

# **Yes!** *I want to help the TRAA and the Thames River Watershed!*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Prov./State: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

The TRAA's membership fees  
do not begin to cover the costs of our  
activities & programmes.

We are happy to offer income tax  
receipts for donations of \$10.00 or more.

**Membership Fee:     \$20.00**

**Donation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Thank You!**

Please bring this completed form  
to any TRAA event or mail it  
with a cheque or money order to:

1017 Western Road

## **What is the TRAA?**

- The TRAA was formed in 1985 by anglers concerned with the sudden decline of the smallmouth bass population in the North Thames River.
- The TRAA is an active environmental group, not a recreational fishing club
- The TRAA is a volunteer organization governed by by-laws and a constitution. An elected board of executives, with the involvement of the general membership, sets policy and direction.
- The TRAA is a registered charitable organization (#0906594-52) and operates within the guidelines that govern and control this certification.



## **Contact Information**

### **Mailing Address**

1017 Western Road  
London, Ontario N6G 1G5

### **General Meetings**

The TRAA meets on the second  
Wednesday of every month at the above  
address unless members are advised  
otherwise.

### **e-TRAA**

[traa@anglers.org](mailto:traa@anglers.org)

### **TRAA Web Site**

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

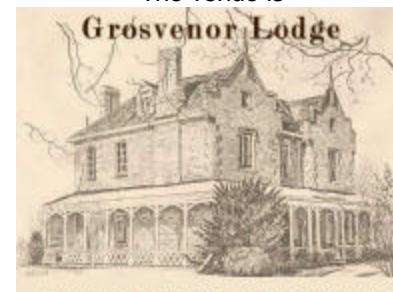


## **News Bites – June 2006**

Join us at the next  
**General Meeting**  
**June 14, 2006**

The meeting starts at  
**8:00pm sharp**  
(providing Paul Noble brings the keys)

The venue is



1017 Western Road, London

In addition to TRAA business  
**Guest Speakers Randy Bailey**  
& Paul Noble who will be talking  
about smallmouth bass fishing  
techniques for the Thames.

### **Inside:**

- ↗ *A Popular*  
**Brown Trout Release**
- ↗ *A not so Popular*  
**Rainbow Trout Release**
- ↗ *A Grant from*  
**Fishing Foundations**
- ↗ *A Grant from*  
**Fishing Foundations**



Selective Stocking

Hatchery Tours

Fish Transfers

Trout Hatchery

Walleye Hatchery



# TRAActivities

Educational  
Presentations

Stream Rehabilitation

Community  
Partners

Erosion Control



Information Resources

Habitat Improvement

Benthic Sampling

Social Events

## TRAA's "NAME THAT FISHIN' SPOT" CONTEST

Finally, a contest that's easy as fishin' – oh, wait a minute, we've seen most of you fish. OK, it's as easy as falling in the river – yeah, that's closer to home!

All you have to do is look inside at the photos of Randy and Carley. Examine them closely and try to figure out where they are on the Thames River.

Think you know? Then write it out below and bring your answers to the October 11<sup>th</sup> General Meeting.

A panel of impartial judges will decide if you're close enough to be entered into a draw for some really fabulous and cool fishing-related prizes.

Randy's wally came from:

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Carley's smallie came from:

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## "DEDICATION TODAY FOR TOMORROW"

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***For the enhancement,  
protection and  
promotion of a viable,  
multi-species fishery within  
the Thames River Watershed.***



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## News Bites – October 2006

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Join us at the next

**General Meeting  
October 11, 2006**

The meeting starts at  
**8:00pm sharp**

The venue is



1017 Western Road, London

## Meeting Features:

- ⚡ **MNR's Dan Elliot will address the Fisheries Management Plan & Springbank Dam**
- ⚡ **Do We Give TRAA \$\$\$ for the TRFMP?**
- ⚡ **Planning the '06/'07 Year of Activities & Events**
- ⚡ **TRAA Contest Draw: Win Fabulous Prizes!**

## **PICTURE CONTEST**

***See outside flap!***

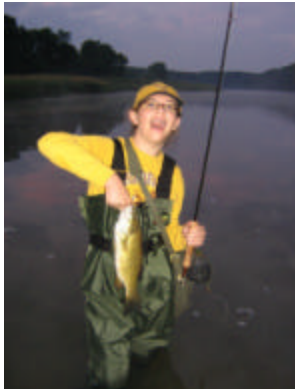
**TRAA President Randy Bailey with a nice 2005 Thames River walleye.**



*It's almost time to pursue Mr. Wally again. Do you think the latest catch rates in the lakes will translate into a better run in the Thames River? Let's hope so!*

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**Carley Noble with a nice Summer 2006 Thames River Smallmouth**



*"Whatever Dad can do I can do better!"  
Dad figures she's got the advantage of female pheromones. Ya, that's it!  
"Now gimme my fly rod back."*

## **Hatchery Roof Replacement**

**October 13 & 14, 2006**

Calling all TRAA members! We will be re-roofing the trout hatchery enclosure beginning on Saturday and then finishing up on Sunday. There will be something to do for everyone of all ages, capabilities and genders – in other words, we need YOU!

Just bring yourself and clothing appropriate to the weather & the job. Everything else will be provided, *including lunch and beverages*.

If you can make it out to both days, all the better. However, if you can only fit in one day, that's OK too – we'll be happy to see you. Contact Randy Bailey what day(s) you can make it so that we can plan the work and the food and refreshments.

## **Municipal Elections**

**November 13, 2006**

It's time again to vote in a bunch of folks you don't know to run your everyday life.

Ya, ya we've heard it all before:

"What difference can my one vote make?"

"They all lie just to get elected."

"My time's better spent in front of 'Survivor'."

Well guess what, *you're pissing off the rest of us who actually give a damn!*

Try to think about your kid's future past the next hockey practice. What kind of a legacy are you leaving? What are you going to say to them when they ask, "Where the Hell were you when all of this crap was going down?"

It's as easy as picking up the phone, writing a letter or firing off an email. Ask blunt questions important to you about the environmental future of London & area. Go to

<http://www.london.ca/Elections/default.htm>

to find out who you need to pester. And lastly make sure you follow up and tell 'em all whom you're voting for and why!

## **TRAA to Support the TRFMP**

The TRAA received a letter in August of 2006 from the TRFMP (Thames River Fisheries Management Plan) Committee outlining the estimated budget required to complete the plan in 2006/2007. Although the stakeholders in this project are contributing "through in-kind support", completing the desired results within the allotted time frame "far exceeds the capacity of any of the stakeholder groups represented". As a result, the TRFMP Committee has set some lofty fundraising targets that will include cash donations from entities and groups such as the TRAA. The TRAA has been specifically asked for \$2500 to "cover the costs associated with a draft plan and for project coordination". The TRAA has been asked for "any assistance" that we can provide.

This was discussed at the TRAA General Meeting in September. The consensus seemed to be that we should donate some money, but the full \$2500 seemed excessive for an organization of our size and limited resources. It was decided to put the issue to the general membership for comment or suggestion.

As a TRAA member with a say in how our funds are allocated, we would like you to think about the request from the TRFMP Committee.

Should we forward the full amount requested?

If not, what do you think would be a fair amount, given our bank account, the projects that we have slated and what our fair share should be?

It is important that all TRAA members are invited to participate in this discussion. If you are unsure about any of the issues, including our bank balance and pending projects, contact a TRAA Executive member. For TRFMP info' go to: [www.thamesfishplan.ca](http://www.thamesfishplan.ca).

## TRAA's "NAME THOSE GUYS" CONTEST

OK, it seems as though the October "Name that Fishin' Spot" contest was a bit too challenging for most of you. It's been rumoured that some of you were so intimidated that you didn't even bother showing up to the General Meeting! This one's easier.

All you have to do is look inside at the photo of the guys on the newly shingled roof of the Trout Hatchery. Examine them closely and try to figure out who they are.

Think you know? Then write their names below and bring your answers to the November 8<sup>th</sup> General Meeting. To make it easier to get in the draw, identify which one is the TRAA President. Those who successfully name all the guys and ID the Pres' correctly will get their entries drawn first for some really fabulous and cool fishing-related prizes. If you name all the guys but don't know your President, you will be drawn secondly and those who only get the Pres' correctly will be drawn lastly. Those who don't get it at all will be publicly humiliated (just kidding).

Guy #1: \_\_\_\_\_

Pres: \_\_\_\_\_

Guy #3: \_\_\_\_\_

Guy #4: \_\_\_\_\_

Guy #5: \_\_\_\_\_



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## November's Guest Speaker Julie Welker of the UTRCA

Julie Welker will attend our November 8<sup>th</sup> General Meeting as our Guest Speaker. Julie will be filling us in on Oxbow Creek and some of the proposed habitat improvement projects being planned in partnership with Friends of Oxbow Creek. Julie had contacted Randy Bailey with the hope that we might be able to help out with some of these initiatives. It was advised that she come to our General Meeting to explain what they want to accomplish and how the TRAA can help. See you there!



## News Bites November 2006

Join us at the next

### General Meeting November 8, 2006

The meeting starts at  
**8:00pm sharp**

The venue is



1017 Western Road, London

## Meeting Features:

- ~ **UTRCA's Julie Welker**  
will discuss **Habitat Work** required on **Oxbow Creek**
- ~ **Walleye Hatchery**  
-not dead yet!?
- ~ **TRFMP: TRAA Funding & a Workshop Update**
- ~ **Another TRAA Draw:**  
**More Fabulous Prizes!**



**PICTURE CONTEST**  
***See outside flap!***

## **Hatchery Roof Replacement**

**October 13 & 14, 2006**



A small representation of the TRAA membership made it out to the trout hatchery roofing party – some even attended both days. Those that did make it out worked hard but had fun – and more importantly, got the job done!

The shingles were replaced, as well as all of the plywood sheathing and the roof vents.

Kudos goes to Randy Bailey and Tony Vaessen for sharing their expertise and guidance. Tony gets an extra nod for making some of his own equipment available.

A handful of guys made it out both days, but those of you who managed to fit in one day are also to be commended.

Funding for this project was provided by the Fishing Forever Foundation. The TRAA greatly appreciates their contribution towards this urgently required project.

## **October's Guest Speaker**

**Dan Elliot, Ministry of Natural Resources**

Dan gave an excellent summary of the "Biotactic" testing of fish movement that was conducted at Springbank Dam, as well as MNR's own testing of fish larval migration at the same site. For those who attended, this was a great eye opener and was presented in a way that we could all understand.

## **Trout Committee**

The TRAA Trout Committee has asked Dan Elliot of the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) for permission to collect our own brown trout eggs for the TRAA Trout Hatchery. The specific site for collection, if all goes as planned, will be Dingman Creek. This will be a joint effort involving the MNR, the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) and the TRAA. Details of this event will be available to those wishing to be involved at the November 8<sup>th</sup> General Meeting.

If you are interested in being part of the Trout Hatchery Rotation, please contact John Jackson or Dave Jeffries, co-chairs of the Trout Committee, at your earliest convenience.

## **Warm Water Committee**

Yes, the Warm Water Committee still exists! It appears as though there may be some interest in rekindling the Walleye Hatchery as a TRAA initiative, and folks with the MNR, the UTRCA and the Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters (OFAH) share this interest! Even expanding the operation to include a rearing pond is being considered.

Interesting? You bet! Get more information and be a part of this discussion at the November 8<sup>th</sup> General Meeting.

## **TRAA Supports the TRFMP**

If you were not at the October General Meeting, You missed a lively "point/counterpoint" regarding what, if anything, the TRAA should contribute to fund the ongoing activities of the Thames River Fisheries Management Plan (TRFMP). The TRAA had been specifically asked for \$2500 to "cover the costs associated with a draft plan and for project coordination". This was also discussed at the General Meeting in September. The consensus seemed to be that we should donate some money, but the full \$2500 seemed excessive for an organization of our size and limited resources.

After much discussion and wrangling, it was put forward as a motion to donate \$1250.00 (half the requested amount) with an option to add to this amount if and when funding from other sources becomes available. The motion was passed by a majority show of hands.

For additional TRFMP info' go to:  
[www.thamesfishplan.ca](http://www.thamesfishplan.ca) .

## **TRFMP Workshop**

TRAA members Randy Bailey and Doug Jarmain attended the 2-day TRFMP Workshop that took place on Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup> and Monday October 30<sup>th</sup>. Those who attended felt that they had accomplished the full purpose of the workshop. It looks very positive that there will be a rough draft plan and 2<sup>nd</sup> round of public consultations ready for Spring 2007. Randy was also excited about the contacts that he was able to make at the meetings. There will be a full report of the TRFMP Workshop as well as other related developments.