



# Riffler

The Monthly Newsletter of the  
East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Volume 34

March 2004

Issue 3

## President's Beat

I've heard rumors that spring is on its way. Already the incipient buds on the trees are getting more visible and the male cardinals are singing their predawn calls, staking their claims to the best mating sites. It is time for us to climb out of the winter doldrums and quicken our own pace.

Chapter committees are already in full swing with their varied activities and they need your help. Having been involved in volunteer organizations over the years, I realize that the majority of the tasks are done by a small percentage of the membership. Please roll up your sleeves and join them, making that percentage larger with your participation. There is something for everyone, regardless of skill level, a point well made by Rich Malizia during his fine presentation at the General Membership Meeting February 11. Check this issue of *Riffler* for some of these events.

To keep up to date on Chapter activities and projects, I encourage you to check our website ([www.eastjerseytu.org](http://www.eastjerseytu.org)) on a regular basis. Bill Borowski, the Webmaster, has been working hard to keep the site current (no pun intended). We are now able to use the site as a communications tool. For example if there is a program or event which needs to be cancelled or delayed due to inclement weather, that cancellation will be posted by 8 PM the previous evening. One event that will not be cancelled due to the weather, is the Annual Dinner, which will be held on March 19. Barbara and Dave Wedlick, Karen and Bill Canning have all been working hard for the past ten months to make this a successful evening. The only ingredient missing is you. If you have not already made your reservations, please fill out the form in this issue and mail it to Karen.

## Meeting Notice

**When:** March 10 at 7:30 PM  
**Where:** American Legion Hall  
33 West Passaic Street  
Rochelle Park, New Jersey

**March 10**  
**Agust Gudmundsson**  
**Fishing New Jersey Streams**

**Mark Your Calendars!**

## Future Guest Speakers

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

*All programs have a slide show.*

We joined Trout Unlimited for various reasons and the more we are involved, the more we continue to learn. Let's spread some of that knowledge by introducing someone new to the sport of trout fishing and to the work of the East Jersey Chapter. T.U. National has cut the rate in half for new members. If a person joins, they pay \$17.50 instead of \$35 for their first year's dues. (As the salesman would say, a bargain at twice the price.)

Speaking of learning, I would encourage you to attend the meeting on March 10. We will host Agust Gudmundsson. He is presently the President of the Trout Unlimited State Council and his knowledge of trout streams in New Jersey, both large and small, is encyclopedic.

*George Petersen*

## No More Clinches?

In the February 5, 2004 issue of *The Fisherman* (NJ and Delaware Bay edition) there is an enlightening article about knots by Pete Barrett.

The author visited the Pure Fishing research facility in Spirit Lake, Iowa and found that one of his favorite knots (and mine), the improved clinch knot, was not as strong as the Trilene knot. The test strength of the line that was used in the tests was not given but the article states that the improved clinch knot gave out at 17 pounds while the Trilene knot stayed tied at 19 pounds when the line broke. That's only two pounds but it means that the Trilene knot survived under twelve percent greater strain and might have been ready to take more tension when the line snapped. Because the strength tests were run with the same batch of line and on the same testing machine, it doesn't appear that any bias effected the test results.

In addition to recommending the Trilene knot, the article also offers two other bits of advice. Moisten your knots with saliva before you draw them tight and try to use an implement such as pliers to tighten the knot.

Now that we know why we haven't been catching those big ones, we'll have to switch

knots. I found the accompanying illustration of both the improved clinch

and the Trilene knots in my 1992 version of *Fishing For Trout* by Andy Gennaro.

**Trilene Knot**



**Improved Clinch Knot**



*Ray Cappock*

## East Jersey Chapter Trout Unlimited

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#### Founding President

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## Step Outside

Invite a friend to STEP OUTSIDE and earn rewards!

As an avid outdoorsman or woman, you know the joy of spending time pursuing game with a rod, bow or gun... reveling in all nature has to offer... the unmatched feeling of companionship that you share with your hunting or fishing buddy. You know the satisfaction of bringing home wild food for the table, and the knowledge that is gained with every trip whether or not you bring anything home.

There are thousands of people who have never experienced the benefits of outdoor sports – you probably even know several of them! They would welcome the opportunity to go afield with you fishing or hunting. They simply need to be asked. The Division of Fish and Wildlife has partnered with New Jersey retailers to help promote the concept STEP OUTSIDE. This National Shooting Sports Foundation program encourages individuals, sportsmen groups, retailers and agencies to work together to encourage participation in the traditional outdoor sports. (See [www.stepoutside.org](http://www.stepoutside.org) for more information).

During the months of March through May, area retailers will help encourage you to take a friend, family member or coworker outdoors to share your favorite outdoor pursuits. Pick up the information at selected retailers, or get it on-line ([www.njfishandwildlife.com](http://www.njfishandwildlife.com)), and then STEP OUTSIDE. Look for displays at Ramsey Outdoor (all locations), Busnardo's Sportsmen's Center (Bridgeton), Sportsmen's Center (Bordentown), Side by Side Firearms (Denville), Fishing Plus (Parsippany), Efinger's Sports (Bound Brook), Harry's Army & Navy (Robbinsville) and Bob Kislin's Inc. (Toms River). When you complete the registration form and return it to your

(Continued on page 3)

## 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 your 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

## Joan Wulff Fly Fishers

The Joan Wulff Fly Fishers will meet at 7 PM on Thursday, April 1, 2004 in the back room of the Paramus Ramsey Outdoors store.

Keith Fulsher will give a talk about Delaware River Shad.

Join us and have some fun while learning about great spring shad fishing.

All general club meetings are the first Thursday of the month. (Our May meeting will feature Andrea & Glenn Van Benschoten speaking on "Lakes & Ponds on the Fly").

## For Sale

Ranger style 201 size 10 felt sole chest waders. 3-ply nylon fabric top, unlined boot feet. New in box \$85. Pro-Line deluxe woven nylon wader belt. New in packaging \$3. Black metal tubular stream thermometer. Like new \$5. Black Bear Creations beautiful laminated wood landing net with 14" deep micro-mesh bag. Beaverkill model. New, unused \$45.

Korkers studded felt sole replacements. Unused but boot side primed with barge cement, \$8. Call (973) 764-1053 evenings till 9 p.m.

## Items For Sale

Sage RPLXB, 9' - 9wt, 3pc, \$175

Sage Graphite II, 476RBP, 7'6" - 4 wt, 2pc, \$150

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

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

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](mailto:wsb1@hotmail.com) or phone 973-471-1068

How to contact us:

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

Mailing Address:

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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](mailto: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](mailto:tu@cataloguepublishers.com) or [raycapp@optonline.net](mailto: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 14<sup>th</sup> - \$ 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 14<sup>th</sup>. 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 Fly Reels

Reels for fly-fishing come in various configurations but are basically rather simple mechanisms, used to store the line.

They have a rather wide range in price, varying from an entry-level \$29.95 to \$1,200 for a top of the line limited addition. Better made reels are machined from bar stock aluminum, a process which begins with a three to five pound block of aircraft grade metal from which the final three ounce product is produced. Obviously the quality goes up with the price tag but there are many good reels on today's market which will stand the test of time. (For example, as of this writing, Pflueger has reentered the marketplace with machined reels which are retailing for \$89.99 in any of the various sizes.) For extra spools, expect to pay approximately 50% of the cost of your particular reel.

The simpler versions have a one-to-one retrieve ratio and a drag controlled by a spring and pawl mechanism. Look for the reel to have an exposed rim so that you can palm it to slow down a big running fish.

Another variation on the theme is a large arbor spool, which will give the user a three-to-one retrieve. The trade-off here is that you will lose backing capacity.

Manufacturers attempt to remedy this by A) enlarging the diameter of the reel, or B) making the spool wider. (On a personal note, I find the wider spools somewhat clumsy when trying to get the line back on the spool in "the heat of battle" and hence prefer the larger diameter solution.) You can increase the backing capacity by cutting the last fifteen feet of fly line. This is simply level running line and will not effect the cast.

For larger diameter reels and bigger fish situations, you might want to consider a model with a more aggressive drag. These are more appropriate for fighting long running species like albacore, bone fish or tarpon. Check to see if the drag is smooth at its lower settings as well as the upper end. I would also suggest that you find a reel with an enclosed drag as the saltwater environment is notorious for being destructive. One particle of sand can cause a disaster. Be sure that you rinse the reel after each session. This is easily accomplished by dipping the reel in fresh water and allowing it to dry, spool and housing separate. I would also suggest that you strip the line down to the backing and immerse it in fresh water, running it through a towel to dry before replacing it on the reel.

George Petersen  
([grpetersen44@verizon.net](mailto:grpetersen44@verizon.net))

## Congratulations

Congratulations and thanks to the following EJTU members who volunteered time and effort in support of our chapter and its activities:

- 150 points Michael Caprizzi, Ron Fletcher, Ed Marchak, Gary Molean, Joe McCourt, Bob Schneider, Don Sirota, Pete Talarico, and Paul Warga.
- 500 points Ray Cappock, Walter Nahadil, John Szep and Carl Hoetzl.
- 750 points David Wedlick
- 1000 points Bill Canning and Rich Hudak.
- 1500 points Karen Canning and Ed Sikorski.
- 2500 points Gary Heger, Herman Drenth, and Richard Malizia
- 4000 points Bob Ribar

*Ken Vander Pyl*

(Continued from page 2) **Step Outside** favorite retailer, they will give you 10% off your purchase. This discount can be used to get your new hunting or fishing buddy started. Of course, the real reward will be the satisfaction you get in cultivating a new outdoors enthusiast.

## Ramapo Ramblin' 2003 Conservation Report

About 50 EJTU volunteers worked on various projects on the Ramapo last year. The projects included float stocking, clean ups, tree planting, BATS surveys, electro shocking, etc. It was a very active year with everyone working together to make it a success. Thank you!

February was a month of meetings to plan activities for the year.

Then activities began in March with EJTU members participating in an open house at Britt's Tackle Shop in Oakland. We presented a slide program featuring the activities of EJTU at the Girl Scout Jamboree in Kinnelon and also had some members demonstrating fly casting and fly tying. A clean up of the Glen Gray Road area was completed and wood chips were spread in the Glen Gray Road parking area. Preparations were made for the upcoming stocking season. We had a continual slide presentation of conservation activities at the Suffern Show.

April found the members gearing up for the stocking season and assisting the state stocking program every week of the stocking season by doing a bucket stocking downstream from Britt's Tackle Shop and float stocking with two boats at the Glen Gray Bridge. One boat is taken upstream to the Baxter property to be launched, and the trout are transported up there in an aerated cooler. The other boat is launched at Glen Gray Bridge to stock downstream. There is also a team that meets the state's truck at Halifax Road and bucket stocks upstream. We estimate that over 4,000 trout are stocked over a two mile stretch of water.

The month of May found us still stock-

### Thank You EJTU

The Bergen County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs sends a special thank you to EJTU for the beautiful flies that Bob Ribar and his tyers contributed for the federation's annual venison dinner. The flies were a hit as usual.

### Upper Delaware Trip

June 4, 5, 6, 2004

We will be staying at Lee Hartman's Indian Springs Camp on the Upper Delaware River.

Arrive Friday evening; float trip on Saturday; walk waded on Sunday. Price per person is \$400.00. To make a reservation call John Roetman (201) 447-1810

ing every Thursday. Using grant money, we did a tree planting at Bear Swamp Brook to support the banks at the upper sections. We are proposing that one and a third mile, of the Ramapo be made a conservation stretch. We attended a meeting at the Ramapo River Interstate Partnership in Suffern to discuss the plans of the Army Engineers to dredge both the Mahwah Brook and a section of the Ramapo above the college. Water temperature monitors were placed in the Ramapo. The first BATS survey was done.

Ramapo River Day was at the top of the agenda for June. EJTU and Ramapo College presented a program that brought 120 middle school kids to Halifax Road to learn all aspects of conservation and to stock warm water fish in Henry Lake. Twenty-five EJTU members assisted. Plans are being made to possibly build a handicap deck at Henry Lake. We also assisted the Wayne Boy Scouts in stocking trout in the Singac Brook.

July was a quiet month. Rich Malizia attended a meeting to oppose the Ramsey plan to drill two wells in the reservation.

In August a second BATS survey was done. Then Bob Papson from the NJ Department of Fish and Wildlife had a team do electro-shocking on 1500 meters of stream below Glen Gray Bridge; this was a first step in checking the survival rate of trout in hot weather. Fourteen browns and a rainbow were found and the oxygen level and pH were found to be excellent. Papson will do more tests in 2004. EJTU members assisted with the testing.

In September a clean up was done, plans made for the state's fall stocking and we placed an order to purchase trout for our private stocking in November. Ed Sikorski reported that the six temperature

monitors were removed from the Ramapo; the highest reading that was recorded was 78 degrees for a short period.

October found us once again assisting the state with its fall stocking program. As a finale for the year we used two boats to place 300 trout in the Glen Gray Bridge area of the Ramapo. One hundred conservation pamphlets that describe the importance of keeping the river clean were distributed to homeowners who live along the Ramapo. A final BATS survey that indicated that the Mayfly count was down from 2003 was done; this was possibly due to drought conditions in 2002.

Thank you to our conservation committee members, Rich Malizia, Tom Yuille, Ed Sikorski, Bruce Seiden, Bill Borowski, Larry Hill, George Petersen, John Roetman, Ray Cappock, John Gri-soni, Rich Hudak, and to all the EJTU members who volunteered their time during the year.

Note; Tom Yuille has moved to Pennsylvania and as of January 2004 Ken Vander Pyl joined the committee.

To get on my email list contact me at hermaril@aol.com

We all live downstream! Everyone can help!

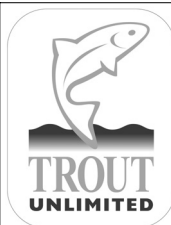
*Herm Drenth*  
Conservation Committee Chairman

### New Hatch

Welcome to new EJTU members Marty Simon, Michael J. Monahan, Ken Coutts, Larry Garguilo, and Pete Douma who joined at the Ramsey Outdoor Cabin Fever Day.

And many thanks to Stewart Levine who owns Ramsey Outdoor Stores for giving a store credit equal to the \$17.50 membership fee to the new members for joining.

*Bill Borowski*



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