



NEW JERSEY MAINSTREAM

SPRING EDITION 2006

March 14, 2006: Tom Gilmore "The Dream Season"
April 11, 2006: Dave Rothrock "PA Prime Limestoners"



Early spring pre-season action on the Pequest River. Don't forget Opening Day is April 8th!

Photo 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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FLY OF THE MONTH IS BACK!	APRIL FOOLS OUTING	OUR MEETINGS START @ 8:00 PM
FIGHTING OFF CABIN FEVER	SOME THOUGHTS FOR OPENING DAY	VISIT US AT: WWW.CJTU.ORG
	PEQUEST HATCHERY 2006 PROGRAMS	DON'T MISS THE MONTHLY RAFFLE!

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Fellow anglers / conservationists,

It's taken awhile, however I believe winter is finally upon us...not bad for late February. I hope with the many spring-like days we had thus far you have made it to your local stream to wet a line. Unfortunately for me, it's been a winter of other commitments so therefore not much fishing to be had. I hope to make up for this come the warmer months.

The chapter is off to it's usual start for 2006. We have many events planned this spring such as the Open House at the Pequest Hatchery, the Musconetcong River Cleanup and many trips to local and not so local streams and rivers. Please be sure to check the newsletter and web site for details.

Speaking of the web, Rob Paull has volunteered to assume the responsibilities for the web design and upkeep. He has already started to clean up much of the outdated information and shared some of his ideas as far as the future goes. Please be sure to visit the site at cjtu.org and forward your com-

ments and or suggestions. I want to thank Rob for taking over this task as well as Lou Digena for the work he has done in the past. I look forward to a redesigned site!

Don't forget about our annual CJTU fund raiser. This year it's an extremely nice pontoon boat with all of the extras including electric motor, anchor, oars, etc. You should have received a separate mailing with your contribution chances enclosed. Please take the time to participate as 100 % of the donations received will go toward our conservation efforts.

Hope to see you at one of our meetings this spring!

Rich

Richard Thomas

The Musconetcong Watershed Association is seeking volunteers to help with it's **Annual Musky Spring Cleanup** on **Saturday, April 22nd**, from 9:00 am to 12 noon. Cleanup crews will attack litter along roadsides, parks and stream banks along the Musconetcong River from Hackettstown to Bloomsbury. Volunteers from CJTU will meet at 9:00 am at the usual spot along Route 57, the parking lot that was the site of the former Tri-County Firehouse. Please contact Stuart at s2rtflyfisher@verizon.net, tel.# (732) 500-5239 or Nick at abouttrout@hotmail.com, tel.# (908) 638-5668 to sign up and further information.

FLY OF THE MONTH SELECTS -MARCH & APRIL

TIED BY RON RUSKAI



ALL-AROUND MAY FLY EMERGER

Hook: Dry Fly size 14-18
Thread: Uni 8/0 Black
Rib: X small copper wire
Body: Dub to match hatch
Wing: Black Ostrich herl, trim short
Tail: Partridge
Legs: Partridge tied Beard Style
Head: Black Thread

Try this one on the Big Flatbrook and grease the leader about 12" in front of the fly.

CONOVER

Hook: Dry Fly size 14-18
Thread: Uni 8/0 White
Tail: Cream
Body: Muskat and red wool blended to heathery claret gray
Hackle: Golden Badger - Two sizes larger than hook size, use 2

A 1934 Walt Dettles pattern. Try it as a "fish finder".



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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

APRIL 29 & 30, 2006

The Bethlehem Township Environmental Commission need volunteers for Saturday, April 29th, from 9-4 and Sunday, April 30th, from 12-4 to help plant a tree buffer along the Musconetcong River at Heritage Park. The park is located off Route 173 at Vliet Farm Road in Bethlehem Twp. Volunteers will be planting, rain or shine, 200 trees per acre in a 7 acre area. Comfortable clothes, shoes, shovels, and gloves will be needed. Drinks and snacks will be provided. For further information or to sign-up please contact Stuart at s2rtflyfisher@verizon.net, or call (732) 500-5239.

FLY-TYING SCHOOL FOR 2006

By DICK TURSE



I have been an instructor in the fly-tying class for many years but this year, due to the small beginner's enrollment numbers, I became an observer and all-around pest. It has been a very interesting and rewarding experience. I have learned a lot while having a great time. I can assure everyone that Tom has put together a very talented and enjoyable group of instructors. Not only do they know their subject but they have quite a bit of fun passing the info on. Although I know most of you have been tying for some time I really suggest you consider taking the Intermediate or Advanced class next year. I guarantee you that you will learn some tying techniques you never saw before and the new flies are extremely interesting. Talk to anyone taking these classes and you will see what I mean. The pictures don't tell it all.



Photos by 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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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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Pluckemin, NJ 07978

or

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Arlington, VA 22209-3801

trout@tu.org
(703) 522-0200 (National Office)
(800) 834-2419 (Membership)

If I were to say, with the exception of a couple of snowy days, that weather-wise this was a pretty mild winter, could I get an Amen? I think I could. Wasn't it just a few weeks ago when we had several 50 and 60 degree days? I remember thinking how it was too nice to be at work and that I should have been fishing in the Gorge. Are you with me so far?

Now, how do you change the weather? How do you turn that mild pattern into below normal temperatures? The answer is to plan an all day fishing event. Now, can I get an Amen? I think I can.

This past Sunday, the last Sunday in February, we held the first of several day outings and stream tours to the famed Ken Lockwood Gorge. With temps in the 20's and a biting wind bringing it down into the single digits a dozen anglers participated. The first order of business was, would you believe—coffee. There was plenty of CJTU hot coffee, tea and donuts. The first topic of discussion was how to keep warm. With the exception of a few, everyone came well prepared. For those who weren't, there were plenty of extras on hand to lend out.

There were several participants who were new to both our trips program and fly fishing. Everyone pitched in to help them feel safe, prepared, and most of all wanting to come back for more.

We seined the gorge bottom and found many varieties of stoneflies, caddis, and mayfly nymphs. We discussed reading the stream and how to approach unfamiliar water. After a short casting demonstration and a brief question and answer session we broke up into smaller groups and began to fish. I can't say that we netted many fish but I can say that there was a lot of laughter and camaraderie.

By noon we were all off the water and out of our wet wading clothes, but the stream tour was far from over. A chapter member who recently moved a stone's throw from the gorge invited everyone over for an old fashioned midwinter barbeque. Moments later we were all relaxing in his great room in front of a cozy fire, sipping hot apple cider, and listening to great jazz music. By the time the numbness in our fingers and toes were gone, the burgers (which were grilled to perfection) and beans were ready. For dessert they served homemade cookies.

Our heartfelt thanks to Nick and Debbie Romanenko for helping make this day more than we all bargained for. We wish them many years of happiness in their new home. Can I get an Amen?



There is still room for only a few more for the Ressica Falls day outing on March 18th. Participants will need to dress appropriately, pack a lunch, and have a current Pennsylvania license. To sign-up, for directions, or to arrange transportation, please contact Stuart at s2rtflyfisher@verizon.com, or call (732) 500-5239. Ressica Falls is approx., a 1.5-2 hour drive from central New Jersey. More information will be provided at the March 14th general membership meeting.

APRIL FOOLS OUTING**APRIL 1, 2006**

There is still time to sign-up for our 1st annual, April Fool's Day outing. Our surprise destination is only a one hour's drive from central New Jersey. All those attending must have a current Pennsylvania fishing license, a full tank of gas, a packed lunch, and plenty to drink. We will be meeting for breakfast at 7AM at the truck stop on Route 78 West, exit 7--Bloomsbury, NJ. From there, we will carpool into Pennsylvania. All suspicious members, skeptics, and fools are welcomed to join us. For further confusion contact Stuart at s2rtflyfisher@verizon.net, or call (732) 500-5239.

SOME THOUGHTS FOR OPENING DAY**BY AGUST GUDMUNDSSON**

I am supposed to be writing an article in preparation for the coming season. This issue of Mainstream will cover March and April. Which means that by the time the next Mainstream arrives opening day will have come and gone. Opening day always marks the beginning of an angler's year, even for those of us who fish all year long it is a symbol of the new season.

This year on the political front we have a new administration in Trenton. We have a new governor, new DEP commissioner and new head of Fish and Wildlife. The new Governor has done little this year to distinguish himself to sportsmen so far. The new DEP chief shows promise, but so far has not had to face any issue of consequence. The current acting DEP director is Dave Chanda, who has a long history with the Division of Fish and Wildlife. Hopefully by the time this newsletter is out of date he will have been made full fledged director.

With luck none of us will have to have our lives impacted one way or the other by these changes. We are normally more concerned with what's hatching and where the fish are biting. (Both valid and critical data to keep track of.) But the water we fish in and the woods we hunt are under the control of all these people. It behooves us all to make sure they know this and that our voices are heard on issues like clean water and preservation of our cold water resources.

There are a couple of immediate items that may affect you this season. A Point of Sale (POS) license system is slated to be online before opening day, (April 8th). This system will allow F&G to track license sales in a much more effective and business smart way. There are always fears when data is gathered about us by "the government". I'm as skeptical of the folks in the statehouse as the next guy. But Fish and Wildlife have always treated sportsmen and women as a valued client. They have promised not to sell or share their database with anyone, a vow I believe. They will however, use the data to find out who has stopped buying a license, who is buying one for the first time. Mining this kind of data is critical to helping stem the decline of fishing and hunting license sales.

There are a couple of other pending changes. First and foremost due to F&W not stocking a few lakes with low holdover, they will stock almost 20% more trout into the major rivers for opening day. This should increase angler success and get folks excited about opening day. Overall the same number of fish will be raised for stocking. Average size will be unchanged for opening day, but there will be more trout available in places folks are likely to catch them.

Word from the fisheries forum in January and the stocking meeting in February is that several thousand landlocked salmon fry have been acquired from New England. These will be stocked into an undisclosed place sometime before opening day. The state is keeping the exact location quiet until just before (or perhaps just after) the stocking. The secrecy is partly because they are still studying the likely waterways and partly to drum up a little press excitement for the announcement. There are several likely candidates, but at deadline time your guess is as good as mine.

Over the past few years I normally spend my opening day schmoozing politicians and awarding prizes to the state's essay winners in the morning. Then my son and I sneak out and try and catch the Hendrickson hatch on the South Branch of the Raritan in the afternoon. It's always fun, and sometimes we actually catch a few.

I wish you all a safe and happy opening day. Remember to enjoy the day, and remember that the sport we love depends on cold clean water. Our mission at TU is to fight to make sure that our children and grandchildren can experience opening day in the future, and that means fighting to protect the water for them.

PEQUEST HATCHERY PROGRAMS FOR 2006

All Programs Are Free of Charge:

Getting Started in Fishing Program

Sundays, March 19th and 26th, 10am - 3pm
Fly-tying, and Fly-casting instructions
We supply all equipment or you can bring your own.
Spin casting for kids

Open House

Saturday and Sunday, April 1st and 2nd, 10am - 4pm
Visit www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/ for more info on these days
Fly-tying, and Fly-casting instructions
Spin casting for kids. On April 2 our pontoon boat drawing.

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.

CJTU Kids Fishing Day

Saturday, September 16th, 10am - 4pm
We all had a great time last year!!
More info to come at a later date

Fishing Program for the Blind

Summer dates to be announced



Anyone wishing to assist with any of these programs, please see Ozzie at the general meetings or call (732) 238-2495 or email cutredd@comcast.net

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CENTRAL JERSEY TROUT UNLIMITED TRIPS 2006

TRIP	DATES	COST	CONTACT	COMMENTS
Ressica Falls, PA	March 18	\$ 30.00	Stuart Shafran (732) 500-5239	One day excursion to fabled PA free stone water. PA license required.
April Fools Day Surprise Trip	April 1	Approximately \$ 25.00 to \$ 50.00	Stuart Shafran (732) 500-5239	TBA - Bring gas money, food and a bunch of flies. Meet for breakfast at 7 am. See article inside. One day excursion. PA license required.
Clarks Creek, Quinty Creek, PA	April 21,22	\$ 120.00	Hal Fish (732) 549-1293	TBA - PA license required.
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.

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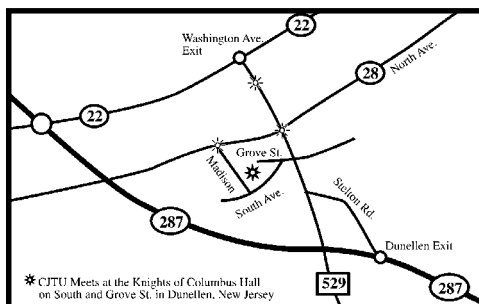
MEETINGS AND DIRECTIONS

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).

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



Upcoming Speaker: May 9, 2006 'Ozzie' Ozefovich "Atlantic Salmon"