

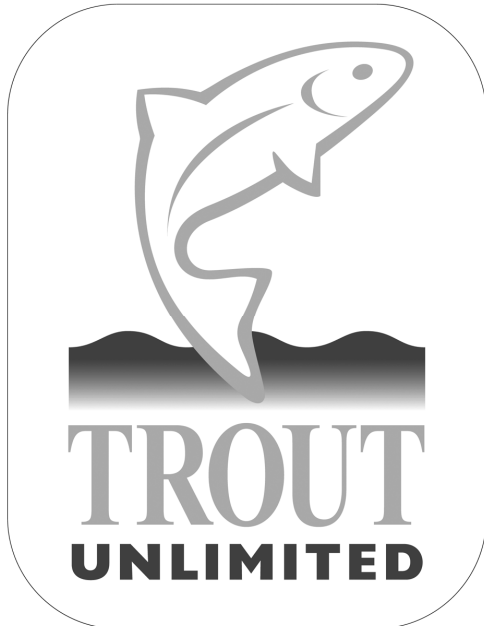
# In The Trout's Window

Issue 7, 2008

October 2008

Pioneer Valley TU Chapter 276

## October 14, 2008 Meeting



Our chapter upcoming meeting will be held at 7:30PM on Tuesday, October 14th at the West Springfield/Agawam Elks Lodge, 422 Morgan Rd., West Springfield, MA. (Fly Tier's Corner begins at 7:00pm)

### Guest Speaker: Piotr Parawiceicz “Stream Habitat Assessment Techniques”

Our Chapter is pleased to announce that our October meeting will feature Mr. Piotr Parawiceicz from the Rushing Rivers Institute.

Dr. Parasiewicz is civil engineer, an environmental engineer, and an ecologist educated at the University of Agricultural Sciences in Vienna.

Dr. Parasiewicz has developed effective management tools and modelling techniques for ecological river management, and is the developer of MesoHABSIM, a multiscale approach for instream habitat modelling. Additionally, he leads the Northeast Instream Habitat Program at Mt Holyoke College and is the director of the Rushing Rivers Institute, an Amherst based non-profit organization promoting application of cutting edge science in river management.

This promises to be a very original and educational program, so don't miss this opportunity on October 14th!

To learn more about the Rushing Rivers Institute you can visit their website at: [www.RushingRivers.org](http://www.RushingRivers.org)

#### **Fly Tier's Corner** — *Join us at 7:00pm at the Fly Tier's Corner.*

Our Chapter's featured fly tier for this month will begin his demonstration at 7:00pm. The tier and fly will remain a mystery until show-time! Hope to see you there and be sure to join us for our special presentation by Mr. Piotr Parawiceicz at 7:30pm.

**It's all free, so bring a friend.**

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## From the "PREZ"

Greetings to all you 276ers. My message to you this month is a short one: VOTE! Turnout at September's Massachusetts primary election was dismal. In just a little over a month, we'll all be asked to make a decision on a new president. Whomever we elect will be making decisions that directly affect the quality of the waters we fish and the type of fishing experience we can expect in the future. If you don't exercise your right to vote, you have no right to complain about the outcome.

If you're still sitting on the fence as to which lever to pull (do we still pull levers anywhere?), then get yourself a copy of September's Field & Stream magazine, which includes interviews with each candidate on their positions on conservation and other matters important to outdoors people. See you at the polling booth!

*As always, Fishon!*

--Paul

## Trout Unlimited 50th Anniversary History Roundup

The year 2009 marks the 50th Anniversary for Trout Unlimited. With that anniversary comes 50 years of history – *our* history.

As part of this celebration as well as an effort to document the histories of individual TU Chapters, National TU is asking each chapter to take a moment and roundup their own chapter's history, "Now is the time to share your story, so that we can help preserve your amazing legacies. Fifty years of conservation would not have been possible without our chapters' and volunteers' tireless efforts."

So, if there is any chapter history you would like to see documented for all prosperity, please email your information to our newsletter editor at: [bigfished@comcast.net](mailto:bigfished@comcast.net) or bring a typed copy to one of our upcoming chapter meetings. We will compile these documented achievements into one complete report and forward it to TU National. Submissions are due by our December 9, 2008 chapter meeting.

## Banquet Date Set for PVTU

Our Chapter's Board of Directors is pleased to announce that a date has been set for our 2009 annual Conservation Banquet: Friday April 3, 2009.

If you attended last year's banquet (192 attendees!), you know exactly why this event will be well attended. Banquet Co-Chairs Jim Lafley and Jim Turcotte do nothing short of an outstanding job organizing this event from prizes, to set-up, to you-name-it. Further details will appear in an upcoming edition of the Newsletter.

## Study Shows Trout Numbers Up on the Battenkill

*(excerpted from Rutland Herald by Patrick McArdle)*

Ongoing efforts to restore the trout population in the Batten Kill seem to be getting positive results, according to Cynthia Browning, the executive director of the Batten Kill Watershed Alliance. Browning was on hand in West Arlington Thursday when members of the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department "shocked" sections of the Batten Kill to get a count of the trout population. While she deferred any definitive comment on the results to Southern Vermont Fisheries Biologist Kenneth Cox, she said early indications are promising.

The Batten Kill has long been a favorite site for anglers looking to catch wild trout. After declines in the trout population of about 70 percent, however, the state declared about 20 miles of the river between Dufresne Pond and the New York border as "catch and release" only.

Groups like the Alliance and Trout Unlimited have been working on projects to restore the trout population. Under the theory that the decline was due to the loss of suitable habitat especially for young trout because there was little cover, efforts began in 2006 to restore the kind of vegetation that provides cover.

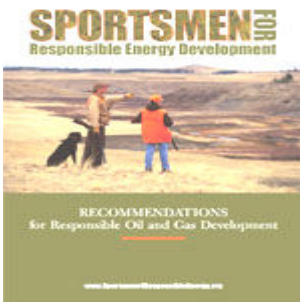
Similar testing was done last year. Cox said those results showed increases in the kinds of trout the state was hoping to see, specifically the young trout who will grow to be the kind of fish anglers seek. In one area, researchers found a 600 percent increase of young fish. "If we see similar results over at least two years, that points to the base of a trend," Cox said. The state plans to use the electro-shock method to test the trout population for one more year.

Browning said she was also encouraged by reports from sportsmen including one who said he caught a 23-inch trout and another who said he had caught 10 trout in one night.

## Help Protect the Southern Appalachian Brook Trout in the Tellico River

The U.S. Forest Service is seeking citizen comments on a proposal to address runoff in North Carolina's Upper Tellico watershed. This area in the Nantahala National Forest holds some of the last remaining core populations of the Southern Appalachian Brook Trout. Muddy water from the Tellico off-highway vehicle (OHV) area is devastating important trout habitat in the Tellico River and its headwater streams. The Forest Service needs to hear from you that water quality and trout habitat must come first. Send your comments to: *Tusquitee District Ranger, 123 Woodland Drive, Murphy, NC 28906*. TU National has a sample letter to guide your comments on the TU National web site. This web site will also show you how to email your comments.

## TU Releases Responsible Oil and Gas Recommendations



As energy prices soar, so does the push for oil and gas development on public lands. TU's chief operating officer, Chris Wood puts it plainly, "While there is little to no relationship between the price of gasoline and development of natural gas on public lands, our rush to produce short-term energy supplies can have a

profound effect on fish and wildlife habitats and water supplies that define the West." TU is proud to be an integral part of the coalition Sportsmen for Responsible Energy Development, which recently released a list of recommendations that would allow for energy development, but in a manner that protects fish, wildlife, and water resources.

Editor's Note: There is a delicate balance between the need for energy resources and the preservation of our wild and natural habitats. As our country struggles to meet both needs learn more about this issue by visiting TU National's Website or visit: [www.sportsmen4responsibleenergy.org/](http://www.sportsmen4responsibleenergy.org/)

## Pioneer Valley Trout Unlimited 2008-09 Speaker Program Flourishes

Thanks to our Program Chairman, Bill Donnelly, his year's PVTU monthly speaker program promises unparalleled conservation education as well as angling entertainment.

Our September speaker, Todd Richardson, gave an *outstanding* presentation to those in attendance. Future monthly meetings will feature, Mr. Piotr Parawiceicz from the Rushing Rivers Institute (who will discuss "Stream Habitat Assessment Techniques"), Mickey Novak who will provide an update on the Atlantic salmon program and renown author and entomology expert Thomas Ames, Jr., . If that weren't enough, secret negotiations are underway to arrange for some additional big name speakers.... TBA!

A special thanks for your ongoing hard work, Bill. We appreciate the speakers you've lined up for this fall and we hope your negotiations for future speakers bears equal fruit!

Editor's Note: Check the back page of each newsletter for an updated schedule of speakers and events.

### Quote of the Month:

"Sometimes dreams, even those of a fisherman, come true"

Zane Grey, from *Tales of Fishing Virgin Seas*

## Pioneer Valley TU Trivia Questions... Do You Have Reel Knowledge?

(Answers at bottom of page)

1. What part of a reel controls line slippage under tension?
2. What do you call the metal arm that extends across the face of a spinning reel?
3. What is the name of the part of the reel that is attached to the fishing rod or pole?
4. What is generally accepted as the most important part of a fishing reel?
5. True or False. Most fly reels are also known as "multiplier" reels.

## Chapter Member Lands Record Striped Bass

On June 5, 2008 Chapter member, Frank Steplar, was wade fishing the worm hatch on Potter Pond in Rhode Island when he hooked and landed a Narragansett Salt Water Fishing Club record stripe bass in the non-boat fly fishing division. The striper weighed-in at a hefty 20 lbs. and was 37 inches long. Frank sported an 8wt. rod with floating line and a Dick Busalari influenced worm fly. The Narragansett Salt Water Fishing club is recognized by the IGFA as one of the oldest uninterrupted fishing clubs in the United States. Frank is now part of that history. Actually, seems like partial credit goes to PVTU past-president, Disk Busalari, for his fly-tying inspiration. Congratulations, guys!

## Big Rainbow!



Chapter member, Steve Cook, with a very impressive rainbow trout. Where'd he catch it? Ask him and maybe he'll tell you!

## GOT A FISH STORY?

If so, we want to hear it! Email a description of your fishing exploits at home or abroad and we'll publish it in the newsletter. Got a favorite fly pattern or angling tip to share? Send it along to us at: [bigfished@comcast.net](mailto:bigfished@comcast.net) If you don't have a computer handy, just write it down and bring it to our next monthly Chapter meeting.

### Answers to TU Trivia Questions:

1. the drag 2. the bail 3. the foot 4. its drag 5. false

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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

October 14, 2008

Piotr Parawiceicz  
Rushing Rivers Institute,  
“Stream Habitat Assessment  
Techniques”

November 11, 2008

Mickey Novak  
“Salmon Program Update”

December 9, 2008

Thomas Ames, Jr.  
Author and Entomologist

## PVTU is Online and Getting ‘Hits’!

Join the 400+ people that have visited the Pioneer Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited online!

Thanks to Chapter member Patty Kuralowicz, the Pioneer Valley Trout Unlimited **MySpace page** is continually updated, running smoothly, and getting hundreds of “hits” from online visitors from near and far. 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 great fishing 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!