

# Riffles

The Monthly Newsletter of the  
East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited

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May 2011

Number 5

## Splish-Splash!

Bobby Darin was a hit with those sounds but they're not the sounds that we should be making on fishable waters. Knowledgeable anglers prefer peace, solitude and a lack of man-made noises. However, perhaps because it's close to opening day and its concomitant invasion of inexperienced fishermen or maybe it's just a lack of consideration for others but, recently a number of people have complained about boorish behavior on trout streams.

So here is a reprint of a piece on stream etiquette that George Petersen's wrote a while ago:

### Stream Etiquette Random Thoughts on Basic Stream Etiquette

Angling, especially angling with a fly rod, has been called "the gentle sport". Perhaps that is because we fish primarily on foot rather than from flashy, metallic-flaked, high-powered boats. In addition, fly anglers rarely compete in any sort of tournament. We prefer to pit our knowledge and skills against the fish rather than the skills of other anglers. We are rare holdouts in an increasingly competitive society where professional athletes have forgotten the meanings of words such as "game" and "play". (E.g. consider the state of the National Basketball Association.)

First and foremost, fly anglers need room. We need room for a

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**When:** May, 11 at 7:30 PM

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

May Speaker

**George Douglas**

Publisher Kype Fishing  
Magazine

George was inducted into the Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame in 2010 as one of forty-eight legendary communicators in the sport of freshwater fishing.

His quarterly magazine, Kype, comes with a DVD featuring the best salmon, trout and steelhead fishing on the continent. It highlights his fishing experiences and also has many other articles and features from the industry's top guides and fishermen.

George's passion includes introducing fishing to kids, educating anglers of all ages, and advocating catch and release.

He lives half the year in Ohio as a Steelhead Guide in the Steelhead Alley region and spends the other half of the year back home fishing west coast rivers.

Visit George's web site, <http://kypemagazine.com>, click on *Fly Fishing Techniques* and then select *Indicator Nymph Fishing*; you will see an eight minute film clip of Karl Weixlmann hooking a few steelhead and finally landing one.

"The only reason I ever played golf in the first place was so I could afford to hunt and fish."

*Sam Sneed*

## EJTU Calendar

Advise Rich Malizia (973-304-0789 or [remqcp@optonline.net](mailto:remqcp@optonline.net)) of changes to calendar events; let Ed Higgins ([easyedh@gmail.com](mailto:easyedh@gmail.com)) know if you are interested in fishing trips well in advance because openings are limited and reservations must be made in advance. Get your money in as soon as possible or someone else will take your place.

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

Apr 14/May 26 – Trout stocking Thursdays

May 11 - Members Mtng, George Douglas Steelhead fishing

May 14 - Fishing Trip - Shad Fishing on the Delaware

May 28 - Mahwah Fishing Derby

Jun 3, 5, 6 - Picnic/Fishing Trip - Catskill Fly Fishing Museum

Jun 11 - Ramapo River Day

Aug/Sept. Date TBA - Planting along Cresskill Brook

Aug/Sept Date TBA – Rebuilding weir on the Ramapo

## Welcome to April's New Members



George Bruno  
Richard Fuchs  
Robert McAllister  
Brian Pyun  
Joe Wolenski

Totowa  
Rochelle Pk.  
Clifton  
New Milford  
Hillsborough

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

**President/ Conservation Chair**  
Ray Cappock

**1st Vice President/Webmaster**  
Bill Borowski

**2nd Vice President/Treasurer**  
Bruce Seiden

**Recording Secretary**  
Dino Eftychiou

**Membership Secretary**  
Ken Barile

**Education**  
Doug Penna

**Speakers**  
Ed Higgins

**Merchandise**  
Basil Santamaria

**Trout in the Classroom**  
George Petersen

**Points**  
Paul Reithmeier

**Publicity Chair**  
John Grisoni

**At Large**  
Elio Chiavola

**Founding President**  
Don Ecker

**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](mailto:kenbrile@optonline.net).  
For Information on trips and other Chapter Activities go to [www.eastjerseytu.org](http://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](mailto:raycapp@optonline.net)

**May Fly of the Month**

A glorious time to be alive and knee deep in a Trout stream. The first major hatches should be in full swing: Hendricksons, Blue Quills, Quill Gordons, and Sulphurs.



*Sulphur Dun*

These are the flies that made the Catskills famous, and defined the "Catskill Style" of dry fly. So as you prepare for your next day on the stream and tie up a few of your favorites, how about whipping up an extra dozen for the chapter.



*Blue Quills*



**Paul Reithmier at Work**

In the May 2011 issue, Outdoor Life Magazine announces the start of the magazine's 2011 Save-a-Stream project and asks for new project proposals. In the article that promotes the project, the magazine's editors write that, "...Save-a-Stream has built a track record of restoring dozens of waterways for recreational use..."; they also present a photo taken during last year's featured clean-up.

The photo that the magazine used to lead the article was taken during EJTU's 2011 clean up of the Ho-Ho-Kus Brook and Saddle River in Dunkerhook Park. The photo shows board of directors member Paul Reithmeier at work in Ho-Ho-Kus Brook.



Last year when the magazine wrote about the clean-up in Dunkerhook Park it used a photo of Tom Gemski, a member of EJTU's Conservation Committee.

**Trout in the Classroom**

(For a while)

These are two photos of Trout in the Classroom fish that Chuck Bobrowski, a teacher at Passaic High School, sent to us. In October 2010 EJTU volunteers delivered little sandwich bags containing fertilized trout eggs to this and many other schools in northern New Jersey. Here are some of the fish that developed from those eggs.



Passaic High school students, along with teachers, will release the fish into the Paulinskill on Monday, May 2.



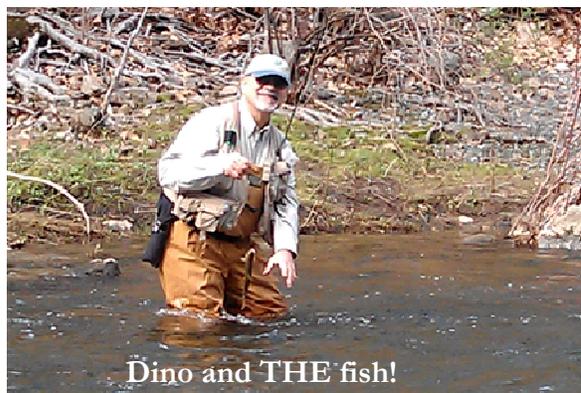
## A Birthday Trout

Frankly I never expected it to happen so soon. To be honest, I feared that it might not ever happen. Every fly that I tied in the EJ TU fly-tying class I named the Dino Ugly, even though the joke probably was wearing thin. I figured that if I could catch trout on the Ausable River up in the Adirondacks on a fly called the Ausable Ugly (a variation of Fran Better's Ausable Wulff), then maybe, just maybe, I could tempt one of our fickle Jersey trout to take a bite of a Dino Ugly.

Well, it did happen. On April 15, my birthday, my son Christopher and I fished one of our favorite stretches of the South Branch of the Raritan River. The night before I had taken all the flies that I had tied and tossed them together in a plastic box—nymphs, wet flies, dry flies, woolly buggers, streamers—it didn't matter that they were ignobly thrown together. All I cared about was that if there was even the remotest possibility of catching a trout on one of my flies, I wanted to be absolutely certain that it was indeed one I tied. I didn't want to catch a trout with one of those store bought flies and then delude myself into thinking that I had tied it.

As we started rigging our rods by the side of the road, Chris asked me what I was tying on. I told him it was a hare's ear that I had tied in the EJ TU class. He looked at it and pointed out that the tail was too long. He was being kind. It really was an ugly fly. But maybe because it was my birthday or maybe because he was anxious to get into the river, he spared me a more thorough critique. However, perhaps not surprisingly, he did ask whether he could tie on one of my flies. So I gave him the least ugly hare's ear (at least I think it was a hare's ear) out of my box.

My son always catches the first trout of the day, but that day I was determined to be first. After all, it was my birthday and they were my flies. Being a true fisherman, I've thought of changing the story here a bit and telling you that I did net the first trout, but my son might be reading this, so I'll be honest. Within about 15 minutes Chris yelled over to me that he had on a brown on my fly. (I might have heard a bit of incredulity in his tone of voice, but I probably was imagining that.) OK, I thought to myself. He's my son. Maybe it's better that he was the first one who caught a fish with one of my flies. It validated the fact that my flies, at least that one, did what they were meant to do. A few minutes later, my son yelled over, "Dad, I got another one." Geez, what about me?



Dino and THE fish!

Be patient. Don't change the fly and it'll happen. It took a couple of hours, but I felt the tug, set the hook, and netted a nice little rainbow. Fortunately Chris was able to document the occasion with his cell phone camera. I thanked the fish, released it, and immediately took the hare's ear off my tippet. Now, wet and bitten, it was uglier than before. What the heck could it have been imitating to fool that little rainbow? Some nymph that another trout had already half chewed and spit out? Nonetheless, I wanted to save it; maybe I would pin it on my hat or have it bronzed. But after another hour of no success with other flies, I decided to give my Dino Ugly another go. And, of course, it got snagged and broke off. Bittersweet.

I caught no other fish that day, but it didn't matter.

*Dino Efychiou*

## Ramapo River Day

On Saturday, June 11 EJ TU will once again hold its biggest, one-day event – Ramapo River Day.

In conjunction with faculty members of Ramapo College of New Jersey, we will teach groups of young boys and girls about botany, water chemistry, non-point pollution, stream ecology and health, insect etymology, and the sport of fly fishing by demonstrating fly tying and giving instruction in fly casting.

If it sounds like another work day for the children it's not. The instruction is outdoors, is casual and in small groups, the kids get a chance to help gather insects from the river and the event is over by early afternoon. Past participants have always enjoyed this event

We are still looking for a few more groups of children who would benefit from attending this event, so if you know of or are associated with children's groups – scouts, church groups, schools and others – that might be interested, contact Rich Malizia at 973-304-0789 or [remgcp@optonline.net](mailto:remgcp@optonline.net).

## Trip Raffle - 2

Remember our Chapter has started the second Trip Raffle. This raffle, like the first one, offers you the chance to buy a low-cost chance on a valuable fishing trip. This trip will be a salt water fishing trip on Long Island Sound with Captain Steve Tiffinger.

As we said in the beginning, these raffles are not intended to be fund raisers. Tickets will only be offered at the regular monthly members meetings and as soon as we have sold enough tickets to reimburse the chapter for the cost of the day of fishing a winner will be chosen.

Come to the May 11 meeting and for an outlay of a few bucks you may find yourself fishing with a guide on Long Island Sound this coming summer.

## Knots

According to Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary a knot is, "an interlacement of the parts of one or more flexible bodies forming a lump or knob". Well I've sure done a couple of those in the past; even lumps or knobs that left little curly ends where my flies once were. If you want to learn how to tie good knots or if you need a refresher in some knots, web sites that can provide clear lessons are listed below.

[www.animatedknots.com/](http://www.animatedknots.com/)

Animated knots by Grog. It has good illustrations and animations on all kinds of knots: fishing boating, climbing, rescue and with a section on whipping and other rope care. Let the animated knots tie themselves or step through the process at your own speed

<http://www.netknots.com/>

Knots by Netknots.com. This also has good illustrations and animations on a large variety of knots.

<http://killroys.com/knots/>

This is a section of Kilroy's Fly Tying but it has clear descriptions of ten knots most used by fly fishermen. For the tyers, there are also sections containing patterns for ten categories of flies. The site also has hook charts, bead charts, leader formulas, articles and even recipes for cooking fish. A good site to rummage around in.

<http://www.steelheader.net/knots/knots.htm>

No animations but very clear, step-by-step drawings of how to tie about twenty fishing knots.

<http://www.tnoutdoorsmen.com/knots.htm>

This is a site for Tennessee outdoors people but it has descriptions of a dozen knots (ever hear of a Wedge Knot?) If you look through the hunting section you can also learn how to field dress deer and turkeys.



(Etiquette—Continued from page 1)

backcast as well as a forward cast. Always give another person sufficient room for both. If, when fishing a stream, you come upon someone else, be sure to allow ample space. Personally I make it a practice to leave the water and walk a good distance inland to reach a spot away from other anglers. Remember that many fish live under or near the banks. Don't disturb them. Fish the same water only when specifically invited. Should you encounter an angler sitting on the bank and watching (or perhaps contemplating the fate of the Universe) ask what his intentions are before entering the water. He might be resting a fish he has been stalking for the past hour.



Wade carefully, especially when fishing downstream. You will inadvertently disturb many fish by sloppy wading. Don't spoil the fishing for yourself and others.

Avoid loud noises. Ours is a tranquil sport, pursued in beautiful surroundings. Let's keep it that way. Don't yell to a friend or partner unless you are truly sure that only those in your party are nearby. If you must use a cell phone or walkie-talkie, leave

the water and duck behind a tree to "answer the call". Don't openly admit you are connected to an electronic leash.

Etiquette does not carry the weight of law but rather the rules for behavior in a civilized society. Let's protect the future of our sport by conducting ourselves properly.

(N.B. New Jersey law states that the license holder is solely responsible for knowing whose property he is using; the individual landowner

need not "post" his boundaries. When fishing public waters, be aware of the borders. When fishing private lands, obtain permission first. Even if refused, be polite. At that moment you are an angler and an ambassador ad hoc for our sport. Contrary to popular belief, we do not have a God-given, constitutionally guaranteed right to fish where and when we choose. Fishing is a privilege; let's not abuse it.)

"A man's manners are a mirror in which he shows his portrait."

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe,  
*Proverbs In Prose*

*George Petersen*

<http://www.flymartonline.com/article215.html>

A page in the Michigan Fly Fishing Information Center. It is limited to information about how to assemble a fly fishing outfit and how to tie the knots used to put on backing, line, leader, etc.

[http://www.proknot.com/html/fishing\\_knots.html](http://www.proknot.com/html/fishing_knots.html)

The site of Pro Knot, a company that produces knot cards. It has descriptions of twenty-five common and not so common fishing knots. If you want to learn the Eye Crosser Knot or the Slim Beauty Knot, go here.

<http://www.lake-link.com/anglers/knots/>

A site covering nine "Lake States" from Ohio northwest to North Dakota. The knot page has descriptions of a dozen knots that can be used by fishermen.

**Visit the East Jersey TU  
web site for  
up-to-the-minute  
Information:**

**[www.eastjerseytu.org](http://www.eastjerseytu.org)**