



# The Long Cast



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
NARRAGANSETT CHAPTER/TROUT UNLIMITED

MARCH 2009 VOL. 28 # 6

## President's Message

### Greetings:

First I'm sure everyone would join me in thanking Marla Blair for her fine presentation on the Farmington River at the last meeting. I would also like to thank Marla for the trip she donated to the chapter. This will be raffled off at the Bob Jacklin presentation on March 19th.

Once again I would urge all members to attend the Bob Jacklin show on March 19th, which is the chapter's major fund raising event for the year. Remember there will also be a raffle with some very nice prizes. Call, or email, a board member (roster in this LongCast) to obtain tickets.

On the conservation front, there will be a highway cleanup in March, weather permitting. Also plan on the first float stocking in late April or early May, again depending on conditions.

Finally remember opening day is coming, try to take a young person fishing.

**John**

## Wood River Management

*(An Editorial)*

So far, on these pages, we have presented a case for revision of fishing regulations on the Wood River.

The theme has been that the Wood has been managed like the state's highways. Our roads are managed to satisfy the needs of existing traffic. The river is managed to provide as much fish as have been removed, with scant regard for the health of the river, the health of the native trout and without any regard for some degree of natural balance.

Since so many stocked fish are removed so quickly the impact of thousands of dumped hatchery trout is largely to make the 'put and take' fishery an interesting one for the periods between stockings when most of the fish have been taken out and the remaining ones have become selective and wary. Once the season is under way and the large numbers of fish have been reduced, it is likely that when we catch a stocked fish it has been caught before. In fact some large trout have been caught so many times that their fight is diminished and even reduced to a sullen

lethargy. Have you caught a large trout that then lay on the bottom as though dead? Pretty demoralizing.

In addition we are catching fish that are so less than wild that their coloring and body shape bears more resemblance to a cooked fish than to a wild fish.

In some states there is much more enlightened river management. Stocked trout are not "dumped" but introduced to maintain a population of fish that is consistent with catch and release fishing that is preferred nationwide by a majority of trout fishermen. In many cases the introduced fish are chosen smaller and younger than what we see so that they will hold over, and then act more like wild trout (and look it too.) In fact in some states efforts are made to breed wild trout in the hatcheries instead of repeat breeding of the same hatchery bound ancestors of the introduced fish that we do here.

So far we have said little about the impact on the native brook trout that inhabit the Wood and its tributaries. Two foot long hatchery trout are likely to eat small brookies and certainly marginalize their habitat.

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

All of this is beyond the grasp of the Fish and Wildlife Division of our state's DEM. They have shown no concern that their practices are far removed from the more conservation minded management that is practiced in most other trout states.

We are told that they feel inhibited by the possibility that limiting fishing (to catch and release/single barbless hooks) on the Wood will inhibit the number of fishing licenses issued ! That's an absurdity that we will deal with at another time.

The Fish and Wildlife Division of our state's DEM should be absorbed into our state's Highway Department with whose management practices it is in perfect synch.

**Burt Strom**

## Youth

At our last meeting our chapter president John McCall again mentioned out "youth movement" which has yet to take formal shape, but which has as its purpose to decrease the average age of our organization!

Dave Porreca has volunteered to help with this as it takes shape. But it is really a matter of each of us taking the effort, whenever the opportunity presents itself, to interest young folks in our craft.

The other day we had a young plumber at our house. I recognized him as a salt water spin fisherman and we got to talking. He is already an expert on our coast but has never fly fished. We talked trout. I hope to hook him eventually as a member.

Please take the time and make the effort to approach young outdoorsmen, hikers, campers., boaters, fishers, etc. and talk to them about one of the best investments they can make in their futures.

Taking notice of the well preserved ancient specimens around our meeting hall I could not help but think that time on the water may improve longevity. Some of us, I believe, have been pickled in our waders!



## Fly of the Month

### Black Ant

Tied by Martin Stout

**Hook:** Tiemco 2487 #14-16  
**Thread:** Black 8/0  
**Abdomen:** Glass beads  
**Legs:** Hare's hare spun in dubbing loop  
**Thorax:** Glass beads

Here is a simple, and "different" ant pattern.



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## March Presentation by Jim Turecek

Jim Turecek is a fly fisherman and tier with over forty years of experience. He has been an instructor, guide, lecturer and fly fishing theoretician for thirty years. Besides his intimate knowledge of the rivers and coast of New England he has traveled widely in pursuit of angling experiences. Jim is on the water a couple of hundred times a year.

Since 1979 Jim has been crafting handmade knives. His one-of-a-kind knives are some of the finest examples of the art of cutlery found in the world today. An internationally known artisan, his award winning knives and flies can be found in some of the leading collections in the United States, Europe and the Orient.

Jim has been the subject of articles in books and magazines such as "Fly Fishing in Saltwater" and "Blade" magazines. Pictures of his flies and knives have been used as examples of excellence in numerous magazines and books both domestically and internationally.

Jim will be focusing his presentation on nymph fishing. This lecture and slide presentation brings you close up to some of the major nymphs and larvae, and the flies that imitate them. Since ninety percent of a trout's diet is made up of subsurface aquatic insects, it's very important to know what is going on underwater to be a successful fisherman. Years ago I spent many hours underwater studying nymphs and watching fish feed on them. I looked very closely at stoneflies and developed a pattern that has been extremely effective over the years. I will share the tying steps in a series of slides so you can tie it yourself. I will also teach you how to fish nymphs with a rig that my clients have been using very successfully for thirty years. There will be a display of insects and the flies to imitate them along with some live specimens to examine.

**Ed Lombardo**

## Presentation at the Northern RI Chapter of Trout Unlimited by Ed Lombardo

On **April 8th** Ed Lombardo will be giving a presentation for The Northern RI Chapter of TU: *The Hatches of New England and How to Fish Them*. He will describe all hatches from early to late season, from April to November, and will include terrestrial manifestations. There will be photos of naturals and his favorite imitations. Ed will have photos of all stages: nymph, emerger, stillborn, cripple, dun and spinner. You will see, in addition to Ed's favorite flies other accepted imitations for the insects.

Ed will be covering rivers of Rhode Island, Connecticut, and Massachusetts. This is modeled on presentations that Ed has given at national shows and should be of interest to any New England trout fisherman. At the end of his narrative he will play his famous 'trout symphony,' a show of photos and music centered on the great western rivers.

**Starting time: 7:00pm The Northern RI Chapter of TU**  
**At: John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission**  
**One Depot Square**  
**Woonsocket, RI 02895 (This is the newly renovated train station.)**  
**NO CHARGE !**

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Narragansett Chapter  
TROUT UNLIMITED  
418 Pond Street  
Wakefield, RI 02879

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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 MARCH 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. See note below.

### **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. See note below.**  
**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.**

**NOTE: TURN INTO DRIVEWAY AT WATER TOWER**