

TROUT TALK

The Official Newsletter of Western New York Trout Unlimited (www.wnytroutunlimited.org) January, 2013

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Salmon & Steelhead-**Don Kwiatkowski** (894-9807) & **Nick Pionessa**

Shows-**Len Bigaj** (826-4178)

Spring Banquet-**Bill Jedlicka**

Stream Projects-**Chuck Godfrey** (440-6995)

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Welcome-**Len Bigaj** (826-4178)

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Stamp

Label

Next WNY TU Chapter Meeting: Tuesday, January 29, 2013, 7:30 pm at the Donovan American Legion Post, 3210 Genesee Street, Cheektowaga, New York. Fly tying starts at 6 p.m. Please bring orange or red thread, because we will be tying Sucker Spawn.

Our speakers, for the “entertainment” portion of the meeting, will be Mr. Scott Cornett, Mr. Jim Zanett, and Mr. Rob Roth of the Allegany Office of the N.Y.S. Department of Environmental Conservation. They will present a review of 2012 projects and a preview of 2013 operations. This annual presentation by our friends at the DEC promises to be highly informative and is typically one of the most well attended discussions of the year. Please join us.

President’s Report: As I reflect on the depth and breadth of the activities with which Western New York Trout Unlimited is associated, I am truly impressed. It will be an honor to serve as your President. Our “plate” is full, and I would like to invite all our members to the “banquet”!

Here are some of the items on my agenda as incoming president. I am probably forgetting a few, but this will give you some idea of just how active we are.

- ✓ By the time you receive this Newsletter, I hope to have met with representatives from the Niagara Chapter of TU Canada to discuss the Ontario Council of Trout Unlimited Canada Symposium which will be held May 3 - 4 - 5, 2013, at the Niagara College, Niagara on the Lake Campus. The theme will be "Aquatic Renewal".
- ✓ I will be exploring the possibility of hosting a TU Council meeting in Buffalo, if not this year, then 2014.
- ✓ At the January Chapter meeting, DEC will discuss their 2013 projects. I plan to be more active in these projects this year.
- ✓ Bill Jedlicka and I will be working on the 2014 art exhibit at The Burchfield - Penney Center.
- ✓ Buffalo Riverkeepers has requested we put together a presentation which we could give to local municipalities. The focus would be on the importance of preserving stream habitat. Our goal is to assist local governments in making educated decisions concerning property along streams. We need to identify who would like to work on the program, and what materials, etc., would be needed.
- ✓ I am hoping to visit a school that is currently running a "Trout in the Classroom" project.
- ✓ I would like to become more familiar with the "Healing Waters" project.
- ✓ When conducting our youth programs, we will look for ways to incorporate the science and engineering fields which are utilized in conservation efforts.
- ✓ I would like to explore the idea of conducting one fishing outing per year as an opportunity to spur new **(participating)** members. The emphasis will be on how conservation makes it possible to enjoy a day out on the stream.
- ✓ I intend to be involved in activities whose goal is to keep Albany informed of the importance of cold water conservation.
- ✓ And, of course, I hope to take part in the famous TU Banquet (you do plan to attend, don't you?!), fly tying prior to the chapter meetings, youth fly tying at the Sports and Travel Expo, and the County Fair.

Thank you for your support. Antoinette Grote

Announcements

- **A Report from Mr. Len Bigaj:**

Shows: The Western New York Sports and Travel Expo will take place from March 7 through March 10, 2013. The hours are: Thursday, March 7, 12pm to 9pm; Friday, March 8, 12pm to 9pm; Saturday, March 9, 10am to 8pm, and Sunday, March 10, 10am to 5pm. On Sunday, we will be tying flies with the youngsters from noon until 4pm. We will need your help in staffing the booth and for the fly tying with the kids. I will have a sign-up sheet at our meetings, or you can call me at 826-4178. This year, our booth has been moved to #36. For more on the Expo, check out www.sportandtravelexpo.com.

Project Healing Waters: We will be fly tying with the veterans at the V.A. on 1/10/2013, 2/21/2013; 3/14/2013; and 4/11/2013. The start time is 6pm; and the location is Freedom Hall, third floor. If you would like to help, just show up or give me a call. Thanks, Len.

- **Fund Raising: Mr. Bill Jedlicka**, who has been diligently prospecting for banquet contributors, would like to acknowledge the sponsors and supporters to date. They include:
 - “Trophy Level (\$1000 and up) Sponsor”: **Praxair.**
 - “Steelhead Level (\$500 - \$999): **Oak Orchard Fly Shop; Parkview Health Services.**
 - “Brookie Level (\$250 - \$499) Sponsor”: **Simms; Bass Pro Shop.**
 - “Emerger Level (\$50 - \$99) Sponsor”: **Niagara Gun Range, Patagonia, Delta Sonic.**

This year’s annual banquet, one of our chapter’s most important fundraising events, will take place on **Saturday, March 23, 2013, at Lucarelli’s Banquet Center, 1830 Abbott Road, Lackawanna, N.Y.** A cash bar opens at 6 pm, and the Dinner Buffet begins at 7 pm. An announcement is included in the newsletter. Please attend.

- **Treasurer’s Report for the Period Ended December 31, 2012. (Submitted by Mr. Anthony Messina, Treasurer):**

		prior period thru 10/31/12	this period thru 12/31/12
	(CHECKING ACCT)		
BALANCE AT	OCTOBER 1, 2012	\$1,222.65	
BALANCE AT	NOVEMBER 1, 2012		\$1,012.65
INFLOWS:	50/50 DRAWING		\$71.00
	DONATION		\$36.00
	HOLIDAY RAFFLE		\$41.00
	TOTAL INFLOWS:	\$0.00	\$148.00
OUTFLOWS:	50/50 DRAWING PRIZE		\$36.00
	TRAVEL		\$98.75
	MONTHLY MEETING		\$70.00
	HOLIDAY PARTY		\$332.72
	NEWSLETTER PRINTING	\$210.00	
	TOTAL OUTFLOWS:	\$210.00	\$537.47
BALANCE AT	OCTOBER 31, 2012	\$1,012.65	
BALANCE AT	DECEMBER 31, 2012		\$623.18

		prior period thru 10/31/12	this period thru 12/31/12
(MONEY MKT ACCT)			
BALANCE AT	OCTOBER 1, 2012	\$26,009.04	
BALANCE AT	NOVEMBER 1, 2012		\$26,010.80
INFLOWS:	INTEREST	\$1.76	\$1.76
	TOTAL INFLOWS:	\$1.76	\$1.76
OUTFLOWS:	NONE	\$0.00	\$0.00
BALANCE AT	OCTOBER 31, 2012	\$26,010.80	
BALANCE AT	DECEMBER 31, 2012		\$26,012.56



Articles:

Is a TU Meeting Better than a Fifty Percent Raise?

By Russell Shefrin

Happiness. When most people are asked what they want in life, that's usually near or at the top of the list. But what makes people happy? Philosophers have puzzled over this question for centuries and have developed pretty good insights. Recent research has provided a scientific basis for many of their conclusions.

One student of the subject, social psychologist Sonja Lyubomirsky, has found that the causes of happiness can be placed into three categories: life circumstances, genetics, and behavior. Curiously, while many of us focus on the first of these, it turns out that, when the variation in happiness across a group of people is studied, only about 10% of that variation can be attributed to life circumstances. Genetics contributes 50%. Unfortunately, we can't (at the moment, at least) do much about that. So we are left with Door Number Three, behavior.

The "behavior" we are talking about here includes both overt actions and inner thoughts. According to Professor Mark Leary in his lecture series "Understanding the Mysteries of Human Behavior", it is a source of some 40% of the happiness variation. Now, the kind of happiness under consideration here is not momentary thrill. It is, rather, a general sense of contentment and pleasure that is sometimes called "subjective well-being". Dr. Leary points out that people who have a generally high sense of subjective well-being tend to focus their behavior on things that are "intrinsically important for human well-being". These are goals that are pursued for their own sake, as opposed to attaining some other goal. They can include hobbies, community service, and spending time with people we like.

There seems to be something inherently meaningful about connection – to others, to our community at large, and, in my view, to the larger non-human world that ecologists have so clearly shown to be an essential part of our human community. We are social beings. Connection to others is probably coded in our DNA. Sure, some of us

need less socializing than others; but, in general, both introverts and extraverts get a happiness boost when with other people than when alone for extended periods.

What about money? Well, it's usually an extrinsic, rather than an intrinsic goal; and its relationship to happiness has been found to be rather complex. For people on the modest end of the income scale, more money does equate to more happiness, although the impact is small. Furthermore, once a certain level of income is attained (\$60 to 75K in 2010 dollars), adding more dough has marginal, if any, impact on happiness. (Winning the lottery, by the way, has been shown to produce only a temporary bump in overall sense of well-being.)

New York Times columnist David Brooks has written widely on the value of connection, especially its unconscious nature. (You might find his book, "The Social Animal" interesting.) In a March, 2010, op-ed piece, he observes that, "If the relationship between money and well-being is complicated, the correspondence between personal relationships and happiness is not". He cites a study that tried to compare the two. It concluded that, "joining a group that meets even just once a month produces the same happiness gain as doubling your income"!

Let's see – A once a month meeting is like doubling your income (well, sort of), you get to connect with people of similar interests and values, you receive all sorts of information to help you enjoy an intrinsically engaging hobby, and you help to "conserve, protect, and restore" something bigger than all of us. So be happy. Come to a chapter meeting and get involved. See you there!

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And Now, An Important Announcement!.....

WNY TROUT UNLIMITED ANNUAL FUNDRAISING BANQUET

Saturday, March 23, 2013

6:00 pm Cash Bar/7:00 pm Dinner Buffet

Lucarelli's Banquet Center

1830 Abbott Rd., Lackawanna, NY

Tickets to the event: \$30.00

Grand Prize Drawing Tickets: \$10.00 or 3 for \$20.00

Winners do not have to be present to win!

GRAND PRIZE DRAWING

1ST: IPAD

2ND: KAYAK PACKAGE

3RD: FLY ROD

In addition to Grand Prizes, there will be Door Prizes, Bucket Raffles, Silent Auctions and more!

Tickets available at Oak Orchard Fly Shop and Orvis in Eastern Hills Mall.

Ticket Info/Questions/Comments to: wnytubanquet@gmail.com