



THE BACKCAST

www.southeastmasstu.com

Trout Unlimited, SE Mass Chapter 241

September, 2010

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 14th at the Mitchell Memorial Club in Middleboro. We will welcome Randy Julius; Accomplished artist, outdoorsman and columnist. Details are outlined below. Doors open at 6:00 for fly tying. General meeting begins at 7:30. As always, admission is free.

The September Meeting features guest speaker Randy Julius. This meeting will mark the start-up of our meetings, exchanging stories from the summer, outlining a myriad of fishing schedules so that we have more stories to tell, and arranging the many functions we'll enjoy through-out the 2010 year.

About our Speaker – Randy Julius

Through-out the years he has not only fished and hunted; but has shared his knowledge with the public in the local paper. We'll never forget the night that he transformed a young audience participant into an Indian Princess, narrating through-out the whole presentation of how the garb and tools were used by Massachusetts Indians. Randy's presentations are always a great time. So come by, sit-down, relax and take in the educational and always interesting presentation.

Red Brook Family Day – September 19, 2010

Warren Winders

The most important function that we have coming up in Southeastern MA Chapter is Red Brook Family Day. Please mark it in your calendar. The annual fundraiser will be held for Red Brook at the Lyman Preserve, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. A barbeque will be followed by bucket raffles, silent auction, tours and some great food.

Welcome to Red Brook Family Day 2010

As the days get a bit shorter, there is still much warm weather to be enjoyed as the season downshifts. Here's hoping that many fish were caught by all this summer, and that it will continue well into the fall.

As you all know, our first large event of the new season will happen on 8/19 as we celebrate another RBFD. The Lyman Reserve is truly a beautiful area, and has been managed by the Trustees of Reservations, with our able assistance, for many years.

There have been several changes made to Red Brook and its environs since last year. The bridge at Neway is gone in favor of enhancing the flow and hydrology. Gene McLean refers to the resulting pool as the "Train Wreck" by its appearance but the results speak for themselves in the numbers of salters being monitored in the brook. Also gone is the "cement flume" further downstream. The trail has been rerouted over to the Wareham side of the brook and there is a fine new footbridge just upstream from the road. We owe a sincere debt of gratitude to Warren, Steve, John and countless others who have pitched in over the years.

As for the event itself...We will have raffle items, silent auction prizes, good chow and a lot of tall fishing stories. A large time for all is at hand. C'mon down and enjoy the day. Bring the family and make it a day.

I have been extremely fortunate to land a position with the Trustees of Reservations this summer, working mostly at Lyman, but also at 4 other properties in the Mashpee, Sandwich, North Plymouth and Rochester. Therefore, you will also notice some changes to *Moon Maid*, the old cottage barn at the top of the hill. First of all, it now has electricity as of last spring. Not bad considering that it was built circa 1884. The late Arthur Sbraccia bestowed the name to the barn in 1967. We now have an enclosed third stall and a functional workshop on site.

See you in September.

Why is Red Brook Family Day so important?

It brings together Boston Chapter, Rhode Island Chapter, Cape Cod Chapter and beyond

Steve Angers, John Kokoska and Warren Winders spend endless days chasing down funding, supporters of the cause and piles of data to follow the immense transformation of Red Brook from nearly barren to a nearly complete healthy habitat for Brookies.

Pete Motyka has run newsletters to Red Top raising awareness to our presence in Buzzards Bay for over three years. John Kokoska spent the better part of the along with Warren, Tom Magee and Steve Angers, laying timbers to cut deeper channels in the river. Cindy, Tom, Jimmy Clinton and Barry Guaraldi sat in a booth for two days at the Standish Show raising awareness, while Tom Magee and Jim tied flies. Guys like Gus Dube, Randy Julius and Doc Batchelder have donated enough gifts over the years to fill a Super Walmart.

Redbrook Family Day honors the donation that Hal Lyman made to Trout Unlimited and the Trustees. It also honors the endless hours of work and progress that has been made to this brookie habitat. One wonders whether he knew how much enjoyment this project would bring us!!!!



BROOK TROUT POPULATIONS IN TROUBLE ACCORDING TO REPORT

Brook trout occupy less than half of their original range in Massachusetts. These results reflect the condition of brook trout across their entire eastern United States range, according to an assessment released by Trout Unlimited and a coalition of state and federal agencies. The report, “Eastern Brook Trout: Status and Threats,” is the first comprehensive assessment of the status of brook trout in the Eastern United States. These beautiful fish historically thrived in rivers and streams stretching from Maine to Georgia, but land use pressures have relegated the remaining isolated populations to the headwaters of high elevation streams. “Brook trout are the canary in the coal mine when it comes to water quality,” said Gary Berti, Trout Unlimited’s Eastern Brook Trout Campaign Coordinator. “The presence of brook trout in a watershed indicates that water quality is excellent. Declining brook trout populations can provide an early warning that the health of an entire stream, lake or river is at risk.”

The few remaining patches of quality brook trout habitat in the state are located in the Berkshire and Taconic mountains and within portions of the Hoosic, Deerfield and Westfield watersheds and several tributaries to the Connecticut River. Brook trout have been eliminated from 7% of their historical range in Massachusetts, and they are greatly reduced in another 28% of habitat that formerly supported brook trout. Population status is unknown across an additional 42% of the historical range. “While these results are sobering, we are already pursuing many opportunities for conservation of remaining high-quality habitat as well as restoration of impaired streams,” said Todd Richards, Aquatic Biologist, Massachusetts Division of Fish and Wildlife. “Our collective challenge is to protect the best remaining habitat and restore the rest.”

“Brookies are quick to respond to habitat improvements,” explained Warren Winders, the brook trout coordinator for Trout Unlimited’s Massachusetts Council. “We have already seen the results of our work with state and federal partners on the Quashnet River and Red Brook in southeastern Massachusetts. By scaling up these programs throughout the state and region, we will see wild brook trout returning to our streams. And that’s great news for all of us who love to fish locally with our families and friends.” This assessment represents the first stage of the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture’s collaborative efforts to restore brook trout habitat. The Joint Venture was initiated in 2002 as a pilot program of the National Fish Habitat Initiative. Participants include fish and wildlife agencies from 17 states, federal partners, conservation organizations and academic institutions. The results of this assessment will be used to develop state-by-state strategies for brook trout conservation and recovery. The full report, as well as state-specific data and maps, are available at www.brookie.org. For more information, contact Warren Winders, Trout Unlimited-Mass. Chapter 781/878-1074. – *Taken from a Mass. Wildlife article.*

Operation Healing Waters

Jim, Kenny and Tom got Operation Healing Waters going at the VA Medical Center. It's been running strong for over a year now. Veterans learn to tie flies and cast a fly rod on the third Wednesday of each month. We meet at 6:00 pm. The atmosphere is great. It's got the atmosphere of coffee shop with various conversations going on at each table. There are some great stories exchanged.

Similar to Art Class as a kid, there are artists that create the perfect fly and ham and eggars that create a fly that only a mother could love. This coming month it will have the atmosphere of a movie theatre, as Richard Diamond will be bringing a video. Regardless of what we're doing each month, whether it's tying an ant pattern with Kenny or tying a streamer with Tom, it is a great time. So please, stop by and share a little time with friends

OPERATION HEALING WATERS

Jim Clinton

VA Medical Center, 940 Belmont Street, Brockton, MA

3rd Wednesday of the month

We will be tying flies with the veterans Wed .5:30p.m. in building #4 at the Brockton V.A. Hospital. We would appreciate any help you can give to the Vets. You do not have to be an expert fly tyer. Your presence is the most important thing . I hope to see you Wed. thank You ! Jim Clinton

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.)

+++++

Famous Fishing Quote

“There he stands, draped in more equipment than a telephone lineman, trying to outwit an organism with a brain no bigger than a breadcrumb, and getting licked in the process”

– Paul O’Neil, 1965

|||||

Sale of Stock from our Library

Jim Augenti

Several of Our VHS Videos – \$10.00 / each or 2 for \$15.00

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.

Please stop by the collection at our next meeting, Jim puts in a lot of time identifying new DVD’s to educate us and share with our children, the next generation of fly fishers. Please stop by borrow a new DVD and throw him a few bucks to upgrade the library.

“The best fishermen I know try not to make the same mistakes over and over again; instead they strive to make new and interesting mistakes and to remember what they learned from them.”

– John Gierach “Fly Fishing the High Country”

Crossroads – Waterway of Month

The Narrows of Cotuit

George Costello

Cotuit, MA

The Narrows of Cotuit is one of the most enjoyable places that I have ever fished. They have to be fished from early May to about the second week of June. When the summer crowd disappears and the water temperature drops, September through November fish travel through here. The narrows run between Osterville and Cotuit. They are not a river, but have the characteristics of a river. The east and the west bank offer Stripers and Blues a wall to trap bait against. You can wade on the Cotuit side and catch frenzied Stripers corralling prey. I fish an olive and white Lefty’s deceiver, with copper flash in the spring and a blue and white Lefty’s deceiver in the fall with silver flash.

Directions: Route 495 south to 25 south. Over the Bourne Bridge, on the rotary to 12:00. This is Route 28. Take 28 to Route 151 south toward Mashpee. At the Mashpee rotary go to 9:00, which is 28 south. Take a right onto Main Street, immediately after the Route 130 lights. Follow Main Street to the first fork onto Lowell. Follow Lowell to the end. Take a left on Putnam. Immediately take a right on Old post Road. Keep an eye out for the little dirt lot on the right across from Cordwood. If you blink, you’ll miss it.

NOTE: This is my third or fourth fishable Spot. I could clam-up at any time. Send me your spots!!!
Please send in an article on a fishable spot that you know- Fresh or Salt- george@southeastmasstu.com



THE FLY BOX:

The Fly Box: Sand Eel

Hook: Mustad 34011 or C71SS circle sizes 1 to 3/0

Thread: Clear Mono

Tail: White Doug’s craft fur tied on under side of hook, then small amount of flash, on top of hook white craft fur over which is flash then more white craft fur. Over the white craft fur is some olive craft fur this is all combed out so it is smooth.

Body: Clear Mylar Tubing with over coat of epoxy

Eyes: Stick on Mylar eyes

This is a favorite of Charlie Fortier he has had very good success with it and hopefully he will be on hand at the meeting to instruct us in the proper way to tie this fly

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!

Check out the attention given to this waterway & then go by and see it for yourself on the 19th

Red Brook – Mass. Dept. Marine Fisheries

Site Location and Description:

Red Brook is a small, spring-fed, coastal stream in southeastern Massachusetts that flows roughly 4.5 miles from White Island Pond in Plymouth to Buttermilk Bay, a shallow estuary located at the head of Buzzards Bay. The restoration project is located on the Red Brook Reserve, which includes the 210-acre Theodore Lyman Reserve, owned and managed by The Trustees of Reservations, and the 428-acre Red Brook Wildlife Management Area, which is owned and managed by the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife.

Species to benefit: Salter Brook Trout, American Eel, River Herring, Alewife

History – Trustees Website

Formerly a private fishing camp dating back to 1867, the Theodore Lyman Reserve sits at the mouth of Red Brook on Buttermilk Bay. Red Brook is a 4.5-mile spring-fed, freshwater stream that flows from White Island Pond to Buttermilk Bay. It is home to one of the last remaining native sea-run brook trout (known as “salters”) fisheries in the eastern United States. The brook gets its name from the red-tinted color of its waters that are influenced by the iron-rich soil deposits near its source.

In addition to Red Brook, the Lyman Reserve features freshwater wetlands, forested uplands, a sandy beach, and a scenic stretch of coastal shoreline with views of Buttermilk Bay and the iconic Cape Cod Canal vertical lift railroad bridge. The remains of a mud clam and oyster shell midden, taken together with the property’s valuable water resources and landscape characteristics, suggest that the Reserve was an important encampment for Wampanoags.

The property honors the naturalist who, in 1867, first experienced Red Brook during a site visit for the Massachusetts Board of Inland Fisheries. For the next 30 years, Theodore Lyman III (1833-1897) worked to protect Red Brook by purchasing parcels of land on both its sides from source to mouth. His legacy is preserved in the form of the 638-acre Red Brook Reserve, which is comprised of the 210-acre Lyman Reserve and the 428-acre Red Brook Wildlife Management Area.

“I look into... my fly box, and think about all the elements I should consider in choosing the perfect fly: water temperature, what stage of development the bugs are in, what the fish are eating right now. Then I remember what a guide told me: ‘Ninety percent of what a trout eats is brown and fuzzy and about five-eighths of an inch long.’”
Allison Moir

“ Worcester Telegram Gazette 2007”

The restoration of Red Brook has been in progress for more than 15 years. However, the reserve was not opened to the public until the fall of 2004. TU’s Boston chapter and its Southeastern Massachusetts chapter are the lead collaborators for the project, but others contribute funds and other kinds of support, including the Central Massachusetts chapter. The Lyman family was impressed with restoration work done in the 1980s by the Boston and Southeastern chapters on the Quashnet River in Falmouth – another river with wild sea-run brook trout – eventually leading to the Red Brook deal. An Abington resident who caught his first sea-run brookie as a boy on Canada’s Prince Edward Island, Winders has helped restore both rivers.

“The brookie is probably the most beautiful fish that swims,” he said. “The longer I work on this project, the more I appreciate what tough little guys they are.” Angers, a Mansfield resident who has been with the project for more than a decade, considers himself a classic example of the Massachusetts fly fisherman.

“I’ve spent my entire life going to New Hampshire, Maine and Vermont to catch brook trout. When I found out that there’s brook trout 40 minutes from my home that would rival the northern trout fishery, I decided it was something worth putting my time into.”

“The Fishing Car” – *Death, Taxes, and Leaky Waders*

John Gierac

When I was a young feller, I thought my Uncle Leonard had invented the fishing car; the elderly but still serviceable vehicle that was reserved for angling and angling-related activities to the extent that it was kept loaded like a shotgun behind the kitchen door. But then I thought Leonard had invented a lot of things, some of which had turned out to be among the oldest jokes in the world. It’s understandable, I guess. In matters pertaining to fishing- not to mention farming, guitar playing, and a number of other things- he had the authority that comes from experience; and I was also into a bit of adolescent hero worship. ..

The fishing car in those days was the “ambler.” It had actually once said Rambler in chrome letters on the hood, but a minor run in with a fence post had resulted in the abbreviated version. Of course, there was no thought of having it fixed.

It was a black station wagon with many thousands of miles on it that somehow always ran- after a little prodding- and that was always stocked with axes, minnow buckets, tackle boxes, rods, etc. The upholstery was ragged, the windshield was pitted, the dashboard was dusty, the tires were fair and it had an aroma about it of beer, Coke, cleaned fish, wet wool and a few other things that were hard to place. The smell was the exact opposite of that new car smell.

I don’t know what ever happened to it, but, by all rights, it should have been bronzed and placed on a pedestal on the banks of a good bass pond somewhere in Indiana.

////////////////////////////////////

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:

Sept 4	6:45 AM	Oct 2	12:06 AM
Nov 6	11:12 AM	Dec 4	8:34 AM

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.

#####

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** – September 4, October 2, November 6, December 4
- **General Meeting** – September 14
- **Red Brook Family Day** – September 19
- **Quashnet Work Days** – September 19, October 17, November 21, December 19

Your Officers are ...

*Are also Council Delegates

PRESIDENT: Eel River Liaison: Peter Motyka 508-888-2907 **peterbigbass@aol.com**

VICE PRESIDENT: Tom Magee: 781-767-1543 **thomflydad@aol.com**

TREASURER: Art Cabral 508-586-3293 **chesaclip@aol.com**

SECRETARY/EDITOR: George Costello 508- 524-0171 **george@southeastmasstu.com**

PAST PRESIDENT: Barry Guaraldi 508-946-3429 **bguaraldi@bridgew.edu**

PR COORDINATOR: Roger Moore 781-878-8620 **rmoore@plant.mit.edu**

DIRECTORS:

Jim Augenti: 508-631-1734 **jimaugenti@comcast.net**

Jim Clinton: 781-447-7371 **jimmyclinton@comcast.net**

Gus Dube: 508-378-2648

Barry Guaraldi – *Membership Chair*: 508-946-3429 **bguaraldi@bridgew.edu**

Tom Magee: 781-767-1543 **thomflydad@aol.com**

Charles Fortier: 508-378-7335 **charles-anne@comcast.net**

Wayne Perry – *Speaker Coordinator*: 508-747-7900 **wperry@norfolkram.com**

Frank Parker: 617-552-0412 **parker@bc.edu**

PAST PRESIDENTS:

Art Cabral: 508-586-3293 **chesaclip@aol.com**

Bob Frederick: 508-697-6303 **dref@comcast.net**

Roger Moore

Cal Lane 508-378-2204 **tadlane4@comcast.net**

Barry Guaraldi

COUNCIL DELEGATES:

Steve Angers: 508-337-8786 **truiteman@aol.com**

Ed & Gloria Braun: 508-947-6175 **ebraun@bridgew.edu gloriabraun@verizon.net**

Warren Winders **redbrook@verizon.net**

WEBSITE: Larry Cook 617-413-9307 **Larry@southeastmasstu.com**

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:*

- Button down shirts\$40.00
- T-shirts\$10.00
- Hats\$10.00

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

