

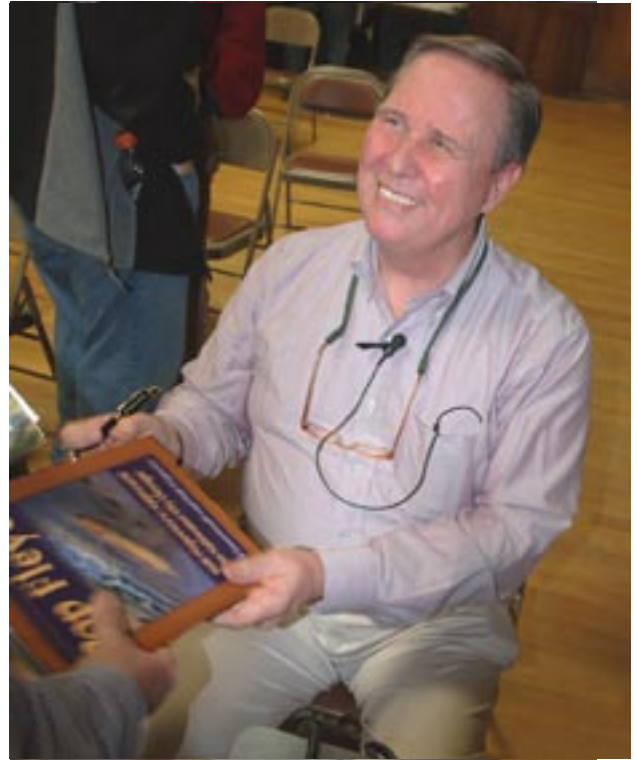


NEW JERSEY MAINSTREAM

MARCH 2005

MARCH 8, 2005 MEETING PRESENTS:

ROD ROHRBACH, owner of the Little Lehigh Fly Shop, will present a program entitled " Fishing in the Film "



The Special Youth Fishing Outfit Giveaway and a humorous presentation by renowned author and fly fisherman Ed Jawarowski were highlights of the February meeting.

Photos by Nick Romanenko

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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- CJTU's Advertisers & Supporters
- Central Jersey TU Trips 2005

- Our Meetings Start @ 7:30PM
- Visit us at: WWW.CJTU.ORG
- Don't forget our Monthly Raffle

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Fellow members,

It's hard to believe that spring is just around the corner, which means a start to another fishing season is rapidly approaching. Please be sure to check out our sponsored trips in the back of Mainstream. Please contact or see Hal Fish at our general meeting for more details. I've been on several of these trips in the past and have never been disappointed!

As mentioned in one of my previous letters, I wanted to spend more time this winter tying up some new patterns as well as some of my old favorites...well I'm happy to report that I did spend more time behind the bench as from previous years. I was also able to participate

at the tying demonstration at Ray's Sport Shop. This was a fun event where I was able to meet more tyers and exchange some great stories. Please be sure to look for future tying demonstrations.

Don't forget the Musconetcong River clean up on Saturday, April 16.

That's all for now,

Rich
Richard Thomas

FLY OF THE MONTH

TIED BY RON RUSKAI



New Jersey Herd

Hook: 2X nymph or 4X streamer
Thread: 6/0 uni black
Tail: 3 peacock herls
Body: silver flat tinsel
Rib: uni micro-tinsel copper
Hackle: orange-collar style
Back: peacock herl
Head: peacock herl

This is an update of an old British fly called called Jersey Herd.

Michael Pilles
Sales/Lensing Consultant
milep087@aol.com.com

(732) 752-3000
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David Ferraez, Green Brook • Pontiac • Buick • GMC 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: (732) 752-3000
e-mail: milep087@aol.com

On Sunday, February 20th, the Hacklebarney TU chapter held a tour of limestone streams in the eastern Pennsylvania area. Of the twenty or more participants, five were from CJTU and one was a member of both chapters. After a brief gathering Sunday morning for introductions and a brief geology lesson of the limestone deposits in the Jersey/eastern PA region, we formed small groups and caravanned into Pennsylvania. The first stop was Saucon Creek. Only ten miles from the NJ/PA border and directly under Route 78, this scenic stocked stretch meanders thru the Lehigh University campus. We then headed over to a favorite area for many TU members, the Little Lehigh heritage stream stretch.

A few miles from the heritage stretch and a stone's throw from Dorney Park is Cedar Creek. This small limestone creek, no wider than 20 feet in some areas, is home to an incredible number of wild browns. As we hiked thru the park, wild browns were rising everywhere. Gary Borger, a frequent visitor of Cedar Creek refers to this stream as humbling. You have to move very stealth-like to get near these easily spooked trout. The next stop was the Monacacy. We stopped in a park just above the dam. The water there was slow and deep and home to scores of geese. Our last stop was Bushkill Creek in Easton. Urban fishing at it's finest. The Bushkill is home to many species of fish and is certainly overlooked by everyone but the locals. If you don't mind wading through shopping carts, truck tires, and concrete blocks, consider fishing here. Much of this stretch is in an industrial zone. You would be fishing right behind factories. In fact, the scenery reminded me of a scaled down version of the Passaic River.

All in all, this was a great way to spend a cold wintry day. We gathered new hot spots to fish, learned about the history and geology of towns we visited, and best of all we spent time with friends and made new ones. Our thanks to Jeffrey Kurt and the Hacklebarney Chapter for allowing us to participate in their program. I hope this is the start of many joint ventures between Trout Unlimited chapters.

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.

For further information contact:

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On February 12th the annual Trout meeting was held at the Pequest Natural Resources and Education Center. This annual meeting is where Fish and Wildlife presents the forecast for how many trout will be stocked, what streams get more and what ones get less. While that basic premise seems quite tame, this is also the place where they announce any changes in the pipeline. This year there were 5 proposals slated to be heard, as you might expect TU has opinions on all of them. I attended the meeting and here is my take on what transpired.

Proposal number one involves changing the early season stocking on 70 ponds and lakes, to increase angler utilization during the early season. These water bodies are currently stock in the preseason, then the 1st week is skipped and the state stocks in weeks 2-5. For this year the state plans move the stocking forward and stock these ponds during the first week. This has several benefits; First it places trout in the ponds when angler interest is high. It frees staff that are used on the truck 1 week earlier, and last it make better use of our stocked fish as these ponds normally never hold fish over.

This proposal has gotten universal support and is likely to be implemented this year.

Proposal number two involves no longer stocking 7 large lakes, where angler return rates are very low, and put those fish in rivers where angler return is high. Lake Hopatcong, Spruce Run Reservoir, Mountain Lake and several others would no longer get stocked trout, which as you might expect upset a number of folks at those lakes, particularly the Knee Deep Club which call lake Hopatcong home.

Knee Deep Club offered some valid points about the number of trout stamps being sold in the area and the

risk that this change could result in a huge drop in revenue for the state. They also dispute the states cited 3% return rate of stocked trout.

As an organization TU has often demanded that the scientific findings of F&W biologists be used for F&W/DEP policy. In the past year this came to a head over bear issues, it has been a point of contention over the stocking of trout over wild populations. We have consistently backed science over politics in the making of fish and game regulations, and cannot in good conscience ask for continued stocking where such action is not warranted. In the meantime we temper our support with the understanding that economic and social issues cannot entirely be excluded, especially considering that these are stocked fish and not wild fish. That being said we support any proposal that results in the better utilization of hatchery produced fish, which we believe these changes will accomplish.

We must also come to grips with the fact that license and trout stamp sales are declining, and we cannot afford action that will cause financial ruin for the division. At the same time if indeed there is this vast user base of trout angler on the lake TU would like to see anglers fishing on these lakes during the stocking season be required to have trout stamps. At a minimum we would like CO's to gather statistics on the percentage of license holders that they check have stamps. After all the trout are paid for by trout stamp monies, so if the anglers using the lake want the trout they should be required to pony up for them.

So TU as an organization is essentially neutral on this position, and would like more data gathered this coming season before a decision is made. This proposal is not up for consideration until 2006, but is not likely to be implemented as proposed.

Proposal number three involves removing 7 streams with measurable naturally reproducing trout populations from the stocking list. While not changing them to Wild Trout Stream regulations, there will be accompanying angler education to allow angler to know these streams are no longer stocked. The trout from these streams will be added to the general pool of trout stocked throughout the state or to urban ponds. Trout Unlimited support any proposal that discontinues stocking of streams with documented wild trout populations. We also would like to see division biologists monitor the streams to see if wild trout populations increase or decrease based on these changes.

This proposal is likely to be implemented in 2005.

Proposal four and five involve the fall and winter stocking. In brief the state proposed to drop the number of fish from 50,000 5-7 inch trout in the fall to 20,000 12-16 inch fish. So fewer fish but bigger fish in both fall (proposal 4) and winter (proposal 5). This is being done to increase angler interest and it appears to be working as everyone seemed pleased with the idea of bigger fish. However, we feel that in order for this to produce the desired result of more license sales, the angling public must be made aware of the changes. Any PR should also encourage the purchase of trout stamps, in addition to the obvious need for a license. Consideration should also be giving to a strategy to make late season license purchase more attractive to folks who did not invest in one in the spring.

Agust Kr. Gudmundsson, Chairman

New Jersey State Council
of Trout Unlimited

On Saturday, April 16th, CJTU will be joining the Musconetcong Watershed Association in their annual Musky Clean-up Day. This event has always been an enjoyable day to share with family and friends, and an opportunity to meet other chapter members (and a great way to find new fishing locations). Following the clean-up everyone is invited to lunch at the new MWA headquarters. Participants will be given T-shirts, snacks, bags and gloves. Times and directions will be provided in next month's Mainstream. In the past we have met at the site of the former Tri-County Firehouse on Rt.57 . Look for the sign-up sheet at the general meeting or contact me at S2RTFLYFISHER@aol.com. If you have been looking for a chance to help make a difference, then this is it.

Stuart Shafran

NJ OWL STRIPED BASS LECTURE**MARCH 14, 2005**

The New Jersey Outdoor Women's League (NJ OWL) invites the public to attend their next meeting to learn about research on striped bass that is being conducted by scientists at the Rutgers University Marine Field Station (RUMFS).

On Monday, March 14th, Clare Ng, a Ph.D. candidate at Cook College, Rutgers University will discuss her research with stripers when she presents "Striped Bass: A Telemetry Study to Understand Essential Fish Habitat".

Ms. Ng's research is part of a larger project that is trying to better understand striped bass population size and structure, migration participation, and habitat use.

Her presentation will focus on how following the movements of fish fitted with transmitters can help us understand and define Essential Fish Habitat to meet the requirements of a Congressional Act. She will also reveal some of the preliminary results of the project, and the direction that RUMFS scientists hope the study will go.

Doors will open at 6:45 PM in the Alampi Room of the Institute for Marine and Coastal Sciences, on the Cook College campus in New Brunswick. Intersection of College Farm & Dudley Roads.Refreshments will be served.

For more information about the RUMFS striped bass migration project please visit www.stripertracker.org. For more information about Clare Ng's presentation at NJ OWL's March meeting visit NJ OWL's web page at www.njowl.org or call Cathy at 732/873-3206. If you plan to attend please let the organizers know by emailing NJOWL@NJOWL.ORG or by calling Cathy.



UPCOMING CJTU PROGRAMS AT THE PEQUEST HATCHERY

Getting Started in Fishing

Saturday March 19th, 10am - 3pm

At 10am Ozzie will present "Not Just Trout" in the auditorium. Fly Tyers in the Lobby, Spin casting for kids and Fly casting for beginners on the lawn. If you have any problems getting started, bring your fly rods along and we'll help you work out the kinks.

Annual Open House & Fishing Flea Market

Saturday & Sunday, April 2 & 3 10 - 4pm daily

Fly Casting Clinic for Beginners

Saturday, July 9th 12 - 3pm

and

Sunday, August 21 12 - 3pm

Registration is required.

CJTU Kids Fishing Day at the Hatchery

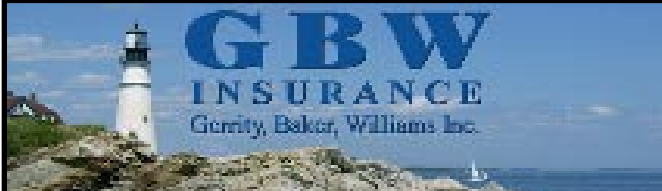
Saturday, September 10 10am - 4pm

A full day getting our kids involved in the fishing experience. We'll teach em the works. Starting with a tour of the hatchery, fishing ethics, tying knots, tying flies, etc, and then spincasting and fly fishing for trout in the pond. More information will be forthcoming. We want to get members involved in this teaching experience.

Fishing with the Blind

We plan on reserving a few weekdays this summer. The NJ Federation of the Blind is excited about having more groups participate. For that reason we will need more help this year. Anyone interested in assisting in this program contact Ozzie at our general meetings.

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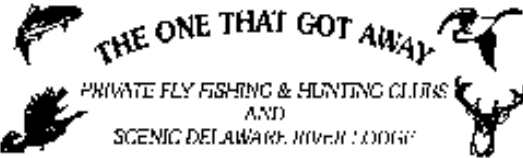
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CENTRAL JERSEY TROUT UNLIMITED TRIPS 2005

TRIP	DATES	COST	SLOTS	STANDBY	CONTACT	COMMENTS
Little Lehigh, PA	March 11	\$ 30.00	10	0	Hal Fish (732) 549-1293	One day excursion to Allentown, PA spring creek. PA license required.
Mud Run, PA	Early April TBA	\$ 30.00	10	0	Hal Fish (732) 549-1293	One day excursion to Pocono freestone stream. PA license required.
Spring Creek, PA	April 28 – 30	Room & Guides Fee TBA	8	2	Don Bastian (570) 998-2481	Stay at Bush House \$70 per night, double occupancy, PA license required.
Little Bushkill, Resica Falls, PA	Early May TBA	\$ 30.00	10	0	Hal Fish (732) 549-1293	One day excursion to fabled, PA freestone stream. PA license required.
Beaverkill, Willowemoc River, NY (DIY)	May 19 – 22	Est. Cost per Room \$75 Double Occupancy, plus CJTU Donation	8	0	Stuart Shafran (732) 685-9863	TBA
Pine Creek, Little Pine, PA	June 2 – 4	Room & Guides Fee TBA	8	0	Dave Rothrock	TBA
Farmington River, Conn. (DIY)	July 7 – 10	\$200.00 Plus CJTU Donation	8	0	Hal Fish (732) 549-1293	Stay at the Hillside Motor Lodge \$65 per night, double occupancy. Conn. license required.
Beaverkill, Willowemoc River, NY (DIY)	Aug 18 – 20	\$ 35.00 per tent Double Occupancy, plus CJTU Donation	10	2	Stuart Shafran (732) 685-9863	Butternut Grove Campsite , Cooks Fall, NY. Bathroom & Showers Available, NYS license required.
Spring Creek, PA (DIY)	Sept. 23 – 25	\$200.00 Plus CJTU Donation	8	0	Hal Fish (732) 549-1293	Stay at the Autoport Motor Lodge \$70 per night, double occupancy. PA license required.
Sandy Hook Union Beach, NJ (DIY))	Oct TBA	\$ 20.00	10	0	John Wester	One day saltwater fishing (any way) for fall stripers run..
Savage River, Western Maryland (DIY)	Oct TBA	Approx. Cost \$500.00, plus CJTU Donation	6	0	Larry Gove	TBA, Estimated drive time 6-7 hours each way. Maryland license required. Five day western trip in the east.

NEW JERSEY MAINSTREAM
CENTRAL JERSEY TROUT UNLIMITED
P.O. Box 55
PLUCKEMIN, NJ 07978
ON THE WEB @ WWW.CJTU.ORG



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).

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

