

Merrimack River Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited



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President's Message

On October 17 the NH Fish and Game department held their biennial hearing to accept input from sportsmen. The information submitted by our chapter can be found on our website, on the page where our monthly newsletters are posted. www.merrimacktu.org/Newsletter.htm Here is a brief summary:

We suggested special attention be paid to enforcement (signage, regulations and an improved process to report violators); requested increased support for collecting data on wild brook trout to enable better fishery management decisions; encouraged implementation of a stocking program that complies with the Coldwater Fishery plan and improve fishing in "Quality Trout" waters; offered support for expanding the Wild Trout program; and support for expanding Quality Trout fishing opportunities. If any of these issues strike a chord with you, read the letter we sent voicing these concerns to Fish and Game. If you have ideas about these or other related issues or if you have ideas about potential changes to fishing regulations, call or email me or any board member to discuss.

At the October meeting our speaker Dianne Timmins gave a presentation about didymo alga and about her efforts to document wild brook trout movement via radio telemetry tracking. What a great presentation! This is exactly the kind of speaker that represents what TU is all about. The effort that Dianne made to drive a long distance to attend our meeting, the value of the information she gave us and her enthusiasm and professionalism were impressive. Too bad there weren't more members that would come out to hear her speak. If you didn't attend the meeting, you missed a good opportunity to learn some important information first-hand.

I hope you have been able to get out and enjoy the late season fishing that we have been having.

Tight Lines,
Gerry

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EDITORS NOTE: IF YOU
HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS OR
COMMENTS ON THE
NEWSLETTER SEND THEM TO:
weissmarym@hotmail.com

SPEAKERS AND EVENTS



Tuesday, November 13th, 2007 @ 7:00pm

Trout Grass Movie Presentation-Winner of Jackson Hole Film Festival & Toronto Film Festival

Take a bamboo rods inspirational journey of creation from a stalk of cane in the forest of China to a fly-fishing work of art. A must have for any cane rod enthusiast! Free Popcorn!



Tuesday, November 13th, 2007 @ 6:30pm-7:00pm

Golden Demon-Fly Pattern

Tom Jutras of Mountain Road Fly Shop will demonstrate how to tie the Golden Demon. See the enclosed fly pattern sheet.

Tuesday, December 11th, 2007 @ 7:00pm

Merrimack River Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited Annual Festive Social
Food, Prizes and Great Company!!!

Treasurer's Report: Stan Jodziewicz

The Chapter's Treasury as of October 30, 2007 is as follows:

Checking -	\$ 10,366.51
CD -	<u>5,228.52</u>
	\$ 15,595.03

The Board of Directors has set this year's budget and a copy is available at every meeting. This year's is very ambitious and forward thinking. We need everyone to pitch in with our projects, support our raffles, attend the Fly Fish New Hampshire Show and enjoy the Fund Raiser Banquet in April.

April Fund Raiser Banquet

Plans for the Fund Raiser in April are proceeding. The Banquet will be held at The Derryfield Country Club in Manchester. If you have not been there, the facilities are first rate, the food is great and the parking is abundant. The price is going to be \$25.00 a person and we are hoping that everyone will bring their spouse, friends, neighbors, partners, whoever. The raffle items promise to be the best in years, with items for all, not just fishers. The date has not yet been set but will be soon.



We are asking all members to contribute, and participate. If you or your business has a product or service to offer or you have a craft you would be willing to contribute, please contact a committee member. It does not have to be fishing related. Better yet, join the committee and help make this year's banquet the best yet. Committee members are Dave Magnon at davemagnon@yahoo.com, Tom Spencer at tlspencer_22@msn.com, Burr Tupper at burt@hotmail.com, Jeff Lindberg at jlindb595@gmail.com and Stan Jodziewicz at sjodz@verizon.net. All donations are tax deductible.



NH TU COUNCIL NEWS by Dave Magnon, NH TU Council

On September 13 through the 15th Trout Unlimited held its Annual Meeting in Boise, Idaho. Paul Doscher and I traveled together, arriving a few days early to take advantage of hosted fishing trips on the Big Lost, Big Wood and Boise Rivers, as well as the penultimate dry-fly spring creek venue at Silver Creek. The scenery was spectacular, despite the recent forest fires, from the sage covered slopes of Ketchum and Sun Valley to the high desert waters of the Middle Branch Boise and Owyhee Rivers. Many wild rainbows and a few browns were hooked and landed. On our last evening in the “Big Country” we drove up through the Sawtooth Range during a memorable sunset, passed through the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness, and dined on the shores of the high mountain Redfish Lake in a vintage log building lodge.

On Thursday, the 14th, we participated in a Conservation Tour with about a hundred or so other members attending the meeting. We were able to view a number of stream bank restorations demonstrating the positive effects of working closely with private landowners, and were able to participate in planting cottonwood shoots in the newly re-mediated riparian zone on an important channel reach of Elk Creek in the mountain town of Idaho City.

A number of important items of concern to our New Hampshire Chapters resulted from the meeting. First, it was determined that TU’s Stream Access Policy, as presented in 2006, should remain intact, noting that prior to engaging in any Stream Access activity, local Chapters should contact their state NLC representative for review of specific details to determine what level of involvement is appropriate and within the mission parameters of Trout Unlimited. As of October 1, 2007, Tim McDaniel of the Monadnock Chapter has assumed the NLC duties for New Hampshire. He replaces Paul Doscher, who was elected by the general membership as a GRASSROOTS TRUSTEE. That second important result of the meeting allows Paul to work for the benefit of all the New England states, particularly in northern areas such as New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine in conjunction with Jan Allardt, our other regional Trustee who operates out of Greenwich, Connecticut.

Additionally, I participated in two sessions of meetings with other state Council Chairs. That group voted to recommend to the national Strategic Planning Committee that the role of all NLC representatives be clarified to include a responsibility on their part to report results of committees to Council Chairs on a monthly update basis. Also, we voted to request that five (5) new Grassroots Trustees be added nationally, and that the duties and responsibilities of both Grassroots and At-Large Trustees be defined clearly. Finally, a resolution was brought forward to have at least one (1) Council Chair from each region be included on the Embrace-A-Stream selection Committee, in an effort to streamline and improve that particular grant’s selection process. National staffers Dave Rogers and Duncan Blair were in attendance at those meetings.

In another important development, I was recently informed that National has received an NRCS grant to fund the position of Project Coordinator for the Upper Connecticut River Home Rivers Initiative. There are only ten other water bodies in the US designated as Trout Unlimited Home Rivers, so this program is nationally highly visible, and should be of great benefit to the states of New Hampshire and Vermont. This undertaking will focus on TU’s newly restructured National Conservation Plan to unify localized efforts on the four-point model to Protect, Reconnect, Restore and Sustain watersheds. That process reflects the TU MISSION to conserve, protect and restore coldwater fisheries, and gives substance to the TU VISION that by the next generation we ensure that robust populations of native and wild coldwater fish thrive within their

historical ranges. If anyone is interested in leading that project, Elizabeth Maclin, TU's Eastern Conservation Director is accepting resumes for that paid staff job. Her e-mail address is EMaclin@tu.org.

The Nash Stream restoration project is proceeding this fall with the replacement of a road-crossing culvert at the location of Farrar Brook, one of the more productive brook trout tributaries. Dianne Timmins and John Magee of NH F&G continue with their PIT tagging studies and biomass research to help Jim MacCartney, TU's River Restoration Specialist, focus his efforts based on actual research.

As a final note, I'd like to report that I participated in an Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Collaborative Focus meeting at the Fish and Game Department on Tuesday, October 23. Initiated by Matt Carpenter, the purpose of the meeting was to identify the focus areas of the state's various conservation organizations to help the state develop a work activity strategy that makes the best use of cooperative efforts working toward the goals outlined in the NH Conservation Plan as it concerns brook trout restoration efforts.

Representatives from The Nature Conservancy, the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, the NH Audubon Society, the Department of Environmental Services, the Trust for Public Lands, the Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge, Fish and Game's coldwater biology team and the TU Council were present. Each group is providing a GIS formatted map of their respective project areas to facilitate the production of an overlay map as a planning tool.

William G. Tapply's book review by Jim Norton

Like a lot of fly fishing anglers I like to read books related to fishing and areas I've been or hope to travel to. I'd read a few of William G. Tapply books; "Those Hours Spent Outdoors – reflections on Hunting and Fishing" and "Opening Day and other Neuroses". I was aware he wrote mystery novels but it wasn't until Carl MacConnell lent us a few of Tapply's books from the Brady Coyne's series about a Boston lawyer that occasionally fly fishes that I got hooked on them. Since then I've read all the Brady Coyne series, another series based on Brady Coyne and J.W. Jackson an ex detective living on Martha's Vineyard authored by Philip G. Craig and Tapply. That led to reading J. W. Jackson series and then a few books in a new series by Tapply about a Maine guide, Stoney Calhoun.



When we decided to read the rest of the books in the Coyne series it took a little work, many of the books are out of print. Libraries have a great exchange series; we were able to get quite a few. The rest we acquired from used book stores locally and online. We tried to read the books in the sequence they were written. Although the plots and characters are not overly complex they make for enjoyable reading. The latest book in each series were definitely the best. Tapply lives in Hancock NH; one of the advantages of reading books based on the area is the familiarity of the surroundings. Although many of the locations are fictional it's easy to equate locations of where they might be.

If you like mysteries the series are well worth reading. If not pick up a copy of "Trout Eyes True Tales of Adventure, Travel and Fly Fishing. Tapply's father wrote for Field and Stream, some may remember "Tap" Tapply. Growing up with a parent who is an outdoorsman doesn't necessarily equate to skill levels, attitude and appreciation being passed on and developed. In William Tapply's case they were. In the mystery series you get to know the characters, the same is true reading Tapply's non fiction series, you get to know the author. For a complete list of books and more about William Tapply visit www.williamgtapply.com



Items of Interest

Tom Jutras, Mountain Road Fly Shop, Raymond, NH,

a long time MRVC TU member, recently sent me the Mountain Road Fly Shop Fall Newsletter, available on-line www.mountainroadfly.com, and there are a couple potential items of interest to our members. An upcoming rod building class will be scheduled after the holidays. If you are interested, please email Tom at Tightloop9@aol.com or call 603-895-3500

December 6th, 2007 “Ladies Night”

for all the ladies who love to fly fish (or would like to fly fish) to meet at the shop for a night of fish stories and good food. I would encourage all you male anglers to tell your mother, sister, wife, female friend or girlfriend about this event. There will be raffle items and door prizes for the ladies that attend. Stay tuned to www.mountainroadfly.com for developing details.

Fly Fishing Equipment

I was recently contacted by a former TU Member, who is no longer able to actively fly fish. He has some great used equipment for sale and if you are interested, contact Jerry at 1-603-912-5316.

“The Complete Angler” by Issac Walton, Printed 1869, 35th Edition - \$100,

Gold Marryat Reel, 4/5 Wt, line included, 2 spare spools and cases - \$180,

Sage Large Abor Reel, 8 Wt., with line and case - \$300,

Sage LL Light Line Rod, 4 Wt, 2 piece with rod case - \$250,

Winston-Extra Distance, 8 Wt, 2 piece with rod case - \$300.



Questions for our MRVC Trout Unlimited Members?

1. Would you be interested in attending a Fly-Tying Class at Sweeney American Legion Post, Manchester, NH? (Possible 6-week class, one night per week)
2. Would you be interested in taking a one-day CPR Certification Course-Sponsored by MRVCTU?

Contribute to the Newsletter and get a free TU Patch, Bumper Sticker or Decal

Read a good book on fishing lately?

Have a new fly pattern to share?

Have some pictures of your recent fishing trip?

Feel passionate about a cold-water conservation effort?



We encourage all our members to contribute to our Newsletter. If you have an idea for an article, book review, fly pattern or topic, please email to weissmarym@hotmail.com and receive your choice of a Trout Unlimited Patch, Bumper Sticker or Decal!



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~ Visit our Web site! ~

<http://www.merrimacktu.org>

Meeting Schedules, Pictures and Articles about Adopt-a-biologist program, Stream Restoration Projects, Chapter Outings, Fly Patterns, and a “Links Page” with links to interesting web sites

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)

November Meeting - Tuesday, November 13th, 2007

7:30pm Trout Grass Movie Presentation-Winner of Jackson Hole Film Festival & Toronto Film Festival

6:30pm Fly Tying demonstration: The Golden Demon Streamer by Tom Jutras

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