



Riffles

The Monthly Newsletter of the
East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited

President's Beat

In the western states the common wisdom is: The Democrats want your guns and the Republicans want your land. It doesn't take a Mensa member to realize the simple truth behind this statement, politicians want to get elected and reelected and very few of them care about the public good (or any of the other bromides to which they say they subscribe). In other words, they will cater to special interest groups, lobbyists and PACs before they consider the rest of us, short term goals before long term ones.

I have written in the past about our need as conservationists to keep informed of current legislation proposals and their impacts on the environment. Sometimes the short term answers can have negative impact in the long term. Beware the easy solutions.

A good example is the present administration's attempts to utilize the oil and natural gas deposits in Alaska, thereby wrecking havoc on a very fragile ecosystem. The President speaks of our need to search for and find alternative sources of energy and thereby reduce our dependence on foreign sources. Haven't we heard this before? Think back to the Seventies. Does the name Jimmy Carter ring a bell? We have been hearing about this for almost thirty years and what have we accomplished? The search goes on in various colleges and universities but how much has the Federal or various State Governments aided the search?

One lawmaker in Oregon recently proposed that since his state depends on gas tax revenues to maintain its system of roads, that there be a special tax on hybrid automobiles (the ones which people purchase because they use less gasoline).

Good call, knucklehead! Let's penalize people for having a product which is more environmentally friendly and, at the same time, uses less of that foreign import upon which we don't want to rely.

On the more local scene, The New Jersey State Council of Trout Unlimited is keeping a close watch on developments in Rockaway Township. On the banks of a class C-1 stream is property owned by Christ Church. The congregation has proposed new building on the property adjoining the stream. Their latest proposal is for the construction of a parking lot to accommodate 10,000 cars. That is a great deal of impervious surface abutting a class C-1 stream (not taking into account the amount of rock salt and other chemicals which will be used to keep the surface free of ice). It should be noted that the congregation was a large contributor to the campaign of John Corzine. Need we say more?

Keep informed. Get yourself on Conservation Chairman Herman Drenth's email list (hermaril@aol.com); he continues to do a wonderful job of keeping us informed regarding conservation issues. Let's make a stand against these measures wherever and whenever you determine the need to sound your voice.

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus said: "The meek shall inherit the earth." I hope there will be something worthwhile to inherit.

Welcome to March's New EJTU Members

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Daniel Powers | East Rutherford |
| John Salak | Hoboken |
| Gene Urbanowicz | Bayonne |

2006 Dinner A Success

This year's dinner started off as a real struggle. The economy hit many of the vendors that normally come through leaving us at a loss. We also lost the Orvis store in Paramus, a major contributor. Ramsey Outdoor came to the rescue and provided us with an overwhelming amount of donations. Next came Bill Tomiello who donated a tremendous amount of items from his personal collection. Without them the dinner would have not have been the success that it was. Please show our thanks by patronizing Ramsey Outdoor and if you see Bill in the store tell him thank you.

We would also like to thank all the other vendors, members, and friends who donated items making this Dinner one of the best ever.

Members, Vendors, and Friends

Bill Borowski
Bill Canning
Karen Canning
Ray Cappock
Herman Drenth
Mike Gallart
Ron Gherardi
John Grisoni
Bob Groskin
Elmer Hopper
Bill Hrinko
Bill Latham
Rich Malizia
A. Nonomis
Ted Patlen
Doug Penna
George Petersen

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East Jersey Chapter Trout Unlimited Board of Directors

President

George Petersen

1st Vice-President

Bob Ribar

2nd Vice-President

Karen Canning

Treasurer

Bruce Seiden

Recording Secretary

Bill Canning

Membership Secretary

Ed Sikorski

Conservation Chairman

Herman Drenth

Education/Pequest Programs

Doug Penna Bob Hresko

Speakers

Mike Gallart

Merchandise

Basil Santamaria

Riffles Editors

Gary Heger Ray Cappock

tu@cataloguepublishers.com / raycapp@optonline.net

Points

Ken Vander Pyl

Dinner

Dave & Barbara Wedlick

Shows

Basil Santamaria

Web Master

Bill Borowski

Federation of Sportsmen's Rep

Ray Cappock

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 Street, Rochelle Park, NJ. 07662.

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

Location: The Bergen County Community Center, 327 East Ridgewood Ave., Paramus, NJ 07652.

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 Ed Sikorski at: 201-337-6396 or email to: dored100@hotmail.com

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 either:

tu@cataloguepublishers.com or raycapp@optonline.net. Each piece of material that is published earns you 10 points towards your next goal in the points program.

Diner Thank You

Rita Petersen

Bob Ribar

Dee Reper

Linda Reper

Bruce Seiden

Don Sirota

Ken Vander Pyl

Dorothy Waxman

Bob Waxman

Barbara Wedlick

Dave Wedlick

Anglers Inn

Don Bastian

Bauer Reels

M. Benovengo

Marla Blair

Dave Brandt

Britt's Tackle

Margie Duprey

Fishpond

Floyd Franke

Art Lee

Loon Products

NJ Frame

Orvis

Ramsey Outdoor

Ross Reels

RL Winston

Tibor

Bill Tomiello

Thomas & Thomas

Jim Teeny Inc

Vortex Outdoor

Fly of the Month

Get ready, get set

After a long snowy winter opening day has finally arrived.

The first hatch of the year will usually be the early black stone fly. These tiny (size 18) stones can frequently be seen crawling out of the water onto a snow bank to hatch.

The first mayfly of the year will usually be the tiny (size 22 or 24) blue winged olives.

If you don't have both of these patterns in your fly box, and you plan on hitting the water soon, I would suggest you hit the vise first. While you're at it, how about whipping up an extra dozen for the chapter.

Tie up one of these, or any other pattern, and turn them in at the next meeting.

You will receive 10 points and an entry into the monthly drawing for every dozen flies you turn in. More importantly, you will be helping your chapter raise funds for our various projects.

The chapter's fly inventory got wiped clean during the Suffern show and Basil could have sold a lot more if we had them. Now is the time to start rebuilding our inventory for next year. If you can't make the meeting, mail your flies to the chapter P.O. Box or turn them in to any director.

Bruce Seiden

Attention Fly Tiers

Bill Tomiello has been kind enough to donate many prime materials to the chapter. Basil Santamaria will have select packages available at our monthly meetings. Each month's donations will be different.

In addition I have recent donations from the collection of Roy King. These will also be available for purchase.

Supplies are limited so don't hesitate to purchase what you need (or want).

George Petersen

May 2006 Meeting

When: May 10 at 7:30 PM

Where: American Legion Hall

33 West Passaic Street

Rochelle Park, New Jersey

For Beginners

The Pequest Hatchery will host a one-day Beginners Fly-Fishing course on Sunday, April 23. Our EJTU members will again be out there sharing their knowledge with the students (and enjoying themselves).

If you know people who would like to try fly-fishing, tell them about this free course. They will have to call the hatchery (908-637-4125) two weeks in advance to register, but that's no big deal, is it?

And if you would like to have a fun day, why don't you contact Bob Hresko (our coordinator of programs at the hatchery) and tell him that you would like to volunteer to help out.

It'll Be Free So Tell Your Friends

On Saturday and Sunday, June 10 and 11 no one will need a fishing license or a trout stamp to fish New Jersey's public waters. Those will be the "Free Fishing" days this year.

If there is someone who you would like to take fishing but they didn't want to buy a license for just one day, this will be the time to bring them out and show them what a magnificent fish-hunter you are.

Ramapo Ramblin'

I am anticipating the catch and release of this year's first trout. I would like to remind you that, with the streams crowded, you must be careful of your back casts if you are using a fly rod. Many of our members tell me that they use spin equipment with one-hook lures and their results in lip hooking trout have been quite good.

Also please be especially careful on your first few times on the water as the bottoms and banks change over the winter. What was safe last year could be unsafe now.

We have all heard the saying that all good things must come to an end and unfortunately this will be the last hard copy issue of Riffles. As you probably know, Gary Heger has printed and published Riffles at no cost to us for many years. However, his business has grown

Call The Warden!

OK, they're called Conservation Officers or CO's now but you know who I mean - the guys who check the deer that you killed, or who ask why you don't have a fishing license displayed on your back. The guardians of New Jersey's fields and waters.

You would think that with the economy growing at 5%, inflation at 2%, and the lowest jobless rate in years (I even keep hearing that Americans will not accept 'certain' jobs) people would be able buy fishing licenses or buy fish from a store. But, as usual there are some who just will not follow the rules, preferring to fish without a license or even to try to strip bodies of water of all fish. Think I'm exaggerating? Captain Tim Cussen, the top NJ Conservation Officer in north Jersey, says that his CO's caught a group who were gill netting in Green Turtle Pond.

What do you do if you see someone fishing without a license, fishing during prohibited hours, or breaking any other NJ fishing or hunting laws? Call the Division of Fish & Wildlife's 24 hour hotline. It's a toll-free number so it won't even cost you anything. Write the number down so you can call from your cell phone if you see anything: 1-877-927-6337

to the point that he can no longer donate the press time. Let's give a tip of the hat and thanks to Gary for printing Riffles. Gary and Ray will continue to donate their time to produce the email version of Riffles.

The chapter will send Riffles as a PDF via email, so contact Bruce Seiden at seidenb@optonline.com to get on the distribution list; or, if you prefer you can read Riffles at our web site www.eastjerseytu.org. If you don't have a computer at home, you can use the ones at your local library.

If you would like to get up-to-date information on EJTU's coming events and New Jersey fresh and salt water fishing information you can register your name and EMAIL address with me at hermaril@aol.com. If you wish hunting information, please contact Ray Cappock at raycapp@optonline.net.

At this time our conservation schedule will be as follows:

- Starting on Thursday April 13 and every Thursday until May 25 we will assist the state in stocking the Ramapo. Most volunteers know the routine but for newcomers - we meet at Glen Gray Bridge at 9:30 AM
- On Saturday, June 3 we will participate, with Ramapo College, in Ramapo Day (Halifax Road in Mahwah, across from Ramapo College). We will need help at 8:30 AM to set up the stations and tents, and at 10AM to work with the kids and to net the bugs and critters out of the river. At noon the state will deliver warm water fish for the kids to release into Henry Lake. And last, there is the ever-present cleanup detail. We will need a minimum of 25 volunteers.
- On Saturday, June 10 at 10 AM we will meet at the Wayne Municipal Building on Valley Road to assist the Wayne Boy Scouts stock Singac Brook.
- Saturday, June 17, from 9 AM until noon, will find us at the Saddle Brook Park in Glen Rock assisting the Bergen Federation of Sportsmen in holding a fishing derby for kids. Refreshments at noon.

If you have never participated in these activities, please come on out and meet the members, tell a tall fishing story or hear one and help us to improve the river.

For the last time on a hard copy of Riffles, I will say, "Let's meet down by the river, sit under a tree and wait for a rise."

I will meet you downstream, where we all live.

God Bless America

Herm Drenth

May Speaker

May 10th.- Matt Grobert -20 Essential Flies for NJ Trout.

Matt has been a Flyfisher for 35 years. He teaches fly fishing, fly casting, and fly tying for the last 20 or so. He has been published in Fly Fisherman and Fly Rod and Reel.

He is also the creator of "Matt's Gnat" - a Local NJ pattern