



Riffler

The Monthly Newsletter of the
East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited



Volume 41

February 2011

Number 2

Congruous

Congruous is not a breakfast dish for French farmers, it is a word that describes the state of being in agreement or harmony. Usually, one has not thought of agreement and harmony as appropriate terms when speaking of the activities of “burly” hunters, “snobbish” fly fishermen and “effete” birdwatchers. But, despite their differing images, these groups of outdoorsmen are beginning to see eye to eye on some aspects of conservation.

Many of our TU members hunt as well as fish and in spring, while we wait for the trout stocking truck, our stockers can quickly identify any bird near our coffee table by its call or characteristics, so it’s evident that our members enjoy a variety of the pleasures that are available to those who enjoy the outdoors. But, to think of hunters helping bird watchers and fishermen seems, at first glance, to be a mistake.



The first that I heard of any agreement between the aims of hunters and bird watchers was a few years ago when members of the Audubon Society voiced their backing for deer hunting. Why would they do this? Because those members realized that browsing deer were devastating some woodlands by devouring underbrush, small trees and anything that hungry herds of deer can reach. This left easy to walk through clearings but those clearings could not support birds because nesting places and cover needed for raising young birds no longer existed after

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When: February 9 at 7:30 PM

Where: American Legion Hall
33 West Passaic Street
Rochelle Park, NJ

February Speaker

Rob Nicholas

Housatonic Anglers

Rob Nicholas, the only full time guide on the Housatonic has been guiding and teaching fly fishing to all skill levels from beginner to expert on both the Housatonic and Farmington rivers, as well as some lesser known, smaller streams since 1993.

He is primarily a dry fly enthusiast but also loves to nymph and streamer fish during non-hatch periods both on foot and from drift boats. He is a Federation of Fly Fishers certified casting instructor and has over 30 years of fly fishing knowledge and experience

Rob will be speaking on fishing the Housatonic and Farmington Rivers.

Welcome to December's and January's New Members

Eileen Campbell
Andrew Desrosiers
Chen-Hsiang Feng
Thomas Lavin
Chris Puccio
Paul Puccio
Walter Vester

Haworth
Jersey City
Verona
Glen Rock
Essex Fells
Ramsey
Ridgewood

EJTU Calendar

Advise Rich Malizia (973-304-0789 or remgcp@optonline.net) of changes to calendar events; let Ed Higgins (easyedh@gmail.com) know if you are interested in fishing trips well in advance because openings are limited and reservations must be made in advance. Get your money in as soon as possible or someone else will take your place.

Please consult EJTU's web site's "Upcoming Events" for the most up-to-date and details.



- Jan 30 - Little Lehigh trip (Snow date, Feb 6)
- Feb 9, - Members Mtng, Rob Nicholas, the Housatonic & Farmington
- Feb 26 - Ramsey Cabin Fever Day
- Mar 3/6, - The Suffern Show
- Mar 9, - Members Mtng, Mark Sedotti "Living" streamer fishing
- Apr 2/3 - Pequest Open House
- Apr 9 Opening Day Trout fishing
- Apr 13, - Members Mtng, John Punola Shad Fishing Outlook
- Apr 14/May 26 - Trout stocking
- Apr 29, May 1 - Frost Valley Trip
- Apr 30, - Hooked on the Hudson
- May 11, - Members Mtng, George Douglas Steelhead fishing
- May 14, - Fishing Trip - Shad Fishing on the Delaware
- May 28, - Mahwah Fishing Derby
- Jun 3, 5,6, - Picnic/Fishing Trip - Catskill Fly Fishing Museum
- Jun 11, - Ramapo River Day
- Aug/Sept. Date TBA - planting along Cresskill Brook

**East Jersey Chapter
Trout Unlimited
Board of Directors**

President/ Conservation Chair
Ray Cappock

1st Vice President/Webmaster
Bill Borowski

2nd Vice President/Treasurer
Bruce Seiden

Recording Secretary/Pequest Programs
Bob Hresko

Membership Secretary
Ken Barile

Education
Doug Penna

Speakers/Trips
Ed Higgins

Merchandise
Basil Santamaria

Trout in the Classroom
George Petersen

Points
Paul Reithmeier

Publicity Chair
John Grisoni

At Large
Elio Chiavola
Dino Eftychiou

Founding President
Don Ecker

Monthly General Member Meeting: The East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30PM.

Location: The American Legion Hall,
33 West Passaic St, Rochelle Park, NJ. 07662.

Monthly Board Meeting: Board Members of East Jersey Trout Unlimited meet on the last Thursday of each month at 7:30PM.

How to contact us: Website <http://www.eastjerseytu.org> Mailing Address: East Jersey Chapter, Trout Unlimited Box 366 HoHoKus, NJ 07423-0366
For Membership Information call Ken Barile at: 201-391-9214 or email to: kenbrile@optonline.net.
For Information on trips and other Chapter Activities go to www.eastjerseytu.org
For East Jersey and National Trout Unlimited information, visit our website at <http://www.tu.org>. Go to chapter number 091 and you will get the latest information about our chapter.
Riffles is your publication so we invite and encourage every member to contribute articles, tips, and stories. The articles may relate to trout, trout fishing, fishing in general or conservation but all articles are published at the discretion of the editors and should meet EJTU standards regarding protecting our environment and the merits of 'catch and release' techniques. Pseudonyms may be used but the editors must be informed of the name of the member who writes the article. Email to raycapp@optonline.net

Protect adequate flows in the Musconetcong River so trout and other wildlife can survive throughout the year.

Tell the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to fix its draft *Lake Hopatcong Flow Plan* by removing the clause in the document that imperils trout and water quality without using scientific rationale.



Why We Care

The upper Musconetcong River is a 42-mile tributary of the Delaware River in northwest New Jersey. It is a federally designated Wild and Scenic river and has exceptional value as a trout fishery. More than 25 of its tributaries contain native brook trout, a key indicator species of clean, cold water. This watershed is a New Jersey treasure and your voice is needed to help keep it that way.

Flows into the upper river are controlled by a dam on the southern end of Lake Hopatcong. A Citizen's Advisory Committee provided the DEP with an acceptable plan for the dam operations which balanced the needs of all stakeholders and protected river values. After reviewing the citizens' plan, The Lake Hopatcong Commission has released a draft *Lake Hopatcong Water Level Management Plan* (LHWLMP) and inserted a "low water" provision which could prove catastrophic to the water quality and aquatic habitat in the upper reaches of the river.

What You Can Do

Tell New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Commissioner Bob Martin that the Musconetcong River system is irreplaceable and that you demand adequate flow protections for the upper Musconetcong by adopting the Citizens Plan as drafted and submitted without the "low water" clause inserted by the DEP.

Commissioner, Bob Martin

401 E. State St.

7th Floor, East Wing

P.O. Box 402

Trenton, NJ 08625-0402

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February Fly of the Month



The Suffern Show is just around the corner and the chapter's fly inventory is still quite low. The fly sale at the Suffern Show is one of the major fundraisers for our conservation fund and the main reason for the chapter's fly of the month program.

February's Fly of the Month will be the *Suffern Specials*. The most popular and best selling flies that we always run out of. These include Nymphs, Standard Catskill Dry Flies, and Streamers. Wooly bug-gers and bead heads always top the list.



East Jersey Trout Unlimited Annual Dinner March 12, 2011

The Annual East Jersey Trout Unlimited Dinner will be held at the Grand Chalet 1377 Route 23 South, Wayne, NJ 07407 --Tel (973) 633-5111.

This dinner recognizes members that sacrifice their time and energy to make the programs we support a success - from Conservation to Education, to State Hatchery Programs for both children and adults, to the Suffern Show, as well as many more. Please come and join us as the proceeds from this affair fund our programs and keep the club active.

The evening will begin at 6:30 pm with a cocktail hour featuring unlimited hors d'oeuvres. Complementary beer and wine will be served the entire evening. (Mixed drinks available) Dinner will be from 7:30 pm to 11:30 pm. The menu includes mozzarella & peppers, Caesar salad, penne marinara, and a choice of entrée served with potato, vegetable and dessert.

- Entrée Choice:**
- C - Chicken François**
 - B – Prime Rib**
 - F – Fillet of Sole stuffed with spinach**

Payment of \$ 47.00 per person is due by 2/28/11

Please make checks payable to: EJTU. Mail completed form and check to:

Bruce Seiden - Treasurer
5-09 River Road
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410
(201) 452-0973

**Please enter the letter of your meal choice
on the line after your name**

Name _____ Entrée: ____

Guest _____ Entrée: ____

Guest _____ Entrée: ____

Guest _____ Entrée: ____

Phone _____

Email: _____

Please do your best to sit me with the following members:

****** EIGHT PERSONS PER TABLE ******

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the deer satisfied their hunger.

Now, stream conservationists are hoping that deer hunters can also help to reduce stream temperatures. While the idea of trying to cool waterways by hunting deer does not, at first glance, appear to be logical, it makes sense when you consider what helps to keep a stream cool. Springs and releases from the bottoms of dams provide cool water but overhanging greenery – bushes, trees and even weeds – provides shade and thus helps keep water cool as it makes its way along the stream bed. So when deer eliminate underbrush near waterways, they are adversely affecting water temperature. Therefore, if hunters reduce the number of deer that browse along waterways, the shade provided by a natural canopy can help to reduce summer water temperatures

The Little Lehigh Trip

Eighteen stalwart EJTU members made the trip to the Little Lehigh River on Sunday, January 30.

The weather was excellent...possibly the best day we had this January. Once the day started to warm, possibly to 30-32 degrees, the fish actually started rising to a tiny size 20 - 22 blue wing olive emerger.

The coffee was hot, thanks to Doug Penna, and the chili was excellent thanks to John Rice and my wife.

Unfortunately, I went fishing for an hour or so and someone

decided to heat the chili a little bit more! I apologize to anyone who didn't have any chili before it was burned.

Anyway, we had a great day...some fish were caught, and it was a good start to a great year of fishing

Ed Higgins



Trout Fishing in 2011

It may be cold and snowy now but NJ's Division of Fish and Wildlife is preparing for this year's fishing.

According to the 2011 Fresh Water Fishing Digest, trout season will open at 8 AM on Saturday, April 9, 2011.

The Ramapo will be stocked with trout on Thursdays, as usual. This year the announced stocking dates are April 14, 21, and 28, and May 5, 12, 19 and 26.



Housatonic Trip

We enjoyed last year's trip to the Housatonic River in Kent, CT. so this year we'll be going back, - May 27 through May 29, 2011.

Those of us who can get more time off (retirees?) may possibly go out early on the 24th or 25th and reserve the campground sites for those (workers) of us who come for just the weekend.

The campground allows 2 – 3 tents per campsite, so those of us who arrive early can, hopefully, claim campsites for our weekend contingent when they arrive for the weekend.

Like last year, we'll be staying at Housatonic Meadows State Park in Cornwall Bridge, CT.

Since our February speaker, Rob Nicholas of the Housatonic Anglers, will talk about fishing both the Housatonic and the nearby Farmington maybe this year we'll also be able to fish the Farmington River

For more information contact Ed Higgins at easyedh@gmail.com or phone 201-791-4635

EJTU Points Awards

We occasionally get questions about how members can purchase the green polo shirts, denim shirts or fleece jackets that display our EJTU "jumping brookie" logo. Sorry to say that members can't purchase these items; they are given to our volunteers as a way of saying thank you for time spent on EJTU projects.



When members help the chapter at our schools, at stockings, clean-ups, the Suffern Show or any of our other activities, there is always someone who records attendance and then forwards the information to Paul Reithmeier, a member of the board of directors who is responsible for maintaining a record of members' volunteer time. Paul converts the volunteer activities to points and when a member's points reaches specific levels, Paul awards the member the appropriate gifts.

Here is a list of the points that must be accumulated in order for you to get our "Thank you" gifts:

- 150 points Polo shirt
- 500 points Green jacket
- 750 points \$50 Gift Card
- 1,000 points Beer stein
- 1,500 points Denim shirt
- 2,500 points Fleece jacket
- 4,000 points \$100 Gift card
- 6,000 points Trout carving
- 8,000 points \$500 Gift card

Have you visited the East Jersey TU web page?
NO? You're missing a lot!
www.eastjerseytu.org