



Riffles

The Monthly Newsletter of the
East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Volume 34

February 2004

Issue 2

President's Beat

I would like to thank the members of the East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited and the Board of Directors for their votes of confidence in me during the recent election. I also welcome Ken Vander Pyl, who is now the Director in charge of the Points Program, to the Board of Directors.

My friend, colleague and predecessor, Bill Borowski, has volunteered to serve as Web Master for our Chapter's web site, www.eastjerseytu.org. With Bill in charge we can make full use of the site as a valuable communication tool between the Board of Directors and you, the general membership. Please make it a point to visit the site on a periodic basis to learn what is new and to look for upcoming Chapter activities. We will also post any requests for help that is needed during those events. Our main form of communication will remain the newsletter, *Riffles*, but the website will be more current, thanks to Bill's continuing efforts. As an example, on the site you will note that we are in need of fly tyers for the Cabin Fever Days that are held annually at the local Ramsey Outdoor stores. This year the dates are February 21 at the store in Paramus and March 13 at the Ramsey location. I mention these primarily because they are always good chances not only to demonstrate skills but also to talk to the fishing and general public about the work of East Jersey Trout Unlimited. Most people think of us as a fishing club and not a conservation organization; these events are opportunities to educate others as to our mission to "conserve, protect and restore" the cold water environment.

Realize that this is your Chapter; and as such your ideas and input are valuable and necessary resources. Do not hesitate to communicate them to myself or to

Meeting Notice

When: February 11 at 7:30 PM

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

February 11
What is TU doing?
Past, present and future of
EJTU's conservation program

Mark Your Calendars!

Future Guest Speakers

March 10
Agust Gudmundsson
Fishing New Jersey Streams

April 14
Rod Rourbach
Fishing the Little Lehigh in
Allentown, Pa.

All programs have a slide show.

any member of the Board of Directors. Note also that as a member of the Chapter you are always invited to attend any of the meetings of the Board. Check *Riffles* and the website for details on times and place (Bill has included maps of the locations).

George Petersen

Highlands Water Quality

On Saturday, January 31st Herman Drenth and I attended a Coldwater Conservation Forum organized by Ross Kushner, an EJTU member and founder of the Pequannock River Coalition. The Forum was attended by more than 30 individuals from various conservation organizations, NJDEP and the City of Newark. One of the action items that all EJTU members should address is the idea of asking the State to classify all brooks and streams in the Highlands as C-1 waterways.

Virtually all the waters in the Highlands eventually flow to one of the three major reservoir systems that provide drinking water for millions of North Jersey residents, and those that don't provide recharge for the private and municipal wells in the Highlands. The State is currently evaluating the individual waterways but the process will take months or years.

This is how you can help: go to the Highlands website <http://www.savethehighlands.org>. Find the Highlands Task Force section and click on it. Look for the Public Input caption and select "Give your comments to the Task Force." Follow the instructions for sending your comments. Ask the Task Force to classify all waters of the Highlands C-1.

I'll try to keep you updated as this group moves forward. Thanks in advance for your involvement.

Rich Malizia

Points

If at any time you would like to know the total points that you have accumulated to date, please let me know by Email to woodman90@msn.com and I will be glad to inform you. If you lack an Internet connection, call me at 973-835-0727

Ken Vander Pyl

East Jersey Chapter Trout Unlimited

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Holiday Gift Wrapping

I would like to extend my sincerest thanks to Stuart Levine for letting East Jersey Trout Unlimited gift wrap in his Paramus and Ramsey "Ramsey Outdoor Stores" this holiday season.

All donations for the wrapping of presents went to our conservation fund. Many thanks to Stu for his unending generosity to our club. Special thanks to Pete Jacques for helping me co-ordinate the program and to our members Bill Borowski, Ron Giezendanner, Carl Hoetzel, Rich & Joan Malizia, Joe McCourt, Lesli Rogers, Don Sirto, and George Petersen who made it possible - bad weather or not.

If I missed anyone please email me at canning249@aol.com or call me at 973-694-3852. Thank you all!

Karen Canning

Programs at Pequest

To register call 908-637-4125. For updates, visit www.njfishandwildlife.com

February

Fly Tying Demonstrations - Every Saturday, 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. - Expert tiers from the East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited will be tying their favorite patterns in the exhibit hall. Observe, ask questions and learn in this informal setting.

Public Trout Stocking Meeting - Saturday, February 14 at 10 a.m. - The public is invited to hear and comment on the trout stocking plan for 2004.

The Pequest Trout Hatchery and Natural Resource Education Center is located on Rt. 46 nine miles west of Hackettstown in scenic Warren County. Open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily and admission is free.

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 **Hot Sellers**. The best selling flies that Basil always runs out of. These include Classic Nymphs, Bead Heads, Standard Catskill Dry Flies, and Streamers.

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

Show and Tell!

Our East Jersey Chapter's carousel slide projector needs repairs. Donations of a projector, carousels and bulbs would be gladly accepted (as well as tax deductible).

Please contact any member of the Board of Directors if you can donate a projector or if you know of someone who can repair the old machine.

A projector is needed for many of our Education and Conservation programs as well as at the General Meetings.

Items For Sale

Sage RPLXB, 9' - 9wt, 3pc, \$175
Sage Graphite II, 476RPB, 7'6" - 4 wt, 2pc, \$150

Orvis Trident PM -10+905, 9' - 5 wt, 2pc, \$185

Orvis Western Traveler, 8'6" - 6wt, 4pc, \$150

True Temper Steel Fly Rod, 2 pc \$10
D.B. Dunn Rod Tube, will hold a 9' 2pc rod with reel, \$20

New, Regal Medallion Vise; never used, rotary with bronze pedestal current retail is \$225 asking \$175.

Bill Borowski; email
wsb1@hotmail.com or phone
973-471-1068

How to contact us:

Website <http://www.eastjerseytu.org>

Mailing Address:

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 hodline: (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 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:

tu@cataloguepublishers.com or raycapp@optonline.net. Each piece of material that is published 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.

Time to Reserve Your Table

The EJTU Annual Dinner will be held on March 19, 2004 at the Rustic Lodge. There are two prices for the dinner: Reservations received by March 10, 2004 or earlier - \$34.00 per person; Reservations received after March 10th up to March 14th - \$ 37.00 per person. No reservations will be accepted after March 14, 2004. All reservations must include your choice of dinner as well as the members you would like to be seated with. Seating is assigned and the dinners will be served to those assigned seats. Changes can only be made up to March 14th. Remember, our annual dinner funds EJTU's conservation and education programs as well as projects for children's groups. Please help make it a success again this year!

Rustic Lodge. Route 46 West. Elmwood Park, NJ 07407. (201)791-0027

Annual Dinner March 19, 2004 Reservation Form — Please make checks payable to: EJTU

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

Your Name (Please Print) Meal Choice Letter →

Guest Name Meal Choice Letter →

City, State, Zip

Phone

Meal Choices: **A-** Chicken Cordon Bleu or **B-** Prime Rib or **C-** Stuffed Flounder
Please enter the letter of your choice of meal in the box after your name.

Mail completed form and check to:
Karen Canning
74 Minnehaha Path
Lincoln Park NJ 07035-2311
(973) 694-3852



Sorry No Refunds!

Fish Ways

What's a fish-way? It's another name for a fish ladder - a device such as a series of pools that allows fish to pass around a fall or dam. But, in our case it's the name of a new column that EJTU is beginning with this issue of Riffles. Fish Ways will present basic, fishing-related information that we hope will assist people new to the sport and remind old timers of things that they may have forgotten. If you would like to contribute a column, or if you have a question that you would like answered, please send it in; publishing your name on the question or article will be your choice.

Our first Fish Way, which was written by EJTU's President, George Petersen, explains how to choose a fishing rod (remember, telephone lines and lights hang on poles, we of the wet feet tribe use rods). In coming columns George will describe how to choose your reel, then how to choose a fly line.

Ray Cappock [raycapp@optonline.net]

Choosing a Rod/Reel Combination

How does an angler, who is new to fly fishing, choose the proper rod/reel combination from the many offerings at the shops and in the catalogs? The proper method in picking any equipment (whether fly, spinning or conventional tackle) is to:

1. Select the targeted species.
2. Choose the lure/bait to attract that species.
3. Match the line to the lure weight (and configuration, i.e. air resistance).
4. Select a rod that can throw that particular line.
5. Choose a reel to match the line and rod configuration.

Fresh water bass anglers will want an eight weight rod, capable of casting large hair frog flies and salt water fishermen will opt for a ten weight rod which will be able to handle the larger and heavier flies and lines which are needed in the windier conditions which they will encounter. For most trout fishing applications, a rod that can throw a five or six weight line is preferred by today's anglers.

For trout in the Northeastern part of the country, the most popular and useful rod is one which can throw a five weight line. This line can properly deliver a dry fly, nymph or streamer for trout in the majority of situations. The rod may be eight, eight and a half or nine feet in length, but the primary concern is that it be able to handle a five weight line. (N.B. the longer lengths are better performers in boats, float tubes or on large rivers and lakes). Rods may be of two or even seven-piece construction. With graphite technology being what it is to-

day, the average angler would be hard-pressed to distinguish the difference between the two piece and the "multi-multi piece" rods.

Action: choose a fly rod whose action best suits *your* casting style. You would
(Continued on page 4)

EJTU Still Needs You!

Don't forget that our annual dinner is approaching fast and if we want to continue to offer great raffle prizes we have to start getting the prizes together now. We need a few more donations of new gear and we also need more donations of personal services such as photography, guide services, instruction, etc.

When you've decided what you want to donate for the raffles contact Bill Borowski and let him know what you are donating. Bill can be reached at 973-471-1068, or emailed at bill@borowski.net (please put 'Dinner' in the subject line)

or, at Ramsey Outdoor 201-661-5000 on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays. Items can also be dropped off at Ramsey Outdoor in Paramus and given to John Roetman or George Petersen and they will get the items to Bill.



Ramapo Ramblin'

This winter appears to be an Ice Fisherman's dream come true, with extreme cold and wind, snow and ice to boot! On January 21, the last time I checked the Ramapo, I found that the river was flowing at a nice pace with ice build-ups along the banks. I assume that most of our fly fishermen members are doing the sensible thing and suffering from cabin fever.

Your Conservation Committee is making plans for the coming year and our first planned project is a Sunday, March 28 cleanup at Glen Gray and Halifax roads. We are hoping to get more wood chips to spread in the parking strip along Glen Gray Road. A lot of hands make light work, so why not plan on coming out to help us get going in the right direction?

We will once again assist the state with the stocking of the Ramapo at Britt's Tackle Shop and upstream at Halifax Road using buckets. At Glen Gray Road, we will use two boats to stock about one and a half miles of water. Opening day is April 10 this year and our first stocking date to assist the state is Thursday, April 15. We do not assist with the preseason stocking. So pay your taxes early and come on out to help in this fun event.

On June 12 we will once again hold Ramapo Day! Rich Malizia and Dr. Angela Cristini work together on putting together a great event that teaches 120 kids about conservation and the importance of caring for the rivers and streams. This is an event that requires a lot of assistance, from helping set up the tents and equipment in the morning, working on the various projects with the kids, to cleaning up at the end. If you can't make it all day, perhaps you can help out for a couple of hours. Please let us know ASAP if you can come.

" There will be days when the fishing is better than one's most optimistic forecast, others when it is far worse. Either is a gain over just staying home." Roderick Haig-Brown

The annual dinner once again will be at Rustic Lodge, Route 46 in Elmwood Park. The food is excellent with beer, wine and soda on the table all evening all for the price of \$34 per person (\$37 after March 14). The details are elsewhere in *Riffles*. If you have never attended, you have missed a great time! So why not bring your spouse or a friend and have a great time while also supporting your organization?

The February membership meeting will feature a program concerning all of the work that the members have been doing in projects at the Ramapo and Bear Swamp Brook. Rich Malizia will be doing the slide show and he has tremendous knowledge of the Ramapo. Sometimes I think he was born in a canoe on the river. DON'T MISS THIS ONE!

I wonder how many of EJTU members have ever tried to fish the upper Hackensack River? The river at one time was considered one of the best fly fishing stretches in the state. As a kid, I fished the section above Poplar Road, which is now the Tappan Reservoir, and what a beautiful stream that was! Now the section behind the Rivervale library and firehouse still offers some real nice water. WMA5 has requested that the river be designated a C-1 river which is the highest designation for river protection. You might want to give it a try.

Looks like it is time to close the tackle box until next month, so keep the hooks sharp, the barbs crushed and the lines tight!! I'll see you down stream, where we all live. God Bless America

Herm Drenth

(Continued from page 3) Fish Ways

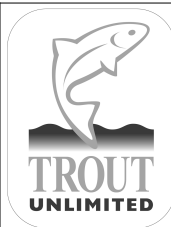
think twice about buying shoes you have not tried for fit, fly rods are the same. Each manufacturer has different actions built into the blank; these serve to fit a caster's style and needs. Visit a reputable shop before you buy; ask to try the various rods. Does the action fit your style? Does the handle fit your grip? You might be surprised at how one five weight rod can make you a better caster than another, even from the same company. Check to see where the rod flexes (i.e. tip, mid-section or somewhere in between ... most fly anglers today avoid the parabolic flex which was so popular during the 1960's.)

Choose the configuration that will fit your needs for transporting the rod at home and when traveling by air. Remember that most airline carriers will not permit you to carry fishing equipment onto the plane, everything must go into the luggage compartment and be subject to handling by conveyor belts at the airport and baggage handlers into the containers. Please realize that at times, these handlers are good people but at others, they are replaced with trained gorillas. (Most fly anglers today are opting for three, four and five piece configurations for these situations.)

For more detailed information or if you have a need for more specific information, please contact me at GRPetersen@verizon.net.

George Petersen

★ **Joan Wulff Fly Fishers General Meeting** ★
★ The Joan Wulff Fly Fishers meet in the back room of the Ramsey Outdoor Store in Paramus at 7:00 PM on the first Thursday of the month (unless there's a Holiday). ★
★ The Thursday, March 4, 2004 meeting will feature a talk by Ozzie" Ozefovich. ★
★ Come on out and have some fun while preparing for Spring fishing. ★



Trout Unlimited
East Jersey Chapter
Box 366
HoHoKus, NJ 07423-0366

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07410