

Merrimack River Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited

Volume xiv Issue 3

NOVEMBER 2005

President's Message

Many of you probably received the Wildlife Journal from NH Fish and Game this month. It consisted of a report of activities of Fish and Game from July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2005. I found it to be very interesting, but also somewhat alarming.

NH Fish and Game has really blossomed under the solid leadership of Executive Director Lee Perry. Many of the activities reported intersect with the mission and activities of TU. Recognition of volunteer contributions was prominent and was personified by a picture of our own Don McGinley – way to go Don. Habitat improvement and dam removal were also highlighted and the contributions of TU were noted in a number of places.

Some problem areas include finances, where receipts were down about \$1 million. Fish and Game receives no funding from general tax revenues, and is a major contributor to state tourism revenues. License sales are down and attention and resources are being spread thin with more and more demands on scarce resources. We can expect to hear more about this funding crisis in the next few months.

You will find another communiqué from NH fish and Game published in our newsletter this month. It has to do a biennial request for inputs. A hearing will be held November 16 at Fish and Game HQ. This is an opportunity to let Fish and Game know what you are thinking about regulations, management policies, etc. I hope you are able to attend. The chapter board of directors has prepared input to this process. You can review the input on our chapter web site and send your comments, questions and suggestions to me.

I hope to see you at the chapter meeting November 8.

Tight Lines,
Gerry

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EDITORS NOTE: IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS OR COMMENTS ON THE NEWSLETTER SEND THEM TO: MRTUNEWS@COMCAST.NET

THANKS

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NEWSLETTER

MRTUNEWS@COMCAST.NET

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS: IMPORTANT NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

We are attempting to save the money normally spent for postage and printing of the monthly newsletter for more useful purposes. Therefore, the newsletter will NOT be mailed out (hard copy) each month. You will receive a hard copy only 4 times this year (Sept, Dec, March, and May). All other issues will be available ONLY ELECTRONICALLY. You can obtain the electronic copy one of two ways:

1. Download from our web site: www.merrimacktu.org
2. Email copy sent directly to your computer each month

If you would like an email copy, your email MUST be registered with TU. We use the TU listing of members to generate the monthly mailing, but ONLY you can register with TU. It only takes about 2 minutes to sign up. In addition, if you have previously registered with TU, please check your email to insure that it is correct. The newsletter will be received by you only if your CURRENT email is valid. We know that a number of members have a changed email address (i.e. att changed to Comcast, etc) so please be sure we have your CORRECT email listed.

To either register with TU, or check your email address do the following

1. Go to: www.tu.org
2. Look at bottom of main page for "TU Members Log IN"
3. Click "Go Here" (first time logging in) (You need to click first time logging in even if you have registered before)
4. Follow simple instructions to log in. If you don't know your member number, call the toll free number listed on the page (customer service)
5. Make any changes/additions to your email address
6. You are done. If you have any problems, email me (Ron Peimer) mrtunews@comcast.net

REMINDER: All meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at the Sweeny American Legion Post Lodge in Manchester. Meeting Timeline:

- 6:30 pm Fly Tying
- 7:30 pm Chapter Business
- 7:45pm Speaker

We have a very good speaker schedule coming up and think you will find the topics very interesting

NOV MEETING TUES 11/8

SPEAKER: MARLA BLAIR

TOPIC: Fly-Fishing for Huge Brook Trout and Northern Pike in Labrador, Canada

Since 1993 has owned and operated Marla Blair's Fly Fishing Guide Service & Instruction

Top female, freshwater, Fly-Fishing Guide/Instructor for Western Mass. and North Western, CT.

FFF Certified Casting Instructor

Subject of many articles and a TV commercial

Filming completed for "The New Fly Fisher" TV show's,

For 2003-08 seasons, on, OLN, PBS, & Discovery

Writes for Internet newspaper, MassLive.com,

Woods & Waters USA, and more

Member of: FFF (Federation of Fly Fishers)

IWFF (International Women Fly Fishers) - Board Member

Pioneer Valley Chapter TU - Program Director

Farmington River Angler's Association

Quabbin Fishermen's Association

DECEMBER MEETING TUES 12/13

NO SPEAKER (PLATTER AND PRIZES MEETING)

We are changing our traditional December "pot luck" dinner and eliminating the need for members to bring/cook food for the event. Instead, we will have a number of deli, vegetable, and sandwich platters along with soft drinks. In addition the "bar is open" at the lodge and members are welcome to purchase adult beverages.

This is also a great opportunity to stock up on Holiday Gifts for that special fly fisher on your list! In addition to the book sale mentioned below, we will also have numerous bucket raffles, door prizes, and similar give a ways for all attending.

We will also have the traditional Yankee 3-fly gift swap. Bring 3 flies gift-wrapped, get a ticket for the gift drawing, and when your number is called select a package of flies.

There will be a small fee of \$5 to attend the December get together. Members are encouraged to bring family, friends, and other non-members for the social event of the season.

DECEMBER 2005 MRV TU BOOK SALE

Perhaps you've cleaned your gear, sorted out the 2005 equipment catalogues, and are preparing for the winter hobby season ahead. If you have fly fishing books or instructional casting or fly-tying videos are taking up space on your bookshelf and could use a new home, why not donate them to the MRV TU Chapter for re-sale to members at our December 13th meeting?

It's a great opportunity to stock up for winter reading at bargain basement prices, while contributing to the TU mission. Please send a list of any books you would care to donate to the local chapter to David Merry at mmerry62002@msn.com - please provide title, author, date of publishing, and indicate if hard or soft cover. Or just bring them with you to the meeting on 13 December – the sale starts at 7pm. And remember - all sale proceeds go to MRV TU.!

JANUARY MEETING TUES 1/10

SPEAKER: TOM AMES OF LEBANON, NH

Tom is a well known photographer, entomologist, and author whose books include *The Hatch Guide for New England Steams* and the recently published *Fishbugs*. *Fly Fisherman Magazine* has described the Hatch Guide as "the most useful and informative book for eastern fly fishers since Art Flick's *Streamside Guide* in 1947. Tom will be presenting examples of his renowned stream side photography and discussing the interrelationships between the insects, fisheries, and habitat in New England.

Tom will be bringing copies of his books for purchase/signing.

FISH AND GAME TO HOLD BIENNIAL PUBLIC HEARINGS

CONCORD, N.H. - The public has a chance to offer input on any aspect of New Hampshire Fish and Game Department operations at two upcoming biennial hearings. The first session will be November 16 at 6:30 p.m. at Fish and Game headquarters on Hazen Drive in Concord; the second hearing will be held on December 12 at 6:30 p.m. at Fish and Game's Region 1 Office on Route 3 (629B Main Street) in Lancaster.

"The biennial hearings give hunters, anglers and others who care about wildlife in New Hampshire a chance to come and speak their minds," said Lee E. Perry, Executive Director of Fish and Game. "We welcome the public to come talk with their Fish and Game Department."

The hearings are held in odd-numbered years to provide the public with an opportunity to make comments on, and suggest changes to, fishing and hunting rules, wildlife management strategies and other Fish and Game functions. Members of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Commission, Executive Director Perry and other Fish and Game staff will be present at the hearings to answer questions.

Those who are unable to attend the hearings may send written comments or suggestions by January 12, 2006, to: comments@wildlife.state.nh.us (please put "biennial hearings" in subject line); or Executive Director, N.H. Fish and Game Department, 11 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03301; or fax (603) 271-1438.

The New Hampshire Fish and Game Department is the guardian of the state's fish, wildlife and marine resources and their habitats. Visit <http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us>.

As noted above, this is **YOUR** chance to impact NH F&G directly. Please either attend the hearings, or send your comments via email. To review the chapter input prepared by the Board of Directors and provide feedback, go to <http://www.merrimacktu.org/F&Ginput.htm>.

UPCOMING CHAPTER ACTIVITIES:

Merrimack Valley TU and the Pelham Fish and Game Club are sponsoring the 3rd annual Fly Fishing New Hampshire Show at the Pelham Club on March 4th and 5th in 2006.

The chapter will also have a “table” at the following shows:

Rockingham Fishing & Hunting Show at Rockingham Park in January 6, 7&8

Wilmington Fly Fishing Show at the Shriners Auditorium in Wilmington MA on March 10-12 in 2006.

We are looking for volunteers to “man” the TU booths at all these shows. Volunteers get in free, have plenty of time to peruse the exhibits, and get to eat the exciting food!!

We will be asking for volunteers in upcoming issues, but if you have an interest, send an email to: mrtunews@comcast.net

SWEENEY AMERICAN LEGION POST

251 MAPLE STREET MANCHESTER NH DIRECTIONS: ELM STREET TO VALLEY STREET TO MAPLE STREET (1ST LEFT AFTER STADIUM)

~ 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

