

Riffles

The Monthly Newsletter of the
East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Volume 33

March, 2003

Issue 3

President's Beat

March begins our busy season and starts off with our participation in the Suffern Show. This show has always been a major fundraiser for our conservation activities. This is followed by our annual dinner at the Rustic Lodge. We are looking forward to both activities being successful.

Basil Santamaria is organizing the Suffern Show and has assembled a variety of merchandise to sell. He can use help manning the booth and selling flies. There will also be raffle tickets to sell. The prizes are two Loomis rods and matching Shimano reels. Call Basil if you would like to help out at the show and earn some points.

Barbara Wedlick, David Wedlick, and Karen Canning are working hard assembling prizes and organizing everything to make the dinner a gala affair. If you haven't bought your ticket, you will be missing a great time. So send in your check, reserve your seat, and hope that you will go home with a prize or two, besides just having a good time.

To keep you posted about fishing the Catskills the following was excerpted from Gordon's Quill, the Theodore Gordon Flyfishers newsletter: "New York's governor has been outspoken about bringing gambling to the Catskills, and it seems that it is moving forward. A public notice for building a casino on the Neversink River just off the Quickway in Thompson, NY has been proposed. This casino would impact tremendously on the environment and increase the traffic volume anglers would face as they go to fish the Delaware and Beaverkill. The Theodore Gordon Flyfishers have filed an objection to this proposal and demanded a public hearing on the matter. TGF is aware of another potential environmental problem in the Catskills, which is the proposal to build a large luxury resort on the site of the old

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Meeting Notice

When: March 12 at 7:30 PM

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

March 12th Pete Talarico Fishing Alaska

Mark Your Calendars!

Future Guest Speakers

April 9th
Paul Morrissey
Beaverkill River

May 14th
No Speaker
Chapter Auction

June 11th
Glenn & Anderea Van Benschoten
Lake Fishing with a Fly Rod

July 9th
Dick Despommie
Songs of the River

August 13th
Mickey Goshen
Fishing N.J. Streams

September 10th
Mark Sadatti
Saltwater Fly Fishing

October 8th
John Roetman
Fly Fishing either
New Zealand or Chile

All programs have a slide show.

EJTU Dinner Awards

As members of Trout Unlimited we are all dedicated to preserve, protect and restore our cold water environments. We do this in many and various ways: donating time and effort, moneys and personal expertise. We do this of our own volition, with no thought of gratification or recompense other than a "job well done."

The East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited has a points program that recognizes its members' contributions of volunteer time and donations.

The Board of Directors has established various criteria and plateaus. This year at the annual dinner we of the Board would like to proudly acknowledge the following members for their outstanding work and dedication to our founding principles. (N.B. Each ten points represents four hours of volunteer time.)

Please join us to recognize and honor:

Edward Marshak, Marina Swartz and Ken Vander Pyle – 150 points

Richard Hudak, Barbara Wedlick and David Wedlick – 500 points

Ray Adams and William Canning – 750 points

Karen Canning, Gary Heger, Edward Sikorski and Thomas Yuille – 1,000 points

Ronald Gherardi, Gary Heger and Richard Malizia – 1,500 points

Elmer Hopper and Bruce Seiden – 4,000 points

And lastly, for earning and unprecedented 12,000 points, John Roetman.

George Petersen

East Jersey Chapter Trout Unlimited

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Bob Novak

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Merchandise

Basil Santamaria

Riffles Editors

Gary Heger Ray Cappock

tu@cataloguepublishers.com / raycapp@optonline.net

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George Petersen

Dinner

Dave & Barbara Wedlick

Shows

Basil Santamaria

Publicity

Larry Hill

Directors at Large

Karen Canning Tom Yuille

Founding President

Don Ecker

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East Jersey Chapter, Trout Unlimited

Box 366 HoHoKus, NJ 07423-0366

Hodline: (201) 445-3902 (24 hrs.)

For Membership Information call Ed Sikorski at:

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

For Information on trips and other Chapter

Activities call our hotline: (201) 445-3902 (24 hrs.)

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. We invite and encourage every member to contribute articles, tips, etc., relating to trout or trout fishing in general. Email to:

tu@cataloguepublishers.com attention Riffles. Each

piece of material submitted earns you 10 points towards your next goal in the points program.

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 Street, 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. **Location:** The Bergen County Community Center, 327 East Ridgewood Ave., Paramus, NJ 07652.

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President's Beat

Campbell Inn in Roscoe. TGF's concern is the lack of environmental planning. TGF has requested a full Environmental Impact Statement be completed before approval is given for the project."

Since fishing season will be here soon it may be a good time to buy your 2003 license. New Jersey and Pennsylvania can now be bought on line and printed out. Simply go to www.njfishandwildlife.com to get your New Jersey license. Pennsylvania's website is www.fish.state.pa.us/. New York licenses can be purchased by calling 866-933-2257 and Connecticut's by calling 860-424-3555. Good luck and good fishing!

Bill Borowski

Financial Strike Indicators

Is someone using your personal information for themselves? How can you know before you start to get dunning letters for debts that you never agreed to?

The quickest way is to get copies of your credit reports and then review them. A lot of people will try to sell you credit reports but if you live in New Jersey a law obligates the credit reporting agencies to give you one free report a year. The 'Big Three' credit agencies will send a copy of your report to you if you call the telephone numbers listed below. They are automated response systems so be ready to punch in your social security number and home address and, in one case, both say and spell your name. This may seem tedious and you might be afraid of what you see on the report but remember, it's a report about you and you're getting a free copy of a report that financial institutions pay for.

The telephone numbers to use to get your free credit reports from the three major credit reporting agencies are:

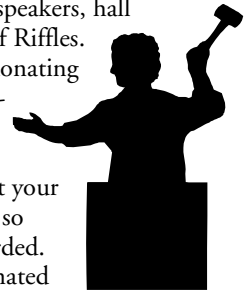
Equifax:	800-685-1111
Experian	888-397-3742
TransUnion	800-888-4213

There is another organization that doesn't specialize in credit reporting but that you might want to contact. Member banks and credit unions contribute information on mishandled checking and savings accounts to ChexSystems. This information is then made available to all other financial institutions in the system. If you want to insure that your record with ChexSystems is clear, call for their free report at 800-428-9323.

Ray Cappock

Auction Notice

At our May 14th membership meeting we will be holding a fishing tackle auction. The proceeds from the sales will help defray the cost for speakers, hall rental and the mailing of Riffles. We need your help by donating any items related to fishing. You will receive 10 points for each item donated. Remember to put your name on your donation so your points can be recorded. You may bring your donated items to any membership meeting and give them to either Doug Penna or Basil Santamaria. You may also drop them off at Ramsey Outdoor Store in Paramus with me.



John Roetman

Fly of the Month

Spring is less than a month away. Opening day is just around the corner.

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.

Tie up your favorite spring pattern, or better yet, an assortment of your favorites, and turn them in at the next 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

Quote of the Month

"No knowledge of matching the hatch is needed to catch fish some of the time; but such knowledge is critical in catching fish most of the time. And it is the selective brown trout that really taught us that axiom."

Ernest Schwiebert

PETA's Piscatorial Pain

Does that squirming trout that you catch feel pain?

A February 2003 press release reported that James D. Rose, neuroscientist and professor of zoology and physiology at the University of Wyoming, had concluded extensive piscine neurological studies. His finding: that the portion of the brain necessary to communicate pain was non-existent in fish.

According to Professor Rose the "awareness of pain depends on functions of specific regions of the cerebral cortex that fish do not possess."

He explained that when people observe a fish behaving in a manner that they think is caused by pain they are confusing "nociception" - responding to a threatening stimulus" (e.g. flopping around on a line) with actual pain itself. This is analogous to the proverbial be-headed chicken responding to stimuli without pain.

Enter our good friends from the extremist group People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA). A PETA spokesman, unsurprisingly, disputed Professor Rose's findings saying, "We believe that fishing is barbaric. Of course animals can feel pain. They have sensitivity, if only to avoid predators."

While these studies were going on, PETA put out a December 2000 press release requesting that the President of the University of Wyoming "retract" the studies of Professor Rose. Were they afraid of what Professor Rose might find?

EJTU Fly Casting & Fly Fishing Course

Starts Monday, March 24, 2003

Time: Monday, 7:00-10:00pm

Place: Westbrook Middle School
Roosevelt Boulevard
Paramus, NJ 07653

Students will learn the technique needed to cast a fly rod as well as fly selection, tackle for fly fishing, lines and leaders, knots, entomology, and how to read a stream. All equipment will be provided. Students with their own rods and reels may use them in class. For more information contact Bob Ribar at 201-995-0107. For registration call the school at 201-261-7800.

Bob Ribar

Fishing the Web

A lot of us are tired of sitting at home reading flower catalogs or going out to fight Route 17 traffic so we can browse through the Ramsey Outdoor or Orvis stores but we're not yet ready to go to a fishable stream and try to tie on a size 28 midge while wearing mittens. So we stay home and browse on the Internet. Here are two sites that you might enjoy while you wait for warm weather.

The New Division of Fish and Wildlife web page gives you the ability to buy your fishing license and print it, provides information on coming workshops and seminars, talks about birdlife, endangered species, boating, hunting, and many other outdoors topics. It also has a section (E-Mail Lists) in which you can subscribe to mailing lists that will alert you to news about fishing, hunting, etc.

The url is <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/>

Cabela's has a well designed web site that most people go to just for outdoors shopping. But if you go to the site and look at the left side of the page then go to the section labeled, "In The Field" you can find a variety of useful information. "Field Guides" will give you information on how to tie the Chernobyl Ant, what gear to bring if you intend to do some fly-fishing in the snow, how to troll for walleye, etc. Another link within Field Guides provides area weather reports, and probably of greater interest - the link to "State by State Info". If you want to know about public fishing areas in West Virginia, fishing regulations in New Mexico, or coming programs at our Pequest Hatchery, the State by State Information is the place to go. Cabela's home page address is <http://www.cabelas.com/>

Some of you must also have favorite Internet sites that you use to gather information or that you go to just for outdoorsy fun. How about sharing them with the rest of EJTU. Send the addresses to me and we'll publish them as we can.

Ray Cappock

Kayak For Sale

Walden Sports Kayak. Brand new never used. \$600. Can be seen in Maywood. 201-845-6965 or 201-291-0332. Ask for Danielle.

A Weekend In The Catskills

For forty-five years my best friend and soul mate, my wife Dottie, would read a book while I fly fished in local and out of state streams. When she surprised me by asking me to teach her how to fly fish we began basic lessons in the back yard. Now she can cast a fly with the best of them.

One Friday in mid-September about six years ago, we went to the Catskills and stayed at the Roscoe Motel. It was a warm seventy degree afternoon so we unpacked our things and immediately headed for one of our favorite spots - the covered bridge on the Willowemoc Creek.

I caught two small browns on a good old hare's ear nymph but, unfortunately Dot didn't catch anything. After a nice dinner at the Roscoe Diner it was still early so we fished the Beaverkill from the motel down to Junction Pool with no luck. Early on Saturday morning we were off to the West Branch where we fished for a few hours without any luck. After lunch in Hancock we stopped at a few holes on the East Branch but still no fish. We went up the East Branch to the Pepacton Reservoir just to look around and were heading back to Roscoe when we decided to stop at the Hendrickson pool on the Beaverkill.

While I fished the riffles above the pool, Dottie fished about fifty feet down stream from me. My nymphs were getting a few light taps but no hard hits and, after two days of not catching anything, Dot was getting frustrated and hollered out, "This river is just like the Battenkill - no fish."

Both Dot and I noticed some of the large mayflies that seem to float in the air before they rest on the water and she hollered, "What should I put on?" When I told her to try something big and brown she tied on a size 12 March Brown then made a perfect cast across and up stream. The fly didn't move a foot when there was an explosion on the water, the slack line in her hand was gone, the rod bent like a pretzel, and she was yelling, "O my God. I need help."

The fish sped twenty-five feet downstream, stopped, turned, and headed back up. I told Dot to keep her rod up and to reel as fast as she could as the fish came up stream past her and then took off down stream again. This time he

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Ramapo Ramblin'

As I write this article, it's early February, snow is falling and the sound of snow blowers is everywhere. It's hard to believe that opening day for trout is just two months away and that by the time you read this it will be only one month! There is always something mystical about opening day so I enjoy walking along the river, talking to people and seeing the excitement in their eyes.

But, before we get to opening day your Conservation Committee has projects to work on and we invite everyone to participate.

On Saturday, March 29 we will have a triple header and need everyone to help. At 9:30 am we will be at Britt's Tackle Shop where Clyde and Barbara Britt will have open house. Clyde is a professional bass fisherman and would be of interest to our bass fishing members. We will need a couple of people to tie flies and others to demonstrate casting and to talk to people about EJTU activities. Please let me know if you can help.

In the afternoon, we will have a team at the Girl Scout camp to participate in their "Water Festival." The Joan Wulff Fly-Fishers and members of WMA 3 have also been invited to participate. Karen Canning and Rich Malizia are in charge of that activity,

On the same day there is a program at the Pequest Hatchery that we encourage you to attend.

You say you want more? Tell you what we're gonna do!

On the following Saturday, April 5, we've scheduled a double header! We will meet in the Ramapo Reservation parking lot at 9:30 to help Dr Angela Cristini who has arranged to have more bushes planted at the Ramapo Reservation Lake. We hope to get a large turnout because we intend to split up and send some of our members to do a cleanup in the parking area at Glen Gray Road and along the river. Again if you can help, let me know.

Then, on Thursday, April 17 we will meet at 9:30 am at Glen Gray Road to begin float stocking the Ramapo. A few members are also needed at Britts at 9 am to help bucket stock that stretch.

I have a list of about 96 members that I try to keep informed, via Email, about what is going on at EJTU and also about

other activities in the fishing world. If you would like to be added to the list send your name and Email address to me. I will not give your address to anyone without your permission. And a reminder, please let me know if you change your Email address!

Please keep sending in your fish stories. I will put a story in Riffles every month if there is enough space. Email your stories to me at hermaril@aol.com or mail them to me at 235 Roosevelt Ave, Elmwood Park N.J. 07407; phone 201-797-9043.

The new trout season is upon us so I want to warn you to you to be careful because the water is deep, fast and cold. Next month's fish story will tell of a fellow who almost drowned going after a lure in the Ramapo.

Until next month, tight lines and remember, We ALL live downstream!

*Herman Drenth
Conservation Chairman*

Catskills

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stopped short of the first run while Dot, with the rod tip bent almost even with the reel seat, was hollering, "My wrist is aching".

I told her to hold tight as the fish slowly began heading upstream again. The last twenty feet seemed like forever but soon, there at her feet, was one the most beautiful brown trout you ever saw. He was twenty inches long, four to five pounds, with a golden belly, bright black and red spots and large hooked bottom jaw. I carefully unhooked him and we looked at him for a few seconds, then let him go. Dot was shaking so I gave her a hug. As we headed back to motel it was getting windy and colder and the next morning when we awoke two inches of snow covered the ground so we slept a little later. After another good breakfast at the Roscoe Diner we headed home.

Herman Drenth

Points Awards

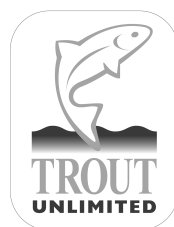
- 50 points.....EJTU patch
- 150 points.....Polo shirt
- 500 points.....Green jacket
- 750 points.....Belt buckle
- 1,000 points....Beer stein
- 1,500 points....Denim shirt
- 2,500 points....Fleece jacket
- 4,000 points....Gift certificate
- 6,000 points....Trout carving
- 8,000 points....Life membership

Points can only be turned in by a director. Please make sure that a director knows about your contribution, so that you get the correct amount of points. Directors, when you turn in points please include the following: your name, the member's name, the date the points

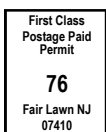
were earned, and why the points were earned.

Any member that has the correct amount of points, and would like to take advantage of the new awards please contact me. Any member that has questions about the points program, please contact me. My fellow directors have indicated to me that the general membership has many questions about the points program. Please give me a chance to answer any of your questions by contacting me. See me in person at a membership meeting or email to GPetern1@aol.com. The most valuable resource Trout Unlimited has is you, the active member. THANK YOU! for all of your hard work and donations.

George Petersen



Trout Unlimited
East Jersey Chapter
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**Join Us at the Annual Dinner, March 14th, 6 PM Tickets Available at the Door!
 Rustic Cabin, Rt. 46 Elmwood Park**

First Class Mail