

PAVMONOK

Vol. 37, # 4

December 2009

T.U. PHILOSOPHY

We believe that trout and salmon fishing isn't just fishing for trout and salmon. It's fishing for sport rather than food, where the true enjoyment of the sport lies in the challenge, the lore, the battle of wits, not necessarily the full creel. It's the feeling of satisfaction that comes from limiting your kill instead of killing your limit. It's communing with nature where the chief reward is a refreshed body and a contented soul, where a license is a permit to use not abuse, to enjoy not destroy our cold water fishery. It's subscribing to the proposition that what's good for trout and salmon is good for the fisherman and that managing trout and salmon for themselves rather than the fisherman is fundamental to the solution of our trout and salmon problems. It's appreciating our fishery resource, respecting fellow anglers and giving serious thought to tomorrow.



*Next meeting:
Tuesday,
December 15th 2009
at 7:30 PM*

ANNUAL HOLIDAY GATHERING

President's Line



November's meeting was quite informative and interesting with Ozzie Ozefovich as our guest speaker. Ozzie's videos do speak for themselves and the underwater footage is exceptional. A big thanks to Ozzie for coming in and sharing some thoughts and video on Atlantic salmon.

Our upcoming Holiday Party is always a great time. Please bring a dish of your own creation or choosing. In the past we've experienced smoked trout, venison meat balls and good ol' pigs in a blanket. This year seems to be stacking up well against meetings past. In fact, we've been told we will be receiving "Some type of wild boar dish" from our very own Jeff Plackis. I can't wait to see what he brings so we can all sample some of Jeff's world famous culinary skills! See what you can add to the fare. And please bring a friend too!

The banquet committee had its first meeting and is asking all members to consider making a donation. It could be anything from fishing tackle to a good bottle of wine and anything and everything in between. Of course all donations will be greatly appreciated. For more info contact Pete Dubno or Boyd Shockley.

Trout In the Classroom is once again off to a great start with a total of 26 schools! Thanks to John Fischer for all of his hard work and dedication to this program. It is through John's unselfish dedication and perseverance that LITU is a national leader in this excellent program.

Our "Special" guest speaker for this year's January meeting will be the one and only A.K. Best. Besides being one of the best and most respected fly tyers and fisherman around, A.K. is just one of the nicest and most down to earth people you will ever meet.

A. K.'s presentation will be "Three Rivers, Three Flies". The presentation will be about, (drum roll please) ...A.K.'s three favorite rivers and his three favorite flies. During the presentation, A.K. will be sharing some of his world renowned story telling abilities as well as how to tie these flies and fish these rivers.

Before the meeting starts, A.K will also be tying some of his own creations so come down early to see his work and to chat with him. Remember, the date for this meeting is Wednesday January 20 and will be in the large meeting room. Also, there will be some extra special raffles to help support LITU.

In closing, as the holiday season is upon us and in full swing, let's all take some time out of our busy lives to give thanks for all that we have and most importantly, for our families and friends. It's important to thank them for their love, care, support and understanding.

I would like to wish each and every one of you the special warmth of the Holiday Season. I hope you find it filled with peace, joy and happiness for you and your family now, and through the New Year.

Best Fishes and Wishes for the Holidays,

Jay

NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (for new members only)

Name: _____
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 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
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 Email: _____

TU does not make email addresses available to outside parties, for any reason, ever.
 Please help us conserve resources by providing your email address.

Enclosed is my employer's matching gift form,
 plus this new membership application and payment.

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- Special New Member Rate (\$17.50)
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For additional membership categories, please call 1-800-834-2419

PAYMENT METHOD

- Check Visa MC AMEX Discover
- Make checks payable to Trout Unlimited

Card #: _____ Exp: _____

Name on card: _____

*Canadian membership – please add \$5 per year, all other countries add \$20 per year.
 Membership contributions are tax deductible as allowed by law.

To ensure correct New Member Rebate, enter Chapter/Council #:

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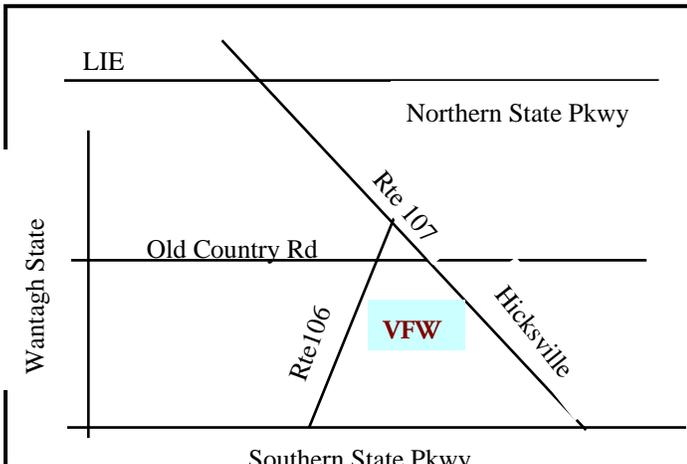
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Paumonok

Published monthly September through June by the Long Island Chapter of Trout Unlimited. Information, photos and articles on conservation and fishing are welcome. Please send material for publication, advertising inquiries and comments to the Editor:

Linda DeSantis, 925 North Sixth St., New Hyde Park, NY 11040, (516) 616 1056, iltulinda@aol.com

December 2	Directors Meeting, Ground Round, Levittown @ 7:30 PM **1st WEDNESDAY**
December 9	Banquet Committee Meeting 7:30 PM
December 15	General Meeting, 7:30 PM **3rd TUESDAY**
January 6, 2010	Directors Meeting, Ground Round, Levittown @ 7:30 PM **1st WEDNESDAY**
January 13, 2010	Banquet Committee Meeting 7:30 PM
January 20, 2010	General Meeting, 7:30 PM *Wednesday*
Go to www.LongIslandTU.org for a more complete calendar And much more	



Brother can you spare some flies?

Fresh or Salt, makes no difference. If you donate 6 Saltwater Flies or 12 Freshwater Flies, we will enter your name in a raffle to be held at our May General Meeting. If your name is picked, you will win an Albright Reel. Double your chances of winning by doubling your donation. You need not be present to win. Please give the flies to anyone on our Board of Directors at our monthly meeting. Contact [Jay Mooney](#) if you have questions. THANK YOU!

RL Winston Rod Raffle

Enter a chance to win a brand new RL Winston 9' 3 piece 5 weight rod. Drawing is at our Dec 15, 2009 General Mtg. You do not need to be present to win. Tickets are \$5 each, 3 for \$10, 10 for \$20.

**Tom LoProto C/O LITU
68 Murray Drive
Westbury NY 11590**



Attending Our Holiday Gathering, please bring a dish to share...

Our Mentoring Program

Want to get involved but don't know how? We will do our best to help you get started. You'll be informed about when and where we hold our meetings, what we discuss at these meetings, committees which could use your help, and we'll even take you to a stream where we'll fish together. Please contact [Peter Harris](#) for more info.

The Web Site has been updated !

Take a look!

www.LongIslandTU.org

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Bob's Canoe Rentals on the Nissequogue - (631) 269 9761 - www.canoerentalslongisland.com
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Northwoods Rods - (516) 221 5599, Jay Mooney - Peter Harris - Making bamboo...affordable
Long Island Flyrodders - Meet 1st Tuesday @ VFW 55 Hickory Lane, Levittown @ 7:30, www.liffr.org
Massage Therapy - (631) 585 4855, Jane Ferlise
Northport Rod and Reel - (631) 368 7335 - Bait, tackle & friendly advice - Dave Flanagan
Orvis Greenvale - www.orvis.com/intro.asp?subject=546, (516) 484 1860, Dean Tsantilas
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West Branch Anglers Resort— www.westbranchresort.com; (607) 467 5525

Big Catch on the Catt

By Peter Dubno

As many of us know, hooking a steelhead is a terrific experience. Landing a steelhead is a humbling experience and an altogether different story. It is just plain old, not easy. So many things can go wrong when you've got a chromed wild steelhead on the other end of your line. They are powerful fish, with ferocious head shakes, and they can take you anywhere on the river they want. They have a high propensity to throw the hook, rake your line against a rock and pop it, or even straighten out the hook and get away.

When John Fischer, Jeff Plackis, Peter Harris, and I recently went steelhead fishing on the Cattaraugus Creek in Western NY this past October, we were all fortunate to hook up with Mr. Steelhead. With the first few takes, NYS guide John Fischer, would verbally start to give some needed advice to the novices. "Let it run", "Get your hand off the reel", "Use side pressure", "Go down after him", "Play that big boy", "Fight it, fight it", "I'll get the net", and "hold the fort, you!" (meaning, don't let someone else take my spot while I help with the landing) were his admonishments. It was very helpful advice, but we heard it all day. It got a bit comical after a while and we would all chime in and say these choice commands whenever anybody hooked up, just for fun.

So this leads me to one particular hook up by Peter Harris. It was an unusual moment to say the least. John and I were simultaneously hooked up with two steelheads. We were getting close to netting our quarries, and getting razzed "Let it run", "Side pressure," when Peter Harris hooked up again. John and I landed our double, took pictures, and then turned our attention to Peter. His rod was bent in the classic parabolic form and it throbbed. John started, "Side pressure", "Let him run," Peter played his catch for what seemed like seven or eight minutes without moving his feet much. The hook held and Peter started to seriously crank that "big boy". John was at Peter's side with the net. Waiting, waiting, waiting for Peter to get his fish's head up for the final scoop.

Peter cranked up the leader andand..... and.....pulled up a firmly hooked rock the size of an overgrown softball! (See Photo Page 6) The rock took an egg pattern and gave a terrific fight. It was the pattern that had been successful all day (orange and yellow). We, who had cameras, took pictures and laughed and laughed, not at our buddies but at the anticipation, the encouragements, and the irony of the situation. We all had a great day catching steelies and a great laugh to boot. We'll always remember this trip because of the steelhead that cooperated, the good friends, and good laughs. The happiest people in the world are those who can laugh at situations and at themselves.



Long Island Chapter Trout Unlimited

Cordially Invites You to Our

ANNUAL HOLIDAY GATHERING

December 15th, 2009
7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Come and enjoy good food & drink, friendship,
fly tying, fish stories, rod raffle and more!

Meeting Location:
Hicksville VFW,
300 South Broadway
Hicksville, NY



Three Flies, Three Rivers

Fishing with A.K.

An evening with A.K. Best
Fly Fisherman, Professional Fly Tier,
Photographer and Author
of Boulder, Colorado

Wednesday, January 20, 2010 @ 7:30pm

As a Special Meeting of
Long Island Trout Unlimited.

VFW Hall, 300 S. Broadway, Hicksville, NY 11801

Through his accounts on the water, A. K. Best will share
his lifetime of fly-fishing experience.

A. K. Best is one of the most experienced fly fishing anglers. His many magazine articles over the years have provided helpful knowledge for both the beginner and experienced anglers. His love of the river continues to fly-fish in the great river systems across the US through fly fishing, photography, and A.K. will provide insight into a world of fishing enjoyment.



Registration at 7:00pm. A.K. will share the excitement of a fly fishing experience prior to the evening and will have his books available for autographing.

A. K. has a signature fly-rod that weighs like a feather. He will give the rod away to one of the anglers.

PLUS, take a chance to win a Fly Rod or a Reel or a basket of freshwater fly tying material or freshwater fly tying material or many other prizes!

For more information about the event, visit www.litn.org or call by Monday @ 516-225-0289

Admission and transportation arrangements.

Department of Environmental Conservation Education Camps

Each year the Long Island Chapter of Trout Unlimited (LITU) and the Henry Prussen Memorial Fund will sponsor up to Two (2) young adults to a One (1) week summer Environmental Education Camp held at one of New York State's Environmental Campgrounds.

We open the enrollment process each October and close enrollment by January 2nd of each year. We inform the Two (2) applicants that are chosen by the second Tuesday of January. Applicants will be required to fill out the [NYS DEC application](#) and return to Robert F. Lutz at the address below no later than the last Tuesday in January:

LITU
c/o Robert F. Lutz
122 Ridge Road
Wheatley Heights, NY 11798

LITU will file the applicant's registration form with New York State DEC no earlier than February 7th.

Qualifications for Sponsorship

- Applicant must be between 12 & 17 years of age at start of camp
- Applicant must be a U.S. Citizen
- Applicant must be within regional area of our chapter

We look at a couple of items to help us choose a qualified applicant:

- Child of one of our members
- Friend of one of our members
- Child or friend of one of our Adopted Service Persons
- Student of our Trout in the Classroom program

For more information about these camps as well as their specific locations, please visit [Department of Environmental Conservation Education Camps](#).

If you need additional help, please contact [Robert F. Lutz](#)

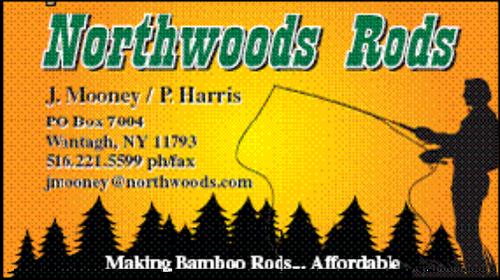
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The Last Brook Trout

by Rob Matarazzo

The Hagstrom map showed a thin blue line connecting two small lakes. I'd picked out this stream from a list of trout waters that I'd found in a local fishing publication. It was my third season as a fly fisherman and I had become obsessed with trout fishing and all that goes with it. My second season had been cut short by a broken leg, and now I needed to make up for lost time.

My two trips to this little brook in the spring had produced a couple of small trout in the more accessible stretches. I'd left them alone for the summer and was now returning in mid September for another go. This time I decided to try to find some more remote areas of the stream to fish. With the help of a good map, I found a spot where I thought I might gain access.

Upon my arrival I could see there was no easy access and some bushwhacking through some thorny brush would be needed to get to the water. Luckily I had decided to bring a short 6 ½ foot fiberglass rod for this outing. After a few false starts I finally found my way to the bank of a small pool.

I wasted no time in rigging up. In my limited experience as a fly fisherman, I'd discovered that brushy places were best fished with streamers and bucktails; otherwise more time would be spent trying to get your flies out of the trees than in actual fishing. I picked a small Black-Nosed Dace, the first fly I had learned to tie.

A small tree branch that had fallen into the stream had collected a quantity of dead leaves on its upstream side. These leaves formed a canopy on the surface and covered a small patch of water. Places like this looked "fishy" to me, so I started out by dropping my Black-Nosed Dace a few feet ahead of the leaf canopy to let it drift down into it. With the bucktail a few inches away from disappearing beneath the leaves, a fish bolted out to take a nip at it and then just as quickly returned to its resting spot. Nothing wakes up a fishing trip like the sudden presence of life. I repeated this tactic a few more times with this fly but to no avail.

Before giving up on this spot, I decided to change flies and try again. A Royal Coachman bucktail was tied on next. This fly had given me some success in this stream before, so it was a logical choice. On its first drift, the fly was attacked by presumably the same trout. This time it was hooked well and a short time later I led it into my landing net. Ordinarily I wouldn't use a net on a fish this size, but it was so frisky and full of energy that it would have gotten hurt otherwise. A quick measurement and snapshot, then back to his home he went.

The fish was the most perfectly colored brook trout I have ever seen in the twenty-eight years that have passed since this trip occurred. A ten inch fish is not a big trout, but in this little brook a respectable catch. An email exchange with the D.E.C. a few years ago confirmed what I have always believed. They did not start stocking brook trout into this stream until 1982. Caught in September of 1981, as documented in my fishing log, this trout was surely a wild fish, born and bred in the stream.

The scene of this fish story was not some remote Adirondack mountain stream, but our very own Carlls River. My colorful brookie was possibly one of the last holdouts from a population that swam it this stream and others like it when Long Island was considered a sportsman's paradise. What a shame it would be if we fail to preserve what little we have left of this legacy.

I began fishing the Carlls River again a few years ago. The stumpy-finned stocked trout that I caught were a poor representation of their species, no comparison to the little jewels that once swam here. I've even gone back to my secret pool a few times, but found no signs of life there. Now more than ever, we must fight to preserve our Long Island streams and restore them to their former glory.



The Long Island Chapter of Trout Unlimited

presents its

29th Annual National Conservation Banquet
Friday, April 16th, 2010

~ at ~

Stuart Thomas Manor,
Farmingdale, NY

Cocktails at 6:30pm;
Dinner at 7:30pm.



Tickets are \$60.00 per person and can be ordered by completing the [Banquet Ticket Request Form](#) and mailing it, with payment, to the address listed on the form.



Peter Harris with another great catch on the Steelhead trip.

A man who fishes becomes a fisherman

By Joe Odierna

Over the years, I have been on my share of fishing trips; more than some people but less than others. I haven't fished on a lot of waters, but I have fished the Beaverkill and Willow several times, the Nerversink and the Esopus, the Conny, the Carmens and the Catskill Creek. I have even managed to make it out to Montana once but the trip that stands out to me the most is last Spring's outing with LI Trout Unlimited. It was during this trip that I believe I stopped being a man who fishes, and became a fisherman.

It was on this trip with Tom McCoy and Dr. Jerry Greenholtz that I learned that catching fish wasn't the only part of the trip. That spending time enjoying the scenery, the route to the stream, and helping others on the water can be just as much enjoyment as landing a fish.

We started out the trip just like many of the others. We traveled to the stream, got out on the water and caught fish but this time it felt a little different. I had been to many of the famous locations before and with many of the same people, but this time I wasn't in such a rush to get out fishing.

Without giving too many details, for those of you who don't know Dr. Jerry and Tom, Jerry is an older gentleman who has spent no doubt, more time fishing than I am alive. He has probably caught more fish than I have seen. But, Jerry is getting up there in age. And with no disrespect to Tom, who has caught his share of fish and well, he ain't no spring chicken either (sorry Tom). In addition, Jerry and Tom have spent many a day together on the water – 30 years and either of them could teach you a thing or two about fishing and about life in general.

As Tom and I were traveling up to Horton (Jerry came up later with Tom Loproto), we stopped at a couple of places to fish. Sort of the typical drive up where we would stop along the way to get in the swing of things. Here I remember still being a man who fishes. We'd stop, fish, drive to the next spot, stop, fish, drive to the next spot. Then we made it to Horton. The next morning I got up early and headed out to the river, not to fish, but just to watch. This was a very strange thing for me to do, get up early, go out onto a very beautiful stream, and *watch* others fish. Unheard of! I guess a bit of Dubno is finally rubbing off on me.

There were a few guys fishing and for the first time, I got to enjoy someone else fish. No pressure on me to catch, choose the right fly or tie a good knot. Not much catching, but quite a bit of fishing. Low and behold who shows up but Dr. Jerry. He is ready to fish; rod and reel in hand, waders on, but no fly on his line. He asks me to tie a fly on for him. Jerry's eyes aren't quite what they use to be and a tremor makes his hands shake a bit.

Of course the first thing I say is "Sure!" But then I start to think what happens if the knot breaks, what if, because of

me, Jerry loses a fish of a lifetime. Oh Well! I tied an improved clinch knot and hoped for the best. After all the help I have received over the years from these guys, helping Jerry sure felt good.

OK, remember I said that there was a lot of fishing going on and not much catching...that changed. Two guys at the head of the Sunoco pool parted and let Jerry in. Two casts later he has a fish on. No monster, but still a nice fish. Of course he nets and releases the fish; a couple of casts later, another one. Jerry looks at me and he says, "OK I'm done, let's go to breakfast." He had caught his share and wanted the others to get theirs

Later that day Jerry, Tom and I we went to another site. Here I remember Jerry settling in between Tom and me. Never having fished with Jerry before, I wanted to make sure he was okay. I tied on several different flies for him and we had our fun. Caught several fish, and no, none of my knots broke. The bugs were fierce that day and while applying bug spray, Jerry got some in his eye and he couldn't continue fishing. We went back to the hotel so that he could take care of his eye.

The next day, his eye was still bothering him and he couldn't fish. He told us to go without him. If at all, he would fish locally. Now here is where the epiphany happens. Because of the rain the night before, Tom wanted to look at some different water he knew of in hopes that the stream wouldn't be so muddy. We drove here, we drove there, and for a good few hours, we did nothing but drive along some of the most beautiful streams I have ever seen. And we didn't stop to fish once! Tom took me to a secluded lake, a couple of tiny streams in the woods, a fish hatchery, parts of the Willow I didn't know existed, and we even got lost. But I had the most enjoyable time just driving around with Tom talking and looking at the scenery. It wasn't until later that we stopped to fish and both had a great time. I remember catching one nice rainbow on a streamer where I didn't expect to catch one. Sometimes the best things we find are unexpected.

As the old expression goes, "The best things in life are free." The time I got to spend with these two gentlemen and the sites I saw certainly ranks up there with the some of the best things in life. But the thing I enjoyed the most on this trip was learning to enjoy the trip as much as the fishing itself. It's not just the act of getting into the water, casting your line and catching a fish, it's the adventure, the camaraderie, the helping of others that makes the trip.

I would like to thank both Dr. Jerry and Tom for helping me to become a fisherman and no longer simply a man who fishes.

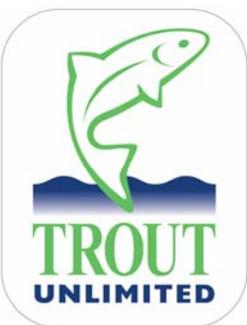
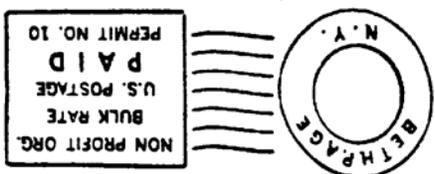
Pawmonok

Published by the Long Island Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Linda DeSantis, Editor
925 North Sixth Street
New Hyde Park, NY 11040

Dec 2009

DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE DELIVER
PROMPTLY



Monthly Meetings
On the 3rd
Tuesday
At 7:30 PM
Hicksville VFW
Hall
320 So. Broadway,
Hicksville, NY

ANNUAL HOLIDAY GATHERING

Tuesday, DECEMBER 15, 2009

7:30 P.M. - 9:30 P.M.

*Have you checked us out on the
web?*

www.LongIslandTU.org

Join Trout Unlimited - Help Preserve Our Cold Water Fisheries
Membership Application on Page 7.