



Everyone's Irish
On March 17th.

Riffles

The Monthly Newsletter of the
East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited



Volume 47

March 2016

Number 3

President's Beat

I received a letter from TU National and wanted to share some of the information it contained with you. But first I should explain that TU is different from



many other conservation organizations because of the tremendous representation we get on the ground. The local chapters drive many programs by providing both leadership and hands on work that get a lot of projects done for a fraction of what they could cost.

Now, the data from TU National. In just the last year, TU's 380 chapters and 36 state councils reported that we:

- Contributed an incredible 668,745 volunteer hours
- Held 1,089 conservation projects on local streams
- Engaged youth with 1,597 education projects or programs
- Raised and spent more than \$9 million on local conservation, education and other work

TU is one of the strongest grass-roots conservation organizations in the country because of your efforts, and our supporters and partners know and appreciate that fact when they fund or work with TU. They know they are lev-

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When: March 9 at 7:30 PM
Where: American Legion Hall
33 West Passaic Street
Rochelle Park, NJ

March Speaker Dave Hess



Have you ever wanted to head west to Montana to fish? You might have, but you didn't know where to go, what water to visit, what gear to bring and the things that you don't have to think about when you fish in New Jersey or New York. Well Dave Hess can help you with his talk on fishing in Montana.

Dave is a retired law enforcement officer from PA who has fly fished for the past 30 years. He has travelled and fished extensively throughout the western US and Canada. His passions are fishing dry flies for wild trout as well as swinging flies for steelhead. He is employed at Tight Lines Fly Fishing in Parsippany, NJ.

Schedule

- Mar 17/21 LL Bean Open House
- Mar 21 - Apr 8 Pre-season trout stocking
- Mar 26 [Sat] Woodchip spreading, Glen Gray Road
- Mar 29 [Tue] Paramus Fly Fishing Course starts
- Apr. 2/3 [Sat/Sun] Pequest Open House
- Apr 9 [Sat] Trout season opens
- Apr 13 [Wed] Speaker: Scott Cesari
- Apr 14 [Thur] Start in-season trout stocking
- Apr 30 [Sat] Brodhead Creek, PA trip
- May 11 [Wed] Speaker: Matt Robert
- May 21/22 [Sat/Sun] Cast and Blast
- May 28 [Sat] Mahwah Fishing Derby
- Jun 3/5 [Fri] Catskill Bar-B-Que
- Jun 8 [Wed] Speaker: "Rock" Rockwell
- Jun 10 - 17 Block Island trip
- Jun 11 [Sat] Ramapo River Day
- Jun 24/7 [Fri/Mon] Ausable River trip

Welcome to February's New Members



- | | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Ken Barber | Hillsdale |
| Vincent Bazaz | Mahwah |
| George Douglas | Cresskill |
| William Hook | Tenafly |
| Darren Luedecke | Verona |
| Marven Oresky | Paramus |
| Paul Richard | Weehawken |
| Edwin Van Deren | Wayne |
| Tom Yumans | Ridgewood |

**East Jersey Chapter
Trout Unlimited
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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:

East Jersey Chapter, Trout Unlimited Box 366
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



The recent tragedy in Flint, Michigan should cause all of us to question the quality of the drinking water that flows into our homes. Many of us live in communities where the infrastructure is over 100 years old. Lead pipes or pipes containing lead were used extensively in many communities. There were those who raised the issue of contamination in the water in Flint, but they were ignored. Our reliance on our local, state and federal "watchdogs" to do what is in the best interest of the populations they serve should be questioned. In an effort to save money in the short term, leaders in Michigan's government have caused immeasurable damage which will most likely cost the state many times what it thought it could save. Maybe they thought the residents of Flint would be collateral damage in the ongoing attempt to provide services on the cheap. We all have the right to demand more of the officials we elect and the people they appoint to execute the responsibilities of government.

Two related issues come to mind. First, the ongoing fight in Ringwood to deal with the toxins left behind by Ford. This is not just a problem for Ford. It also brings attention to the local government officials of Ringwood who were either complicit or turned a blind eye to the problem

they helped create. Somehow, we are expected to accept the fact that toxins are only present in waterways which eventually feed into Wanaque Reservoir and not the Reservoir itself. It sounds to me like it is only a matter of time before the inevitable happens, so Ford and Ringwood should be required to do a complete clean up. This was accomplished, to a great extent, in Rockland County, so we know it can be done. The only question is how much it will cost. The plan to cap the contamination is not a plan. It is a temporary fix to get those responsible off the hook for now. The second concern is the legislation passed not long ago which allows communities to sell their water and sewerage systems to private interests. Does anyone really think that private ownership of your water systems will improve either the quality of service or the quality of our drinking water?

Many of you may have received information regarding the plan to clear cut selected areas of Sparta Mtn. WMA to benefit the recovery of certain songbird species. While the goal is laudable, it appears that the plan does not adequately consider the effect on other wildlife or the effect on water quality issues. NJ Highlands Coalition has some good information on its web site. Take a look. The State has asked for public comment.

Proposed Flood Hazard Rules which had the potential to adversely impact protection of sensitive, high quality and C-1 trout reproduction streams have been temporarily slowed. There was a significant response from

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Conservation—Continued from page 2

the public in opposition to rules which would benefit development and developers. The Governor's office seems to be intent on promoting development whether it is in sensitive watersheds or on the shoreline of Liberty State Park. This is not a victory for those interested in protecting our water. It is only a speed bump but it may cause more careful consideration of the proposed changes.

As we approach our "busy season" I ask each of you to consider how you might become involved with the numerous programs currently on our calendar. Our first work project is on March 26th, when we will be cleaning up and restoring the parking area along Glen Gray Road in Mahwah. This annual event benefits the many anglers who fish the Ramapo in that area. Our weekly stocking routine will start in early April and continue for several weeks. We will have our usual participation in community activities, fishing derbies and the like. June 11th is Ramapo River Day and we will be looking for a lot of help to execute that educational program. Please refer to the calendar in Riffles or on the web site. I hope to see some new

faces at all of these events. Thank you for being the backbone of our organization.

On February 27th, NJ Fish & Wildlife held its annual meeting to discuss trout stocking plans for 2016. Again this year only rainbow trout will be stocked. This will continue until disease free brown trout eggs can be acquired, hatched and reared, which might be in 2018 or later. Brook trout will be the last to be reintroduced due to the risk of contamination of wild fish populations. Estimated numbers are over 570,000 fish that are about 10.5 inches long. Over 16,000 fish have been allocated for the Ramapo with seven in-season stocking dates in April and May.

There was a plea for anglers to complete surveys about their fishing activities on the NJF&W web site. This is critical information that will allow F&W to better plan for the future. Beginning February 29th, there will be a very important survey about regulation of wild trout streams. The information gathered by this survey will be the basis for changes in regulations expected for the 2018 season. Please take the time to complete this survey.

Rich Malizia

March Fly of the Month



Spring is less than a month away, opening day is just around the corner, and it's time to restock those fly boxes. Early season fishing usually means streamers and nymphs.



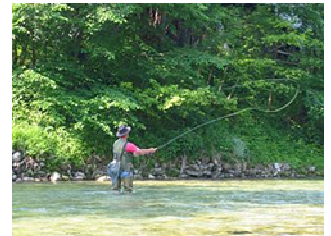
Whether it's little black stones or big white streamers for the West Branch, it's time to get busy at the vice. While you're at it, how about whipping up an extra dozen for the chapter?



EJTU Fly Fishing School March 29 - May 17

EJTU's highly recommended fly-fishing school will begin on Tuesday, March 29, 2016 and continue for seven sessions until Tuesday, May 17 (There will be no class on April 5). Each three hour session will include one and a half hours of fly-casting practice in the gym and one and a half hours of classroom instruction.

The classroom instruction will include fly selection, tackle for fly fishing, lines



and leaders, knots, entomology and how to read a stream. There will be plenty of time to ask questions and talk with the instructors.

All instruction, both in the gym and in the classroom, will be taught by East Jersey Trout Unlimited members with many years of experience in fly fishing.

All equipment will be provided. However, students with their own rods and reels are encouraged to use them in class.

Classes will be held at Paramus' Westbrook Middle School, in classrooms for instruction and in the gym for fly casting.

If you know someone who has always wanted to learn how to fish with a fly rod or if your spouse wants to learn and you dread the experience, get them to sign up for this outstanding course.

Go to the Paramus Community School's web site, <http://www.ssreg.com/paramus/classes/classes.asp?catID=2047&pcatID=1153>, to enroll.

Lyme disease—carrying ticks are now in half of all U.S. counties

By Claire Asher Jan. 18, 2016

The ticks that transmit Lyme disease, a debilitating flulike illness caused by *Borrelia* bacteria, are spreading rapidly across the United States. Over the past 20 years, the two species known to spread the disease to humans have together advanced into half of all the counties in the United States.

Lyme disease cases have tripled in the United States over the last 2 decades, making it

the most commonly reported vector-borne disease in the Northern Hemisphere. The disease now affects around 300,000 Americans each year. If diagnosed early—a rash commonly appears around the site of the tick bite—Lyme can be effectively treated with antibiotics, but longer term infections can produce more serious symptoms, including joint stiffness, brain inflammation, and nerve pain.

According to an article in the *Journal of Medical Entomology*, the blacklegged tick has undergone a population explosion, doubling its established range in less than 2 decades. It is now reported in 45.7% of U.S. counties. Blacklegged ticks are found in 37 states across the eastern United States. Combined, these two Lyme disease vectors are now found in half of all U.S. counties.



Blacklegged Tick

“Since the late 1990s, the number of counties in the northeastern United States that are considered high-risk for Lyme disease has increased by more than 320%,” Rebecca Eisen from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Fort Collins, Colorado says. “The tick is now established in areas

where it was absent 20 years ago,” she adds.

Perhaps most worrying, the tick-dense northeast is where Lyme disease is most com-

mon. Although the blacklegged tick is found from Florida to Minnesota, 95% of confirmed cases come from just 14 states in the northeast and upper Midwest.

A study published in *PLOS ONE* last year might hold the answer. Parasitologist Isis Arsnøe from Michigan State University and colleagues found that populations of blacklegged ticks behave differently in the north and the south of the United States. Nymphs of the blacklegged tick in the north are bolder and more active in seeking out hosts, a behavior known as questing. Arsnøe and his team found that that tick nymphs originating from Wisconsin and Rhode Island were 20 times more likely to emerge from leaf litter, putting them in the path of passing humans, than nymphs from Tennessee and Florida. “Questing behavior is a key factor affecting the risk of tick bites,”

President's Beat
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eraging the immense volunteer “ground game” that we provide each year.

Our chapter does its best to do these same types of projects each and every year and I want to thank all of you for your efforts. I hope that you're equally energized by our many shared accomplishments and excited by all that we will achieve together.

Our annual banquet is our chance to celebrate our accomplishments. I hope to see many of you there on March 19th as we celebrate another year for East Jersey TU.

Bruce Seiden

Arsnoe explains. “Ticks that stay buried in the leaves are not likely to have an opportunity to bite passing humans—and unless they bite they cannot transmit disease.”

But despite the wide distribution of the vectors, a tick's chances of coming into contact with a human are still relatively low. Avoiding areas of thick vegetation, using a strong repellent, and bathing after hiking are usually enough to avoid contact, CDC says.

Full article with distribution maps can be found at <http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2016/01/lyme-disease-carrying-ticks-are-now-half-all-us-counties>



February's speaker, Chris Clacker, talked about the cost of fishing Alaska if you arranged your trip through the lodge where he guides, but he then spoke about "do it yourself" trips. The 'do it yourself' section of the talk included a one page handout. The following is the information that is in the handout.

It's true that you can spend \$1,000 a day of more to fly fish Alaska! But, it's also true that you can fish Alaska for a week for about \$1,000 (not including air fare)

How? Do it yourself! Get a guidebook at milepost.com and a fishing license that is available at www.adfg.state.ak.us In addition, you can make camp reservations at www.travelalaska.com.

Then start your trip by flying to Anchorage, renting a car (preferably a mini van) and setting off in this very user-friendly fisherman's paradise.

Getting camping equipment, including tent, cots, cooking gear, etc. to Alaska can be challenging because of baggage charges, weight limitations, cooking fuel prohibitions, etc., but it can be done if you think minimalist. Or, you can also consider purchasing in-country and leaving the equipment when you leave. You can always donate it to the Boy Scouts of America or another group.

As a very affordable alternative, consider renting an RV at Great Alaskan Holidays. This becomes very attractive as one ages as there is much less work than pitching tents and tarps and it

also leaves much more time for fishing.

Once you have secured your transportation, stock up on supplies in Anchorage and then pick your destination.

You can go north around Knik Arm to the Parks highway "Matsu Valley", Talketna and on to Denali National Park to see the mountain, if it is visible. On a clear day the mountain is visible



from Anchorage, 220 miles away.

Or you can head south for the Kenai Peninsula, travel around Turnagain Arm and watch for Beluga whales. Just a couple of hours further is Cooper Landing, the site of the confluence of two of the best rivers you will find on the road system, the Kenai and the Russian. The best access is by camping or RVing at Russian River Camp Ground. However, this is not a wilderness experience; it will be crowded, but it's crowded because it's that good. So, make reservations.

Also nearby are other streams worth your time, including Quartz, Crescent and Ptarmigan, plus day trips to Exit Glacier and the city of Seward for fjord tours, whale watching and wildlife tours. While you are in Cooper Landing you can book a drift boat trip with Bruce Nelson, the, "Dean of the Kenai River," at 907-595-1313.

After a couple of days, carry on southward, restock in Soldotna,

explore the lower Kenai River, Skilak Lake, Stormy Lake, Kasiloff River, Deep Creek, Nanilchik and Anchor Rivers along the way. There are plenty of both public and private camping spots available.

From here, Cook Inlet, with the Aleutians and live volcanoes, is to the west. The road

ends at Homer Spit and it's worth a look. On the Spit there are camping, restaurants, halibut charters, sea kayaking, clamming and water taxi service across Kachemak Bay.

You can fish your way back up the peninsula, revisiting your favorite spots or adding new ones while making a list of places to hit on your return (and you will return!). And, why not? It's easy, affordable and an amazing fishing experience.

Pequest Open House

The Annual Pequest Open House and Sportsmen’s Flea Market is scheduled for April 2 and 3 this year, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife is requesting your help to make the event run smoothly.

Back again this year will be the bass tub, the trout tank for kids, fishing for trout in the pond (kids 8-16), the flea market, conservation groups, artists, agency displays, etc. etc. Fish and Wildlife is putting its request in early for nice weather.

Fish and Wildlife is looking for volunteers for the usual assignments during the day:

- fishing help at the pond
- fishing help with little kids at the trout tank
- equipment maintenance at the pond

From: The Tidal Exchange
E-News of the
New York-New Jersey Harbor &
Estuary Program

Creature of the Month: The Common Periwinkle

Rugged traveler,
Marsh Destroyer



Credit: Genny Anderson, 2003

Littorina littorea, better known as the common periwinkle, can live anywhere and eat anything, at least in comparison with most snails. Having first arrived to these shores as a stowaway on British ships during 19th century transatlantic journeys, the common periwinkle can be found in estuaries and open coasts, sandy or muddy bottoms, and most commonly in rocky tidepools, where hundreds can gather within a single square meter.

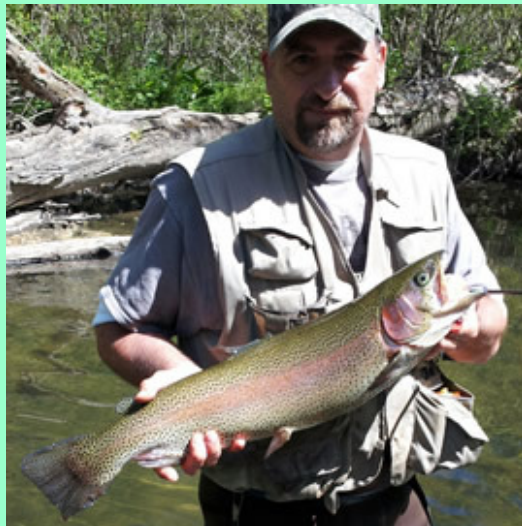
Their feeding patterns shape the environments around them: periwinkles eat algae, shoots of baby marshgrass, and the eggs of competing invertebrates, which can reduce sediment accumulation in soft-bottom habitats. Despite their admirable fortitude and resourcefulness, periwinkles ultimately reduce ecosystems’ biodiversity. To all the blue crabs and marsh crabs that eat the common periwinkle, good luck! The estuary is counting on you.

2016 Ramapo River Trout Stocking Schedule

In another few weeks rainbow trout will be flying from bridges and river banks across New Jersey. No, NJ Fish and Wildlife has not bred a batch of the legendary “Flybows”. These fish will become airborne with assists from rapidly moving buckets and nets. It’s trout stocking time again.

Our local river, the Ramapo, will be getting over sixteen thousand of these fish during the two months of stocking. Here is Fish and Wildlife’s list of the Ramapo’s weekly allocations:

5,220	PreSeason;
March 21 - April 8	
1,960	April 11 - 15
1,740	April 18 - 22
1,740	April 25 - 29
1,740	May 2 - 6
1,740	May 9 - 13
1,090	May 16 - 20
1,090	May 23 - 27
16,320	Total



Rainbow Trout, including giant brood-stock, will be stocked this spring

The 2016 EJTU Raffle A Guided Saltwater Fishing Trip



If you haven’t turned in your raffle tickets, you better do ti quickly. The drawing will be at this month’s meeting - March 9, 2016.

Five dollars each or six for twenty-five dollars. That’s cheap for a chance on a \$425 prize.

East Jersey Trout Unlimited 2016 Annual Banquet

Saturday, March 19, 2016

to be held at
Biagio's Ristorante,
299 Paramus Road, Paramus, NJ
Tel: (201) 652-2603

You are invited to attend the annual East Jersey Trout Unlimited Banquet for a celebration of another successful year of achieving our many goals and for an opportunity to enjoy the camaraderie of your fellow anglers. This is one of our major fund-raisers, so you not only will be enjoying a fun evening, but you also will be contributing to our programs that ensure EJTU remains an effective steward of our cold water fisheries.

The evening will begin at 7:00 pm for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres in our own private banquet. At this time you will have the opportunity to purchase raffle tickets to win the many prizes that will be on display. As in previous years, **unlimited wine, beer and soda** will be available at no charge, throughout the evening, with a cash bar also available.

The formal banquet activities will begin at 8:00 pm with the EJTU president's welcoming speech, followed by a 4-course dinner featuring your choice of Prime Ribs, Chicken or Fish.

After dinner, the festivities will continue with presentations to volunteers who have achieved significant milestones and with the drawing of the raffles.

Please join us for a fun and worthwhile event.

Payment of \$ 60.00 per person is due by March 9th

Make checks payable to EJTU
and return in the enclosed envelope with completed form or mail to:

Igor Zaretsky - Treasurer
8-14 Elaine Terrace
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410

Name _____ Guest _____

Phone _____ Email: _____

Please do your best to sit me with the following members:

Striving to protect and preserve cold, clean, fishable water.