



NEW JERSEY MAINSTREAM

HOLIDAY EDITION 2006

November 14, 2006: Jim Holland, Co-Owner of Shannon's Fly Shop, Presents "South Branch Hatches & Tactics". Learn the Insect Cycles and Successful Patterns to Fish Ken Lockwood Gorge & Other Sections of This Great Trout Fishery .

December 12, 2006: Matt Grobert, The Former Long Time Star-Ledger Fly Fishing Columnist and Well Known Fly Fishing Show Speaker, Will Present "New Jersey Fly Patterns", Offering His Expertise of Familiar and Unique Fly Patterns that Work Year-Round in Local Waters, Plus How To Tie and Fish Them.



CJTU is one of New Jersey's leading conservation and advocacy groups leading the fight to protect cold-water fisheries and their environments. Our members represent a diverse cross-section of New Jersey and its surrounding areas, but all of us are joined together by a love of trout fishing and a commitment to preserve cold-water fisheries for future generations.

Our mission is to conserve, protect and restore New Jersey's cold water fisheries and their environments. In order to achieve our goals, we conduct habitat improvement projects, stream clean-ups, and educational programs among other activities. We strive to educate the next generation about the importance to preserve clean water and wild trout. While engaged in conservation efforts, we manage to have a lot of fun, whether at monthly meetings, chapter fishing trips, or stream projects. We invite you to join us.

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OUR MEETINGS START @ 8:00 PM

VISIT US AT: WWW.CJTU.ORG

DON'T MISS THE MONTHLY RAFFLE!

MUSKY - ALMOST WILD & SCENIC

BY STUART SHAFRAN

On Monday July 24, 2006, the Wild and Scenic Rivers bill (HR 1307) was voted on and passed in the U.S. House of Representatives. The House bill was introduced in 2004 by Congressman Scott Garrett (R-5) and co-sponsored by Congressman Michael Ferguson (R-7) and Congressman Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-11). On December 18, 2005, the Senate bill (S 1096) passed unanimously in the Senate. The Senate Bill S1096 was introduced in 2005 by then Senator Jon S. Corzine (D) and co-sponsored by Senator Frank Lautenberg (D). The bill that was passed in the House will return to the Senate for a "unanimous consent" vote. In this process the House and the Senate confirm that they have passed the identical bill. The bill then receives a new bill number and is then ready for the President's signature. After which, the Musconetcong River would become the 169th member of the National Wild and Scenic River System!

Unfortunately, not much has happened since July to move this legislation along, due in no small part to time needed by congress members for campaigning back in their home districts. However, there are two more shots we have to get the bill signed before this congress is over and that is right after the elections. That is when all the loose ends are neatly put into one package and voted on. Seems one lone Republican Senator from Oklahoma has put a hold on all land acquisition bills and ours was incorrectly included in that grouping. We have friends looking into the matter to pull ours out and include it in the clean-up package to vote on before the new congress meets. Otherwise, it's back to square one. Perhaps a little prayer is in order.

Annual Dunellen Library Fly Tying Demo runs MONDAY NOVEMBER 27th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Join CJTU master tyers as they demonstrate the latest in fresh and saltwater patterns, and offer local fishing tips. Library is next to the Dunellen train station parking lot.

THERMAL TREND STUDY

BY RICH THOMAS

As many of you are probably aware, Central Jersey TU has been involved in a "Thermal Trend" study on the Musconetcong River. This study involves the placement of thermal sensors within the bottom of the river at ten locations throughout the entire stretch of the Musky. We have been recording temperatures for close to seven years now and on a warm day this October made another trip out to collect the data.

I'm quite surprised to see the sensors still working after all this time. Although over this period we have had a failure from time to time, all-in-all the sensors are working well. They are programmed to take a reading every hour, twenty four hours a day. The older sensors in the river now are capable of storing data for about eleven months before they will start overwriting themselves and the newer sensors which will be replacing the old ones have a storage capability of about four years.

About every eleven months or so a dedicated group of individuals, many who take time off of their day time jobs, spend the day driving to each location and searching for these sensors. The search is made simple through the use of "triangulation" where we use two pre-marked trees and two tape measures to locate the sensors within the river. After the sensors have been found, we clean the devices, examine them for any adverse wear and then download the data through the use of a magnetic coupler. When complete, the devices are reset and then returned to the water where they continue their task at hand.

Once collected, the data is compiled and used for statistical analysis and then archived for future use.

I want to thank Lou Digena, Kim Ott, Ozzie Ozefovich, Art Port and Doug Anderson for all their help this last time out!

New Jersey MainStream is the sole newsletter of CJTU. Editions are published monthly, except for July & August, and mailed free to our members. A non member mailed subscription is available at a cost of \$10.00 per year.

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The CJTU Board of directors meet on the first Tuesday of every month. General meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month except July & August at the Dunellen Knights of Columbus Hall on South and Grove St. and are open to the public.

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

This edition is being written as I enjoy a late afternoon fall day, sitting in an outside café. The shame of it I'm not on the river, however I needed to find time once again to complete the necessary updates for our newsletter. Be sure to see the many articles inside this edition as our chapter has been very busy the past two months.

As promised in my last writing, I indicated I would be attending Trout Unlimited's National meeting in Minneapolis. This annual event is always a good way to keep in tune as to what's happening with TU at a national level as well as see what other chapters around the country are up to.

Also this year, we attended a conservation project the Hiawatha TU Chapter of Minnesota has been involved with. Their chapter has undertaken a dramatic restoration project on Trout Run River within the "driftless" region of southeastern Minnesota. The "driftless" region was formed when the ice shelf receded from the last iceage. This region is farmed extensively for it's corn and soy which are going toward the production of the latest alternative fuels. Much of the soil that is used gets washed into the local rivers each spring with the melting of winter snows. This type of pollutant has left the river banks overgrown with silt and filled many of the natural stream structures trout need to survive. Through the cooperation of many organizations, the chapter led a restoration effort nicknamed TUDARE (Trout Unlimited Driftless Area Restoration Effort). Their project has established new river banks, added "skyhooks" (devices which help stabilize stream banks and provide shelter under the bank) and added structure and pocket pools to approximately 1400 feet of the river. The project was impressive, as seen in both before and after pictures as well as the amount and size of fish now prevalent in this section of river. This was illustrated via an electro-shocking demonstration our group watched. All in all, it was great to see the dedication a community gave to restoring a local stream. All total, 54 people contributed 900 hours of volunteer time. I hope to be presenting a video received of the project at one of our general

meetings this spring.

Another theme at this year's meeting was a push to bring more women and spin fishermen in as new members of Trout Unlimited. We must remember that Trout Unlimited is not a fly fishing club, but a conservation organization whose mission is to preserve and protect the coldwater fisheries of North America. Please try to remember this philosophy as you approach other fisher persons on our rivers. Let them know without our efforts, much of the fishing as we know it today would not be possible. Let them know what TU is about, share our mission and invite them to view our web site or attend one of our general meetings.

Also occurring at this year's National Meeting was the annual election of board members. The presented "slate" passed unanimously.

One last point of interest I would like to make is the recently renovated (again) web site of Trout Unlimited at tu.org. Over the past year many additions have been made including the "Tackle Box" section which includes many items of interest to local chapters and members. I invite you to go out to the web and "surf" the many changes made. You will need your TU identification number which serves as both your login and password. The login is the letters "tu" followed by your id number and the password is simply your id number. Once logged in you can change your id and password but please be sure to remember what they are as once changed, they can not be recovered.

Well that about does it for this edition, back to my beverage and the setting sun on this brilliant fall day. I wish you and your families a very happy holiday season as this will be the last edition of Mainstream before the New Year.

Tight lines!!!

Rich
Richard Thomas

Liccardi Ford, Watchung, NJ will donate \$100.00 to CJTU for every car or truck sold to any TU member. If you are in the market for a new car or truck, please give Mike Pilles (CJTU member) a call for your best price. Remember to tell Mike you are a CJTU member.

Phone: (908) 561-7500
e-mail: milep087@aol.com



New for the fall of 2006, Central Jersey Trout Unlimited along with several other NJ TU Chapters is working with central NJ area schools in a project called Trout in the Classroom. This program has grammar and middle school science classes raising trout from egg stage to fingerlings where they will then be released into local streams.

Brian Cowden, member of North Chapter TU and Vice President of the NJ State Council has undertaken the responsibility to be NJ coordinator for the TiC Program. Upon its conception, Brian

was hoping to have five schools throughout the state participating in the program. This was a realistic scenario based on his initial response received from teachers who were aware of the program. However after several months of “word of mouth” advertising, the program has grown to over 35 interested schools and 26 who are committed for the 2006-2007 school year. Central Jersey TU went from one interested teacher to seven who have committed. “The program has grown beyond everyone’s expectations” Brian indicated and despite the many teachers who are now on board, all participating chapters are working with their respective classrooms for the upcoming school year.

On Thursday, October 12 Nick Romanenko, Wendell “Ozzie” Ozefovich and I (all Central Jersey TU Directors) spent the day picking up eggs at the Pequest Trout Hatchery and delivering them to the 5 schools / 7 tanks Central Jersey is working with. The fertilized eggs are expected to hatch October 31 as long as the water temperature they are in is maintained at 52° F. The teachers can actually speed up the hatch process by warming the water and slow it down by making it colder. It’s really amazing to see how you can alter the timing of the hatching just by playing “mother nature.” Once the eggs hatch and the trout yolk sacs are gone, the fry will be placed into the tanks from the net breeders. At this point, the teachers and students will feed and monitor the fish as they grow. The students will follow a TU recommended curriculum and run science projects based on the growth of the trout. Each of the sponsoring TU Chapters will be working with the teachers to answer questions and provide conservation presentations. The presentations will encompass stream entomology to fly fishing and tying. At the end of the school year, the trout will be released into local streams.

I was so amazed to see the excitement on the students’ faces as the eggs were delivered and we explained the program. Please be sure to look for future updates related to this program.

INSPIRATION**BY STUART SHAFRAN**

On Saturday, October 21st, I had the good fortune of attending the 2006 induction ceremony to the Fly Fishing Hall of Fame at the Catskill Fly Fishing Center & Museum. In attendance were the who’s who of fly fishing icons and celebrities like Lefty Kreh, Gardner Grant, Agnes Van Putt, Mary Dette, and Joan Wulff. Also among the crowd were noted tiers David Klausmeyer, Bob Mead and David Brandt, Hoagy Carmichael, Fly Fisherman magazine editor—John Randolph, and representatives from Orvis and Cortland Line Company. And last, but certainly not least, all of the remaining Hall of Famers.

There was a vacant seat between Lefty Kreh and Joan Wulff. I couldn’t resist. I marched right over and sat down. I might even have thanked them for saving me a seat. I must admit that I sat there in shock and awe. There was a lot of fly fishing history in that room, and I’m not referring to the exhibits of the museum. I also felt as though I was sitting amongst royalty—except everyone in this crowd was very friendly and easy to approach. As a side note, I attended the Birthday Jubilee at the center the previous month celebrating many Catskill milestones, including, Joan and Mary’s 80th, and Agnes’ 90th. At one point I may have been the youngest one at the induction ceremony.

But, I digress. What I really set out to capture was a conversation I overheard between Lefty, a recent inductee himself, and a fellow Hall of Famer (who shall remain nameless). This fellow Hall of Famer had recently returned from a salmon trip from somewhere—I didn’t catch that part. He was fortunate enough to have fished a private stretch of a famous salmon run and had the entire stretch of river to just the members of his party. Up until then it sounded just like any other salmon trip that I’ve listened to. When he was through with his story, Lefty leaned over and said, “say, how old are you now?” “Eighty eight,” answered the Hall of Famer. “I’ll be eighty nine soon.” Lefty quickly replied, “I’m eighty two and I’m inspired. You’ve given me a new outlook on the time I have left. You inspire me.” Lefty then asked, “have any trouble on the trip?” “Yes,” answered the Hall of Famer. “My girlfriend...she couldn’t keep up with me.” Lefty and I both said in unison, “now I’m REALLY inspired.”



A Brown stonefly nymph, compared next to a black stonefly nymph example.

A Blue Quill dry fly from Shannon's Fly Shop in Califon.



What's hatching? This question is one of the most frequently heard queries in a fly shop. The late Les Shannon was a master of fishing hatches. It is our purpose to help the interested angler acquire a basic knowledge of what's hatching. With water quality improving in many areas especially in Western New Jersey, fishing hatches as opposed to attractors or streamers can be very productive and certainly the thrill from "matching the hatch" with a dry fly is unequalled. We are bringing a systematic approach to this study. In a four part seminar series we concentrate on all four stages of a mayfly's life cycle as well as the three stages of the caddis and the two stage cycle of the stonefly. With a little work, you will be able to match a hatch even if there is nothing hatching. We know the insects are present and when they hatch you'll be ready for them.

In our first of four seminars we concentrate on the early season mayflies so frequently encountered by anglers generally beginning in February and continuing through early May. We've also included a segment on the Early Black Stonefly (*Cappnia vernalis*).

What are those little black flies covering the snow bank? They are Early Black Stoneflies (*Cappnia vernalis*). On warmer days in late winter, these little stoneflies will be creeping out of the water and adjacent streamside rocks to warm up. It is very important to pay attention to water temperature as this will key hatches. Stoneflies are also frequently seen flitting about just over the surface. If a trout is making a splashy rise, it is likely feeding on these flies. Small Black Caddis and Black nymphs are the key to success here. Later in March, the first Baetis will appear. The Baetis vagans or Little Iron Blue Quill is a multi-brood hatch. It will appear and reappear three times over the course of the season. Small Adams #16-18 and Pheasant Tail nymphs are the ticket to success. If you see fish deliberately working the surface in late March and Early April, the trout are on the Baetis. A little later at the beginning of April, the true Blue Quill will appear. *Paraleptophlebia adoptiva* prefer temperatures above fifty degrees.

As the water finally gets to the magical fifty degree mark, look for the appearance of the Quill Gordon (*Epeorus pleuralis*). A clinging nymph, they are designed to cling to rocks in fast water, an environment they must have given their fixed gill structure. Many anglers are frustrated because this hatch occurs in the middle of the day when many of us are working but it can be a great hatch and the spinner fall is fun too. Use a traditional Quill Gordon size 10-12 for the dun and Large Rusty Spinners size 10-12 or Red Quill often produces the first fish on a dry fly for many anglers in the late afternoon. A Quill Gordon Wet or Hare's Ear Wet is a great pattern for the emerger and for the nymph, the venerable Hare's Ear in sizes 10-12.

Later in April, look for the Hendricksons to appear (*Ephemerella subvaria*). This is a favorite hatch for many including friend and Shannon's Co-owner, Eric Hildebrant. Last year, he caught thirty nine fish just upstream from the shop! I watched him catch twenty fish! What was he doing? Hendrickson nymphs are known as "feeble crawlers". Like many *Ephemerella* mayflies they attempt to hatch repeatedly before succeeding. His emerger pattern was deadly. As for the duns, remember that they hatch in a sex segregated manner mostly males or Red Quills in one riffle, mostly the larger females Light Hendricksons hatching in another riffle.

The remaining three seminars and a complete four part seminar will be scheduled by Shannon's Fly and Tackle to be held at the Raritan Inn beginning on Wednesday nights in late January. Other speakers will be announced but we're currently offering a presentation by Wendell "Ozzie" Ozofevich on his fantastic Underwater World of Trout series and a presentation on watershed management by Bill Kibler, Executive Director of the South Branch Watershed Association. Prices for the Hatches seminars are \$100.00 per session or \$375.00 for four sessions and include hot and cold beverages and catered platters. The other two seminars will cost \$25.00 per guest each. In addition, each student will receive a selection of flies in a labeled box as well as a return trip to fish the hatches we've described at the Raritan Inn's private water stocked with trophy trout. These trips will be scheduled as group sessions with some flexibility for weather. This past winter, due to demand, we ran the seminars twice beginning in late January and again in March as customer response was enthusiastic. Space is limited so book early. See you in the shop.

Fly Tying School 2007

Presented by
Central Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited

The classes are 6 nights long and will meet on
January 16 & 23, February 20 & 27, March 20 & 27
7:30 to 10:00 PM
Registration Fee \$50.00

This year we will be again offering the following courses:

Beginners Fly Tying Class: This is our entry level class for the person just getting started in fly tying or who has very little experience. We will cover the basic tools, techniques and materials necessary to tie a variety of basic flies, concentrating on patterns that work well on local rivers and streams.

Intermediate Fly Tying Class: This class is for the intermediate tier who has acquired the basic skills in handling tools and materials either by previously taking a beginners course and/or tying flies regularly for a year.

Fly Tiers Workshop: The workshop is designed for the student who has taken our intermediate level course and wants to improve their tying skills and keep current with techniques and materials.

Fly tying sessions will be held in the Knights of Columbus Hall, South and Grove Streets, Dunellen, NJ 08812.

This course is open to members and non-members. We welcome anyone who has an interest in the sport of Fly Fishing or Fly Tying. We have many talented instructors who are more than willing to pass on the legacy. We expect to have an instructor for every three or four students, enabling each person to have a great amount of individual attention.

Registrants are expected to bring their own tools and materials. A list of basic tools, materials and hooks will be provided.

You can sign up at the General Chapter Meeting held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month or contact:

Tom Kapusta: (732) 257-7478

E-mail: cjtutyng@verizon.net

Our courses are taught in a relaxed atmosphere of camaraderie. We feel that with the patient, guiding help of our instructors, everyone will finish the course with a good working knowledge of how to tie flies.

Please register early so CJTU can plan ahead to make your course a success.

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CENTRAL JERSEY TROUT UNLIMITED TRIPS 2006

TRIP	DATES	COST	CONTACT	COMMENTS
Housatonic River & Farmington River, CT	Nov. TBA	Approx. Cost \$250.00,	Hal Fish (732) 549-1293	Stay at Hillside Motel \$ 65/night. Trip dates will be determined by weather & water temp conditions.

KIDS' FISHING EDUCATION DAY PHOTOS

SEPTEMBER 16, 2006



Twenty nine kids and twenty nine adults had a great time “on the pond”, after a morning presentation of Ozzie’s video “Not Just Trout”. Pizza lunch too!

Photos by Chuck West and Rob Freeman

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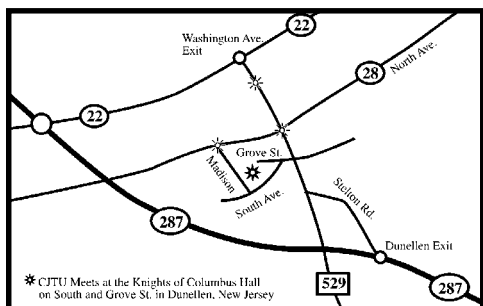
MEETINGS AND DIRECTIONS

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(A) **From Rt. 22:** Washington Ave. Exit to Rt. 28; Right onto Rt. 28; Left at next light; (B) Left at end of block. Knights of Columbus on your left.

North on 287: Dunellen exit, Right on Stelton Rd; Right on Washington Ave; Left on Rt. 28; Follow (B).

South on 287: Rt. 22 exit to NYC (Left Lane); Follow (A) & (B).



* CJTU Meets at the Knights of Columbus Hall on South and Grove St. in Dunellen, New Jersey

Upcoming Speakers:

January 9, 2007

Dr. Roger Locandro “Conservation & Habitat”