



Clearwater

Chapter

*Clearwater Currents*

**The Official Publication of the Clearwater Chapter  
of**

**Trout Unlimited**

**169 Old Niskayuna Road Latham, NY 12110**

Issue No. 09-010

November, 2009



## *America's Leading Coldwater Fisheries Conservation Organization*

### *Promoting Habitat for Wild Trout and Salmon*

## *During 2009 Trout Unlimited Celebrates Its 50<sup>th</sup> Year Fighting for Coldwater Fisheries Conservation*

**Join us** before each meeting at 6:30pm for a tying demonstration. Meetings begin at 7:30pm, the third Monday of each month (except Banquet month, July and August), at the Best Western on Western Avenue, Albany, NY (about a mile east of the end of the Northway).

### **Upcoming Events**

November 16 Chapter General Meeting – “ Fishing the Ausable” with Hungry Trout Fly Shop owner **Nancy Murphy** and other guides and Ausable experts - Guest Fly Tier TBA @6:30pm  
March 6, 2010 Chapter Conservation Banquet

### **Board of Directors/Staff**

President	Doug Howard	399-8566	Trips	Bob Mead	399-9000
V.President	Rich Bogardus	377-1022	Treasurer	Ken Waldie	573-4793
Education	Rich Bogardus	377-1022	Ex-Officio	Ron Boutin	453-9843
Secretary	Brad Mohr	482-4645	Youth	Bart Chabot	393-9918
Conservation	Roy Lamberton	872-2217	Newsletter	Mark Brown	<a href="mailto:brownie6@nycap.rr.com">brownie6@nycap.rr.com</a>
Stream Research	Art Coleman	399-5550	Programs	Heath Clayson	573-6008
Quartmaster	Doug Howard	399-8566	Flea Market	Bob Mead	399-9000
Schoharie	Ed August	295-7663	Membership	John Morette	393-6443
At Large	Stan Duncan	877-6610	Membership	Dick Hermida	399-6272
Video Library	Richard Atkinson	377-8249	Youth	Mike Walchko	234-4192
Battenkill	Greg Cuda	587-1189	Banquet	Jessica Galasso	716-913-5550
Board Member	Glenn Kuhles	869-0817	Banquet Co-Chair	Bill Cosgrove	766-2405
Website	Bill Wemple	384-0014	Publicity	Bill Wemple	384-0014

Clearwater Chapter of TU PO Box 9686 Schenectady, NY 12309  
[www.ClearwaterTU.org](http://www.ClearwaterTU.org)

## Treasurer's Report

Ken Waldie

Chapter Treasurer is looking for a replacement. He would be willing to teach and guide any new member wishing to step up into this all important position. If you can help let Ken or Doug Howard know asap.

## Chapter Fly Swap

Ron Boutin

Another year of fly swapping is upon us and starts at this months general meeting on April 20<sup>th</sup>. Bring in 13 of the current months category and get 13 back of the same category from other tiers in the Chapter. It's a great way to build your fly boxes and try some new flies. New ideas are always welcome as to what you want swapped so call me at 453-9843 or email me at [rx4fishing@nycap.rr.com](mailto:rx4fishing@nycap.rr.com) if you have further questions or ideas.

Nov Nymphs  
Dec Streamers

## Fish of the Month Contest

The Fish of the Month Contest winner for 2008 is over with **Bill Bach** of Glenville our first winner! Bill's fish wasn't the biggest, but his story about his experience was the greatest among the entrants. The year 2009 is shaping up to be another great angling year (see snow, cold, etc so far this winter) so get your cameras ready and let me know about your fish of the month to get entered. A great opportunity for young/old and new/veteran angler alike so everyone should enter in 2009! Send all entries to the Editor at [brownie6@nycap.rr.com](mailto:brownie6@nycap.rr.com).

## Fish of the Month for November 2009

There is some truth to the expression "the third time is a charm." After missing out the prior year due to unsafe water levels, on Nov. 13, 2008 **Phil Johnson** and I had our first experience steelhead fishing on the Salmon River. Despite the best efforts of our expert guide, **Hap Acee**, we like virtually every other fisherman on the river saw very few fish. The highlight of my chilly and often rainy, windy day came when I landed a little steelhead.

On October 12, 2009 I fished the Salmon River with Hap for the second time. **Jeff Bull** accompanied me on this outing. While Jeff and I each managed to set the hook on a number of good-sized fish, neither of us succeeded in landing one.

A week later, on October 27, 2009 Phil Johnson and I were back on the Salmon River with Hap. After a slow start the fish started hitting, with somewhere near twenty hook-ups between us. Phil brought in both steelhead and a beautiful lake-run brown. After a battle that included what must have been the rather humorous sight of me running and stumbling downstream towards the lake trying to avoid losing my line and backing, I finally managed to land a chubby male steelie.

Yep the third time was a charm and I hope the fourth time will be too because Jeff and I are going back out with Hap next week!

**Jim Boyle**

***Editor's Note*** – I caught my first steelhead in an apple orchard at the age of 14 in a south shore tributary to Lake Ontario. Still remember the thrill and power of these lake run fish in a stream environment. If you have never venture to the "Big Lake" then you need to set some time aside and do so.



## [November Chapter Meeting Information](#)

The Clearwater Chapter is proud to have **Nancy Murphy** be our guest speaker for our November 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. See Nancy's bio below and the meeting flyer below that for all the details. This meeting should fill up our room so get there early to get a good seat. Meeting starts at 6:30 pm with a guest fly tier and the featured speaker will begin about 7:30pm. Meeting is at the Best Western Sovereign Hotel about 2 miles east of the end of the Northway. Free of charge for all.

**Nancy Murphy**  
**Owner**  
**The Hungry Trout Fly Shop**  
Wilmington, NY

610-360-8926  
nancy@tcoflyfishing.com



Living and working in one of the country's magic places was exactly what Nancy Murphy had in mind when she made the transition from corporate marketing executive to fly fishing professional in 1996. At the Fly Fishing Show in Somerset, NJ, Nancy met the team from Skytop Lodge, an Orvis Endorsed fishing operation in Pennsylvania's Pocono Mountains. With a background in sporting clays and fly fishing, she became the first female Endorsed Orvis Fly Fishing Guide and shooting instructor on the Skytop staff. During her time at Skytop, Nancy taught the Orvis Fly Fishing School, casting and sporting clays.

In 1999, a group of investors approached Nancy to open, merchandise and manage a large Orvis Dealership in historic Bethlehem, PA. It was back to the Pocono Mountains in 2003 to open and manage an Orvis dealership and guiding operation at a new Orvis Endorsed lodge.

In 2004 Nancy joined TCO Fly Shop in Reading, PA to open their new location on The Main Line in downtown Philadelphia and moved to The Adirondacks to manage The Hungry Trout in 2005. Nancy is now the owner of The Hungry Trout Fly Shop, having purchased the business in March of 2009.

Nancy's first love is teaching. She spearheads Hungry Trout community relations programs bringing fly fishing to schools, civic organizations and community recreation centers. Through her position on the Board of Directors of the USA Youth Fly Fishing Team, Nancy works to raise awareness and bring hands-on fly fishing

education and experiences to the next generation of fly fishers. She also serves on the board of Becoming an Outdoorswoman in New York.

Nancy continues her work with Casting for Recovery as a Retreat Leader and Fly Fishing Instructor and initiated the successful effort to bring an Adirondack Retreat to the women of Northeastern New York. This breast cancer support group with a fly fishing theme has brought the peace and joy of fly fishing to over 3000 women in recovery and treatment. This year CFR will host over 40 retreats in the USA, UK and Canada. Go to [www.castingforrecovery.com](http://www.castingforrecovery.com) for more information.

## **Take a Road Trip to the ADIRONDACKS**



**Share our passion for fly fishing the legendary West Branch of the Ausable River.**

**Learn from our guides. Take home one of our best flies. Avoid the 5 biggest West Branch angling errors. Get some tips and tactics from Hungry Trout Guides.**

**Join Nancy Murphy, owner of The Hungry Trout Fly Shop in Wilmington, NY and several of our shop guides, Mike Egan from Warrensburg, Bill O'Brien from Scotia and Saratoga native, Bill Hickey for an evening of Adirondack "fish chatter."**

**See you on November 16th!**

## Chapter Thank You's

Bart Chabot

October 10, '09 was a bit of a mixed weather day at this, our first TU visit to Blue Mountain Lake area to represent Clearwater Chapter with our now refined Tying and Casting demo's and instruction. A cold front moved in just about when we arrived to make this day a bit like opening day on our favorite trout stream. It didn't take long for the fingers to realize that the basic good weather was all but over. The cordial staff did inform us of the coffee pot being on and bottomless for our needs. That was all we needed to hear for finger sake. BTW - The cafeteria had a nicely varied, tasty menu from hot soup to freshly prepared sandwiches and a view overlooking Blue Mt. Lake. One would wish for this view out a home window. This writer envisioned my pontoon boat skirting the edges of many of the small islands stalking the next story worthy of placing in a newsletter. Perhaps we can organize a flotilla next season.

Our guys remained stoic throughout the day as a few young takers opted to try tying their own fly. The setting was directly in front of the pond where some good sized Brookie's and Bow's had been placed for their kids fishing derby. While the bait of the day writhed and twisted to free itself from the hooks, the scent given off was all the resident fish needed and they were hungry. All it took was for one or two kids catching a 14" or 16" rainbow thus peaking everyone's interest in being there. Once caught, the Museum Staff were at the ready to clean and put their prize on ice for the return trip home or even better, back to the campfire. Needless to say, any child within hearing and visual distance got caught up in the reason we love this sport. I must say, we all wanted to show them the beauty of catching those fish on a wet or a dry.

On the other hand, we were able to tempt to try casting, a number of adults of both genders with a modicum of success. They now know what to get for each other to put under the tree. I found that a shoe box works well wrapped nicely on one end of a rod and tucking the rest under the couch. All guesswork is out if it surfaces too soon. Back to having fun; we talked to and assisted a wide range of people from a group of college kids to people that expressed difficulty chasing a golf ball over uneven terrain all day. Our solution filled all needs to the surprise of everyone. They all left with a smile on their faces which, obviously, made our day.

Our plan is to return during better weather in September next season. I must admit, the crisp cool air caused flashbacks of tossing a log on a cozy fire giving way to the oncoming longest season of the Northeast. Time to settle back, check the gear, recollect what flies were killers and start filling the boxes whether you tie or buy.

Oh by-the-way...The guys who had all the fun were **Doug Howard, Bill Wemple, George Kass, Bill Donato, Glenn Kuhles and this writer.** Thanks to all for representing Clearwater. There is always room for more people next year on all projects !!!! *Editor's Note* – take the time to thank Bart for another year of voluntary excellence!

## More Chapter Thank You's

Art Coleman

A little rain did not deter us from completing the fourth and final highway cleanup for 2009. Thanks to **Ann** and **Steve Kearney, Mike Morrison, Doug Howard, Ron Boutin, Stan Duncan, Heath Clayson, and Bob Thomas**. A special nod to **Bill Cosgrove** for a stellar performance as chef and for providing some much needed shelter. *Editor's Note – much thanks again this year must go to Art Coleman for heading up the cleanup project for our Chapter!*

## Homewaters Chapter Fly Tying Night

On occasional Monday nights for the next few months the Homewaters Chapter will meet to tie flies at the new Brunswick Town Library on Rt. 2 in Cropseyville. 11/16, 11/30, 12/14, 1/11/10, 1/25/10, 2/1/10, and 2/8/10 are the dates reserved from 5:30 – 8pm. Seven tiers committed so far and more are welcome – beginners to experts welcome. Contact **Frank Cuttone** at [frank\\_cuttone@hesc.com](mailto:frank_cuttone@hesc.com) for more information or questions.

## CONSERVATION BANQUET MARCH 6, 2010 BEST WESTERN SOVEREIGN WESTERN AVE. ALBANY

The organization meeting for the banquet was held November 9 at Saratoga Bridges, 495 Clifton Park Ctr. Rd. Clifton Park. We can always use new faces. The next meeting of the banquet committee will be **December 14, at 7:00 pm at Saratoga Bridges unless otherwise noted on the website**. If you need directions check the website or call **Bill Cosgrove** at 766-2405.

As donations are received we will endeavor to place pictures of some of them on the website. Any donations are greatly appreciated and if as many members as possible could take books of raffle tickets it would greatly contribute to the success of the banquet.

Anyone with questions or suggestions can contact Bill at 766-2405 or email him at [poppycoz@aol.com](mailto:poppycoz@aol.com). You can also email Jess at [jessica\\_galasso@hotmail.com](mailto:jessica_galasso@hotmail.com).

SECOND ANNUAL

# SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN FLY TYING CHAMPIONSHIP

Sponsored By: Trout Unlimited Chapter 692

Great prizes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place

See [www.ngatu692.com](http://www.ngatu692.com) for full details

## The Rules:

The contest is open to everyone. There is a \$10 entry fee. To enter you must tie and submit two flies. The first fly, the MANDATORY fly, is The Smoky Mountain Candy, pictured below along with the recipe. The second fly, the TIEBREAKER, is any fly of your choice. You must also submit the recipe for your TIEBREAKER and it must be a fly that you would fish. (All flies submitted become the property of Trout Unlimited Chapter 692.)

### Smoky Mountain Candy

Hook:	Your favorite dry hook and size
Thread:	Light Yellow 8/0 (70 denier) or 6/0 (140 denier)
Wing:	White calf tail upright & divided
Tail:	Pheasant Tail Fibers
Body:	Dirty Yellow fur (2/3 yellow, 1/3 tan)
Hackle:	Grizzly & Brown



Send your flies, Tiebreaker recipe and \$10 entry fee (check or money order payable to 'TU 692') to:

TU #692 TYING CHAMPIONSHIP  
DOUG REID  
355 Owassa Road  
Murphy, NC 28906

Entries must be postmarked by February 24, 2010. Be sure to include your name, address, phone number and e-mail address. (Your personal information will not be shared.)

A panel of judges from Trout Unlimited Chapter 692 will score all mandatory flies and select the top 20. The 'Tiebreakers' of the top 20 will be scored by the judges to determine the winners. The winners will be announced at the March 11, 2010 Chapter Meeting. The names of the winners will be posted on our website: [www.ngatu692.com](http://www.ngatu692.com).

**TROUT UNLIMITED CHAPTER 692 WAS FOUNDED IN 2003 TO PROMOTE CONSERVATION  
AND PROTECTION OF OUR RIVERS AND STREAMS.**

# Third Annual Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum Arts of the Angler Show

November 14 & 15, 2009

At the Ethan Allen Inn, at Exit 4 on 1-84 in Danbury CT

*It's all about fly fishing*

For updates and latest information, check out the *Arts* link at [www.cffcm.net](http://www.cffcm.net) **The Show:** Not your ordinary fly show. Featuring seminars, clinics, classes and vendors all related to fly fishing. It is simply all about fly fishing and all proceeds benefit the Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum. You'll find everything related to fly fishing, it's all here in an intimate and elegant setting.

**Saturday:** Show hours 9AM-5 PM, A special price fixe dinner at 5:30 and followed by a live auction at 7:00 PM

**Sunday:** Show hours 9AM-4PM, Blind tying contest at high noon

**Vendors** providing everything you can imagine: the latest and finest in rods, reels and accessories. Classic and vintage tackle, equipment, books, fly tying materials, collectibles, destinations, and guide services. Over 50 tables. The Classic Fly Fisherman, Jerry Girard, Whitewater Flies, The Variant, Badger Creek Flies, Richard Bradley Reels, Mike Longuil Fly Fishing Collectibles, Above and Below H2O, Kelly Baker Rods, Carlson Rod Company, MC Fly Fishing, Housatonic River Outfitters, NorthEast Fly Fishers, Housatonic Valley Rods,...and others.

**30+ of the finest Fly Tyers** providing non stop demonstrations over the weekend: Ralph Graves, David Brandt, Jay 'fishy' Fullum, Bob Mead, Jack Pangburn, Roger Plourde, Bruce Corwin, Bruce Marino, Leslie Wrixon, George Cheundolo, Shawn Britton, Greg Belcamino, Harold Williams, Bill Newcomb, William Hrinko, Peggy Brennan, Joe Soma, United Fly Tyers, Catskill Flytying Guild, and others...

**Seminars and clinics** through out each day with **Fran Verdoliva** telling you about the latest in catching **Atlantic Salmon** on New York's Lake Ontario tributaries, How to select and what to look for in **used bamboo rods** by **Mike Longuil**, How to make and understanding **bamboo rods** with master maker **David Van Burgel**, a little leader **furling** with **Kathy Scott**, Casting in Tight Places with **Dave Brandt**, and every hour a different fly tyer will provide an up close and personal **roundtable** fly tying clinic on the floor.

**Seminars, Programs, and Presentations On the Show Floor Through Out the Show, up close and personal**

How to make and understanding **bamboo rods** with master maker **David Van Burgel**.

Do a little leader **furling** with **Kathy Scott**

**Fly Tyers Roundtable.** Every hour a different show fly tyer will provide a mini seminar on how to tie his special flies. Located at the Round table.

**Saturday:**

**11:00 AM- Fran Verdoliva** will provide a most interesting program on fishing the Lake Ontario tributaries and the introduction and return of Native Atlantic Salmon.

**1:00 PIV1 Bamboo Mike Longuil** will show you what to look for when selecting a used bamboo rod.

**2:00 PM TBA**

**3:00 PM Bamboo Mike Longuil** returns to show you some pro tips on refurbishing and repairing your used bamboo rods.

**Sunday:**

**10 - 1PM Authors: Keith Fulsher (Atlantic Salmon Fly Tyer, Tying and Fishing the Thunder Creek Flies, Hairwing Salmon Flies)** will be on hand along with **Mike Valla (Tying ( alskill Style Dry Flies) and Kathy Scott** too, to sign and inscribe their books. Perfect Gifts for the Holidays for you and your friends.

**10AM, Dave Brandt** will show you how to cast in tight places and provide you with the secrets to successful roll casting. In the center of the show floor.

**11:00 AM, Fran Verdoliva Returns** for a repeat performance on fishing for Pacific Salmon, Steelhead, and Atlantic Salmon in NY's Salmon River Corridor.

**High Noon, A Blind Fly Tying Contest with the Show Fly tyers.** Take a few minutes and watch some pro fly tyers be given the necessary materials to tie a specific fly, be blind folded and tie that fly. You will be surprised with the results. You get to be the Judge.

**1:30 PM TBA**

### **Classes and Seminars**

Sign up now for limited seating classes never seen before... Advanced Registration Required. Call 845-439-4810 and ask for Erin or Shelly.

All registrations will require a non refundable deposit.

All tying classes require students to bring their own tying tools, materials will be provided.

**Salty Flies** Bob Lindquist, master tyer, saltwater fly fisherman, writer and author will present a two hour class on tying the most productive salt water patterns that will last. Saturday, November 14, from 1-3 PM Cost \$40

**Make a Mosquito.** Join Bob Mead, the expert on realistic and imitative insect creators to construct something you want to slap. Be careful, this one hurts more. Saturday, November 14, from 10 AM- 1 PM. Course cost \$75

**Woodduck Wings.** An hour with Dave. Handling and making wood duck wings is not as hard as you may make it. Dave Brandt, Catskill Fly Tyer, will show you the tips and techniques to make wings that will make you smile. This one hour mini course is just that. Saturday, November 14 from 3-4PM A ten Spot

**Wet Flies that Work,** Ralph Graves will not only show you how to tie wet flies, but beautiful wet flies. He is the master. Patience will prevail, but when you are done, you will be proud. Learn the proper steps for proper presentation. You won't be disappointed. Sunday from 9:30-11:30. 40 bucks

**A very special class: The Reel Deal - A Primer for Practical Reelsmithing"** by Michael Hackney In this one hour seminar, Michael will show prospective reelsmiths how they can build functional and attractive brass fly fishing reels using only hand tools and an electric hand drill! Attendees will get an overview of the materials and tools used, as well as Michael's proven reelsmithing techniques and reel design. Each attendee will leave armed with knowledge, materials and tools lists, and a full-scale set of reel drawings and templates. This program will be offered on Saturday, November 14 from 10- 11 AM Cost \$50

**Mounting Flies** for Fun and Profit with Ted Patlen. Do you have a favorite fly or flies that you always wanted mounted in a shadow box? Here is your opportunity to learn from Ted Patlen. Ted will take you through each step to professionally mounting and have you leave with all the necessary materials to DIY. Class includes mounting materials for 1-6 flies and class fee is based on how many flies you want to mount. 1 fly \$20, 2-3 flies \$30, 4-6 flies \$40. This course is available on Sunday afternoon from 11:00- 1:30. PM.

**Fresh and Saltwater Baits,** Mike Martinek Mike Martinek is considered the authority on Rangel Lake Streamer flies and saltwater bait patterns of the Northeast. This fast paced class will give you a complete understanding and techniques necessary to tie classic Carrie Stevens styled streamers using traditional materials. In addition to the freshwater bait patterns, Mike will take you into the top producing saltwater patterns using the most modern materials and techniques. Intermediate tying skills are required. Sunday 1:30-3:00, \$75

### ***An Arts of the Angler Exclusive.***

**BRING YOUR BOOKS.** Now is the time to take a look at that library of yours and time to get rid of duplicates or those no longer desired. This is the CFFCM's economic stimulus. Read on...

**The Book Exchange.** *The Fly Fishing Book Exchange* is open to all attendees.

***The Fly Fisherman's Book Exchange...*** a place for you to sell you old books. Make a list of your books, write the price in the top right hand corner of the inside facing page (in pencil) and put your initials below. We will have tables set up and sell your books. If they sell, we take 10% (if sold via a credit card an additional 5% will be added) and give you the balance when you leave the show. If they don't sell, you can take them home at the end of the show. For more information, please visit our website and click on latest Arts of the Angler Show link at [www.cffcm.net](http://www.cffcm.net). Come on down.

This Book Exchange will give show attendees the opportunity to sell their old and used outdoor sporting books or pick up some to fill their library.

All show proceeds are for the benefit of the Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum, a non-profit 501 (c)3 organization.

**A Live Collectible Auction featuring classic fishing and outdoors sporting items will be held on Saturday evening, 7:00 PM.**

Live Auction items will be posted and updated on the CFFCM website starting on November 1. Visit the website at [www.cffcm.net](http://www.cffcm.net). Consignments will be accepted.

### **Directions:**

**From New Jersey** Cross the Tappan Zee Bridge and take Exit 8 (1-287 East/Cross Westchester Expressway.) Take Exit 9A (I-684N). Take Exit 9E (I-84 East.) Take Exit 4; at the light, turn right. Hotel will be on your right, after the underpass.

**From Boston** Take I-90 West (Massachusetts Turnpike) to Exit 9. (I-84 West.) Take Exit 4; at the light, turn right. Hotel will be on your right.

**From West on I-84** Take Danbury, CT Exit 4; at the light, turn right. Hotel will be on your right, after the underpass.

**For more information: via email: [flyfisher@catskill.net](mailto:flyfisher@catskill.net) or phone 845-439-4810**

10/21/2009 Times Herald-Record.

## **DEC program aims to keep unused drugs away from fish**



Patricia Ellison of Phoenicia disposes of some old pills Tuesday in New Paltz during the pharmaceutical collection event. Times Herald-Record/JEFF GOULDING

### **By Alexa James**

Times Herald-Record

Posted: October 21, 2009

NEW PALTZ — Don't flush those old pills down the toilet.

State officials say trashed medications and personal care products are tainting water bodies and seriously altering fish populations.

"Male fish are showing female traits," said Dennis Lucia, with the Department of Environmental Conservation's pollution prevention unit. In some places, the male-to-female ratio within fish populations has shifted from a 50-50 split to a 10-90 ratio. "There's no sign that it's impacting people yet," he said, but the phenomenon known as "fish feminization" is occurring nationwide.

Scientists suspect drugs such as hormone replacement therapies, antidepressants and pain relievers could be impacting gender in aquatic ecosystems.

The DEC hopes to stymie those effects by breaking a long-promoted habit of rinsing drugs down a toilet or drain. Instead, officials suggest dropping medications off at an authorized collection site or sealing containers and tossing them in the trash. Before throwing medications in the garbage, the DEC says to disguise them in something undesirable: coffee grounds, cat litter or dirt. Do not hide old drugs in food that could be consumed by scavenging animals or people.

To raise awareness, the DEC regional office in New Paltz held a free and anonymous pharmaceutical collection event Tuesday. Folks filled two boxes with expired prescriptions and over-the-counter remedies.

*Harriett Straus of Gardiner emptied the dusty corners of her medicine cabinet into a grocery bag and dropped it off in the DEC lobby. She said it's worth the extra effort to make sure those drugs don't resurface in the environment. Flushing worries her. "We're throwing it away, but it's not really as away as we might think." She said more people might participate if it were easier to find a place to dispose of old drugs. There are few collection sites in the area. Locations must be authorized by the state health department and bureau of narcotic enforcement. Drugs collected at the DEC event on Tuesday will be transferred by law enforcement to the Dutchess County Resource Recovery Agency to be burned. The state hopes to expand this week's pilot program in the months ahead. For more information, visit [www.dontflushyourdrugs.net](http://www.dontflushyourdrugs.net) [ajames@th-record.com](mailto:ajames@th-record.com)*

## Catch & Release laws proposed on Dog River in Vermont to protect wild trout.

<http://www.examiner.com/examiner/x-19210-Fly-Fishing-Examiner-y2009m10d20-Catch--Release-laws-proposed-on-Dog-River-in-Vermont-for-wild-trout-population>

WATERBURY, VT - A public meeting to discuss a proposed trout fishing regulation change will be held by the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department Monday, November 2, at the Riverton Fire House on Route 12 in Riverton. The meeting is from 7:00-9:00 p.m.

The Dog River has long been considered one of Vermont's best wild trout streams with a reputation for abundant wild rainbow trout and large brown trout. Electrofishing surveys and angler creel surveys conducted by Fish & Wildlife through the 1990's confirmed this reputation by revealing high trout densities, excellent natural reproduction, good growth rates and angler catch rates. Rainbow trout have not been stocked in the Dog River since 1961 and all stocking in the Dog River and its tributaries was discontinued in 1992.

Trout population surveys conducted on the lower Dog River annually since 1991, however, show there has been a significant decline in the number of trout over six inches in recent years.

Many anglers have expressed concern about a decline in fishing quality. At the same time, some anglers and game wardens have reported large wild rainbow trout and brown trout being harvested annually, particularly in the spring.

A temporary catch and release or "no-kill" regulation is proposed to reduce the harvest of wild trout in an attempt to stabilize or increase fish population densities. Other potential limiting factors also will be examined, and habitat improvements will be made. The restriction of fishing to the use of artificial flies and lures is based on extensive studies which have shown that trout caught with natural baits have a much higher mortality rate after being released.

The proposed regulation would be on the Dog River from the Route 12 Bridge in West Berlin (Riverton) to the Junction Road Bridge in Montpelier. Fishing would be by artificial flies and lures. All fish caught would be released immediately. The regulation would be in effect from April 10, 2010 to October 31, 2015.

For further information contact: **Rich Kirn**, Fisheries Biologist; Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife [rich.kirn@state.vt.us](mailto:rich.kirn@state.vt.us); (802) 485-7566.

**TU Volunteer from Pittsfield, MA Inducted Into Fishing Hall of Fame.**  
**Fisherman Charley Lahey is the reel deal**

Fishing Hall of Fame inducts city man; he joins the ranks of legendary anglers  
By Benning W. De La Mater

Charley Lahey displays his Fenwick Feralite... (Caroline Bonnavier Snyder / Berkshire Eagle Staff)



Thursday, Oct. 29

PITTSFIELD -- He might not be able to see the lure hit the water or even spot the trout he's chasing, but his wrist-snap is still deft enough to draw the big ones in.

And at 100 years old, Pittsfield's Charles Lahey will have his name placed among the greatest American anglers in history.

A longtime fly fisherman, Lahey will be inducted into the North American Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame tonight during a ceremony at Bass Water Grill in Cheshire hosted by the Taconic Chapter of Trout Unlimited. Officials from the Wisconsin-based organization decided to travel here to save the centenarian a trip.

### **An exclusive club**

Lahey is the first Berkshire County resident to join the exclusive club, to which only a handful of Massachusetts residents belong. Previous anglers inducted into the hall include famed sportscaster Curt Gowdy, President Theodore Roosevelt, baseball great Ted Williams, a host of professional fishermen, and the man who invented the bass fishing boat. A Pittsfield native who spent 44 years as a senior underwriter at Berkshire Life, Lahey said, "I don't know why they picked me." Officials said an anonymous individual nominated Lahey, whose first fishing outing was at 7 years old, when he fashioned a rod out of a branch and attached a string and a hook to the end. His early fishing holes were small ponds and streams on farms in West Pittsfield. At 20, a man fishing the west branch of the Housatonic River introduced him to fly fishing. He was hooked. "I like the action," he said. "With fly fishing, you try and bring the fish to you. With regular fishing, you have to wait."

Lahey is being inducted as a "Legendary Angler," fishermen who the organization say have exceptional skills, have grown the sport, and have had an impact on angling on a regional level. The North American Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame's Jerry Gibbs, a former editor for Outdoor Life magazine and himself a Hall of Fame inductee, will present the plaque to Lahey.

### **'A master of timing'**

Gene Chague, secretary of the Berkshire County League of Sportsmen and outdoors columnist for The Eagle, said Lahey is one of the great legends of the local fishing community. The two have fished together for the last 12 years. "He's a master of timing," Chague said. "He casts perfectly, what we call a 'tight loop.' And for anyone who sees him, fisherman or non-fisherman alike, he's an

inspiration for everything he can still do." Lahey said his love of fly fishing was born from a love of nature. He has fished in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts and New York. His largest fish was "about a 4 pound trout." "A lot of the bigger ones got away," he said. "But that's the fun of it. You usually miss the big ones." Today, he's strictly a catch-and-release fisherman who prefers to remain on the banks rather than stand in the water. He gets out about three or four times a year and still uses a 40-year-old Fenwick Feralite fly fishing rod.

### **Fishing keeps him going**

His wife, Norma, died 10 years ago at age 91. They were married for 64 years. There are still pictures of her scattered around his small one-bedroom apartment on Holmes Road, where he prefers to live alone. In the corner of his dining room sits a radio from the 1940s. A Boston Red Sox plaque hangs on the wall. A medical alert button hangs around his neck. His daughter, Andrea Dimassimo, said fishing keeps him going. "It's the thing that makes him happiest," she said. "He's a trooper." Lahey is known for one of the trout flies he designed and named "The Mad River Special." It is an orange-bodied bucktail fly that he developed to fish the Mad River in Vermont, his favorite spot. "I've caught a lot of fish with that one," he said. A perfect day for him, he said, has more to do with the experience -- not the catch. "I don't care whether or not I catch a fish," he said. "It's all about the world around you, the nature all around you. You really get to see and feel the beauty."

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### **Book of the Month: "Where the Fish Are – An Angler's Guide to Fish Behavior" by Daniel Bagur**

This book covers just about every possible environmental condition an angler can expect to find and then some and explains where to find the fish. A lot of science and research went into this selection and I found it worthwhile and quick to read. I wouldn't recommend it to very seasoned anglers, but for the novice this is a good read which might explain things that 20 years on the water might not. An excellent reference section allows the reader to pursue more detailed research on particular topics also. For about \$20 through McGraw Hill.

## **Happy Thanksgiving 2010 to All Clearwater Chapter Member and Their Families!**

