



# The Long Cast



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
NARRAGANSETT CHAPTER/TROUT UNLIMITED

FEBRUARY 2009 VOL. 28 # 5

## President's Message

### Greetings:

First my thanks to those who braved the weather to attend last month's meeting. In the future the policy for canceling meetings due to bad weather will be as follows:

1. I will make the decision 24 hrs in advance, at which time I will have a notice placed on the chapter website [www.tu225.org](http://www.tu225.org)
2. For those without internet access please call either John McCall at H-(401)397-9915 W-(401)732-7277, or River and Riptide at (401)392-1919 if you feel a need to check on whether a meeting is cancelled.

At the last meeting money was approved to sponsor up to 50 junior TU members. If anyone has a child he or she would like to recommend for this please contact any member of the board. It is my hope that we find all 50 kids that money has been approved for.

Finally, on March 19th at the Crowne Plaza in Warwick beginning at 7:00 pm, Bob Jacklin will be presenting a program of fly tying, along with a slide show of trout fishing out west. Tickets for this program are \$15.00 each, and will include a door prize. There will also be raffles which will include 2 rod

and reel combos, 1 of which is being donated by Jay Boyer and will include 1 of his hand made cedar rod tubes. As this will be the chapter's major fund raiser for this year I ask all members to support this effort in any way possible. For tickets please contact either John McCall or Roger Earle.

**John**

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## Wood River Blahs, continued

*(An Editorial)*

**T**he Rhode Island Division of Fish and Wildlife has the continuous approval of the public with respect to its administration of our fresh water fisheries. The approval is passive. More accurately it is the absence of disapproval. Fish and Wildlife functions in a review vacuum.

There are opportunities to protest or seek changes to regulations. Proposals for fishing regulations changes are advertised and public hearings on regulations are held each year.

Several years ago when FW

proposed to eliminate the scant two miles of special regulations water on the Falls River there were protests made by fly fishermen. These were expressed at the hearings (along side vociferous support for the absurd change from traditional fishermen.) Finally there was an organized plea to legislators to put a stop to the egregious proposal. The tiny bit of special regulations water in our state was retained.

But we fly fishermen have been mostly passive. We have never organized a critique of our state's unwillingness to create a significant amount of 'Class 1' or 'Class 2' water in our state. Connecticut has a much more forward looking management. It maintains several Class 1 streams managed for purely wild fish reproduction. It also has several Class 2 streams, managed for only supplemental stocking and primarily for wild fish reproduction.

Rhode Island does not have a single stream, or a large section of a stream, that is managed to sustain an approximately natural balance of nature. The most logical candidate for a Class 1 or

**NOTE OUR NEW MEETING HALL. DIRECTIONS AND MAP ON COVER.**

a Class 2 stream is the Wood River above the Barberville Dam. Currently this water is a balance of fish and nature that is managed as a somewhat perverse fishery by existing stocking practices and regulations.

Where in all this is the Narragansett Chapter of Trout Unlimited? This question must be fielded along with an evaluation of how well our Chapter fulfills its duty requirements within the national TU charter. The answer is that we do fairly well: we participate in frequent and effective roadside and streamside cleanups, volunteer for stream surveys, participate in teaching programs and have built many structural improvements and physical repairs along the banks of the Wood River, and the Falls and Flat Rivers.

But our grade would be higher if we fought for what is now becoming standard practice in other more forward looking states: the management of significant stream miles for wild trout conservation. In this regard we fall well behind the accomplishments of our sister chapters in other states.

We should actively oppose the situation wherein we have only a scant two miles of special regulations water. We should not accept that we live with too aggressive stocking and such a permissive regulations system on the Wood River.

On Connecticut's Class 1 and Class 2 streams there is wild brook trout and now wild brown trout reproduction in significant numbers. Fishing quality is high and consistent and fish are

largely or always wild and attractive.

We seem content with the 'put and take' fishery that is the Wood River. The state puts in large rainbow and brown trout (and we add float stocking.) Very few fish "hold over" and though brown trout reproduction has been observed it is lost amid the continuous influx of large stocked fish.

This is the kind of policy that is being modernized in many forward looking places. As we have seen in earlier editorials modern practices have been applied elsewhere resulting in much improved fishing quality. At the rate we are going, and with our Chapter's tacit approval, Rhode Island will be the last state to change.

**Burt Strom**

## Fly of the Month Antron Caddis Emerger Tied by Steve Schweitzer

**Hook:** Standard nymph size 12-16  
**Thread:** Tan 8/0  
**Legs:** 1 wrap of small partridge breast feather  
**Tail:** Cream antron  
**Body:** Hare's ear underbody dubbing covered by rust antron, pillowed to trap air  
**Head:** Hare's ear

This is one of several patterns for caddis emerger Imitation. It should be used when "caddis rises" Are being observed.



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## February Presentation Marla Blair

Our February presenter is known to many of us: she is one of the leading New England trout guides. Marla hails from Ludlow, Massachusetts and for fifteen years has been an instructor and guide on New England's streams, notably the Swift and the Farmington.

At our meeting Marla will be covering the Farmington in her typical thorough fashion: pools, runs, hatches, flies, etc. Marla will show you where to go and what to do. The new Farmington River Guide book will be available for purchase at 15.98. Proceeds will go toward funding Farmington River projects.

Marla will be donating a gift certificate for her guided service for two which will be auctioned at our meeting.

Marla's book Positive Fly Fishing will be on sale at discount and partial proceeds will go to Casting for Recovery and Hooked on a Cure.

Marla is one of our most knowledgeable and entertaining presenters.

You can check out Marla's web site for more information:  
<http://www.marlablair.com>

**Ed Lombardo**

## March Presentation and Fund Raiser

This year's fund raising event will be held on March 19th beginning at 7 PM at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Warwick, RI. The evening will center around a presentation by Bob Jacklin, a noted fishing guru based in Wyoming. Bob holds a Masters Certification as a fly casting instructor, and sits on the FFF's Board of Governors for fly casting instruction. He has been tying flies commercially since 1963 and is a past recipient of the FFF's Buz Buszek award for his contributions to the art of fly tying. There are few people in the country with as much in-depth knowledge of fly fishing, fly casting, and fly tying as Bob Jacklin.

We will have several choice items to be raffled, including two fly rod outfits, one of them encased in a hand made cedar rod holder built by Jay Boyer.

A substantial portion of our chapter's revenues will be raised by this event. Its success will be a harbinger of the work we will be able to fund in the coming year. Please consider participating and in inviting guests as well.

Each ticket will be \$15 and you should contact John McCall or Roger Earle to request tickets for your use and additional tickets to sell.

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Narragansett Chapter  
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418 Pond Street  
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*Narragansett Chapter meetings are held on the last Wednesday of every month- September through May- at the Regan Building of the Eleanor Slater Hospital in Cranston, RI.*

*Formal meeting starts at 7:00 PM.  
Tying, Socializing etc. starts at 6:00 PM*

**OUR NEXT MEETING  
WILL BE ON  
WEDNESDAY NIGHT FEBRUARY 25**



## **Our Meeting Hall is the Regan Building of the Eleanor Slater Hospital Cranston, RI**

### **From north**

Take I-95 S toward Warwick.  
Merge onto RI-37 W via EXIT 14B toward RT-2 / CRANSTON.  
Take the PONTIAC AVE. exit- EXIT 3- toward JOHN O. PASTORE CENTER.  
Turn SLIGHT LEFT to take the ramp toward MEDICAL CENTER.  
Turn SLIGHT LEFT onto PONTIAC AVE.  
Turn RIGHT onto HOWARD AVE at the light.

### **From south**

Take I-95 N toward Providence.  
Merge onto I-295 N via EXIT 11 on the LEFT toward WOONSOCKET.  
Take EXIT 2 toward WARWICK MALL.  
Merge onto RI-2 N.  
Turn RIGHT onto HOWARD AVE at the light.  
**Look for sign on the right for Eleanor Slater Hospital.**  
**Take a right into the parking lot.**  
**The main entrance to the Slater Hospital directly faces you.**  
**The entrance is marked Regan building.**  
**The Arnold Conference Center is on the right side of the building.**