



The Long Cast



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
NARRAGANSETT CHAPTER/TROUT UNLIMITED

NOVEMBER 2007 VOL. 27 #3

Presidents Message

I want to thank Frank Plona for his very informative presentation on fishing for Atlantic Salmon in Nova Scotia.

As you know the chapter will be holding our annual elections at December 26th meeting and the nominating committee should be presenting their recommendations at our November 28 meeting, I want to remind everyone that at our December meeting we also accept nominations from the floor so it's important that you attend the next two meetings.

I want to thank Al Ball for his help as Vice President over the last few years. Al has had to resign recently as Vice President for personal reasons. As everyone knows Al has held many positions in the chapter including President several times. I know we all look forward to his return.

I know some of you are waiting for word on the projects we planned for this year; and so am I. Hopefully we at least get to replant some areas where the banks need to be restored to prevent further erosion.

I received an e-mail from TU National about "TUTV" where they are filming new television shows that will air on the Outdoor Channel on cable TV. I will try to forward the e-mail I received from them to Dick Pearce to see if he can put it on our web page tu225.org together with links to details of the upcoming TUTV presentations.

You may have noticed that Tom Meade's column has not been in the newspaper lately. I was informed that Mr. Meade has taken ill and of course we wish him well. At the request of the Chapter's E-Board I sent Mr. Meade a fruit basket on behalf of the Narragansett Chapter.

Lawson Cary

A Brook Trout Experiment *From an article in Smithsonian Magazine*

Brook trout populations have declined in every watershed in the United States and southern Canada, but they have never become extinct. They have been driven to upper extremes of streams to survive rising water temperatures, silted spawning

sites and exotic species. Also, brook trout stocks were so altered by hatchery managers -- who strove for quantity not quality -- that they changed the character of the fish. Brook trout today in the United States only faintly resemble the fish Priscilla Mullins discovered in November 1620 in Town Brook, next to Plymouth Rock, when she went to fetch a pail of water.

Many biologists now are promoting the use of "wild" trout in restocking efforts. Nowhere is this concept more important than in brook trout management. But the right stock is only part of the answer. The other part of the equation is habitat. It's impossible to reestablish all past forests or original fish habitat. There is one area, however, where this can be done to some degree.

The Canadian biologist David Craig evolved one solution that's working. To replace lost spawning sites, he invented a river!

During his college years, Craig found that catching a limit in southern Quebec was impossible though many domesticated brook trout were stocked. Craig saw the problem as two-fold: high pH levels from acid rain and marginal

spawning beds on the Brule Lake's feeder streams.

After Craig's graduation from college, he returned to the area. In 1992, he founded the Gesti-Faune Research Center, a nonprofit organization to study brook trout, and persuaded Dr. Pierre Magnan of Quebec University to join him.

"We called it 'the Invented River,' " Craig said, "because we did just that."

In creating the new, mile long outlet to Brule lake, they exaggerated stream features that would enhance spawning. Magnan began directing graduate students in investigating different aspects of the brook trout's life, using the Invented River as their laboratory. The students looked into water velocity, gravel sizes, stream carrying capacity and redd (nest) destruction by later nest builders, larval survival and migration.

Two years ago, Magnan received a \$1.3 million grant from Quebec to help gather brook trout data. Researchers began by building spawning beds. Craig trucked in 115 tons of washed, nut-size gravel. Strategically, they added boulders to turn the flow and create small pools to further enhance spawning sites.

To protect newly hatched larvae and fry from bigger brook trout, students built sanctuary cages that allowed in only fry. To protect them from fish-eating birds, Craig used a wood pulp company's heavy equipment and brought in large tree trunks and temporarily laid them across the stream. The total cost of the project, including planning, machinery, gravel and

labor, was only \$12,500.

"The results were almost immediate," Craig said. "We've developed a density of 120 fry per square yard. That's well above average. By 1996, *the lake catch increased 10 fold, from 300 to 3,000*. We've stopped stocking the lake. We've hit on a winning combo: wild trout and near-perfect spawning sites."

Magnan added: "What we've done can be duplicated wherever brook trout are in trouble.

Trout Unlimited TV

TU will be presenting a new TV show on Cable TV's outdoor channel. The show will be similar in format to an earlier series that had been discontinued.

There will be fifteen hour long shows, aired weekly with repeated showings.

There is a little trailer you can see on the internet if you type in

this link:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R4687EO8tK4>

The show's host, Frank Smethurst will travel around North America to the country's best fishing spots that are also TU conservation sites. He and the crew are traveling in an Airstream trailer that is painted like a trout, so it's sure to turn heads when it pulls into towns across the country. At each location, Frank fishes with TU staff and members.

So far seven episodes have been filmed, in Idaho, Montana and Oregon.

There are likely to be eastern sites closer to home in future episodes.

Most important, the show can be referred to when we try to interest new fly fishers here at home in the beautiful scenery and absorbing activities that they can immerse themselves in if they take up the game.



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November Presentation

Join **Gary Bogli** on his maiden fishing trip to Labrador. Travel on a unique wilderness train along the Moise River making the transition into the Taiga region of Canada. Catch a grand slam of brook trout, landlocked salmon, pike, white fish and lake trout in the same day. Be the only ones fishing the waters of the Ashuanipi River System in early July where every day was a new adventure and 3 to 5 lb. brookies were the norm.

Gary is a retired Middle School social studies teacher. He has been fly fishing for over 40 years and is a past president and active member of the Connecticut Fly Fishermen's Association.

Ed Lombardo



FLY OF THE MONTH Caddis Larva By Andrzej Koziel

This weighted caddis larva would be a great searching fly for most of the season. Fish it at the bottom or hang it off an indicator. Caddis are active most of the time on the Wood River. Present the fly at the right level, without a spooking presentation, and enjoy the tug.

Caddis Larva

Hook: #10-18 Caddis larva hook.
Thread: 8/0 olive
Tail: brown partridge fibers
Underbody: lead
Abdomen: olive thread covered by clear vinyl and painted using brown (or other color) pen
Wingcase: Pheasant tail - dark
Thorax: Hare's mask – light or dark (dark is more effective)
Head: 8/0 light olive



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Narragansett Chapter meetings are held on the last Wednesday of every month-September through May at the Greek Orthodox Annunciation Church, Oaklawn Ave. (Rte 5), Cranston, RI. Meetings start at 7:00 PM.

**OUR NEXT MEETING
WILL BE ON November 28th**



Parris Brook in winter.

