

# Riffles

The Monthly Newsletter of the  
East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Volume 35

August 2005

Issue 8

## President's Beat

In 1955 my parents bought their first home. It was a modest cape in a development of similar houses. I remember the real estate agent telling them that the house was heated with natural gas, an unlimited resource. My parents, as well as their neighbors, believed this. Of course I'm looking back with the

knowledge of the year 2005 and not the naiveté of the 1950's.

How could anyone believe that a natural resource is

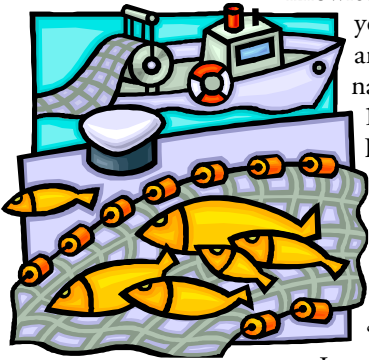
"unlimited"?

It reminds me of

a similar story from the earliest colonists who thought that the North American forests were endless. They said that a squirrel could start from the Atlantic Ocean and go all the way to the Mississippi River without having to touch the ground. That same squirrel would have to grow feathers to make the journey today.

I get the same feeling when I hear some customers at Ramsey as they relate stories of fishing on party boats for blue fish. For some unknown reason, they seem to think that blue fish are an "unlimited resource". We hear tales of boats returning to the dock after having caught (and killed) over a hundred fish. Let's do some calculations. Each boat may return with 100 fish. Multiply that by two trips a day (some boats go out for a third trip in the evening) and

*(Continued on page 2)*



## Meeting Notice

**When:** August 10 at 7:30 PM

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

**August 10**

**Steve Taggart**

**Fishing the Delaware**

Slide show & lecture. Steve is a Licensed  
NYS Guide, Co-owner of  
Tight-lines Flyfishing

## Mark Your Calendars!

**Future Guest Speakers**

**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

**All programs have a slide show.**

## Connetquot Trip

EJTU is planning a trip to the Connetquot on Tuesday, November 22, 2005.

The \$70 fee for the trip includes the park's fishing fee and also the cost of a bus that the chapter will charter. \$45 for the park alone.

If you would like to reserve a place on the trip please see Karen Canning at the Chapter General Meeting.

Please keep in mind that fees are not refundable.

## Free Food

Coastal Fly Rodders, the saltwater fly fishing club which meets in Wyckoff, is having a barbeque on Tuesday August 16. The barbeque is free to all members and friends - and Coastal also invites all EJTU members who wish to attend.

The barbeque will start at 6:30 PM at the Wyckoff Christian Health Care Center, 301 Sicomac Ave. Wyckoff NJ (Cedar Hill Avenue exit off route 208).

The BBQ will feature great food and conversation with fellow flyfishers, kayak and other fishing demos in a great location.

Coastal holds regular meetings on the third Tuesday of every month at the Wyckoff Christian Health Care Center

The club's web site is located at [www.coastalflyrodders.com](http://www.coastalflyrodders.com) but if you need more information contact Basil Santamaria via Email at [flyfishoutfitter@cs.com](mailto:flyfishoutfitter@cs.com)



*Basil Santamaria*

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**President's Beat**

then factor the number of boats in the Atlantic Highlands, Brielle, Point Pleasant and those which use the Barnegat Inlet. (N.B. These are only parts of the New Jersey fleet; we need to take into account the boats from Sheepshead Bay and the many other New York ports.)

The numbers become mind boggling. And that's only one day. These boats sail almost every day, seven days a week, as long as the fish are in residence in our waters, which can be almost as much as six months. How can a resource sustain itself under such tremendous pressure?

In order to be brought aboard, blue fish are gaffed and hauled onto the deck. I find it a long stretch of the imagination to think that 30 people would be able to consume 100 large blue fish. Some anglers tell us that they give away the fish they don't want. In other words, the fish go to neighbors who then freeze them (and probably throw them away after three months). I would feel better if these dead fish were used for fertilizer or pet food. These fish are simply used as landfill fodder.



The mates on the boats will tell customers that there are usually people at the docks waiting to purchase excess fish. I'd be willing to bet that these mates couldn't name or identify three. I understand that the party boat business depends on putting on a good show back at the dock for future customers but will there be future customers after the resource has been exhausted?

I understand that we, as anglers, are involved in a blood sport. However, does conspicuous consumption have to be a necessary part of it? Let us call to mind Lee Wulff's observation that "The fish you release today is your gift to another angler and remember, it may

then factor the number of boats in the Atlantic Highlands, Brielle, Point Pleasant and those which use the Barnegat Inlet. (N.B. These are only parts of the New Jersey fleet; we need to take into account the boats from Sheepshead Bay and the many other New York ports.)

**ICE**

I first saw this on an English sports car site, then I received a similar message from a friend in Bergen County, and on July 18 the Washington Post wrote an article about it so I assume that the idea is moving to the US. It looks like a great idea. The following is the first message I read:

"To all - If anything good came of the recent London bombings, the following has to be high on the list. Please implement this on your own cell phone and forward it to as many people as you can. Cheers - Dave

Following the disaster in London . . . East Anglian Ambulance Service have launched a national "In case of Emergency (ICE) " campaign with the support of Falklands war hero Simon Weston.

The idea is that you store the word " I C E " in your mobile phone address book, and against it enter the number of the person you would want to be contacted "In Case of Emergency". For more than one contact name ICE1, ICE2, ICE3 etc.

In an emergency situation ambulance and hospital staff will then be able to quickly find out who your next of kin are and be able to contact them. It's so simple that everyone can do it. Please do."

*Ray Cappock*

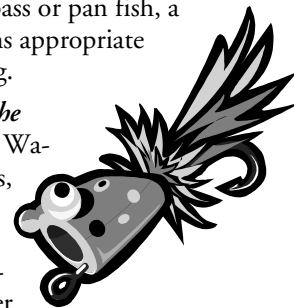
**Fly of the Month**

This time of year the fishing is at first and last light. The middle of the day can be hot and slow.

Instead of driving 2 hours to your favorite Catskill stream with the hope of an hour or two of good fishing, how about a 15 minute trip to your local bass or pan fish pond.

Whether you prefer bass or pan fish, a hot summer day seems appropriate for this type of fishing.

This month's *Fly of the Month* will be Warm Water Patterns, bass bugs, pan fish poppers, streamers, dragonflies, leeches, or whatever pattern you prefer.



Tie up a dozen 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*

**Fly Fishing For Beginners**

EJTU members will conduct a five-hour fly-fishing workshop at the Pequest Hatchery on Sunday, August 14.

The course is designed for interested people age 12 and up, and the topics to be covered will include equipment, knot tying, entomology, stream tactics and casting techniques.

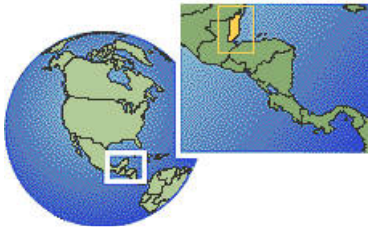
There is no fee for this course but registration is required so if you know of anyone who would like to attend the course or who would like more information, please have them call the hatchery at 908-637-4125

If any of our members can help with this course and would like to volunteer (basic equipment, rods-reels-lines, entomology-flies and knots) please contact Bob Ribar- 201-995-0107 or [ribbb3@aol.com](mailto:ribbb3@aol.com)

*Bob Ribar*

## Fishing Turneffe Flats of Belize

On Saturday September 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM Ramsey Outdoors (Paramus) will have a special program by Jim and Debby Kaye: Fishing Turneffe Flats, Belize.



Turneffe Flats Atoll is noted for its variety of saltwater fly fishing and is one of the rare spots in the world for a legitimate shot at a grand slam - a bonefish, a permit and tarpon. The coffee pot will be on. Plan to join us.

*John Roetman*

## Wildlife Heritage Festival

Make a note on your calendar - this year's Wildlife Heritage Festival will be held at the Pequest Hatchery on Sunday, September 25, 2005



There will be activities for the kids, a falconry demonstration, shotgun range, trout fishing for the kids, and much more. If you know people who might like to attend, have them visit [www.fishandwildlife.com](http://www.fishandwildlife.com) or call the Hatchery at 908-637-4125

The event is sponsored by TU so we would like to have a good showing of EJTU volunteers. If you would like to help out, contact Bob Ribar at 201-995-0107 or [RIBBB3@aol.com](mailto:RIBBB3@aol.com)

*Bob Ribar*

## Welcome to July's new EJTU members

Daniel Caplan	Clifton
Christopher Mulcahy	East Rutherford
Louis Wexler	North Haledon

*Ed Sikorski*

## Fly Tying

This Fall EJTU will once again offer fly tying courses in two locations, Clifton and Paramus.

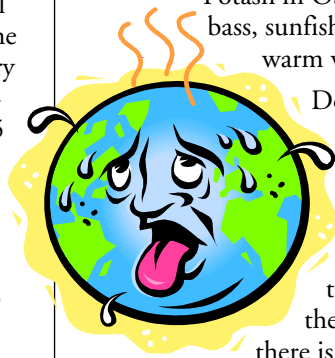
The ten-session Clifton course will begin on Monday, September 26 at the Clifton High School. The fee, as set by the local adult education system, will be \$60. For further information call Doug Penna at 201-288-4409.

When we were preparing Riffles we had not received the Paramus adult education schedule, so watch for further news or contact Bob Ribar at 201-995-0107 or [RIBBB3@aol.com](mailto:RIBBB3@aol.com) for information on this course.

## Get Into Hot Water

So it's another 90 degree day. All the Catskill rivers are low and too warm to fish and with gas at \$50.00 a tankful you don't feel like driving 3 hours to find water that may or may not be fishable. Time to stay local and fish warm water.

You have lots of choices. Along the Ramapo there is Henry Lake near Halifax Road, Scarlet Oak and McMillan in the County Park, and Potash in Oakland. All have bass, sunfish and other warm water fish.



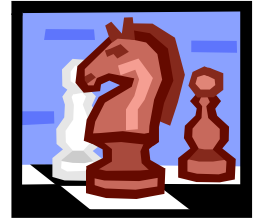
Don't overlook the ponds along Saddle River. There are several in the various parks through which the river flows so there is no problem with access. You all saw the big carp caught during the Federation's fishing derby but you didn't see the two bass over 2 pounds each caught the same day. Of course they were caught by ten year old kids on garden hackle which might put off some purists. But these fish will respond well to poppers, streamers and the like.

So, save your gas money until September and try these local waters. You will be pleasantly surprised at what you will find. Happy fishing!

*Limp Leader*

## EJTU's Knight

In another article in this Riffles, *Limp Leader* suggests fishing in ponds while



our local trout suffer temperature stress. There's also another way to spend your time during the dog days. If you are a chess player, why not drop into a veteran's facility and play chess with some of our ex-service people who can't get around no matter what the temperature.

Herman Drenth, Chairman of EJTU's Conservation Committee, has been distributing chess sets to our armed forces in Afghanistan, Iraq and to VA hospitals in the US. Now he is looking for chess players who can visit the local hospitals and care centers to play a game or two with our veterans. If you wish to volunteer please contact Herm at [setsforvets@aol.com](mailto:setsforvets@aol.com).

Under Herm, the NJ State Chess Federation's "Sets for Vets" has been a great success. Over \$14,000 was raised from individuals and Aetna Insurance, and, as a result, over 1,100 sets and 158 chess computer games were distributed to 140 VA hospitals and Care Centers as well as to our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The United States Chess federation has also set up a web page for Herm at [www.USChess.org/setsforvets](http://www.USChess.org/setsforvets). And, they have also told him that he will be the recipient of their 2005 Meritorious Award. Bravo, Herm!

## Quote of the Month

**"It is the stream that is permanent, and I am only a visitor"**

Following in the Footsteps of Ernest Hemingway:  
And 59 Additional Trout Fishing Stories

Jay Thurston

## Ramapo Ramblin'

The summer doldrums are upon us and trout fishing takes on a different picture with Mayflies being replaced by terrestrial patterns such as ants, inchworms, etc. We have had some hot days and low water so the trout are stressed and should not be caught. In hot weather trout will move to the nearest spring or small stream that deposits oxygen and cool water into the river. Oxygen in the water is as important as water temperature to the trout and the Ramapo has shown that its oxygen level is sufficient even in hot weather. The twenty-four hour oxygen study that we did a few years ago during the month of August proved this.

Bob Papson of NJ Fish and Wildlife tells me that he plans to do an electro-shocking at three places in the Ramapo in an effort to show that trout can survive there over the summer. Of course, a positive result will go a long way toward helping our efforts to have the Glen Gray area in the river designated as a conservation stretch.

State guidelines require that electro-shocking be done in August, but it could not be done last year because the water was too high. Bob will contact me a week or so in advance of the test date and we would like a few members to turn out to assist his team. Please note that you must be WCC approved and, of course, you must have boots that don't leak to assist in the water. The WCC is a Fish and Wildlife

volunteer group that you can join by going to [www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/wcchome.htm](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/wcchome.htm)

There appears to be misunderstanding by some fisherman as to what a conservation stretch is. Some think that it is a fly-fishing, catch and release area, causing the catch and keep people to say that they will fish during the stocking season as they have for many years. This was expressed to me by one elderly gentleman but, when I explained that conservation rules would apply from the end of May to the following March and that, while no bait may be used, he could continue to fish with spinning lures or fly during the stocking season, and that he could keep one fifteen inch or larger trout per day, he was satisfied and said "who goes fishing when they are not stocking, anyway?"

I firmly believe that the more fishermen that fish the Ramapo releasing their catch, the fewer fishermen will be seen keeping their catch.

The Dupont Company in making a settlement with the State has agreed to turn over seventy-three acres of land in Wanaque near the 287 bridge. Once the transfer is complete the land will be open to the public and hopefully to fishing along the Wanaque River. PS this is where the picture of Bob Papson holding a twenty-five inch trout that was caught and released during an electro shocking was taken.

The EJTU board has agreed to once again release some trout this fall and we

may tag them for further reference. Keep tuned in on this one.

The Bergen County Federation of Sportsmen's Saddle Brook Park fishing derby was a great event. You can imagine the excitement when a little girl hooked a 5 pound carp and landed it by herself with her plastic outfit. Another child caught a 2 ½ pound bass. I couldn't help thinking; "Wouldn't it be great if we could do this for the wounded veterans?" It would require a lot of planning and work and may not be feasible but with help all things are possible. I would like to hear from anyone with ideas on this.

Many of you get fishing/hunting magazines that you probably discard after reading. If you would like to donate them to the East Orange Veterans Hospital for the wounded vets to read, bring them to a membership meeting. Please do not empty your closet, but rather bring a few newer copies. I would like to have a box full, not a trunk full. I intend to do this on a monthly basis.

To get on my email list contact me at [hermaril@aol.com](mailto:hermaril@aol.com) or call 201-797-9043.

It is time to go down to the river and talk to some of the greatest fishermen in the world.

I will see you downstream  
where we all live!

**If you feel free to read this, thank a Vet!**



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

