



Riffler

The Monthly Newsletter of the
East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited



Volume 46

December 2015

Number 12

President's Beat



The chapter runs many events and activities throughout the year and we usually get a decent turnout at most of them. But I am always

amazed that many members stay in their niche when it comes to helping out.

Some members help at every stocking but you never see them at other activities, while other members will attend the fishing trips but never come to stockings. The same thing occurs at education programs, clean-ups, meetings and other events. Many members will make the work events but never the social ones and, more understandably, some will make the social events but not the work details. Don't get me wrong, there are plenty of members that help at multiple activities and also go on trips, but there are also many that seem to stick to one specialty.

If you have tended to volunteer for one or two specific events each year, try expanding your participation in the future. Come on a fishing trip or help at one of the shows, festivals, classes or other activities. You will meet an expanded group of fellow volunteers and soon realize the

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When: December 9 at 7:30 PM

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

December's Meeting

As in prior years, there will not be a speaker at our December members meeting. Instead, once again, we will have a buffet with sandwiches and beverages, giving you the opportunity to sit with fellow members, eat and exchange stories of the past year's events.

There will also be a grab bag for those who wish to participate. Bring a gift with a maximum cost of \$15 and see what you get in return.

Calendar

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

Trips: contact Chris Henrickson
C.henrickson@icloud.com

Other events: Rich Malizia at
973-304-0789 or
remqcp@optonline.net

Jan. 13 [Wed] Speakers: the
Van Puts, on difference between hatchery and wild trout

Mar. 9 [Wed] Speaker:
Dave Hess on Fishing in Montana

Mar. 19 [Sat] EJTU Annual
Dinner

May Catskill Bar-B-Que

Jun. 11 [Sat] Ramapo River

Welcome to November's New Members



John Buffa
Anthony Cicalo III
Christopher Del Tufo
John Fallon
Christine Farrington
Jeffrey Hill
David Lieberman
William Lucker
Troy Nash
Carol Patel
Gregory Toufayan

Ho Ho Kus
Edgewater
Nutley
Montclair
Wyckoff
New Milford
Teaneck
Westwood
Upper Saddle River
Montclair
Saddle River



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

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Bill Borowski

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George Petersen

Points
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Ray Cappock

Conservation Chair
Rich Malizia

Founding President
Don Ecker

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

How to contact us: Website 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 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

Conservation Notes

The Pilgrim Pipeline is back in the news. Despite the concerns of many residents in the affected communities and a series of resolutions passed by local and county governments, Pilgrim is pushing ahead. Recently, applications were submitted in New York State. The proposed route is adjacent to I 87, the Thruway. Residents of many New York State communities have expressed their opposition. One local resident described how her house shakes when big trucks go by on the Thruway and she expressed concern about how the welded pipes would hold up under constant vibration. If the pipeline is stopped in New York State, we have no concerns. However, while Pilgrim refuses to disclose its intended route in New Jersey, the New York State applications show the pipeline entering Mahwah from Rockland County. This "preliminary route" goes through lands protected under the NJ Highlands regulations. It is in close proximity to the Ramapo River and crosses or encroaches on several wild trout streams. The route crosses the Ramapo Mountains and the Wanaque and Pequannock Rivers. Local support seems to be limited to several construction workers' labor unions. Pilgrim has made no commitment to hire local workers. To the contrary, they have been negotiating with pipeline companies from Texas and Oklahoma. At a recent meeting of the Mahwah Planning Board, there was a unanimous vote to oppose the pipeline. I spoke at the meeting but was misquoted in the article that appeared in The Record. New Jersey will get no benefit from the

products moved through the pipeline. We will only participate in the risks associated with an oil spill and will have to accept the environmental damage done during construction.



One more potential hit to the environment is the report that was issued regarding development of Liberty State Park. This park was recently and quietly included under the control of what was the Sports and Exposition Authority. The Meadowlands commission, which was responsible for environmental issues, has been disbanded and its functions absorbed. I guess that was a reward for the sterling performance of the Authority in managing the arena, race track and stadium. The Governor's stated intent, a position he announced several years ago, is maximizing revenues from our state parks. It seems that open space that is only used for casual recreation is somehow misused. He believes it is in the public interest to build high end riverfront restaurants in the park instead of having a place where a family can have a picnic. I wonder what is next? How about "pay to fish" in the state parks, Mr. Christie?

Our outdoor activities will start again in late March 2016 with a cleanup and maintenance of the parking area along Glen Gray Road. I hope to use the next three months for some plan-

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Feliz Navidad *Buon Natale*

Joyeux Noël *Boldog Karácsonyt*

Veselé Vánoce *Fröhliche Weihnachten*

God jul



RIP - An Old Friend, Coal

If you helped with an EJ TU project or fished the Ramapo River at Glen Gray Road during the last decade, you must have known Coal, the black Labrador who lived with Cindy, Steve and their children in the house on the property that abuts the river

Coal died peacefully at the age of 14. A regular at the stockings, cleanups and restoration projects at Glen Gray Road, Coal was always one of the crew. As a puppy he would dash across the front yard, swim the width of the river and emerge ready for a handout of a donut. As he got older he showed his intelligence by passing up the donuts for a good scratching behind his ears. Coal was never aggressive but knew how to use his big black nose to get your attention. All of us who have volunteered for projects at Glen Gray Road will miss the big black Lab with the friendly bark and affectionate manner.

Member's Anniversary Pins

December 9, 2015 Meeting

During our December meeting/ Christmas Buffet, EJ TU will again award membership anniversary pins to those who have been Chapter members for either ten or twenty years.

If you have recently reached either milestone, or if you were a ten or twenty year member last year but did not have the opportunity to attend last year's Christmas meeting, please make sure that you join us at the December 9 meeting, so that we may present you with this small token of EJ TU thanks.

President's Beat
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other events can be just as much fun and as rewarding as the activities you are familiar with.

This year's steelhead trip was lightly attended. Only 3 of us went on the trip but we wound up having decent weather (no ice on the rod guides) and, although there were not a lot of steelhead in the river compared to other years, we saw fish caught every day.

The steelhead trip was our last trip of 2015 but I know Chris Henrickson is already working on a day trip for the late January/ February time frame. The chapter trips are always a good time and when the fish cooperate they can be great!

Bruce Seiden

Conservation Notes
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ning and administrative work on the handicapped access plan and the Ramapo River improvements in Oakland.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our members for their participation and support of all the Conservation Committee activities this year. No matter if you only attended one event or were a "regular", nothing happens without member involvement. Some events were fun; others challenged the mind and body. Your efforts have made a positive contribution to our communities and helped to advance TU's mission. I thank each of you for your efforts. As the year draws to a close, I wish you good health and good fishing. Thank you.

Rich Malizia



We're Not the Only Ones

EJTU and all of the other Trout Unlimited chapters depend on volunteerism to keep the organizations running. It is how the trout get stocked, the mono bins get emptied, trout eggs get to classrooms, buildings at the Catskill Fly Fishing Museum are repaired and the chapter's everyday business is carried out. No one gets paid in dollars, only in satisfaction, feelings of accomplishment and personal pride.

The December issue of Money magazine has a page of statistics dealing with charitable giving that indicates that EJTU volunteers are not alone in performing good works. According to Money, the value of time devoted to charity work nationwide last year was 173 billion dollars. They add that the average time donated annually per person was 32 hours.

No one in EJTU has analyzed the average hours donated by our members, but, judging by how well our volunteers get to know one another, we probably exceed that 32 hour average. However, no matter who performs more volunteer functions, it's nice to know that there are a lot of other people out there quietly helping each other.

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>

Winter Water for Birds



If you have bird feeders near your home, don't forget to find a way to also supply water to go along with the seed and suet. When cold weather arrives, birds have more difficulty finding water than they do in warmer months, but they need just as much to survive.

If you have a bird bath, there are relatively cheap electric heaters that will prevent water from turning into a solid block. You probably have to go out to fill your feeders, so just carry a bottle of water along with the feed.



Fall Trout Stocking

According to a NJ Fish and Wildlife press release, nearly 21,000 Rainbow Trout averaging 14.6" were stocked in 16 streams and 15 ponds across the state during the two-week fall stocking period. In addition to those fish, 745 breeders, averaging 21.1", awaited anglers - and many of those fish remain available.

More trout were to be stocked just prior to Thanksgiving thanks to the NJDEP's Division of Fish and Wildlife's Winter Trout Stocking Program.

For more information about the fall stocking and links to stocking summaries and winter stocking information, visit <http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/news/2015/falltroutsum15.htm> on the Division's website.

Watch What You Say

After a day of fishing, particularly in cooler weather, many anglers like to sit with friends, sip a few strong beverages and talk - and talk. When you find yourself in this situation, remember what Antipater wrote more than two thousand years ago:

I've Never Feared

*I've never feared the setting of
the Pleiades
or hidden reefs beneath the
waves
or even the lightning at sea*

*like I dread friends who drink with
me
and remember what I say.*

By Antipater of Thessalonica
(c. 11 B.C.)

Translation: Sam Hamill

Found in "World Poetry - An Anthology of Verse From Antiquity to Our Time"

The following is an abbreviated version of an article from the Wall St. Journal that profiles Ed Nicholson, the originator of Project Healing Waters.

EJTU is a participant in the project

After a 30-year career in the U.S. Navy and 10 more years working for a defense contractor, Ed Nicholson had one main goal when he retired in 2004: do lots of fly fishing. "I planned to relax in the great outdoors doing my favorite hobby," Mr. Nicholson says.

But just weeks after he retired, Mr. Nicholson was diagnosed with prostate cancer and ended up undergoing surgery at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. His time in the hospital changed the course of not just his life, but also the lives of thousands of veterans.

"I was feeling sorry for myself and then looked around and saw so many young people with devastating injuries, people in their 20s with missing limbs, deep psychological problems and other terrible wounds," Mr. Nicholson says. "I had to do something to help them."

An idea hit him as he was walking the hospital grounds. There he saw a lawn perfect for a bit of fly casting, and soon began inviting patients to cast with him there a few mornings a week.

Soon, lots of injured servicemen and women were joining Mr. Nicholson down on the lawn.

"It just sort of snowballed from there, and somehow I ended up starting a nonprofit," he says. That organization is called

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Volunteer Biographies

This month we present a brief biography of Paul Reithmeier. Paul is the board member who records all of the points that members accumulate when they perform volunteer activities for the Chapter.

I grew up near Lake Erie and enjoyed fishing from an early age.

After getting a degree in Civil Engineering, I got a job with UPS which led to a move to New Jersey.

I started fly fishing in New Jersey and enjoyed it for almost 12 years. Since joining TU, I have enjoyed trips to the Bahamas for bonefish, Alaska for salmon and big rainbows and out to Montana for great trout fishing.

I am an active conservationist that loves the outdoors and wants to keep these wild places safe for future generations.



Long Winter Nights

April may have been called the cruelest month, but January and February can't be far behind. Wind coupled with chilling temperatures makes the inside of a house more appealing than most outdoor activities. So what can you do with your time? How about not putting off the repair and cleaning of your summer gear?

Most of us end a season of activity by laying down our equipment, be it gardening tools, skeet guns or fishing gear, and promising ourselves that we will clean, oil and test it in a few days so it will be ready for next season. Then, in March or April, there is a frenzy of activity as we perform the tasks that were supposed to be finished months ago.

One simple winter job is checking your fly line. Remove it from the reel, where it isn't supposed to be stored anyway, and, as you are unreeling it, pull it slowly through your free hand (the inside joints of your little fingers are great for this). You will feel any abrasions or nicks as you do this; some may be repairable, some not. If the line is good enough to keep, wash it in mild soapy water, then rinse it and let it dry.

After the line is clean, you can apply a coating of whatever your local sporting goods store says is the latest line preservative and then store it. A line should be stored in loose coils so find a box that is large enough to hold it. In a booklet, "TU Tips", published by Croton Watershed Chapter of TU a writer suggests using pizza boxes for storage. I suppose you can get unused boxes from your local pizza parlor, but if you decide that a used one is easier, be careful of the residue from its last use or that residue may end up on the line and later on your tippets and flies. On the other hand, after using a just emptied pizza box for line storage, you may discover that a Pepperoni Adams Parachute is your new "go to" fly.



Genetically Modified Salmon

In Mid-November the US Food and Drug Administration approved the production and commercial sale of a strain of Atlantic Salmon in which the fish's DNA



has been altered to make it grow twice as fast as conventional farm-raised salmon. One alteration to the genetic make-up of the fish is the incorporation of a gene from the larger, Pacific Ocean Chinook Salmon.

The Maynard, Massachusetts company, AquaBounty, that first applied for approval of the modified salmon in 1995, will probably not be able to bring the fish to market for a number of years because they first have to expand their facilities and begin raising the fish. However, even when they are ready to market the new breed, they will face problems from activists that have been fighting the concept for a number of years.

One way in which the consumer and environmental activists have been trying to keep the fish off America's dinner plates is by getting retailers not to sell it. And some of the nation's most recognizable chains — including Whole Foods, Trader Joe's and Target — have agreed to steer clear of the fish.

The primary concern of the activists is that if the modified salmon

escape into the wild they will cause harm to wild salmon by outcompeting with them and by becoming preferred mates for wild salmon. They will, in effect, become an invasive species. Others complain that there has been no testing of the effects of eating modified salmon on humans and that the FDA has not made any provision for labelling modified salmon

so people can avoid it if they choose to do so.

However, AquaBounty said that all the fish grown from its salmon eggs would be sterile females and that it would produce the fish on land-based farms to curb the risk of escapes. In addition, FDA officials said their analysis of the fish included looking at whether it poses an environmental risk and that any AquaBounty fish farm would need to maintain "multiple, redundant physical containment procedures" and stock sterile salmon only.

The arguments will obviously continue and, as genetic research, once started, is unlikely to cease, will become louder. Even now, after crops have been genetically engineered for more than twenty years, ABC, CNN, some writers on TU's Forums and others have called the modified salmon, "Frankenfish". It appears that instead of investigating and discussing the various facets of genetic engineering, the opponents want to light torches and storm the fortress of the engineers with their pitchforks.

Healing Waters
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Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing Inc. Some 4,000 to 6,000 disabled veterans across the U.S. participate in the group's fishing excursions and fly-tying events each year.

The group works with other fishing groups to offer its program in all 50 states. Volunteers run all fishing expeditions and related activities, such as workshops on fly tying and casting. Equipment outfitters have donated hundreds of thousands of dollars of gear. Any veteran can take part, for as long as he or she wishes, at no cost.

"Fishing is almost beside the point," Mr. Nicholson says. "Just as important is the camaraderie between participants, which soldiers really miss from their time in the service."

The outfit doesn't technically offer occupational therapy, and most volunteers aren't doctors or therapists—just fly-fishing enthusiasts.

Mr. Nicholson didn't expect to be working full time in retirement. He has no regrets, but does plan to slow down in the years to come to spend time traveling with his wife, Leslie.

"My immediate goal is to get out from behind the desk more," says Mr. Nicholson, who this year fished with participants in Montana, Colorado, Washington and Tennessee.

"That's my favorite part about my job, if you can call it that—fly fishing with participants on our country's beautiful waters."

2016 Frank Hall Memorial Fly Tying contest

RUSTY BROWN SPINNER

Fly tyers should prepare now for the 2016 Frank Hall Memorial Fly Tying Contest. Ed Janiga, last year's winner and also the lead judge of this contest, has selected the Rusty Brown Spinner as the fly for the 2016 contest.

Begin now to practice tying the Rusty Brown Spinner, so you can submit your entry by the February 29, 2016 cutoff date.

EJTU members may turn in flies at Ramsey Outdoor in Ramsey, at chapter meetings or to any Board member. Up to three entries will be accepted from each participant. All entries should be individually packaged with the tyer's name and phone number. All flies submitted to the contest become the property of East Jersey Trout Unlimited.

The winner will be announced at EJTU's Annual Dinner on March 19, 2016.



The recipe for this pattern is from [The Book of Fly Patterns](#) by Eric Leiser

HOOK: Mustad 94840 or equivalent sizes 12-22
THREAD: Brown
TAIL: Bronze dun hackle fibers (tied forked)
BODY: Rusty-brown dubbing fur (reddish brown)
WING: Light Gray poly yarn

REMARKS: "Just a reminder, that the poly wing on this and other spinners should not be dense. Wings should be sparse, combed, and slightly spread to simulate the ephemeral veining of the natural fly."

Eric Leiser

Submit your entries by the February 29 cutoff date