



***Red Brook Family Day***

Thanks to the hard work of the Southeastern Mass Chapter of TU, and TU members from Rhode Island, the 17th Red Brook Family Day came off without a hitch. About 100 people gathered beneath the big tents set up at the Lyman Reserve to eat grilled chicken and raise money to support the restoration of Red Brook. The high point of the day was a speech by Mary Griffin, the Commissioner of the Mass. Dept. of Fish and Game. Commissioner Griffin praised TU for its role in the preservation and restoration of Red Brook and gave a Letter of Commendation from Governor Patrick to the Southeastern Mass. Chapter of Trout Unlimited, recognizing the SEMA TU chapter for its spearheading of the Red Brook Project. Commissioner Griffin also talked about the recent purchase, by the Mass. Dept. of Fish and Game, of the Century Bogs, located at the headwaters of Red Brook, from the A. D. Makepeace Company. This 245 acre, three million dollar purchase, completes the protection of Red Brook. Restoration of this headwater section of Red Brook is slated to begin in 2014.

Others in attendance at Red Brook Family Day were Tim Purinton, acting Director of the Division of Ecological Restoration, and Steve Hurley, Southeast Mass District Fisheries Biologist for the MDFW.



***Winders Receives Winn Memorial Sea-Run Award***

Yours truly traveled in September to the TU National Convention held in Waterville Valley, New Hampshire to receive the Winn Memorial Sea-Run award given to those who have worked to restore our anadromous fisheries. While, admittedly, my main purpose for mentioning this is to brag and gloat, I also want to point out some of the other things that this honor coming from TU National signifies.

Twenty years ago salters were a forgotten fishery in Massachusetts, and the few, who knew of them, including many of our MDFW biologists, had written them off as a lost cause. Even the folks at TU National had their doubts. Steve Angers and I recall the response of a TU person to an Action Line article that Steve had submitted: “Are there really any trout in Red Brook?”

The Winn Sea-Run Award shows us how much things have changed. Due to the efforts Southeastern Mass. TU, Cape Cod TU, and MDFW biologist Steve Hurley, people now know that sea-run brook trout populations can be restored, and that the only way to do that is by restoring our coastal streams. By simply removing dams that serve no purpose, we can do a lot to restore, not only salters, but also eels, smelt, herring and white perch. And, perhaps most importantly, by restoring these diadromous species, we can restore the food chain that our marine fisheries - striped bass, cod and others - depend on.

In a recent pod cast, taped with TU CEO, Chris Wood, we talked about how the Southeastern Mass. Chapter of TU has been able to leverage its “sweat equity” at Red Brook into something much bigger than we had ever dared to imagine. When we finally tally the full impact of all of the Red Brook Family Days, the years of monthly work parties, the data collection and the research, we can see that SEMATU has generated, through state, federal and private funding, several million dollars for the restoration of, not only salter brook trout, but also all of those other species that they share their streams and estuaries with. Now that’s something to worth bragging about.

Thank you for your many years of belief in, and support for Red Brook.

Warren



***News Letter Editor – George Costello***

I would like to thank everyone for the help with the news letter. I really learned a lot more about fishing than I had planned on. The experience showed me that volunteering can be a great experience. I received help from people throughout the Trout Unlimited world. Howie Strathie of the Cape Cod Chapter helped me out with several articles. Peter Motyka gave me all of the help that I needed to get started. Larry Cook helped set-up my

## ***News Letter Editor – George Costello (cont.)***

computer and on several occasions helped me with casting lessons. Steve Angers, John Kokoska and Warren Winders showed me how a brook trout habitat is managed. Roger Moore helped me out with some business pointers when I started my company almost two years ago now. Ed and Gloria Braun introduced me to the state council banquet and fly fishing show. Barry Guaraldi brought me to the Cape Cod Chapter Banquet where I won an Al Brewster decoy. Wayne and Charlie showed me some great saltwater fly patterns. Wayne and Tom took me up to the Swift River, where I swear I caught the only fish, but never got the picture to prove it. Cindy and Cal got me started at the Carver High School in the fly fishing program. Art Cabral and Roger got me started with writing the first News Letter. Kenny gave me the history of the chapter. Frank Parkers fishing presentation was one of the best I've ever seen. Gus and Nancy hosted the board of Directors meetings. Please give Mike Rudman the same support.

## **HOW DO I CHOOSE A FLY ROD?**

**Theflyfishingplace.com**

Why are there so many different fly rods, and do I really need a collection of them? This question really opens a can of worms in the fly fishing world. There is really no one perfect fly rod for all types of fly fishing, which is why most anglers who have been fly fishing for a few years end up with such an amazing collection of rods. We like to use the golfing analogy: You can play an entire round of golf using only a pitching wedge, but it isn't efficient nor is it much fun. The world of fly fishing is much more diverse than all of the conditions and challenges that get thrown at you in a round of golf. Fly fishing for brook trout on a small mountain stream is a different game than fishing a big windy Montana river, and fly fishing for large mouth bass is a different world than off shore bill fish fly casting. After thrashing the rivers, lakes and oceans for many years with a lot of different fly rods we have developed some of our personal recommendations for fly rod selection. Scroll down to read more about choosing your fly fishing rods.

## **WHY SHOULD I CHOOSE A FLY LINE BEFORE I CHOOSE A FLY FISHING ROD?**

A fly rod is basically a tool that increases our leverage and efficiency when casting a weighted fly line that can deliver a nearly weightless fly to a precise target anywhere from 10' to over 100' away. Fly fishing is a widely diverse sport that can range from casting a microscopic size 22 midge pattern over selective trout on a Wyoming spring creek to casting a foot-long baitfish pattern to a blue marlin off the coast of Costa Rico. Such a wide range of prey taking an almost endless array of artificial flies in varying weather and water conditions calls for quite a wide range of weighted lines to get the job done. Fly lines are classified by a standardized system from 1 through 14, with 14 being the heaviest. The number designation of each weight corresponds to the weight (in grains) of the first 30 feet of the line. A well-made fly fishing rod is designed and built to properly cast a specific line size. Choosing a fly line and the rod that is designed specifically to cast it can be simplified with a few general recommendations depending on the species you will be fishing for and the types of water you will usually be on.

## **GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR MATCHING FLY LINE SIZE TO THE FISH SPECIES YOU'LL BE FLY FISHING FOR**

For small to medium trout on small streams: 1, 2, 3 or 4 weight fly line. For trout in small to medium-sized rivers: 4, 5, or 6 weight fly line For trout in big rivers and lakes: 5, 6, or 7 weight fly line. For bass or pike: 6, 7, 8 or 9 weight fly line Steelhead, summer-run: 5, 6, 7, or 8 weight fly line. Steelhead, winter-run: 9, 10, 11, or 12 weight fly line. Bonefish/Permit: 7, 8, 9, or 10 weight fly line. Striped bass/ Bluefish: 9, 10, or 11 weight fly line. Tuna, Marlin, Sailfish: 12, 13, or 14 weight fly line.

These are general guidelines and you'll always get someone to argue against or for one line choice for any specific purpose, but you can see that if you are going to be doing mostly trout fishing in mountain streams you might want to choose a shorter rod for a 3 weight fly line, but if you are going to be fishing for trout in a wide range of water-types and conditions and you can only afford one "all-purpose" rod, you might choose a longer rod in the 5 or 6 weight range. If you want to fish for bass with big popper flies on windy lakes, you might want

**GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR MATCHING FLY LINE SIZE TO THE FISH SPECIES YOU'LL BE FLY FISHING FOR (cont.)**

an 8 or 9 weight rod, but if you want to fly fish for both trout and bass (a tough balance of finesse and power types of fishing) you might get by with a 6 or 7 weight. Our advice for beginners is to NOT try to get one “all-purpose” rod. As your skills increase, you’ll find that the “all-purpose” rod will usually be left to gather dust in the closet. Make your first rod match the type of fly fishing you’ll be learning about first, whether it be for trout, bass or tarpon.

**HOW DO I CHOOSE A FLY ROD?**

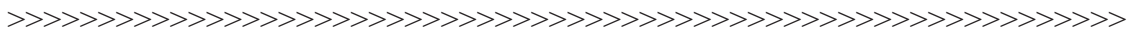
Then you’ll have a valuable rod that you’ll still appreciate as your prowess grows. If you just want a great rod that will be a joy to learn to cast with, and that you'll treasure for many years to come, our choice would be an 8 ½’ or 9’ rod designed for a 5 or 6 weight rod. Trust us, you do not want your first casting lesson to be on a 12 weight Tarpon rod!

**CHOOSING THE BEST TROUT OR STEELHEAD FLY ROD FOR YOUR TYPE OF FISHING TROUT:** Light, small streams, mountain streams: 7 to 8 foot rod for 2, 3, 4 or 5 weight fly line, medium to fast action  
TROUT: Light, for spring creeks or small ponds: 7 to 9 foot rod for 1, 2, 3 or 4 weight fly line, medium action  
TROUT: Medium, small and medium sized streams, 8.5 to 9 foot rod for 4, 5, or 6 weight fly line, medium to fast action  
TROUT: Heavy, medium and large rivers, large lakes with consistently wind conditions: 9 to 10 foot rod for 7 or 8 weight fly line, medium to fast action, (an excellent trout/steelhead combo rod)

**STEELHEAD:** 9 to 10 foot rod for 7, 8, 9 or 10 weight fly line, medium-fast to fast action, with extension butt. Two-handed Spey fly rods up to 15' long for lines 10-14 are also popular specialty steelhead and salmon rods for fishing big rivers.

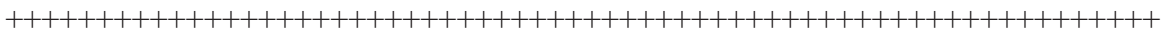
**BEST BEGINNER’S TROUT ROD FOR MANY CONDITIONS:** 8.5 to 9 foot rod for 5 or 6 weight fly line, medium fast action  
**CHOOSING THE BEST BASS FLY ROD FOR YOUR TYPE OF FISHING BASS:** Light/medium, streams, ponds, small lakes (also trout/bass combo fly rod): 8.5 to 9 foot rod for 6 or 7 weight fly line, medium-fast to fast action  
BASS: Heavy, large windy lakes, bayous, swamps: 9 to 9.5 foot for 8, 9 or 10 weight fly line, fast action, with extension butt

**CHOOSING THE BEST SALTWATER FLY ROD FOR YOUR TYPE OF FISHING SALTWATER:** Surf, bays and tidal rivers for channel bass, striped bass, bluefish, etc.: 9 to 10 foot rod for 9 or 10 weight fly line, powerful fast action, with extension butt  
SALTWATER: Bonefish, redfish, permit, sea trout, snook, small tarpon, etc: 9 to 9.5 foot rod for 7, 8 or 9 weight fly line, medium-fast action, with short extension butt  
SALTWATER: Large Tarpon, Large Snook: 9 to 10 foot rod for 10, 11, or 12 weight fly line, fast saltwater action, powerful butt section for fighting, with fighting extension butt.



**Sale of Stock from our Library – \$10.00/each or 2 for \$15.00** **Jim Augenti**  
**Several of Our VHS Videos** **PLEASE NOTE: VHS only no DVD's**

We need to sell these VHS recordings to finance the transition into DVD versions of the “Classics”, as well as adding some new titles that have been suggested by our membership.



**Famous Fishing Quotes**

Fishing is our handshake, our language.  
A Heritage that binds us together.  
A passage our fathers took.  
A journey that lasts a lifetime,  
That we have begun again with our sons and daughters.

– Abu Garcia Corporation

*Crossroads*

**Peter’s Pond**  
Sandwich, MA

Peter’s Pond is an old favorite of mine. I go into the pond off of Dun’ Roamin Road. Unlike its name, the method of fishing that I use fishing it is far from being done roaming.

The Pond is shaped like an upside down “U”. The left side (west side) houses a PA Landers Gravel Yard and a former Digital Equipment employee retreat. The center is Peter’s Pond Campground. The east side houses the Dun’ Roamin’ Campground.

The area that runs along the Peter’ Pond Campground has a current to it, which flows east. Locals have told me that that portion of the pond is the deepest and coldest section, with a river type pull to the east.

I’ve seen otters cruise across this section effortlessly.

I have my best luck there at night or predawn to sunrise. When you visit the pond, you really need to wade it. No need to go far from shore. I’ve caught some beautiful rainbows eight to twelve feet off the shore line. As you walk, you’re looking for gravel beds. They are strewn about the shoreline amongst scattered areas of leaves and brush. There are private property and no trespassing signs, most aren’t legal and I stay below the low water mark.

The state stocks the daylights out of this pond, to include: Tiger Trout.

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**Directions:** Route 3 south to Route 6 south to Exit 3 Quaker Meetinghouse Road. Right off exit. Left at first set of lights. After Peter’s Pond Campground, take first right at the Dun Roamin Sign – the parking area and boat ramp are on the right after the campground.

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Please send in an article on a fishable spot that you know – Fresh or Salt –

**george@southeastmasstu.com**

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*Newsletter Update*

**Larry Cook**

Would you like to receive the Chapter newsletter each month by email instead of by regular mail? If so, send me an email at: **Larry@southeastmasstu.com**

Each month when the Editor sends me the current newsletter to upload to our website I will forward it to anyone that has requested an email version. This will be a ‘.pdf’ Version.

*By requesting an email version you will:*

- Get it sooner (the same time that the printer gets it)
- Be able to share it with others by forwarding the email
- Get less paper mail in your home.
- Allow the Chapter to save on printing & mailing costs

(i.e. If just 20 opt for receiving the newsletter by email the Chapter will save about \$100. per year and that savings can be spent on other projects.)

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**THE FLY BOX: *Silver Spruce Badger***

by **Tom Magee**

- Hook:** Streamer hook sizes 8-2
- Head:** Black thread 6/0
- Tail:** Four or five peacock sword fibers
- Body:** Rear half red chenille, floss or wool. Front half four or five strands of peacock herl
- Wing:** Small bunch of squirrel tail fibers
- Throat:** Silver badge hackle fibers

# THE FLY BOX: *Silver Spruce Badger*

by Tom Magee

This fly is a variation of the Spruce Streamer which is a prominent northwestern trout pattern, ascribed to an angler by the name of Godfrey from seaside Oregon. It was designed for cut throat trout and steelhead. This variation has brook trout written all over it. Thanks to John Kokoska for bringing this pattern to our attention.

**EDITOR’S NOTE:** Please feel free to send me one of your favorite recipes for this column. Your participation is greatly appreciated. Stop by and tie a fly with Tom Magee. He is one of the instructors at the annual fly tying classes. He’ll show you some easy steps to tying flies that work!

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## Brook Trout – *Interactive*

Brook Trout, *Salvelinus fontinalis* This beautiful gamefish is distinguished by red spots with blue aureoles on the sides, dark wavy lines (vermiculations) on the back and dorsal fin, pink or reddish lower fins edged with white on leading edge, and teeth on the head of the vomer. Males at spawning time often have orange on the belly and black on the lower sides. In its native range there are brilliantly colored races with cadmium-colored sides and belly. The body is about five times as long as it is deep. The caudal fin is only slightly forked or square; thus the name “sqauretail” is often applied. All fins are soft-rayed; the dorsal has 10 rays; the anal fin has 9 rays. Teeth are well-developed on the maxillary, premaxillary and on the vomerine bone. Although the record weight of a brook trout is 14 ½ pounds and the length is 31 ½ inches, fish of over 5 pounds may be considered exceptional.

The brook trout is native to northeastern North America from Georgia to the Arctic Circle. It has been introduced to the remainder of the United States, Canada, South America, and Europe where suited to the habitat.

In the Eastern United States the brook trout has figured prominently in the development of fly fishing as it was the species sought before the introduction of the brown trout in the 1880’s. Despite its dwindling habitat the native is still regarded as the principle gamefish in many parts of New England and management plans are designed to favor it over other trouts.

McClane’s Standard Fishing Encyclopedia Copyright 1965 by Holt, Rinehart & Winston, Inc

## *Upcoming Monthly Events*

Red Brook work day is on the first Saturday of every month, rain or shine. We meet in the Lyman Reserve parking lot. Stream readings usually start at 9:00 A.M. Arrive early and wet a line. Check the railroad bridge tide chart too. The dates are:

**December 4**

**January 1**

**February 5**

**March 5**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Tides will be back next month with purchase of 2011 Eldridge Book

Call Warren Winders for more news and directions.

In order to relieve angling pressure on the salters in Red Brook during their fall spawning season, we request that you give them a break starting in mid October throughout the winter. Thank you for your cooperation.

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**GENERAL MEETING DATES AND SPEAKERS:** The meeting starts at 7:30 PM. Doors open at 6:00 PM for fly tying. Bring your mattarelli, deer hair, thread and hackle and tie a few.

## *Up Coming Events:*

- Red Brook work days December 5, January 2, February 6, March 6
- General Meeting, December 8
- CCTU Meeting, November 19
- Quashnet work days, December 20, January 17, February 21, March 21

***Your Officers are ...***

\*Are also Council Delegates

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**RED BROOK DIRECTOR:** Warren Winders (781) 878-1074

**Chapter Shirts, T-Shirts and Hats Available**

We have button down shirts with our embroidered logo, t-shirts with Jay Mulcahy’s sketch of a brook trout and hats for sale in various sizes. Prices are as follows:

**Hats ..... \$20.00**

**Shirts up to XL ..... \$30.00**

**Shirts over XL..... \$35.00**

*See Nancy Dube at the General Meeting.*

Thanks go out to Printing Unlimited in Holbrook for the fine job they do on our newsletter. Thank you.

Thanks to the following businesses for distributing the Backcast to the general public.

**Red Top Sporting Goods**, Buzzards Bay 508-759-3371

**Rod Builders Workshop**, Kingston 781-582-1015

**Bear’s Den Fly Fishing Company**, Taunton 508-977-0700

**Fisherman’s Outfitter** on Union St., Plymouth 508-747-7440

