

# In The Trout's Window

Issue 1, 2009

January 2009

Pioneer Valley TU Chapter 276

## January 13, 2009 Meeting



Our chapter upcoming meeting will be held at 7:30PM on Tuesday, January 13th at the West Springfield/Agawam Elks Lodge, 422 Morgan Rd., West Springfield, MA. (Fly Tier's Corner begins at 7:00pm)

### *The Annual Fly Tying Extravaganza and Buy/ Swap Meeting Is Here!*

The long awaited for meeting of the season is upon us! January 13th marks our annual Fly Tying Extravaganza and Buy/Swap meeting.

Roam from table to table and watch expert fly tiers demonstrate creative and effective patterns for use on our local rivers. You can sit down at each table to observe each tier's techniques close-up, ask questions, and learn how to tie better flies. If you are not a tier, this is an equally great opportunity to see how the highest quality flies are tied.

New this year... a beginner's fly tying table will be available at the meeting for the young and not-so-young who want to learn how to tie a fly. Fly tying vices and all materials will be provided *free of charge*. Take home your own fly!

#### **Great gear also available...**

In addition to our fly tying demonstrations, several local fly shops, and Chapter members will have tables set-up with fishing gear and related items for sale. What a great way to see what's new as well as pick-up some of those items you need before you next hit the river!

So, in one evening you can learn from expert fly tiers and treat yourself to a New Year's present by visiting local purveyors of fly fishing gear. Is there a better way to start a new year of angling?

***Happy New Year to all Chapter Members,  
Supporters, and their Families!***

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## Got Gear (part II)?

By PVTU President, Paul Beaulieu

Last month I mentioned that our Chapter assisted Casting for Recovery during 2008 by making a \$250 dollar donation to their organization for their most worthy volunteer work.

The overwhelming thanks we received from Casting for Recovery made me realize that this organization, like Trout Unlimited, relies - indeed survives - on donations. One does not need to look too deeply to see the parallel missions between our two organizations. This is important and mutually beneficial for both of us.

So, at our January 13th Extravaganza meeting I will be offering a table featuring some of my own fishing equipment (as well as that of other members who wish to bring them to my table) for sale. All proceeds of "The President's Sale" will be donated to Casting for Recovery. Equipment will include fly rods among other items and I invite all of you attending the meeting to either donate an item or two to this table or purchase some of these items. Better yet - do both. I cannot think of a better reason to purchase more gear!

In addition, I encourage all members to attend this meeting to spend some quality time with your fishing buddies, visit the tables of our generous local fly shops, and check out the skills of our fly tying gurus. What a great way to kick-off 2009.

As always,  
Fishon!

## Change of Address?

Has your address recently changed? If so, you must contact TU National directly to report this change. This is vital because TU National will not accept a member's address change from anyone except the member.

Recently a few Pioneer Valley Chapter members have notified our Chapter newsletter editor of their new addresses, but unfortunately there is nothing a newsletter editor can do to update a member's address. Our newsletter editor does not have access to make any modifications in the TU National membership database.

Our Chapter depends on an updated membership list each month from TU National to use for our newsletter, so *please* be sure to report any change of address directly to TU National. TU National can be reached at:

Trout Unlimited  
Membership Services  
1300 N. 17th St.  
Suite 500  
Arlington, VA 22209-2404  
Toll Free: 1-800-834-2419  
Fax: (703) 284-9400

## Not Too Late for New Year's Resolution

How about making an easy, yet very important, New Year's Resolution for 2009? By volunteering to do *just one thing* for your TU Chapter in 2009, we can go a long way in our upcoming program and conservation efforts.

Our Chapter has over 400 members, so just think of how much we could accomplish in 2009 if each member volunteered to do *just one thing*?! Maybe write one article or book review for the newsletter, maybe arrange for one monthly speaker, maybe show up for a river clean-up, etc.

Come to a monthly Chapter meeting and see one of our Chapter officers. There are plenty of quick and easy things you can do to help. Thank you.

## Fly Tying Classes, Winter 2009

The Pioneer Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited is offering a free Beginners Fly Tying Course on Wednesday evenings: February 4, 11, 18, 25. These classes will be taught by Gary Metras. To register, call him at (413-527-3324) ([gmetras3324@charter.net](mailto:gmetras3324@charter.net)). All material and tools will be supplied.

The Pioneer Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited is also offering a free Intermediate Fly Tying Course on Wednesday evenings: March 4, 11, 18, 25. Jim Turcotte will be instructing this course. To register contact him at (413-527-5863) All fly materials supplied, bring your own tying tools.

Both the Beginner's and Intermediate classes will be held at the West Springfield/Agawam Elks Lodge, 422 Morgan Rd., West Springfield, MA.

PVTU members Gary Metras, Dan Berry and others will be teaching additional beginner/intermediate fly tying classes this winter as follows:

January 23-March 12, Thursday evenings 6-8pm.  
Valley Sport Center  
Northampton Road (Rt. 10), Easthampton

The cost is \$15.00 per pupil and the class is limited to 15 students. All materials and tools supplied. To register, contact Gary Craig at Valley Sports: 413-527-9278.

PVTU members Les Jones and Rudy Ciecho will be teaching beginner/intermediate fly tying classes this winter as follows:

January 28-February 25, Wednesday evenings 6-8 pm.  
Dave's Pioneer Sporting Center  
Damon Road, Northampton

The cost is \$25.00 per pupil. All materials and tools supplied. At the end of class a \$25.00 gift card is issued. To register, contact: Les Jones at [JonesFlyFisher@aol.com](mailto:JonesFlyFisher@aol.com) or Dave at the store: 413-584-9944.

## PVTU Board of Directors Ballot

At the January, 2009 Chapter meeting members will be able to vote upon a slate of candidates for our Board of Directors. Directors serve a two year term (January 2009—January 2011). So far, the slate of candidates is as follows:

Daniel Berry      Gary Metras      Jim Turcotte  
Jim Lafley      Russell Ruel

New Board members are being actively sought. If you are interested in running for a position on the Board, please attend the January Chapter meeting as nominations will be accepted. We are looking to mentor new Board members so don't be shy!

## PVTU Chapter Member Interview

By Gary Metras

**Name:** Les Jones

**Hometown:** Northampton, MA.

**Age:** Hey, It's only a number.

**Occupation:** Retired machinist.

**How long a member of PVTU:** 18 years.

**Favorite fly:** The one on the end of my line.

**Favorite local river:** East Branch of the Westfield River (Chesterfield Gorge section).

**Best fish you ever caught:** All of them.

**Why is fishing important to you:** Clear's my head and cleanses my soul.

**Why is TU's Mission, to conserve, protect, and restore cold water fisheries important?** Without clean water and fish, this life as we know it would be dead.

**Other thoughts:** What TU has done for me: It has blessed me with a lot of new friend's and taught me how to give to my Chapter as much time and energy as possible , Trying my best to get as many fish in the river in the spring & fall for everybody to enjoy. TU meetings are there to try to get people involved and to learn that whatever they can do is always appreciated. It will all start by picking up a piece of paper litter then a can or a bottle, trying to leave the river and its surroundings a better and cleaner place than you found it.

## PVTU Treasurer's Report

The December, 2008 Treasurer's report for the Pioneer Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited is as follows:

Checking Account:      \$773.80  
Savings Account:      \$12,365.91  
CD Account::      \$11,064.49

The CD account is earmarked for the PVTU Memorial Scholarship fund with the goal of eventually attaining \$20,000 in order to be self sustaining.

## Pioneer Valley TU Trivia Questions

### ...What's Your Big Fish IQ?

(Answers at bottom of page)

1. True or False. To qualify for a world record freshwater or saltwater fish, the angler cannot use wire fishing line.
2. Which organization is responsible for maintaining world fishing records?
3. When fishing for big brown trout, name the best period of the day to do it.
4. What does AFTMA stand for?
5. What is the time limit to submit a claim for a fishing record in the U.S.A.?

## Book Reviews Wanted

Winter approaches, and many fly rods rest nestled to their tubes in wait for springtime. The snowy season provides anglers with the opportunity to settle down, read and dream of the sport and environment they love. With so many books on the market, which ones provide the most worthwhile reading for our limited time?

Your TU Chapter newsletter is looking for your opinion on the best literary and conservation books. Please forward a book review of your favorite read, and we will publish reviews in the February edition of the "In The Trout's Window". This is your chance to help other Chapter members find some great winter reading.

You can submit your book review via email to: [bigfished@comcast.net](mailto:bigfished@comcast.net)

## Quotes of the Month:

Quite possibly this is the key to fishing:  
the ability to see glamour  
in whatever species one may fish for.

Harold Blaisdell

Only those become weary of angling  
who bring nothing to it  
but the idea of catching fish.

Rafael Sabatini



### Answers to TU Trivia Questions:

1. True
2. International Game Fish Association
3. Nighttime
4. American Fishing Tackle Manufacturers Association
5. 60 days from the date of the catch

### **In The Trout's Window**

Newsletter of the Pioneer Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited.  
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Edward Bauchiero—Editor  
Email comments and suggestions to: [bigfished@comcast.net](mailto:bigfished@comcast.net)

### **Chapter Officers**

President: Paul Beaulieu .....(413) 467-3507  
VP: Ed Bauchiero .....email: [bigfished@comcast.net](mailto:bigfished@comcast.net)  
Treasurer: Joe Babineau .....(413) 323-6037  
Secretary: Tom LeBlanc .....(413) 527-7605

### **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 always welcome— no admission fee.

## **CALENDAR of EVENTS**

January 13, 2009	Fly Tying Extravaganza
February 10, 2009	Dana Ohman “Coldwater Stream Guidelines”
March 10, 2009	Jennifer McCarthy “Salmon Aging, Migration, and Depletion”
April 3, 2009	Annual Conservation Banquet !!!

## **Have You Visited Your Chapter On The Internet?!**

Over 600 people have kept up-to-date on Chapter happenings by visiting the Pioneer Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited online!

Our MySpace page covers Chapter-related news articles, photos of Chapter members' fishing exploits, and other relevant information. So, for those of you with access to a computer come visit us online at: [www.myspace.com/pvtroutunlimited](http://www.myspace.com/pvtroutunlimited)

While you check-out the photos from Chapter members on the front page of this website keep in mind that we are looking for any stories and most importantly angling photos from all of our members. Here's a great place to brag about the one that *didn't* get away! So, submit your fishing photos and/or stories today!