



Riffler

The Monthly Newsletter of the
East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Volume 46

January 2015

Number 1

Presidents Beat

I was really glad to see 2 articles about NJ in the winter issue of Trout (the TU magazine). There is an article titled *Jersey Natives* and Shannon's Fly Shop is featured in *Shops We Like*.

The Jersey Natives article did a good job of telling the rest of the country what we already know: Jersey isn't all put and take trout fishing. While we will never be a destination state for Trout, we do have wild fish and some pretty places to catch them.

In regards to any remaining populations of NJ native Brook Trout, the article quoted fisheries biologist Shawn Crouse as stating, "It's very possible that they exist, but with no genetic records of true natives, even if we did genetic testing now it would be almost impossible to tell." I have been under the impression that genetic information was available and that a couple of streams have been identified as having Pure Heritage Strain Brookies in them. I have made a couple of inquiries but have not gotten an answer yet . . . more to come.

When I started with TU it was rare to see much action or focus of any kind on the eastern states. That has definitely changed over the years. With TU National assigning a full-time staffer in New Jersey and with its monitoring of the Catskills and Delaware water systems, our region is getting

Continued on page 7

When: January 14 at 7:30 PM

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

January's Speaker Mike Sebetich

Most of what fish eat comes from below the surface of a stream, pond, river or ocean. Duh! That's where the fish lives! A proficient angler should, therefore, want to know more about what's living down there with the fish.

Mike Sebetich, our January speaker and fellow EJTU member, will talk about these things, macroinvertebrates, that dwell in our local fresh waters.

The interesting report on the Macroinvertebrates that reside in the Ramapo River at Glen Gray Road and at Halifax Road was written by Mike after he and other volunteers completed a recent. Read the report and, if you have questions, bring them to Mike at the January 14 meeting.

Welcome to December's New Members



Gary Moleon
Steven Savitz

Waldwick
Teaneck

EJTU Calendar

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

- January 6 [Tues]** EJTU winter fly tying school begins
- January [Date TBD]** Pequest trip
- January 14 [Wed]** Entomology presentation
- February 11 [Wed]** Fly-Tying Night
- March 28 [Sat]** EJTU Banquet
- April 4 [Sat]** Opening Day [
- April [Date TBD]** West Branch Delaware trip
- May 2 [Sat]** Hooked on Hudson
- May [Date TBD]** Delaware River shad trip
- May 30 [Sat]** Catskill (Roscoe) picnic
- June 6 [Sat]** Ramapo River Day
- June [13—20]** Block Island trip
- June [Date TBD]** Ausable River trip

What Are the Fish in the Ramapo Eating?

Want to know what flies to fish on the Ramapo? Go to Mike Sebetich's report on his recent study of microinvertebrates in the Ramapo and you will see what's in the river. That's all that the fish have to choose from so, if you don't want to bring a ham sandwich to a potluck caviar dinner, read up on what Mike found that the fish are accustomed to. The report is on pages 4 and 5.



**East Jersey Chapter
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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 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

Good wishes to all for the New Year. I hope 2015 will provide opportunities to wet a line and chase the big ones of your choosing. We hope to offer each member the chance to join in an activity which interests you, be it our stocking activities with NJF&W, representing EJTU at any of the outdoor events in which we participate, clean-ups, stream restorations, etc. We are developing our calendar for 2015 so look for an event that suits you and join in.



By now most of you know that the proposal to build a casino in the middle of Sterling Forest was not accepted by New York State. I hope this has drawn enough attention to this environmentally sensitive area to protect it in perpetuity. It would be great if New York and New Jersey TU chapters could spearhead an effort to do that. Thank you to all of you who took the time to send letters and emails voicing opposition to the casino proposal.

New York State has decided to ban fracking in the Catskills. It is a decision which can be amended or overturned in the future, but for now the area is protected. At some point the oil and gas industry has to present honest and accurate information about the process, the chemicals used and the long term environmental impact. Good science should prevail and the public should make an informed decision.

The proposed Pilgrim Pipeline continues to quietly move forward. Despite the fact that many of the communities through which it may be built have taken positions opposing its construction, it may not be stopped. Falling oil prices may slow the process but that is only temporary. Stay tuned.

Do you know where your drinking water comes from? Pending legislation in New Jersey will make it easier for public water utilities to be sold to private water companies. The stated purpose is to shift the cost of maintaining these systems from the municipalities to private corporations. Do our legislators think private industry will absorb these costs? Or is it simply a ploy to shift the revenue generation from higher taxes to higher water bills. Some way the public will pay for all of it. Look at the facts and express your opinion to the Governor and your legislators.

A new bridge is being built at Glen Gray Road. The parking area that we maintain has been torn up by construction vehicles. Be careful when parking, if you venture out to fish the Ramapo. The existing bulkheads were used to support the new structure so the river has not been touched.

Be aware that Mahwah PD has placed "No Parking" signs at the turn outs on Ramapo Valley Road (Route 202). Right now there appears to be no legal on street parking anywhere near Bear Swamp Brook. Please abide by these restrictions. I expect to approach the administration in Mahwah to see if an accommodation can be reached.

EJTU is always looking for opportunities to improve our rivers and streams. If you have an idea for a project or know of a location which needs some attention, please reach out to me.

Happy New Year

Rich Malizia



Wolf Moon Hike

There will be a guided night hike with the staff of the Kearney House on **Sunday, January 4, meeting promptly at 7 PM** at [State Line Lookout](#) in Alpine (northbound PIP by Exit 3 — click [here](#) for detailed directions). This hike will cover about 3 mi. in about 2 hrs. and is rated moderate by the hike leaders. This is a free program, open to all, and advanced registration is **NOT** needed. *Hikers should bring flashlights.* For more information, or to confirm if weather seems questionable: 201 768-1360 ext. 108.

<http://www.njpalisades.org/winterHikes.html#wolf>



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>

Garden State Outdoor Sportsman's Show At the New Jersey Convention and Exposition Center!

The 2015 Garden State Outdoor Sportsman's Show is scheduled for January 8-11 at the New Jersey Convention and Exposition Center in Edison, New Jersey.

This is an annual event and is New Jersey's premiere outdoor show. The exhibit hall is 140,000 square feet with adjacent free parking spaces, and features exhibits from hundreds of outdoor companies.

Special show attractions include the Garden State Deer Classic, 3-D Archery Tournament and Public Shoot, Fire & Ice Expo, Mohawk Valley Mining Company, Arcadia Bird Sanctuary, exhibits featuring wolves and dogs, fishing exhibitions and demonstrations, and many activities for kids.

One-day tickets are **\$10 online** and **\$15 at the door**, and children 11 and under are admitted free. You may also **sign up online for an e-coupon in advance** - just print out the coupon and receive a \$3 discount on a \$15 ticket at www.gsoss.com

Go to www.gsoss.com to purchase tickets, sign up for your e-coupon, or check out the pre-show hot deals!



Beekeeping



We belong to a cold water conservation organization, but, unless you live on a small houseboat in the middle of a local stream, in your everyday life you are on dry land and surrounded by trees, bushes and, in summer, flowers. And there are also many insects around all of the foliage (oddly enough to some of us, there really are more flying things than stoneflies and mayflies).

Of the many insects, however, at least one is in trouble and it's probably the most important one, the honeybee. Honeybees are needed for fruit and vegetable production and without them you would not have as many flowers around your house. Bumblebees and some wasps (wasps are the ones that tend to sting people while honeybees are docile and can be moved aside if they are in your way) help with pollination but honeybees carry out most of the drudge work. But, because of disease and the strange collapse of quite a few hives, honeybees are becoming rare where they were once plentiful.

If you are interested in building a hive and living with honeybees, these busy little ladies will fly for miles to bring back pollen and nectar, build their combs and, after a while, let you have a supply of wildflower honey. There are only five or six towns in New Jersey that prohibit beekeeping, but check you local ordinances and visit one of the many beekeeping web sites:

<http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/pi/prog/beeinspection.html>

http://www.ohiostatebeekeepers.org/beekeeping_class/

<http://www.njbees.org>



Macroinvertebrate Survey of Ramapo River

Michael J. Sebetich, Ph.D.

Introduction



Our East Jersey TU chapter has not sampled the macroinvertebrates of the Ramapo River or other local stream for some years, and we decided to resume sampling in 2014. The objectives are to monitor stream water quality and to become aware of the kinds of aquatic invertebrates that may be useful in fishing for trout. Macroinvertebrates are the major food source of trout in our streams. They include insects, crustaceans (amphipods, isopods, crayfish), flatworms, segmented worms (leeches, earthworms) and mollusks (snails, clams, mussels). This report summarizes the results of our initial, resumption sampling effort. Our objective for 2015 is to expand the program to more frequent sampling and to include Saddle

River.

We sampled macroinvertebrates at two locations on the Ramapo River on 9 October 2014. Neil McGee, Fred Madura, and Michael Sebetich used the kick net method recommended by USEPA for sampling riffles of wadeable streams. One sampling location was in the riffle approximately 200 meters upstream of the Halifax Road Bridge, Mahwah, Bergen County, NJ. The other location was a riffle area approximately 100 meters downstream of the Glen Gray Bridge, Oakland, Bergen County, NJ.



Using USEPA protocol, we took two kick net samples at both riffle locations. The organisms were picked from the net and preserved in formaldehyde for later identification and analysis. We spent the same amount of time and effort at both sampling sites.

Caddisfly and mayfly larvae dominated at both sampling locations. At Halifax Road 50 percent of the organisms were caddisflies, and at Glen Gray, caddisflies consisted of 72 percent of the total number of organisms sampled. Mayfly larvae made up 15 percent at Halifax Road, and 20 percent at Glen Gray. Together, caddisflies and mayflies were 87 percent of all organisms sampled at the combined locations. One TU member asked if *Isonychia* (slate drake) nymphs were sampled, and the answer is yes, some *Isonychia* nymphs with the white stripe on the back of the exoskeleton were among the mayflies sampled. Other good water quality indicator organisms included numerous water penny (beetle, Coleoptera) samples and at least one hellgrammite (Megaloptera).

The density of organisms was much higher at the Glen Gray sampling site than at the Halifax Road site. We collected 3.5 times as many individuals at Glen Gray than at Halifax Road even though the sampling time and effort was the same at both sites.

No attempt was made to identify the organisms to genus and species. For this survey identification to the taxonomic order is sufficient. Applying the numbers and kinds (orders) of organisms to simplistic, common biotic indices resulted in a water quality rating of **fair** for the Ramapo River. Macroinvertebrate data from one sampling date is not definitive, but it does give us an indication of the water quality, and may be used to determine a trend over time.



An example of stating that one sampling date is not sufficient is the absence of stoneflies in our four sampling attempts. Those of us who have fished the Ramapo River for some years have seen stonefly adults and larvae, occasionally. Plecoptera (stoneflies) is a taxonomic order of insects that is most sensitive to poor water quality. Because we did not sample stoneflies does not necessarily mean that they are absent from the Ramapo River, but it indicates that they were rare or absent at the locations sampled on October 9.

Based on this initial survey, it is advisable to carry patterns for caddisflies, mayflies, sowbugs and scuds when fishing on the Ramapo River.

[Table of survey results is on page 5]

Macroinvertebrate Survey of Ramapo River Results

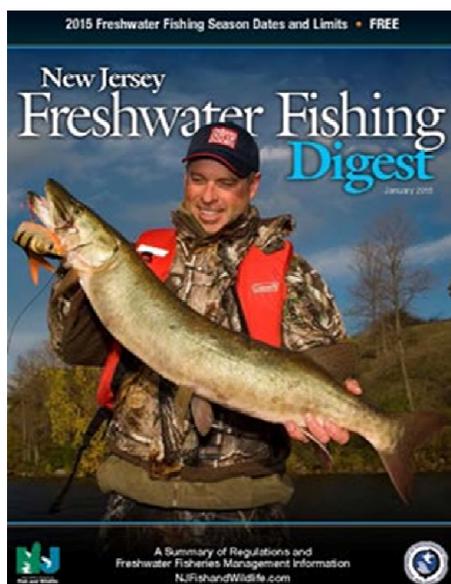
Table 1. Macroinvertebrates sampled in Ramapo River, 9 October 2014.

Taxonomic Order	Common Name	Halifax Rd. Bridge		Glen Gray Bridge	
		No. individuals	%	No. individuals	%
Ephemeroptera	mayfly	23	0.15	105	0.20
Trichoptera	caddisfly	79	0.53	382	0.72
Coleoptera	beetle (water penny)	2	0.01	24	0.05
Diptera	blackfly	6	0.04	1	0.002
Megaloptera	hellgrammite	0		1	0.002
Amphipoda	scud	7	0.05	1	0.02
Isopoda	sowbug	23	0.15	0	
Decapoda	crayfish	3	0.02	2	0.004
Hirudinea (Class)	leech	10	0.07	2	0.004
Total		50		528	

**New Jersey Fish and Wildlife's
2015 Freshwater Fishing Digest** is now available.

If you cannot get a hard copy, you can go to the following web site and download a copy:

<http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/digfsh15.htm>



Snapping Turtle Survey

Montclair State University, in cooperation with the NJDEP Division of Fish and Wildlife, has a short, on-line survey on the harvest of snapping turtles in



New Jersey. The purpose is to obtain information on the number of anglers who recreationally harvest snapping turtles and public opinion on rules and regulations governing

their harvest. Even if you do not harvest snapping turtles, your input and opinion is important.

More information, including a link to the survey, can be found at http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/news/2014/turtle_survey.htm on the Division's web-site.



Winter Stocking in Six Lakes and Ponds

An additional 495 large brown trout (averaging 17") have been stocked as an extension of the Winter Trout Stocking Program. These large broodstock will provide additional angling opportunities as part of the year-round trout stocking program the NJDEP Division of Fish and Wildlife provides.

In addition, 8,600 brown trout, averaging 10" in length, were stocked in the Manasquan River as part of the Sea Run Brown Trout Program.



The Browns were released into:

Essex County

Verona Park Lake - 75

Hunterdon County

Amwell Lake - 90

Passaic County

Barbour's Pond -75

Hudson County

Woodcliff Lake - 75

Mercer County

Colonial Lake - 90

Rosedale Lake 90

2015 Frank Hall Memorial Fly Tying Contest

The fly for this year's contest was selected by Bill Hrenko, last year's winner. Bill will serve as the lead judge of the 2015 contest. All entries should be individually packaged with the tiers name and phone number. More than one entry may be submitted. All entries will be due by February 28, 2015, and become the property of East Jersey Trout Unlimited. They may be turned in at a meeting, to any EJTU officer or in the fishing department at Ramsey Outdoor in Ramsey, attention Bill Borowski.

March Brown

(Art Flick's Version)

Hook: Mustad 94840, Partridge L3A (12-14)

Thread: Orange (Flymaster 6/0 or equiv.)

Wing: Mallard Flank with Bronze tinge or well-marked wood duck flank fibers

Tail: Dark ginger hackle fibers

Body: Sandy beige dubbing fur

Hackle: Dark ginger and grizzly mixed



American March Brown (Flick)

This pattern, also known as the American March Brown, is the result of research done by Preston Jennings and Art Flick. In both of the original patterns the dark ginger (red game) hackle is wound in first and the grizzly hackle last as a fronting collar. The Flick variation simply lists light fawn colored fox fur from the red fox, which may be incorrectly interpreted by some tiers. For that matter, so may sandy beige, which I've (Eric Leiser) used to describe this pattern, but then without a sample, it is a difficult shade to describe.

Excerpted from Eric Leiser's "The Book of Fly Patterns"

EJTU Publicity

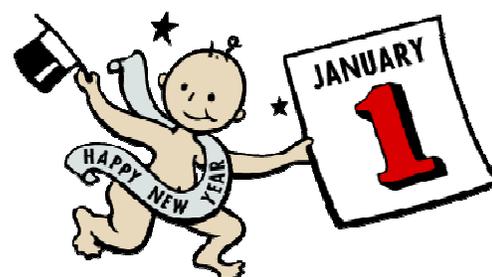
Our chapter of TU often plans events that non-TU members and their children would find interesting. We have a problem, however, because, even though we might plan an interesting event, we have not found a way to tell the local population what we are going to do.

Most towns in our area have free, weekly newspapers that would be ideal vehicles for disseminating our information, but, while they present local news and coming events such as ours and actively solicit similar information, we do not have addresses for them.



Because our membership comes from towns throughout northeastern New Jersey, every week our members get copies of the information that we are looking for. We would, therefore, like to ask for your help. When you have finished reading the next issue of your weekly, local paper please look through it and find the page that has the paper's contact information. Then send that contact information, along with the name of the paper and the towns that are served by it to us, either by email or snail mail.

If you will use email send to raycapp@optonline.net. If you will use snail mail, just tear out the contact page and the front page and send it to Ray Cappock, 322 Harris Place, New Milford, NJ 07646.



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much needed attention Having Chris Woods, a Jersey Native, as the current CEO probably doesn't hurt, but a lot of this started before he took over the helm.

With 10 active chapters and well over 100 TIC tanks throughout the state, NJ TU is going strong as we enter the New Year.

Bruce Seiden

Be a Writer

Members would like Riffles to contain information in which they are interested and they would also like photos of people and activities that interest them. But, when assembling the articles and photos that are to be presented in issues of the publication, there is no way to know what information and images will satisfy these desires because we get little response to anything that is presented.

When you would like to comment on anything that you read in Riffles, please do so.

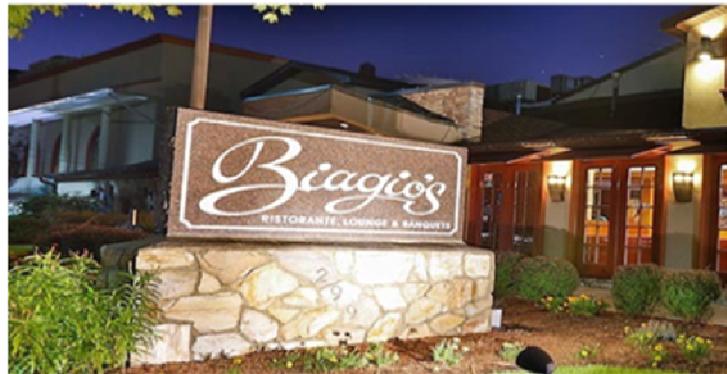
If you object to anything that is presented in Riffles, let us know.

If you would like to tell fellow members about a fishing experience, a trip that you took, a proud or embarrassing experience, write about it and send it to us.

If you like what is in Riffles, it would be nice to let us know, but without responses from readers, we have to assume that the content is satisfactory.

Some members have said, "I'm not a good writer." That doesn't matter. Send us your piece in your own words and we will tune it up; we do this all the time because some articles are too long, some too short and all has to fit

Annual Banquet March 28, 2015



EJTU's annual letter with its accompanying raffle tickets and dinner announcement should have reached your mailbox long before now. If you've put it aside, please get it out and send your reply.

The winner of the raffle will have the opportunity to go on a guided fishing trip on the Delaware River so the raffle is a double plus; the fishing trip will be a great opportunity to be brought to productive fishing spots on a great river and the sale of tickets will help the chapter raise money for our 2015 activities. And the tickets are cheap at \$5 each or 6 for \$25 – what a deal!

We have written about the chapter's annual banquet in the past, but if you have never attended one you should try to get there this year. It's a fun night that you can share with wives, girlfriends and fellow EJTU members, the food is great and it is also the chapter's biggest fund raiser of the year. The dinner will again be held in the very popular Biagio's on Paramus Road in Paramus; easy to get to, good food and lots of parking area.

The Date March 28, 2016

within a few pages. Also, we have retired school teachers who sit around wondering what to do with all of their old red pencils and are happy to help with editing.

If you would like to present an article but are hesitant about having your name printed at the end of it, don't worry. As long as we know who you are, we can keep your identity a secret. Nom de Plume and Anonymous have been famous writers for centuries.

Send your thoughts, articles and particularly photos to



We wish everyone a year of contentment, health and happiness.

