



# THE BACKCAST

[www.southeastmasstu.com](http://www.southeastmasstu.com)

Trout Unlimited, SE Mass Chapter 241

October, 2010

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, October 12th at the Mitchell Memorial Club in Middleboro. We will welcome Ryan Davey ; Outdoorsman and Accomplished Angler. Details are outlined below. Doors open at 6:00 for fly tying. General meeting begins at 7:30. As always, admission is free.

The October Meeting features guest speaker Ryan Davey.

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## *About our Speaker – Ryan Davey*

<i>Profession</i>	Adventure Travel Angler
<i>Career</i>	Adventure Filmmaker
<i>Home Waters</i>	Depends on the season. Right now, the Rogue River.
<i>Method(s) of Fishing</i>	Fly Fishing, mainly streamer, nymph, and dry fly fishing. Sight fishing is the best!
<i>Favorite Fish</i>	For overall mystique and the places they live, brown trout.
<i>Favorite Lure/Fly</i>	A fly I tie called the Spring Creek Special, basically a rabbit mini-jig.
<i>Places Fished</i>	All across the US and Alaska, Australia, New Zealand, Argentina and Chile, Iceland, and the Himalayas, to name a few.
<i>Favorite Place to Fish</i>	New Zealand
<i>Boat (s)</i>	Water Master
<i>Favorite on the Water Snack</i>	Snickers
<i>Favorite Food</i>	Shrimp and Steak
<i>Favorite Music</i>	A little of everything, as long as there's some Dylan, CCR and Marley in there
<i>Personal Web site</i>	<a href="http://www.worldangler.com">www.worldangler.com</a>

## **B I O G R A P H Y**

Ryan's passion for fly fishing, adventure, and conservation have taken him to the far corners of the globe. His resume is as diverse as his travels, ranging from IBM and Microsoft to working at a winery in Tasmania, building a web design business, being employed as a deckhand on marlin hunting charter boats in New Zealand and Australia's Great Barrier Reef, assisting in tiger research in Nepal, white-water raft and fly fishing guiding, freelance writing and photography, and adventure film-making.

Ryan was one of the founding partners of the Angling Exploration Group, known in the film industry and around fly fishing circles as AEG Media. As the managing partner during it's formative years, his mission was to build an adventure media company from scratch that revolutionized the way the world sees fly-fishing through high-energy, adrenaline rushing, adventure films.

While at AEG Ryan helped shoot, edit, produce and distribute titles such as the Trout Bum Diaries I: Patagonia (an epic five month fly fishing expedition across Patagonia) and Trout Bum Diaries II: Kiwi Camo (a four month expedition into New Zealand's deepest backcountry attempting to seduce the world's largest and most elusive brown trout). In addition to the non-stop trials and triumphs of these angling addicts, Kiwi Camo delivered a behind the scenes look into what drives the seemingly crazy trout-bum lifestyle.

His wanderlust and exploratory spirit have dragged him on expeditions to remote reaches of most of the world's continents. He now arranges custom fly fishing adventures for select clients to some of the world's premier fly fishing destinations. Ryan currently resides near the banks of the Rogue River in Southern Oregon where he can be found during steelhead season, although you're just as likely to run into him on native waters of the Atlantic Ocean chasing striped bass, or most likely on some remote stream in New Zealand, Montana, or Patagonia!

## Red Brook Family Day – September 19, 2010

Warren Winders

The most important function that we have had this season in Southeastern Ma Chapter is Red Brook Family Day. Please thank Warren Winders and his crew (too many to mention).

The day was just a terrific day. The food was outstanding and the weather was great. Walter was at his best as the raffle announcer. The kayak that LL Bean donated was outstanding as was the Old Town Canoe donated Walter Kulas. Charlie Fortier and Wayne worked the grill. Steve Angers, Jim Clinton, Tom Magee, Art Cabral, Cindy Lane, Roger Moore worked the door, signing people in for the day and selling lucky raffle tickets.

Mary Griffin, Commissioner of Mass Wildlife; Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife commended the team on the restoration of this brook. Guys like Fran Smith, Warren Winders, John Kokoska and Steve Angers restore a water way for the enjoyment of seeing a population of Brook Trout thrive and grow. It was an honor for all of us in Trout Unlimited that have had a part in seeing this waterway evolve.

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## Herring (Another Small Fish That Needs Our Help) – Excerpt from *Boston Globe* Beth Daley

The silvery river herring, once prized by Native Americans for food and fertilizer, is so steeped in New England tradition that scores of places bear its name, from Herring Cove to Alewife Brook Parkway. In the past two decades, however, herring runs have seen dramatic declines, more than 50 percent in many waterways. Some fishermen and environmentalists are pointing the finger at offshore industrial

Herring, *continued*

fishing boats. Using a football-field-size net strung between two vessels, the New England boats chase a different species called sea herring, but inevitably scoop up some river herring that swim with the sea species.

Earthjustice, an environmental group, filed a federal lawsuit on behalf of a group of commercial fishermen and one recreational fisherman earlier this month against two government agencies for failing to protect river herring and shad, another river fish that goes to sea, from the big boats. .

Tomorrow, the New England Fishery Management Council, which oversees the boats, is scheduled to meet to discuss the topic. “The herring runs were epic; in 2000 [it seemed] you could walk on the fish in Middleborough,” said Mike Flaherty, a Wareham recreational fishermen who is part of the lawsuit against the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. “. . . It was a rite of passage. They came in right before the striped bass would.” Flaherty said that in recent years, recreational fishermen in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut have cooperated with bans on catching alewives and blueback herring, collectively known as river herring, only to find out that offshore boats can legally catch them. “You can’t say no one can catch them, and then these boats can catch a river’s entire run,” he said. Yet not everyone is convinced that the river herring decline is because of the offshore boats, with some scientists saying they suspect that pollution, dams, and other environmental issues may be playing a bigger role.

Government biologists say overall sea herring populations are healthy and not being overfished. Still, they are concerned about populations close to shore; trawlers overshot a quota in an area off Cape Cod by 40 percent this year. Virtually everyone involved in the debate agrees, however, that the sea herring boats need to find ways to limit the number of river herring they pull from the sea. The issue is the latest controversy surrounding sea herring boats, known as pair trawlers, because two will team up and string nets between them.

Ever since the boats began chasing vast schools of sea herring to sell as lobster bait in the mid-1990s, other fishermen have complained, saying the boats were taking too many of the fish that other marine species, including whales and cod, rely on for food and were also accidentally catching too many other species. The trawlers that go after herring or mackerel are believed to be the only ones that fish off the coast of New England. The size of those pair trawlers, up to 165 feet long, and their aggression in pursuing fish angers many fishermen and environmentalists who say New England’s troubled fish populations cannot handle such intense fishing on a keystone species.

At tomorrow’s meeting of the New England Fishery Management Council in Newport, R.I., members will discuss drafting rules for the fleet of about 20 large herring boats. Critics of the council, however, are deeply skeptical that it will move quickly enough. The critics want a series of regulations put in place immediately. Those would include a requirement that virtually all boats have federal observers onboard to document what marine species other than sea herring the boats are catching in their nets. Less than 30 percent of the boats now have such observers. The group also want more areas declared off limits, especially those where river herring may be swimming, and strict limits on how many river herring the boats can catch.

**Herring** *(cont.)*

Pair-trawler herring fishermen and those that represent them say they also want to protect river herring, but insist they are not causing the decline of the species. However, they say they are working to come up with ways to avoid river herring before the winter season begins. "We have had an incidental catch of river herring for a very long time, and industry members did not see this as a problem historically," said Mary Beth Tooley, who is a New England fishery council member and represents herring fishermen. "However, today we view this in a different light." Despite their name, river herring spend most of their life at sea but return to fresh water in spring to spawn. For thousands of years, billions of alewives and bluebacks battled currents to travel miles inland each spring. They were useful to Native Americans for a variety of purposes, ranging from bait to fertilizer, and became so to Colonists, who often hailed their spring arrival as a sign the long cold winter was ending, according to Karen Alexander, a historical marine ecologist at the University of New Hampshire. Today they are better known as a bait fish.

First impeded from spawning by dams, river herring numbers were further reduced in the 1960s and early 1970s by foreign fishing boats and pollution. They began making a comeback in the mid-1970s after foreign boats were barred from US waters and the Clean Water Act was passed, according to Mike Armstrong, assistant director of the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries.

In Massachusetts, populations grew through the 1990s but began crashing in 2000 and have not recovered, said Armstrong, who has studied the issue in depth. Though river herring are caught by sea herring boats and that needs to be curtailed, he said, the amount they catch could not explain the enormous decline of river herring. Armstrong suspects that environmental conditions inland are the predominant reasons. "We don't pretend to know all the dynamics, but what we do know is that 2002 was the driest year we've had in many, many decades and it affects a lot of runs," he said. "But, of course, we want to minimize [river herring catch at sea], and we are moving in that direction."

Still, critics say the movement is too slow. Even if the council moves aggressively tomorrow, it is unlikely that any final rules will be in place before late 2012. "My concern is that we are at a tipping point, as far as the size of the population and their ability to rebound," said Alex Mansfield, ecology program director for the Jones River Watershed Association in Kingston. Even if the boats are not causing the decline of the river herring, he said, the fish are "getting a double whammy" from being caught offshore.

*Beth Daley can be reached at [bdaley@globe.com](mailto:bdaley@globe.com).*



***Elections of Officers***

**George Costello**

The end of the year is approaching. This is the season to regroup and build a crew of officers to steer the club in a course that benefits all of us. Taking part in a club is very enjoyable. Each officer brings something new to the club. Cal Lane had some great fishing excursions for the club. Roger Moore and his crew give a great presentation on there fishing tours of the United States. Tom Magee and Jim Clinton have crafted some of their best fly patterns in the back of the club.

I personally will be looking for a replacement Newsletter Editor. I'm embarrassed to say that a member of the club approached me just before the summer season to take over the newsletter and I lost his information when my computer temporarily gave out. The Geek squad later fixed it, but I lost my contacts. He's from Plymouth now, but had come here from California where he has written articles on Cutthroat Trout fishing.

Get involved, I did and really enjoy it.



***Operation Healing Waters***

Jim, Kenny and Tom got Operation Healing Waters going at the VA Medical Center. It's been running strong for three years 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 Tom Magee will select a fly pattern for the class. The class really enjoys the patterns. They will leave with them on their ball caps. It's a great time speaking with these guys, the places that they've been and what they have accomplished makes for great conversation through-out the room. 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

***Project 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



***Veterans Enjoy Derby Battle With Fish***

Submitted by **Jim Clinton**

*By MARK ALAN LOVEWELL Vineyard Gazzette*

Rahul Harpalani caught his first fish ever, a striped bass, on Tuesday. The 24-year-old active duty first lieutenant with the Army had a smile on his face like no one else on Menemsha charter captain Scott McDowell’s boat. Out fishing a mile south of Squibnocket, Mr. Harpalani was having the time of his life. “It is so serene out here,” he said. Now you are a fisherman,” said Joe Bennett, a 70-year-old veteran from Maine, who sat beside him.

Mr. Harpalani had a tough spring. On May 15 somewhere in Afghanistan he was the victim of an IED blast. His leg was broken in 18 places. The soldier, who had spent four years at West Point in training, spent much of this year at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. recovering from one single moment in his service to his country. On this Tuesday morning, he hopped from his wheelchair onto Mr. McDowell’s boat using strong arms, and with his hands he slipped into his seat near the stern. Mr. Harpalani said his prognosis was good; he will be fully recovered by next summer.

Mr. Harpalani and Mr. Bishop were two of eleven veterans participating this week in the Beach Plum Inn American Heroes Saltwater Challenge. They had all served their country, some going back to the Viet Nam War, and more recently, the Afghanistan war. They all had been injured in some way and had risen above their disability. The event was organized as a way to say thank you, from the Vineyard community. This was the second in what is planned to be an annual event. The anglers came from Maine and they came from the Washington, D.C. area. All of them were guests and participants in the Martha’s Vineyard Striped Bass and Bluefish Derby

They arrived Monday afternoon and fished all day Tuesday, part of Wednesday and yesterday morning. Yesterday at close to noon they held an awards ceremony at the Beach Plum Inn. All of them received praise, support and fishing tips. A number of Island charter fishing captains took the fishermen out to the waters off Aquinnah. Capt. Buddy Vanderhoop and Capt. Jennifer Clarke, Capt. Jonathan Boyd and others volunteered to take them to a few of the best fishing spots in southeastern New England, the waters off Squibnocket and Noman’s Land. Onboard Captain McDowell’s boat Lauren C. there was Mr. Harpalani, Mr. Bennett and Jerry Miserandino, 66, from the Maryland area.

Mr. Miserandino lost his hands and forearm in 1967 while trying to disarm a booby trap that had been double wired, somewhere deep in Viet Nam. He was an Army Ranger. Now, Mr. Miserandino is retired but he still counsels younger soldiers coming home from battle. With both of his prosthesis, there are few things Mr. Miserandino can’t do. He is a certified kayak instructor, a certified water skier and snow skier and a fast bicyclist. On this morning he holds his fishing rod and reels in a medium-sized striped bass. The trip on the water was a journey in the moment but also a ride back in his memory.

Mr. Miserandino said he recalled being in his early 20s, fishing for fluke in the waters off Long Island. “My grandfather, Patrick Healy, was a ‘Newfie.’ I come from a family of fishermen,” he said. “I used to fish for blues and flounder. This is reconnecting with the sea.” Mr. Miserandino took a special interest in sharing stories with the newest fisherman on the boat, Mr. Harpalani. The two talked between themselves, while Mr. McDowell hunted on his electronic fish spotter for any signs of bait and big fish. On the seat, there were bags of lunch that had been prepared for the anglers. At the wheel, Captain McDowell listened to chatter on the marine radio. “Are you lookin’, or are you hookin’?” came a voice on the speaker. Mr. McDowell called back and said his fishermen were catching fish. Word got out on the radio that one of the veteran anglers caught a 25-pound bass on Jen Clarke’s boat. “I hear they are doing well on Buddy’s boat,” Mr. McDowell added.

Mr. Bennett also caught a nice looking striped bass. “This is fantastic,” Mr. Bennett said, after the fish had been brought on the boat. “That fish was trying to steal my rod.”

The last time, Mr. Bennett caught a striped bass was 30 years ago. “It was in Newburyport,” he said. “But that one was a smaller fish,” he told the others. The skies over the fishermen were cloudless. The huge ocean rollers passing under the Lauren C. were well separated from each other. Between the peak of the wave and the valley, once a minute, the boat rose and gently fell six feet. They could have been created by Hurricane Igor, or Hurricane Julia, long gone, hundreds of miles

***Veterans Enjoy Derby Battle With Fish (cont.)***

away. "That is a lot of water passing under this boat," the captain told the anglers. Otherwise, seas were light. On the trip back to Menemsha, the fishermen sat on the stern and watched the seas sparkle under the sun. After lunch at the inn, the veterans went fishing at East Beach on Chappaquiddick with top shore anglers Janet Messineo, Mike Cassidy and Phil Horton. There was a barbecue on the beach which included hamburgers and hot dogs cooked by chef Johnny Graham, of the Home Port Restaurant.

Peter Johnson was one of many contributors to the effort. He runs Roberts Lures and came up with a red, white and blue fishing lure to hand out to each of the anglers on the beach. Staff from The Trustees of Reservations contributed too. By evening, the veterans went to the derby headquarters at the foot of Main street in Edgartown to weigh in their biggest fish. And Marc Bilodeau, who had fished with Captain Clarke earlier in the day, walked proudly with Sarah Nixon to greet weighmaster Charlie Smith. Mr. Bilodeau's striper weighed 23.24 pounds. Butch Freeman weighed in both bluefish and striped bass, but it was a 10.63-pound bluefish that caught the crowd's attention.

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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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***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.

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***Crossroads – Waterway of Month***

**Eel River – East Falmouth, MA**

The Eel River in Falmouth is alive with Blues and Bass this time of year. It is best fished at night. This time of year; Bass hunt at night in and around the Jetty at the mouth of the river. The jetty is fairly wide, but like all structures of this kind it requires caution.

I don't know why but they seem to really hit on a olive and white clouser with copper tinsel; shorter profile two and a half inches long. I like a sinking line at night. They are down low. The River can accept a 38 to 40 foot vessel, so it's dredged deep. When fishing it late night; you don't get any kind of boat traffic.

What is nice about the locale is it has several jetties, a neighboring breach way and a salt pond. To the East along Menaunt Road there are three more breach ways to the east.

**Directions:** 495 south to Rte 28 south over the Bourne Bridge to the Otis Rotary; continue south on 28. At Kenyon's Market take a right Central Ave. The road bends to the right. Just after the bend, you will see the Menaunt Beach parking lot. Good Luck and Good Fishing

**Note: This is my fourth or fifth 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](mailto:george@southeastmasstu.com)**

**THE FLY BOX: *Killer Emerger***

by **Bob Mallard**

<b>Hook:</b>	Tiemco 2487, size <b>12 – 16 or equal</b>	<b>Head:</b>	Peacock dubbing
<b>Thread:</b>	Dark brown 8/0	<b>Wing:</b>	Brown partridge fibers and two strands of ultra-violet pearl crystal
<b>Tailing Shuck:</b>	Olive Antron		Flash
<b>Abdomen:</b>	Fine brown dubbing	<b>Bead:</b>	Small pearl bead
<b>Thorax:</b>	Henderson pink dubbing		

This pattern is tied by Bob Mallard who owns a fly shop in Madison, Maine. He uses the pattern to match a wide variety of mayflies and caddisflies on the Kennebec River and other local waters.

Ken Krushas won the book Guide Flies by David Klausmeyer at the September meeting and had it with him in Maine at fish camp. I was looking over the patterns in the book and the Killer Emerger caught my eye I tied up a half dozen of them, when we fished the Moose River the next day I caught an 8” brook trout on the fly the only fish I caught

That day. The flies I tied were a slight variation as I used a brass bead, and olive mallard flank feather for the wing.

**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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**“Take Me Fishing”**

**Sharl Heller**

**Friends of Myles Standish – Fearing Pond**

It was a nice day in Myles Standish State Forest. That day was a special one for Sharl Heller and her crew. There was a great turn-out and this marked their fourth year. Sharl’s role is similar to our role at Red Brook; she and her organization the Friends of Myles Standish State Forest help to show others how important the outdoors are and how we can preserve them.

Our President Peter Motyka deserves way more credit than me. He was there for the most of the day. I showed up at two and stayed for the remainder of the day. If you’ve ever gone by Red Brook and seen the smile on Gene’s face when he out smarts a Brookie, then you can picture the kids faces as they reeled in their entry for the fishing derby. Whether a Striper is 19” or 30”, I love outwitting them and so did these kids. The largest fish was a 15-1/2” rainbow trout. Anglers waded, fished from shore and fished from boats.

The day featured biggest fish and runner up prizes, nature inspired activities like fly tying, spin casting and nature walks. Face painters decorated many visitors. A barbeque was served that was second to none.

Most importantly; our next generation got to appreciate the outdoors with family and friends.

Contributors to the Day were: **Trout Unlimited, Mass Wildlife, Friends of Miles Standish State Forest, Rod Builder’s Work Shop, Ross MacVicar the Chainsaw Artist, Lobster Tales, Massachusetts DCR, Captain John Boats, M&M Plimoth Bay Outfitters and Morrison’s Home & Garden**

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**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:

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** – October 2, November 6, December 4
- **General Meeting** – October 12
- **Quashnet Work Days** – October 17, November 21, December 19



**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:*

- 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

