



Jim Boyle with a snake like Salmon River steelhead – November 2016 Fish of the Month

Clearwater Currents

**The Official Publication of the Clearwater Chapter of
Trout Unlimited**

17 Sutherland Drive Watervliet, NY 12189



*America's Leading Coldwater Fisheries Conservation
Organization
Promoting Habitat for Wild Trout and Salmon
Trout Unlimited Has Been Fighting for Coldwater Fisheries
Conservation for 56 Years*

Join us before each meeting at 6:30pm for a tying demonstration. Meetings begin at 7:30pm, the third Monday of each month (except Banquet month, July and August), at the Albany Ramada located on Watervliet Avenue Extension off Exit 5 of I-90 (Everett Road).

Upcoming Events

- Nov 21 Chapter General Meeting – **Doug Lyons** speaking on “**Observation, Approach, Presentation, Patterns and Strategies for Hunting Trophy Battenkill Browns**” – guest tier at 6:30 and featured speaker starts about 7:30pm – all are welcome – free of charge - **Bring a Friend night.** Our November 21st. meeting will be a bring a friend night. You are all asked to bring a friend who is not a member of TU to our next meeting to introduce them to the chapter and its members in an effort to increase our membership and working manpower. Every member who brings a friend and every friend who attends our meeting will have a chance to win a number of special prizes in the form of a special raffle. We will still have our regular raffle to help defray the cost of our meeting room as well.
- Nov 24 Thanksgiving

Board of Directors/Staff

President	Heath Clayson	573-6008	ExOfficio	Scott Parker	894-4661
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Trout/Classroom	Ron Dorn	842-2593	Website	Trevor Tripp	380-6614
Video Library	Richard Atkinson	377-8249	Youth	Mike Walchko	234-4192
Battenkill	Greg Cuda	587-1189	Banquet		
Board Member	Glenn Kuhles	869-0817	Banquet		
Disabled Angler Program	Bart Chabot	393-9918			

Clearwater Chapter of TU PO Box 9686 Schenectady, NY 12309
www.ClearwaterTU.org

Gene Webster Rememberance

The Clearwater Chapter and trout have lost a good friend and benefactor upon the death of Gene Webster on October 21, 2016.

His liberal, progressive, and honest approach to life spilled over into his commitment to conservation, the environment, and trout. Gene was an important influence on the conservation efforts of our chapter for decades, as the conservation chairman into the early 2000's.

Gene was a teacher and his ability to retain facts and information and make meaningful and pointed conversation extended into his TU efforts. He taught that conservation work is more effective when government agencies, other organizations, and all stakeholders are treated like partners. His approach was broad and not only included field projects but meetings with decision-makers that extended efforts to modify land-use and watershed health.

He had a special fondness for the Batten Kill and Schenevus Creek. It is a fitting tribute that our chapter has recently been involved in stream work on Schenevus Creek and continues substantial habitat work on the Batten Kill.

Gene Webster was a caring and sincere man who has left a legacy of good works and many good memories. He will be missed. - **Roy Lamberton**

One of my first encounters with Gene Webster was a tree planting on the Battenkill River and immediately I noticed a sense of urgency and dedication by the way he talked. It was as if Gene had been appointed as shepherd of this famous tributary and other similar streams. He tenaciously made it a personal goal to complete every project utilizing whatever resources and volunteer help he could muster. His success remains evident by limited erosion on many various banks today.

Gene held adamantly to the mantra of Trout Unlimited to "Catch and Release". His efforts and example have set a precedent that we continue to follow and his principles remain in our memory. Tight Lines to you and your friend Dusty !! - **Bart Chabot**



Gene Webster (left), Dusty Rhoades (center) and Roy Lamberton (right) at Clearwater Banquest 2009 – Gene and Dusty had just received the Chapter's Cornerstone Award for a lifetime of achievement in coldwater conservation.

Clearwater Chapter General Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday November 21st and it starts at 6:30pm with a guest fly tier and the featured speaker starts at 7pm. This month's meeting will be **Doug Lyons** speaking on “Observation, Approach, Presentation, Patterns and Strategies for Hunting Trophy Battenkill Browns.” He started fishing the 'Kill on Labor Day weekend 1977. He is the past president SWVT Trout Unlimited and has led fundraising efforts (TU Embrace A Stream) for habitat work. He has also led the Keep it Wild campaign on the Vermont Battenkill.

This presentation will fill up fast so get there early.

At the Ramada Inn off exit 5 of I-90 Albany. Free of charge and all are welcome.

Bring a Friend night. Our November 21st. meeting will be a bring a friend night. You are all asked to bring a friend who is not a member of TU to our next meeting to introduce them to the chapter and its members in an effort to increase our membership and working manpower. Every member who brings a friend and every friend who attends our meeting will have a chance to win a number of special prizes in the form of a special raffle. We will still have our regular raffle to help defray the cost of our meeting room as well.

Fish of the Month 2016 Contest in Full Gear

Mark A Brown

The Chapter's Fish of the Month Contest is already in its sixth year having crowned **Rich Atkinson, Noe Mead, Jim Berry, Bill Bach, Ron Boutin, Brad Mohr, Jim Boyle** and for 2015, **Paul Kalacs** winners in its first eight years.

The contest is open to all members (except me!) and family members of Chapter members and is not necessarily based on the biggest fish, but the quality of the fish, story behind it and picture quality all make up a winning entry. Simply send a photograph to me at my email address at mrbrownie6@gmail.com or contact me via email for my mailing address if you have a Polaroid or 35mm shot. As the entries come I'll publish them in the newsletter and select a winner at the March Banquet when the winner will get a dozen hand tied flies or something else really nice as a prize.

Commenting on his Fish of the Month entry, **Jim Boyle** says: "We fished with Row Jimmy Guide Service and despite the exceptionally slow start for Steelhead fishing this year we had an enjoyable day. Apparently our guide was "high hook" on the Salmon River that day by virtue of the beautiful Steelie I managed to hook and land on the fourth cast of the day."

Interesting Article on Fishing for the Small Ones!

<http://www.npr.org/2016/10/27/498406364/little-fish-tales-micro-fishers-focus-on-the-species-not-size>

And I always thought the biggest and most was what we were after!

First Banquet Meeting

The banquet organizational meeting will be held at 7:00 P.M. on December 12 2016 (second Monday) at Saratoga Bridges, 495 Clifton Park Center Rd., Clifton Park. (Just East of Moe Rd). If you need further directions ask any board member as it is the same building that the board meetings are held. Past president Scott Parker agreed to chair the committee when no one else volunteered. He could use someone to assist him. Hopefully we will see some new faces at the meeting. One of the duties to be filled at that meeting is someone to take over from Scott the running of the canoe raffle. That job entails distributing and keeping track of the raffle tickets and money, organizing a few fly tiers and sales people for the Johnstown Outdoor show, and handling with assistance canoe raffle ticket sales at the banquet. Although the committee has a budget for the banquet in order for the banquet raffles to be successful we need donations from members and non-members. As those that have attended in the past know, in addition to fishing items there are many raffles for those that do not fish. There is a great deal of talent in our chapter and the banquet would be a great place to display that talent. If you have persevered this far in the notice, thank you.

Esopus Creek Update

Fishing is prohibited in an 11.9-mile stretch of the creek, from the outflow of the Shandaken Tunnel -- which carries water into the creek from New York City's Schoharie Reservoir -- to the Ashokan Reservoir. The ban is in effect until January 31, 2017.



Fly of the Month: Disco Nymph

Ran across this fly fishing website based out of Ireland -

<http://irishflyfishingpassion.blogspot.com/2014/04/disco-nymph-and-fly-fishing-on-river.html> – this page brings you to a how to video on this month's fly of the month, the Disco Nymph. Sometimes there is a need for just something different that the fish haven't seen before. Sure all the classic flies got that way because they caught fish, but they all were different at some point in their history. Maybe this fly or something you create is just off the wall enough to become a legend. Give it a try at the vise this winter and next spring and just maybe you have the next Gold Rib Hare's Ear Nymph! **Hook:** curved shank nymph hook 10 – 14; **Thread:** black 6/0 or 8/0; **Tail:** brown feather fibers; **Tinsel:** holographic; **Rib:** red wire; **Body:** spectra dubbing (synthetic dubbing – should be shiny); **Thorax:** hare's ear with a few wraps of orange thread; **Bead:** tungsten. Attach the bead to the hook and wrap thread to the bend where the tail fibers are attached. Attach the tinsel, rib and dubbing in that order. Wrap the dubbing to just behind the bead leaving enough room for the thorax. Then wrap the red wire rib and the tinsel. Tie everything off tightly. Add the thorax and make it buggy by using a dubbing loop or combing it out after wrapping it on the hook. Tie in some orange thread or floss and make a few wraps just behind the bead. Tie off and give it a try!



Have a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving!