



Merrimack River Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited

President's Message

September 2009

Volume xviii, Issue I

Meetings/Speakers

2nd Tuesday of the Month—Sept—May

6:30pm –Fly Tying & Tips

7:30pm Meeting Starts

September 8, 2009
State of the Chapter
 Review of the MRVC-TU activities for 2009 and where we are headed in 2010

October 13th, 2009
Paul Susca of NH DES
 "New Hampshire Water Resources Primer"

November 10th, 2009
2009 Alaska Adventure
 MRVCTU Members

December 8th, 2009
Chapter Social
 Food, Raffles and Fun

It's official, as of July, 2009: TU qualifies for membership in AARP. The 50th anniversary celebration and national TU meeting recently ended in Traverse City, MI (near Grayling, where it all started). A group of sixteen original members has swollen to over 150,000, with about 400 chapters scattered across the country. As an historical aside, 2 among the group were Lon Adams, originator of the Adams dry fly (one of the most popular patterns to this day) and Fred Bear, founder of one of the best known archery manufacturers in the country. Burr Tupper represented us at Traverse City- we're looking forward to hearing his summary of the goings-on.

EXCITING NEWS! NH has been selected to host the 2010 TU national meeting. This is a very competitive process- NH Council had to go head to head with other TU councils to win this race. This decision is strong testimony to how NH is perceived by National in terms of cold water fishing opportunities, efforts to promote/execute conservation projects, committed state council and chapters as well as just beautiful venues for fishing throughout the state. Thanks to Dave Magnon, outgoing NH TU Chair, for his efforts in lobbying for NH to host the annual TU meeting. More details will follow as the agenda starts to take shape.

The board of directors has met monthly through the summer to start the planning process for 09/10. Basic strategy is to continue to do all of the good things that we have been doing, but to expand scope and participation in some programs. A good example is a chapter conservation project. The chapter has expended many volunteer hours in the past on a variety of activities that focus on the core TU credo: conserve, protect and restore cold water fisheries. There has been significant sentiment expressed in the past for defining a project specifically aimed at our home waters. I'm happy to report that the first step has been taken. We purchased 11 temperature monitors that automatically record water temp twice per day. Six units have been placed in the Piscataquog River and 5 in the Souhegan River.



Bill Cabral, Dave & Maria Merry and Jeff Lindberg serve up dinner at the Chapter

Game plan is to start by defining the scope of the problem re: elevated water temps. Follow-on phase will be to convert the data into an action plan for restoration/river improvement kinds of efforts and, ultimately, trout management recommendations. We view this as an on-going (multiyear) effort. This will be a good opportunity for members to get involved in a hands-on project that offers good prospects for tangible results close to home.

Just a couple short blasts: the chapter trip was enjoyed by a larger than average crowd this year despite erratic weather (over 40 campers; 50 for dinner). The unanimous consensus: David & Maria Merry can go into the catering business at any time and do very well. The dinner they planned and coordinated was superb and was one of the highlights of the weekend. Also, several chapter members participated as instructors in the TU trout camp for kids in Pittsburg this summer (Burr Tupper, Dave Magnon, Tom Jutras, Yvonne Nanasi-incoming Camp Director). WMUR ran a segment on Chronicle documenting the event. We expect to have a CD of this segment to share with the chapter.

First meeting of the new season is on Tuesday, Sept. 8th. Once again, we will present a summary of the state of the chapter, upcoming activities and plans for the coming year. Look forward to a big turn out.

Jeff



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NH Kid's TU Trout Camp-2009



This year's NH Kid's TU Trout Camp was held at Snowfield Cabins in Pittsburg from July 15th through July 19th. Every camper at Camp caught and released feisty trout and salmon in the Trophy Stretch of the Connecticut River, tied flies, learned casting techniques, identified bugs that make the river bountiful for fish and made a difference in preserving the local watershed. This year's 8 campers and 11 counselors planted 95 disease resistant elm trees along a fragile section of Pittsburg's Indian Stream river bank under the direction of Joe Norton, Project Coordinator for the TU Home Rivers Initiative, Upper Connecticut River. Diane Timmins, Fisheries Biologist at the NH Fish and Game Department, lead campers in a stream shocking exercise that stunned both campers and counselors as fish arose from unlikely spots in the Indian Stream riverbed.

On August 7th, WMUR TV's Chronicle program aired the segment featuring camp (DVD copies of the program can be obtained by emailing yln@comcast.net). WMUR Reporter, Cindy Jones, donned her waders and ventured into the river with the TV camera to catch the kids and counselors in action.

Over the past three years, the Great Bay TU Chapter has developed the NH Kids' Trout Camp program and recruited young men and women to participate in the camp as well as enlist the services of casting, fishing guide, fly tying and state agency conservation experts to volunteer their time to the camp. The enthusiastic feedback from participants is evidence of how the Great Bay Chapter volunteers have put their fishing and conservancy heart into this program. In 2010, the Great Bay Chapter is handing off coordination of the program to the State TU Council.

A critical part of continuing the success of Camp is for TU members to thank and support those who donated generously to make this year's camp a success which include LLBean, Tall Timber Lodge, Lopstick Cabins & Fly Shop, Mountain Road Fly (Tom Jutras), Blue Café.com, Albright Fishing Products, Snowfield Cabins and NH TU Chapters. Furthermore, many thanks are forthcoming to our camp volunteers: Wendy Nixon (food and meal coordinator) and her mom who made delicious lasagna, Sean Smith (outgoing camp director) and camp counselors; Mitch Kalter, Mark Seymour, Dave Magnon, Patrick Ard, Kevin Alliette, Burr Tupper, Tom Jutras, Wayne Steneck, and Yvonne Nanasi (incoming camp director).

Fly of the Month-Bob Morrison

The fly of the month for August is the grasshopper dry terrestrial; this is a good choice when it's windy since ladybugs, crane flies, small black crickets, #10 and 12, gray-brown sedge caddis flies, small blue-winged olives, very small blue-gray midges, and an enormous stone fly with a terrestrials often get blown into the streams. I'm currently catching brookies on a #6 orange-bodied Joe's Hopper. For larger flying hoppers I like Dave Whitlock's Dave's Hopper with an orange or yellow body. Other flies that I'm seeing and using currently are very large black flying ants and wasps, June beetles, Japanese beetles, five-inch wingspan and four-inch jointed antennae! Wow!



2010 TU National Meeting Will Be Held in New Hampshire - Burr Tupper



Art Neumann, one of the founders of TU was honored at the 50th Anniversary in Traverse City, MI. Art is 93 years old and still is an active conservationist and fisherman. The 50th anniversary also brought awards and recognition for the efforts of TU Chapters and the national organization, from the US Dept. of Interior, Casting for Recovery, the Boy Scouts and others.

At the TU 50th anniversary, it was announced that New Hampshire would be the site of 2010 Trout Unlimited annual meeting. This announcement was met with great enthusiasm from the membership, many who have not been to our state and look forward to fishing here and enjoying our scenic vistas. We will need a state wide effort from all of chapters to ensure that the meeting's success and lead the way for TU's next 50 years of growth. The dates are September 16-19, 2010 in Waterville Valley. If you are interested in serving on one of the committees (Conservation Tour, Hosted Fishing and Fund Raising) for the national meeting contact Burr Tupper or Dave Magnon.

Bill Tapply Remembrance by Dick Peterson

"Life as a Metaphor for Fly Fishing", is a title for one of the chapters in William G. Tapply's book entitled *Pocket Water*, one of nine books of essays on fly fishing by Tapply who died at his Hancock, New Hampshire home on July 28th this year. One perhaps would think the chapter title would be reversed, "Fly Fishing as a Metaphor for Life", but not for Tapply. His great passion in life was fly fishing.

Jim Norton introduced me to Tapply's books about 2 years ago, lending me his copy of the most recently published essay collection, *Trout Eyes* (April 2007). Since then Tapply's books have been my constant companion, on short trips, long trips, and for the half hour I can keep my eyes open prior to a night's sleep.

Tapply's books are full of his fly fishing experiences, from small wild trout streams in New England, to Montana and Idaho, to Patagonia and Belize. More importantly to me are the recounting of his life lessons learned from fly fishing, his relationship with his father, the famous Tap Tapply who wrote for "Field and Stream" for

35 years, and his relationships with his fishing partners, five of whom were practicing psychiatrists; talk about a challenge!

Tapply was quite opinionated about fly fishing equipment and procedures. Many of his essays mix in these opinions, others deal specifically with the subject. I'm really looking forward to the time I can test whether the solution to leader-shy trout will be (just) a longer leader of the size appropriate for the specific dry fly, or the down-sizing to thinner tippet. I hope you'll read his books to see which Tapply believed.

In addition to books on fly fishing and upland bird hunting, Tapply wrote over 25 mystery novels and textbooks on the writing craft. As a Professor of English and Creative Writing at Clark University in Worcester Tapply authored textbooks on the art of writing the "whodunit". Now that I've read and re-read most of his fishing books, I suspect his mystery novels will consume some of this winter's hours.

Stan Jodziewicz has met and talked with Tapply, a privilege that I never had. Realizing there may be only one more of his outdoor books in the system saddens me greatly. This was a man who seems to have lived life fully, and his 69 years seem much too short.

I hope those who have not read Bill Tapply's works on fly fishing and other subjects will choose to do so this winter.

Textbook Stipend

The winners of the Textbook Stipend for 2009 are:

Kate Piscopo, who graduated from Manchester West High School and is planning on studying Chemical and Environmental Engineering;

Daniel Earl who graduated from Nashua Christian Academy and is planning on studying Engineering.



Treasurer's Report-Burr Tupper

We will be starting a new season of activities for our chapter and I thought that it would be worthwhile for us to review where we collected money for our restoration and charitable programs and where we spent our funds during the last fiscal year. We currently have a total of \$14,180 in our checking account and CD. Our revenues last year came from the April Banquet at the Derryfield Country Club, December Social, Fly Fish New Hampshire Show at Pelham Rod and Gun Club and the monthly raffles. The cash out was for chapter expenses such as the Newsletter, chapter trip, banquet support, raffles, website and education/conservation programs. The banquet was a huge success both socially and financially. We supported the following programs financially;

- Kids fly fishing camp
- Casting for Recovery
- MRVTU Lets Go Fly Fishing Program
- Text book stipend
- Project Healing Waters
- Piscataquog & Souhegan temperature data monitors

Temperature Monitors In Place for Conservation Projects



In August, Jerry Crow, Dick Peterson, Mike Croteau and Burr Tupper placed 11 temperature monitors into the Souhegan and Piscataquog Rivers. This was the beginning stages of a comprehensive conservation project that will be taking place in these two

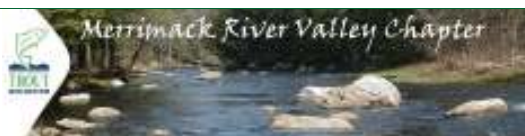
water bodies over the next several years. A detailed plan is in the process of being developed and will be made available to the membership on completion. It is our hope that this project will spark interest from the local conservations commissions, fish and game and local land trusts. *Contact one of us if you are interested in helping.*

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MEETINGS ARE HELD THE SECOND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH (SEPT-MAY) AT THE SWEENEY AMERICAN LEGION POST, 251 MAPLE STREET MANCHESTER NH. DIRECTIONS: ELM STREET TO VALLEY STREET TO MAPLE STREET (1ST LEFT

AFTER STADIUM)



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