



The Long Cast



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
NARRAGANSETT CHAPTER/TROUT UNLIMITED

SEPT 2009 VOL. 29 # 1

President's Message John McCall

Greetings,

I would like to welcome everyone back for a new year of meetings at the state hospital complex. For those of you who are new members, you can find directions elsewhere in this newsletter also on the chapter website www.tu225.org.

Also in this newsletter you will find two proposed bylaw changes to be voted on at the October meeting. One will remove the term limits on the office of treasurer. The other will add a fifth elected member to the "e-board." I believe both of these will allow the chapter to run more efficiently.

There is an ongoing stream continuity study of the Pawcatuck river watershed, which is in need of volunteer help. If anyone is interested in helping with this effort please contact me at jmccall02817@yahoo.com. Also on the conservation front we have at least one stream restoration project on the Wood in the planning stages. More info will follow on these.

Finally as we approach the winter

months just a reminder that, if necessary, meeting cancellation notices will be posted on the chapter web site. For those of you with no internet access please contact River and Riptide Anglers at 392-1919 for this information.

Thanks
John

Wood Reverie

I just purchased a guide to New England native plants. I decided that my tromps along the paths to fish our beautiful Wood River, should no longer ignore the flora



along the way. So instead of giving an uncaring sideways glance at the foliage I would stop by and engage with a plant or two. Pretty soon I would get to know more of them and develop the kind of kinship we should all feel for the leaves and flowers along the river.

It doesn't seem right to look at the Wood/Falls solely as a source for game fish. So in the hopes of giving the forest floor the attention she deserves I thought it would be a good idea to introduce some potentially delightful friends to those unacquainted with them.

Pretty well distributed is one of the plainest of plants, the *wild sarsaparilla*. At first glance it seems just a collection of green leaves, vaguely like poison ivy (only usually with five leaves to a cluster.) But during mayfly season, there is a clump of greenish white flowers mixed in, lower down near the main stalk. These flowers become little blue berries.

Some of you older country folk will know that the root stock was pounded into a pumice that was used as a soda flavor, in the

NOTE OUR MEETING HALL. DIRECTIONS ON COVER.

original "root beer!" It has been used to rub into skin rashes and even by the Cree Indians as a treatment for syphilis! (My fellow Chapter members are urged not to try this on themselves.)

Sarsaparilla root, made into tea has been used to increase the flow of urine, pressed into paste as a treatment for psoriasis; in fact there are so many herbal medicine claims for sarsaparilla that it is amazing any of these plants survive.

What at first glance may seem an unworthy weed, is really far from the truth. So give these plants their due.

Only then can you proceed to catch fish with a clear conscience.

Burt Strom

PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGES. TO BE VOTED UPON AT OCTOBER MEETING

ARTICLE III

Section 1 The property and affairs of the Chapter shall be managed and controlled by a Board of Directors composed of five (5) elected members and the executive officers as hereinafter provided. The full Board of Directors shall be composed of five (5) elected members, the executive officers and the immediate past President. At each annual meeting, there shall be chosen and elected from the qualified membership two (2) or three(3) members, each of whose term shall be for two (2) years. It is expressly provided and intended that a year is hereby determined to be the year between the regular annual meeting dates. The aforesaid five (5) members of the Board of Directors shall be elected by a direct vote of the members of the Chapter. If the office of any Director or Officer, other than the President, is

vacant by reason of death, resignation, disqualification or otherwise, his or her successor shall be elected by the Board of Directors at any regular or special meeting and such successor shall hold office for the unexpired term.

ARTICLE IV

Section 6 The Treasurer shall have custody of all the funds and securities of the Chapter. With the President, he or she may sign and execute in the name of the Chapter all contracts, agreements and other obligations of the Chapter, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors not to exceed \$500 or 50% of the treasury whichever is smaller. Any amount in excess shall require approval of the general membership. When necessary or proper, he or she shall endorse on behalf of the Chapter for collection, all checks, notes, drafts and other obligations and shall deposit same to the credit of the Chapter in such banks or banks as the

**Fly of the Month
Red Ass Foam Ant
Tied by Luis Nasim**

Hook: Standard dry (TMC, Mustad, etc) #14 - #18

Thread: Black 8/0Tail:Black round foam (or flat foam cut as a thin strip). One end of foam is dipped in orange or red high viz paint

Legs: Uni-Flexx or any other mini rubber legs.

You can buy a tiny jar of red or orange enamel at a Benny's or a hobby shop. This fly can give you an edge or make the fish laugh.



Directors **Treasurer** may designate. All checks or warrants for the disbursement of funds of the Chapter shall be signed by the Treasurer. He or she shall cause to be entered regularly in the books of the Chapter to be kept for the purpose, full and accurate accounts of monies received and paid on account of the Chapter. and **Whenever** required by the Board of Directors, **he or she** shall render a statement of his or her cash account. The Treasurer shall at all reasonable times, exhibit his or her books, records, and accounts to any member upon written application.

September Presentation

Chris Fox, Executive Director of the Wood Pawcatuck Watershed Association (WPWA), will provide our members with a visual presentation on his organization's ongoing fish restoration efforts on the Pawcatuck River. Fox has secured more than three million dollars over recent years to improve fish passage at the Bradford Fish Ladder and to restore passage of shad, herring,

trout, american eel and other species to the Upper Pawcatuck River. A majority of that funding has been earmarked for the Village of Shannock to remove dams and construct a fish ladder there.

Fox serves as the project manager for these community based restoration efforts and will provide our TU members with a detailed update on the current progress made toward improving and restoring anadromous fish to the upper reaches of the Pawcatuck including Worden Pond. Our organization helped to lay the foundation for this historic undertaking through the Stream Continuity Study conducted by our members.

Our National Office has also provided funding toward the permitting and design process of Lower Shannock Falls, the first planned dam removal in the State of Rhode Island. We urge you to join us for what will certainly be an enlightening presentation by Fox on his organization's hard work to ensure a healthy and productive fishery for the Pawcatuck River system.

Ed Lombardo

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The Stream Continuity Project

TU volunteers have worked for a few years gathering data on stream "crossings" throughout our state. This project is an investment in the future of stream habitat as it has provided valuable pictures and measurements on culverts, bridges and other stream passages. In most cases these passages were not built to allow fish and other creatures their natural migration paths. They need work!

Already upgrades have been performed using data taken by TU volunteers. The data is stored by the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the person supervising this is Kathryn Zuromski who has presented at one of our TU meetings.

Please consider signing up for occasional outings and participating in this ongoing work. It also contributes to our own reputation for aiding conservation of cold water fisheries which is our purpose. Contact: Kathryn.Zuromski@ri.usda.gov (401) 822-8878 (office)

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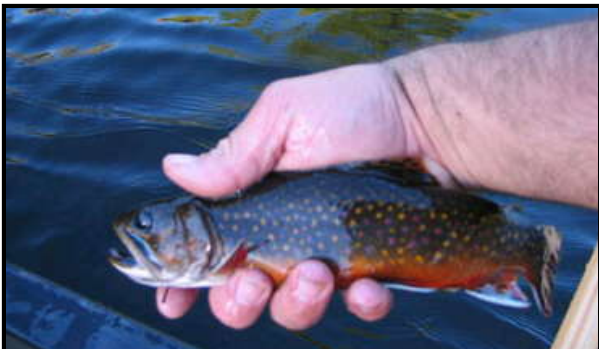
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Narragansett Chapter meetings are held on the last Wednesday of every month- September through May- at the Regan Building of the Eleanor Slater Hospital in Cranston, RI.

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

**OUR NEXT MEETING
WILL BE ON
WEDNESDAY NIGHT SEPT. 30th**



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