



Riffles

The Monthly Newsletter of the
East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited

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Number 9

How Do They Know?

Ever wonder how eels, steelhead or shad go to sea and then, with no signposts, find their way back to a specific stream? Or how Monarch butterflies migrate to Mexico while geese, hummingbirds and other birds are travelling great distances to their seasonal homes?

The answer for at least some of the migratory fish and birds is that they have compasses.



Our old fashioned compasses have a needle that uses the earth's magnetism to align itself in north/south attitude and, while they do not make use of floating needles, some of our finned and feathered friends use that same magnetism to assist them in navigating.

Reseachers from Oregon State University and the University of North Carolina reported in *Current Biology* that migrating salmon sense magnetic fields and use them in returning to home streams. Earlier research had also found that sea turtles easily detect changes in magnetic fields and that rainbow trout flesh contains magnetite, the mineral used in compass needles.

The bills of migratory Canada Geese also contain minerals sensitive to magnetism. If only we could get the Resident Canadas to use the capabilities of their bills.

When: September 11 7:30 PM

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

September's Speaker

Colin Archer
"The Average Angler"



Colin Archer, "The Average Angler", is a guide who offers full-day float trips for wild brown and rainbow trout on the Upper Delaware River in the Catskills and on the West Branch of the Ausable in the Adirondacks. He also offers fly-fishing trips along the Jersey Shore for striped bass, bluefish, and fluke.

Colin provides guided fly-fishing trips, fly-fishing instruction, and casting lessons almost all year round; his fly fishing trips begin in early April and usually end in December.

EJTU Calendar

If you wish to go on one of the fishing trips contact the trip coordinator well in advance.

Other events are sheperded by Rich Malizia. If you have questions or wish to volunteer, contact Rich at 973-304-0789 or remgcp@optonline.net

Consult EJTU's web site for the most up-to-date information and details.

September 27, 28, 29,
[Fri/Sun]
Housatonic Trip

October 9
[Wed] October speaker; Dickson Despommier
October 13 [Sun] Glen Rock Fall Festival

October Cresskill Brook planting
October State's Fall trout stocking [TBA]

October trip to West Branch Angler

November 13 [Wed] November speaker; Bill Logan

November EJTU trout stocking
December 11 [Wed] Christmas party



Welcome To August's New Members

Roy Bauberger	Oakland	Mikelene Elash	Saddle River
Bob Bertoni	Ridgewood	Christopher Folwell	Waldwick
Joe Boff	Glen Ridge	Randy Griffin	Wallington
David Bressman	Englewood	Daniel Mumm	Bloomfield
Sheila Clark	Ridgewood	Philip Murphy	Oakland
Ken Clune	Englewood Cliffs	Joseph Schroettns	Bergenfield

**East Jersey Chapter
Trout Unlimited
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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: kenbarile@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

Orvis fly fishing – the ultimate fly fishing guide

Here's a great aid for you EJTU fly fishing members. Orvis has developed a Fly Fishing app for iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch, Kindle Fire, nook, and the Android operating system devices.

The multi-function application provides:

Instruction on casting using a combination of video, pictures, and text to teach various styles of casting.

A directory of fly patterns that describes the pattern, identifies the season of use, where and when to use it, and how to fish it.

Directions on how to tie frequently used fishing knots, with animations, step-by-step instructions, and video demonstrations.

Detailed fishing reports, covering all 50 states, and all major river systems. Including information on map location, quality of fishing, water temperature, visibility, best time to fish, best flies to use, access points to the river, gear recommendations, water flow level charts, fishing tips from a local guide, and a fishing forecast.

Podcasts on fishing topics of interest.

Fishing license information and regulations for all 50 states with information from the state licensing websites.

The best thing about the app is the price. You get all this for \$5.99, and when you purchase it, Orvis gives you a \$10 gift certificate. So they are paying you \$4.01 when you load their app.

It's hard to find a better deal than this.

The link to the website is: <http://www.orvis.com/intro.aspx?subject=7752>

Ken Barile



September Fly of the Month

Hopefully the dog days of summer are behind us, the weather will start to cool off and the fishing will improve.

Early in the month we should still see Tricos in the morning and have plenty of action on Terrestrials. Isonychias and a few different Blue Wing Olives should also be around.



Because of the summer's low water levels many of us didn't get to fish the Trico hatch yet and are still hoping to do so.

This month's Fly of the Month will be TRICOS, any style. Whether you prefer your Trico spinners with poly wings, hackle wings or wonder wings, or have a special dun pattern that works before the spinners start to fall.



A Fly Tying Workbench

A few months ago I got the “bug” to build a fly tying workbench for myself. This is after I priced all kinds of fly tying benches and desks on the Internet. As attractive as some of these benches and desks were, I just couldn’t see myself spending that kind of money for something that I was going to put in our basement utility room. I will admit that if I could have convinced my wife that I would always sweep up any feathers and fur that wound up on the floor, I might have treated myself to one of those nice desks and put it in our finished basement.

After spending some time searching the Internet, I came across what I considered the best and easiest plans for building a standard workbench, one that I could customize to suit my own personal fly tying needs. Besides the photo of the finished project, what appealed to me were the exceptionally clear step-by-step plans, the complete list of materials including the necessary dimensions, and the list of tools that probably most homeowners already own. An added bonus was the Comments section with advice from people who had already built and customized the workbench. They provided all kinds of helpful suggestions.

In fact, the best suggestion that I followed was to buy the 2 X4’s and plywood at a place that would cut them to my specifications at no extra charge. However, before I drove out to get the lumber, I measured the space where I planned to install my workbench so that I could adjust the dimensions to suit that area. That’s how I got all my wood cut to size, able to fit in my SUV, and ready to assemble when I got

home.

Besides changing the overall size, I also did a few other minor alterations. I added an entire pegboard back wall to accommodate my fly tying material. I also finished the actual work surface with a solid sheet of brown hardboard, another smart suggestion from the Comments section. When this hardboard needs to be replaced, I just need to unscrew it and replace it with a new one. My final step was mounting an inexpensive fluorescent light fixture above the work area. I already had attached a power strip to the front edge of the bench.

The article claims that you can build this workbench for \$50. That might be true if you have some of the lumber lying around your garage or if you live in another region of the country. I think I spent closer to \$100. Also, although it’s an additional expense, buy yourself a comfortable, height adjustable chair.

If you prefer, you can find plans for workbenches with all kinds of built-in cabinets and drawers. Frankly, it would have been a more involved and complex project for me, and, besides, I didn’t think I needed that kind of storage space. The top of the bridge part of the workbench and the lower shelf provide plenty of storage. (That lower shelf also serves another purpose. The seat of my chair is high off the floor and, although it does have a footrest, I find it more natural to put my feet on that bottom shelf.

I actually sat in my chair before attaching that shelf onto the workbench, so that I could judge where my feet would rest comfortably.) On the wall opposite the workbench, I have utility shelving and on the worktop itself I have a tackle box with drawers in which I keep some of my fly tying tools and other sundry items. I also have an old tabletop fly tying desk for organizing my threads. And, of course, my fly tying materials are easily accessible hanging on the pegboard.

Now that I have a permanent workspace, I find myself enjoying fly tying even more than before. No more unpacking everything I need and packing it all up again when I’m done. No more rummaging through plastic bins looking

for those hackle feathers or that particular tinsel. No more wondering where I packed my favorite bobbin or whip finisher. Almost everything I need is hanging right in front of me, or on one of the shelves, or in one of the toolbox drawers. Finally, I need to confess that my wife was right. Fur and feathers do wind up on the floor and, I suspect that like a lot of other guys, I don’t always sweep all of them up after each fly tying session. But I’m working on it.

Here is the Internet address for the plans:

<http://www.familyhandyman.com/workshop/workbench/how-to-build-a-workbench-super-simple-50-bench>

Dino Eftychiou



Fall Fly Tying Classes

There will be two locations at which we will teach Beginner and Intermediate fly tying this fall.

The first will be at **Montclair High School** as part of the Montclair Adult Schools. Classes begin on Monday, September 30, 2013, continue for ten Monday sessions from 7PM until 9PM and end on December 2, 2013. The cost will be \$70

Montclair High School is at 100 Chestnut Street, Montclair, NJ.

For information or to register: <http://www.adultschool.org/> or call 973-746-6636 and ask for Course # 520054.

The second will be at **Westbrook Middle School in Paramus** as part of Paramus Community Schools.

Classes begin on Tuesday, September 24, 2013 and continue for ten Tuesday sessions from 7PM until 10 PM. The cost will be \$70

For information or to register call (201) 261-7800, extension 3051; or, on-line at: <http://www.ssreg.com/paramus/>. Course Code SR13

Weir Removal

I write this with a heavy heart. As most of you know Ed Sikorski suffered a fatal heart attack Saturday afternoon. Ed was a great source of information about how we might approach this project. He did research and made drawings and we spent time together assessing the problems. I will miss him and his thoughtful counsel. When I sent out the e-mail on Friday announcing that we would go ahead with the project, Ed replied, "The water level there this AM looked great. Should be a fantastic day tomorrow. You must have finally stepped in something." That was Ed.



The project was a success from what we can see right now. The true test will be how it stands up to the winter ice and heavy flows. We will make an assessment in April or May. I am grateful for the large turnout of EJTU members, the college kids from MEVO and the local residents. Special thanks to Steve for working with us all day and opening his house to the young ladies from MEVO who were happy not to have to use the portable toilet. Thank you Brian Cowden for your help in planning the project and for your guidance during the execution of the work.

If you are in the area, stop at the bridge on Glen Gray Road and look upstream. I think you will be amazed by the improvement. Remember Ed in your thoughts. He loved the river.

Rich Malizia



Trout Unlimited
East Jersey Chapter
Box 366
HoHoKus, NJ 07423-0366