapter. Best of all, an impressive number of members have stepped forward to volunteer as a committee member or chair. As of our December 2007 meeting, here are the committees and the members who have graciously come forth to volunteer their talents:

Banquet Committee: Jim Lafley, Jim Turcotte,
Ed Bauchiero, Barry Coppinger
Russ Ruel, Gary Metras,
Terry Connolly, Rene Houde

Conservation Comm.: Paul Beaulieu, Gary Metras,
John Sinton, Jim Skorulski

Newsletter: Tony Kuralowicz, Gary Metras,
John Sinton, Ed Bauchiero

Sportsman Show Booth: Russ Ruel, Thomas Torelli,
Terry Connolly, Paul Vallee,
Gary Metras, Rene Houde
Frank Steplar, Rex Hryniewicz,

Media/Website: Patty Kuralowicz

Fly Tying Classes: Richard Bussolari, Gary Metras

Monthly Meeting

Program Committee: Terry Connelly, Bob Regish,
Bill Donnelly

These committees could use more volunteers, so here's your chance to do your part to help your TU Chapter. Learn more about our new committees at the January 8th meeting. An explanation of each committee as well as a sign-up sheet for committee membership will be present. A special thanks to all of you that have already signed-on!

Did You Receive a Phone Call?

Another one of the newly formed Chapter committees, the Membership Survey Committee, continues to contact dozens and dozens of PVTU members by telephone. Chairman Gary Metras and fellow committee members Bill Donnelly, Bill Rose, Marty Frisbie, Jim Leonard, Jim Terrett, Russell Ruel, Terry Connolly, Rene Houde, Frank Steplar, and Patty and Tony Kuralowicz, are calling Chapter members in an effort to survey their interests, ideas and concerns as they relate to our Trout Unlimited Chapter.

Don't be surprised if you receive a telephone call from one of these volunteers.. Most importantly, please give them your feedback – they *want* to hear from you!

Conservation Banquet: New Date, New Place:

Friday April 4, 2008 marks not only the new date for our annual Conservation Banquet, but also a change in venue for our favorite Chapter activity. To make our Conservation Banquet both equitable and convenient for our members, the Conservation Banquet will be held at a new location – the Agawam-West Springfield Lodge of Elks (the same location as our monthly meetings).

Nationally renown restaurant, Bub's Barbeque, has graciously agreed to cater our Conservation Banquet this year. For those who don't know, "Bub's" Barbeque is located in Sunderland, Massachusetts, and has receive recognition from culinary magazines as well as the Wall Street Journal, as one of the best bar-be-que restaurants in the United States.

In an effort to attract more members and their friends to attend the Conservation Banquet, the Board of Directors has decided to reduce the ticket price. The ticket price will be about **one-half the price** of previous banquets!

As in the past, our Banquet will sport quality auction items all of which provide the financial proceeds necessary to operate our Chapter and fund our conservation efforts. Proceeds from this year's banquet will support conservation projects on the Swift River. So, if you want to show support for improving this local river and quality fishery, you can help by attending the banquet.

More than ever we need to see an increase in the number of Banquet attendees as well as an eager auction audience. Together, we can make 2008, the most successful Conservation Banquet yet. More details to follow in the February newsletter.

Reserve Friday April 4, 2008
on your calendar now!

Winner of "Secret" Fly Rod Announced

Congratulations to Bruce Betsold who attended our December 11th Chapter meeting and won a beautiful, brand new Powell, 4-piece, 5 weight fly rod!

The proceeds from the raffle of this brand new quality fly rod will benefit the endowment of our scholarship fund.

Thank you to all who attended the December meeting and supported our raffle for this very worthy cause.

Winter Fly Tying Classes Around the Corner

What a great way to pass away the winter hours! Come join us at either of the classes listed below. The class for Beginning fly tiers requires no experience whatsoever, and the Intermediate class is for folks who have tied flies before or have completed the Beginner class. Dates and times are as follows:

Beginner's Fly Tying Class

Instructor: Gary Metras and PVTU tiers.
Dates: Wednesday evenings in February
Time: 7:00pm – 9:00pm
Location: West Springfield Lodge of Elks
Cost: Free of Charge

Call Gary at (413) 527-3324 to register for the Beginner's class. No previous fly tying experience is necessary and all tools and materials are supplied.

Intermediate Fly Tying Class

Instructor: Jim Turcotte
Dates: Wednesday evenings in March
Time: 7:00pm – 9:00pm
Location: West Springfield Lodge of Elks
Cost: Free of Charge

Call Jim at (413) 527-5863 to register for the Intermediate class.

Sign-up today to ensure your lace in the class!

A special thanks to Gary and Jim who will be volunteering their time and talents to provide a quality educational experience this winter.



Pioneer Valley TU Trivia Questions...

What's your Fishing I.Q.?

(Answers at bottom of page)

1. What are the two most hated insects by surveyed fly fishermen?
2. What lead sinker is pinched around a line to grasp on?
3. What part of a fish strains water for oxygen?
4. True or False. Fish have an air bladder which enables them to adjust their buoyancy.
5. What is a parr? (Hint: it has nothing to do with a good golf shot).
6. What is the rod eyelet closed to the fly reel called?
7. What rotary tool is used to bore a hole through the ice for ice fishing?
8. True or False. A carp is actually a minnow.
9. What is the bow of a boat; the back, right side, left side, or front?
10. If your fishing buddy told you that he witnessed a Royal Wulff hatch on the river last night, what would this mean?
11. (Extra credit) What date do I need to reserve on my calendar to attend the 2008 Pioneer Valley TU Chapter Conservation Banquet?

Aspiring Writers Wanted!

Got something to say? If so, we want to hear it.

If you have some fishing or conservation related news, an angling story or antidote, a fly pattern to share, a book review, or anything else you want to share with your fellow Chapter members, there is space in this newsletter for you!

Just email your item to bigfished@comcast.net or bring it to our next monthly TU meeting. Don't worry about grammar, spelling, etc. - we will take care of that.

This is your newsletter, so please take advantage of it!

Quote of the Month:

*"And this our life, exempt from public haunt,
Finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks,
Sermons in stones, and good in everything."*

William Shakespeare, *As you Like It*

Answers to TU Trivia Questions:

1. black flies and mosquitoes 2. a split shot 3. the gills
4. True 5. a very small (young) salmon 6. a stripping guide
7. an auger 8. True 9. the front 10. It means your friend is confused or delusional... there is no such thing as a Royal Wulff hatch. 11. Friday April 4, 2008!

In The Trout's Window

Newsletter of the Pioneer Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited.
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Chapter Meetings

Meetings are held at 7PM on the second Tuesday of each month from September through May. We meet at the West Springfield/Agawam Lodge of Elks, 422 Morgan Rd., West Springfield, MA. The general public is always welcome with no admission fee.

EVENT CALENDAR

January 8, 2008

Speaker: Ken Simmons
“Stream Insect Ecology”

February 12, 2008

Meeting Topic T.B.A.

March 11, 2008

Meeting Topic T.B.A.

April 4, 2008

Conservation Banquet

May 13, 2008

Meeting Topic T.B.A.