

STREAMLINES

2011 Banquet Celebrates 40 Years of CVTU Involvement



Sheila Reid and Rhey Plumley working the crowd at the 2010 CVTU

Plans are under way for CVTU's annual fund raising banquet. This year's banquet will be held on, Saturday, April 2, 2011. Social hour will start at 5:00PM with dinner being served at 6:30PM. Once again this year, the banquet will be held at the Burlington Elks Club on North Ave. in Burlington, Vermont. Ticket price is \$35 per person, with an "early bird special" price of \$30 per person, if purchased BEFORE March 20, 2011. Tickets will be available at CVTU General Membership meetings, as well as at the Classic Outfitters store on Williston Road, South Burlington, Vermont.

Our guest speaker this year will be noted Vermont author Howard Frank Moshier, who will be speaking about his fishing experiences in and around Vermont. Mr. Moshier is the author of ten novels and a travel memoir. Born in the Catskill Mountains in 1942, Moshier has lived in Vermont's fabled Northeast Kingdom since 1964. He has won many awards for his fiction, including Guggenheim and National Endowment for the Arts fellowships, the American Academy of Arts and Letters Literature Award, the American Civil Liberties Award for Excellence in the Arts, the Vermont Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts, and the New England Book Award. Three of his novels, Disappearances, A Stranger in the Kingdom and Where the Rivers Flow North, have been made into acclaimed feature movies by the Vermont independent filmmaker Jay Craven. His Civil War-era novel, Walking to Gatlinburg, chronicles the nightmarish odyssey of 17-year-old Morgan Kinneson from northern Vermont to Tennessee during 1864. Howard is an avid trout fisherman and is no stranger to Northeast Kingdom lakes, streams, and ponds. Come and enjoy an evening with Vermont's Northeast Kingdom's favorite writer. As a special treat, Howard will be launching his newest novel, Legacy at the banquet. This latest work features a Northeast Kingdom family where trout fishing transcends the generations.

This year, 2011, marks the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Central Vermont Chapter of Trout Unlimited. In recognition of this event, we are holding a special raffle on a commemorative rod / reel outfit. It is an Orvis Helios, 9ft, 5 wt, 4 piece rod with a matching Battenkill Large Arbor III reel (with commemorative inscription) and WF5 fly line. The Grand Raffle prize will be a week's stay at a Montana cabin, plus \$500 cash for travel expenses. There will be a large variety of Live and Silent Auction items to bid on as well as many bucket raffle items to be won. Please make your plans to join us, celebrate our 40th anniversary, and enjoy an evening of fine food, drink and fishing tales !! We hope to see you there.

Program Schedule

March 1: **Bill Grover, St. Michael's Professor will present a show on **Montana** fly fishing in the Yellowstone Area.

** March 26 2nd Annual "**Festival of Fly Fishing**" 10:00Am till 3:00PM in the Continental Express Hangar at the end of (#240) Valley Road, South Burlington, VT.

**April 2: BANQUET

May 7. **Green Up Day and Barbecue at Greem Mtn. Power picnic Area at Bolton Dam from 9:00AM till Noon then Barbecue from 12:00 till 1:30PM.

** June 5-6 Lake **Mansfield Trout Club CVTU** fundraiser fishing event.

Ed Collins and Dave Carter Enjoying Banquet



Jack Price sells the winning \$10.00 ticket to a UVM student ↑ which wins her a Winston Fly Rod at the 2010 Banquet.

GIMME ANOTHER 20

A tutorial for beginning fly casters or old dogs who might want to learn new tricks

How can I get more distance with my cast? Buy one of the new special-purpose, tweaked-up, high performance fly lines? Use a more expensive, higher modulus, faster action, tournament flex fly rod? Does a fly line that the manufacturer claims to ‘cast 20 feet farther’ or ‘get more distance’ really work? Or, is it the caster?

There are two principles of casting that, if learned and practiced, can increase your distance with little or no added effort:

- 1) Stopping the motion of the rod on the back and forward cast.
- 2) Increasing line speed

Try this **Exercise #1:** Lay out 25’ of fly line from the tip of the rod to the leader knot straight in front of you. You should mark this spot on your line with a black magic marker. Then make 2 marks with the marker at the 35’ measure and 3 marks at 55’ – this will not hurt your fly line and will provide some consistency for practice. Use just your ‘rod hand’ and hold the fly line securely against the handle with your index finger. Put your other hand in your pocket or behind your back and forget about it for this exercise. Start with your rod tip low and make your back cast accelerating the rod to a stop. Think of this as if you had a large Idaho potato on the end of a long barbecue fork and you’re trying to fling it backwards over the neighbor’s high fence. Repeat this for the forward cast: accelerate to a stop. Then follow through with a nice straight line back down to the casting surface.

Feel the rod load (the rod will flex or bend as you gradually draw it back against the weight of the fly line and the friction of the casting surface). Close your eyes and feel it. Then feel the rod unload when you stop the rod,



driving the fly line up and back. This is much like the load one puts on a bow when drawing back the string and then the release (or stop) when the arrow is let fly. And feel the rod load and unload on the forward cast. Repeat this exercise several times until the motion becomes smooth and natural.

Exercise #2: Now with the same amount of line out in front of you and your rod tip low, take the line from the index finger of your ‘rod hand’ and hold it with your ‘line hand’ down by your leg (try pinching the line and your pant leg and don’t let go). Repeat the motion of loading and loading the rod with the acceleration to a stop for the back and forward cast. Holding the fly line static in your ‘line hand’ further accelerates the fly line (increases its speed) and puts extra load on the rod. You’ll actually feel the line pull as you put the rod in motion.

Practice this 3 times. On the forth cast, at the forward stop, release the line from your ‘line hand’ (let go). As you follow through the line will shoot forward. You can now strip line out from the reel, say to the 40’ mark and leave the 25’ mark at the rod tip. Then, holding the line with the ‘line hand’ as before (leave the extra line on the ground), and loading and unloading the rod on the back cast and releasing the line at the forward stop, you should be able to shoot that entire amount of line with no more effort.

There can be fun in practice. Try a game like picking dandelions (if there’s still snow on the ground make it hitting the hat). First pick a target and stand about 15 feet away. Measure out your line and using your best form, cast out and lay your leader right on the target. Then take a step or two back and strip line from the reel as necessary. Grip the line as in exercise #2 and shoot the line to the target. Take another 2 steps back and extend your cast to the target

**The Annual Festival of Fly Fishing
March 26, 2011**

The Second Annual Festival of Fly Fishing will take place in South Burlington, Vermont on Saturday March 26, 2011. The festival will once again feature a wide variety of activities for anglers and fly-tyers of all abilities and ages. Events will include a tie-a-thon, a fly-tying contest,



Young tier trying her hand at fly tying bench

casting clinics, casting contests, introductory fly-tying lessons, fly-tying demonstrations, fishing knot demonstrations, and more. The flies tied at the tie-a-thon will be donated to Project Healing Waters, and all proceeds from the event will be donated to the Vermont National

Guard Family Foundation. Attendees may participate in raffles, and enjoy free coffee, donuts and lunch at the event. The Festival begins at 10:00 AM, and will be held at the Continental Connection Hanger at 240 Valley Road in South Burlington.



Bill Chandler showing his tying expertise at last years festival with Jim Christman and Susan Carter observing.

THE LAKE CHAMPLAIN & TRIBUTARIES RESTORATION FUND AWARDS FOUR GRANTS TOTALING \$55,000 IN THE FALL OF 2010 IN IT'S FIRST YEAR OF OPERATION

The \$500,000 Lake Champlain & Tributaries Restoration Fund which resulted from the Peterson Dam settlement has funded 4 worthy projects in it's first year of operation. CVTU, along with a rep. from the Power Company, US Fish & Wildlife, VNRC (Vermont Natural Resources Council) and Vermont Fish & Wildlife Commissioner comprise the 5 trustees who decide how the money will be spent. The Fund will take applications in the fall of the year until all the money is spent. This year 4 projects were given a total of \$55,000. Two of the projects

are in our area and two are in southern Vermont.

- 1) The Caledonia County Natural Resources Conservation District (NRCD) was awarded \$25,000 for a culvert restoration project on the Upper LaMoille River.
- 2) The Friends of the Winooski Lower Allen Brook Restoration Project was awarded \$11,000 which will be used to improve riparian buffers, stabilize stream banks and reduce phosphorus loading in the Allen Brook watershed.

3) The Nature Conservancy was awarded \$10,000 for restoring aquatic animal passage on the Poultney-Metowee River watershed by retrofitting and repairing failing culverts which are plentiful in Vermont.

4) Also the Poultney-Metowee Natural Resources Conservation District was awarded \$9800 in their project to restore aquatic habitat at 2 stream bank sites on the Metowee River.

For more information go to The Vermont Community Foundation site/

LAKE MANSFIELD TROUT CLUB FUNDRAISER TO BE HELD JUNE 5 & 6 2011

CVTU will once again be holding a fund raiser at the Lake Mansfield Trout Club on June 5-6. As in the past, participants will arrive at the Trout Club at noon on Sunday and enjoy a lunch in the newly restored lodge. After an afternoon of fishing at one of three ponds we will retire to the Ice House for happy hour, followed by dinner in the main lodge and then fishing until dark. Overnight accommodations will be provided at the lodge. On Monday, you can fish the morning hatch followed by breakfast and fishing until noon. This year the price will be \$275 per person which includes *cont. from pg. 3:* three

Congratulations to CVTU for 40 years of service to conserve, protect, and restore Vermont's cold water fisheries and their watersheds!



Photos by Janie McKenzie & B.P.



meals, overnight lodging, the use of the lodge's boats and all the fishing you can pack in over the course of the two day event. You just need to bring your rod, flies and clothing. Benefits will go to the CVTU Conservation Fund. Non-TU friends and family are welcome. To reserve your spot, please contact Paul Zuchowski (876-7020 or zuchowski@gmavt.net). Reservations are limited.

provides an opportunity for five young Vermonters to learn about our natural resources in an outdoor summer camp setting who otherwise might not be able to attend. As one of last year's attendees put it: "I really appreciate (CVTU) sponsoring me and making it so I could go to the camp. I really enjoyed the camp and that we got to fish and shoot. Thanks again, Joseph B."

CVTU to Sponsor 5 Vermont Kids to the Green Mountain Conservation Camps Again for Summer 2011: The

CVTU Board of Directors recently approved sponsorship for five campers to attend the Green Mountain Conservation Camps in 2011. As in previous years, applicants are selected on a first come, first served basis by the program coordinator at Vermont Fish and Wildlife. The criteria require each applicant to be a resident of Chittenden, Addison, Franklin or Grand Isle Counties, be a first year camper and be income eligible according to the Vermont Legislature's Camp Scholarship program. Complete information and applications are available from Vermont Fish and Wildlife and Department at (802)-241-3768 or on-line at www.vtfishandwildlife.com/camps.cfm. This program, sponsored by the members of CVTU



President's Report

Central Vermont Trout Unlimited turns 40 years old this year. I thought it would be an appropriate time to reflect on some of the accomplishments of our chapter over the previous 40 years

1) For over 30 years our chapter has supported the use of bio-degradable chemicals to treat lamprey in Champlain tributaries. The late Dr. Phillip Keller / UVM Medical College / Blood Researcher, who was not only a CVTU chapter BOD member, but a

National TU Director as well, gave expert testimony on the use of these chemical agents after finding no adverse or long term health effects. His testimony was key towards the State of Vermont allowing treatment in its watersheds. Additionally our membership has always testified and supported lampicide treatment since it was first introduced as a lamprey deterrent in VT.

2) The chapter took much criticism but supported John Warshaw in his efforts to build the 1st Trap and Truck facility on the Winooski River at the Winooski One Hydro Dam.

3) Even though our chapter's goal was and will be for a wild trout/salmon habitat, The chapter recognized the need for a hatchery to support the growing Lake Champlain Fishery. We vigorously supported the initial Kingsland Bay Hatchery, and also the plans to move the project to the current Grand Isle Hatchery. We supported this initiative with both testimony and financial support.

4) CVTU hosted the TU National Convention at Bolton Valley Ski Resort

5) Long before the building of the Grand Isle Hatchery, the chapter maintained several stocking and fish rearing programs with Vt. Fish and Wildlife. Many members eagerly participated in the popular Brown Trout Fry stocking of the Winooski and Lamoille drainages. Each March we would drive down to Bennington and pick up several 100,000 surplus Brown Trout Fry, truck them back to distribution spots along the Lamoille and Winooski. For many years we also raised salmon and steelhead in IBM and Essex, VT. ponds. Then with the help of the Essex Fire Dept. (to drain down the ponds for netting) we would remove the fish and stock them.

6) Who could forget our efforts on Peterson Dam? While the removal of the dam did not happen due to a paper work error at the State offices, we have benefited from our fight. In the last year, we have been named one of the *cont. on page 5*

CENTRAL VERMONT TROUT UNLIMITED 40TH ANNIVERSARY WINTER 2011

- 7) trustees on a \$500,000 settlement that will be used to improve the tributaries of Lake Champlain.
- 7) The chapter has organized and run many tree plantings along the Winooski and its tributaries.
- 8) In the last two years, we have funded and built numerous Rain Gardens and captured the minds of local students along the way.
- 9) We have (and will again this year) provide financial support for kids to attend the Vermont Conservation Camps.
- 10) We have successfully started two Trout In The Classroom projects at local schools
- 11) For many years, we have taught, and continue to teach Introduction to Fly Fishing and fly tying classes

We have accomplished a lot over the years, and our chapter is strong, with over 350 members and over \$20K in funds. Let's maintain the momentum. We currently have active projects working on fish passage on Lewis Creek and stream bank restoration on Mill Brook (a tributary of the Winooski), but we can do more. Do you know of a culvert that is in need of replacement? Do you know of a stream bank in need of restoration and/or plantings? Let us know. The chapter is always looking for that next project that can make a difference. **Paul Zuchowski**



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: Trout Unlimited's national President Chris Wood (Middlebury College 88) will be speaking on 3/17/2011 at The Orchard Room (103) at The Franklin Environmental Center at Hillcrest at Middlebury College. His talk entitled "Recovering Fish and Wildlife in an Era of Climate Change" is part of the Howard E. Woodin Environmental Science Colloquium Series.

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