



# TAILWATERS

The Newsletter of the Upper Delaware & Beamoc Chapters of Trout Unlimited

Published April, June, August & October

Editor Mark A. Rando August 2008

*Adopt the pace of nature: Her secret is patience  
Ralph Waldo Emerson*

## The President's Pool

Trout Unlimited is a national, non-profit, conservation organization dedicated to preserving, protecting, and restoring North America's cold water fisheries and their watersheds. TU is made up of 150,000 volunteers and a staff of policy experts, lawyers, and scientists. The Upper Delaware Chapter is one of approximately 400 chapters and has about 90 members. Nearly fifty years ago, sixteen fishermen met at George Griffith's house on the banks of the Ausable River near Grayling, Michigan and Trout Unlimited was founded. I wonder if they could have envisioned the scope and magnitude of TU's operations today framed by their initial efforts.

Today, our chapter supports and is involved in many projects including stream restoration, willow planting, trout stocking, and Vibert boxes. We support Casting for Recovery, youth education, TU Youth Camp, Lend a Rod Program, and Casting for the Blind. Our chapter has again sponsored two students who will attend DeBruce Environmental Camp. Examining the demographics one can't help but notice our aging population. It becomes apparent that our future lies with our young people and we must engage, educate, and motivate these future stewards of our resources.

Our chapter will be embarking on a new endeavor sponsoring Trout in the Classroom at the Jeffersonville Elementary School in Sullivan County. Fifth graders will raise and care for trout, from eggs to fingerlings, until their release into a local tributary. Students will learn about water quality, aquatic biology, watershed management, and other environmental issues with a hands on approach. This will help students appreciate water sources, foster a conservation ethic, and understand ecosystem connectivity.

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### New Website

Be sure to get the latest UDCTU news online

<http://www.upperdelawaretu.org/>

## UDCTU 2008 Calendar of Events

<b>AUGUST</b>	
3-Aug	Farmers Market
23-Aug	Chapter Meeting
31-Aug	Farmers Market
<b>SEPT</b>	
6-Sep	Grahamsville Youth Expo
20-Sep	NYSTU Gen'l Council -TBA
20-Sep	Road Clean Up
<b>OCT</b>	
4-Oct	Stream opening, meeting, picnic
<b>NOV</b>	
8-Nov	NYSTU Gen'L Council Pulaski
Nov	Vibert Boxes
<b>DEC</b>	Willow Slip Cutting
	All meetings @ Long Eddy Firehouse
	Rt. 97 Long Eddy, NY 12760
	** Road clean up after meeting- volunteers welcomed

### UDCTU Raffle Reminder

Please remember to return raffle tickets sent in April

**President's Pool Cont.**

While we continue to fund-raise at the Callicoon Farmers' Market, annual Street Fair, and the Riverfest Celebration in Narrowsburg, our projected goals for funding Trout in the Classroom fall a little short. Our chapter will be allocating approximately \$3,000.00 for tanks, filters, and chillers (the most expensive item). If anyone would like to support this worthy project with a donation please drop a check to *Upper Delaware Trout Unlimited, PO Box 100, Long Eddy, New York, 12760*. As always, 100% of the donations will go directly into this project. All our work and time is provided for by chapter volunteers. Our members have been very kind with their raffle purchases, donations, and time. Thanks to all.

Think globally, act locally  
Frank Salt

**Delaware River Flows**

There is likely no single issue that the membership of UDCTU would consider more important than that of the water release management policies and practices of the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP). This is quite easy to understand. NYCDEP is the authority that operates the New York City water supply system which includes three reservoirs that are within the upper Delaware watershed. The fundamental nature of the fishery habitat that results downstream from these three major New York City reservoirs and their dams are now forever closely linked. They are linked so closely in fact that the reservoirs and their release practices must be viewed as integral components of the overall Delaware River ecosystem. The amount of cold bottom release water that is voluntarily discharged from large valves built into each dam system and the schedule of those releases largely determines throughout the year how many miles of water in the downstream river sections will be a coldwater, coolwater or warmwater fishery. The Cannonsville Reservoir on the West Branch Delaware, Pepacton on the East Branch Delaware and the Neversink located on the river bearing the same name were all constructed by the City of New York as part of a massive water supply system that includes 18 reservoirs and a reported storage capacity of over 550 billion gallons. The Neversink, completed in 1953, the Pepacton in 1956 and Cannonsville in 1967 were three of the later reservoirs to be constructed; the result of a need to deliver clean pure water to a population that has since swelled to over 90 million people and over a quarter million industrial users. A miracle of engineering,

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**UDCTU Membership**

Interested in joining us?  
Contact any one of the officers  
listed above for details

### **Delaware Flows Cont.**

the NYC water supply system delivers the bulk of its water through a gravity enabled system of aqueducts as opposed to pumping and the water is so pure there are no treatment plants, just a series of settling reservoirs towards the lower end of the system.

An unplanned consequence of the construction of these three reservoirs resulted in the fact that artificial "cold water zones" were created downstream of each dam. This is so because the water released from a large valve system built into each dam, which is required to keep each downstream river flowing, exits the reservoir with a temperature that is typically in the low forty degree Fahrenheit range. The water is cold because of the natural thermal behavior of a water body. Water increases in density (becomes heavier) as it gets colder in temperature and thus develops the tendency to sink below the warmer surface water. Thus at the depth in the reservoir where the release valves are built, the water is much colder than that at the surface. As this cold water flume moves downstream it gradually warms. The distance where the water temperature from the dam to a point downstream where it warms above seventy degrees depends on a number of factors including the release rate, time of year and the natural runoff levels below the dam that will mix in with the cold water release. The seventy degree metric is considered by many to be the high end of the temperature range of a viable cold water fishery. Viable meaning trout can survive and catch and release fishing can be done without fear of exhausting the fish. Some might argue a few degrees colder, perhaps sixty-eight, others may say seventy- two degrees.

The release rate is typically measured in a quantity known as Cubic Feet per Second (CFS) and is a measure of water volume. A cubic foot is the volume of water you would have if you took a cube that has all six sides equal to 1 foot and filled it with water. So a given CFS measure means that at a fixed point there is that amount of water as measured in 1 foot cubes flowing past that point in 1 second. For example, a release rate of 260 CFS means that the amount water flowing out of the valve each second is equivalent to that which is stored in 260 one foot cubes each filled with water. The higher this rate, the farther downstream the cold water flume will be able to influence the water temperature. The lower the CFS, the faster the downstream influences will warm the water during hot weather periods like the summer. When fishing and conservation groups talk about release rates this is the quantity they are referring to.

For many years various conservation groups along with Trout Unlimited have waged various

campaigns to appeal to NYCDEP, the NYSDEC which is the official state conservation organization, and various other organizations and consortiums like the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) that have an input, legal or otherwise, as to how Delaware River water can and should be used. These campaigns have always been centered on agreeing to a water release regime that maximizes the benefits of these cold water releases to the downstream ecosystems without jeopardizing water supply requirements. Some of these campaigns have been based on frivolous and unfounded assertions while others have been backed by extensive scientific research. One of the most clearly articulated articles that we have ever seen that explains beautifully the past history and current state of affairs with the Delaware River flow issue was authored by a Mr. Peter Kolesar and included the June 26<sup>th</sup> – July 2nd issue of the River Reporter.

You can view this article at the following URL: <http://www.riverreporter.com/> . Anyone who is interested in learning more about this most important subject is highly encouraged to get a copy. **MAR**

### **Dette Trout Flies**

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### **Northern Snakehead Fish Found in Catlin Creek in the Town of Waywayanda, Orange County**

The presence of an invasive fish species from Asia known as the northern snakehead was recently confirmed in an Orange County, NY Creek. The initial report made by a fisherman was confirmed by NY DEC in May. While the Northern Snakehead is not a threat to human health or safety, it is an aggressive predator that has the potential to prey on and compete with native fishes. Left unchecked this predatory invasive is likely to rapidly expand its population and territory with real and negative economic impacts to the Hudson River watershed fisheries while causing potentially irreversible harm to rare and endangered species and natural communities. Therefore, the DEC has taken immediate action to attempt to contain its spread by erecting temporary fish barriers. **NYS DEC**

## Gimme A Break

By Chuck N. Hope

Chuck N. Hope says that no matter how careful you are or how much common sense you might think you have, at some point you will break a fishing rod; most likely several throughout the course of your fishing lifetime. Having just recently broken one of my favorite Winston rods while tumbling down a steep slope in the Neversink Gorge, I was keenly interested to hear what Chuck had to say on this subject. Chuck went on to explain that breaking a rod, while painful to experience, can usually be remedied quickly with a nominal cost if your using rods made by one of today's premium rod makers; many of whom offer an unconditional lifetime guarantee against rod breakage and require only a small fee for shipping and handling. Chuck said that even Tier B and Tier C rod makers that offer warranties for breakage due to manufacturer defect only often will replace a broken rod section for a very reasonable charge if that model rod is still in production. Chuck recalls an incident many years ago when he wound up with a broken rod after using it to fend off an angry ex-girlfriend that had come to his house to collect some personal possessions. It all happened so fast he lamented. The rod being the only thing within reach that he could grab to offer some protection against the angry advance and crack it was done. The problem he had was that that particular rod did not have an unconditional warranty so Chuck thinking fast on his feet concocted a great tale of fighting large salmon on the Alaskan Kenai peninsula with the rod breaking during an epic battle. What Chuck didn't know back then is that folks who build rods can usually determine the cause of a break by examining the remaining fibers in the break area. For example they can determine if the rod was subject to a force of compression like what would occur if caught in a car door. They can even usually tell which way the rod was bent when the break occurred. Chuck was quite surprised when the company wrote him back and said they didn't think the rod broke in the way he had described but said they would replace the section anyway. Chuck was quite happy with that result but was later a bit surprised when they dropped him from their mailing list.

Chuck said that after witnessing his good friend Art Vanderlay convert a 4 piece Winston Blix rod into a six piece one while getting out of a drift boat on a recent trip, he thought perhaps a few tips on how to avoid such mishaps might be an interesting subject. So here are Chuck's suggestions on minimizing the chances for rod breakage in no particular order of importance.

- Always keep your rods in hard protective cases at all times when not being fished. Most rods are broken during transport. Now this one really hit home for me. While taking that hike down into the Neversink Gorge some weeks back, a very wise person in our party suggested that we keep our rods in their tubes and pack them down that way. I, not wanting to lug the heavy tube down, decided not to and the result was that I wound up fishing that day with someone else's spare rod after taking an untimely tumble that resulted in cracking my Winston 5 weight right through the rod grip. As I told the others in our party as we were coming back out later that day; I left my heart down in that gorge after breaking my very favorite rod so needlessly.

- Many driftboats today have very cleverly molded in rod holders that will accommodate even the longest fly rods. Use them!

- Avoid going fishing with bad luck folks. There's a good chance it will rub off on you.

- When putting rods back into their protective cases, always make sure they are dry. A cloth rod bag is highly recommended.

- When assembling a rod, seat the ferrules only as tightly as needed to firmly join the sections. Seating the section too tightly will reduce the life of the ferrules and make disassembly more difficult.

- When disassembling a rod always use a straight pull. Ferrules should never be twisted to separate the sections. Also avoid using rod guides as grabbing points as you will eventually weaken the wraps. Better to ask a friend help you with a stubborn ferrule.

- If you are going to let a friend try casting that beautiful bamboo rod you keep talking about, it may be better to hand it to him after you have descended the very steep bank to get to the water. He or she will most likely enjoy the experience that much more without the fear of having to guard the rod with life and limb while groping for a firm foothold.

- The type of rod warranty a given maker provides should be one of the factors considered when shopping for a new rod. Over the course of a lifetime, a premium rod with an unconditional lifetime warranty may prove to be the most economical over the long term. Chuck provides the following summary as a starting point:

GLoomis – Limited lifetime warranty – defects only  
Orvis – 25 yr unconditional guarantee - \$30 S/H  
Sage - unconditional lifetime guarantee- \$50 S/H  
St. Croix - Lifetime Warranty – Gold Service - \$50  
Temple Fork - Lifetime No Fault Warranty - \$25  
T&T - unconditional lifetime guarantee  
Winston–unconditional lifetime guarantee- \$50 S/H

## BEAMOC Chapter News

Greetings to all our members and supporters. There is a lot going on within our chapter. I recently attended a planning board meeting in Livingston Manor regarding a permit for water extraction. The location is directly across from the Catskill Fly Fishing Center and the applicant wants to withdraw 30,000 gallons a day. We are in the early stages regarding this permit and the applicant needs to provide detailed plans. The springs involved feed a small creek which in turn feeds into a wetland area close to the Willowemoc creek. Our chapter wrote a letter to the town board opposing this permit and requesting that a formal environmental Impact study be made to assess what effect it would have on the watershed.

We have also approached a number of local merchants in Livingston Manor and Roscoe who have agreed to write letters to the town board opposing this proposed permit. As I mentioned before we are in the early stages and if we need to I will ask our membership to also write letters of opposition. We will keep you posted.

Many of you have probably read about the Marcellus shale deposit located throughout northern Pennsylvania and lower New York State. Many locals in Sullivan County are looking into leasing their property to drill for natural gas. We need to keep a close watch on these activities to protect our watershed.

On a positive note, at our recent chapter meeting it was agreed that our chapter in conjunction with the CFFCM will be installing an under-water camera at the CFFCM entrance bridge.

The images from the camera can be viewed at a monitor to be located in the museum and also on

a web site that will be developed. It is envisioned that this will prove to be a good educational tool which can be viewed on a world wide basis. The chapter has allocated \$500.00 to this and I have also filed for a grant with New York State TU Conservation Fund for additional monies.

It was also agreed that our chapter would plant six Vibert boxes this fall in either Horse Brook or Bennet Brook.

Also we have received news that an official DEC access will be added at Cemetery Pool. **MZ**

### BEAMOC Meeting Dates

August 7<sup>th</sup>  
September 4<sup>th</sup>  
October 2<sup>nd</sup>  
November 6<sup>th</sup>  
December 4<sup>th</sup>

All meetings held at the Catskill Fly Fishing Center & Museum. Starting time 6:30pm

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## Story Teller's Corner - High Hook Jack

There are certainly much worse discretions one can commit against the gentle art of fishing than that of being a habitual fish counter. I admit to this state of being with the deepest belief that someday in the future, perhaps after thousands more fish are landed, that the day will come when how many fish I catch on a given outing will no longer matter; and besides this dreadful affliction may not even be my fault. Having worked for corporate America for most of my adult life, continually immersed in a result driven environment, you can't help but have that carry over a bit into other areas of your life. There's an objective – go do it. There's a fish – go catch it. It's all too easy to get caught up in that type of a vicious cycle. While its certainly the case that I can and do marvel at the sights and sounds of the outdoor world that form the backdrop of a given fishing locale, it remains clear that the finding, hooking and landing of fish is still the primary order of the day when I'm on the water. Deer, bald eagles and merganser ducks are all very pretty to watch but I'll take a fish at the end of my line any day.

It's also quite true, that the camaraderie amongst fishing friends can create remembrances that can span a lifetime but nobody truly enjoys an outing where someone else is catching lots of fish while you're not catching any. We've all experienced that one time or another and I'm quite sure there are few people indeed who could truly claim that not catching any fish while a buddy or another fisherman within view is really slamming them didn't bother them at least a little. Perhaps within the small confines of a river drift boat there

is no better stage to test the patience and disposition of a fisherperson. While floating down a picture perfect river it can be pretty difficult to not notice that your buddy is really hammering the fish and your not or visa versa. If you're the one on the short end of that equation, with no where else to go you have to either grin and bear it or buckle down and fish harder. There's simply no place to hide.

For the most part, my fish counting tendencies have no ill effects as it's usually something I keep to myself or share in jest with a fishing partner. However, on a recent fishing outing where I took a friend I know from work and his 10 year old son on a Delaware River float trip for smallmouth bass, I accidentally let the fish counting genie out of the bottle. This was in fact the third time they had come up to do such a trip. Therefore they had some prior experience under their belt and were looking forward to duplicating the successes we had on the earlier trips; the last one included an impressive twenty one inch walleye that Jack had caught. Rowing a bit upstream from the Tower Road river access, I dropped the anchor and began to help Jack, the ten year old, get rigged up. I suggested he try a soft plastic bait called a Senko first as it is easier to fish than either a jig or a crankbait. After getting him setup I demonstrated to Jack my preferred method for fishing a Senko which includes casting it up on a hi arc so it makes as big a splash as possible and then letting it drop naturally in the water column with an occasional twitch as it floats down with the current. Seeing me do it a few times, he proclaimed it looked very easy and was eager to try it himself. As I handed him the rod I remembered the nick name we had given him last trip; "high hook jack." "Here you go high hook" I laughed. Turning around to help his dad rig up, it would probably have been no more than about 60 seconds that had passed before shouts of excitement and a sharply bent rod in Jack's hand's shattered the silence as a chunky smallmouth cart wheeled totally out of the water 20 feet or so from the boat. "That didn't take too long" I yelled as I netted the fish for him wanting to make as big a deal as possible of his catch. Measuring it on the Lyin-tamer ruler mounted in my boat it was an impressive fourteen inch specimen. "Not a bad start high hook" I told him.

Greg quickly snapped a few pictures as any proud father would do as Jack triumphantly held up his first fish of the day. Releasing the fish, we quickly finished rigging up Greg's rapala, now more eager than ever to start fishing. I started fishing too with a jig, my preferred method for Delaware smallmouth fishing unless they're willing to come up and smash a topwater plug. Luckily for me, I began to connect with fish on my first few casts while Jack quickly added another nice bass which I again netted to add to his excitement. Whenever you take novice fishing friends out on your home water there is always that added pressure to produce fish. If your just going to guide, they better catch something and hopefully as soon into the trip as possible. If you're going to fish as well you better catch some too, after all *you're* supposed to be the one who knows what he's doing. Having Jack experience some quick success while also bringing in a few myself helped to get that part of it out of the way quickly much to my relief. His dad had not yet hooked any fish but was quite happy to watch Jack excitingly hook, play and land his fish taking pictures each time. The fish seemed to be fighting particularly well that day and Jack did a nice job in playing them to the boat. After we released Jack's second fish it was then that it happened. I blurted out "oh no its Jack two and dad zero." Immediately seizing on that Jack began to keep score. "Mr. Rando has four, I have two and dad Zeeerrrooo". At first it was pretty funny and we all laughed. Making our way downriver we concluded the fish were not very interested in chasing crankbaits and I rigged Greg up a jig. Jack stayed with the Senko as it was working for him and being the one on the oars it was a relief to know he would not get into too many snags with the center hooked "wacky style" rig I setup for him which does not use any additional weight or a jighead.

While the frequency of our hookups tailed off a bit compared to the first few drops, nearly each time we stopped the boat to fish a spot Jack or I would add a fish or two to our tally which he now seemed wholly committed to keeping current. The only thing that changed much from one announcement to the next was how he would present the pronouncement of his dad's zero score. Zzzzzeeeeeerrrrrooooo, big nothing and naughta are just a few of the ones I can recall. Not being all that wise in the ways of a ten year old I had realized that it had been a terrible mistake to bring up the fish counting thing. It seemed that we were now going to have to live with this for the rest of the day or at least until he became bored of it which I had hoped was soon. Unfortunately, Greg continued to go fishless and Jack continued to not let anyone forget about that including the groups of canoeists and kayakers passing by us that inquired if we were catching anything. This continued on for about the first three hours of the float. With about fifteen total fish to the boat, we anchored up for lunch and dad had yet to bring one in though he had missed a few strikes. Wanting to deliver as perfect a fishing day as possible for my friend, the pressure was now on to defuse the situation a bit as Greg had grown a little quiet. I know he really loved watching his son have a great time but I also know he wanted a few fish too. Being the so-called expert in their eyes the pressure was sort of on me to deliver. As I

ate my sandwich, I suggested Greg try casting his jig out into a current seam that was about thirty feet out from where we were anchored up. He did so and finally it happened, a nice chunky thirteen inch smallmouth came over the side. I know the size for sure as Jack insisted I measure it wanting to be sure he still had the biggest fish caught. Grinning from ear to ear Greg sat back down and finished his sandwich as I congratulated him on breaking the ice while Jack was quick to point out it was smaller than most of his.

After finishing our lunch we began our drift down into a spot we call the Horse Farm Pool. Anchored near the top of the pool where there is still a pretty good current, Jack was quickly into another nice fish as he loudly proclaimed number six and that he was only three away from Mr. Rando and five more than dad. It was then that I first realized what his fishing technique was. He would simply cast the Senko out in the current, let it float straight down below him and he would simply leave it hanging up in the current jiggling it back every now and then until he either got bored and reeled it in or a fish took it. I'll be damned I thought, thinking there should be no way that technique should work that well but before I could blink an eye number seven was on its way in. As we floated through the slack water in the middle part of the pool, I put all of us on Senko's to see if the more conventional cast, splash and drop presentation would work. Greg and I fished that way and were able to connect regularly. Jack continued to use his downstream tactic but with the slower current it didn't product as often but I couldn't help notice that the two fish he did manage to hook were both larger than the ones Greg and I were hooking. He was pretty keen on that too asking me to measure them hoping to top his fifteen and one half inch best. I couldn't help remembering a quote I heard a mate on a party boat once say; "I'll take luck over skill any day of the week when it comes to fishing".

As the day continued on we hit a lull in the fishing action and Jack lost his interest in fishing for a bit. Greg continued to fish hard and slowly picked up fish switching back and forth between the Senko and the jig. It was now *he* that was intent on updating the score each time he connected. I found this reversal in interest to keep the fish count updated quite funny. When they were finally even Jack started to fish again and caught one more bass. Greg kept up and they were tied at ten bass each as we went into the last run of the day at the head of Cochection Pool. Greg managed another bass drifting through that last spot claiming a hard fought victory over young Jack as we pulled into the Damascus boat launch. Altogether we had boated thirty-seven bass, 1 chub and 1 rock bass which Jack proudly proclaimed as we unloaded the boat. I smiled as even though the fishing was only average by Delaware bass fishing standards it seemed the day was a big success for my friend. He and Jack clearly had a nice day which was the most important thing to me. Coincidentally I came up with same fish tally as Jack did. Not bad I thought, the kid has real potential. **MAR**

### **The Editor's Post**

I'm trying very hard to not simply jump off into the anti-drilling camp like an idealistic overzealous environmentalist might do avoiding the reality of the world in the process. Its clear that the energy issue will no doubt be one of the most serious matters that mankind will need to address in the not too distant future and that all available technologies must be looked into to create as many energy sources as possible. I get all that loud and clear. I also believe that the type of gas drilling being discussed in our home area *can* be done responsibly. My problem starts with the sober reality that I am convinced it *won't* be done responsibly. There are two simple words that drive me to this position; Corporate America. Some of my learned friends that I respect deeply who will be reading this have never worked for a company whether public or private. I have and still do including the company of all companies, Worldcom, the perpetrator of the largest accounting fraud in the history of corporate America. As we can only relate to things by bouncing them off our own life experiences I guess I am seriously handicapped in having any faith that a for profit company will not take every conceivable money saving shortcut it can to get the desired result; in this case an operational and profitable gas well nestled in the heart of God's country. This whole gas drilling revolution in our home area is still in its infancy and already you can see the trend developing. Drilling sites in Pennsylvania being suspended because the company didn't get a permit to draw water from a local stream. How does that happen? How does a company whose business it is to drill gas wells not know they need such a permit or worse yet know this but just don't do it. Could you picture yourself saying well, gee officer you mean I need a driver's license to drive this car? There have been reports of diesel and chemical spills in the news and the list goes on and on. But the one item that concerns me the most is the fact that apparently the hydro-fracturing fluids used in this drilling process are not a regulated substance and experts in this field have testified they contain chemicals known to be carcinogenic. At the moment I feel I don't know enough about the issue to fully lock down my opinion yet and must learn much more before I can, but I can say this: If we stand back and let this all happen without making sure its done properly than shame on us all.

## **Piscatorial Wit & Wisdom**

Give a man a fish and he has food for a day; teach him how to fish and you can get rid of him for the entire weekend.

~Zenna Schaffer

There will be days when the fishing is better than one's most optimistic forecast, others when it is far worse. Either is a gain over just staying home.

~Roderick Haig-Brown,  
*Fisherman's Spring*, 1951

Many men go fishing all of their lives without knowing that it is not fish they are after.

~Henry David Thoreau

...of all the liars among mankind, the fisherman is the most trustworthy.

~William Sherwood Fox, *Silken Lines and Silver Hooks*, 1954

**PO BOX 100  
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12760**

Fish hard and fish often - Sincerely Mark A. Rando

## **Fun Fishing Facts - Did you know that ...???**

- Eagle Claw is the only fishhook made in the U.S. The familiar curved point design was actually inspired by the talon of an eagle as per Drew McGill co-founder of the Wright and McGill Co. that created the Eagle Claw brand. Apparently Mr. McGill observed the penetrating power of an eagle's talon while fishing on the upper Colorado River and endeavored to design a hook with the same basic principles.

- The Edson Dark Tiger and Light Tiger bucktails were originated by William R. Edson of Portland, Maine in 1929. These flies were developed during the golden era of the Rangley Lakes region in Maine. They proved to be very popular patterns and were reported to bring many fine brook trout and landlocked salmon to the net. Mr. Edson sometimes replaced the jungle cock cheeks with thin gold metal ones for extra flash and weight. These patterns are still regularly fished today with the Edson Dark Tiger being particularly effective for large Brown Trout in the spring and fall.

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

