



Thames Valley Chapter
Trout Unlimited
P.O. Box 76
Yantic, CT 06389-0076

**Thames Valley Trout Unlimited
Annual Holiday Party**

November 13, 2010

5:30 PM

Bozrah Moose Lodge

Cash Bar, Hors d'oeuvres, Dinner & Desserts
Basket & Table Raffles and Auction

Tickets are \$20 per adult and \$45 per family.

Name: _____

Number attending: _____

Please return this completed voucher with payment to:
Thames Valley TU, P.O. Box 76, Yantic, CT 06389-0076

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

October 2010

Dixie L. Goodwin

Dear Thames Valley TU Member,

The Trout Unlimited Annual Meeting which was held this year in Northeastern US had the best turnout in TU history so we hope the meeting will come on back soon! Charley McCaughtry, Mike Goodwin and I joined twelve other Connecticut chapter/council members who enjoyed a wonderful weekend in the mountains of New Hampshire. We all agreed that having the opportunity to meeting TU National staff members and chapter members from across the US was most enjoyable and our favorite take away phrase was: "good thoughts about good people doing good things for conservation". At the awards luncheon which was held on Friday, September 17, two Connecticut individuals received Distinguished Service Awards, Jerry Rekart from Candlewood and Charley McCaughtry from Thames Valley. You may go to the River News tab on our website to read more about Jerry and Charley. Please join me in congratulating Charley for receiving this prestigious and well-deserved recognition for his many years of service to the Natchaug and Thames Valley chapters.

If you haven't already looked through the fall issue of Trout Magazine, please go to pages 50 and 51. You'll see photos of John Pallof and Lance Magnuson with students from Windham Middle School and an article about the environmental education day that was held on the Fenton River last spring. Thanks to John and Madge Manfred for submitting information for the "Fish and History" story.

Our September meeting was well-attended and members from Salmon River Anglers Association and Marty O'Rourke from Fin, Fur and Feather joined us for this meeting. Jean Pillo fielded lots of questions following her presentation and there was lots of lively conversation about our rivers and streams after a long period of drought. The presentation at our membership meeting was preceded by a streamside training on the rapid bio assessment procedure. Fading daylight could have been a problem but not for the ten members who participated in the collection. They brought the collection tray back to the meeting hall, completed the invertebrate's identification and readied a sample for submittal to DEP.

This past Columbus Day weekend brought beautiful weather for our Walking with Trout event on Saturday. Over thirty participants joined the walk at Salt Rock Campground and throughout the morning many campers stopped by our display tent to talk with TVTU volunteers and enjoy refreshments. Charley McCaughtry led the walk and talked about the Shetucket River Habitat Enhancement Project that was completed one year ago. He was joined by Alton Blodgett who talked about his recent discovery of mile-a-minute vine near Sandy Beach and his work with the DEP to eradicate this invasive vine. John Manfred demonstrated fly casting and a quick invertebrate collection was done. The DEP stocked 100 Atlantic Salmon into the Shetucket River a few days prior to the walk; some were seen rising which added a little excitement to the walk and some great fishing for our members.

Our Holiday Party will be held a week earlier this year, Saturday November 13. All tickets must be purchased in advance so please complete and mail the voucher opposite this page with your check payable to Thames Valley TU, P.O. Box 76, Yantic, CT 06389-0076. Tickets will also be available at our October meeting.

Most important of all, I ask you to write to your Connecticut representatives to urge approval of DEP's proposed stream flow regulations soon to be considered by the Regulations Review Committee. The health of Connecticut's rivers and streams are important to all of us. As river stewards, we need to express our concerns for the invertebrates and higher animals living in our streams. Pulling all the water from a stream even for a short time requires years for this ecosystem to rebuild itself. Please go to the River News tab on our website to read more about stream flow regulations. Your input is needed to get these regulations passed. Call, Write, or Email your Representatives and Senators NOW!

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