



Riffles

The Monthly Newsletter of the
East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Volume 48

September 2017

Number 9

President's Beat



At the August Board of Directors meeting the subject of elections to the Board of Directors was on the agenda because they will take place

in January and we have to start working on the new slate of candidates. If you would like to be more active in the chapter, consider some of the possible openings on the board of directors while the Nominating Committee works on the new slate of nominees

In addition to the officers of the chapter, such as President, VP, 2nd VP, Secretary and Treasurer, there are numerous director positions with various responsibilities. We all see Rich Malizia's column in Riffles and know he is the conservation chair, but do we all know that Gale Inwood is the membership chair? We have directors responsible for Speakers at our meetings, Chapter Trips, Riffles Editor, Webmaster, Merchandise, Publicity, Education and Managing the Points Program.

The positions vary over the years and you don't need to be a director to coordinate the various programs. Jim Piombino runs

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When: September 13 at 7:30 PM

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

September's Speaker

Rod Rohrbach

*Spring Creeks
and the Meaning of Life*

Rod will reflect on pleasant and not so pleasant experiences, share some observations along the river of life and provide some tips on living and fishing alone in North America's wilder places.

For more on Rod and his presentation, see page six.



Schedule



- | | |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| Sept. 29- Oct. 1 | Housatonic Trip |
| Oct. [TBD] | Sandy Hook trip |
| Oct. 11 [Wed] | Speaker: Agust Gudmundsson |
| Oct. 13 [Fri] | NJ State Fall trout stocking |
| Nov. 4 [Sat] | EJTU Fall trout stocking |
| Nov. 8 [Wed] | Speaker Dickson Despommier |
| Dec. 13 [Wed] | Christmas Party |
| Jan. 10 [Wed] | Speaker: Frank DeGrazio |
| Feb. TBD | Connetquot Trip |
| Feb. 14 [Wed] | Movie Night |
| Mar. 14 [Wed] | Speaker: Capt. Jim Freda |
| Apr. TBD | Cast and Blast |
| Apr. 11 [Wed] | Speaker: Tim Flagler |
| May [TBD] | Pennsylvania trip |

Welcome to August's New Members



Jorge Love
James Malizia
Michael Sullivan
Joe Viglione

Closter
Bloomfield
New Providence
Garfield

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

President
Bruce Seiden

1st Vice President
Vacant

2nd Vice President
Ken Barile

Treasurer
Igor Zaretsky

Recording Secretary
Dino Eftychiou

Membership Secretary
Gale Inwood

Education
Doug Penna

Speakers/Webmaster
Chris Henrickson

Points
Paul Reithmeier

Riffles Editor
Ray Cappock

Conservation Chair
Rich Malizia

Publicity
Bruce Halstater

Directors at Large
Elio Chiavola
George Petersen

Founding President
Don Ecker

Monthly General Member Meeting:
the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30PM.
Location: The American Legion Hall,
33 West Passaic St, Rochelle Park, NJ. 07662.

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

How to contact us: Website: ejtu.org
Mailing Address:
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HoHoKus, NJ 07423-0366
Membership Info: G. Inwood at: 201-489-7182 or
email inwoodgale@aol.com
For East Jersey and National Trout Unlimited
information, visit www.tu.org. Go to chapter
number 091 for the latest information about our
chapter.
Riffles is your publication; we encourage all mem-
bers to contribute articles, tips, and stories. Arti-
cles may relate to trout, trout fishing, fishing in
general or conservation, but all articles are pub-
lished at the discretion of the editors and should
meet EJTU standards regarding protecting our
environment and the merits of 'catch and release'.
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

Conservation Notes

Several of our members spent a few hours every Friday morning during July and August assisting the kids involved in the Englewood Rec fishing program that was conducted at Overpeck Park. The "lake" is really just a wide section of Overpeck Creek which connects to the Hackensack River and eventually the ocean. The kids have caught or seen some interesting fish. In addition to the usual crop of blue gill and pumpkinseed sunfish, they have caught largemouth bass, yellow perch, American eel and an unlucky eastern painted turtle. We have seen some huge carp, one shad and several impressive rises which we could not identify. Despite the materials of unknown origin that were dumped in the park and used as fill to create ball fields and play areas, Nature has a way of reclaiming the land. There are great blue herons, egrets, white herons, cormorants, a pair of bald eagles and an assortment of song birds in residence. The program ended in August but I am sure we will be invited back next year. Maybe one of you would like to take on this project and coordinate things for next year? Special thanks to those members who were "regular" participants and to those of you who stepped in to fill the gaps. There were days when the kids had us working nonstop

Please mark your calendars for the NJF&W fall stocking on Friday October 13th. We will meet at Glen Gray Bridge in Mahwah at about 9:00 AM to set up equipment, drink coffee and swap stories. We expect the State to stock the entire river which means we need a few volunteers at West Oakland Avenue and others to move up to the Park, Halifax Road, and Riverview Terrace. Many hands make for light work. Water levels may not be high enough to float stock so we will need extra help to cover sections of the river usually accessed by boat.

The current administration in Washington continues its assault on the environment. Efforts to open the

New Jersey coast to oil and gas drilling, failing to support the Delaware River initiatives (which is also an issue on the State level), shrinking National



Parks and Monuments to allow access by extractive industries, reducing or eliminating wetlands and small stream protections; the list goes on and on. The proposed federal budget slashes funding for the Office of Science of the Dept. of Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency (30%), Dept. of the Interior, including USGS, BLM, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Land and Water Conservation Fund (totaling 13%), Dept. of Commerce with the biggest cuts to NOAA and the State Dept. funding for climate change programs. Do you see a pattern here? Maybe I'm delusional, but I cannot believe that the majority of our citizenry favor these changes. If you don't step up to protect the environment, your grandchildren will have to learn to fish in their bathtubs. As I write this column, Interior Secretary Zinke has concluded the first phase of his review of Nation Parks and Monuments. However, and it should come as no surprise, no details of his review have been released to the public, except that some parks and monuments will be reduced in size and/or access by extractive industries will be permitted.

There are many local issues of concern. Recent approval to develop a parcel of land on the Oakland/Wayne border is being contested and efforts to raise enough money to buy the land and establish it as parkland continue. This fight

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Harmful Blue-Green Algae Blooms

From NJ DEP on Wednesday, 30 August 2017

Blue-green algae blooms (Cyanobacteria), which can be harmful to people and pets, are confirmed or suspected in the following waters:

Pemberton Lake, Burlington County
Sylvia Lake, Mercer County
Colonial Lake, Mercer County
Shabakunk Creek, Mercer County

Cyanobacterial blooms do not always produce toxins, but when they do the blooms can pose a risk to people, pets, livestock and wildlife if exposure occurs by ingestion, inhalation of contaminated water, or dermal contact. Rashes can occur when cyanobacteria cells come in contact with skin.



All contact with the water should be avoided and fish caught should not be consumed. Suspected blooms should be reported to the DEP - for information see the DEP news release at http://www.nj.gov/dep/newsrel/2017/17_0084.htm.

Intro to Duck Hunting for Women

The NJDEP Division of Fish and Wildlife is offering a Waterfowl Hunt for Beginners overnight workshop for women on Decem-

ber 1-2 as part of its NJ Outdoors Program. This Outdoor Women of New Jersey (OWNJ) workshop will be held at the Sedge Island Natural Resource Education Center, which is a historic, renovated duck hunting lodge, located off Island Beach State Park in Barnegat Bay. It will allow a limited number of participants an exciting way to learn about the history of waterfowl hunting, waterfowl biology and identification, hunting techniques, game cooking, and to participate in a guided waterfowl hunt. For more information, including to register for the work-



shop, visit <http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/njoutdoors.htm> on the Division's website.

President's Beat
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the Trout in the Classroom activities, and Vic Mignoli oversees Project Healing Waters for the Chapter, while Kelly Buchta lends a hand with the twitter postings; these three volunteers are not board members

And of course there are positions held by directors above their normal responsibilities. Ray Cap-pock edits Riffles but also represents the chapter at the Federation of Sportsman's Clubs' meetings. Chris Hendrickson handles Speakers, Trips and the Website and is a delegate to the TU State Council for our chapter.

It would be great if we could have enough volunteers so no one had to pull double duty. The size of the board has grown and shrunk during the time I have been a member and it would be great if we could get a few new faces to take on some of the work.

Let us not forget the conservation committee either. The committee meets monthly and coordinates the conservation and some of the community outreach projects for the chapter. They are always looking for additional help and value new opinions and ideas for projects the chapter can take on.

Give it some thought and consider letting a director know if you have any interest. Please call or email me if you are even considering getting more involved.

Bruce Seiden



Conservation Notes
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has gone on for about 20 years and each court decision brings it closer to reality. Approval of this development disregards steep slope regulations and sewerage treatment requirements. The Tilcon quarry in Bloomingdale has won another battle to expand its operations to encroach on residential properties near the quarry. Ringwood is still pressing to cap the O'Connor landfill but concerns about chemicals leaching from it and the two mines in that area may force a cleanup. There was an announcement that hearings would be held at the State level to investigate the issues. However, nothing has happened in Trenton. The PennEast pipeline may have been temporarily stopped by the refusal of agencies in Pennsylvania to issue required permits. There is significant concern that the pipeline will do irreparable harm to rivers and streams in Northeast Pennsylvania as well as the Delaware River. Litigation is expected and, unfortunately, those with the deepest pockets usually win. The Pilgrim Pipeline is still looming out there with very little information being made public. More activity has occurred in New York State and you can't get to Linden without encroaching on our North Jersey land. I guess it is a wait and see proposition.

As always I hope you are following these issues as information becomes available and expressing your opinion to your federal and state elected officials. Remember, "liking" something on facebook does nothing to advance your beliefs about public policy. You have to write or call your representatives for your opinion to be considered.

The Highlands Council will hold public hearings to establish a process for adding amendments to the Regional Master Plan for the New Jersey Highlands. While no RMP's are perfect when initially written and most need to allow for revisions due to the influences of outside events, there is cause for con-

cern. The forces driving changes to the RMP are generally pro development/anti protection. There is currently a 30 day comment period to respond to any changes. This leaves little time for in-depth evaluation of any changes. There is an effort by environmental groups to extend the public comment period to 60 days. Please be watchful of any proposed changes. Protections of water supplies in the Highlands could be drastically reduced.

I would be remiss if I failed to mention the horrible weather events in Texas. The cost in lives and treasure will take years to measure. It is easy to say that this is a once in 500 year event, but consideration must be given to the long term damage and continued threats to human health once the water recedes. Chemicals entering the environment from automobiles, oil and gasoline storage tanks, refineries and chemical plants, and other sources too numerous to mention may negatively impact people's health and the environment for many years to come. This is why we have to be so diligent. If we continue to allow protective regulations to be ignored or set aside, we are inviting problems in the future. While the focus of government is still on saving people and protecting property, a few voices in the community are questioning the wisdom of the unfettered development, filling of wetlands, channelizing bayous and the loss of natural protections that might have mitigated some of the flooding. Of course it is too late now but will this serve as an example to those so quick to disregard environmental protections in favor of more and more development? Protections suggested after the floods of 2001 were deemed too expensive to implement. What will the price tag be for this tragedy?

Be safe and enjoy the rest of the summer. Soon the waters will cool and encourage you to wet a line.

Rich Malizia

Essex County Environmental Center ~ Public Programs Horticulture for Seniors

Mondays—September 18, October 16 & November 20, 1pm to 3pm. For senior citizens.

Join the Rutgers Master Gardeners of Essex County for this horticulture class especially designed for senior citizens. The monthly topics are Summer Harvesting Herbs, Putting the Garden to Bed, and The Science of Growing.

Meet in Garibaldi Hall. Advance registration is required one week prior to program; call Helen at 973.731.0717 or the Master Gardner Helpline at 973-228-2210.

Free!

The Essex County Environmental Center is located at 621-B Eagle Rock Avenue in Roseland in Essex County West Essex Park and is a facility of the Essex County Parks System. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 9:00am to 5:00pm and Saturday from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Essex County West Essex Park is open to the public every day from dawn until dusk. Pre-registration is required for all programs unless otherwise noted. All programs require a minimum number of participants to run. For more information, please call 973-228-8776.



NY - New Free Fishing Days Announced

Anglers can look forward to four new annual [Free Fishing Days](#) in New York State.

The new dates are:

- September 23, 2017** - National Hunting and Fishing Day
- November 11, 2017** - Veterans Day
- February 17-18, 2018** - weekend preceding Presidents Day
- June 23-24, 2018** - last full weekend in June

The requirement for a fishing license is waived on these days, so it's the perfect time to introduce someone to the sport or invite friends or family from out of state.

Legislation providing for the additional free fishing days was signed by Governor Cuomo in June 2014 as a component of his New York Open for Fishing and Hunting Initiative, and these free events give those new to the sport a chance to try it out without a license. These new free fishing days will provide the opportunity to experience ice fishing and the excellent fall fishing in New York, including the trout and salmon fishing on the Great Lakes and Lake Champlain tributaries. In addition to the Free Fishing Days program, the Governor's NY Open for Fishing and Hunting Initiative will now allow organizations and groups to conduct individual free fishing events. Those looking to learn how to fish should take advantage of the various fishing education programs conducted by DEC and other groups throughout the state.



Project Healing Waters

Our partnership with Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing offers the rewards of seeing the vets continue to improve their fly fishing chops. One instance of this was on a July 27th trip to the Pequest Hatchery that enabled the vets to get some time on the water.

Summer is a difficult time to fish as water levels drop and waters warm, but we had opportunity to bring the vets to fish the education pond where the water temperature is stable and sometimes the fish even cooperate.

The weather cooperated, food was good and plentiful, the company was great as always and most, but not all, the vets caught fish.

We were also able to introduce one of our vets to some adaptive equipment which enabled him to

cast and handle line using a "strong arm" and a special automated reel. He was pleased and I am sure that with some practice and more time on the water he will master it.

A recent donation from the Rotary Club of Wyckoff and Midland Park was used to purchase five new Regal vises. Tool boxes, donated by Home Depot, will be provided to those vets

interested in practicing their fly tying at home.

We have been lucky to have some very dedicated volunteers who continue to work with an increasing number of vets. Currently our manpower needs have been met, but, as veteran participation increases, we will reach out to those of you who have expressed an interest in volunteering for your help.



Fly Tying Supplies

Members who are going to take one of EJTU's fly tying courses can get some free supplies at the September 13 meeting.

If you are going to attend one of the EJTU Fly Tying courses, Doug Penna is offering free supplies to you. He will have mylar and yarn at the September 13, 2017 meeting in Rochelle Park.

This material is free for those in the fly tying courses.

Board of Directors Election

EJTU's By-Laws include term limits for some Board of Directors positions. Therefore, at the January 2018 monthly meeting, those attending the meeting will vote for members of EJTU's new Board of Directors.

If you would like to join the board, call Doug Penna, Nominating Committee Chair, [201-288-4409] and tell him of your interest.

Spring Creeks and the Meaning of Life

The fly fishing writer, John Gierach, writes that all fly fishermen believe that fly fishing teaches us something important about life, but none of them know what it is. I'm a fly fisherman and I don't know what it is either. Well I'd like to give it a shot!

It's the fauna, the flora, and the solitude. It's the constant learning; the attempt to perfect the imperfectable. There are no grounds crews, greens fees, or lift tickets. You don't have to assemble a team to fly fish. There are no modems, motors or phones. It's the predator-prey relationship where to the predator it's a game, to the prey it's life and death. There is no rush, no schedule.

Its playing nature's game, on nature's terms.

It's the people you meet, some nice, some not so nice. It's a campsite along a babbling brook, the smell of bacon, the pungent smell of hickory smoke and the aroma of a pine forest.

It's strong black coffee on a chilly morning and a campfire, a nip of scotch.

It's watching a ground squirrel stealing your peanuts while you watch a "riser" in its feeding lie.

It's birds singing, bees buzzing and loons crying.

It's discovering beautiful places and being alone with nature.

It's learning to enjoy your own company, a chance to reflect. It's problem solving.

In ***Spring Creeks and the Meaning of Life***, I reflect on pleasant and not so pleasant experiences, share some observations along the river of life, provide some tips on living and fishing alone in North America's wilder places, and learning how to be comfortable in your own skin."

While fishing and camping around North America, I'm fulfilling a promise to myself to compile and share the treasury of learning, tips and experience acquired from over 20 years on the banks of the Little Lehigh and my collaborative friendships with many of the legends of fly fishing/tying. My friend Gary Berger, who wrote the Introduction to my book called it "the intersect"...of the stream, legends and Rod's shop, a unique community of fly fishers, and one that contributed strongly to the fishing history of the Little Lehigh.

Rod Rohrbach

Heading South Soon?

From the August 20, 2017
Southern Trout Newsletter

[SNAKE BITES SPIKE](#)



Southern snakes are on course for a record year. Venous viper bites are up across the board in most states. Snake bites in Georgia are up 40 percent this year according to the Georgia Poison Control Center. South Carolina is also reporting a 30 percent increase this year. While North Carolina saw a notable spike in bites - receiving 71 calls in April 2017 compared to only 19 calls the year before. When it comes to snakebites in people 18 and under - Florida and Texas have the highest rates of snake bites - with Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, Oklahoma and West Virginia not far behind.

September Fly of the Month

This summer has not been quite as hot and dry as previous ones, but, with shorter periods of sunlight, local air and water temperatures should begin a slide to permanent, lower levels. As a result, fish, enjoying the cooler surroundings,



should become hungrier and more mobile.

So what flies should you use now that the fish are becoming more receptive? Early in the month we should still see Tricos in the morning and, with bugs flopping into the

water from trees and bushes, terrestrials should be productive. Isonychias and Blue Wing Olives should also be around.

So this month's Fly of the Month is any style of Trico, poly wing, hackle wing, wonder wing or your own special brew. Try them all.