

TROUT TALK

The Official Newsletter of Western New York Trout Unlimited (www.wnytroutunlimited.org) October, 2010

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Stamp

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(This issue of Trout Talk is available only in the electronic edition.)

Next WNY TU Chapter Meeting: Tuesday, October 26, 2010, 7:30 pm at the Donovan American Legion Post, 3210 Genesee Street, Cheektowaga, New York. Fly tying will start at 6pm. Please bring brown thread, because we will be tying Bead Head Hare's Ears.

Our speaker, for the "entertainment" portion of the meeting will be Ms. Audrey Richter, biologist with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Ms. Richter's thesis was on stream entomology, so her presentation should be of particular interest to those concerned about cold water fishing and fisheries conservation. Please join us.

President's Report

Greetings Fellow Anglers & Conservationists,

Fondest thoughts of the Autumnal seasons have become a reality. I truly enjoy this time of year. And for many reasons: The changing of the leaves, relief from the humidity and heat of summer, brook trout in their spectacular

spawning colors, the hatches that now come at mid-day rather than in the evening, harvest season grapes and grains. My mind turns to those seasons of the hunt, the harvests of seasons past. For me, it is a great time of camaraderie and friendship; rejuvenation, yet still a time of solitude and solace in activities afield. I can think of no other place I'd rather be.

I'm told that the steelhead, salmon, and browns are all running in the various tributaries of Lake Ontario and Lake Erie. I do hope you partake of the opportunities afforded us by the area in which we live.

I believe many of us are spoiled in that we do not fully appreciate the resources we have around us. In my travels and conversations with anglers from outside the Western New York area, though they are not jealous or envious, they mention how fortunate I am to live so close to "Steelhead Alley" and the Lake Ontario resource. At one of our previous meetings, Dee mentioned that there are chapters of TU that do not have a stream to adopt and that many of those chapters are willing to partner with chapters who are responsible for overseeing the stewardship of streams in their area. We are fortunate....indeed!

Our chapter membership boasts over 600. Yes, 600 plus members. Yet, we don't know you. I see your names on the roster. You do come out to support the banquet. In conversations with other chapter Presidents, I have learned we are extremely fortunate to have the guest speakers we arrange for your information and entertainment. What would it take for you, as a member, to partake of a meeting? Sure, we are not presenting free beer or dancing girls; and I know you're busy. But so am I. This chapter requires your assistance. As I have mentioned MANY times before, committees often consist of only a chairman - committees of ONE! Our many activities in conservation, restoration and protection, sanctioned by TU national, have few volunteers. We need many more.

Our Trout in the Classroom program requires a chairman. YES, requires a chairman. It's already set up for you. You will not be doing this alone. Individuals involved will be participating with you as a team. Funding has been allocated for the four programs in which we will be involved this year. And I will tell you it is likely to grow next school year. The teachers in the various school districts are talking to each other. They realize how IMPORTANT Trout in the Classroom is to teaching our youth the value of stream protection, because trout are "the" indicator species. Afraid to jump in? Don't be, we ain't gonna let you flounder!

Len Bigaj has been doing the banquet for so long, we call it Len's banquet. He needs assistance with this important fund raiser. How about just asking him how you could help? It would be a great start.

This is your chapter of TU. The chapter officers and board of directors are responsible for the administration and functions. We...need your help! Some have made accusations of a "clique" akin to that of the USSR Central Party. I would remind the naysayer; I am not a native to Western NY and have only lived here 15 years. I saw a need; I volunteered. I not only was welcomed to serve but was encouraged and coached. How about you? Will you join us?

OK...enough of the rant. And you can find my e-mail address in the newsletter.

I want to thank Jim Markham for his presentation at the September meeting. Jim is always very informative and a pleasure to learn from.

Our guest speaker for this month's meeting will be Audrey Richter. She is a US Army Corps of Engineers biologist. Her thesis was on stream entomology, so if you want to know about bugs...here is your chance.

An announcement from downstate via our new NYSTU Council Chairman Dee Maciejewski: "To all NYTU Chapters. We are running the Adult Weekend in May, 2011. All we need now is for folks to sign up. We have room for close to seventy-five people at LOV, so we hope to fill it up. Thanks, Kurt"

There you go; here is a chance for the neophyte fly fisherman to get in on a school similar to that of the Youth Trout Camp. Russ will be attaching the PDF brochure for your information. (Please see the PDF file which accompanies this newsletter, Ed.)

Just in case you missed it...I presented the NYSTU Council gavel to Dee at our last meeting at the Donovan Post. I was honored, because I was asked to make sure Dee would get it. To my knowledge, there has been only one other Council Chair from Western NY...that would be Paul Maciejewski. I look forward to working with Dee as the Council Chair.

As some of you may have been aware, Dave Savko, Region 9 Vice President., is also now our NYSCTU 1st Vice President. I know Dave gets our newsletter, so, CONGRATS Dave!

We ALL live downstream. Please come out and support YOUR local chapter; become involved.

See you at the meeting.

Gary Coons, WNYTU Chapter President

Announcements

- **A Report from Len Bigaj:** Thanks to those who helped with fly tying at the September WNY TU Chapter Meeting!

Shows: The next show is the W.N.Y. Sport and Travel Expo, which will take place March 10 through 13, 2011. If you would like to help with the booth, or with the March 13 (Sunday) fly tying with children, please let me know. (Len).

Project Healing Waters: I will be arranging fly tying sessions at the VA but do not have firm dates as yet. I will keep you informed. Meanwhile, I want to say, again, "Thanks" to all who volunteered for this rewarding project.

Annual Banquet: We are still looking for someone to serve as Banquet Chair for the 2012 event. The upcoming banquet (March 26, 2011; Lucarellis) will be my last as Chairperson. Our Banquet Committee is already hard at work and has obtained some great raffle items. Please try to attend.

- **September WNY TU Chapter Meeting:** The featured speaker was Mr. James Markham, Senior Aquatic Biologist (Cold Water), Lake Erie Fisheries Unit, DEC. Mr. Markham addressed several topics of interest to our membership, including Lake Trout, the Sea Lamprey problem, Steelhead Trout, Fish Passage Projects, and Lake Erie Regulations. The discussion was highly informative and much appreciated.

- **WNYTU Treasurer’s Report for Period Ending September 30, 2010** (Submitted by **Anthony Messina**):

BALANCE AT SEPTEMBER 1, 2010	(CHECKING ACCT)		\$341.06
INFLOWS:	SHOWS	\$1,281.00	
	50/50 DRAWING	\$100.00	
	TOTAL INFLOWS		\$1,381.00
OUTFLOWS:	NEWSLETTER PRINTING	\$134.20	
	TRAVEL	\$178.75	
	MONTHLY MEETING	\$70.00	
	50/50 DRAWING	\$50.00	
	SHOWS	\$57.63	
	FLY-TYING SUPPLIES	\$283.37	
	TOTAL OUTFLOWS:		\$773.95
BALANCE AT SEPTEMBER 30, 2010	(CHECKING ACCT)		\$948.11
BALANCE AT SEPTEMBER 1, 2010	(MONEY MKT ACCT)		\$16,319.78
INFLOWS:	INTEREST: SEPTEMBER	\$1.36	
	TRANSFER FM BANQUET ACCT	\$5,000.00	
	TOTAL INFLOWS		\$5,001.36
OUTFLOWS:	NONE		\$0.00
BALANCE AT SEPTEMBER 30, 2010	(MONEY MKT ACCT)		\$21,321.14

- **Editor’s Note:** Our “Trout Talk” newsletter is published in electronic format each month except for July, August, and December. In order to contain costs, the print version is only available five times a year (January, February, June, September, and November). Unfortunately, even on this schedule, the financial burden, to WNY TU, of the print newsletter remains considerable. Many of our members have agreed to forgo the print edition and to accept only the electronic version (which is sent to them via email). It would help our organization considerably (and perhaps save some trees!) if more of our members agreed to this arrangement. There is a further advantage to the subscriber. Specifically, the electronic version usually has

more items than does the print version, often has pictures, etc., all because its length is not as constrained as is the paper form. Won't you please consider adding your name to the list of those who receive, via e-mail, only the electronic newsletter? All you have to do is send me your e-mail and surface mail addresses so that I can add you to the electronic mailing list and remove your name from the paper mailing list. Please give this matter some serious consideration. I can be reached at AdkRuss@roadrunner.com.

- **Call for Articles:** Have a story to tell about on-stream experiences, cold water fisheries conservation, improving one's fishing skills, understanding salmonids, etc.? Why not send it here and see if it is suitable for our newsletter? Just email it to me, and I'll take a look. Or, if you have an idea, but would like some assistance in putting it into words, let me know; I might be able to help. Looking forward to hearing from you! Russ Shefrin, Editor. (AdkRuss@roadrunner.com.)

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