



Riffles

The Monthly Newsletter of the
East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Volume 38

February 2008

Issue 2

Auction

EJTU and Coastal Flyrodders, a Bergen County Saltwater Fly Fishing Club, have joined together to hold an auction and flea market of fishing equipment, outdoor gear, and other items. The auction will be held on:

Wednesday

February 13, 2008

at the American Legion Hall

33 West Passaic St., Rochelle Park NJ

Starting time:

6:30PM

**The auction is a fundraising event for both
EJTU and Coastal Flyrodders.**

Some items will be offered for sale -- flea market style. Big ticket items will be auctioned by John Roetman who does a great job as auctioneer.

Fly fishing gear, fly lines, coolers, rod racks, tackle boxes, downriggers, fish finders, fishing rods, boating gear, golf clubs, two way radios, anchors, camping gear, flies, fly boxes, books, videos, offshore gear, boga grips, stripping baskets, fishing lures and more will be there for the taking. Some items new; others slightly used. Additional items still needed and wanted. The auction will be loads of fun for all. Bring your money, bring your donations and get set for a good time.

Suffern Show

The Suffern Show at Rockland Community College Field House will be held February 28 to March 2. Go to www.sportshows.com for show info. EJTU will have a booth at the show promoting TU and EJTU conservation and education

programs. We will be selling raffle tickets and flies, and handing out literature. There will be a fly tying demo and casting at the casting pond. We need volunteers for the show. We require a minimum of 4 hours but you can stay as long as you want. The chapter pays for the exhibit space. Our profitable effort is mandatory for success in continuing our programs. If you want to volunteer contact: Basil Santamaria at Flyfishoutfitter@verizon.net or cell (201)747-0772.



EJTU's Display

Doug Penna had our EJTU display in the Maywood library for the month of January 2008 but, if you didn't get to see it there, you're too late because Doug and the display are on the move again.

If you want to see the display during February and March you will have to go to River-edge's library. Why not stop by and look it over?

Many libraries have areas where they have local information and displays. If your local library has such an area, talk to them about hosting our EJTU display, or let Doug know where the library is and who he should contact.

East Jersey Chapter Trout Unlimited Board of Directors

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Shows

Basil Santamaria

Publicity Chair

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

Fun on the Hudson

The Hudson River Fishermen's Association's 23rd annual Hooked on the Hudson celebration will take place on Saturday, May 17, 2008, and, again this year, EJTU has been invited to be a part of the event.



The leading environmental groups in our area will present exhibits and a variety of events at Ross Dock – an area that provides a majestic view of the Palisades and the Hudson River. Our part of the event will be to demonstrate fly tying, give out information about conservation, and also to give some fly casting instruction, so we will need a few volunteers who can help for a few hours.

We will talk about this event again in the next months but, if you want to offer your assistance early, please contact Ray Cappock (raycapp@optonline.net) or Rich Malizia (remqcp@optonline.net).

2008 Hatchery Programs

Bob Hresko has scheduled a number of programs that will be held at the Pequest Hatchery in the coming months. If you go to the NJ Fish and Wildlife web site, <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/pequest.htm>, you will see that the Hatchery (official name is the Pequest Trout Hatchery and Natural Resource Education Center) advertises the programs, registers participants and does a lot of the preparatory work. Bob and EJTU volunteers do the rest.

The setting is great, the classroom is large, the participants are enthusiastic, and the EJTU volunteers have a good time together. If you haven't volunteered for one

Fly of the Month

The Suffern Show is just around the corner and the chapter's fly inventory is still quite low. The fly sale at the Suffern Show is one of the major fundraisers for our conservation fund, and the main reason for the chapter's fly of the month program.

In light of these facts, February's Fly of the Month will be the *Suffern Specials*. The best selling flies that Basil always runs out of. These include Nymphs, Standard Catskill Dry Flies, and Streamers. Woolly buggers and bead heads always top the list.

Tie up a dozen of your favorite pattern and turn it in at the meeting. You will receive 10 points and an entry into the monthly drawing for every dozen flies you turn in. More importantly, you will be helping your chapter raise funds for our various projects. If you can't make the meeting, mail your flies to the chapter P.O. Box or turn them in to any director.

Bruce Seiden

of these events, you really should because they are not work – they're enjoyable. And, if you don't care to drive by yourself, contact Bob or one of the other volunteers and I'm sure you'll find a willing carpooler.

Bob needs fly tying volunteers to help students with:

Wooly Bugger

Gold Ribbed Hares Ear

Mickey Finn

Elk Hair Caddis

If you are interested in volunteering email Bob at:

bhresko@verizon.net

The next two events will be on Sunday, April 13 and on Sunday, August 10. On both of these dates EJTU will conduct Beginning Fly Fishing classes. The classes include instruction on equipment, aquatic life, flies used by fishermen, knots, and fly casting. It's classroom instruction in the morning followed, in the afternoon, by outdoors casting instruction in a field near the trout pond. Students are then allowed to try their newly learned skills on the trout in the pond. You don't have to know all of the topics that are presented. Just helping the students with basic knots and with casting will be a big help.

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 Ed Sikorski at: 201-337-6396 or email to: dored100@hotmail.com

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 either:

East Jersey Trout Unlimited Annual Dinner March 8, 2008

The Annual East Jersey Trout Unlimited Dinner will be held at the Grand Chalet 1377 Route 23 South, Wayne, NJ 07407 --Tel (973) 633-5111.

This dinner recognizes members that sacrifice their time and energy to make the programs we support a success - from Conservation to Education, to State Hatchery Programs for both children and adults, to the Suffern Show, as well as many more. Please come and join us as the proceeds from this affair fund our programs and keep the club active.

The evening will begin with a cash cocktail hour from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Dinner will be from 7:30pm to 11:30pm. The menu includes: fresh fruit of the season, Caesar salad, ziti, stuffed potato, mixed vegetables, and a choice of entrée.

- Entrée Choice:**
- A - Chicken Francais**
 - B - Prime Rib**
 - C - Salmon in Dill Sauce**

Payment of \$ 45.00 per person is due by 2/28/08

Please make checks payable to: EJTU. Mail completed form and check to:

**Bruce Seiden -Treasurer
5-09 River Road
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410
(201) 398-9378**

***Please enter the letter of your meal choice
on the line after your name***

Name _____

Guest _____

Guest _____

Guest _____

Phone _____

Email: _____

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

****** EIGHT PERSONS PER TABLE ******

Conservation Notes

I hope that everyone's Christmas was a merry one, that their Hanukah was happy, and that 2008 will be healthy and enjoyable for all.

Last year, on November 3, after completing our annual fall trout stocking, a number of EJ TU members got together and picked up all of the trash around the Ramapo in the vicinity of Halifax Road. Old tires, a lawn chair, uncounted bottles and cans, and many unidentifiable pieces of junk were collected from midstream, upstream, downstream, around Henry Lake and all the way down to the new recreation area that is south of Henry Lake.

A clean-up of this sort is not unusual for EJ TU but this time, in addition to generating a "feel good" atmosphere, we earned some money for the chapter. The Bergen County Clean Communities program has approved a grant for our work and will pay the chapter \$300. That's extra money that we can use on other conservation projects so thanks again to all who participated.

Quite often groups of us stand near a stream commenting about erosion, bank stabilization, how the water should flow, and how we think the perceived problems should be corrected. Well, we now have two people in EJ TU who can give us dependable advice when we discuss the care of streams and their banks.

In November 2007, Jason Tillery took time off from his work and attended a three-day Stream Restoration Workshop that was sponsored by the Army Corps of Engineers and Rutgers' Water Resources Program. The workshop covered cost-effective channel restoration along with how to analyze and plan long-term stream stabilization or restoration projects. Our ever active Rich Malizia had already attended one of these workshops so, if you decide that we should move the rocks that lie under the Glen Gray bridge, talk to Rich or Jason first and they can let you know what the long term effects might be.

Speaking of stream restoration, if you fish the Ramapo in the Glen Gray area you might have noticed that the eastern bank of the river downstream from the bridge tends to move further eastward after heavy flows. The Conservation committee would like to try to stop this erosion and in early spring will ask for volunteers who can help us with this stabilization project. This will not be a heavy earth-moving project and we will not be shuffling tons of rocks around. We intend to give nature a little prod and then let it do the work the way it would if we were-

n't around. We will plant willow shoots along the banks. Willows hold soil together, willows like water, the Ramapo is water. So if you would like to jam dormant twigs into the river bank while Cindy and Steve's dog slaps you with his tail, join us when we pick the day.

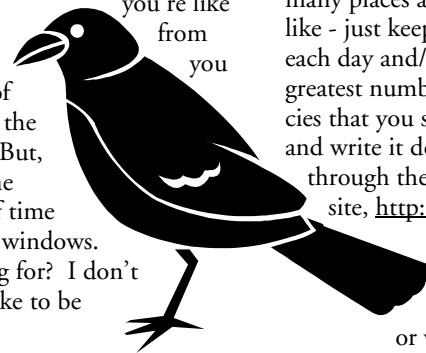
In spring we will also restart our monofilament collection project. So far five bins are scheduled to be installed. The bins that we will mount at each of the Newark Watershed's four reservoirs will be tended by one of the Watershed's employees, and a volunteer has told us that if we mount a bin at Mt. Hope Pond he will empty it, so we will put one there. Another bin may be installed at Little Ferry Pond if we can find someone who will commit to emptying it; if you live in, work in or pass the area frequently why not stop by and empty a bin?

Indoor/Outdoor Fun

Are you getting the "winter blahs"? Are you beginning to feel a little stir crazy, particularly now that the days have begun to lengthen while temperatures can still be too low to allow leisurely outdoors activities? We haven't had a very cold winter so far this year, but if you're like me and you shiver from October until May you haven't spent a lot of time outside during the last month or two. But, also, if you're like me you've spent a lot of time looking out of your windows. What are we looking for? I don't know, but I'd just like to be doing something!

Here is one solution to that 'trapped in February' feeling. It involves outdoor activity but can be accomplished indoors or out of doors. You can spend as little as fifteen minutes while doing it or spend more time if you wish. And when you do it you will be helping the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. What could be better, warmer, and more worthwhile? The project is this year's **Great Backyard Bird Count**.

The Great Backyard Bird Count, a joint project of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the Audubon society, is an annual four-day event that engages bird watchers and those who are just interested in birds in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of where the birds are across the US. Anyone can participate, from the



Help Shape EJ TU

Many groups, clubs and associations begin to deteriorate when a small clique gets themselves elected and re-elected and re-elected, causing the organization to become stagnant. EJ TU hasn't reached that point but, while our membership director, Ed Sikorski, tells us that EJ TU has over 700 members, few of this large number of members are willing to offer a couple of hours a month to help manage our activities.

Would you like local fishing trips or added activities? Would you like different speakers or a different format at monthly meetings? It's easy to have your voice heard; become a member of the board of directors. The board only meets once a month, so it's not extremely time consuming.

We would like to have about five or six members who can offer a few hours a month to either the board or our other important group, the Conservation Committee.

Contact any board member if you have any questions. Or email Ray Cappock at raycapp@optonline.net.

merely interested to expert birdwatchers.

Here is how it works. 1. Plan to count birds for at least 15 minutes during February 15 - 18, 2008. Count the birds at as many places and on as many days as you like - just keep a separate list of counts for each day and/or location. 2. Count the greatest number of individuals of each species that you see together at any one time, and write it down. Enter your results through the Backyard Bird Count's web site, <http://www.birdsource.org/>.

If you aren't sure that you are able to list the birds that you see in your backyard, or park, or whatever location you pick,

you can go to the above web site and print a list of the birds that you might see in your individual town or zip code. In order to tell one bird from another you may want to get a book that lists our eastern birds. I have two that I use; one is a well worn copy of the old standard, Roger Tory Peterson's Field Guide to the Birds, and the other is The Sibley Field Guide To Birds of Eastern North America. Either one is a big help when you are trying to tell the difference between similar birds.

One added tip. If you have bird feeders in your back yard fill them up before February 15 and keep them loaded with seed. This will ensure that you have a good sampling of the birds that are staying in your neighborhood for the winter.

Ray Cappock