

September, 2011 Issue

Guest Speakers:

BILL KRAUSS

Master Fly Fisherman of the
Pohopoco Creek!

(See page 4)

& JOSEPH CAUSTON

*Our Rivers Conservation & Fly
Fishing Youth Camp Candidate*

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Next Meeting: Sept. 14, 2011

OUR ANNUAL MEETING

& CHAPTER ELECTIONS!

Scott Cesari's

FLY OF THE MONTH

Now on page 5!



OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Tom Battista
145 Heiney Lane
Kunkletown, PA 18058
(610) 681-6307

VICE PRESIDENT

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

TREASURER

Eric Baird
HC 89 Box 59
Pocono Pines, PA 18350
(570) 355-0165

SECRETARY

Bob Stevens
P.O. Box 46
Bartonsville, PA 18321
(570) 629-2922

BOARD MEMBERS

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

Gerry Bortz
HC #1 P.O. Box F14
Swiftwater, PA 18370-9715
(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

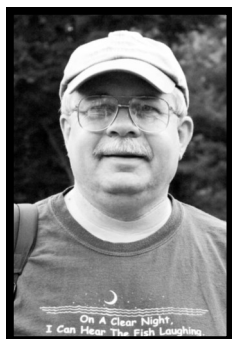
Bob Hosko
711 Flagler St.
Stroudsburg, PA 18360
(570) 421-7302

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

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

The Home Pool — Tom Battista

President, Brodheads Chapter of Trout Unlimited



It has been a busy summer with many opportunities to promote fly fishing and TU. In June, Bob Stevens, Joe Sadowski, Will Daskal, Mike Schwartz and I assisted *Project Healing Waters* with programs at Tobyhanna State Park. In July, we all met with Bob Eddy and his Fishing Club to fish Arrowhead Lakes with the veterans. We also fished at *Indian Mountain Rod & Gun Club* in August in their private section of stream.

In July, Spencer Yeakel, Will Daskal, Bob Stevens, Carl Meyer and I provided a fly fishing introduction to the campers at *Monroe County Conservation Camp*. Many of the thirty-five campers were able to quickly become adept at fly casting in a very short time. This youth group was very interested in trying the

equipment and asked questions that showed genuine interest in our sport. We have received letters of thanks from several of the campers that we sponsored, which are included this issue of *Streamside Asides*.

In August, several of us volunteered on short notice & were able to help the *Brodhead Watershed Association* with their *River Ramble* held at the *Brodhead Forest and Stream Association*. We were able to “ramble” on parts of the Paradise and Brodhead creeks not open to the public. There was an electro fishing demonstration, fishing history of the area, invasive and native plant information. A Revolutionary War grave site was also visited on the property.

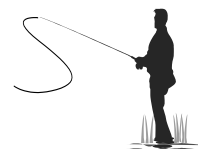
Will Daskal and I went to *The PPL Environmental Center* on Lake Wallenpaupack, to take the *TU Coldwater Conservation Corps* training. This Corps of TU volunteers is being developed in response to the proliferation of drilling in the state for natural gas in Marcellus Shale. We were taught to test water for total dissolved solids, conductivity, pH, temperature, and to determine stream flow using stream cross section as the measurement (no velocity by timing a float is required). We were also trained in how to pick viable monitoring sites in relation to potential drilling sites. So far, we do not have any drilling permits in our immediate area, thanks to a moratorium in place in the Delaware River Basin. Gas drilling companies are flooding the TV with advertising trying to show how beneficial they are to the area’s economy and how natural gas gained by hydraulic fracturing will solve the nation’s energy needs, while preserving our environment. Using their websites you can learn about the process, check Citrus Energy’s website for a computer video showing the process. Become informed and you will see how this is a threat to your watersheds, drinking water and fishing.

Joe Sadowski and Scott Cesari have recently developed a “Fly of the Month” fly tying contest. **Bring your personally tied sample of Scott Cesari’s “Fly of the Month” for September to the September 14th meeting and register it in with Joe Sadowski. Scott will take the entrants home to judge them in time for the winner to be announced in the October issue of *Streamside Asides*. The winner will have first pick of the raffle prizes in October and will receive a certificate.** This new ongoing program will continue using each month’s “Fly of the Month” selection.

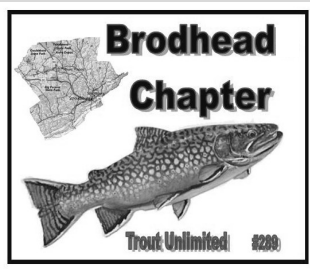
Lastly, if you are interested in helping for all or part of the *Monroe County Youth Field Day*, September 10, 2011 call me immediately! We can use volunteers for many areas besides fishing. I have been demonstrating with my golden retrievers for sixteen years at this event, and the more volunteers we have, the more successful it becomes. Check the website; www.mcyfd.org for details.

Tight lines!

Tom



CHAPTER CALENDAR



September, 2011

Board Meeting – Sept. 7
@ 7:30 pm

ANNUAL MEETING –
Sept. 14 @ 7:30 pm: NEW
CHAPTER BYLAWS, 3rd-
Notification

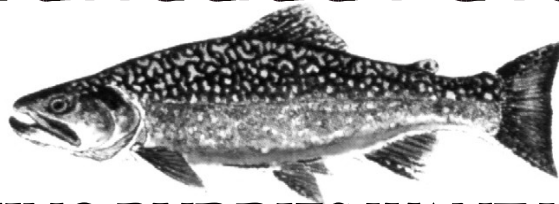
October, 2011

Board Meeting – Oct. 5
@ 7:30 pm

General Meeting – Oct. 12
@ 7:30 pm: CHAPTER BY-
LAWS, RATIFICATION

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.

BrodheadsTU.org



FISHING BUDDIES WANT YOU!

The 2011 cadre of available Brodheads TU anglers who have volunteered their services for **Gerry Bortz' Fishing Buddies Program** are now ready to receive calls for the upcoming spring 2011 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).

Beginning with this issue, *Streamside Aside* will be mailed from the new CAC in Stroudsburg, allowing for faster mail service to you!

National TU has agreed to modify the name of our chapter, and we may now drop the "s" from our prior identity. We are now officially the...

BRODHEAD CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED!

Address Changes: KINDLY NOTE...Our newsletter mailing labels come to me from National TU. I do not generate them! If you have moved, or if you receive 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. **I cannot do it for you!** Thanks for your understanding in this timely matter.—Ed.

Our September Presentation will feature BILL KRAUSS, JR.

Bill Krauss Jr. is a local master fly fisherman who began recording his trout catches while a junior in Allentown High School in 1953, when the trout season ended in July. Fifty-one trout were recorded that year. Thirty years later, in 1985, he recorded his 1000th trout. Numbers of trout caught have increased as the years have passed. By the end of 2010, his total of fish caught reached 67,119. While Bill has fished in ten different states, most of his trout have been caught in eastern PA. Bill's astonishing success rate will have you primed to learn about his fish-catching methods, and his opinions, based on fifty-seven years of trout fishing, often differ from what you have read in fishing literature. At our September 14th meeting, Bill will present ten fly fishing myths for your discussion. It should be one of the most interesting and entertaining meetings of the year!

URGENT MEMBER ALERT!

In past years at the Annual BTU Banquet, bottles of wine were won that were almost magically supported by a hand-carved, wooden support called "Bortz's Magic Fish". Sadly, no "Magic Fish" remain on hand for next year's Banquet. Gerry Bortz has requested that one of our many previous winners comes forth so that he can borrow one to be duplicated by a new supplier for future banquet raffles. The person that can provide Gerry with a sample to design a new prototype will not only get back his original "Magic Fish," but it will also magically contain a bottle of good wine as a Thank You! If you have a "Magic Fish" in your possession, please contact Gerry Bortz (570-895-1099) immediately!

CHAPTER BYLAWS NOTICE!

On August 3, 2011, the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors of the Brodhead Chapter of Trout Unlimited passed its first set of Chapter BYLAWS, with a recommendation that it be adopted by the membership, notice of which is herein made to you for the second time. They were published on the BTU Chapter website on August 17th. A third notification will be made via a physical copy at the September 14th General Meeting, and a fourth notification will be made at the October 12th General Meeting. *The Ratification vote for the new BTU Chapter BYLAWS is herein announced for October 12th, 2011 at the start of the October General Membership Meeting.*



Fly of the Month

Scott Cesari

2006 PA State Fly Tying Champion

2006 Federation of Fly Fishers World Champion



Welcome to the fly of the month! I'm happy to announce that we've decided to do something new with this feature starting with this month's fly. Thanks to a great idea from Joe Sadowski, we will be holding an ongoing **FLY TYING CONTEST** featuring the flies that appear in this column. Here's how it works: Members will receive their newsletter featuring the fly of the month for that particular month. Those wishing to participate in the contest can tie their fly and bring it to that month's general meeting. Flies will be labeled and collected by me, and I will take them home to judge them. The winner will be announced at the next month's general meeting. The prize, you ask? The lucky winner will have first choice of any of the fabulous items up for raffle at that month's meeting, and the raffle table always has some very nice items from which to choose! The winner will also receive a Certificate of Achievement from the chapter, their winning fly mounted in a small glass dome, and, of course, bragging rights. All the flies submitted, except the winning fly, will be combined into a fly collection and become one of our annual banquet raffle prizes. It's a winning situation for all, and a lot of fun! So, without further ado, here is this month's fly (with some specifications for the contest participants): **ELK HAIR CADDIS**

HOOK: dry, size 14

THREAD: olive

HACKLE: ginger

RIB: gold wire, counter-wrapped

BODY: tan dubbing

WING: bleached elk or deer hair

TYING STEPS

1. Attach the thread to the hook at the eye and create a thread base to the bend. Return the thread to a point about 2 eye lengths from the front of the hook.
2. Tie in the gold wire as follows: hold the piece of wire underneath the hook on a 45 degree angle, and trap the wire underneath the hook with three loose wraps of thread. Then gently pull the wire back, aligning it with the shank of the hook, until the end of the wire buries itself underneath the thread wraps. Now continue to wrap the thread with more secure wraps along the shank of the hook until you reach the bend. This will effectively secure the wire to the hook and align it properly.
3. Tie in a ginger hackle by the butt end (as a general rule of thumb, dry fly hackle is tied in by the butt end, as opposed to wet fly hackle, which is tied in by the tip.) The length of the barbs should be roughly equal to the width of the gape of the hook.
4. Dub the body. Make sure to stop about 2 eye lengths back from the front of the hook to leave room for the wing.
5. Palmer wrap the hackle along the length of the body.
6. There are two tips I can offer you to help you effectively counterwrap the gold wire through the hackle without trapping too many barbs. First, take your scissors and trim the hackle barbs from the top of the hook. As you counterwrap the wire (that is, wrapping the wire in the opposite direction as the hackle), try to position it so that the wire crosses the hackle on top of the hook, at the points where you clipped the hackle barbs. Also, as you wrap the wire through the hackle barbs underneath the hook, wiggle the wire back and forth as you cross through the barbs. The goal here is to use the wire to reinforce the hackle quill without trapping the barbs. If done correctly, you should find that very few barbs are kinked or crimped by the wire wrap. Again, stop your wrap approximately 2 eye lengths back from the front of the hook to leave room for the wing.
7. Clip, clean, and stack a bunch of elk or deer hair and attach it on top of the hook in front of the body, tips projecting toward the rear of the hook but not projecting past the bend. Make about three wraps and then gently stroke the butt ends of the hair up, above the hook shank. This will help keep the hair clump on top of the hook and prevent it from rotating. Repeat this process several times over until you have about 10-15 wraps of thread securing the clump to the shank.

8. At this point, lift the butt ends and make a few wraps beneath them just behind the eye to lock the hair in place.
9. Whip finish the thread at this point also (under the butt ends just behind the eye of the hook), clip the thread and trim the butt ends such that they are as long as, but do not protrude longer than, the front of the hook. Cement the head and also the wraps that tied down your wing. Your caddis is now ready to fish (or to enter in our contest!)

For the contest, these are the specific criteria I will be looking for:

- A. Wing length and attitude – it should extend to but not beyond the bend of the hook, and should rest at approximately a 45 degree angle above the hook.
- B. Wing fibers should not fall below the hook shank.
- C. Head of the wing should not extend further than the very front tip of the hook.
- D. The less trapped hackle barbs the better.
- E. Hackle barb length (about the width of the gape.)

As always, feel free to contact me with any questions at smcesari@epix.net or 610-730-7928. Good luck – I hope to see many of your flies for the contest! Until next time...

Since our last meeting...



Project Healing Waters



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MCCD Environmental Ed. Camp

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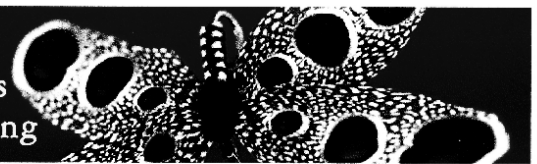
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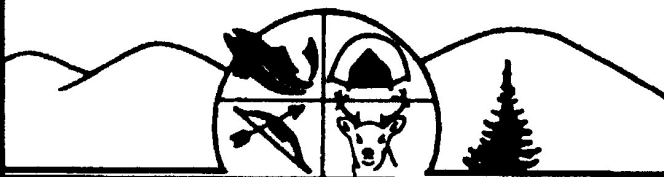
Tying Lessons

Framed Fly Art

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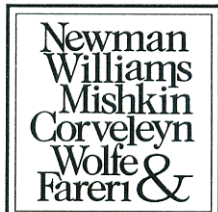
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507 Main Street, Stroudsburg, PA 18360
Phone (570) 421-8077 • Fax (570) 421-8227
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ATTORNEYS AT LAW



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
FAX: (570) 421-8027

706 MONROE STREET
STROUDSBURG, PA 18360

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

brodheadtu@yahoo.com



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