

TROUT TALK

The Official Newsletter of Western New York Trout Unlimited (www.wnytroutunlimited.org) June 2008

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(Editor's Note: This is an expanded version of the print edition for June, 2008.)

Next WNY TU Chapter Meeting Tuesday, June 24, 2008, 7:30 pm at the **Donovan American Legion Post**, 3210 Genesee Street, Cheektowaga, New York. **Fly Tying will start at 6 pm.** Please bring black thread, because we will be tying the **Black Egg Sucking Leech** pattern.

The meeting will feature the "Youth Raffle", additional fly tying, and the film, "Trout Bum Diaries". Please join us!

President's Report

I hope many of you have had opportunities to fish. Let's hope we have a long warm season, well into the fall, full of opportunities to wet a line.

The June meeting is on the 24th. The Youth Raffle will be held that night. There is still time to enter a fly fishing beginner (13-19 yrs old). Entrants must be present to win. Our entertainment for the evening will include several talented fly tiers, each tying their favorite fly. Tricos, wulffs, nymphs, steelhead, and more! We hope to get our "yutes"

tying that night as well. Another highlight of the evening will be the showing of “Trout Bum Diaries” on the big screen! Don't miss it! I urge all of you to bring your vices and to join us! The 6PM fly tiers will tie egg sucking leeches. (Yum.)

Remember to be part of our rod raffle at the September meeting. All you have to do is send Russ Shefrin (Editor) and me your e-mail address, and you will then be entered to win. If you would be willing to have your newsletter sent electronically, please tell us. Even if we had your e-mail before the mention of the raffle, you must give it to us to be entered in the rod raffle! September's entertainment will feature Jim Markham from the Lake Erie Fisheries Unit. He'll put us in a Steelhead frame of mind.

Don't forget there are many opportunities to help your chapter over the summer. Watch for Stream Project and Fair info elsewhere in the newsletter. We need YOU to volunteer.

Dee Maciejewski, President

Announcements

- **Fly Tying at the May, 2008, Chapter Meeting** (by Len Bigaj). Thanks to Craig Zink and Paul Maciejewski. We tied 28 Pink Woolly Buggers.
- **Shows** (by Len Bigaj). This year's Erie County Fair will take place Aug. 6 through 17. We will need help manning the Booth. Shifts are 10am to 4pm and 4pm to 10pm. Please let me know if you can assist. Call me at 826-4178 or e-mail me at LBIGAJ001@roadrunner.com. I will supply tickets and parking passes. Thank you in advance. (P. S. My wife and I plan to attend the 2008 Fish and Wild Life Festival on June 7th.)
- **March, 2009, Banquet** (by Len Bigaj). The 2009 Banquet is all set. It will be held on March 21st at Lucarellis Banquet Center, 1838 Abbott Rd., Lackawanna, N.Y. The cash bar will begin at 6pm, with buffet dinner at 7pm. Cost will be \$30.00 per ticket. If you would like to help with the Banquet, please let me know.
- **Project Healing Waters** (by Len Bigaj). We are looking for volunteers to help Project Healing Waters. The commitment would have to be one Wednesday per month, for about three hours in the evening. We will be working with the veterans at the Buffalo V.A. Hospital. If you would like to help out with this worthy endeavor, please contact me. (Ed. Note: Len's phone number and e-mail address are given under "Shows", above.)
- **Bob Witzel**, a long time member of WNYTU is showing his lifetime of paintings at the Grant Street Gallery (corner of Lafayette) from June 7-29. Hours will be 4-7PM. Bob is scheduled to be at the gallery on the 7th and 8th, from noon till 5PM. The show is free, and he hopes to renew old friendships with fishing friends. Works include paintings of Western New York waters and Montana trout streams. Please stop in!! (Submitted by Dee Maciejewski.)
- **Free Chance to Win a Rod** (Forwarded by Dee Maciejewski). *Yes, you read it correctly. Not only do you get a chance on a great 61/2 foot #4-5 weight rod, but also to give the chapter an opportunity to save some money. What we want is your current email address so newsletters and meeting notices can be sent out electronically if you desire. It currently costs us about \$.75 for each newsletter to be printed and mailed, and we send over 600 each time. Since we mail 5 hardcopy newsletters a year, that's over \$2000! If we*

could cut that figure even in half, a substantial amount of money could be more available for our local projects, not to mention the paper that would be saved! The remainder of the newsletters is now electronic, but **if we don't have your address, you aren't getting them!** We only want your email for chapter use. We will not share it with anyone else.

Even if you think we have your email, we may not. Many of the addresses on our current small list are undeliverable. Only those who reply will be entered in the rod drawing. The winner will be selected in September, and if not present, will be notified by.....you guessed it email.

Simply email your name, and just say "yes" if you want all newsletters sent electronically, or "no" if you still want the hardcopy issues that are published.

Send your reply to both of the following so the lists can be checked for errors:

Russ Shefrin (Editor) newsletter@wnytroutunlimited.org

Dee Maciejewski (President) president@wnytroutunlimited.org

Please help us, and maybe win a great rod! Do it now, and ask your friends to do the same.

- **McIntosh Brook Project** (by Chuck Godfrey). As you may be aware, we are assisting the Red House Brook Chapter with a brook trout habitat restoration project on McIntosh Brook in Allegany State Park. (Ed. Note: Please see Gary Coons' article in the April, 2008, newsletter for background.) This is being done along with the DEC Region 9 Fisheries unit, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Allegany State Park, and SUNY Fredonia. The planning has now been completed, and there will be labor involved in making structures to improve habitat at 17 sites on the stream. The electro-shocking of the 17 sites, the control sites on McIntosh, and the control sites on Beehunter Creek were completed the week of June 9. The first weekend days of actually constructing the project will be Saturdays - 6/21, 7/19, and 7/26. We anticipate starting about 9 in the morning on each of the days, breaking for lunch, and then resuming work in the afternoon. If you think you may be available to help on any of these days, please let Chuck Godfrey know at 440-6995 or at steelheader@cheekcentfcu.net, so that you can get directions to the creek. These dates will be contingent on weather, primarily because we couldn't do it in high water. Also, we could perhaps try to carpool or something, due to what I recognize is the high cost of gas. Additionally, by this time the Park will be charging admission. We are trying to see if we can get that waived for volunteers but have nothing concrete on it yet. However, there is no one manning the entrance booths before 9am. There will also be some work going on during the week, probably starting the week of June 23. Contact me if you think you could help out on a weekday. I should have the schedule, which has not been set as of the submission of this article. Hope to see you there. Remember, this is a great way to help the brook trout population in WNY.
- **State Council Meeting** (by Gene Romanyshyn). On June 7th, Gene Romanyshyn, Chuck Godfrey, and Paul and Dee Maciejewski, as our chapter delegates, attended the State Council meeting, which was held in Roscoe, N.Y. Literature and information on the discussions will be available at the June chapter meeting.
- **A Reminder:** Why you should attend TU meetings, buy 50-50 tickets, go to the banquet, etc.: There are plenty of reasons to support the local TU chapter, but here is one you may not know about. The fact is that, by and large, the activities of the local chapter are not financed by the national organization. The costs of the newsletter, our portion of most area stream and habitat restoration projects, etc., are funded almost entirely by the money raised at the meetings, the banquet, and the sale of flies at the county fair. Your dues go to the national organization, which only provides money to the local group under special circumstances. Without the money raised here, the local organization may not be able to exist.

- **Fishing Partner Connection.** For those of you who are seeking a partner with whom to fish, we will be running this announcement on a regular basis but only in the electronic Newsletter. If you would like to share your day on the water with someone, e-mail Editor Russell Shefrin at AdkRuss@roadrunner.com; and your contact information (name, telephone number, e-mail address) will be included in the newsletter. To get in touch with your partner, contact him or her directly. Currently interested: **Bill Swartz** (716-741-2563, flytyer72001@yahoo.com). **Larry Jakubowski** (716-684-9755, jake14086@yahoo.com). **Tom Kielb** (716-895-3760).
- **New Regulations.** Jim Markham has informed us (via Vince Tobia) that regulations banning the practice of chumming with fish eggs, banning the sale of trout eggs statewide, and limiting the possession of trout eggs to a quart per angler have been approved and will go into effect on October 1, 2008. The purpose of the new rules is to stop the illegal stripping of trout for eggs, over limits, and illegal discard of fish carcasses. They are also intended to help to promote natural reproduction of steelhead in our streams. They are not, however, meant to eliminate fishing with eggs or egg sacs.

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Articles

Editor's Note: At the May, 2008, WNY TU Chapter meeting, member Gary Coons presented a practical discussion on the matter of trapping nuisance critters. One of the points made by Mr. Coons was that we are often responsible for creating the problem of visits by unwanted wildlife to our yards. A typical example would be our habit of inadvertently providing wild animals with a food source. While some of us may be uncomfortable with the idea of trapping and killing animals, we need to accept responsibility for the fact that, many times, we, in Mr. Coons' words, "set up an animal to fail". In such situations, destroying the creature may be the only practical solution. A sobering thought for those of us who respect the natural world and a valuable insight provided by Mr. Coons.

Editor's Note: Our next newsletter will be the September edition. I want to wish all of you a pleasant summer. And, of course, if you have any stories which you like to submit for the next cycle of newsletters, please e-mail them to me. Articles on fishing technique, science associated with cold water fishes and their environment, on-stream experiences, conservation, etc., would be most welcome.