



NEW JERSEY MAINSTREAM

FALL EDITION 2006

September 12, 2006: We Are Proud to Feature CJTU's Own Leon Cheeka and Dave Hart and Their Presentation of "Back Country Fly Fishing", Chronicalling Their Adventures in Montana's Bob Marshall Wilderness .

October 10, 2006: Mike O'Brien & "Carp on a Fly", Learn the Tactics, Equipment, and Flies Needed to Catch These Big, Powerful, Golden Beauties in Clear Water. Mike Discusses the Most Productive Flies, the Best Time of Year to Fish, Optimim Water Temperatures and More. Experience "Carp Fever"!



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!

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Fellow Anglers,

It's hard to believe summer is winding down, yet again. For me, I look forward to the fall and getting back out on the water. The chapter has many events lined up the next several months so be sure to see this issue of Mainstream for details.

I will be attending Trout Unlimited's National meeting this September as I have the past two years. This year the meeting is taking place in Minneapolis. Unfortunately I won't be able to fish as much as I have in years past, however will be getting on the water one day while in attendance. We have a large contingent from New Jersey attending so I look forward to sharing ideas with our State Chair, National Leadership Council representative as well as several other chapter Presidents. As always, I'll be sure to share the issues discussed. If you have any questions or comments you would like addressed, please be sure to contact me through the chapter website at cjtu.org prior to September 10.

Our fall Connetquot trip is scheduled for Sunday, November 12. This trip is always a lot of fun with many fish to be caught and even more stories to be told. I recommend this trip for anglers of all abilities. It's one of the first rivers I've fished as a fly fisher and one I always enjoy returning to. Bring a lunch and an appetite

to catch many fish.

In closing, I want to thank all of the CJTU Board of Directors for their continued support. Without them, the chapter events and programs could not be possible. I look forward to the 2006 / 2007 season and working at conserving New Jersey's cold water fisheries. For those wishing to become part of the Board, feel free to stop by a director's meeting the first Tuesday of the month. No commitments are necessary, however encouraged!

Have a great Autumn!

Rich

Richard Thomas

A Fisherman's Prayer

God Grant me that I may fish until my dying day.

And when it comes to my last cast, I then most humbly pray,

when in the Lord's safe landing net I'm peacefully asleep,
that in His mercy I be judged big enough to keep.

FLY FISHING THE BACK COUNTRY

BY DAVE HART

Have you ever really wanted to enjoy some of the best back country fly fishing in North America - where the rivers are packed with fish and you almost never see another fisherman? You can by joining one of the thirty outfitters allowed to take horseback/raft trips into the Bob Marshall Wilderness, as we did. We spent several days on horseback, including crossing the continental divide, and fishing along the White River. There were several more days of rafting down the South Fork of the Flathead River fishing and enjoying the scenic beauty and wild-life. Fish in the White River were Westslope Cutthroats 12' to 14" in cooler water by 10 degrees, while those cutthroats in the South Fork were 12" to 18", with catching expectations in the White of were 25 to 50 per day and 25 to 75 daily in the South Fork. It was high adventure for us as we fished and travelled through this exciting grizzly country!

The Bob Marshall is a million acres of prime wilderness, the largest of its kind in the country, and is located in northern Montana just south of Glacier National Park. First created in 1867 by President Cleveland, in 1940 a wilderness champion named Bob Marshall convinced Congress to increase the size up to 950,000 acres. When he died Congress made it a little over a million acres.

Marshall hiked over this wilderness and elsewhere in the United States and Alaska to make himself an authority and gain credibility for his urging adoption of many wild areas before State Legislatures and Congress. His lifetime hiking tally was: 500 thirty mile hikes, 71 at forty, and several at seventy! He earned B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees in Forest Management to become more effective in his advocacy. His father, Lewis, by the way, was instrumental in getting The Adirondack Park set aside in New York.

Bob Marshall felt wilderness should be used in three ways, with 1/3 serving commercial interests (timber, mineral, grazing, etc.); 1/3 saving scenic areas (such as Yellowstone) to be used by families, tourists, campers, fishermen, etc.; and, the final 1/3 as a limited use wilderness (hiking, primitive camping, hunting, fishing, etc.). He felt this would be accomplished (and is) by proper forest management. He inspired many people to share his love of the wilderness and was convinced that wild lands were in jeopardy. He wrote: "It is melting away like the last snowbank on some south-facing mountainside during a hot afternoon in June".

Leon and I would like to share our wonderful trip into the Bob Marshall (my second) where we travelled by horseback and rafts through the mountains and valleys and along rivers to fish, took a great side trip to the twenty-two mile long escarpment, called the Chinese Wall, that was 1400 feet above the valley floor and 9000 feet above sea level - in a wild area known for many mountain lions, and we caught large numbers of fish in all the classic locations.

Come to our slide talk on Tuesday, at 7:30 p.m., September 12 to hear more about the back country of the Bob Marshall.

First of all, this classic tailwater in the northeast corner of Utah, really does look green, especially on first encounter from above as you hike down several hundred feet from the parking area into the canyon that forms Section A, right below Flaming Gorge Dam. The water is clear, cold and fast moving. I really appreciated having a wading staff, and I vow to get gravel guards after fighting the current. Gravel guards were out of my budget at the time, as it was quite a bit of luck that I was able to spend a week fishing this fabulous trout fishery in late June.

I recommend that nobody acts as foolish as I did getting there. I had just come off a work conference (the annual University Photographers Association of America, where I also serve on the board of directors) that ended down in Moab, Utah. I had a week's time to kill, but very little in the way of funds. What better way to while away the time, but buy a week's license and go fishing! With that in mind, I drove up to the town of Dutch John expecting to find some Motel 6 or such, as I was told this was a hotbed destination for trout fishing. Visions of New York's Salmon River and all the amenities in that area came to my naive mind. If you've been to the Green River, you can probably imagine what happened next.

After about four hours on the road, passing through some gorgeous mountain and valley scenery, mixed in with miles of open range pitted with strip mines, and more road kill per square mile than I've ever seen anywhere else, I pull into the town of Dutch John, center of Green River action. There are no hotels, stores, or banks. The town consists of one church (Latter Day Saints, of course), several State and National Parks service vehicle garages, an entire section of town full of trailers where the fishing guides live during the summer (OK, a similarity with the Salmon River) and two gas stations/fly shops/restaurants and mini-motels (about four rooms apiece). I wander into one gas station and ask where one could find a place to stay in dem dar parts. I raised a good laugh from the staff in the shop, as they pointed out the limited accommodations in the area, and that they were usually booked months in advance. But, seeing as it was Sunday evening, I could camp out on their lawn that night! Ouch.

I limped back to the Visitor's Center at the Dam right before they closed. From there I was lucky to talk my way into a motel room for the week at the local Flaming Gorge Lodge, mostly because I had shown up on Sunday, not Saturday night. Even booking the cheapest room I could get (about \$ 85/night), there was my budget for the week. I survived mostly by stocking up on breakfast, and the cheap flies (PMD emergers) that I happened to luck into at the Cabelas on the way to Provo that had them on special for 49 cents each. You don't have to worry about hang ups while nymphing at those prices! As it was, that turned out to be my best fly for the week, though San Juan Worms and Brassies in size 20 worked at times also. So hiking along the river (no funds for a guided drift boat at \$ 350/day, where it looks like



folks were casting dries all day), and nymphing pockets of water where I could get good long drifts was my uninformed strategy. It was fascinating to learn how the fishing changed from day to day, from place to place, with the added variable of the dam discharging every day at around 2:30 pm for additional power demands in California. I saw a few fishermen having to swim or be boated out after wading across the river and then getting stuck when the water level rose two feet! Fishing was pretty darn good. I got to see some beautiful country, lost about ten pounds due to lack of food and all the hiking, and was able to tune into productive pockets of water. The two best cutthroat trout I pulled out (about 20" but heavy from the abundance of food in the water system) came on the last day.

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

FALL TRIP TO THE CONNETQUOT SUNDAY NOVEMBER 12, 2006

Be sure not to miss this fall's trip to Long Island's (NY) fabled Connetquot river on Sunday, November 12, 2006! Hal Fish will be signing folks up at the Trips table at both the September 12th and October 10th general meetings. Cost is \$ 75, which includes roundtrip bus fare from Bridgewater. You must also have a current New York State license to fish. Remember New York fishing licenses run from October 1st to September 31st of the following year, so your current 2006 NYS licence will expire before this trip. Plan to arrive at the Costco parking lot, in the Bridgewater mall complex that also features Home Depot and the Somerset Patriots ballpark (Off Route 28, right by the intersection with Route 287) no later than 5:05 am. The bus is scheduled to leave at 5:15 am sharp. Also, please note there is no discount this time for those wishing to drive themselves to Long Island and then rejoin the CJTU group. We should be returning to Bridgewater by 9 pm that evening. There should be plenty of stories to tell on the ride back! If you can't make one of these meetings, please contact Hal at (732) 549-1293.

AN OPEN LETTER

BY DAVE HART

To: Jacques Girard, Chairman
Raymond Royer, President Domtar, Inc.

Re: Rate Of Water Releases at the Dam at Grand Lake Stream, Maine
Sirs,

I represent the group of New Jersey fishermen listed below, who like me have made annual trips—to fish for landlocked salmon on Grand Lake Stream. This was my fifteenth year up there, while many of these men have come annually for up to forty years.

We are expressing our deep concern about the water conditions at Grand Lake Stream and are very worried that excessive water releases, up to 1000 cfs, will scour the stream bed of fish eggs and insects so vital to the production, survival and growth of native trout and salmon. Other releases frequently leave the river almost too shallow to fish in many pools. These conditions could very well threaten the salmon fishing in the river, which up to recently was one of the best salmon fisheries in the East.

Incomes of local lodge owners, guides, storekeepers, etc. have been reduced by cancellations of fishermen, who after checking water levels on the internet, whether flooded or too shallow, cancell out. Loss of income due to water levels and property damage from flooding creates a real hardship in this town that depends on the money fishermen spend. While we realize water releases reflect periods of varying levels of water in the watershed, including West Grand Lake, Maine, we urgently request that you make every effort to maintain more consistent levels of water releases, preferably in the 300-400 cfs range during the April through October season. A more consistent rate of water release should greatly benefit both the watershed they impact and the fishing habitats in the Grand Lake Stream.

We would appreciate a response to our suggestions.

Sincerely,

David M. Hart, Neil DeRiggi, Paul Erdo, Bob Kean, Bob and Tom Powell, Barry Russo, Joe Szyskiewicz and Dick Turse

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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Nick Romanenko.....Editor
contact editorial: abouttrout@hotmail.com
Lou DiGena.....Design Consultant
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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.

For further information contact:

CJTU
P.O. Box 55
Pluckemin, NJ 07978

or

Trout Unlimited
1300 N. 17th St. Suite 500
Arlington, VA 22209-3801

trout@tu.org

(703) 522-0200 (National Office)

(800) 834-2419 (Membership)

FLY-CASTING CLINIC FOR BEGINNERS REPORT

BY NICK ROMANENKO



Volunteers from Central Jersey Trout Unlimited conducted several Fly-Casting Clinics for Beginners this summer at the Pequest Hatchery. On Saturday, August 19th, former CJTU president Lou DeGena led the “classroom” demonstration for about a dozen pupils, before the students were paired off with volunteers to practice casting skills on the lawn. After about forty minutes of practice, it was time to fish down at the pond! Again, working one to one, instructors and their students attempted to coax the rather tackle-savvy pond trout with black wooly buggers. A few large trout were caught, and a new generation of fly fishermen were, hopefully, hooked for life.

Photos by Nick Romanenko



PEQUEST HATCHERY PROGRAMS FOR 2006

All Programs Are Free of Charge

CJTU Kids Fishing Day at the Hatchery Saturday, September 16, 10 am - 3 pm

Kids fishing day for family members of Central Jersey Trout Unlimited will be held at the Pequest Hatchery rain or shine 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. We had a great time last year. All kids age 8 and above that are family of CJTU members can also invite a friend to come along. We need to know the number of adults and kids that will attend. Any chapter member is invited to assist the youngsters. Pizza lunch will be provided.

We will have spin cast outfits for the kids -- with barbless hooks and we will also supply worms. Lures are not allowed. You can bring a flyrod or bring your own fishing outfits as long as there is someone accompanying the youngster. Safety glasses are supplied for those that aren't wearing plain glasses or sunglasses.

The day will start in the auditorium where you will be welcomed by a member of the Pequest Hatchery and Resource Education Center. Then up to the trout education pond for a short talk on fishing ethics etc, casting lessons, and fly-tying lessons for those that want to learn to tie a wooly-bugger prior to fishing the pond. If it rains, fly-tying will take place in the auditorium, but then, everyone will don their foul weather gear and head up to the pond to hook those -- up to 6 pound rainbows.

Heritage Festival at the Hatchery Saturday, September 24, 10 am to 5 pm



To participate, please speak with Ozzie or Richard Thomas at the General Meetings, or contact Ozzie at (732) 238-2495 or email cutredd@comcast.net and Rich at flyfishernj@gmail.com.

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CENTRAL JERSEY TROUT UNLIMITED TRIPS 2006

TRIP	DATES	COST	CONTACT	COMMENTS
Saltwater Striper Trip New Jersey Shore	Oct. TBA	TBA	John Wester (732) 937-8007	One day saltwater fishing (any way) for fall stripers run..
Connetquot River, NY	November 12	\$ 75 (icludes roundtrip bus fare)	Hal Fish (732) 549-1293	Bus leaves at 5:15 am , sharp., from Costco parking lot in Bridgewater Somerset mall, off Rt. 287 & Rt 28
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.

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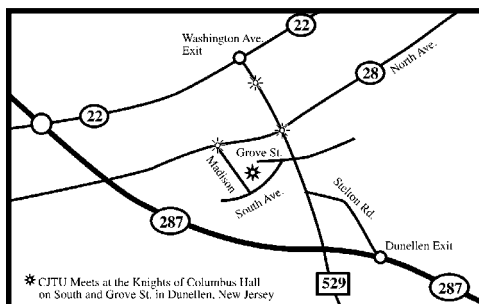
MEETINGS AND DIRECTIONS

The CJTU Board of directors meet on the first Tuesday of every month at 8:00 P.M. General meetings, open to the public, are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 8:00 P.M., except July & August, at the Dunellen Knights of Columbus Hall on South Ave. and Grove St.

(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)**.

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Follow **(A) & (B)**.



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

Upcoming Speakers:

November 14, 2006 Jim Holland "Fall Hatches & Tactics"
December 12, 2006 Matt Grobert "New Jersey Fly Patterns"
January 9, 2007 Dr. Roger Locandro "Conservation Issues"