



# NEW JERSEY MAINSTREAM

SPRING EDITION 2008

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**March 11, 2008: FRANK COOLIG PRESENTS "ON THE GREEN RIVER" RESCHEDULED FROM OUR DECEMBER MEETING, FRANK EXAMINES ONE OF THE TOP TEN TROUT STREAMS IN AMERICA. ANNUAL ACTIVITY FEE ROD DRAWING TOO!**

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**April 8, 2008: Barry & Cathy Beck Present A Program On "The Digital Road To Better Fly Fishing & Outdoor Photography". Featuring Fly Fishing's Premiere Photographers. A Special CJTU Program You Will Not Want To Miss!**



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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CENTRAL JERSEY TU TRIPS 2008

OUR MEETINGS START @ 8:00 PM

VISIT US AT: [WWW.CJTU.ORG](http://WWW.CJTU.ORG)

DON'T MISS THE MONTHLY RAFFLE!

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## CONNETQUOT TRIP - MONDAY MARCH 24

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Members of Central Jersey Trout Unlimited will travel out to the wilds of Long Island for our early spring visit to the famous Connetquot River. We will gather at the Costco parking lot in the Bridgewater Promenade Complex, 325 Promenade Blvd., near the intersections of Route 287 and Route 28. The bus will leave promptly at 5:15 am.

The cost is \$ 80 for CJTU members (with current activity fee) and \$ 90 for guests and non CJTU members. In the event we do not have enough folks signing up beforehand to justify hiring the bus, we will still be doing this trip on "come as you are" basis, by private vehicles. Keep in mind that the estimated costs for gas and tolls is about \$ 40 per car, so hopefully we can take the civilized way and bus it out there.

The special regulations are still in effect for the Connetquot. There is no wading or wearing hip boots allowed above the hatchery, and only hip boots, without felt soles, are allowed on the stretch of the Connetquot below the hatchery. You also need to have a current New York State license to fish this day. Don't forget to also pack a lunch and drink.

Please contact Hal Fish at (732) 549-1293 or see him at the Trips table at the March 11th General Meeting, to sign up.

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## ANNUAL MUSKY CLEANUP - SATURDAY APRIL 19

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The Musconetcong Watershed Association is seeking volunteers to help with it's annual Spring Cleanup on Saturday, April 19th, from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. Cleanup crews will attack litter along roadsides, parks and stream banks from Hackettstown to Bloomsbury.

Volunteers from Central Jersey Trout Unlimited have been assembling at 9:00 am at the pavillion at Hampton Park, just off Route 31 at the light before the Lukoil gas station by the bridge that crosses the Musky.

We break up into smaller work teams from there.

We've had solid turnouts in previous years, and this year can expect more TU volunteers from many other New Jersey chapters. This is a great high-visibility activity we participate in during Earth Day every year. If you haven't participated before, now's the time to pitch in.

To register for the Spring Cleanup or for more information, call the MWA at (908) 537-7060 or e-mail Stuart Shafran at s2rtflyfisher@verizon.net.

A special thanks to all of you who have participated in the past.

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## MARCH & APRIL GENERAL MEETING INFO

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Hopefully you are current with your CJTU activity fee. If not, you've got another reason to attend the March 11th General Meeting and get your \$ 10 in: We will be drawing a winner of our Annual Activity Fee Rod Raffle. Anyone who is paid up is eligible, but if your name is drawn and you are in attendance that evening, we will also throw in a matching fly reel.

The April 8th General Meeting, featuring the fine work of Cathy & Barry Beck, is sure to be a memorable evening. We will be making available for sale two of their books, which you can, of course, get personally autographed. The book titles are:

"The Outdoor Photographer's Handbook" and "Cathy Beck's Fly Fishing Handbook". All proceeds from the book sales will go to the Central Jersey Chapter of TU.

We will also have special bucket and rod raffles that night.

*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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### CJTU BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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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 American Legion Hall on New Market Road and Orange Ave. in Dunellen and are open to the public.

For further information contact:

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Arlington, VA 22209-3801  
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(800) 834-2419 (Membership)

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## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

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Dear C.J.T.U. Members

This will be one of the last paper MainStreams you will be receiving in the mail. Main Stream is not going away it is simply evolving. Due to the rising costs of printing and mailing it is no longer cost effective to print and mail Main Stream. It costs the chapter close to a thousand dollars each time we do a mailing. As a non-profit conservation organization, whose only source of income is through our fundraising efforts, I feel that money would be better spent protecting our cold-water fisheries. Not to mention that we will be further protecting our resources by reducing our dependence on paper to deliver our message.

You have already been subject to some of the cost saving efforts we have tried in recent years. If you recall MainStream used to be delivered to your doorstep 10 times a year. During the last two years we reduced the number of newsletters you receive annually by half. Although this saved the chapter some money it also hurt us because we could no longer get information out to our members in a timely fashion.

In this day and age almost all of our members have an e-mail address or access to the Internet. If you're like me the last thing you need is another piece of junk mail cluttering your inbox. I promise you will not consider our new electronic newsletter "junk mail". At last, we will be able to deliver the full color, feature rich document that only Main Stream's editors see. Currently our newsletter is delivered to you in black and white. With the electronic version you will be able to see the photos, the fly patterns, and everything else in full color. We will once again be able to produce a newsletter on a more regular basis ensuring that we get important information out to you in a timely fashion. Another added benefit will be the ability to hyperlink directly to the sources on the Internet that may be mentioned or quoted in a particular article.

Overall we have had overwhelming support for this endeavor, but I realize that there may be some that will be unhappy with this change. Unfortunately there is no way we can continue to produce a printed copy of Main Stream. I think that everyone will see that this change will be a step in the right direction. We will be able to deliver a more fea-

ture rich product, dramatically reduce our costs, and be able to apply the money saved directly to our conservation efforts.

We are in the process of working out the details on exactly how we are going to collect the e-mail addresses of our members. As soon as we get it all figured out we will begin our campaign to reach out to each and every member to make sure you continue to receive your copy of our newsletter. So please be on the look out for more information about this issue in the months to come.

As I mentioned previously, one of the reasons we are being forced to make these changes is because of the financial burden associated with the printing and mailing of MainStream. That being said this would be a good time to talk about our current fund raising event. Hopefully by now you have received your raffle tickets in the mail. This year we have dubbed our raffle the "Artisan Package". CJTU members or supporters have made all of the items in this traditional bamboo fly-fishing outfit. Everyone should have received his or her tickets by now, but since we used a new method to put together our mailing list we may have missed a few of you. If that is the case you can purchase tickets out our general meeting or at the Open House at the Pequest Hatchery, where we will draw the lucky winner on Sunday March 30th. Please help support your chapter by participating in this year's fund raising event!

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in helping MainStream complete this transition into the 21st Century. As always, if anyone has a need to contact me I can be reached via e-mail at [bartlombardo@optonline.net](mailto:bartlombardo@optonline.net).

Tight Lines !

*Bart*

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## FLY OF THE MONTH

TIED BY LOU DiGENA



### CDC LITTLE BLACK STONE

Thread - 8/0 UNI Black  
Hook - Dry Fly Hook Size 14-18  
Body - Black Poly Dubbing  
Under Wing - Dun CDC Feathers  
Over Wing - Stalcup's Medallion Sheeting Brown  
Hackle - Black

A good winter pattern. Try this one on warm mid-days in February and March.



How many times have you been nymphing or tossing streamers and a nice fish begins rising along the opposite bank or somewhere within casting distance, and in your excitement you tie on a dry fly and throw a cast at it that lands poorly and puts the fish down? We've all done it, and most of us still do it once in a while. I just did it again the other day even though I know I know better. A nice trout was slashing at egg-laying stoneflies, so I hurriedly tied on a dry, quickly worked out line, and my first (and last) cast puddled hard on the water right over where the fish was holding. It never did come up again despite more stoneflies passing over the area. I guess sometimes the reactive reflex is stronger than the take your time reflex when it comes to fly fishing.

So what should I have done? Well, what I usually do is take the time to make sure my line, leader, and fly will work in conjunction with my cast to present the fly in the best possible way. And what kills me every time I don't do that, is that it takes so little time to do this. In hindsight, I will usually rationalize it by thinking that I wouldn't be out there standing in the river in the first place, if it didn't get my blood pumping once in a while. My girlfriend would rationalize it simply by saying boys will be boys.

Making sure your first cast to a rising fish is maximized in terms of presentation is critical for several reasons. The most important reason for making your initial cast count is because that first cast has the best odds of hooking up. With each successive cast, the odds of that fish taking your fly get reduced.

Here's what I usually do, and recommend to others, as you never know if that one fish may be your best of the day, the year, or ever. Once you determine what the fish is feeding on, or what dry is most appropriate for the situation, check your leader and tippet before tying it on. Most of the time, your leader will probably be okay, but if not, fix it or change it.

More likely, the tippet you have is going to be too heavy, too short, or possibly damaged from split-shot, or maybe just from fishing subsurface flies. Change it, making sure the size and length are appropriate for the conditions and the fly you are about to tie on and fish. Once you have done that, tie on your fly, being careful not to curl the tippet and making sure your knot is secure and strong.

Now here's the critical part. Let out a little line and make a quick cast just up stream of you and watch as the fly lands on the water. Does it land upright? Does the tippet and leader fall without coiling or puddling up? As you retrieve line, is the fly drifting drag-free and behaving as you want it to? Pick up your line and make another quick cast, and again look for any signs that your fly or leader/tippet are not doing what you expect. If not, fix the problem. This may mean re-tying your fly, changing your fly, changing your tippet, etc. The bottom line is that you want to know your fly is doing exactly what you want it to when you cast it to that rising fish.

Once you know your fly is going to drift the way you want it to, make your first cast to the fish. Knowing that your fly and leader/tippet are doing what you expect will give you confidence, which translates into your making a good presentation thereby increasing the likelihood that the fish will take your offering. The other benefit of taking a few moments to make sure your presentation will be the best it can be is that even if the trout does not take your fly, it is more likely that it will complete the drift without spooking the fish so you have another shot at it. And in terms of time, unless you really have to make some drastic changes to your tackle, it only takes maybe 15-20 seconds, 30 at most, to make a huge difference in your presentation.





**SCENES FROM THE EDISON SPORTSMAN SHOW**

**PHOTOS BY NICK ROMANENKO**



**PHOTOS FROM CJTU FLY TYING AT RAY'S SPORTS**

**PHOTOS BY LOU DiGENA**



## PEQUEST OPEN HOUSE -- FREE !!

Saturday, March 29th 10am - 4pm

Sunday, March 30th 10am - 4pm

Visit: [www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/budding.htm](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/budding.htm)

Along with our regular presence at this event, we will be drawing a winner for our "Artisan Package" classic bamboo fly rod outfit, at the conclusion of the Open House on Sunday, March 30th.

## OPENING DAY TROUT SEASON

Saturday, April 5th 8am

## FREE FISHING WEEKEND

Saturday and Sunday June 7th and 8th

## FLY CASTING CLINIC FOR BEGINNERS -- FREE !!

Saturday, July 19th 12 noon - 4pm

Saturday, August 16th 12 noon - 4pm

## CJTU KIDS FISHING EDUCATION DAY -- FREE !!

Saturday, September 20th 10am - 3pm

Kids Fishing Education Day is a special program for family members of Central Jersey Trout Unlimited. We always get a great turnout, rain or shine! All children age 8 or over that are family of CJTU members can also invite a friend to come along. Please let Ozzie know if you will be attending and how many family members/guests you will be bringing. All chapter members are invited to assist the youngsters. A pizza lunch will be provided.


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

For information on all programs during the year, and there are many that not just in the fishing category (and they are all free): Snakes of New Jersey, Owl Prowl, Owl Pellets and what they eat, Butterflies and Moths, Life cycle of the Monarch butterfly, Indoor fossil hunt, Trees of NJ, Birds of NJ, Black bears, and more, visit [www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/budding.htm](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/budding.htm).

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# CENTRAL JERSEY TROUT UNLIMITED TRIPS 2008

DATES	TRIP	COMMENTS	OPENINGS	COST	CONTACT
April 12	Saucon Creek/ Little Lehigh River , PA	One day excursion to local PA limestone creeks	8	\$40	Hal Fish (732) 549-1293
May 8,9,10,11	Kettle/ Young Womens/ Pine Creeks PA	Stay at Yesterday's or B&B	8	\$ 300	Coordinator TBA, in interim contact Hal Fish (732) 549-1293
Late May	Little Bushkill, Resica Falls PA	One day excursion to fabled PA free stone water	10	\$30	Hal Fish (732) 549-1293
June 12,13,14,15	Spring Creek, PA	Stay at Autoport Motel	8	\$ 300	Hal Fish (732) 549-1293
July 11, 12, 13	Yellow Britches, PA	Couples weekend. Includes double occupancy, most meals and entertainment	6	\$ 500	Hal Fish (732) 549-1293
Aug. 14, 15, 16, 17	Farmington River, CT	Stay at Hillside Motor Lodger, \$ 65 per night, double occupancy.	8	\$ 300	Hal Fish (732) 549-1293
September TBA	West Branch, Delaware River NY	Overnight and one day float trip on West Branch	6	\$ 300	Stuart Shafran (732) 500-5239
Oct. 2, 3, 4, 5	Catskill Mountains Primer, NY	Fall fishing on the Beaverkill and Willoemoc Rivers	6 or 8	Lodging TBD	Stuart Shafran (732) 500-5239

Note: All trip participants are responsible for acquiring the necessary state fishing license. Posted costs reflect approximately what you can expect to spend for the trip in lodging(shared rooms), flies, gas and basic meals.

Back by popular demand! We will once again be offering stream-side tours to chartered and uncharted waters within a few hours drive from home to chapter members, their relatives and friends. Our first tours will be held at Point Mountain, Port Murray, NJ, Valley Forge, PA, and Lake Hopatcong, headwaters of the Wild and Scenic Musconetcong River. I know that many you think you are familiar with Point Mountain, but have you ever hiked the Mountain? We will be visiting places that the entire family could enjoy, and a spot or two to for solitude. As of yet, no dates have been selected. We hope to resurrect the program within the next couple of months. Anyone interested should contact Stuart Shafran, s2rtflyfisher@verizon.net, or Hal Fish (732) 549-1293.

**NEW JERSEY MAINSTREAM**  
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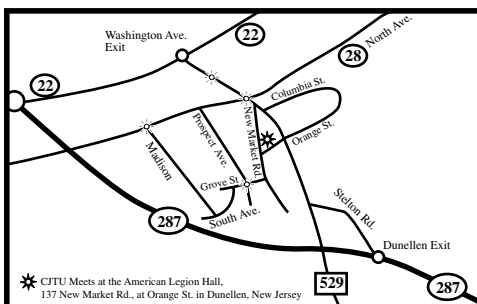
## MEETINGS AND DIRECTIONS

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 American Legion Hall at 137 New Market Rd. and Orange St.

**(A) From Rt. 22:** Washington Ave. Exit to Rt. 28; Thru light under R.R. Bridge, next right on to New Market Rd., American Legion Hall on your left.

**North on 287:** Dunellen exit, **(B).** Right on Stelton Rd; Right on Washington Ave; Left on Orange St., American Legion Hall on Right

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



\* CJTU Meets at the American Legion Hall, 137 New Market Rd., at Orange St. in Dunellen, New Jersey

**Future Speakers for 2008:**

**May - Matt Grobert**