



# SEBAGO Mainstream

The Online Newsletter of the Sebago Chapter of Trout Unlimited



## Sebago TU's 31st Conservation Banquet April 10th, 2010 (Cocktails at 5pm)

**Tables are filling fast... Call Brad Ronco at 772-2660 for your tickets!**

Where: Keeley the Katerer, Portland

Auctioneer: Gerry Giguere  
visit us at [www.sebagotu.org](http://www.sebagotu.org)



### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Sebago TU 2010 Banquet

Saturday, April 10  
Cocktails at 5:00 pm  
Keeley's, Portland

#### Healthy Kids Day

Saturday, April 17  
10:00 am - 12:00 noon  
YMCA, Freeport  
Volunteers Needed!

#### Childrens Water Festival

Friday, May 21  
9:30 am - 2:00 pm  
USM, Portland  
Volunteers Needed!

#### Maine Wildlife Park

Saturday, June 12  
10:0 am - 2:00 pm  
Gray, Maine  
Volunteers Needed!

[www.sebagotu.org](http://www.sebagotu.org)



### Banquet Time—

Our Banquet Committee met on Tuesday and is pleased to say that this banquet is going to be something special. Generous donations and special TU pricing have enabled us to put together a splendid array of items for our banquet. They will include:

- The best fishing gear including: LL Bean, Hardy, Winston, Orvis and others

- Guided trips by Eric Wallace, Greg Bostater, Todd Towle, and Harvey Wheeler

- Stays at Maine's finest sporting camps including Weatherby's, Forest Lodge, Maynards, Grants and more

- Exotic location fishing trips: Abaco Island and Belize

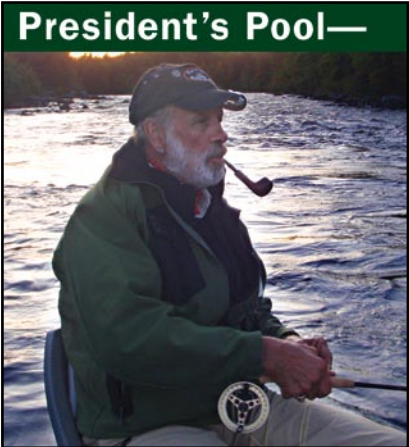
- A wide assortment of flies including name tiers: Peter Smith, Don Bastian and Willie Basco

- Atlantic salmon fishing adventures in New Brunswick
- Sporting art by John Swan, Dave Footer, Dan Daly, and more
- A wide assortment of sporting gear and clothing including items for the whole family.

Keeley's is poised to deliver a fine buffet dinner. All we need now is your presence for this to be the event that will enable us continue to support the projects that make Sebago TU Chapter a major positive force for Maine's fishing environment. These include Maine TU Trout Camp, our own 5-in-5 Pond Reclamation Project, and the brook trout tagging project on the Swift Diamond River. If you haven't ordered your tickets by now, please contact Brad Ronco at 772-2660.

The committee also asks that you take a minute and think of just one person who you've fished with or talked fishing with in the past year; this could be an occasional fishing partner, co-worker, relative or neighbor. Tell them about the banquet and invite them to come join us for a night of fun. When they see the values that the auctions, and raffles offer, they will be glad that they did!

The chapter is offering those initially joining TU at the banquet a special introductory membership rate of \$10. This includes a year's subscription to Trout magazine.



### President's Pool—

Well, spring has finally sprung and opening day of fishing season has come and gone. A little early this year thanks to our Governor, it would have been really nice if the weather had cooperated a little. The 31st Annual Conservation Banquet of the Sebago Chapter of Trout Unlimited is only a few days away. This year the chapter has a wide assortment of trips, rod and reels, clothes, art, and just

about anything you could want related to the sport of fishing. We also have a few things not related to fishing... can't wait to see what a "redneck cooler" looks like. There is a small tickler of items that will be available for you to bid on at the banquet, in another article in this newsletter. We have the items for the auction, bucket raffles, and the silent auctions, now all we have to do is sell the tickets. So if you have fishing buddies, co-workers or relatives that like to fish, tell them to buy a ticket and come to the banquet. Have a great meal, some fun and maybe go home with something they want or need to fish, or maybe a piece of art for the camp wall or a box of flies.

While at the banquet, remember that the money you spend on the many wonderful articles, will be going toward the many projects that the chapter has going right now. You have been reading about the 5 in 5 project, your chapter, along with the Maine Department of Inland Fish and Wildlife, will reclaim five ponds in five years. Five ponds that are suitable trout habitat, and which are now full of who knows what, will be reclaimed and stocked with trout for people to catch, with the help of you, the

Send your donation to:  
 Sebago TU  
 Pond Reclamation Fund  
 P.O. Box 8401  
 Portland, ME 04104

members who care. The chapter also has the trout tagging project coming up in May. We will tag and track the trout in the Swift Diamond River and learn more about the travel habits of the trout in the Magalloway and Rapid River watersheds. Another project, that has sort of slid onto the back burner but is still a big thorn in the side of every fishermen who fishes in the Crooked River and Sebago Lake, is the fight over the damming of the Crooked River at Scribners Mills. That problem has not gone away. It's still in the hands of the court and as you all know anything that has to do with lawyers and courts costs money.

We also have the Maine TU Trout Camp that the chapter always contributes to, supporting the young anglers that attend the camp. They are the fishermen, guides, fly-tiers, wardens, camp owners, future officers and members of this chapter who will be carrying on the work that we the officers and members do today.

I imagine many of you, like me, have seen the habitat of some of your old fishing waters gone or changed forever, and in most

instances not for the good! Every time I drive up 302 from Fosters Corner toward North Windham and drive past the Odds Fellow hall, I see all those new houses out behind the hall and out behind the late Bob Bibeau's house, which is right beside the hall, I think about all the times Bob and I used to walk thru the field behind the Odd Fellows hall to fish Ditch Brook. Back then it ran down through the woods toward the Varny Mill Road, now it runs through peoples back yards for most of its entire length. Back in the days when Bob and I fished together, there was only one house on the whole brook and it was not uncommon for us to catch one or two brown trout that measured between 17 and 20 inches just about every time we went fishing. The last time I tried to fish Ditch Brook and it really wasn't that long ago either, I walked through the woods, what few woods I could find, houses have replaced the woods, and when I came to the pool I wanted to fish, the first thing I saw was a lawn chair on the bottom of the pool and an old tire laying on the bank. I just turned around and walked back to my truck. I imagine the fish are still

there, although not in the numbers that they once were but I just have a thing about fishing in someone's back yard with their dog barking at me at 5:30 or 6:00 in the morning or just before dark at night. That's just one of the constant reminders that I have of lost habitat and I am sure many of you have your own reminders. Can you just imagine what our streams and lakes are going to look like when these kids who attend trout camp now reach our age, its scary and I hate to even think about it.

All these projects are important for the future of our sport, so please bid on that new fly rod or reel and feel assured that the money that you spend at this banquet will be put to good use for our sport.

Tight lines, have a safe and rewarding fishing season, and I will see you at the banquet.

John R. Files, President  
Sebago Chapter of TU



**Sebago Chapter  
Trout Unlimited**  
P.O. Box 8401  
Portland, ME 04104



# Maine TU Trout Camp

A Learning Experience of a Lifetime



[www.troutcamp.org](http://www.troutcamp.org)

