

# Merrimack River Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited



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## President's Message

When we consider threats to native brook trout in New Hampshire, we often think of invasive species, such as bass; urbanization that brings pollution from roads, parking lots and fertilizers; and global climate change that threatens to warm waters beyond a sustainable temperature range. These are all threats to our native trout, but one of the biggest threats is dams.

When I ask people how many dams they think are in New Hampshire, I get answers that range from a dozen to a couple hundred. The real answer is more than 4,800. That is not a typo. Almost five thousand dams are barriers to fish movement and slow the current flow that keeps water cool and aerated. Dams create millponds that cover potential spawning, rearing and feeding habitat for trout. When Horace Greeley advised "Go West young man, go West" the farms and villages they left had sawmills, gristmills, tanneries, cooperage, and textile mills, all of which used water power from the local brook, stream or river. Technology, such as steam power and electricity, caused additional dams to become obsolete.

Unfortunately, most of those dams are still in place. Add to that problem hydro dams that are still functioning, but act as major barriers to fish movement and thermal pollution and you get a huge problem impacting brook trout, Atlantic salmon, river herring, shad, sturgeon, and American eels. This problem is not going to be solved overnight, but it is important enough to require some focus and effort from TU.

One of the behind-the-scenes roles I have been playing for a number of years is representing our TU chapter on the NH River Restoration Task Force, along with reps from many other organizations. We meet quarterly to muster forces around dam removal in NH. Two of the dams that are slated for removal within the next year are the Merrimack Village Dam near the mouth of the Souhegan River and Maxwell Pond dam on Black Brook in Manchester. Send an email to me or Jeff Lindberg if you want to help. I'll keep you posted on other initiatives.

Gerry

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EDITORS NOTE: IF YOU  
HAVE ANY  
SUGGESTIONS OR  
COMMENTS ON THE  
NEWSLETTER SEND  
THEM TO:

[weissmarym@hotmail.com](mailto:weissmarym@hotmail.com)



**Tuesday, February 13th, 2008 @ 6:30pm**  
 Maxima Emerger by Gerry Crow  
 Tied by Jim Norton

**Tuesday, February 12th, 2008 @ 7pm-Fishing for Stripers and Blues**

Charlie Crue – Channel Edge Charters  
 Fishing in-shore New Hampshire and Massachusetts waters for stripers and blues

**Tuesday, March 11th, 2008 @ 7:00pm**

Jack Noon – Brook Trout Perspectives – Historical NH and Today  
 6:30pm Fly Tying demonstration

**Annual Conservation Banquet - Saturday, April 26**

The Conservation Banquet will take place on Saturday, April 26 at the Derryfield Country Club in Manchester from 6:30 to 10:30. There is a full buffet menu:



**Cheese and Fruit    Scallops in bacon    Phyllo Triangles    Tempura Chicken**  
**Asparagus Cheddar Bisque    Seasonal Greens    German Potato Salad**  
**Grilled Beef    Chicken New England    Stuffed Haddock**  
**Potatoes    Rice    Vegetables    Assorted Pastries**  
**Coffee    Cash Bar**

The tickets are \$25.00 a person and will be sold up to one week prior to the event. Tickets at the door will cost \$40.00. The prizes list is growing including rods, trips, local gift certificates, jewelry and signed first edition books. Bring your family, friends, bring your neighbors. Get your tickets today or buy them at the next Chapter meeting.

***2008 ANNUAL CONSERVATION BANQUET ORDER FORM***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of Tickets X \$25.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

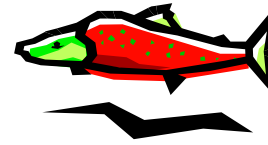
\_\_\_\_\_ Hold Tickets at Door      \_\_\_\_\_ Please Mail

**Make Checks Payable to: MERRIMACK RIVER VALLEY TU**

Mail To: Stan Jodziewicz/ Banquet Tickets  
 33 Beverly Drive  
 Manchester, NH 03104

## **Adopt-A-Salmon**

As you read this the latest batch of salmon eggs are safely resting in the rocks at the bottom of the aquariums. The eggs were delivered last week and placed in the tanks. The students are now checking the temperatures daily and watching for the first salmon to hatch. Once they hatch our volunteers will be busy changing water once a week and keeping tabs on things.



Tom Jutras heads up the Raymond effort while Real Fallu and Stan Jodziewicz are working with Goffstown. The Chapter provides volunteers, the chiller units, aquariums and field trip money to make this learning possible. If you would like to join in, attend a meeting and just ask.



## **Merrimack River Valley Chapter-TU Textbook Scholarship**

The MRV-TU Textbook Scholarship is a \$500.00 textbook scholarship awarded to a high school senior who will be attending a college or university during the 2008 – 2009 academic year as a full-time or part-time student. The scholarship is not paid to the student but is deposited in the student's name with the college or university's bookstore. The scholarship pays for textbooks only. Up to two grants will be awarded.

### **Eligibility**

1. The student must be enrolled full-time as a high school senior.
2. The student must plan to enter college in the fall of 2008.
3. The student should be planning to study in the environmental sciences.
4. Must have a minimum high school GPA of 2.5 .
5. Must live in the area covered by the MRV-TU.
6. Must demonstrate successful completion of their first semester of college by sending transcript to address given.

The scholarship is available to current seniors in high schools within the Chapter's designated area. Students applying must be attending a college or university in the 2008 – 2009 academic year. The student must also successfully complete the first semester of their freshman year.

Merrimack River Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited does not discriminate based on race or gender.

### **Requirements**

- The student must submit a 300-500 word essay on the given topic
- Complete the application form
- Submit two letters of recommendation from high school instructors, one should be from a science instructor
- Submit a high school transcript
- Submit first semester college transcript to address given

## **Treasurer's Report:**

The Chapter's Treasury as of January 31, 2008 is as follows:

Checking -	\$ 11,148.66
CD -	<u>5,316.99</u>
	\$ 16,465.65

## **New England Regional Meeting – May 3<sup>rd</sup> 9 AM - 4PM:**

(All TU members and state agencies are welcome to attend).

### **DOYLE CONSERVATION CENTER**

**464 Abbott Avenue  
Leominster, MA 01453  
978-840-4446 x1901**



*Doors open at 8AM for coffee and etc.*

### **New England Meeting Agenda:**

- 1. Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture (EBTJV)**
  - a. Nat Gillespie- CIS and GIS. Demonstration and hands on workshop.
  - b. Bryan Moore – Funding (grants), and the new Service Learning Program in the EBTJV.
  
- 2. Legislative Action – Kirt Mayland**
  - a. How councils can position themselves on water policy items, and other conservation issues.
  - b. What TU can and cannot do.
  - c. A dry run on legislative action. How councils can set up the legislative coordinators and key council leaders to best respond
  - c. Council Legislative Committees – coordinating and supporting Kirt's work.
  
- 3. Youth Education:**
  - a. Greg Ponte -Youth Camps – what is needed to set one up.
  - b. Bryan Moore - Tie in with the EBTJV's new Service Learning Program.
  - c. TIC –
  
- 4. Strategic planning for New England – open discussion.**
  - Review of NE Meetings 2004 To 2008
  - Understanding each council's objective
  - What does New England leadership see the Brook Trout program looking like in the Northeast in five years, and building to that vision.
    - i. Laying out the road map for a successful regional campaign.
    - ii. Discussion of key regional items; water policy and the brook trout campaign. Overlapping the items.
    - iii. CIS overlap with Brook Trout, and other key chapter initiatives (TIC/Youth). Plot them on the map.
    - iv. Targeting the projects for success, and connecting the projects and the states for recognition beyond TU. Building momentum for brook trout.

We will keep the meeting very focused, thus allowing more workshop and discussion time.

Please RSVP: To NHTU State Council Chair (Dave Magnon), and cc to Jan Allardt at [Jcfa\\_mayfly@hotmail.com](mailto:Jcfa_mayfly@hotmail.com)

*(RSVP gives us a head count for lunch, and beverages. Please state serious food allergies, i.e. peanuts, etc).*



# Survive and Thrive

## Prevention and Treatment of Common Outdoor Emergencies

Presented by  
Travis Weiss  
EMT-I/WEMT/SARTECH

Our January speaker was Travis Weiss and he did an outstanding session on wilderness safety. Our TU Members really enjoyed his presentation and even learned a few things. As I promised I have included 'The Ten or More Essentials' that are recommended when venturing into the wild, even for an afternoon of fishing!

## The Ten or More Essentials

1. Map
2. Compass (optionally supplemented with a GPS receiver)
3. Sunglasses and sunscreen
4. Extra food and water
5. Extra clothes
6. Headlamp/flashlight
7. First aid kit
8. Lighter or fire starter (magnesium)
9. Matches
10. Knife

MORE: Way to make or heat water. Insect repellent. Fishing rod. Positive attitude. Sense-of-humor. Will to survive. Reading glasses

Larger groups: add a sleeping bag, a 10'x10' waterproof tarp, and an extra piece of clothing per person.

**Additional Factoids from Travis's presentation!**

## Wilderness Rescue

- Carry the ten essentials EVERY time you are more than a ½ hour from a road/car or more than 1 hour from definitive care
- It takes a minimum of 12 people to carry one person for a mile
- Time: it will take 1-4 hours per mile for a carry
- Factor in the following: time to go for help, time for help to assemble, time for help to get to you, and time for extraction
- Make sure you tell someone where you are going and stick with it
- Get the weather forecast, and watch the sky. The weatherman has been known to lie...
- Watch out for the repeating last cast illness...

*Unfortunately, this gets to be uncommon. A lot of experienced people get in trouble every year. They usually make several small mistakes that lead to horrible consequences*

**BOOK REVIEW by Jim Norton**

**STILL LIFE with BROOK TROUT by John Gierach**



I've read several of John's books and will probably read the rest of them. Some books I give away after I've read them but Gierach's are in one of the bookcases scattered around the house. When it's rocking chair time maybe I'll read them again. John writes for several publications including Fly Rod & Reel, which is one of the reasons I subscribe to the magazine. Fly fishing represents a small community; fortunately there have been a lot of good writers. Some have only written one or two books; John has written at least fifteen books making him one of the more published authors.

Many fly fishing writers have or have had occupations or sources of income other than relying solely on writing about fly fishing. As authors some have written novels and others have run the gamut from guiding to being a judge. All have shared the passion for fly fishing. After numerous jobs while getting started writing, John has been able to parlay writing about fly fishing into a lifelong endeavor. **STILL LIFE with BROOK TROUT** has a few chapters about brook trout along with landlocked salmon, browns, rainbows and bass, not unlike John's other books. I like to read authors books in the sequence they were written. With John's books that covers a good part of his adult life and like many of us the realization that a lot of sand has passed through the hourglass.

Here are a few excerpts from the book you may relate to.

*'I still reel with my casting hand because when I took up the sport, virtually all American and English reels came right handed and that's just the way it was done. I'll have happily bought another vest just like the old one, but the thing was over twenty years old and you can't get them anymore because the company no longer exists. My guess is they went broke making a product that people needed only one of. I can't be sure if I'm recalling my actual childhood, or subconsciously rerunning old episodes of Leave it to Beaver.'*

*'That night we sat around my little propane lantern under the rain fly and talked, as four fishing friends will do. It was the latest installment in a conversation that's been going on since about 1975, but beyond that I couldn't tell you much of what was said.'*

John's travels still include hiking into remote canyons, camping in a tent and driving the same sixteen year old pickup. He gave up Atlantic salmon fishing for steelhead and a spey rod; less expensive and something he could drive to.

**Volunteers Needed!! NH FLY FISHING SHOW (2/29-3/2/08)**

This show is co-sponsored by our chapter and the Pelham Fish and Game Club. It is held at the Pelham Club's facility in Pelham NH. This is the only exclusive fly-fishing show in NH and the only show dedicated to fly fishing in the immediate area as the Wilmington (Shriners) show is no longer held. This show is an annual event and is a major fund raising activity for the chapter. The show features a large number of vendors of equipment, trips, and other items/activities related to fly-fishing. In addition,



there are seminars every hour by local “experts” covering a variety of fly-fishing techniques, tips and locales. Chapter members who assist are given free admission, sell raffle tickets, take admission at the door, assist with the show’s “logistics, and serve food. In addition, there is plenty of time to walk around and view all the shows activities. We need volunteers to assist in the afternoon of Fri 2/29 (set up) and both the am & pm shifts on sat/sun (3/1-2)

If you would like to help, please send an email to [mrtunews@comcast.net](mailto:mrtunews@comcast.net), or call Ron at 603-714-4135 (see the enclosed NH Fly Fish Flier)



### **FREE - Learn to Fly Fish Classes**

We had 60 people at three locations attend the classes last year. More intermediates attended along with beginners to learn about knots, insect identification, strategies, fishing locations and intro to fly tying. More information about the next series of classes to be held in March and April 2008 is on the chapter website <http://www.merrimacktu.org/Learn-to-FF/LGFF-2008.htm>.

### **FREE - Learn to Tie Flies Class**

We are conducting a one-day class on how to tie flies. The free class will be held March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at the Nashua Public library. Although attendance is free, advance registration is required to assure availability of class materials. For more information or to register go to the Nashua Public Library website <http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=NASHUA>

### **Input to NH Fish and Game Biennial Hearing**

Our Newsletter page has a link to the document we submitted to NH Fish and Game for suggested improvements. <http://www.merrimacktu.org/NL/MRVTU-biennial-hearing-2007.pdf>



# Merrimack River Valley Chapter

## **CHAPTER OFFICERS**

**MEETINGS ARE HELD THE SECOND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH (SEPT-MAY) AT**

President	Gerry Crow	<a href="mailto:gerrycrow@charter.net">gerrycrow@charter.net</a>	603-889-5611
Past-President	Carl MacConnell	<a href="mailto:Tyer3@juno.com">Tyer3@juno.com</a>	603-666-3985
Vice-President	Mac Duhaime	<a href="mailto:mduhaimehome@yahoo.com">mduhaimehome@yahoo.com</a>	603-622-1144
Secretary	David Merry	<a href="mailto:Mmerry62002@msn.com">Mmerry62002@msn.com</a>	603-624-8272
Treasurer	Stan Jodziewicz	<a href="mailto:sdjodz@verizon.net">sdjodz@verizon.net</a>	603-624-1073
Directors	Burr Tupper	<a href="mailto:burr@hotmail.com">burr@hotmail.com</a>	603-487-5498
	Ron Peimer	<a href="mailto:flytyr@hotmail.com">flytyr@hotmail.com</a>	603-714-4135
	Jeff Lindberg	<a href="mailto:jlindb595@gmail.com">jlindb595@gmail.com</a>	603-595-7544
	Tom Spencer	<a href="mailto:tlspencer_22@msn.com">tlspencer_22@msn.com</a>	603-673-2028
	David Magnon	<a href="mailto:davemagnon@yahoo.com">davemagnon@yahoo.com</a>	603-661-9862
Director/Newsletter Editor	Mary Weiss	<a href="mailto:weissmarym@hotmail.com">weissmarym@hotmail.com</a>	603-487-5498

**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)**

**Tuesday, February 12th, 2008 @ 7:00pm**

Charlie Crue – Channel Edge Charters, Fishing in-shore New Hampshire and Massachusetts waters for stripers and blues.

**6:30pm Fly Tying demonstration** Maxima Emerger

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Chapter Trout Unlimited  
Stanley Jodziewicz  
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Manchester, NH 03104-2841

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