

Tight Lines

Merrymeeting Bay Trout Unlimited Newsletter

Volume 25 Issue 1 - September 2009

Float Tube to be Ruffled at December Christmas Party



Friend Rodney Small fishes from his float tube on Nest Lake on the Kenai Peninsula in Alaska.

Submitted by Lois Smith

As with most nonprofit organizations, ways to raise money was a much-discussed topic at the August meeting of the MMBTU board of directors. The chapter's annual auction has become less and less productive in the last few years; plus, it requires countless volunteer hours to organize. The board decided to try alternative methods to raise operating cash this year. One idea is to raffle items through the newsletter and at general meetings. The fundraising effort begins with a Fat Cat Float Tube by Outcast. The

tickets are \$1. each, 6 for \$5.

If each of our 200+ members spends \$5. on six (6) tickets, the chapter will raise enough to recoup the expense of the float tube and have enough left over to meet more than half of the expenses associated with the Trout in the Classroom program.

Many members don't realize that local chapters of Trout Unlimited receive NO operating funds from TU National. This means that education programs like Trout in the Classroom and Casting to the Future that MMBTU sponsors are paid for completely by member and local business donations.

I started using a float tube in 2005 after I won one at an MMBTU fundraising auction. My husband had one also, and we took them with us when we took a 3 1/2 month trip to Alaska. Alaska is known for its salmon, which we fished for. We had just as much, if not more fun, however, fishing for rainbow trout in a couple of the many freshwater lakes on the Kenai Peninsula. Our favorite was Nest Lake. We inflated our float tubes before we left camp, and lashed them down to our pick up truck. When we got to the 1/2 mile Nest Lake trail-

head, we used a harness system to carry the tubes in on our backs, like back packs. Once to the lake, all we had to do was put our flippers on, and we were ready to fish. We paddled around the perimeter of Nest Lake, casting toward shore. We picked up 16-18" rainbows on almost every cast.

Here in Maine, I use my float tube on some of our favorite trout ponds. I can't think of anything more fun than paddling about at dusk, listening for rises from hungry Brookies. One of things I love about my float tube is that I can fish in any direction in a matter of seconds. If I hear a rise behind me, I can turn and cast to it instantly. Another great thing about fishing from a float tube is how small my "footprint" is. I've seen trout rise 18" away from me, not realizing that I was there. What a thrill! It's also a wonderful low-impact exercise, and is easier on my knees and back than sitting in a canoe for many hours.



A beautiful Nest Lake rainbow in the apron of my float tube.

RAFFLE: "Fat Cat" Float Tube by Outcast

Retail value: \$350. Raffle Tickets: \$1. each or 6 for \$5.



Float Tube will be raffled at the MMBTU annual Christmas Party - December 10, 2009 at Graziano's in Lisbon. Need not be present to win.

Tickets can be purchased at any MMBTU meeting up to and including the December 10 meeting. Alternatively, clip ticket from newsletter, fill in name, address and phone #, photocopy as many times as needed, cut at perforation and mail ticket stubs along with payment to: MMBTU, PO Box 191, Richmond, ME 04357.

Tickets & Payment Must be Received by December 10, 2009. MMBTU not responsible for tickets mailed but not received by December 10, 2009

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State/Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Raffle Tickets: \$1. each or 6 for \$5.

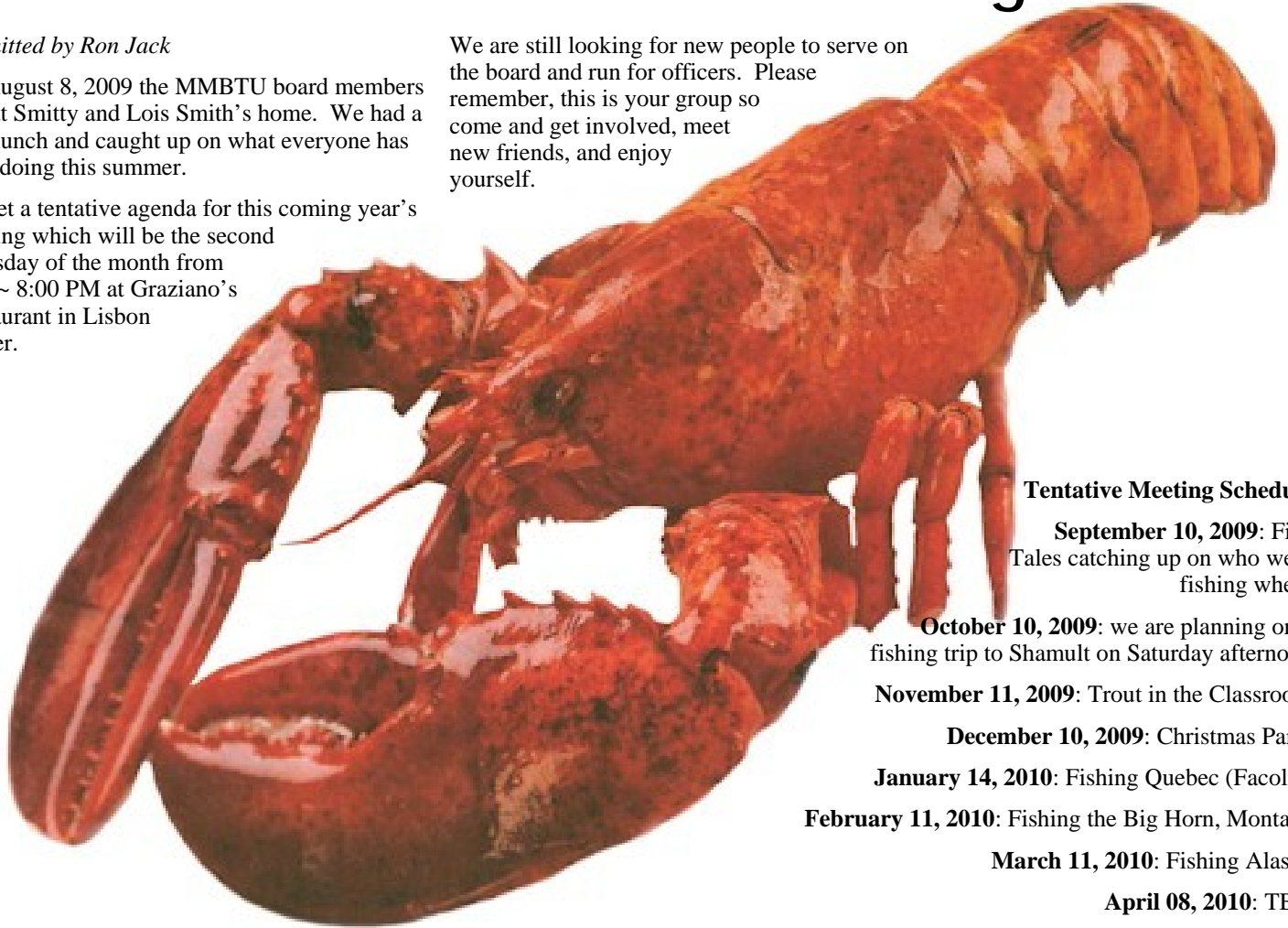
MMBTU Summer Picnic/Board Meeting

Submitted by Ron Jack

On August 8, 2009 the MMBTU board members met at Smitty and Lois Smith's home. We had a nice lunch and caught up on what everyone has been doing this summer.

We set a tentative agenda for this coming year's meeting which will be the second Thursday of the month from 6:00 ~ 8:00 PM at Graziano's Restaurant in Lisbon Center.

We are still looking for new people to serve on the board and run for officers. Please remember, this is your group so come and get involved, meet new friends, and enjoy yourself.



Tentative Meeting Schedule

September 10, 2009: Fish Tales catching up on who went fishing where

October 10, 2009: we are planning on a fishing trip to Shamult on Saturday afternoon

November 11, 2009: Trout in the Classroom

December 10, 2009: Christmas Party

January 14, 2010: Fishing Quebec (Facolie)

February 11, 2010: Fishing the Big Horn, Montana

March 11, 2010: Fishing Alaska

April 08, 2010: TBA

May 13, 2010: another group fishing trip TBA

Say "Yes" to e-mail from MMBTU

Submitted by Smitty Smith

We understand that not all members have the ability or the interest to receive the newsletter by e-mail, but the savings are significant enough to consider it.

If you would like to receive your newsletter and other MMBTU notices by e-mail, contact newsletter editor Lois Smith at info@mmbtu.org.



About Merrymeeting Bay Trout Unlimited

Merrymeeting Bay TU Chapter 329 serves a membership of 200+ in the mid-coast area of Maine. For more information e-mail: info@mmbtu.org, visit the web site: <http://www.mmbtu.org>, or mail PO Box 191, Richmond, ME 04357.

Incoming Board of Directors

Officers

Ron Jack, President

PH: 207-666-3464

E-Mail: axidentrecon@aol.com

Orman Hines, Secretary

PH: 389-2419

E-Mail: hineso@suscom-maine.net

Gordon "Smitty" Smith

Treasurer

PH: 737-4447

E-Mail: hrnbrg@myfairpoint.net

At-Large Members

Terry Estey

PH: 829-9127

E-Mail: songbird@maine.rr.com

Jim Smith

PH: 846-9377

E-Mail: smlmth@maine.rr.com

Nathaniel Jack

PH: 207-666-3464

E-Mail: njack06@unity.edu

Submitted by Dave Martel

Hook: Tiemco 200r

Size: 8 or 10

Thread: 8/0 Flour. Orange

Underbody: Thread

Rib: ultra fine Silver Wire

Body: Wine Ultra-Chenille

Ends: Burned/tapered both ends

OK guys....easiest fly I've ever given you. All you need is the thread; hook; chenille; wire; and lighter. Make a good thread underbody; lay on the wire; tie on the chenille at the hook eye; wrap the wire up the hook tying on the chenille; tie off; singe the ends. Dick and I each tie thousands of flies to go West each year...and when we got to Cottonwood Camps on the Big Horn river the "fly of choice" was one neither of us had.....a wine colored San Juan Worm. Now...I'd never tied

Fly of the Month - September *San Juan Worm*



a SJW in my entire life...so we had to buy (!!) San Juan Worms (can you believe it??). I'll have 5 dozen of these things for the next time we head back there. Enjoy.....

Trout Unlimited Asks Manufacturers to Eliminate Production of Felt-Soled Waders and Equipment by 2011

Effort will help prevent spread of aquatic nuisance species in America's rivers and streams.

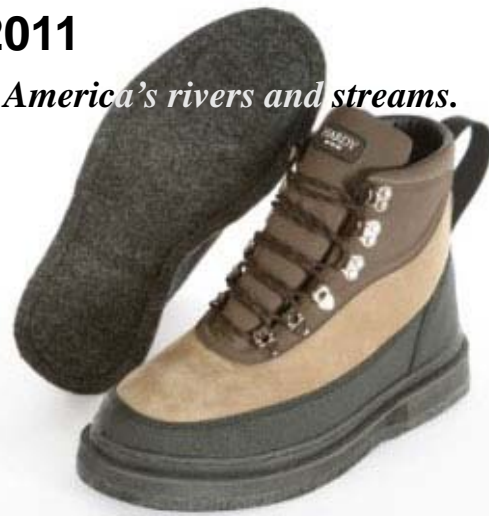
Trout Unlimited (TU) asked fishing equipment manufacturers to stop producing felt-soled waders and wading shoes by 2011 to help stop the spread of aquatic nuisance species (ANS) by anglers in America's rivers and streams.

Many waders, wading boots and shoes used by anglers have felt-soled bottoms that are used to provide traction while walking in water. Felt is a material that transmits aquatic nuisance species such as New Zealand mud snails, the invasive algae called didymo and the parasite that causes whirling disease, a disease fatal to trout. Felt soles can very easily become impregnated with mud and other organic matter, and become difficult or impossible to clean and disinfect.

The impact of ANS to native species is substantial, second only to loss of habitat, and is responsible for causing losses in biodiversity, changes in ecosystems, and impacts on economic enterprises such as agriculture, fisheries, and international trade. The costs of preventing and controlling invasive species are not well understood or documented, but estimates indicate that the costs are quite high.

ANS are present in many rivers, streams and lakes around the

country. For example, zebra mussels were first found in Lake St. Clair near Detroit, Michigan in 1986 and now infest waters from Vermont to Oklahoma. Each year \$30 million is spent in the Great Lakes to monitor and control zebra mussels, which are responsible for massive changes in the Great Lakes ecosystem including elimination of native mussels and creating toxic algae blooms. Additionally, zebra mussels are creating significant impacts on Great Lakes fishery resources and fishery restoration efforts. The invasive algae didymo, often called "rock snot", is present in rivers throughout the country, from the Upper Connecticut River in New Hampshire, to South Dakota's Rapid Creek.



Events: 2009-10 MMBTU Year

The general membership and the general public are welcome at all meetings including Directors' Meetings. Meetings are held on the second Thursday, Graziano's Restaurant, Lisbon, Maine., unless otherwise noted. Board meeting begins at 5:30 pm., general meeting from 6-9 pm. For cancellation information in the event of poor weather, call: 353-4335.

September 9: Fish Tales update from members on recent fishing adventures. Also: **Election of Officers for 2009-10, and Board Meeting at 5:30 pm.** Come, get involved, help out, support the cause, have fun!

October 10: Club Trip to Shawmut details to be announced.

November 12: Trout in the Classroom. Report from last year's teachers; **Board Meeting at 5:30 pm.**

December 10: Christmas Party & Raffle

Fish Tales

Recent Fishing Adventures

Plus: Election of Officers

Board Meeting: 5:30 pm

General Meeting:
6-9 PM, Thursday, Sep 10

January 14: Chutes de Facoli: Member Trip Report; **Board Meeting at 5:30 pm.**

February 11: Bighorn Rive, Montana: Member Trip Report; **Board Meeting at 5:30 pm.**