

Tight Lines

Merrymeeting Bay Trout Unlimited Newsletter

Volume 23 Issue 6 - February 2008



A healthy, hungry wild brook trout from northern Quebec.

It's Not Fishing -- It's the Next Best Thing -- For February

Submitted by Dick Soucy

Many people have told me that February is their most difficult month. Winter just seems to drag on and it's still a long wait for open water fishing to begin. Well I have a suggestion. Come to Graziano's Restaurant in Lisbon on Tuesday evening February 12th at 6:00 and see some big fish.

Last summer our Vice President, Ron Jack, made a trip to Alaska and former MMBTU President Smitty Smith, News Letter Editor Lois Cunningham and I went off to Northern Quebec's Caniapiscou River. We will be doing digital presentations on both trips.

So come to Graziano's for some great food, great pictures and lots of talk about fishing to lift you out of the doldrums of winter. It's not fishing but it's the next best thing.

**CANADA
ALASKA
SLIDE SHOW
February 12 6-9PM
Graziano's Lisbon, ME**

"I hope who ever reads this will find the interest to go 'cause you'll have a lot of fun."

An essay about the Casting to the Future trip to Grand Lake Stream

Submitted by Carollyn Veilleux

This experience was wonderful. I never thought I could learn to fly fish. The cabins were nice and warm because we are used to camping in tents. The way everyone helped to cook meals was nice. When I fell in I learned that you do need waders and lots of layers to stay warm. My favorite place to fish was the Hatchery Pool, where I almost caught fish. Meeting kids our age and with the same interest to fish was nice especially all the boys. My favorite instructor was Tom because he was cool and fun to learn from. We had more room to cast which was good. Having no electronics to use and one channel to watch when nothing else you usually

do was interesting because we also learned that we don't need all the electronics nowadays to have fun. We played the card game "B. S." almost all night one night. I love to camp but this was my favorite camping trip. Meeting new people, learning things you're interested in, unlike school, and just being

there up in the woods was awesome, and a wonderful experience. I hope who ever reads this will find the interest to go 'cause you'll have a lot of fun.



Carollyn Veilleux puts her new skills to use fishing for salmon on Grand Lake Stream

"I Would Do This All Over Again"

An essay about the Casting to the Future trip to Grand Lake Stream

Submitted by Krystal Brooks

I had an awesome time at Grand Lake Stream. The cabins were nice, warm, and very cozy. The kitchen duties were alright, not the greatest though. I learned so much from all the instructors, but my favorite was Tom. He was crazy and very funny and made this experience worthwhile, and I would do this all over again if I had a chance, which I hope I do. Learning how to fly fish was so cool.

Learning how to walk in waders and all of the other stuff you need to put on just to go in the water to fish. Well I guess you need all that stuff, just so you don't get cold and freeze. So they must have taught me well because I caught the most fish. I did better than the instructors. Well I hope who ever reads this is encouraged to go, it is so much fun, and a great experience.

2008-08 CTF Dates Announced

May 3 - Bath YMCA

May 10 - Bath YMCA

May 17 - Durham Rod & Gun Club

October 10-13 - Grand Lake Stream

Registration is first come, first serve. Contact Peter Smith ssflies@hotmail.com or 207-452-2884 for more information. Registration form available at the MMBTU web site: <http://www.mmbtu.org> Watch the web site and newsletter for updates.

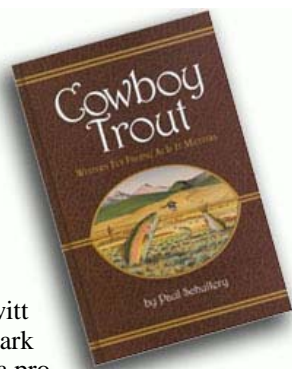
Attention All Stream Survey Volunteers

For more information. contact MMBTU
Email: info@mmbtu.org or IF&W Fisheries Research Biologist Merry Gallagher
E-Mail: Merry.Gallagher@maine.gov
Phone: (207) 941-4381

Notes From the President

Submitted by
Orman Hines

Excerpt from "Cowboy Trout" By Paul Schullery
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"In 1914 Edward Hewitt visited Yellowstone Park . . . In a contest with a professional fisherman he caught 162 trout on a dry fly and the professional caught 165 on a wet fly. . . . Even while professional fishermen supplied trout to hotels in Yellowstone, conservation was evolving and by 1917 this practice became illegal in the Park."

"We should be grateful to Edward Hewitt for the reminder that in each generation even the most enlightened sportsmen and managers still have a lot to learn, and still haven't achieved the understanding of natural resources that their descendants will require."

I found this story by Paul Schullery to hit home on some of the fishing that I have done over the years.

About Merrymeeting Bay Trout Unlimited

Merrymeeting Bay TU Chapter 329 serves a membership of 200+ in the mid-coast area of Maine. For more information e-mail: info@mmbtu.org, visit the web site, <http://www.mmbtu.org>, or mail PO Box 191, Richmond, ME 04357.

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2007 CTF Participants & Chaperone Gather at Canal Side Cabins, Grand Lake Stream in October. From left to right: Nathaniel McDiarmid, Jayme Skelton, Dave Blethen (Venture Scout advisor), Carolyn Veilleux, Krystal Brooks and Robbie Johnson

FLY of the MONTH:

Double Trico Spinner

Submitted by Dave Martel

Hook: Tiemco #100; Mustad 94840

Size 18

Thread: 10/0 Gudebrod White; 8/0 Uni; or 12/0 Bennechi (White)

Tails: Whiting Tailing Barbs (twice shank length...*long*)

Body: White Tying Thread

Rear Wing: Clear Z-lon

Thorax: Black dry fly dubbing

Front Body: White Tying Thread

Front Wing: Same as rear wing

Front Thorax: Same black dubbing as rear Thorax

Tying Hint: This is actually two #22 Trico Spinners tied on the same #18 hook. It can be a bit tricky weaving your tying thread between the bunches of Z-lon separating the wings..so be careful. Use this as the front fly in a "two-fly rig" during Trico Spinner falls. Tie on a #22 individual Trico Spinner (female) to 18" of 6X tippet trailing the Double Trico. Enjoy.



Want to See a Specific Pattern Tied?

Dave Martel, Dick Soucy and others will demonstrate various patterns at upcoming MMBTU meetings. Watch the newsletter to see what pattern will be tied at the next meeting. If you are interested in seeing a specific pattern, E-Mail Dave Martel. dnsmartel@roadrunner.com

Events: 2007-08 MMBTU Year

The general membership and the general public are welcome at all meetings including Directors' Meetings. General Membership Meetings are held at Graziano's Restaurant, Lisbon, Maine on the second Tuesday, unless otherwise noted. Phone: 353-4335, 6-9pm.

February 12: Canada/Alaska Slide Show

March 11: Forrest Bonney

March 15-16: LL Bean Fly Fishing Expo

Kids Fly-Tying Lessons hosted by MMBTU Members

April 26: Annual Banquet & Fundraising

Auction *Knights of Columbus Hall, Brunswick*

May 3, 10, 17: Casting to the Future

June 18-20: Club Trip to GLS



Canada Alaska Slide Show

Presented by

Dick Soucy & Ron Jack
**"It's Not Fishing -- It's the Next Best
Thing."**

Tuesday, February 12, 2008

Graziano's, Lisbon - 6pm

Directors' Meetings: February 26, March 25, April 18, May 27

Come, get involved, help out, support the cause, have fun!