



# Riffler

The Monthly Newsletter of the  
East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Volume 34

November 2004

Issue 11

## President's Beat

In a recent campaign speech, Senator John Kerry was quoted as saying: "In a desperate campaign, the first thing to go is the truth." On Dagnet, Sgt. Joe Friday used to say, "Just give me the facts."

This is probably the only believable statement we have heard from either candidate during the entire length of this past campaign. Most of us have long since become weary of the constant barrage of petty, sophomoric rhetoric to which we have been subjected these past months (or is it years?).

The first thing the coach of my debating team taught us was that an "ad hominem" argument was no argument at all. (Those are attacks directed at an opponent and not at the issue.) They are the lowest forms of argument and recent American politics seems to be brimful of them, much to the dismay of the actual facts and other forms of reality, which may make a difference.

I have always believed and reveled in our system of government, the beautiful simplicity of three branches of government, a system of checks and balances. An odd number, where there is never a chance for a tie. Indeed our Founding Fathers were wise beyond their collective years. (E.g. They wrote a constitution which we are able to amend, and showed us how to do it with the first ten amendments, the Bill of Rights. It should be noted that in the same 220+ years, France has gone through 15 constitutions. (They'll get it right sooner or later.)

The fly-in-the-ointment is that checks and balances do not function on a more basic level. When bills are drafted and acts of Congress are passed, they are yet to pass through the system. Moreover

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## Meeting Notice

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

**November 10th  
Steve Andrusika  
Shad Fishing the Delaware**

**Mark Your Calendars!**

**December 8th  
John Roetman  
The Connetquot  
Getting Ready for our Super  
Bowl Sunday Trip**

## Welcome to October's New EJTU Members

William Taylor	Woodridge
Richard Street	Hoboken
Dennis Spafford	Northvale
Roy Verstraete	Ringwood
Mark Polizzi	Mahwah
Roderick Gilbert	Jersey City
Gary Goldman	Englewood
David J. Harper	Ridgewood
James Cepiel	New Baltimore, MI
John Adams	Johnstown, PA
Marty Simon	Oakland
Mike Weidel	Middletown, NY
Igor Zaretsky	Fair Lawn
John Crilly	Wanaque
Marsha Benovengo	Manalapan
John Hufnagel	West New York

## Slate of Officers - 2005

The Nominating Committee of 2004 respectfully submits the following candidates for office for the year 2005:

President	George Petersen
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Bob Ribar
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Karen Canning
Treasurer	Bruce Seiden
Secretary	Bill Canning
Membership	Ed Sikorski
Conservation	Herman Drenth
Education and Pequest Programs	Doug Penna Bob Ribar
Merchandise	Basil Santamaria
Points	Ken Vander Pyl
Dinner	Barbara and David Wedlick
Web Master	Bill Borowski
Federation of Sportsmen Representative	Ray Cappock
Riffler	Gary Heger Ray Cappock

If there are any additional candidates please contact a member of the Committee: John Roetman, Chair, Bill Borowski, Doug Penna and Don Sirota.

## Published in the Asbury Park Press 10/29/04

The Casting for Recovery program gives women who have or have had breast cancer the opportunity to experience the beauty, thrill and rejuvenation that can be found in fly fishing.

*By KAREN E. WALL*

Read the complete article at: <http://fishing.injersey.com/sports/fishing/story/0,20939,1094390,00.html>

## Wayne's World Continues

Doug Penna will keep the EJTU display in the Wayne library for a second month so, if you have a chance, get there to visit it. It's a nice display and Doug has spent a great deal of time putting it together and then arranging to have it on view in various public buildings.

## East Jersey Chapter Trout Unlimited

### Board of Directors

#### President

George Petersen

#### 1st Vice-President/Treasurer

Bruce Seiden

#### 2nd Vice-President

Bob Ribar

#### Recording Secretary

Bill Canning

#### Membership Secretary

Ed Sikorski

#### Conservation Chairman

Herman Drenth

#### Education Director

Doug Penna

#### Trips/Pequest Programs

Bob Novak

#### Speakers

John Roetman

#### Merchandise

Basil Santamaria

#### Riffles Editors

Gary Heger

Ray Cappock

[tu@cataloguepublishers.com](mailto:tu@cataloguepublishers.com) / [raycapp@optonline.net](mailto:raycapp@optonline.net)

#### Points

Ken Vander Pyl

#### Dinner

Dave & Barbara Wedlick

#### Shows

Basil Santamaria

#### Publicity

Larry Hill

#### Director at Large

Karen Canning

#### Web Master

Bill Borowski

#### Federation of Sportsmen's Rep

Ray Cappock

#### Founding President

Don Ecker

(Continued from page 1)

#### President's Beat

these measures are subject to the political influence of special interest groups. As conservationists, it is imperative that we make ourselves aware of the different decisions confronting our legislators and act upon that knowledge. We need to make our voices known. The lobbyists and special interest groups certainly do. We must keep ourselves informed and aware of the issues at hand, not of the personal slurs which continue to predominate the media.

We need the policing of various groups such as Trout Unlimited, The Sierra Club and The Nature Conservancy and other public advocacy groups. Without these consumer watchdogs, we could have lost long ago.

On page 64 of the Fall 2004 issue of *Trout* magazine there is a quote from Scott Stouder: "We have to win every battle. All they have to do is win one, put a road in an area, and you can't reverse that."

George Petersen

## Our Big Night

On Saturday, March 19, 2005 we will hold the most important event of East Jersey Trout Unlimited's year - our annual dinner. And, this year, for the first time, the dinner will be at the



Wayne Manor.

We start with cocktails at 6:30 PM and then, at 7:30 PM, a full sit down meal with a choice of three entrees.

There are two prices for tickets: \$42 until February 18, 2005, and \$47 after February 18, 2005.

Look for further details in future Riffles.

Bruce Seiden

## Wanted

John Roetman arranged for the speakers at EJTU's membership meetings and also scheduled the various fishing trips that we offer. And now he would like to sit back and relax for a while.

While we are applauding the great job that John did we are also looking for one or two people to take over these duties these duties. Since John has already completed much of the work for next year, whoever volunteers will have plenty of time to ease into the job. He or she will also have as much help from John as is needed.

If you would like to assume one or both of these important jobs, please contact either George Petersen at [gpetersen44@verizon.com](mailto:gpetersen44@verizon.com) or 973-772-6311, or John Roetman at [jroetman@ramseyoutdoor.com](mailto:jroetman@ramseyoutdoor.com) or 201-261-5000.

## A Good Investment

For every dollar you contribute to Trout Unlimited (e.g. membership dues), T.U. National spends \$70 on issues relating to cold water conservation. The difference is made up from the donations of our corporate sponsors.

George Petersen

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](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:

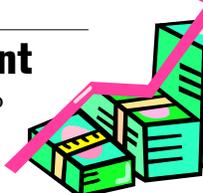
[tu@cataloguepublishers.com](mailto:tu@cataloguepublishers.com) or [raycapp@optonline.net](mailto:raycapp@optonline.net). Each piece of material that is published earns you 10 points towards your next goal in the points program.

**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.



## First New Jersey Casting for Recovery Retreat

What better way to further TU's goals of "conservation through dedicated volunteer work" than to create new fly fishing enthusiasts! And that is exactly what EJTU did on Sunday October 25<sup>th</sup> at the Pequest Hatchery. Casting for



CFR participant Kathryn Paul (foreground) with volunteer instructor Rita Heger at the Pequest Pond.

Recovery, a national, non-profit organization for women who have or had breast cancer, offers retreats so that these women can learn a sport for life – fly fishing. Fly fishing provides a gentle exercise for mobility, the hope that



Gary Heger ties on a wooly buggler for Bonnie Ferragut as Kathryn Paul and Rita Heger look on.

comes from learning a new skill and a connection to the natural environment. Casting for Recovery relies on donations for these retreats and EJTU was there to help. East Jersey made the funding grant possible and had a back-up check ready if needed and provided the volunteers. The first New Jersey Casting for Recovery retreat was a great success.



CFR retreat members, CRF Staff and EJTU volunteer instructors assemble prior to pairing off.

A few years ago Gary was reading a fly fishing magazine (what else!) and came across a few lines about a program teaching fly fishing to women with breast cancer. After a little more research, he found Casting for Recovery was offering a retreat at Skytop, PA. He encouraged me to go and I signed up. On the way there, I worried that I would never be able to tie on a fly, I fretted that I would only catch trees, I was certain that I would be the worst student. On the way home, I did nothing but smile. Fly fishing became an important part of my life as a result of that retreat and the

wonderful and caring volunteers. So when EJTU announced their sponsorship of the first New Jersey Casting for Recovery retreat, Gary and I were on the volunteer list immediately along with Bill Borowski, Bob Schneider, George Petersen, Michael Gallart, Carl Hoetzl, Dan Cabral, Kathy Cabral, Stan Jakubazek, Mickey Goshen, Rich Malizia and Bob Ribar.

At the Pequest, the 14 CFR participants and their EJTU counterparts were wondering at the beginning of the day "what could a group of women who never saw a fly rod until this weekend and a group of live- to- fish enthusiasts have in common?" By the end of the day the answer was on everyone's face – fly fishing is fun! The women brought enthusiasm and a crash course in fly fishing from the day before and the EJTU volunteers brought skill & sensitivity. The results were smiles, laughter, pride, trout caught, photographed and released, fish stories about the one that got away, and new terms learned like "long distance release." A new group of fly fishers who have been taught the importance of catch & release have entered the sport. And most importantly, through the efforts of CFR and EJTU and others, these women have something positive to look forward to --- a day on a stream or lake with the only worry being which fly to use. Also see the Asbury Park article by Karen Wall:

<http://fishing.injersey.com/sports/fishing/story/0,20939,1094390,00.html>

Rita Heger

Photos by Bob Ribar

### Thanks to EJTU

The October 2004 Riffles carried an article, with photo, about the Wildlife Heritage Festival that was held at the Pequest Hatchery. We received the following Email thank you on October 23.

*I noticed you had a nice article in the Oct. Riffles about the Pequest Wildlife Heritage Festival. I would like to extend my thanks to the entire chapter for helping us to make the event great. George Petersen did a great job recruiting volunteers Bill Borowski, Mike Gallart, Rich Malizia, Doug Penna, and Bob Ribar. Their help was invaluable. With 27 volunteers, we were able to offer continuous fishing for 117 kids. As we are planning on doing a repeat of this during the spring Open House (April 2 & 3, 2005), we will again be counting on the help of EJTU as well as the other chapters. Stay tuned!*

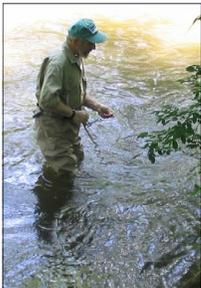
*Thanks again for all of your support.  
Sincerely, Mim Dunne  
NJ DEP Division of Fish & Wildlife*

## Ramapo Ramblin'

As I write this column, we have just completed our last stocking of the year with the New Jersey Fish and Wildlife Department. We stocked over 3000 trout; some from Britt's tackle shop in Oakland downstream as far as the railroad bridge, and some float stocked in the Glen Gray Bridge area from the Baxter property about 2 miles downstream to the Lenape Lane Bridge! Through the efforts of Walter Nahadil and others we also bucket stocked upstream at Halifax road.

We tried to find a place for parking at the Cleveland Bridge at Bear Swamp Road, but everything is posted for no parking. It appears that there will be no state stocking at that point next year because there must be public access in order for the state to put trout into any water.

On October 31 at 10AM, we float stocked 300 trout that EJTU purchased privately for the vicinity of Glen Gray Bridge. Everyone is requested to practice catch and release in this area, so please



**Ed Sikorski placing one of his temperature sensors last spring.**

bend back the barbs on your hooks and use either flies or, for spin fishermen, spinners only. The trout cost \$4.00 each and are placed there so everyone can enjoy the sport over the winter months. Anyone wishing to have a trout dinner should go to the nearest fish store.

Ed Sikorski, who is in charge of our water monitoring program,

reports that the highest temperature reading in the Glen Gray area during the past season was 81 degrees and that this temperature only occurred for a few short periods. Rainbows and Browns can live for short periods at this temperature if the oxygen level is sufficient. Over the years our tests have always shown that oxygen levels have been good. Trout are able to find cool springs to congregate around in hot weather. When we fish the usual cool weather sites in the summer, we swear that there are no trout left in the river when, in fact, they have moved to cool springs. In hot weather trout, especially browns, can travel a couple of miles to find cool water and then in the fall when the water cools, return.

We will clean up the Halifax Road section of the Ramapo on Saturday, November 13. On the same day we will also use a boat (or boats) to clean the shoreline of Henry Lake, which is downstream from Halifax Road. We will meet at the Halifax Road Bridge at 10 AM.

How much mercury is needed to contaminate a 20 acre lake? Answer: mercury from ONE broken thermometer will do the job. This means that we should be getting digital thermometers to check water temperatures.

As I have informed everyone on my Email list, this year on October 16 I celebrated eight years as a survivor of prostate cancer! Every year at this time I advise every male that I know to get a checkup because 30% of all males will have it at age 65 and by age ninety it is virtually every male. If you are forty-five or older, you should be checked. I am convinced that I am here because the cancer was caught early and it is highly curable at that point. Tomatoes, red wine or red grapes and green vegetables are good preventive foods.

If you are not on my Email list you can contact me at [hermaril@aol.com](mailto:hermaril@aol.com) and give me your name and Email address to be added to the 122 people on my list. This information is never given out to anyone except a board member who might want to reach you on EJTU business. If anyone else wishes to contact you I will send you an Email asking you to contact that person. As a reminder our web site is [www.eastjerseytu.org](http://www.eastjerseytu.org).

Looks like it is time for me to be moseying along, (at my age this is the preferred way to travel). Sharpen your hooks, bend back the barbs and may all your casts be with the wind at your back.

God Bless America

*Herm Drenth*

## Help The Handicapped

EJTU, working with authorities in Mahwah, will build a fishing deck for use by handicapped people in Spring 2005. The deck will be located on Henry Lake, the area that is down river from Halifax Road, so this necessitates that a wheelchair accessible path to the deck also be constructed.

The chapter has volunteers who can round up support and muscle, contact material suppliers and deal with the proper authorities but, now we need someone with appropriate training and experience who can define the engineering aspects of the project. The person who volunteers will have a lot of help (and probably have a lot of fun) so this is not a solo job.

If you have expertise in this area and would like to help both the chapter and some handicapped people who would like to fish, please contact Herm Drenth at 201-797-9043 or [hermaril@aol.com](mailto:hermaril@aol.com)

## Gift Wrapping with Purpose

At the Ramsey Outdoor stores this holiday season, volunteers for Casting for Recovery will be wrapping gifts in exchange for a donation to Casting for Recovery – a non-profit national organization that offers fly fishing retreats for women who have or had breast cancer. These retreats are free to the participants so CFR relies on donations. Please contact Marina at 201-327-8141 or 570-491-9182 to volunteer. The hours are from 9 to 6 and the gift-wrapping will take place at the Ramsey and Paramus stores on alternating dates beginning Friday November 26<sup>th</sup> at Ramsey.



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