



# Taconic Chapter established 1974

## The Backcast

October 2005

**Membership Meeting**  
**Wednesday**  
**October 26, 2005**  
*6pm social hour*  
*7 pm Dinner*  
**Guest Speaker**

**Eric Hamerling**

**Fly Fishing the  
Farmington River**



**Annual Meeting**  
**October 26, 2005**  
**7pm**

**Berkshire Hills Country Club**  
**500 Benedict Rd**  
**Pittsfield, Ma**

The Board of Directors at set October 26, 2005, for the Annual Meeting of the Chapter. The purpose of the meeting will be to elect the officers and directors for the period October 2005 -October 2006. At the meeting, the president, Paul Knauth will deliver to the membership the 2005 annual report.

At Annual Meeting a slate of officers for each elected office will be presented. In addition, nominations from the floor will be accepted and presented to the membership for the election.

### Election of Officers and Directors

According to the Bylaws of the Taconic Chapter, the president is elected for a one year term and is eligible for only one (1) successive term. All other officers: Vice president, Treasurer and Secretary are elected to a one-year term and are eligible to serve for two (2) consecutive one-year terms.

*President*  
*Vice-president*  
*Treasurer*  
*Secretary*

*Each is a one year term expiring October 2006.*

*Four Director candidate openings*

*(1) Candidate for Director term is one year expiring October 2006*  
*(3) Candidates for Director term is three years expiring October 2008*

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### Pittsfield Radio

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[alex@pittsfieldradion.com](mailto:alex@pittsfieldradion.com)  
 748 Tyler Street Pittsfield, MA  
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### Berkshire County REALTY COMPANY

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## Chague's Place

We have received a request. No, this is not a request for the usual pound of flesh, but rather a request to go fishing. Yep, you read it right. George Darey, Chairman, MA Fisheries and Wildlife Board wants to know how the trout fared in the Housatonic River this year. This year should prove to be the real test... if they survived in the river this year, they should be able to survive any year. I fished the river in late June after the first surge of extreme heat and was pleasantly surprised to learn that they survived. In fact, I was so elated that I e-mailed some of you to tell you that there was nothing to worry about.

Then, beginning in early July, the second heat wave occurred. I quit fishing the river at that time when the water temperatures approached 80 degrees (F). That heat wave, as you well know, lasted months. Many streams, besides the normal intermittent ones dried up. One can only imagine how high the temperatures reached in the main stem of the river.

In early September, I bumped into George and he was inquiring how the fish did. I told him that it was very doubtful that any of them survived. I was already making excuses (hottest summer in decades, no rain, etc) and was ready to concede that this was the type of year that those who were against the stocking the river were talking about.

On September 19, I decided to give it a try, although I really didn't expect to catch any trout. I would settle for a little action from small mouth bass. It was a sunny afternoon with temperatures in the upper 70's, but the water appeared to be in the 60's. Because nothing was rising or hatching, I had no idea of what fly to use, and my first inclination was to try a streamer. Just as I stepped out into the river, a couple of reddish orange dragonflies flew past. I have always had good luck fishing orange in the fall, so I decided to tie on an old fashioned wet fly pattern called the Breadcrust.

Shortly thereafter, I had a solid strike and had something on. The fish didn't come to the top and splash but rather it kept burrowing deep. It didn't act like a smallie, but what else could it be? The trout should all be dead. Finally, it turned and began swimming upstream. All I wanted to do was to see the thing, just to find out what it was, and I didn't care if I landed it or not. Fortunately, the water was quite clear and at about 20 feet away, I could see him.....a trout! Later, I netted a beautiful 17inch brown trout. It was a little thin, but scrappy. No, it didn't want any part of being nursed back to health, for it bolted right out of my hand

I haven't been so glad to see a trout in many, many years, and were it not for getting some pcb's on my lips, I would have kissed it. You see, this fish convinced me, once and for all, that trout can survive in this "warmwater" river in spite of the hottest of summers. There are cold water refuges in it and the fish are able to find them. Any doubts that I may have harbored in the past are now gone forever.

Now, if you fellow anglers could take time from your busy schedules and fish the river this fall, it would be appreciated. We need to know if many other fish survived, too, or was it just a case that I am so good a fisherman that I caught the only one left. I know that this may be an unpleasant task but, hey, someone has to do it.

Gene

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## The Chapter's Business

### Officers

President - Paul Knauth	term expires October 2005
Vice President - Len Gigliotti	term expires October 2005
Treasurer - Herb Rod	term expires October 2005
Secretary - Marc Hoehstetter	term expires October 2005

### Directors

Dwayne Anderson	term expires October 2005
Allen Gray	term expires October 2005
Charles Wohl	term expires October 2005
Paul Ouellette	term expires October 2006
Ron Wojcik	term expires October 2006
John Kastrinakis	term expires October 2007
Dave O'Clair	term expires October 2007
Steve Booth	term expires October 2007

### From the President

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Taconic Chapter's officers and directors, we thank you, for your support. In the few short months we been together we have had a few accomplishments and made a few changes to how we conduct our business.

The Taconic Chapter of Trout Unlimited is a diverse group of individuals who love the sport of fly fishing and embrace the mission of Trout Unlimited. It is a balance that has helped our Chapter grow and prosper.

In January 2005, we set two goals; I am please to report you; we made it. Our goal to increase our membership from 138 members to 150 by October 2005, today our membership is 157 and growing. Our financial position is stable its modest growth, has help us realize our goal "to provide the financial growth opportunities to sustain current and future chapter activities". We created three committees (Finance, Membership and Activities) have been formed, each with an objective and the framework to help us be successful.

What else we done? Well to mention a few. How about;

- Karen Karlberg's - outstanding job at Becket Elementary School with the Atlantic Salmon Egg Rearing Project.
- Ron Wojcik's - inspiration and guidance for the after school program to teach student the sport of fly fishing.
- Marilyn Moran's - leadership with the "Casting for Recovery" for our chapter.
- Herb Rod's - fine work with the Atlantic Salmon poster
- Volunteers for "Back the Brookie" project & Acid Rain Project

Did we accomplish our final goal "to continue the work to make the Taconic Chapter recognizable and synonymous with the mission of Trout Unlimited?" Yes we did and most importantly we did it together.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting on October 26<sup>th</sup> at Berkshire Hills Country Club, please travel safe and take care.

Paul Knauth

## Over the Rainbow

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### Harold D McMillian, Jr.

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Telephone (860) 672 - 1010

## MA/RI Council

2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Banquet

## Marlboro Fish and Game Club

Sunday Nov. 6, 2005  
@ 3PM

**Cost: \$25.00 per Person**

In addition to a fine speaker, there will be raffles and a silent auction.

Guided fly fishing trips, fly rods, reels, flies and limited addition artwork.

You don't want to miss this event!

Get a group together and carpool,

Contact Marc Hoehstetter;

[marchoec@bcn.net](mailto:marchoec@bcn.net)

## Lost

Columbia green rain jacket lost  
"maybe" at Indian Hollow.

If found please contact Homer Ouellette at [HOUELL1@aol.com](mailto:HOUELL1@aol.com)

## *Taconic Chapter 2005-06 Calendar*

### **October**

20 - Directors Meeting 7pm @ Crane & Co Inc. Research and Development Center

26 - Membership Meeting @ Berkshire Hills Country Club 6:45 pm Dinner 7pm

- Annual Meeting
- Election of Officers
- Guest Speaker Eric Hamerling - Topic Farmington River

### **November**

9 - Directors Meeting 7pm @ Crane & Co Inc. Research and Development Center

16 - Membership Meeting @ Berkshire Hills Country Club 6:45 pm Dinner 7pm

- Member Trip reports

### **December**

8 - Directors Meeting 7pm @ Crane & Co Inc. Research and Development Center

14 - Membership Meeting @ Berkshire Hills Country Club 6:45 pm Dinner 7pm

- Holiday Celebration
- Award Crooked Staff

### **January**

19 - Directors Meeting 7pm @ Crane & Co Inc. Research and Development Center

25 - Membership Meeting @ Berkshire Hills Country Club 6:45 pm Dinner 7pm

- Guest Speaker TBA

### **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 TBA

### **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 - Andrew Madden - Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

### **May**

11 - Directors Meeting 7pm @ Crane & Co Inc. Research and Development Center

19 - 22 Indian Hollow Weekend



## Casting for Recovery Class of 2005



The Taconic Chapter actively supports the "Casting for Recovery" program. This program provides fly-fishing retreats specifically tailored for women who have or have had breast cancer from our area. This is a wonderful day, we made new friends, we laughed, we learned, we shared our fly fishing experience with group of enthusiastic and very special ladies. A great day. Can you spot the 6 Taconic Chapter members picture in the photo below?



Fred and Marilyn Moran, Rex Channel, Trish Watson, Dave O'Clair and Paul Knauth