



# Riffles

The Monthly Newsletter of  
East Jersey Trout Unlimited

December 2018  
Volume 49, Issue 12  
Please Consider The Environment Before Printing Riffles



## December General Membership Meeting - \$5.00 to Attend



EJTU's December general membership meeting will be held on December 12th. Doors open at 7:00 PM and the meeting begins at 7:30 PM. As we do every year, our December meeting will be our Chapter's Holiday Party. We will award membership anniversary pins to chapter members that a recached either a 10 year or 25 year membership milestone.

As in years past, we will be providing a delicious catered meal with all sorts of sandwiches, various salads, sodas, coffee and last, but certainly not least, cookies by Doug Penna! In

order to keep up with the rising costs of providing catered food for everyone, this year there will be a mandatory fee of \$5.00 for all that attend, in order to help defray a portion of the cost of the food. We hope that everyone understands.

Our holiday party is a great social get together. EJTU's Holiday party allows for plenty of time for our chapter members to catch up with old friends and make news ones, while spreading some holiday cheer.

We will once again have a grab bag for members to participate in if they choose so. The item you place in the grab bag should be wrapped and have a value of approximately \$15.00. Please no re-gifting of items from last year's grab bag, or door prizes given out at regular EJTU meetings. Happy holidays from EJTU and we hope to see you all at the party!

## Other Fun Upcoming EJTU Events

December 12th: General Membership Meeting - Annual Holiday Party

January 9th: General Membership Meeting - Speaker Hugh Carola

January 25-27th: EJTU Booth at the Edison Fly Fishing Show

February 13th: General Membership Meeting - Speaker Cole Baldino

March 9th: EJTU Booth at Ramsey Outdoor Fly Fest in Ramsey, NJ

March 13th: General Membership Meeting - Anita Coulton

April 17th: General Membership Meeting - Brian Appello

May 8th: General Membership Meeting - Scott Cullenberg

A full list of upcoming events is available on EJTU's calendar.



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### Volunteers Needed

- Stocking Coordinator
- Community Outreach

## EJTU Board of Directors

### OFFICERS

#### President / Webmaster

Chris Henrickson - Westwood

#### 1st Vice President

Greg Koch - Hoboken

#### 2nd Vice President / Membership

Elio Chiavola - Lincoln Park

#### Treasurer

Ray Tannberg - Washington Township

#### Secretary

Justin Fuller - Park Ridge

### DIRECTORS

#### President Emeritus

Bruce Seiden - Fair Lawn

#### Conservation Chairman

Rich Malizia - Hawthorne

#### Trips

Dino Eftychiou - Montvale

#### Publicity

Bruce Halstater - Norwood

#### Speakers

Ed Janiga - Franklin Lakes

#### Merchandise

Charlie Maccia - Vernona

#### Education

Doug Penna - Hasbrouck Heights

#### Points

Paul Reithmeier - Ringwood

#### Director At Large

Igor Zaretsky - Fair Lawn

## Additional EJTU Leaders

#### Strategic Planning

Ken Barile - Montvale

#### Diversity Initiative

Jon Daffron - Ridgewood

#### Veterans Services

Vic Mignoli - Little Silver

#### Trout In The Classroom

Jim Piombino - Fair Lawn

# President's Beat

By Chris Henrickson



Last month's "New Members Night" meeting was great! We had several new members that made it to their first EJTU meeting, as well as folks that had been card carrying members for quite some time and had never made it to a chapter meeting before.

It was fun getting to meet them and I hope some of our local fishing spots that we shared will help them be more productive in their time on the water. We would really like to see all of these new members continue to get more involved in the chapter! Our chapter has so much to offer and the Board of Directors is already hard at work planning the upcoming activities for another

great year of fishing, conservation and friendship. I would like to personally invite all of the new members we met last month to attend some additional chapter meetings and events coming up soon.

It is hard to believe that my first year as EJTU chapter President is coming to a close. It feels like just yesterday that Bruce handed me the gavel. I think our Chapter, which has always been a strong one, has made some big positive strides forward in areas that needed improvement, while continuing to excel in the areas we have always done well in.

I was recently thinking about all of the great things EJTU did over the past year and tried to decide which event was my favorite. At first I thought the food and fishing at the Catskills pig roast was the best. I then quickly changed my mind and convinced myself that the Ausable trip, with all of the laughs we shared and the excellent dry fly fishing, was my favorite event. However, after additional due consideration, I made my final decision. My favorite event of the past year was the Paulinskill tree planting project, in which 13 EJTU volunteers planted over 500 trees along the banks of the Paulinskill. The other events were surely fun and memorable, but they were fleeting in duration. The trees we planted together, will give pleasure and protection to people, birds, animals, trout and the planet for generations to come.

I would like to thank all chapter members that generously gave their time and talents over the past year to make our chapter one of the best in the nation. This thank you includes all of the members of the Board of Directors and additional chapter leaders, who do so much of the heavy lifting.

Remember, just because it is cold and snowy out does not mean that you cannot catch fish on the fly. I hope everyone has very happy and healthy holidays!

## Nymphs Needed! - Help Support EJTU

EJTU will have a booth at the Edison Fly Fishing Show in January of 2019. This is in an effort to reach out to the angling community, attract new members and share our mission of cold-water conservation.

At the show we will be raffling off a huge fly box that we intend to fill with about 1,000 nymphs! This raffle is being held in order to help defray the cost of having the booth at the show and in order to raise some much needed funds for the chapter.

Please consider donating some nymphs to help us fill this fly box. Both hand tied flies and purchased flies are perfectly fine. The nymphs can be turned in to any member of EJTU's Board of Directors.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and points will be awarded to all that donate flies.





Photograph and Gardener of the Month: Ray Tannberg- "Thriving Centerpiece from the 2018 EJTU Banquet"

## Wet Your Boots

By Dino Eftychiou

While gearing up with Fred and Bill at Ken Lockwood Gorge recently, one of them said something like, "There goes Ron, dunking his wading boots in the river." I looked down the bank of the Raritan and there was Ron, our other fishing buddy, wetting his boots. When I asked why, everyone seemed surprised that I never knew that wetting your boots made them go on more easily.

I figure that I've been fly fishing for over three decades. How come I never heard of this before? With all the guys that I've fished with, how come I never saw anyone else do this before? Anyway, I grabbed my boots, walked to the river, and dunked them. I put on my waders and slid my feet into my boots. Well, "slid" might be exaggerating, but they did seem to go on more quickly. I've done this for the last 2 or 3 trips and, so far, I think it helps.

Maybe a lot of fly fishers would agree with me that putting on the wading boots is the toughest part of the gearing up ritual. Just as recommended, my boots are one size larger than my shoe size, but they always feel tight. This winter I plan on buying boots two sizes up, so that I can wear a pair of thicker socks or even a couple of pairs to help my feet stay relatively warm. (Yeah, I know that I can buy heaters for my boots, but that's another story.) Meanwhile, even if I'm imagining it and as long as I remember to do it, anything that helps me get into my boots is welcome.



## Salmon In The Classroom?

By Dino Eftychiou

You're no doubt familiar with National TU's TIC, Trout in the Classroom, program. But did you know that of the 35 states involved in classroom programs, three of them—Michigan, Oregon, and Washington—have SIC, Salmon in the Classroom? If you're interested in learning why these states prefer salmon over trout, check out [Michigan's website](#) for their particular reasons. You'll also get a nice education about the life cycle of a Chinook salmon, its habitats, feeding patterns, and conservation efforts to maintain a healthy salmon fishery in Michigan waters.

### Contact EJTU

**Website:** [www.eastjerseytu.org](http://www.eastjerseytu.org)  
**Email:** [eastjerseytu@gmail.com](mailto:eastjerseytu@gmail.com)  
**Instagram:** [@eastjerseytu](https://www.instagram.com/eastjerseytu)  
**Facebook:** [eastjerseytu](https://www.facebook.com/eastjerseytu)  
**Twitter:** [@EJTU1](https://twitter.com/EJTU1)  
**YouTube:** [EJTU](https://www.youtube.com/EJTU)

#### Mailing Address:

East Jersey Trout Unlimited  
P.O. Box 366 Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ 07423

#### General Membership Meetings:

Second Wednesday of the month.  
Doors open at 7:00 PM, Meeting starts at 7:30 PM

The American Legion Hall

33 West Passaic Street  
Rochelle Park, NJ 07662

[Directions](#)

#### Board of Director's Meetings:

Last Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM

Fair Lawn Athletic Club

14-19 Parmelee Ave  
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410

201-796-9771

[Directions](#)

#### Conservation Committee Meetings:

Second Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM

Louis Bay 2nd Public Library

345 Lafayette Avenue  
Hawthorne, NJ 07506

[Directions](#)

### About EJTU

East Jersey Trout Unlimited (EJTU) is a community of more than 700 anglers in the greater northeastern New Jersey region who are dedicated to cold water conservation and the stewardship of our local watersheds.

Our members work to protect, reconnect, restore and sustain trout habitat for anglers today and for the next generations of sportsmen and women who value the relationship between clean, healthy waterways and sustainable fishing.

# Conservation Notes

By Rich Malizia



A report on the effects of climate change and global warming was released on November 23<sup>rd</sup>. Thankfully, it was a slow news day and the report actually was picked up by the major news outlets and received some coverage. I don't know how many people read a newspaper or listened to the radio or TV news on "Black Friday". At least they didn't wait until Christmas Eve when no one would have known about the report. The conclusions were

quite alarming, but not unexpected. Sea level changes, warming of the oceans, receding ice sheets and other changes were all attributed to man's impact on carbon loads. As expected, the Whitehouse rejected the findings of some of the most brilliant scientists in our country.

On Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, a group of EJTU volunteers joined with the staff of The Nature Conservancy to assist with the planting of saplings in the Paulins Kill flood plain. We numbered about 15 including two youngsters who accompanied their fathers and worked diligently throughout the day. It is truly rewarding to see these young men work with such purpose. I'm sure part of it is their desire to spend time with Dad, but these kids had their hands in the mud planting trees all day. Now, if we could only mobilize a hundred more like them! Our volunteers made it through the day despite cold, strong winds and snow flurries. I'm sure there were lots of sore muscles and a few cases of poison ivy. Thank you for your efforts.

Wild fires continue to burn in California. The loss of life is heartbreaking.

Homes have been reduced to ash. There already is some discussion of ways to reduce the exposure to such devastating events in the future. Some make a lot of sense like changing building regulations to require more fire resistant materials and fire retardant roofs. But there are also some proposals which could have a negative effect on the environment. The possibility of clear-cutting has been advanced by some in the timber industry. Instead, selectively thinning these forests and having proscribed burns of underbrush are far better solutions. In the haste to "do something", it is easy to do the wrong thing. As our environment continues to suffer from the effects of climate change, we can only hope that our leaders adopt policies supported by science and not actions that are politically expedient.

On a personal note, I would like to thank our chapter for their support in my selection to receive the New Jersey Trout Unlimited State Council Lifetime Achievement Award. I am truly honored. I asked if it was presented in anticipation of my demise or if it meant I could retire. I was told that neither was the case and that I was expected to continue. I will certainly do that but I am receptive to turning over my responsibilities to a younger, more energetic member. I especially enjoy working with the kids at environmental events and fishing derbies. They are the most rewarding and at times the most demanding activities, but the kids represent the future. Next is providing a quality experience to anglers through our restoration work, stocking, temperature monitoring and insect studies. Being an advocate for the environment is up there too, but sometimes it is the sound of one hand clapping. While I believe we have accomplished a lot, there is still so much more to do.

This is the quiet time of year for our conservation work. As we approach year-end, I extend my gratitude to all the members who have given their time to achieve the mission of TU. We are, first and foremost, a conservation organization. EJTU is lucky to have a relatively small group of members who always seem to find time in their busy lives to contribute to our efforts. If you haven't volunteered, you will be surprised at how rewarding and fulfilling it can be. Join us!

**TAKE TIME TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

## EJTU Annual Banquet - March 23rd 2019

Save the date! Our annual East Jersey Trout Unlimited Banquet will be here before you know it. You are cordially invited to attend the annual East Jersey Trout Unlimited Banquet celebration of another successful year of achieving our many goals and as 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 will also be contributing to our programs that ensure EJTU remains an effective steward of our cold water fisheries.

The evening will begin with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres in our own private banquet room. 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 with EJTU president's welcoming speech, followed by a 4-course dinner featuring your choice of Prime Rib, Chicken or Fish. After dinner, the festivities will continue with presentations to volunteers who have achieved significant milestones and with the drawing of the many raffle prizes. Come join us for a fun and rewarding evening!



# East Jersey Trout Unlimited Reviews

## “Tight Loops” - Aimee and Chase Bartee

Reviewed By Chris Henrickson



Chase Bartee's Golden Trout

videos are quite frankly stunningly beautiful, in my opinion. The Bartees travel to beautiful and scenic places and catch some really nice fish. Some of the slow motion footage of hooking fish and releasing them is awesome. I would recommend watching both “Journey On” (60 mins) about their travels out West and “Northern Exposure” (30 mins) documenting their visit to Maine.

One negative thing about this website, is that the layout and navigating it is a little confusing. Also, I would like to see some additional movies from them, but I have a feeling that there will be more in the future. They are currently working on a new feature film regarding brook trout fishing in the remote Canadian wilderness, which sounds like it should be epic!

**Have a book, movie, piece of fishing related gear or perhaps even a place you fished that you enjoyed and would like to review? Shoot an email with a brief write up to the Riffles Editors. Be fair and give an honest rating of the item in question on a scale of one to five trout.**



Chase, Aimee and “Bullwinkle” - The VW Van



*“Look Deep Into Nature and You Will Understand Everything Better”  
- Albert Einstein*

## EJTU Diversity Initiative Update

EJTU Chapter Member Jon Daffron has volunteered to be our chapter’s first Diversity Initiative Coordinator. EJTU’s Diversity Initiative program will attempt to help bring our message of cold-water conservation and environmental stewardship to people traditionally underrepresented in Trout Unlimited, including women, youth and people of color. We will be looking to both expand our chapter membership within these groups and at the same time to develop new chapter leaders.

Jon will be working with other chapter members in our Diversity Initiative committee to help get EJTU’s Diversity Initiative program up and running. We are looking to have our inaugural Diversity Initiative event in the Spring of 2019. If you are interested in helping out or participating in a Diversity Initiative event, please email [Jon Daffron](#). More information about Trout Unlimited’s Diversity Initiative can be found here at [TU National’s website](#). A big thank you to Jon for stepping up!

### New EJTU Members

Anthony Licata, Jimmy Martorano, Edwind McQuilken, John Plavier, Piotr Puzio, Jason Whitaker

Welcome and thank you for helping us to protect northeastern NJ’s cold-water resources. We look forward to meeting you at one of our upcoming conservation projects, meetings or fly fishing trips!

### To Join EJTU or Renew Your EJTU Membership

Visit TU National’s membership page at [gifts.tu.org](#). Remember to choose to be assigned to the “East Jersey Chapter - 091”.

# EJTU's Richard Malizia - NJTU Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient

By Chris Henrickson

On November 3rd, EJTU's Conservation Committee Chairman and Board of Directors Member Rich Malizia was given the Lifetime Achievement Award from the NJ State Council of Trout Unlimited. Rich was presented with a certificate of appreciation in conjunction with the award at the NJ State Council of Trout Unlimited's Annual Banquet at the Raritan River Inn in Califon, NJ.

Only EJTU members Bruce Seiden, Kelly Buchta and myself had advance knowledge that Rich was going to receive this honor. After some scheming, we were able to successfully surprise him at the Banquet and ensure that his wife Joan was in attendance as well. After all, who doesn't love a surprise?



Rich Malizia Receiving Lifetime Achievement Award From NJ State Council of Trout Unlimited Chairman, Glenn Tippy

This award is the highest award that can be conferred by our State Council of Trout Unlimited on a volunteer in NJ. We have many passionate volunteers in East Jersey Trout Unlimited and the other TU chapters throughout the State of New Jersey and Rich is without a doubt one of the best. He has successfully shared our message of cold-water conservation with countless people at community outreach programs and with a strong emphasis on children in order to ensure our passion for conservation is passed on to the next generation.

Most importantly, Rich has been a tireless advocate for trout, water and the environment at large throughout northeastern New Jersey. On behalf of our chapter, thank you Rich for all you have done and continue to do. No one is more deserving of this award and Congratulations!

## Return of the American Shad

By Justin Fuller



American Shad

The American Shad (*Alosa sapidissima*), probably the most majestic anadromous fish, its vibrant beauty much beloved by members of angling's intelligentsia...okay, maybe not so much. While it isn't much to look at, this species does hold a special place in history. Shad were relied upon by native peoples

for their yearly spring arrival when food stocks were at their lowest. George Washington's troops were saved from starvation at Valley Forge by this fish. In fact, during the early days of our republic, it was common for a single haul of a seine net to capture up to 5000 shad.

Since that time the Industrial Revolution swept through America's northeast and with it the building of dams. The Shad were cut off from their spawning areas and their numbers went into steep decline. They have not been seen in some New Jersey rivers for over a century.

Last year, environmental officials removed the Weston Mill Dam in Manville, NJ, and the shad returned to the Millstone River and started to spawn. Several other dams are marked for removal and this will open up even more free flowing fresh water habitat. Shad have also been seen in the Musconetcong River and NJDEP has asked anglers to report accidental catches to NJFW-fish@dep.nj.gov. I should remind you that it is illegal to harvest these fish, even if *sapidissima* means "most delicious."

# Fly Tying Versus Psychogenic Tremor

By Bill Alexander (As Appeared on Projecthealingwaters.org)



The purpose of this article is to examine the effects of fly-tying as a therapeutic intervention for Psychogenic Tremor (PT) in a single case study. PT, also called functional tremor, can appear as any

form of tremor. Its symptoms may vary but often start abruptly and may affect all body parts. The tremor increases in times of stress and decreases or disappears when distracted. Many individuals with psychogenic tremor have an underlying psychiatric disorder such as depression or post traumatic stress disorder.

While volunteering my services at the Fort Worth (Texas) Veterans Affairs Medical Clinic with Project Healing Waters, North Texas Chapter under the lead of Johnny Walker, and lead volunteer, Jeff Guinn, I was teaching wounded, disabled, and sick veterans how to tie flies—associated with fly-fishing. While working with another veteran, teaching him how to tie flies, a veteran in an electric wheelchair approached our table and asked what we were doing. I told the gentleman that we were teaching veterans how to tie flies, and I asked if he would like to participate. The gentleman in the wheelchair stated that he could not tie flies with us because he suffered from

tremors; however, he wanted to watch. After I finished with the veteran I was tying flies with, Jeff Guinn suggested to the veteran in the wheelchair that tying flies taps into the part of the brain that triggers focus; thereby, reducing tremors and that he (the veteran) should try. Reluctantly, the veteran in the wheelchair decided to try. I showed the veteran (on a separate vice) how to begin tying in thread onto the hook shank. The veteran began to layer the thread on his hook shank (on a separate vice), and almost immediately experienced a tremor in his hands, which broke the thread off of the hook and bobbin. I observed the veteran's frustration, and I told him that it was ok and that I broke thread all the time. I prepared his thread bobbin again, and he proceeded to wrap thread on the hook shank again—this time, without any tremors. I continued to show the veteran how to tie the particular fly we were tying, explaining the "how's" and "why's" in the procedures and the therapeutic value of fly-tying and fly-fishing, in general. We finished the fly after 30-minutes of instruction, and the veteran took his "new" fly out of the vice and marveled at what he had just created. It was then I noticed he had another tremor, almost dropping the fly, while he was looking at it. The veteran then looked at me in amazement, and said that he tied his fly without having any tremors beyond the initial tremor at the start. Needless to say, he was excited about (I assume) the possibility that increased focus on specific activities would temporarily alleviate his symptoms of tremors in his hands. It was clear to Jeff Guinn and me that we provided hope for a fallen brother in his diagnosis and treatment options for his disability, and we could not be happier in the fruits of our labor. To see a veterans go from darkness to light—from the depths of despair to the heights of hope was inspirational. We are in awe, but we really shouldn't be. Research suggests it, and evidence supports it. Project Healing Waters, North Texas Chapter continues to do incredible work with veterans and results in incredible works for our brothers and sisters.

## In Search of New Waters

By Gregory Tarris

Although most of us have our favorite or "home waters", there is always the thrill and adventure of seeking out new waters to fish. Fortunately, as we saw at a recent TU meeting, there are resources available right here with our fellow fishermen to help us find those places. Furthermore, the TU fishing trips are the ultimate way to explore new waters one may not have yet tried. However, those trips are limited in number and scope. That leaves us with a myriad of other places to explore. Here is my process for gathering some "field intelligence" starting from the comfort of my home before venturing out.

Clearly, the internet is the key source. I first look up the water I am interested in fishing to see if there are any official published sources available. For instance, the states of Montana and NY, to site just two, have detailed on-line maps of access points to waters in their state. Connecticut has detailed maps of note on the Farmington and Housatonic Rivers as well.

My next step is to go on line to see if I can obtain any topographical ("topo") maps of the river. There used to be a site where you could download any

and all "topo" maps, but I cannot find it. Why a "topo map"? Because I am looking for feeder streams, steep banks, river bends, gorges etc. which may indicate prime fish holding places. Then I go onto Google Earth and literally "run" the river, especially checking out the points that I have already identified as key land features. Google Earth is great, but if you are trying to "follow" a small stream like the Flatbrook River, as we recently saw in a TU presentation, the key feature in the aerial view is an overgrowth of trees with a bare view of the stream. Also some Google "fly over photos" are taken on days when it is cloudy or the water is discolored. So Google Earth may or may not provide me what I want. What I do want is a view of the river that shows the darker blue areas that indicate pools or deep runs, or whitish blurs that show me where pocket water is. That is how I found two areas on the West Branch of the Ausable that my fellow TU fishermen did not know existed until I shared it with them.

Next, when I do identify an area on a river worth pursuing, I can see what road is nearest and what kind of distance would be traveled to get there. Fishing once on the Couer D'Alene River in Idaho, I found that the road followed the river for some length and then just disappeared into the woods. But I knew that even though the river departed

from the road, I was able to park the car and bushwack into the woods to the pool and the run that I had identified via Google Earth. By the way, when bushwacking, I always carry a compass to make sure I do not get turned around afterwards in returning to my car, and I also carry my Personal Beacon Locator just in case.

Of course, even just Googling the name of the water can pop up articles or reports that may even be current. Watching Youtube videos, I even found two new places to fish on the Farmington River that I did not know existed. I then used Google Earth so that I could identify where to access the river and whether to go up or downstream.

So there you have it. Arm chair intelligence. Now the next step is make sure you stop into the local fly shop before you fish. Spend a few dollars and ask about hatches, conditions, etc. That is invaluable. Then you are ready to go fish and have a pretty good chance of success. Of course you can always hire a guide, but that would take all the fun out of doing it yourself. Or you could do both and, after the guide leaves, you'll know where your were and how to get back there another day!

# A Kid's Perspective - on The Paulinskill Tree Planting Project

By Ben Carpenter



Have you ever planted a tree? Well, East Jersey TU volunteers planted 500-600 trees on November 10<sup>th</sup>, as part of ongoing reforestation work, by The Nature Conservancy of New Jersey, along the banks of the Paulins Kill River. It was an amazing project, and if you've never done something like this before for EJTU, keep reading to find out why TU gets involved in things like tree planting.

The Paulins Kill is not only a great trout fishing river, but it's also part of the Delaware River Basin, which supplies drinking water to over 17 million people in New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Delaware. Streamside tree plantings provide canopy cover to keep water temperatures cool for aquatic

species and supplies food and habitat for in-stream and nearby wildlife. It also stabilizes stream banks, which helps to slow and absorb flood waters. The quality of the water is very important, and tree planting helps to filter out excess nutrients and pollutants from storm water runoff.

The Nature Conservancy was founded in 1951 to protect and care for nature, and by 1990 had protected 8% of land and 1% of marine areas from development. Today 15% of land and 7% of marine areas are protected. The Nature Conservancy does many projects to protect nature right here in New Jersey, and they need volunteers like EJTU members to keep nature clean and healthy. I hope to see more EJTU volunteers at future conservation projects.



*Ray Tannberg, Ben and Art Carpenter and Michelle Diblasio Working Hard To Restore NJ's Paulinskill River's Floodplain*



# Fred Madura - 2018 NJ Fly Angler of the Year



*Fred With His Trophy and Prize - A Ross Reel*

had a very rainy fall and the day of the competition the South Branch was pouring out over its banks and was way too high to fish. Thankfully, the competition's organizers, Shannon's Fly Shop, was able to find an alternate location for the contestants to fish. The only catch was that instead of fishing for trout in a river, the contestants would be fishing for sunfish and smallmouth bass in a series of ponds on a nearby golf course!

Changing fishing from trout in a river to warmwater species in ponds did not intimidate EJTU's Fred Madura! Fred fished mainly with a small red copper john nymph. He caught lots of small sunfish and smallmouth bass in the morning fishing session and managed to score enough points to advance to the championship fishing round in the afternoon. Our EJTU representative caught several fish in the beginning of the session and lost a large bass. Although Fred caught several fish, he seemed to be falling a bit behind the other two contestants. However, in the final 15 minutes of the second session of fishing, Fred fought and landed a monster 20" smallmouth bass! This was the biggest fish of the day caught and everyone cheered for Fred while he was fighting this huge jumping bass.



*Fred Fighting A Monster Bass*

This bass was big enough to get Fred back into the mix for the championship. After, with only minutes left in the competition, Fred hooked and landed a second large bass over 16", which was the second biggest fish of the day. This second fish at the very end of the tournament sealed the deal, and after all of the points were tallied up, Fred emerged victorious! He won the competition and became the first representative from East Jersey Trout Unlimited to do so. Congratulations, Fred, and thank you for finally bringing the championship home to East Jersey!



*Fred and Central Jersey TU's Bart Lombardo With A Serious Smallie*

Every year in the late fall, the New Jersey Fly Angler of the Year competition is held at the Raritan Inn's private stretch of water on the South Branch of the Raritan River. The competition features one contestant from each of the 10 chapters of Trout Unlimited in NJ. The competition is a one fly style competition, in which contestants are limited to a certain number of fly patterns. This year, EJTU's resident nymphing guru, Fred Madura, represented our chapter.

Scoring is determined by the number and size of the fish landed. Each year the targeted species is trout, but 2018 was a little different. As many of you know, we have

## About Riffles

**Riffles Editors:** Dino Eftychiou, Justin Fuller and Chris Henrickson.

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Riffles is your publication; we encourage all members to contribute articles, tips and stories. Articles may relate to trout, trout fishing, fishing in general or conservation. All articles are published, edited and may be condensed 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.

## Questions, Comments and How to Submit Articles

We would love to hear your feedback about the new format and design of Riffles!

Any suggestions you may have to improve Riffles are greatly appreciated. If you have any articles or content you would like to submit, please email the Editors at [eastjerseytu@gmail.com](mailto:eastjerseytu@gmail.com). We look forward to hearing from you.

## About Trout Unlimited

Trout Unlimited is a national organization with about 300,000 members and supporters organized into over 400 chapters and councils from Maine to Montana to Alaska.

This dedicated grassroots army is matched by a respected staff of lawyers, policy experts and scientists, who work out of more than 30 offices nationwide.

## Looking to Buy, Sell, Swap or Donate a Fishing Related item?

EJTU can help! Chapter members are welcome to list items they are looking to buy sell or swap on either our online [website forum](#) or on our [Facebook Page](#).

All chapter members are welcome to attend our annual tackle swap and BBQ at our July regular membership meeting. At the meeting you can display all of the items you want to sell or swap.

EJTU also accepts donations (which are tax deductible) of items, which we will sell to raise funds for chapter activities and conservation projects.