

# Riffles

The Monthly Newsletter of the  
East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited



Volume 35

July 2005

Issue 7

## President's Beat

"Summer time and the livin' is easy". A trout or a trout angler certainly didn't write these lyrics. It seems that my last two articles were "a portent of things to come". During the first week of April, we had no idea of the water conditions and levels which would follow. After the flooding of early April we have had almost no rain. The Almanac in *The Record* indicates that precipitation in North Jersey is five inches below normal (and that figure includes the early spring.) We have always known that freestone creeks and rivers recede almost as fast as they rise. This year we have a dramatic illustration of that fact. Our local waters (including the Catskills) are already at late August flows and temperatures. It is tough being an aquatic life form in these conditions. Trout are in thermal stress and have been seeking the cooler waters of springs. They hover in the springs with their metabolism slowed and taking in very little nourishment. But, things are even worse for insect life which needs "aqua" in order to be aquatic because nymphs, larvae and pupae are not as mobile as trout. Dry stream beds are certainly not conducive to the lives of these various species. If you are a die-hard trout angler and can't wait until the fall rainfall and lower water temperatures, you have alternatives to our local waters. The West Branch and the East Branch of the Delaware are holding favorable temperatures because they are tail water fisheries. Water drawn from the bottoms of their respective reservoirs keeps them in fair condition. You might also consider fishing the Croton Watershed. This is another cold environment (though you will need a reservoir permit from New York State Department of Environmental Protection in order to gain access).

In Pennsylvania, the Pocono streams are  
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## Meeting Notice

**When:** July 13 at 7:30 PM  
**Where:** American Legion Hall  
33 West Passaic Street  
Rochelle Park, New Jersey

**July 13**  
**Jon Shein**  
**Kayak Fly Fishing**  
**Getting Started & Techniques**

**Mark Your Calendars!**

**August 10**  
**Steve Taggart**  
**Fishing the Delaware**  
**Slide show & lecture. Steve is a Licensed**  
**NYS Guide, Co-owner of Tight-lines**  
**Flyfishing**

**September 14**  
**Floyd Franke**  
**Guide, Head Instructor at The Joan Wulff**  
**School of Fly Fishing and Author of "Fish**  
**On! A Guide to Playing and Landing Big**  
**Fish on a Fly"**

**October 12**  
**Dave Brandt**  
**Guide and FF Instructor will present "How**  
**to Read a Stream" + A Tribute to Lee**  
**Wulff, Dave will hand tie a Royal Wulff**  
**without a vise**

**November 9**  
**Don Bastian**  
**Guide, Author and Master Flytyer -**  
**program TBD**

## Tony and the Tiger

Last May 30<sup>th</sup> EJTU's Tony Corsi was fishing the Beaverkill when something big hit. He first thought he had caught a very large brook trout but he found later that his size 4, green Woolly Bugger had been attacked by a 21 inch tiger. A tiger trout that is - a hybrid brook/brown. A copy of the letter from the NY Division of Fish & Wildlife can be viewed at [www.eastjerseytu.org](http://www.eastjerseytu.org).



Tigers are not a fish that you can expect to catch every day. Needless to say, after the appropriate photos had been taken, the fish was revived and released.

## Congratulations

If you've ever helped out at an EJTU event you know that someone always asks you to enter your name on an attendance log. Sometimes the log is just a sheet of paper, at other times it's something more formal looking, and then there are the times when the log is soggy, if not sopping wet. But do you know why we do this?

The reason is so we can keep track of the time that our volunteers spend on our projects. Not just so we can brag to others about how much we do but rather so we can reward our volunteers who put in the time and effort.

All of the logs are collected and the information is entered on a spreadsheet. Each person's hours are then converted to points and added to a running total of

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## East Jersey Chapter Trout Unlimited

### Board of Directors

**President**

George Petersen

**1st Vice-President**

Bob Ribar

**2nd Vice-President**

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Bruce Seiden

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Herman Drenth

**Education/Pequest Programs**

Doug Penna

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Mike Gallart

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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

**Web Master**

Bill Borowski

**Federation of Sportsmen's Rep**

Ray Cappock

**Founding President**

Don Ecker

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**Points**

the points earned by every person who works on our projects.

When a member reaches specified point totals EJTU thanks him/her by giving something back. Members earn such items an EJTU shirt, a jacket, a fishing license, etc. During April 2005 our members accumulated 2,225 points as they helped with stocking, the fly-fishing and fly-tying courses, and other projects.

Congratulations to the following people who have volunteered their time and efforts to the support of our chapter and its activities:

**150 points**

Marty Matuson, Andy Preziosi

Polo shirt

**500 points**

John Grisoni, Joe Mcmourt

Green jacket

**750 points**

Carl Hoetzl, Walt Nahadil,

Ken Vander Pyl

License

**1000 points**

Ray Cappock

Beer stein

**1500 points**

Bill Canning

Denim shirt

**2500 points**

Karen Canning

Fleece jacket

**4000 points**

Dennis Fitzsimmons

Gift certificate

If anyone would like to know the total number of points you have accumulated to date please contact me by Email [woodman90@msn.com](mailto:woodman90@msn.com) or call 973-935-07237

Ken Vander Pyl

## Fly of the Month

The major hatches of spring are winding down. The hatches that are taking place are getting later and later in the day. The middle of the day is void of insect activity, or is it?



It's TERRESTRIAL TIME; time to find yourself a stretch of river with overhanging branches and put on that ant or beetle pattern you prefer.



Whether it's the quick site ant, fur ant, crowe beetle, simple foam beetle, or a fancy hopper pattern, now is the time.



These are some of the easiest patterns to tie, and some of the most deadly. If you don't fish them all summer, you are missing some great opportunities.

Tie up one of these, or any other pattern, 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.



The chapter's fly inventory is still quite lean, and we need your help in getting it rebuilt. 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

## Where's Doug Now?

Doug Penna and his EJTU exhibit continues to move from town to town in north Jersey. So if you intend to visit the Teaneck library to view the exhibit, forget it! Make a U-turn and head south because Doug has moved our exhibit to East Rutherford for the month of July.

## Welcome to June's New Members

Richard Alsop

Joseph Defuria

Baiken Hatta

Ric Kay

Robert Sabyan

Marina Shleymovich

Erik Wayne

Ridgewood

Old Tappan

Jersey City

Glen Ridge

Paramus

North Bergen

Ringwood

Ed Sikorski

How to contact us:

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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 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 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.

## Road Kill Hackle

Old habits are hard to break. When I was a kid much of my fly tying material came from my mother's sewing box or from feathers and such found along the river. And of course there was road kill. The challenge with road kill is to get to the critter soon after it has been hit for the first time. Usually that is not the case and it is not worth dodging cars and trucks for a beat up beast or bird.

Although it has been years since I last scraped something off the street, I admit to still looking carefully at the condition of the tails of recently flattened squirrels.

One way to satisfy the old hunt and gather gene is with goose feathers. This time of year geese lose their flight feathers. It's nature's way of taking the car keys away from Dad so he has to stay home with the wife and kids. (Glad I'm not a goose.)

If you visit any of the local parks, just about all of which have large goose populations, you can get a year's worth of feathers in a few minutes. The best part is that you can select the right feather for the right use. Smaller softer feathers are great for wing casings. Larger stiffer ones make great wet fly wings.

After a few days of dry weather (heavy rain messes up the feathers) take a stroll, gather some feathers and satisfy that road kill gene for another year. Just watch where you step!

*Limp Leader*

## Pequest Hatchery Programs

EJTU will conduct a one-day mini fly-fishing course at the Pequest Hatchery on Sunday, August 21, 2005. We will need some help at this event so why don't you come out to the hatchery for a few hours? You will help EJTU and you will also help some beginners

If you know of anyone who would like to take this course, tell him or her to call the hatchery at least two weeks before the course to reserve a place. The price is right - it's free!

Contact me at the July 13 membership meeting and I'll give you the details.

*Bob Ribar*

## Fishing Partners

We all know - excuse me - everyone but Commissioner Bradley Campbell of the Department of Environmental Protection knows that there are a large number of bears roaming around New Jersey and they aren't cute, Walt Disney characters. But are you really paying attention?



Dogs and a miniature horse have been torn apart and children have been chased but, we assume that this only happens someplace out in the sticks where it doesn't affect us. The truth is that these fanged marauders no longer avoid centers of human activity and are being seen in Bergen and Passaic Counties too often to feel comfortable.

A sow with cubs was seen at the Ramapo River near Glen Gray Road (Oakland/Mahwah) last year and one visited Paul Warga's back door in Oakland recently. And, for those of you who occasionally fish Monksville Reservoir and neighboring Green Turtle Pond, Tom Surlak of the Federation of Sportsmen watched a large bear cross the road and go for a swim in the reservoir during those hot days in mid-June.

Staying alert to your surroundings and

adding a can of pepper spray and a large whistle to your fishing vest are some protective ideas. Or, you might listen to Commissioner Campbell, who feels that we are living in the bears' country and we have to adapt to them. His press releases suggest that everyone should buy a bear-proof garbage can but I can't figure out whether it goes over or under my waders.

*Daniel Boone*

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## President's Beat

also in poor shape. However the Heritage Stretch of the Little Lehigh in Allentown, a limestone stream, has consistent flows and temperatures. For success there, you need to think small (e.g. sizes 18-26).

For up to date reports on the various conditions, check the websites noted in previous issues of *Riffles* or use the links on our website.

Lastly, in New Jersey, we have the opportunity to angle for other fish. The many lakes, ponds, rivers and the ocean offer us a chance to expand our list of species caught.

*George Petersen*

## Fishing Derby

On Saturday, 18 June 2005 the Bergen County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, of which EJTU is a member, held a fishing derby at Saddle River Park. Ramsey Outdoors donated bait so our guys selected the fattest and juiciest worms (Haruumph!), New Jersey Fish And Wildlife delivered a truck load of warm-water fish, a lot of kids showed up with new fishing gear, and our volunteers were on hand to help out.

As you can see in the photos, after one little girl managed to reel in a beautiful fish on her little plastic rod and reel some of our volunteers could be found looking on longingly.



## Ramapo Ramblin'

We had another busy spring and our members participated in our various projects in record numbers. I hesitate to try to name anyone because I would surely omit someone.

We began this spring by assisting the state in stocking the Ramapo River with over three thousand trout. Reports coming back to me have been fantastic; one senior member told me that he has had the best trout fishing in his life. I have had many reports from people who have caught colorful and healthy trout in the 15 to 18 inch range that were probably holdovers from the fish we stocked last October.

Pete Talarico, who does guide work in Alaska, told me how pleased and surprised he was at the size and number of trout he has caught and released. You will recognize Pete because he is the guy that carries his little Yorky dog named Killer in his fishing creel as he fishes.

The Ramapo is becoming a premier trout stream in this area and much of the thanks go to our members.

Ed Sikorski reports that he has placed temperature monitors in the Ramapo and in Bear Swamp Brook. The monitors, which record the water temperature every day from June until September, are in short pieces of pipe with a chain attached. If you find one that is not in the water notify Ed or myself. The monitors are another effort by EJTU to verify that trout can live over the summer.

Another important effort will be to have the state do another electro-shocking as a follow-up to the one they did in 2003. Last year the shocking was called off due to high water during the month of August, the only month that is recognized for electro-shocking. All participants going into the water to assist with the shocking must be a NJ Wildlife Conservation Corps (WCC) volunteer.

About 100 people attended the Ramapo Day event and a great time was had by all. Hats off to our Rich Malizia and to Dr Angela Cristini of Ramapo College for a job well done!

We assisted the Wayne Boy Scouts in cleaning up the Singac Brook and then stocking 100 seven to nine inch trout.

At the request of the Bergen County Federation of Sportsmen, we assisted

them in holding their fishing derby in the Saddle Brook Park in Glen Rock. The highlight was when a small girl, perhaps seven years old, hooked a five and a half pound carp. She did a masterful job in landing the carp with her mostly plastic children's rod and reel.

Now that summer is upon us, many of you will be going to exotic places to catch exotic fish. If you wish to be removed from my Email list while you are away, let me know. Don't forget to notify me when you get back because it's hard for me to keep track of everyone.

A get well wish to Marty Matuson, who fell and broke two bones in his leg and also to Ray Cappock, who has been on crutches all spring with a fracture of his

knee cap. Talk about poor timing to get hurt during the time of the mayfly hatches.

I try to keep everyone informed about the happenings in the fishing world with the help of Ray Cappock who keeps me up on the salt and fresh water fishing happenings at the state level. If you would like to get on my list, please send your name and Email address to me at [hermaril@aol.com](mailto:hermaril@aol.com); and, for hunting information, contact Ray at [ray-capp@optonline.net](mailto:ray-capp@optonline.net).

Until next time, I will meet you downstream where we all live! God Bless America

*Herm Drenth*

## Wildlife Conservation Corps

In this month's Ramapo Ramblin Herm Drenth mentions that if you help the NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife (F&W) employees when they electro-shock the Ramapo you must be a Wildlife Conservation Corps (WCC) volunteer. Herm didn't have enough space to tell you about the WCC program, so here's a brief outline of what it is. The information comes from the F&W web site - [www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/).

The Wildlife Conservation Corps (WCC), with more than 1,600 members, is the largest natural resource management volunteer group in the state. WCC members are involved in all phases of Division activities from wildlife research to newsletter production. Every year volunteers contribute services valued at more than \$1,000,000.

Volunteers assist in the following Division activities: operation of deer, turkey, beaver and otter check stations; spring and fall trout stocking programs; operations at the Rockport Pheasant Farm; fishing instruction and visitor services at the Pequest facility; the Urban Fishing Program; upkeep of five shooting ranges located in Wildlife Management Areas; and various activities with the Endangered and Nongame Species Program.

Volunteers also participate in the Endangered and Nongame Program's Speaker's Bureau, presenting slide presentations on endangered and non-game species management.

Anyone 18 years of age and older is welcome to join the Division of Fish and Wildlife as a volunteer. If interested, complete and mail an application form, or email questions to [WCC\\_DEP@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:WCC_DEP@dep.state.nj.us).

*Ted Baer*



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