



NEW JERSEY MAINSTREAM

SUMMER EDITION 2006

May 9, 2006: 'Ozzie' Ozefovich Presents a New Video Program on Atlantic Salmon. Fishing the Miramichi, Restigouche and Matapedia Rivers. Good Guides and Bad Guides. Featuring Ozzie's Masterful Underwater Photography.

June 13, 2006: Dean Druckenmiller, from the Lehigh Coldwater Fishery Alliance, Presents a Program on Improving the Trout Fishery on the Lehigh River, Covering Long Term Water Flow Plans, Insect Life & Scenery That Can Make This a World Class Trout Fishery on the East Coast.



CJTU members pick up trash along the Musconetcong River on Earth Day, and help stock breeder trout during the spring season.

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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CENTRAL JERSEY TU TRIPS 2006

OUR MEETINGS START @ 8:00 PM

VISIT US AT: WWW.CJTU.ORG

DON'T MISS THE MONTHLY RAFFLE!

NO MEETINGS JULY & AUGUST

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Fellow Anglers,

I am writing to you this April during a much needed rain storm. Unfortunately, it is on the weekend and smack dab in the middle of two gorgeous weeks of spring weather. Fortunately, it has increased the stream flows on all of the local area watersheds.

One way to understand water flows is to become familiar with the "flow data" for local streams and rivers. For example, the water flow for the South Branch River in High Bridge for this time of year should be 165 ft³/sec (cubic feet per second). This is based on records which have been kept for 86 years. During the recent storm surge, the flow increased from about 55 ft³/sec which is extremely low for this time of year, to about 690 ft³/sec. As of this writing, it has stabilized somewhat to 160 ft³/sec, which puts it at just about the average and most favorable for fishing. The data is always available from the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and the link to various local monitoring points can be found at our web site, www.cjtu.org. This is always a good source of data to let you know what the local water conditions are before you drive to your favorite stream.

I want to thank all of the volunteers who participated at this year's annual open house at the

Pequest Hatchery. I was able to spend some time talking with several members and I'm told that the hatchery received approximately 13,000 visitors during the 2 day event.

For our meeting this May 9th, please come and join us as our guest speaker will be our own Wendell "Ozzie" Ozevovich who will be presenting his "Atlantic Salmon" program. This presentation will cover Atlantic salmon fishing in Canada, Atlantic salmon flies, good guides/bad guides as well as some underwater video. His presentations are always informative and I know you will not be disappointed. Also at our May meeting along with our monthly bucket raffle, we will be raffling off two rods. One of these will be as a separate raffle and one will be strictly for boys & girls between the ages of 10 & 16. All you need to do to be eligible to win is be between those ages and be present at our meeting. I look forward to seeing you there!

May the holes in your net be no larger than the fish in it. ~Irish Blessing

Rich

Richard Thomas

FLY OF THE MONTH SELECTS -MAY & JUNE

TIED BY RON RUSKAI



KATTERMAN

Hook: Dry Fly size 12-16
Thread: White 8/0 uni
Tail: Brown Hackle fibers
Body: Peacock herl palmered with Brown Hackle
Hackle: Brown fronted with white

Try this one on the Beaverkill in spring or on the Battenkill in early summer.

LASER KILLER

Hook: Mustad 9672 size 6-10
Thread: Black uni 6/0
Tail: White floss
Weight: Non-lead wire
Rib: Copper wire
Body: Peacock herl
Wing: Red, Yellow, White Ultra Wing over peacock herl
Throat: White Ultra Wing

Head: Peacock herl

Try this one for bass or trout in lakes.



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

ROD DRAWINGS!

MAY 9 & JUNE 13 GENERAL MEETINGS

As if there wasn't a great reason, with several exciting presentations, to attend CJTU's meetings in May and June, we would like to inform you that we'll be drawing several rods at each of those meetings. We will have a special drawing for one rod at both the May and June meeting exclusively for youngsters between the ages of 10 and 16. All you have to do to be eligible is be the right age and attend the meetings!

In addition, we will have one of our select rods raffled off at the May meeting, and the Activity Fee Rod drawing will be conducted at our meeting on June 13th. You're eligible if you paid your 2006 activity fee, and don't need to be attend the meeting to win, but will receive a reel in addition to the rod, if you are present at the drawing! If you haven't paid your activity fee for 2006 yet, you have two more meetings to do so. Please see Sue Brotherton at the membership desk!

STATE MATTERS

By AGUST GUDMUNDSSON

Feast or Famine, a story as old as Joseph and the multicolored coat and an accurate assessment of water conditions in NJ over the past few years. I am not entirely sure that "normal" actually can occur. When Nick sent out a plea for an article for Mainstream we were in the midst of the driest March on record, as I write this we are recovering from high water and three days of soaking rain in late April. The annual cleanup on the Musky occurred with stream flows at half of normal levels on Saturday with flows twice normal by Sunday afternoon.

When this goes to print we will be celebrating the first dam removed from a trout production stream in NJ. The Pursel Dam in Phillipsburg was brought down. The dam was constructed in 1927 on the site of the Morris Canal lock built in 1830. The removal of the concrete apron dam allows trout, shad and eels access to 11 miles of spawning habitat for the first time in almost 180 years. We hope this is the first domino in the removal of many of the 1500 old dams chocking the life out of our streams.

The Gruendyke dam is slated for removal next, possibly as soon as this summer. Additionally TU has been contacted by several towns as to how to go about removing dams. When they realize that removal costs about one third as much as repair and all future maintenance is free, it makes economic sense. As environmentalists we realize it makes ecological sense, so everyone wins. Still there are opponents, those who cite history (as if history only started during the industrial revolution) or loss of wetlands (as if a 2 foot deep silt filled, weed chocked pond is a wetland). Every success that proves the economics and improved water quality makes dam removal a viable solution.

Hopefully by the time you read this the Eastern Brook Trout initiative will have been made public. This study details the demise of and sometimes the recovery of native brook trout populations from Maine to Georgia. It also details and shows by example the threats to brookies throughout their historic range. Amazingly most of the issues threatening trout in New Jersey are the same as those up and down the east coast. Sprawl, declining water quality and quantity show up consistently. Pollution, while devastating to individual incidents, was low on the list, but dams were in the top 3 in almost every state including NJ.

Well there are spinners falling outside and I need to get out there and watch trout ignore my poorly tied imitations. I wish you all normal water flows, but suspect by the time the next newsletter comes out I'll be hoping for either more or less rain. In the meantime good fishing and clean water and "normal" conditions.

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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contact editorial: abouttrout@hotmail.com
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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)

Most people who plan to begin fishing have many options, including going with family, friends or others who can teach them some fundamentals. Get a buddy or fish with your son or daughter- even grandchildren to help make it fun and they will take real pride in catching fish with you. Among basic needs are a rod and reel, some bait, lures or flies and a fishing license.

At Central Jersey TU we have a beginner program that provides a fishing packet with ideas for getting started and a list of streams to fish. CJTU offers monthly day trips for beginners that start with a stream-side critique about rigging up the rod and how and where to fish the flies that are provided. Experienced club members are also invited to provide assistance where needed. Usually everyone catches fish!

Central Jersey TU offers a trip program to the best streams in New Jersey and several nearby states. These trips are one to four days long. Costs are minimal- sometimes only for a fishing license and gas. A popular one day trip is the annual Spring or Fall trip to Long Island to fish the Connetquot River- one of the best trout streams in the East.

New Jersey stocks 21 rivers, including these major waters: the Paulinskill (Blairstown), Musconetcong (Stephens State Park), Pequest (Fish Hatchery), Wanaque (Greenwood Lake), Rockaway (Dover) and the South Branch Branch of the Raritan (Ken Lockwood Gorge), as well as many streams and lakes throughout the state. Stocked waters are listed in the State Fishing Bulletins at sporting stores where you buy your license and you can pick up a copy of the free "MidAtlantic Fly Fishing Guide" that tells the flies to fish and where each month.

New Jersey has excellent fresh and salt water fishing. Fresh includes shad, walleyes, bass, perch and stripers, pike, pickerel and muskellunge; while salt offers spring and fall runs of stripers plus bluefish, sea trout and other species. Off-shore fishing is big business in the state.

A lot of people fish seasonally for different fish while still going for trout. Examples are: shad in April, land-locked salmon in May, bass and walleyes in summer, salmon and steelhead in the fall and winter. Sooner or later, you may go on western trips for cutthroats or to the tropics for bonefish, permit, tarpon and barracuda in Florida, the Bahamas or Belize.

Spring and Fall striper and bluefishing are big events along the Jersey beaches, in Cape Cod or Nantucket for day trips or longer.

Western trips can be very exciting on the big rivers whether a horseback/white water rafting trip or float trips into semi-wilderness areas that could be a trip of a lifetime. Places like the Green River out of Flaming Gorge Dam, the South Fork of the Snake River in the Bob Marshall Wilderness, or floats on the San Juan, Smith, Big Horn or Missouri. Rivers out west have equals in the east on the Connecticut, Farmington, Delaware, Little Juniata and even the Little Lehigh, though on a smaller scale. Alaska offers huge fish, high mountains, great wildlife and another world. The Canadian Maritime Provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia can offer spectacular fishing for Atlantic salmon. You may want to treat yourself to at least one trip like these during your lifetime.

As you develop better techniques and skills for each new fish, take it easy, make it fun, and try to fish with guides or friends who can show you "the ropes". Many experienced fishermen (and women) often hire guides to learn new areas.

Become a serious student of the sport through reading some of the books and magazines, taking fly tying and casting lessons through CJTU, going to the January Garden State and/or Somerset shows, borrowing CJTU's videos, and attending our meetings.

Begin with local day trips and then build some fishing times into vacations or business trips, and with



each new area, visit the local fishing shop for tips on where to go and what flies or lures to use.

There are many places to share fishing and vacation with your family, as for example, the Allenberry Inn in Boiling Springs, Pa, (near Carlisle). The Inn has good food and facilities for the family, a playhouse, swimming pool, etc. Fishing is on site in the well-stocked Yellow Breeches River. Historically speaking, the river got its name during the Revolutionary War when the white breeches of the Hessian soldiers turned yellow after being washed.

Good luck with your fishing- welcome aboard!

ANNUAL MUSCONETCONG RIVER CLEANUP REPORT



About a dozen volunteers from Central Jersey Trout Unlimited braved chilly, wet weather to pick up trash along an eleven mile stretch of the Musconetcong River on Earth Day, Saturday April 22nd. Several tons of garbage was collected by a large contingent of volunteers from organizations like the Musconetcong Watershed Association, local scout and school groups, and others interested in stream conservation. CJTU members met at Hampton Borough Park and then set out north along River Road, hitting various spots on the Musky at about 9 am. Some areas, we are happy to report, were quite clean, while others like the west edge of the bridge at Point Mountain had been obviously targeted by people dumping all kinds of refuse. We almost ran out of orange trash bags at this point, and had to send for additional supplies. Everywhere we stopped we were greeted warmly by fisherman and local folks just walking their dogs. After about four hours of work we retired to a lunch provided by the MWA at the site of their future headquarters in Asbury.



Photos & reports by Nick Romanenko

CJTU HELPS WITH SPRING TROUT STOCKING



Central Jersey Trout Unlimited volunteers have been helping the Division of Fish & Wildlife stock the Point Mountain Park section of the Musconetcong on Fridays, starting once in March, and continuing through the month of April. We could use some help for upcoming May stocking dates. If you are also a WCC member, please contact 'Ozzie' Ozefovich at (732) 238-2495 or by e-mail at cutredd@comcast.net.

PEQUEST HATCHERY PROGRAMS FOR 2006

All Programs Are Free of Charge

Fly-Casting Clinic for Beginners

Saturdays, July 8th and August 19th, 11am - 3pm

Registration required

We supply all equipment, or you can bring your own.

Learn the basics and then off to the Hatchery Pond to fish.

Fishing Program for the Blind

Wednesday, July 19 , 10:30 am - 3 pm

Thursday, August 24th, 10:30 am - 3 pm

A great program we run with the NJ Federation for the Blind. We can use as many volunteers as possible.

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.

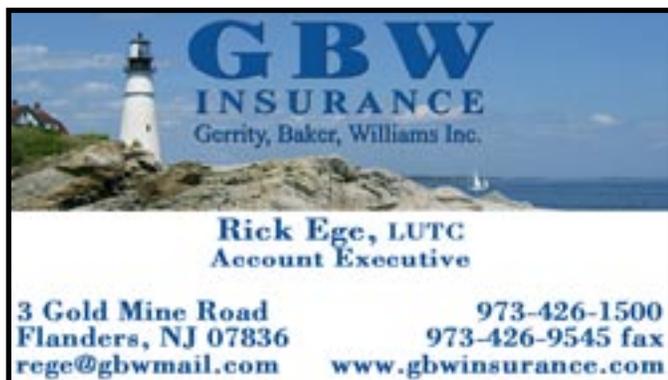
We will have spin cast outfits for the kids -- with barbless hooks and we will also supply worms. Lures are not allowed. You can bring a flyrod or bring your own fishing outfits as long as there is someone accompanying the youngster. Safety glasses are supplied for those that aren't wearing plain glasses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

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
Young Women's, Kettle Creek, PA	May 11,12,13,14	\$ 300.00, plus accomodations	TBA	Dave Rothrock guiding- PA license required.
Pohopoco Creek, PA	May 26	\$ 30.00	Hal Fish (732) 549-1293	TBA - tailwater, PA license required
Beaverkill River Campout, NY (DIY)	June 9,10,11	\$ 35.00 per tent double occupancy Approximately \$ 150.00 for weekend	Stuart Shafran (732) 500-5239	TBA
Spring Creek, PA (DIY)	June 22,23,24,25	TBA	TBA	TBA - PA license required.
Farmington River, CT Trico Special	August 10,11,12,13	\$ 250.00	Hal Fish (732) 549-1293	Hillside motel, CT license required.
Saltwater Striper Trip New Jersey Shore	Oct. TBA	TBA	John Wester (732) 937-8007	One day saltwater fishing (any way) for fall stripers run..
Housatonic River, CT Fall Cookout	Nov. TBA	Approx. Cost \$250.00,	Hal Fish (732) 549-1293	Housatonic Meadow Lodge - Cookout with a roof. For those who like to eat.

NEW JERSEY MAINSTREAM
CENTRAL JERSEY TROUT UNLIMITED
P.O. Box 55
PLUCKEMIN, NJ 07978
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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.

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