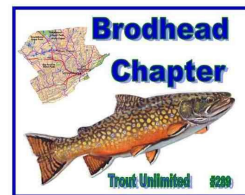


NOVEMBER, 2012



Next Meeting

WEDNESDAY,
November 14, 2012

7:30 pm



Bob Ballantyne

Fisheries Biology & Native
Fisheries Restoration in
Yellowstone National Park

*(This will be our last
General Meeting for 2012!)*

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Hook Primer!

Scott Cesari's ↗

FLY OF THE MONTH

Now on pp. 7-9!



Call for Action!

We Need YOUR HELP!

YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS NEEDS YOU!

According to our new Bylaws, we must rotate several more senior members off the current Board and bring on “new blood” to help revitalize and grow our organization. With that in mind, we’re calling for all interested members willing to play a more active role in the Chapter. We’re looking for new Board Members to bring in new ideas and creative solutions to our ongoing conservation programs and challenges, people with a fresh perspective to enhance the mission, programs and activities we develop for our membership. All you need is a desire to help and just one evening per month to attend Board meetings. Please contact Pres. Tom Battista, or any current Board Member, if you’re ready to step up to the plate and hit a home run for BTU! With YOUR HELP and participation, we can better plan and effectuate programs that benefit the trout and our local trout streams. The Board meets the first Wednesday of each month. Are you ready to make the next move for Conservation? We certainly hope so!

The Home Pool — Tom Battista

President, Brodheads Chapter of Trout Unlimited

e-mail: mooseowl511@gmail.com

(570) 236-1734

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Tom Battista
145 Heiney Lane
Kunkletown, PA 18058
(570) 236-1734

VICE PRESIDENT

Todd Burns
311 Crestmont Street
Pen Argyl, PA 18072
(610) 863-7655

TREASURER

Eric Baird
267 3rd Street
Pocono Pines, PA 18350
(570) 355-0165

SECRETARY

Bob Stevens
2780 Rimrock Drive
Bartonsville, PA 18321
(570) 629-2922

BOARD MEMBERS

Don Baylor
521 Quail Ridge Lane
Stroudsburg, PA 18360
(570) 992-3558

Gerry Bortz
5213 Laurel Loop
Swiftwater, PA 18370-7719
(570) 895-1099

Michael Brong
RR#3 Box 3837
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301
(570) 807-7020

Scott Cesari
1986 Totts Gap Road
Bangor, PA 18013
(570) 897-5830

Will Daskal
1109 Daniel Court
Saylorsburg, PA 18353
(610) 381-6188

Bob Eddy
HC 88 Box 1592
Pocono Lake, PA 18348
(570) 646-0803

Ed Filipkowski
2171 Wallace St.
Stroudsburg, PA 18360
(570) 424-1856

Bob Hosko
711 Flagler St.
Stroudsburg, PA 18360
(570) 421-7302

Ron Mishkin
RD #3, Box 3253
Stroudsburg, PA 18360
(570) 629-0586

Joe Sadoski
RR #1, Box 27A
Tannersville, PA 18372
(570) 629-8522



I want to thank Bill Hakim, John, Bill's assistant, Eric Baird, Mike Brong, Don Baylor, and Glen Hessler for the outstanding job they did on Saturday September 22, in directing traffic, and placing the last rocks in the McMichael Creek. These rocks were placed above the parking area on Hickory Valley to improve the habitat in the Delayed Harvest area. The first rocks were placed downstream several years ago and have been developing some detritus around them increasing the habitat for macroinvertebrates. The project had been stalled because of weather, water flow and regulations affecting when we could work. The project is finally complete, and we will be looking toward other stream improvements in the future, in other streams recently opened to public access.

While the crew was working on the stream project, Mike and Kelly Brong took time out to provide a demonstration on Fly Fishing for the Brodhead Watershed Association's McMichael Sojourn. They sampled the creek with a net and showed the insect life to the BWA group. Kelly demonstrated casting and instructed those who wished to learn to cast. Kelly also showed the group what she carries in her vest, explaining what each piece of equipment was for, and how it is used. Kelly did a fabulous job demonstrating to the BWA group. Since attending Rivers Conservation School last summer, she has become an excellent representative of our chapter, demonstrating confident public speaking ability. We can be very proud of her efforts!

Our November 14, meeting will feature Bob Ballantyne of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association. Bob will be offering another program on fishing in the Yellowstone area.

Just a reminder, we do not meet in December or January. We do plan on having Fly Tying classes during the month of January on Saturday mornings at the Monroe County Environmental Education Center. The complete details will be in "Streamside Asides".

"Streamside Asides" is now published electronically and available by e-mail if you give Will Daskal your e-mail address. Will sends the newsletter in a "blind e-mail", so your address is not seen by anyone else; thus, it is a secure method of delivery, guaranteeing your privacy. Your other option is to access the newsletter on our website: www.brodheadtu.org.

While it is only fall, the board is already working on the Spring Banquet. If you are able to donate a raffle prize or can secure one from a source you know of, please let us know. Businesses

that support our efforts are constantly being asked to donate to many different causes; so, we are always looking for new sources for prizes.

Since it is a matter of personal choice, I know that not everyone who reads this article hunts. I want to remind those who do not hunt that during the hunting season they should wear some form of blaze orange while out in the woods or hiking into your fishing spots. If you wear the recommended 250 square inches (cap and vest) hunters will be able to see you. When on the stream, wear the cap, and hang the vest off your back so you're visible from behind. The most important part is to be vigilant and aware of hunters in your area.

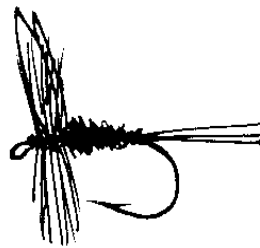
This is also a good time to remind the local hunters that you would appreciate fur and feathers for tying flies. Trade some of your creations for supplies.

You should be adjusting your techniques for fall and winter fishing. Smaller sizes, duller colors and slow nymph fishing techniques should be tactics that you now employ. Remember any hatches will occur during the warmer parts of the day. BWOs and Tricos will still hatch even in colder weather; be ready to "match the hatch" with smaller imitations. When you are fishing nymphs, remember to use the concept of diurnal drift, fishing patterns that are moving in the stream at that time of day, especially when it's a warmer day.

With the shorter daylight hours many of us are unable to fish as much as we like since it is getting dark earlier and we must work when we would rather be fishing. You can still tie flies and maintain your equipment in the evenings, so you are ready to get out weekends quickly. Now is also the time to leave that "wish list" lying around so spouses and kids can get ideas for holiday gifts.

Tight lines!

Tom



Treasurer's Report

September 16, 2012 — October 15, 2012

Starting Balance (9/15/12): \$10,051.89

Expenditures: \$1,125.00

Income: \$258.00

Ending Balance (10/15/12): \$9,184.89



November Program:

Bob Ballantyne



At our November 14th General Meeting, popular Bob Ballantyne will return with a brand new, highly informative program entitled “Fisheries Biology And Native Fisheries Restoration In Yellowstone National Park.” Biologists in Yellowstone are making efforts to preserve genetically pure populations of two subspecies of cutthroat trout – the Yellowstone and West Slope varieties – and the arctic grayling. Bob notes that history, biology, and geology all play a role in these efforts, and there may be some impacts in the future of fishing in the park.



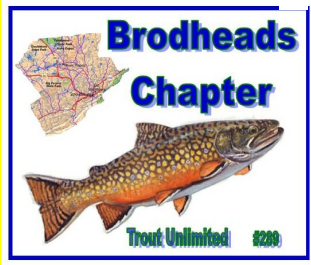
*** ATTENTION LADIES IN BTU ***

Samantha Kutskel, Program Director for the PA Council of Trout Unlimited, would like to start moving forward with a PATU women’s committee. In order to move forward with this project, she needs to find female members who are active in TU and would like to be part of the committee. The purpose of the committee is to aid chapters in their efforts to get more active female members and recruit new members. Here’s Samantha’s contact info: PO Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823. 814-359-5233 - 814-771-7948.

If you’re interested in taking part in this important project, kindly contact Samantha with your name and email address. ALSO, please CC: BTU President Tom Battista so that he can keep track of the chapter members involved! Tom’s email address is: mooseowl511@gmail.com,

Samantha would like to hold a conference call on November 29th at 7PM.

CHAPTER CALENDAR



November 2012

Board Meeting – Nov. 7 @ 7:30p

General Meeting – Nov. 14 @ 7:30p

Bob Ballantyne: “Fisheries Biology And Native Fisheries Restoration In Yellowstone National Park.”

Note: The Fly Tying Round-Robin, all General Meetings, the Annual Fly Fishing Symposium and all Fly Tying Classes, will be held in the Education Room of the Monroe County Conservation District Office on Running Valley Road in Bartonsville, PA.

BrodheadTU.org



FISHING BUDDIES WANT YOU!

The 2012 cadre of available Brodhead TU anglers who have volunteered their services for **Gerry Bortz’ Fishing Buddies Program** are always ready to receive calls for the trout fly fishing season. Kindly plan ahead; don’t call the night before you want to go fishing and expect the availability of one of our volunteers. **Please save this page and know that caring members of YOUR chapter are here to help any fledgling fly-fishers with “getting their feet wet” in one of our lovely local streams.** The following BTU chapter members have generously offered their time and expertise to assist fellow BTU members in learning the local waters: **Eric Baird** (570-355-0165; evenings & weekends; Tobyhanna, Hickory Run & Devil’s Hole); **Tom Battista** (610-681-6307; Sunday mornings; any stream); **Gerry Bortz** (570-895-1099; weekdays; Brodhead & McMichaels Creeks); **Scott Cesari** (570-897-5830; Evenings & weekends; any streams); **Will Daskal** (610-381-6188; call for availability); **Jeff Heberley** (570-421-3184; any time; anywhere); **Glenn Hessler** (570-629-5492; weekends; Brodhead & McMichaels Creeks); **Tom Magera** (570-977-4381; weekdays in the morning & weekends any time; any stream); **Eric McLendon** (610-863-9097; anytime; anywhere); **Ron Mishkin** (570-460-5031; evenings & weekends; Brodhead & McMichaels Creeks and others); **Frank Russo** (570-839-3436; any time; anywhere); and **John Schriever** (570-722-9797; anytime; anywhere).

Don Baylor now chairs our chapter’s **FISHING TRIPS COMMITTEE** so that we can add fishing trips to our litany of exciting BTU events and activities. If you have a destination in mind that would be a great spot for a group of us to visit for a day, multi-day, or weekend fly fishing excursion, please share your ideas and information with Don @ (570) 992-3558! We’re really looking forward to spicing up our chapter’s activities and in getting more of our members involved in all things BTU. Also, remember that **YOU** can fill our a free raffle ticket **AT EVERY CHAPTER ACTIVITY** to win a gorgeous fly rod. The drawing will take place at our annual June picnic this year!



Fly of the Month

Scott Cesari

2006 PA State Fly Tying Champion

2006 Federation of Fly Fishers World Champion

For the next two months, I've decided to do something different with the fly of the month column. Since I've been teaching the beginner's fly tying classes, two things seem to consistently confuse my students. One is hooks, the other is materials selection, and I frequently am asked to elaborate on both. I thought it might, therefore, be a good idea to pen an article on each of these subjects. I'll cover hooks in this November issue of FOTM, and materials in next month's column, in an effort to help you understand these two areas a little better. And with the next beginner's class scheduled for January, I thought the timing of these articles would be appropriate as well for those of you who will be taking those classes.

So let's talk about hooks. It would seem that the concept of hook selection would be straightforward, but anyone who has gone to a fly shop to buy hooks will quickly find that it is not nearly that easy. The large variety of hook sizes and styles alone can be overwhelming. Add to that the fact that there are several manufacturers of hooks, and the fact that each manufacturer has their own unique nomenclature and descriptors for their particular hooks, and overwhelming now becomes confusing. And once you realize that a size 10 2XL nymph hook from one company looks different than a size 10 2XL nymph hook from another company, and you realize that you can't directly compare one company's hooks to another's, overwhelming and confusing become downright frustrating, and you wind up leaving the shop without any hooks at all. Let's try to shed some light on this now, then, before you make your next trip to the local fly shop, to help you sift through all that confusion.

Let's start our discussion by establishing a general classification system for hooks. Hooks fall into one of five different categories: dry, wet, nymph, streamer, and "other." Each category is defined by certain characteristics, as detailed below:

Dry fly hooks: these hooks will have a fine diameter wire, making the hook lighter to allow the fly to float on the water. The shank (the straight part of the hook that extends from just behind the eye to just in front of the bend) is generally labeled a standard length and is relatively short.

Wet fly hooks: these hooks will have a thicker diameter wire, adding weight to help the fly sink in the water column. They, too, have a standard shank length.

Nymph hooks: these hooks will also have a thicker diameter wire. They usually have a slightly longer shank length, commonly labeled 1X or 2X (I will address the "X" below.)

Streamer hooks: these hooks will also have a thicker diameter wire, but will have a shank length that is significantly longer than standard, anywhere from 3X to 8X.

“Other” hooks: this category would capture any hook that doesn’t fit in the above categories. A hook with a curved shank, for instance, would be placed here.

Let’s address the nomenclature system next. This is perhaps the most confusing part about hooks, as each company has adopted their own way to label their products, and comparison across companies therefore feels a lot like comparing apples to oranges. There are a few commonalities, however. The convention used to identify the size of the hook, for one. Size is defined by a number, with larger numbers indicating smaller hook sizes (the opposite of what you would intuitively expect.) So, a size 28 hook is a very tiny hook, while a size 4 is relatively large. Only even numbers are used, except for sizes larger than 2, which are identified by “/0” (which, when spoken, is called and “aught” phonetically.) So a 1/0 hook would be a “one aught” and would be larger than a size 2. Hooks in the “aught” sizes are generally used for larger game fish. Typical trout flies use hooks in the 12 to 16 range, generally speaking. Another common convention is the “X”, which is used to describe shank length. A typical dry fly hook, as stated above, is usually considered a standard shank length. Longer shanks are described numerically with the “X” label, such as 2X, 3X, 4X, and so on, with larger numbers indicating longer shanks. A long streamer hook, as compared to the standard dry fly hook, would be 6X or 8X, for example, and would have a shank length much longer than the dry fly hook.

These, however, are about the only common ties in nomenclature. Each company will otherwise label their products differently, usually with a 3 or 4 digit number that really has nothing to do with the characteristics of the hook itself. The only exception to this rule is the Mustad signature series of hooks, which uses a naming system that does directly identify the characteristics of the hook, although you do need to familiarize yourself with their system in order to interpret it correctly. They do have a web page that explains their system, you can visit it at http://www.mustad.no/signature/signature_chart09.html for details.

My advice to a beginner would be to choose a company whose hooks you like and tie on those hooks exclusively, to start. While hook comparison across companies is difficult, hook comparison within the same company is not. A wet fly hook from Tiemco may look similar to a nymph hook from Daiichi, but a wet fly hook from Tiemco will be different than a nymph hook from Tiemco. As you tie more and become more familiar with hooks, it will be easier to branch out and select appropriate hooks from different companies. Having said that, you may still find yourself in a situation where the fly shop you’re at is out of the hook you want from your company of choice, and you may have to use an alternate company. While comparison across companies is like comparing apples and oranges, there are several hook conversion charts available online that will let you know what hook to select. If you can’t get the Daiichi 1180 hook, for example, these charts will tell you what the equivalent hook would be from the other companies (a Mustad classic 94840 would suffice, for instance.) If you google “fly tying hook conversion chart,” you will receive a search result that will link you to

several charts that you may use to determine hook equivalency.

The “other” category, as I mentioned above, encompasses any hook that doesn’t fit into any of the other categories. These hooks would have unusual characteristics such as a curved or bent shank, a modified bend, or the like. They are called by all sorts of names, such as scud hook, swimming hook, sproat bend, etc. For a beginner, and for someone taking my beginner’s class or following my beginner’s video series, you really need only to focus on the first four categories of hooks. After you learn the basic skills and find yourself wanting to advance to a wider variety of flies, you can then explore some of these other types of hooks. The best way to proceed with this, I would suggest, (which brings me to my concluding comments in this article as well,) is to follow the advice that I regularly give to all my students, of all skill levels, about fly tying in general. Keep your end point in mind, and choose your hooks and materials accordingly to achieve that end. If you want to imitate a mayfly, then your hook should be chosen to match your imitation – a dry fly, standard shank length hook, so that it will float easily and match the silhouette of a mayfly. If you’re trying to imitate a small baitfish or minnow, then choose a streamer hook, something with a heavier wire and a longer shank, long enough to match the length of the baitfish you’re imitating. A scud generally assumes a more curved posture in the water, so a curved shank hook is your best bet there. Regardless of how confusing the nomenclature systems of hooks might be, by keeping the end point in mind you can select the proper hook just by looking at it, without regard for what it might be labeled. Now that you know a bit about hook identification, your selection process will hopefully be that much easier, even if you can’t directly look at the hook (if you’re ordering over the internet, for instance.)

I hope this has helped to clear up some of the confusion surrounding hook selection. After all, the fun of all this is actually tying the flies, not getting bogged down in the nuances of selecting hooks. As always, if you have any questions or need further clarification, feel free to contact me at 610-730-7928 or at smcesari@epix.net. Next month we’ll tackle some of the concerns about materials selection. Until then, go out and get some hooks and have fun tying!

DRY FLY HOOKS General Hook Description	Daiichi	Avalon	Mustad	Orvis	Eagle Claw	Partridge	Tiemco
Wide Gape Down Eye	1100	NA	80000BR	4864	NA	NA	100
Wide Gape Straight Eye	1110	NA	NA	4641	NA	NA	101
Standard	1170	A1170	94840	1176	LO59	L2A	5210
Standard Mini Barb	1180	NA	NA	1523	NA	NA	5210
Barbless	1190	NA	80010BR	1877	LO61B	E1AY	900BL
2X Long	1280	NA	94831	1638	NA	H1A	5212
1X Short Down Eye	1310	NA	94838	1509	NA	NA	921

TU Youth Camp Now Accepting 2013 Applications!

Applications are now being accepted for the 19th annual Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp being held June 16 -21, 2013 at the Allenberry Resort in Boiling Springs



Applications are now being accepted for the 19th annual Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp being held June 16 -21, 2013 at the Allenberry Resort in Boiling Springs, Cumberland County.

The highly structured curriculum is based on college level classes. The students are instructed in ecology, aquatic biology, geology, hydrogeology, erosion and sedimentation control, ichthyology, riparian corridor protection, watershed management, entomology and much more. Students also participate in a hands-on stream habitat improvement project.

But it's not all work. Fly fishing and fly tying are included. Nationally known instructors teach the students fly casting, fly tying, stream etiquette, how to "read" the water, and of course there is fishing. The camp begins on Sunday and ends the following Friday.

The camp will be limited to 32 selected qualified students, ages 14 to 17. **Our Brodhead Chapter usually sponsors two or three candidates each year and picks up the applicants' fees. The applicants must have been born between June 21, 1995 and June 16, 1999.** The thirty-two students will be selected through an application process where they must state why they want to attend camp and they must provide a reference from a science teacher or guidance counselor. The competition for admission is fierce. The camp began accepting applications for the 2013 camp on November 1, 2012 and all applications must be postmarked not later than March 31, 2013.

All meals and accommodations are included for the residence camp. A student need not be an accomplished fly fisher or a budding aquatic biologist to attend. All the student needs to be is highly motivated and willing to learn.

The Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp was founded in 1995 through the efforts of the late Dr. John R. “Jack” Beck and the late Enoch S. “Inky” Moore, Jr., Pennsylvania Fish Commissioner. Their goal was to select thirty-two teenagers each year who are the leaders in their class. The thought is that today’s leaders in high school become the leader of tomorrow’s communities. In a few short years they will be the bankers, lawyers, realtors, municipal officials and the leaders in their communities. If the camp can implant a kernel of knowledge in today’s students about the importance of clean water, when those students become the decision makers in their communities it may have a positive impact on how water resources are used.



Alumni are welcome to attend the Thursday evening picnic and share their experiences since they attended camp.


The highly successful camp has been emulated in Michigan, North Carolina, Maine, Montana, Washington, Arkansas, New Hampshire, Colorado, New Jersey, New York, Idaho, Illinois, Oregon, Tennessee, Vermont and Virginia/D.C./Maryland/West Virginia with other states looking to start their own programs.

For more information or an application brochure contact Brodhead Chapter President Tom Battista at mooseowl511@gmail.com or call him at (570) 236-1734.

The Officers & Directors of the Brodhead Chapter of Trout Unlimited have all of you in our thoughts and prayers as we navigate through the difficult days ahead in a post-Hurricane Sandy world.

We wish to thank the following individuals and businesses for their continued support of our efforts:

This space available to advertise your event or business. For information and rates, contact Bob Stevens @ (570) 629-2922.

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at Glen Brook Golf Club

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(570) 421-6081
pmullally1@verizon.net

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www.Kenandcompany.com

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Newman Williams Mishkin Corveleyn Wolfe & Fareri &
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

Ronald J. Mishkin
Telephone 570.421.9090
rmishkin@newmanwilliams.com
www.newmanwilliams.com
Fax 570.424.9739
P.O. Box 511 • 712 Monroe Street
Stroudsburg, PA 18360-0511

GEORGE W. WESTERVELT, JR.
Attorney at Law

(570) 421-6100 706 MONROE STREET
FAX: (570) 421-8027 STROUDSBURG, PA 18360



Address Changes: KINDLY NOTE

If you have moved, or if you received a new physical address pursuant to the Monroe County 911E program, only YOU can effect an address change through National TU.

You can do it directly on the TU.org website by logging in to your account with your TU member number, or you can call them up directly at one of the following numbers: TOLL FREE: 1-800-834-2419; National Office: (703) 522-0200; Fax: (703) 284-9400 and make the change.

We cannot do it for you!

**Brodhead Chapter
Trout Unlimited
P.O. Box 713
Bartonsville, PA 18321**

Thanks for your understanding in this timely matter.—Ed.



Streamside *asides*

*All material for submission for your newsletter
should be sent to the editor at the following address:*

Streamside Asides
Will Daskal, Editor

1109 Daniel Court

Saylorsburg, PA 18353-7986

OR VIA EMAIL TO:

brodheadtu@yahoo.com



If your membership is about to expire,
why not take a moment out of your busy
schedule now and renew today. Our chapter's
conservation activities are ever-increasing, and
we need your support!

More on the web @:

BrodheadTU.org

