

# Trout Lines



## President's Corner James Belden

Trout Unlimited is a volunteer organization largely consisting of people that truly believe that a world without enough clean and plentiful water for wild trout to survive is a world that we need to change. Our volunteer's work, along with National TU staff, represent a significant force in this effort.

During this week's Oath of Office ceremony in Newtown where I was sworn in for public office, along with several other newly elected public officials, I thought of the gravity of the responsibilities one takes on when representing a community. And when I say community I don't just mean people but a world that is impacted by everything we do. As with even the smallest endeavor we know that we only get out what we put in, so for a better tomorrow we serve today.

We all have responsibilities and as adults we learn how to balance them, and while we achieve our personal goals in the overall pursuit of happiness, we do so within a framework. This stage upon which we all operate is held up by generations of institution, beliefs and proper governance. Those that serve are responsible to the entire community, while we are all obliged to serve in some capacity in doing our part to keep the system going.

*"Service is the rent we pay for being. It is the very purpose of life and not something you do in your spare time."* - Marion Wright Edelman

There are several people I have come to know since becoming involved with TU that have dedicated so much to our efforts, while having some fun along the way of course. It is, to me, one of the most rewarding and directly impactful efforts one could be involved in. I believe it will be clear to our children if they have public lands and clean trout streams to fish in that is was largely because of TU's efforts. The handful of people that continue this tradition within our chapter need to be joined by a few more. Our organization accomplishes good on so many levels, which can only be sustained by volunteer effort, from youth education to environmental policy and on the ground restoration work. WE NEED YOUR HELP, PLEASE VOLUNTEER. Projects and officer positions are currently available opportunities.

A **reminder**, the Annual Banquet is scheduled for March 14, 2008 at Stony Hill Inn at 6:30 PM. We need donations for auction/raffle items. A suggestion is to take one of those Holiday gifts you don't really need, like another Orvis gift certificate (but no ugly ties please), and donate it to the effort. Just let any Officer, listed in the newsletter, know about any donations or desire to volunteer. Thank you and Happy Holidays!

## Dec 11, 2007 Meeting Adam Taylor

Jim Krul, Executive Director of the Catskill Flyfishing Center and Museum will be making a presentation on some of the legendary figures of flyfishing. We'll also have a couple members tying flies prior to the meeting at 6:15 or so.

We look forward to seeing you all there – we'll share stories and experiences and maybe discuss Christmas gift ideas ! We will meet at the Miry Brook Firehouse south of the airport in Danbury at 6:30 PM.



## **TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM    Dec '07**

### **Jerry Rekart & Gary Whipple**

CVTU now has TIC in fourteen schools in our area. The schools are Ridgefield High School, Middle School and Academy, Rockwell School in Bethel, Reed MS and St. Rose in Newtown, two units at Danbury HS, Whisconier MS in Brookfield, two units at New Fairfield MS (one is Salmon in the Classroom), Wooster School in Danbury, Rumsey Hall and Washington Montessori in Washington, and Hotchkiss in Lakeville.

On Nov. 19, thanks to the help of Tony Ballato, James Belden, Bill Dunn, Tony Mortimer, Doug Peterson and Gary Whipple we were able to pick up the trout eggs at the Burlington CT Hatchery and have them all delivered to their respective schools by noon, not a bad feat when we picked them up at 9AM. It's great to have volunteers who pull together to get the job done.

As I said last month, the late distribution of eggs this year was because the DEP thought it would decrease the mortality rate if they were delivered late and then kept cold to hatch after Christmas break. Enter Murphy's Law!!!! I am writing this on Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> and all but two schools have checked in with a hatch, so much for that plan!

Barb Mancher and Rich Neeb at Reed School in Newtown invite you to enjoy their class website at [www.newtown.ct.us/teachers/tlesson.php?view=t&lid=328](http://www.newtown.ct.us/teachers/tlesson.php?view=t&lid=328). I know that is a cumbersome website, but it is worth the effort. The website records the trout year with narratives, comments and a bunch of pictures.

We have four mentors this year (one volunteer and three conscripts). Regardless of how you came to be a mentor, thank you for your time and interest.

If you have any questions or an interest in the program, call me at 775-2764. I really need someone with some New Milford academic roots! Don't forget to bring an inactive member to the meeting in December.



## CANDLEWOOD VALLEY TU FLY TYING CLASS



*This coming winter we will present our first entry level fly tying program. It will consist of six classes to be held in January and February. All classes will be held at Pete Peterson's home in Newtown. Presently, Wednesday, January 9<sup>th</sup> 2008 at 7:30 is being considered for the starting date.*

For the first class, the only thing you will need is writing material to take notes. It will be a detailed discussion of tools, equipment, and materials with a demonstration and participant exercise on thread handling and knots for which the needed equipment will be provided. For the remaining classes participants are expected to provide their own tools, equipment and materials. The Chapter will provide the hooks. In each successive class we will learn progressively more challenging flies and eventually cover bucktails, wet flies, nymphs, and dry flies (duns and spinners). In addition, we will discuss selected aquatic entomology as it pertains to fly tying and fishing.

These classes will be a fun and fruitful learning experience which will add a tremendous dimension to your fly-fishing enjoyment and success.

The fee for the course is \$100.00 payable to the Candlewood Valley Chapter - Trout Unlimited. This fee will be used to buy materials for the course, with any left over funds being donated to the chapter.

To register, or if you have any questions, please see Pete at a chapter meeting, call him at (203) 426-3004 or e-mail him at [cpeterson3004@charter.net](mailto:cpeterson3004@charter.net). Class size is limited, so sign up ASAP to guarantee a seat.

## **Pulaski, October 2007 – Be careful what you wish for Doug Peterson**

Fishing the Salmon River last year at 1750 cfs, Tony Ballato and Doug Peterson struggled with heavy water, rough wading, and restricted access during their three-day mid-October trip. Fishing was excellent, but a bit more exciting than two retired types would have preferred.

This year, joined by Jerry Rekart, they had no such problem. The water flow was a mere 100 cfs, providing access everywhere and making wading a much safer chore. But that's about all the good news. The lower fly fishing area was closed completely, and few fish made it up as far as the upper fly fishing area. Nature being what it is, this concentrated both the fish and the anglers downstream in Douglaston.

Long walks, low water, high temperatures, tired fish, and scores of (possibly snagging) anglers standing shoulder to shoulder around the few water-holding pools made for a less than sporting experience. One altercation over territory had to be put down by the Douglaston security crew.

Our three members did work to find the few runs with fresh fish and did hook up many times and land some, but the experience left a lot to be desired. Although the trip camaraderie was enjoyable as always, the fishing conditions were such that they cancelled a second planned trip.

(Note: Salmon River novices might benefit from seeing the river at this level as a learning guide for future trips.)





**CANDLEWOOD VALLEY  
CHAPTER  
TROUT UNLIMITED**



# **ANNUAL BANQUET**

**AUCTIONS, RAFFLE PRIZES  
FOOD, DRINK AND FUN FOR ALL!**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 2007**

**6:30pm**

**THE STONY HILL INN**

**Route 6, Bethel, CT**

**COST: \$40.00 PER PERSON**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE AT CHAPTER MEETINGS  
OR THE VALLEY ANGLER**

**OR**

**CALL James Belden at (203) 426-6039**

**(Email – [jbeldenflyfish@yahoo.com](mailto:jbeldenflyfish@yahoo.com))**

**(TICKETS IN ADVANCE ONLY, WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE DOOR)**





**CANDLEWOOD VALLEY  
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# **DONATIONS NEEDED!**

**RODS, REELS, FLYS, OUTDOOR GEAR,  
ARTWORK, GIFT CERTIFICATES,  
ELECTRONICS, TRIPS, BOOKS, ETC.**

**For Raffle Prizes and Auction Items at the  
Annual CVTU Chapter Banquet  
3/14/07, Stony Hill Inn, Bethel, CT**

**All Donations are Tax Deductible. All Funds raised go to  
support local and state TU Conservation Projects.**

**Donations accepted at Chapter meetings, by any member or  
the VALLEY ANGLER (56 PADANARAM RD., DANBURY) or call  
James Belden, (203) 426-6039 (email –  
jbeldenflyfish@yahoo.com)**

***Thank you for your support!***



## 2007/2008 CVTU EVENT CALENDAR

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCALE	INFORMATION
Sept. 11	Tues	1830	CVTU Monthly Meeting	Miry Brook Fire House, Danbury	Giant Brookies in Labrador
Sept. 11-12	T-W		Tree planting	E. Auspatuck River	Peterson - 775-0655
Sept. 11-12	T-F		Tree planting (rain date)	E. Auspatuck River	Peterson - 775-0655
Sept. 17	Mon.	830	TIC Teachers/Vokunteer Mtg.	CL&P Hq	Rekart - 775-2764
Sept 28-30	FSS		Ausable/Boquet Rivers	Hungry Trout Inn, Wilmington NY	Whipple - 746.5982
Oct. 9	Tues	1830	CVTU Monthly Meeting	Miry Brook Fire House, Danbury	
Oct. 20	Sat		Invertebrate Sampling	Deep Brook	Hovious - 270-1916
Nov. 1	Thurs		Connectquot River	Long Island, NY	Whipple - 746.5982
Nov. 10-11	SS		The Arts of the Angler Show	Ethen Allen Inn	Rekart - 775-2764
Nov. 13	Tues	1830	CVTU Monthly Meeting	Miry Brook Fire House, Danbury	
<b>Thurs                      THANKSGIVING DAY</b>					
Dec. 11	Tues	1830	CVTU Monthly Meeting	Miry Brook Fire House, Danbury	
<b>Dec. 25            Tues                      MERRY CHRISTMAS</b>					
<b>Jan. 1                Tues                      HAPPY NEW YEAR</b>					
Jan. 8	Tues	1830	CVTU Monthly Meeting	Miry Brook Fire House, Danbury	
Feb.12	Tues	1830	CVTU Monthly Meeting	Miry Brook Fire House, Danbury	
Mar. 11	Tues	1830	CVTU Monthly Meeting	Miry Brook Fire House, Danbury	
<b>Mar. 14            Fri                      1830            Annual Banquet                      Stony Hill Inn, Bethel, CT                      Belden - 426.6039</b>					
Apr.8	Tues	1830	CVTU Monthly Meeting	Miry Brook Fire House, Danbury	
May. 13	Tues	1830	CVTU Monthly Meeting	Miry Brook Fire House, Danbury	

### Some Web sites to check out

(editor)

[www.midcurrent.com/](http://www.midcurrent.com/) (a truly great on-line fly fishing magazine)

[www.flyaddict.com/](http://www.flyaddict.com/) a local based site that provides great references and tools and a very active forum

[www.wildtroutstreams.com/CT.htm](http://www.wildtroutstreams.com/CT.htm) for further research follow up to Steve Culton's talk last month



A Spawning Brown in our local stream

Our chapter meetings are held September through May on the second Tuesday of each month starting around 6:30 PM for snacks and coffee (and usually some fly tying) with the meeting starting at 7:30. The meetings are open to all – members and non-members. Come over and see what we're about, we'd like to meet you.

Visit our web site for copies of newsletters, interactive member forum, trout fishing links and much more:

<http://www.cvtu.org>

### *Candlewood Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited – Board of Directors*

James Belden 203-426-6039	President <a href="mailto:James.Belden@cvtu.org">James.Belden@cvtu.org</a>	Tony Mortimer 203-241-7716	Newsletter Editor <a href="mailto:Tony.Mortimer@cvtu.org">Tony.Mortimer@cvtu.org</a>
Jerry Rekart 203-775-2764	Vice President & TIC <a href="mailto:Jerry.Rekart@cvtu.org">Jerry.Rekart@cvtu.org</a>	Joe Hovious 203-270-1960	Conservation <a href="mailto:Joe.Hovious@cvtu.org">Joe.Hovious@cvtu.org</a>
Chuck Rich 203-952-4408	Treasurer & Membership <a href="mailto:Chuck.Rich@cvtu.org">Chuck.Rich@cvtu.org</a>	Gary Whipple 203-746-5982	Trips <a href="mailto:Gary.Whipple@cvtu.org">Gary.Whipple@cvtu.org</a>
Steve Zakur	Webmaster <a href="mailto:Steve.Zakur@cvtu.org">Steve.Zakur@cvtu.org</a>	Doug Peterson	Grants & Gov't Affairs <a href="mailto:Doug.Peterson@cvtu.org">Doug.Peterson@cvtu.org</a>
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