



Riffles

The Monthly Newsletter of the
East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited



Volume 45

April 2014

Number 4

Presidents Beat

As I write this, March is winding down, another successful banquet is behind us and we are all looking forward to the spring fishing season and better weather.

While many of our members try to get out and hit the streams during the winter months, this winter's unusually cold, snowy weather kept most of us indoors far more than we wanted to be. All the fly tiers in the chapter should have their fly boxes full and ready to go!

We have a number of projects and fishing trips coming up throughout the spring, including a reduced stocking schedule for the Ramapo. Please take a look at the events calendar each month and pick out a project or two you can help with and, hopefully, a fishing trip as well.

This year's banquet was at a new venue, Biagio's Restaurant in Paramus. Initial feedback I received was positive, but I would like to hear from anyone that attended the event. Your comments regarding the place, the food, the prizes, etc. would be welcomed. It won't be long before we start planning next year's event, and your feedback, positive or negative, would help to make next year's banquet better. You can send me an email at Buce_Seiden@verizon.net, or just let me know what you liked or didn't like the next time you

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When: April 9 at 7:30 PM

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

April's Speaker

Paula Piatt

**TU Eastern
Sportsmen Organizer**

Paula is visiting New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania clubs to discuss shared habitat in the Marcellus Shale region.

Paula will cover the potential impacts of shale gas drilling; associated construction activities on fish and wildlife habitats, and the sportsman's experience as well as ways sportsmen can protect the habitat.

She will also talk about pipeline construction, an issue in New Jersey.

Welcome to March's New Members



Jenna Bauberger	Oakland
Emroy Knaus	Wayne
Phillip Mihalik	Wallington
Randy Peterson	Midland Park
Amruta Rana	Passaic
John Varoscak	Norwood

EJTU Calendar

If you wish to go on one of the fishing trips, contact the trip coordinator well in advance. If the trip requires reservations or other arrangements, openings are often limited and the reservations must be made in advance.

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

April 4/6 [Fri/Sun] Salmon River steel-head trip

April 5 [Sat] Trout season opening day



Early May Delaware shad trip

May 24 [Sat] Mahwah Fishing Derby

May 30/June 1 Beaverkill/Willemoc trip

May 31 [Sat] EJTU picnic; **Pig Roast** and Spey casting demo

June 7 [Sat] Ramapo River Day

June 7 – 14 Block Island trip

Early July Ausable River trip

July tbd Farmington River trip

August tbd Swartswood Lake kayak trip

September 26/27/28 Housotonic River trip

Many men go fishing all of their lives without knowing that it is not fish they are after.

Henry David Thoreau

**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: 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

Conservation Committee Report

Recently there have been several newspaper articles discussing the toxic paint residue at Ford Motor Company dumpsites in Ringwood. You may not reside in Ringwood but anyone living in a community served by the Passaic Valley Water Commission should be concerned about the clean-up or lack thereof. The initial plan required Ford to remove the paint sludge and contaminated soil from all the dump sites. This is the level of remediation agreed to between Ford and communities in Rockland County.

Recently, Ringwood decided to build a recycling center on one of the dump sites and has accepted capping instead of removal of the contaminants at that site. Capping is a less expensive form of remediation, but it does little to prevent toxins from entering ground water. It only reduces the amount of surface water entering the contaminated area.

Why should you be concerned? The paint sludge dumps are located in areas from which ground water flows into the Monksville and Wanaque Reservoirs. Those reservoirs provide drinking water to the communities served by PVWC. Express your opinion by writing to Mayor Walter Davison at mayor@ringwoodnj.net.

The unfortunate disruption of normal trout stocking may cause some of us to seek out new fishing venues. A number of years ago, our members participated in River Assessment Team Surveys aka R.A.T.S. We stopped when it was apparent that we had surveyed most of the places our members fished. In the event you venture to a new fishing area, please be alert to your surroundings.

R.A.T.S. are an informal process of observation during which the existence and location of things which may be inappropriately located in or near a waterway are noted and reported. These may be pipes or hoses which drain into rivers, debris dumped in wetlands or other things which appear to be out of place.

Our observations in prior years included the identification and location of a 55 gallon drum of brake fluid in the Ramapo River and a smaller container filled with a substance which was removed by workers in hazmat suits. We never found out what it was, but it was better out of the river than in it. So be watchful of potential problems and contact EJTU if you see something that might be a problem. We will investigate further and pass the information to NJDEP if appropriate.

The trout stocking schedule has been changed again. The State will stock the Ramapo twice pre-season and again on April 10th, 17th and 24th. I hope many of you will assist with the stocking by meeting at the Glen Gray Bridge in Mahwah at 9:30AM on each of those dates.

The Library Display

Doug Penna will have the Library display in the Lindhurst Public Library, located at 355 Valley Brook Ave., during the months of March and April

Stop in and see Doug's work.



THE DUEL

Fall softly gentle rain, run clearly sweet water.
Bring life to those who dwell within you.
For today I have come to duel with my brother the trout. Not with epee or foil,
but I, with rod and reel, and you, with wariness and cunning.

We meet in this beautiful stream, with all its tranquility and solitude.
With all my knowledge and skill I try to trick you with feather and fur,
But, today you are too smart, today you are too alert, today you are too wary.
For all I know, and for all my skill, I can not trick you and I leave defeated in
my quest to catch you.

But as I walk away on this rainy day, as much as I have been defeated, I am
fulfilled,

I am fulfilled because after all these years I realize, that when I come here, I
am not really seeking you. My search is for something else, and here today,
once more, I have found it,

Fall softly gentle rain, run clearly sweet water.
Bring life to those who dwell within you.
For tomorrow, I shall return and we will duel again.

Ralph Bruzzichesi

Visit the East Jersey TU
web site for up-to-the-minute
Information, the photo gallery,
links to fishing sites and much
more:

www.ejtu.org

But don't forget to also check out
EJTU on Facebook

<http://tinyurl.com/ptq2u3t>



More Trout Disease (furunculosis) Information

After the NJ Fish and Wildlife information about the State hatchery's problem with furunculosis was disseminated to EJTU members, one member, Darius Seo, responded with the following question:

"Thanks for the notice it motivated me to do some preliminary Internet research. I am wondering if the diseased fish should simply be destroyed.

Apparently the NJDEP states that birds were the carrier and Merck claims water contamination (http://aqua.merck-animal-health.com/diseases/furunculosis/productadditional_127_113309.aspx). In addition other bait fish and species including smallmouth bass are susceptible to the disease.

Question might include: can the feces of birds that have consumed infected fish spread the disease?"

When Darius' question was forwarded to Dan Roberts, a Senior Biologist with NJ Fish and Wildlife, I added this question: Do fish, like humans have concentrations of acid in their stomachs that might kill the disease or, as in the question above, can fish feces spread the disease?

Dan responded with the following:

I confirmed answers to your questions with our Pathologist, Dr. Lovy.

Question might include: can the feces of birds that have consumed infected fish spread the disease?

The bacterium would eventually be broken down in the intestinal tract of birds, although it is still a possible risk.

Another mode of transport with the birds is if the bacterium is on the surface of talons or the beak.

Do fish, like humans, have concentrations of acid in their stomachs that might kill the disease or, as in the question above, can fish feces spread the disease?

Fish have an elaborate immune system like us that can fight off the infection and kill the bacterium.

This includes a mucosal immune response in the stomach that can fight off the bacterium. The bacterium seems to be able to persist in the intestinal tract of fish.

Yes, fish can spread the bacterium through feces. It is believed that a small amount of bacterium can be spread through feces of asymptomatic carrier fish and clinically infected fish can spread larger concentrations of the bacterium.

Fish Ways - Fly Reels

Reels for fly-fishing come in various configurations but are basically rather simple mechanisms, used to store the line. They have a rather wide range in price, varying from an entry-level \$29.95 to \$1,200 for a top of the line, limited addition. Better made reels are machined from bar stock aluminum, a process which begins with a three to five pound block of aircraft grade metal from which the final three ounce product is produced. Obviously the quality goes up with the price tag but there are many good reels on today's market which will stand the test of time (For example, as of this writing, Pflueger has reentered the marketplace with machined reels which are retailing for \$89.99 in any of the various sizes). For extra spools, expect to pay approximately 50% of the cost of your particular reel.

The simpler versions have a one-to-one retrieve ratio and a drag controlled by a spring and pawl mechanism. Look for the reel to have an exposed rim so that you can palm it to slow down a big running fish. Another variation on the theme is a large arbor spool, which will give the user a three-to-one retrieve. The trade-off here is that you will lose backing capacity. Manufacturers attempt to remedy this by A) enlarging the diameter of the reel, or B) making the spool wider (On a personal note, I find the wider spools somewhat clumsy when trying to get the line back on the spool in "the heat of battle" and hence prefer the larger diameter solution). You can increase the backing capacity by cutting the last fifteen feet of fly line. This is simply level running line and will not effect the cast. Fifteen feet of fly line should give you approximately 50 feet of additional backing.



For larger diameter reels and bigger fish situations, you might want to consider a model with a more aggressive drag. These are more appropriate for fighting long running species like albacore, bone fish or tarpon. Check to see if the drag is smooth at its lower settings as well as the upper end. I would also suggest that you find a reel with an enclosed drag as the saltwater environment is notorious for being destructive. One particle of sand can cause a disaster. Be sure that you rinse the reel after each session. This is easily accomplished by dipping the reel in fresh water and allowing it to dry, spool and housing separate. I would also suggest that you strip the line down to the backing and immerse it in fresh water also, running it through a towel to dry before replacing it on the reel.

George Petersen (grpetersen44@verizon.net)

Frank Hall Memorial Fly Tying Winner

The winner of East Jersey's 2014 Frank Hall Fly Tying contest was Bill Hrenko.



Bill's fly was judged to be the best of thirteen entrants by John Endreson (fly fishing guide), Ken Barile (last year's winner) and Elmer Hopper (well known Catskill style tier). The decision was based on the recipe found in [Flies for Trout](#) by Dick Stewart and Farrow Allen. Proportions, materials used and the application of the components to the hook

were all considered.

Bill Hrenko is a master fly tier who is known for his magnificent full dress salmon flies. Bill's flies are sought after by collectors of the fly tying art. He has been a long time member of East Jersey but this was the first time he ever entered the Frank Hall contest.

Being the winner in 2014 allows Bill to select the fly for the 2015 contest and select the judges. We look forward to his fly choice and greater number of entries in 2015.

Bill Borowski

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see me.

The fly fishing classes at Paramus have begun. If you have never participated, it is a rewarding and educational experience. Nothing makes you think about and refine you casting like trying to teach a new student. It really makes you dissect your cast and think about each component. I would like to invite all members to stop by and see what the class is all about. You might be able to add your insight and may even learn something! The classes are held on Tuesday nights at 7 PM, in the Westbrook Middle School cafeteria and gym.

Tight Lines.

Bruce Seiden