

President's Corner

Tony Ballato

For our **December meeting (Dec. 13 at Miry Brook firehouse)** we'll have a number of items for members to take home which were donated by Hank Vreeland, a TU member for many years. For a nominal donation to the chapter we'll have 100s of magazines from Flyfishing, Fly Fisherman, Flytying, American Angler, Pennsylvania Angler, etc. In addition, we have a very large amount of fly tying material also available for whatever donation you wish to make to the chapter. Please join us for the meeting, the presentation and the fun!

In early January, we'll be participating in the Flyfishing University Show held at the Western Conn. Univ. campus in Danbury. We'll be looking for volunteers to man our booth for the 3 day show. A sign-up sheet will be at the meeting. At the very least, if you can't sign up for a couple of hours helping in th booth, get to th show and attend some of the great breakout sessions and visit th many fly tyers, and lodge owners who attend. Great bargains are always available for tying material, flies, reels - you name it. Plus, it's just at the right time of the year! Details at the meeting!

Our annual Banquet will be held on March 24, at the Stony Hill Inn in Bethel. We are starting to collect material for our auctions and raffles. Please consider making a donation or contacting a business or shop to contribute some goods or services. We have a lot of non-fishing spouses that attend our Banquet and they are always looking for non-fishing related items. More on this at the meeting.

We'll also discuss our follow-on Embrace a Stream funding request which we plan to submit this December to TU national, for continuation of our work on Deep Brook.

Also, we'll briefly discuss our plans for some fishing trips next year. Please come out and join us for our meeting on 12/13 ! Get in the spirit !!

November 8 Meeting

We had a good meeting, lots of project progress discussion. Efforts on building local groups interested in water and habitat preservation on the Pootatuck and Deep Brook have developed a new Pootatuck Watershed Association which is holding organizing meetings.

We began to prepare for the January 6-7-8 Fly Fishing University show in Danbury. We will have a booth with lots of pictures and illustrations of our project works. Also began preparing for the banquet and for a beginner fly fishing course in the spring.

A master fly tier, Rob Lewis of Rob's Realistic Flies, demonstrated how to tie his caddis pupa and stonefly patterns. These are great imitations — but we're not sure we'll be able to travel on planes with them without getting held up convincing inspectors they aren't real !

We need some active volunteers in the area of meeting set up and trips coordination. Let us know if you have an interest in these areas and want to help out.

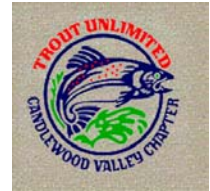
Connetqout Trip—2005

"You should'a been there, too !!"





Trout Lines



Volume 11, Issue 3
December 1, 2005

SPEAKER'S FORUM

Jerry Rekart

Our December presenter is Mr. Dick Harris, Director, HarborWatch/RiverWatch. Our experiences on Deep Brook and the Pootatuck have familiarized us with habitat reconstruction, invertebrates, oil spills and shocking fish along with many other stream management problems and projects. HW/RW's interest lays more in non-point pollution; industrial, residential, farm, septic, and other runoffs that damage our waterways.

Harbor Watch / River Watch (HW/RW) is a water quality monitoring effort that is actively engaged in the scientific monitoring of local estuaries and watersheds in lower Fairfield County. Earthplace lies geographically within the ecologically important Long Island Sound (LIS) watershed.

In conjunction with Earthplace staff members, volunteers collect dissolved oxygen data in shallow water harbors using field equipment such as dissolved oxygen meters, conductivity meters and pH meters. This information is used to construct oxygen profiles of harbors and document hypoxic (low oxygen tensions) events which may occur during the warm summer months. Data that is collected and processed is supplied to the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (CT DEP) to aid in their study of hypoxic events in LIS. Volunteers also actively participate in catch-and-release research efforts on benthic (bottom dwelling) marine juvenile fish in local near-shore estuaries of LIS. Data from this effort is also supplied to the CT DEP Fisheries Division.

Data on nutrient concentrations, bacteria and aquatic insect populations are gathered in freshwater watershed areas. HW/RW data analysis is conducted in the Earthplace Water Quality Research Lab. This is a fully equipped research lab with fecal coliform count, nutrient analysis, and larval fish and insect identification/count

capabilities. State and federally approved Quality Control / Quality Assurance (QA/QC) protocols are in place and the lab has Environmental Laboratory certification from the State of CT Department of Health.

Each month HW/RW compiles a water quality report on data collected at 10 established water-sampling sites. Thanks to the [Norwalk River Watershed Association](http://www.norwalkriver.org/waterreadings.htm) (NRWA), these reports are available at www.norwalkriver.org/waterreadings.htm. The reports contain information on indicator bacteria levels, dissolved oxygen conditions, and conductivity. The headwaters of the Norwalk River Watershed are in Ridgefield and its terminus is the Norwalk Harbor.

Dick's presentation is informative and educational as well as enjoyable, so plan to join us at the December meeting. More information at www.earthplace.com

Why we're doing all this:



Photo: Steve Zakur



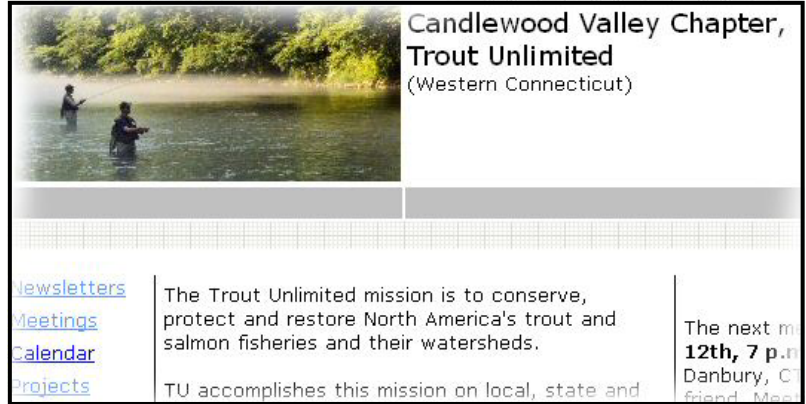
Trout Lines



Volume 11, Issue 3
December 1, 2005

CVTU has a new presence on the web **Steve Zakur**

Two months ago, we created a new home on the web for the Candlewood Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited. This website includes all the content that we had on the old site but prepares us for an expanded role on the web. The site is fairly basic at this point but we're open to suggestions about where to go from here.



So what's different from the prior site? First, we have our own domain now – www.cvtu.org. Not only does this make it easy for someone to find us on the web but having our own hosted domain allows us lots of flexibility in putting up content. No advertisements. No limitations on how many pages we have. All the information we need to support our chapter.

There are two primary reasons to have a web site. The first is to communicate with our membership. To that end you'll find meeting information, reports of events and the monthly newsletter posted on the site. I'll be updating the site as often as possible to keep members abreast of what's happening and what's coming up.

We will post newsletters on our website for access by all. We'll also continue to send our newsletter monthly to chapter members by email (and to members without an email address in the TU national data base for a few months to see if this increases member interest and participation). The newsletter contains the most in depth information on chapter activities, official announcements regarding chapter business and, of course, good articles like those we've seen in the past.

The other reason to have a web site is to publicize our good works. The site can serve as a place where we highlight events like the bank restoration efforts that we're undertaking on Deep Brook, the macroinvertebrate study and our participation in Casting for Recovery. The website serves as a reference resource for members and non-members alike.

The "Home Waters" section was recently added to the site. The purpose of this section is to give a brief overview of the waters that are the primary waters near the chapter's members. I've started this section with Deep Brook, the Housatonic River and the Farmington River as those are the water with which I'm most familiar. Please review those entries and feel free to add new ones. You can email me your additions at the email address below.

In order to make our site meet your needs I'd like to hear from you with your thoughts about what else you'd like to see online. Feel free to send me an [email](mailto:webmaster@cvtu.org). If there are pictures or reports that you'd like to include on the site you can send those to the same address: webmaster@cvtu.org.



Candlewood Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited



Trout Lines

Volume 11, Issue 3
December 1, 2005

**We're getting good press for our projects.
Here's an article from the News-Times**

Group aims to protect Pootatuck River

November 10, 2005

The News-Times (CT)

By Robert Gold

NEWTOWN –James Belden believes the Pootatuck River is a town treasure. The local conservationist knows he's not alone. The river and its tributaries cut through the heart of Newtown. People can often be found fishing, hiking and walking their dogs along the more than 20 miles of stream.

"We have an opportunity to protect this wonderful resource, before it gets out of hand, before we lose it," said Belden, vice president of the Candlewood Lake chapter of the national conservation group Trout Unlimited. Belden's words are not meant for just the river system. There is an underground water supply just as important to Newtown, he said. He estimates the Pootatuck aquifer supplies drinking water to about half of Newtown's residents. The Pootatuck Club, Newtown Forest Association, Trout Unlimited, town officials and several other groups are creating a new non-profit group to help protect the aquifer and river.

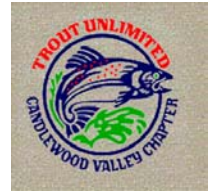
"There are an awful lot of people with an interest in protecting it," Newtown First Selectman Herb Rosenthal said about the water system. The effort became possible when Newtown bought the Fairfield Hills property last year. The state reduced its buying price by \$200,000, so the Pootatuck Club could start programs to protect the aquifer. The club's officials decided to team up with other conservationists and start a permanent group to educate people about the water system.

"The whole point of this is to have it ongoing," said Michael Osborne, president of the Pootatuck Club, a fishing and conservationist group that owns about 400 acres of land along the aquifer. The aquifer holds drinkable water roughly 60 to 200 feet beneath the surface, Belden said. "Everybody who is worried about their drinking water should be worried about what we are doing," Belden said. That's because with increasing development in town, the threat to the river and aquifer grows, he said.

Building development often leads to pesticides, fertilizers and cleaning products emptying directly into the river. "When you put water directly into a stream, it does not have a chance to be filtered by the ground like it usually is," Belden said. The river's wildlife also is affected. The tributary Deep Brook is one of only eight Class A trout management streams in Connecticut, which means there is a "viable" wild trout population. "Trout have been here (in Deep Brook) for thousands of years," Belden said.

While the group is still a few months away from gaining non-profit status, it expects to have several functions. They include educating the public through school and town programs about pollution, water runoff and the importance of the river system and researching how much underground water is being used and how much is actually available.

Pat Barkman, who leads nature hikes throughout Newtown and helped build Al's Trails, a hiking system through Newtown, said she's eager to help out. A local artist, she often finds inspiration in the river for her pastel and water color paintings. But to her, the river is more than just pretty scenery. "Water is the most important (resource) next to air," she said.



Project Notes James Belden

After high water we have been able to see the bank restoration projects do what they were intended to do. With pools being scoured out and banks stabilized we are seeing a process where good trout spawning and holding habitat is being re-created at both the Deep Brook and Pootatuck restoration sites.

The results of the October macroinvertebrate training and sampling project are being tabulated and put into a report we will be submitting to the EPA and Town of Newtown. Another sampling will be conducted in Spring '06.



Seining Pootatuck Bugs
“Holy Smoke, what’s that ugly thing ?”



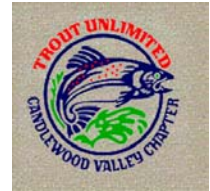
Cataloguing Bugs Found
“Watch it, that Stonefly will eat them all !”

The Chapter will be submitting another application to TU's Embrace-A-Stream grant program. This matching grant program was utilized last year, after a successful application effort, for the recently completed Deep Brook bank project and the informational kiosk at Commerce Rd. The projects we are applying for will allow us to conduct stream bank restoration and riparian buffer improvement on the entire lower section of Deep Brook along the CT Agriculture Dept.'s farm fields. We also plan to construct another kiosk/sign post at the lower end of the WTMA on the Pootatuck where we built the bog bridge last spring.

The new watershed association the chapter is helping to organize will be called the Pootatuck Watershed Association and is about to be incorporated as a non-profit, membership based organization. It will be a diverse group working to the entire Pootatuck watershed, its underlying aquifers, wildlife habitat and public recreational resources.



Trout Lines



Volume 11, Issue 3
December 1, 2005

CVTU Calendar - Jerry Rekart

2005/2006 EVENT CALENDER					
DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCALE	INFORMATION
Dec. 13	Tues.	7:00 PM	CVTU Monthly Meeting	Miry Brook Fire House	Dick Harris - River Watch
Jan. 6,7,8	F,S,S	see website	FFU - World of Fly Fishing V	O'Neill Ctr - WESTCON	www.flyfishingu.net
Jan. 10	Tues.	7:00 PM	CVTU Monthly Meeting	Miry Brook Fire House	Whit Carter - Rapid River, ME
Feb. 14	Tues.	7:00 PM	CVTU Monthly Meeting	Miry Brook Fire House	Peterson - Fishing NM,AZ,UT
Mar. 14	Tues.	7:00 PM	CVTU Monthly Meeting	Miry Brook Fire House	Michael Beauchene, Ct. DEP
Mar. 24	Fri.	7:00 PM	Banquet	Stony Hill Inn	Belden & Ballato
Apr. 11	Tues.	7:00 PM	CVTU Monthly Meeting	Miry Brook Fire House	Ballato - Fishing N. Quebec
Apr.	TBA	TBA	Public Casting Clinic	Danb. F&G	
May. 9	Tues.	7:00 PM	CVTU Monthly Meeting	Miry Brook Fire House	Skills Clinic - Casting & tying
TRIPS for 2006 - Tentative					
May	Tentative		Catskill Trip - Roscoe, NY		
June	Tentative		Cape Cod Trip		
May	Tentative		Pennsylvania		
July	Tentative		Ausable		
July	Tentative		Rapid River		
These are trips groups of our members try to make each year only if a sufficient number of members are interested.					
Let Jerry Rekart or other Board members know if you have interest so we can begin to build trip lists.					
					Jerry Rekart 11.21.05

Newsletter Distribution

The Board has decided to run an experiment to see if receipt of the newsletter encourages members to join in our activities We will mail hard copy to all current members of the Chapter for a few months and see if we get more active interest in our meetings and project activities — It's more fun when more members gather !
I will continue to email to the list of members with email addresses in the TU national data base, please let me know if you don't need a hardcopy newsletter — our dues don't cover the cost of production and mailing.

Web Links to Visit, a selection:

For our CVTU home site (has copies of newsletters, lots of web links):
<http://www.cvtu.org>

Fly fishing in Maine information:
<http://www.flyfishinginmaine.com/>

All around fishing information, tutorials, covers many areas with links to conditions, etc.:
<http://www.flyfishingconnection.com/>

Patterns, tactics, rod-building, lots more:
<http://www.flyfisherman.com/>

Thames Valley TU chapter web site:
<http://www.thamesvalleytu.org/>



For Sale Section

We will list items for sale. Listings are free to members of CVTU and for a small fee for non-members. This is a good chance to re-allocate some of the space taken up by unused equipment ! Please send me (Tony Mortimer) any listings and I'll get them in the next newsletter.

Lamson Reels and spools:

Robert DuPlessis: I have some Lamson # 3 Fly reels for sale. I purchased them some time ago and only used them a couple of times. There are two reels with a total of five spools - all are the same size and hold line weights 5, 6 and 7 with plenty of backing - (ed: I have pictures from Robert, if you want to see them). They will also accommodate an 8 weight line with less backing. They are high quality disk drag reels with a finish that can be used in either salt or fresh water. They also come with their corduroy pull string pouches. The asking price is \$300.00 for all. I really don't want to split them up. Please call me with any questions - (203) 746-2798

Advertisers Section

We will list an advertiser for \$50 a year (which will provide at least 8 monthly listings). We will need text listings (pictures or business cards take up too much data space for many of our email members to download and



The **Dry Fly Gallery** is a custom picture framing studio located in Ridgefield Connecticut specializing in shadow box framing of Art, Photos and Flies for the Fly Fishing enthusiast. To schedule an appointment please call **Taylor Hay** at (203) 431-1878. www.dryflygallery.com

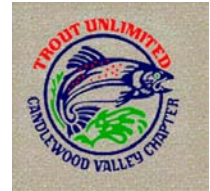
Capt. Paul Koopmann of **Salty Flies Charters** (Orvis endorsed fly fishing guide with 25 years experience fishing Long Island Sound) who has a Custom 23' boat out of Rowayton, CT 203-561-9683 (email: captkoop@saltyflies.com)

The Board has been holding our meetings at Stevens Diner in Newtown over the last couple years and found them to be cheerful, efficient hosts and their food to be excellent. We encourage chapter members to visit and enjoy, as well.

Steven's Diner & Restaurant
43 South Main Street
Newtown, CT 06470
203-426-6328

English Angling Trappings at Angler's Den
11 East Main St.
Pawling, NY 12564
Located in the Historic Village of Pawling

845-855-5812 WWW.Anglers-Den.com
Info@Anglers-Den.com



Trout Lines

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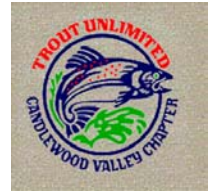
Connecticut Government Contacts Jerry Rekart

Governor	M. Jodi Rell	210 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106		800-406-1527
Bethel	Sen. Dist. 24	David Cappiello	David.Cappiello@cga.ct.gov	860-240-0474
	Sen. Dist. 26	Judith G. Freedman	Judeth.G.Freedman@cga.ct.gov	860-240-8826
	House Dist. 2	Hank Bielawa	Hank.Bielawa@housegop.state.ct.us	860-240-8700
	House Dist. 107	David Scribner	David.Scribner@housegop.state.ct.us	860-240-0207
Bridgewater	Sen. Dist. 32	Louis C. DeLuca	Louis.DeLuca@cga.ct.us	860-240-8800
	House Dist. 69	Arthur O'Neill	Arthur.Oneill@housegop.state.ct.us	800-842-1423
Brookfield	Sen. Dist. 30	Andrew Roraback	Andre.Roraback@cga.ct.gov	800-842-1421
	House Dist. 107	David Scribner	David.Scribner@housegop.state.ct.us	860-240-0207
Danbury	Sen. Dist. 24	David Cappiello	David.Cappiello@cga.ct.gov	860-240-0474
	House Dist.2	Hank Bielawa	Hank.Bielawa@housegop.state.ct.us	860-240-8700
	House Dist.109	Lewis J. Wallace Jr.	Lew.Wallace@cga.ct.gov	860-240-0550
	House Dist.110	Bob Godfrey	Bob.Godfrey@cga.ct.gov	860-240-8500
New Fairfield	House Dist.138	Janice Giegler	Janice.Giegler@housegop.state.ct.us	860-240-8700
	Sen. Dist. 24	David Cappiello	David.Cappiello@cga.ct.gov	860-240-0474
	House Dist.108	Mary Ann Carson	Maryann.Carson@housegop.state.ct.us	800-842-1423
	House Dist.138	Janice Giegler	Janice.Giegler@housegop.state.ct.us	860-240-8700
New Milford	Sen. Dist. 30	Andrew Roraback	Andre.Roraback@cga.ct.gov	800-842-1421
	House Dist. 67	Clark J. Chapin	Clark.Chapin@housegop.state.ct.us	800-842-1423
	House Dist.108	Mary Ann Carson	Maryann.Carson@housegop.state.ct.us	800-842-1423
Newtown	Sen. Dist. 28	John McKinney	John.Mckinney@cga.ct.gov	860-842-8805
	House Dist. 106	Julia Wasserman	Julia.Wasserman@housegop.state.ct.us	800-842-1423
	House Dist. 112	DebraLee Hovey	DebraLee.Hovey@housegop.state.ct.us	860-240-8700
Ridgefield	Sen. Dist. 26	Judith G. Freedman	Judeth.G.Freedman@cga.ct.gov	860-240-8826
	House Dist. 111	John H. Frey	John.Frey@housegop.state.ct.us	800-842-1423
Sherman	Sen. Dist. 24	David Cappiello	David.Cappiello@cga.ct.gov	860-240-0474
	House Dist.108	Mary Ann Carson	Maryann.Carson@housegop.state.ct.us	800-842-1423



Candlewood Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Trout Lines



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Our chapter meetings are held September through May on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Miry Brook firehouse in Danbury

Visit our web site for copies of recent newsletters, trout fishing links and more: <http://www.cvtu.org>



Candlewood Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited — Board of Directors

Tony Ballato 203-740-8636	President Tony.ballato@cvtu.org	Tony Mortimer 203-438-0877	Communications/Newsletter Editor Tony.mortimer@cvtu.org
James Belden 203-426-6039	Vice President/Deep Brook James.belden@cvtu.org	Joe Hovious 203-270-1960	Conservation Chair joe.hovious@cvtu.org
Len Carrescia 203-431-4436	Treasurer Len.carrescia@cvtu.org	Open (let us know if you have interest in serving here)	Trips Chair
Jerry Rekart 203-775-2764	Program Chair Jerry.Rekart@cvtu.org	Open (Volunteer needed)	Meeting Setup
Chuck Rich 203-952-4408	Membership b757chuck-1@yahoo.com		
Doug Peterson	Grants and Government Affairs Doug.peterson@cvtu.org		



**Candlewood Valley
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Trout Unlimited**

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Volume 11, Issue 3
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