



Merrimack River Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited

President's Message

March 2010

Volume xviii, Issue 7

Meetings/Speakers

2nd Tuesday of the Month—Sept—May

Doors Open at 6:30pm

7:30pm Meeting Starts

March 9, 2010

**John Magee
Fish Habitat Biologist,
NH Fish and Game,
The Nash Stream Restoration Project .**

April 13, 2010

**Bill Thompson
North Country Angler
North Conway, NH
Trout Fishing on the
Eastern Slopes of the
White Mountains
Area of New Hampshire;
home Waters of the Saco & Ellis Rivers**

May 11, 2010

**Charlie Shadan, owner
of the Evening Sun Fly
Shop, Pepperell, MA.
Video "You Don't Need
A Tee Time to Fish"**

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Stop the presses: I just received a call from Greg Ponte, the TU Embrace-A-Stream (EAS) rep for New England. MRV TU is being awarded a \$7,000 grant from TU national for the Souhegan River/ Milford dam removal feasibility study. TU had a large number of EAS applicants this year, but only one-half the funds that they've had in the recent past. There were only 2 grants awarded in New England; the other grant is in the amount of \$3,000. My view: we made out well with EAS, and I believe that this will be a great long term conservation project for MRV TU.

It's hard to believe that we are staring at March already, with spring being right around the corner. Days are getting distinctly longer, which brings feelings of great hope to many people. As they say: spring is the time when a young man's fancy (and the fancy of many of the rest of us) turns to stalking trout (or something like that, I can't remember all of the details).

We have some really good events coming up. Most important on the horizon is the conservation banquet, scheduled for Saturday, April 24, 2010 at the Derryfield Country Club. We have been very aggressive this year in terms of allocating funds to a multitude of activities that are squarely focused on core TU objectives. The chapter is rightly proud of these decisions. We have the opportunity to bolster (read restore) our checking account balance with the banquet. This has been our biggest fund-raising event for the last couple of years. We are looking for solid attendance to make this event a success. Please promote the banquet to your friends/family members/acquaintances. It's a great night out at a reasonable price- plus it supports TU. Additionally, we are still looking to add to the pool of prizes that will be raffled and/or auctioned at the banquet. We are again pushing our strategy to include a broad range of prizes - not just fishing stuff- that can appeal to all attendees. Please consider hitting up local merchants, craftsmen, service providers, friends, etc. for donations of prizes. Lastly, buy and sell many grand raffle tickets. All efforts are appreciated.

Next: be sure to plan to attend Fly Fish New Hampshire at Pelham Fish and Game, Saturday and Sunday, March 6 & 7, 2010. If you've been before, you know that it is a high quality event. If you haven't been before, it's a great show at the best time of the year to get you excited for the upcoming spring season.

Thx for all that everyone does for TU- Jeff

Mark your Calendars! Our Conservation Banquet 2010 will be held at the Derryfield Country Club April 24 —get your tickets now and enjoy a wonderful evening of great food, fantastic raffles and pleasant company!

Tickets are \$30.00 per person and can be purchased up to one week prior to the event. Make checks payable to Merrimack River Valley TU

Mail To: Burr Tupper/ Banquet Tickets, 47 River Road, New Boston, NH 03070

You can also purchase tickets at our next chapter meeting.

Chapter Camping Trip 2010 — Coleman State Park

We just want to remind anyone interested in signing up for our Annual Chapter Trip to Coleman State Park on Little Diamond Pond that half the sites are booked already, so sign up soon, and don't miss out on a great weekend of fishing, food, and fun. If you've made other arrangements for lodging make sure you get on the list for the BBQ dinner on Saturday night. This is the highlight of the weekend when Dave Merry and his crew put out a meal that can't be missed. We've reserved 15 sites for June 24, 25, & 26 and the cost is \$90 per site for 3 nights of camping. The Chapter Dinner will be

held on Saturday, June 26th and the cost will be \$15 per person. Remember the dinner is open to all members and guests whether you're staying at the campground or have other accommodations. Based on the positive responses from last year's event we're expecting another good size group, so reserve your spot soon.

To reserve a spot for camping and/or dinner contact Ron Hamel @ RMHamel@comcast.net or (978) 835-8857. Checks should be made out to MRV-TU and sent to Burr Tupper, 47 River Road, New Boston, NH 03070.

The 8th Annual Fly Fish New Hampshire Show March 6-7, 2010

On Saturday and Sunday March 6 and 7, 2010 The Merrimack River Valley Chapter is co-sponsoring **The Eighth Annual FLY FISH NEW HAMPSHIRE SHOW** with the Pelham Fish & Game Club in Pelham NH.

This is a great show to visit with interesting vendors, presentations and hourly raffles. It is New Hampshire's only Fly Fishing Show!

The show will highlight regional and national fly fishing experts with continuous seminars and demonstrations.

If you are interested in learning to build your own rod there will be a rod building class at 9:00 am on Saturday with Cote's Fly Shop, \$140 covers the cost of materials and bench needed to build your own fly rod. Pre-registration is required for this class. Please call 508-892-3765.

Many exhibitors will be on hand to whet your appetite for the coming fishing season.

For more information about the show please call Ron Piemer at, 603-716-6284, or email him at

mrtunews@comcast.net

Trout Unlimited NE Regional Meeting April 24, 2010

All members of TU are invited to attend a regional meeting from 8:30 – 4:00 on April 24, 2010 at Doyle Conservation Center, 464 Abbott Ave Leominster, MA 01453. The preliminary agenda follows:

1. Conservation easements
2. Water bottling problems
3. Small mirco-hydro dams
4. Youth camps and youth ed and TIC
5. Marcellus Shield gas extraction and impact on cold water fisheries
6. Annual Meeting Update

This meeting is on the same day as our Conservation Banquet, so learn all about the NE Regional TU initiatives and have a fantastic time telling everyone about them at the banquet that evening!

Free Fly Fishing Classes—limited space still available

Classes for the *Let's Go Fishing-Fly Fishing* classes 2010, are filling up fast, but Manchester classes may still have a few seats left. To register for a class in Manchester click on the link provided.

Manchester NH Public Library - Thursdays April 8, 15, 22, 29 [Click to access registration](#)

Casting Day for all classes will be at Lake Massabesic in Manchester on Saturday, May 1 from 9am-11am.

Grand Raffle 2010 — Ron Hamel

Our Grand Raffle has gone well so far, but we've been at a standstill since the initial flurry of activity. There are a number of activities and events in the upcoming months, and we need everyone's help in trying to ratchet up the level of ticket sales. Everyone will be coming out of "hibernation" as the excitement starts to build toward spring fishing season. The Grand Raffle is one of our major fundraisers and we're almost 1/3 of the way toward our goal of \$6,000. The good news is we're still ahead of last's year pace; we want to get our second wind and start the momentum rolling again. To everyone that has sent in their donations, we thank you for your efforts and donations. If you haven't had the chance to mail in your donations, please mail them in as soon as you can or turn them in at our next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 9th. Returns from your Grand Raffle ticket sales can be mailed with the self addressed return envelope you received with the tickets. Proceeds and donations should be returned in the form of a check made out to MRVTU and sent to Burr Tupper, 47 River Road, New Boston, NH 03070.

Here is the list again of this year's prizes:

- Two Nights Lodging for Two People with Meals at Tall Timber Lodge, in Pittsburg, NH. This is a great venue to enjoy the Great North Woods as you'll see if you visit their website at www.TallTimber.com.
- Another great prize is a Custom Built Winston Boron IIT, 3 weight, 7'6" Fly Rod with an Abel reel. If you haven't seen this outfit yet, it is a true work of art built by our own Dave Merry.
- Finally, a \$200 Gift Certificate for Stone River Outfitters. You can go to their website at www.StoneRiverOutfitters.com and make out your shopping list!

Tickets donations are \$2 each or 3 for \$5 and we've asked each member to sell 3 books (9 tickets). The winners will be drawn at the Annual Conservation Banquet on April 24, 2010, and winners need not be present to claim a prize.

We can also use volunteers to sell tickets at the Fly Fish New Hampshire Show on March 6 & 7, or March 20 at the Country Pond Fish & Game Club Fly Fishing Expo in Newton, NH. Contact Ron Hamel at (978) 835-8857 or e-mail him at RMHamel@comcast.net for more information.

Kid's Trout Camp—Registrations due April 15, 2010

Applications should include the following information:

Applicant's name, date of birth, sex, parent/guardian name, mailing address, telephone number and email.

Application must include:

1. a typed essay (at least 250 words) explaining why you would like to attend the camp and what you expect to gain from it (aspects of conservation/ fishing);
2. A recommendation letter(s) from your school councilor, science teacher, or Trout Unlimited chapter signed with their addresses and contact information (phone/email);

Send these documents to NH Kids Trout Camp, Yvonne Nanasi , 41 Briar Rd., Bedford, NH 03110

For more information contact Yvonne Nanasi, Camp Director at yin@comcast.net or (603) 472-3247

TROUT UNLIMITED
MERRIMACK RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER
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New Boston, NH 03070

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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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www.merrimacktu.org

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