



Taconic Chapter established 1974 The Backcast

April 2006

Membership meeting

Wednesday

April 26, 2006

Italian American Club

Newell St

Pittsfield, MA

6pm social hour

7 pm Dinner - \$18.00

8pm Speaker - Free

Guest Speaker -

**Marla Blair - "Fishing
Western Mass and North
Connecticut Rivers"**



Walt Geryk's Presentation was terrific!



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Walt's presentation and informative discussion on "Vertical Tipping" captured the full attention of the 29 members in attendance. He made us feel like we were on the water with him. Like a music conductor directing his favorite musical piece, Walt demonstrated to the group how to get and keep the fly in the zone.....with a technique called "Vertical Tipping".

If you would like know more about "Vertical Tipping" while being guided on some of the most beautiful waters in New York, Massachusetts and Alaska, we recommend Walk Geryk.

You can email Walt at walt@neffguide.com or 413-575-5421, let him know his friends at the Taconic Chapter recommended him. You will not be disappointed.

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Chague's Place

The Glendale Hydroelectric Dam, which is owned and operated by Littleville Power Company, Inc., a subsidiary of Enel North America is up for re-licensing. The current license expires on October 31, 2009. This should be of particular interest to fishermen because the Housatonic Glendale Catch and Release section is just below the hydro plant.

For those of you not familiar with the power plant, approximately 2,500 feet of the Housatonic River is bypassed by the intake canal and penstock. The bypassed area ranges in width from 50 to 150 feet and has an average width of approximately 65 feet. The bypassed area currently only receives a minimum flow of 10 cfs (cubic feet a second) or the flow of the impoundment, whichever is less.

The project is operated as a run-of-river facility and the water that bypasses the river does flow back into it some 300 feet downstream of the powerhouse. So why be concerned?

Well, here are a few things to consider. The grate at the forebay has 1 inch spacing which is supposed to keep objects and fish from going into the generators. These are not 1 inch squares but rather bars that are spaced 1 inch wide. Any fish less than one inch wide could get sucked into the turbines and get chewed up.

Secondly, as previously stated, there is approximately a half mile of river directly upstream of the C & R area which, during summer times is nearly de-watered. Anyone who knows anything about water flows knows that 10 cfs in a river 65 feet wide is virtually nothing. Wouldn't it be nice to be able to fish that bypassed area? I have seen it the river back there and when there is sufficient water, it is an excellent looking stretch. You should have seen the prolific hatch of little black stoneflies which came off while I was there March 17. That extra half mile could take some fishing pressure off of the C & R area downstream.

There are other issues, too. Fish cannot get around the dam to reach suitable waters to spawn, such as in Larrywaug Brook which is just a little ways upstream. What are the impacts of thermo loading on the trout population? There are probably other issues that I have not even thought of.

In any event, rest assured that we at Taconic Trout Unlimited will be involved. Right off the bat, a 10 cfs water flow into the bypass area is unacceptable and there should be at least a 100 cfs flow over the dam, which as you know, is not very much. Research should be done in order to see if fish can be diverted from the generators. Why not a finer mesh on the intake during certain times of year while the fish are on the move spawning or migrating? Why not talk about a fish passage? Why not talk about bottom release? If we don't bring these things up, we will have to shut up for the next 30 years.

We may not win any of these concessions but we won't know unless we try. If you would like to get involved, please let me know.....Gene

L.P Adams

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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:

Can you believe this beautiful weather? I'm hearing reports the rivers are fishing well; and the Hendrickson's are hatching big time on the Housatonic River. This is a great time of the year and we're all anxious to get back in the water.

It is not too early to be thinking and planning Indian Hollow weekend scheduled for May 19-22. Come and enjoy 4 full days of fly fishing and camping on the banks of the Westfield River in Chesterfield. This is one of the most beautiful places to fly fish in western Massachusetts. The river is generously stocked by the Massachusetts Division of Fish and Wildlife for this annual event.

Our Chapter has its own site, large enough pitch your tent or to park your camper. Marc Hoechstetter builds one of the best bonfires you will ever see. Oh, did I mention the fishing is terrific. Stay tuned, for more details in next month's newsletter.

The new "Angler's Guide to Trout Fishing in Massachusetts" is a big fund raiser for our Chapter. We hope everyone will purchase this for their library, gifts for your friend and family. You can pick up a copy at the April membership meeting for \$19.95. You can also order a copy and receive via US Mail. Make a check payable to the Taconic Chapter of TU for the sum of \$24.95 per copy and send to Paul Knauth, Box 41 Hinsdale, MA 01235.. We'll drop it in the mail and get delivered to you; right away.

I look forward to seeing you April 26th please travel safe and take care.
Paul Knauth

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Newsletter Editor(s) needed

Beginning Sept 2006 I will no longer be able to serve the chapter in this capacity. If you are interested, please let me know. Thank you.

Paul Knauth
pknauth@verizon.net

Taconic Chapter 2005-06 Calendar

April

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

26 - Membership Meeting @ Italian American Club Social 6 pm, Dinner 7pm, Speaker 8pm

- o Guest Speaker - Marla Blair -"Fishing Western Mass and North Connecticut Rivers".

May

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

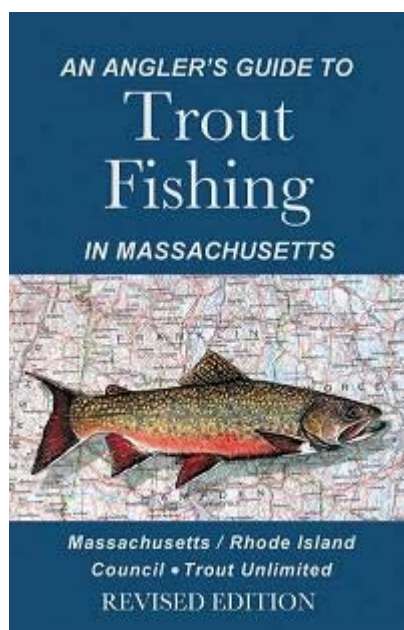
19 - 22 Indian Hollow Weekend



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

You can order your copy and receive via US Mail



The Massachusetts/Rhode Island Council of Trout Unlimited released its new revised edition of its "Angler's Guide to Trout Fishing in Massachusetts" today, just in time for the spring fishing season. The Guide, considered by most to be the bible of trout fishing in Massachusetts, has been off the market for five years, while revisions were in progress. You can order and receive by US Mail your own copy

Just send a check payable to Taconic Chapter of Trout Unlimited for the sum of \$24.95 this includes packaging and postage.

Send you order to Paul Knauth
Po Box 41 Hinsdale, MA 01235

Save shipping and handling costs-----Come to the monthly April 26 membership meeting and pick up a few copies.

Thank you, John "the Greek"



This beautiful piece was donated to our Chapter by John Kastrinakis, for raffle at the March 26th membership meeting. Congratulations Kevin Moran the lucky winner.

What's happening with the other Massachusetts and Rhode Island Council TU Chapters, you ask? Well here's the inside scoop. Check it out!

Sunday, April 30, 2006, ***Cape Cod Chapter*** will hold its banquet at the Harbor Point Restaurant which is located off of Rte. 6A in Cummaquid (which is part of Barnstable. There will be a 2 station buffet, auctions, raffles and other fundraisers. The cost is \$35 pp. For more info and tickets contact Wayne Miller @ 508-362-3678 for tickets.

May 19, 20, 21 ***Cape Cod Fly Fishing School*** Adults \$ 249.00, teens \$ 129 TU members subtract \$ 30.00. All inclusive with food and accommodations. Contact is Scott Dietrich 508.776.9667.

On June 3, 2006, ***Central MA Chapter*** from 10 - 3 at Trout Brook Park, is having its 4th Annual Youth Fishing Day. The day is comprised of individual fly casting instructions, fly tying lessons with each child tying their own fly, a brief session on stream ecology (i.e. macro invertebrates and the food cycle for trout), fly fishing for trout in the park pond (stocked by the Massachusetts Department of Fish and Wildlife) with assistance from Trout Unlimited members. There will be refreshments and several prize drawings including a "starter kit" of fly rod, reel and line. It is free and equipment is provided. Call Paul Bakstran at (978)838-7345 for details.

June 2006 TBA ***Deerfield/Millers Chapter*** is going to run its "One Fly" contest on the Deerfield River. For info, contact Barry Coppinger at bcopp@gis.net.