

# TROUT TALK

The Official Newsletter of Western New York Trout Unlimited ([www.wnytroutunlimited.org](http://www.wnytroutunlimited.org)) January, 2009

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Shows-**Len Bigaj** (826-4178)  
Spring Banquet-**Len Bigaj** (826-4178)  
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**Next WNY TU Chapter Meeting: Tuesday, January 27, 2009, 7:30 pm** at the **Donovan American Legion Post**, 3210 Genesee Street, Cheektowaga, New York. **Fly Tying will start at 6 pm.** Please bring red or orange thread for tying Sucker Spawn.

The presenter, for the “entertainment” portion of the meeting, will be Mr. Scott Cornett, of the DEC, who will discuss several topics of interest. Please see the President’s Report for details.

## President’s Report

I trust the New Year finds you healthy. For those of you who missed the Christmas party, we had a good time. I want to thank Dee Maciejewski for making the evening’s arrangements.

January’s meeting marks the month when we traditionally have DEC come up and tell us about their activities from the past year and what is on the agenda for the coming year. Scott Cornett’s program for the evening will be as follows:

- Sign up anglers for Wiscoy Creek diary program in 2009.
- Results of Ischua Creek angler and electro fishing surveys in 2008.
- Other electro fishing results from 2008

- How the state's financial crisis will affect fisheries work in Region 9 and license costs (as best we can tell by January)
- Preview planned trout stream surveys in 2009
- Answer general questions.

January 2009 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Trout Unlimited. This is a year- long celebration of cold water conservation. The website for more information and how to get involved is: [www.tu50.org](http://www.tu50.org)

As you all know, last year we worked on a joint chapter stream project with Red House Brook. This project brought together many organizations, and we are hopeful the fruits of our energies will yield the habitat improvement needed for McIntosh Creek during low water periods. Follow this link and look under McIntosh Creek. Many other surveys are listed on the web page as well: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/27272.html>

For those of you who follow resource protection issues, gold dredging of glaciated streams is becoming more common place, Western NY included. The following web link accesses a nearly 30 min. long presentation on gold dredging: <http://www.prospectingchannel.com/>

Susan Arnold, Membership Manager at the Wild Center (Natural History Museum of the Adirondacks, Tupper Lake N.Y.) sent us this link for a web cam set up to observe trout eggs. These eggs have already reached "eye up" stage; and, for folks who have not been involved with the hatchery projects, this is great opportunity to educate youngsters (and adults) about the trout life cycle: <http://wildcenter.org/cams/trouteggs.html>.

Please mark your calendars for the March 21, 2009, Banquet at Lucarelli's Banquet Center. I know Len Bigaj will be making announcements in this very issue of the newsletter. This is not only our major fund raiser for the year, but it is also an appropriate time to recognize individuals who exemplify the efforts in conservation that TU is all about. If you would like to nominate someone for an award, please forward the info to myself or Dave Tooke, our awards chairman, with a narrative for the individual or individuals to be recognized.

See you at the meeting... Gary Coons, President

## **Announcements**

- **A Report from Len Bigaj: Our annual Banquet fund raiser will be held on March 21, 2009, at Lucarelli's Banquet Center, 1831 Abbott Road, Lackawanna, N.Y.** (The location is 1-1/2 miles south of Ridge Road and 3 miles north of Ralph Wilson Stadium.) Tickets are \$30.00. We have some exciting items for auction, including Orvis and Diamondback rods, airline tickets anywhere Southwest flies, guide trips, grills, and more. We also have a "Ladies Table" with great gifts. Please attend and help to make this the best banquet ever. Without your assistance, WNY TU cannot exist. Kindly get your tickets ASAP, because I have to order the food.

A Grand Prize drawing will be held at the Banquet. This year, the prize will be a Panasonic 42" HD Plasma TV, which was donated by West Herr Automotive Group and Stereo Advantage. Grand Prize tickets are \$10.00 each or 3/\$20.00. If you cannot attend the Banquet and would like to support WNY Trout Unlimited, please send your donation to: WNY Trout Unlimited, 58 Balen Drive, Lackawanna, NY 14218. I will gladly enter you in the Grand Prize drawing, and the winner need not be present. If you need more information, please contact me at 826-4178 or [LBIGAJ001@roadrunner.com](mailto:LBIGAJ001@roadrunner.com). Thank you in advance for your continued support. Our thanks to Lee and Century Printing for donating ticket printing again this year and to Richard Schroeder and Andrew Fronckowiak for their banquet donations.

Thanks, also, to Suzanne Shaffer for donating Pete (Rusty Hook) Shaffer's 8 ½ ft. bamboo fly rod to TU. We sold it on Ebay for \$356, and cleared \$340 after shipping and handling. Thank you to Nick Pionessa and Oak Orchard Fly Shop for making this happen.

Shows: The WNY Sport and Travel Expo will take place March 12 through 15, 2009. If you would like to help with the booth, please let me know. (Set up is on March 11.) Thanks, Len.

- **Friends of the WNY Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Day, February 28, 2009.** Friends of the WNY Great Lakes will be sponsoring the third annual Fish and Wildlife Day on Saturday, February 28, 2009. The event will be held from 9am to 2pm at the LaSalle Sportsman's Club, 2445 Tuscarora Road, Niagara Falls, N.Y. Registration begins at 8am and is \$20 for adults, \$10 for students. (Those who register before February 1, 2009, are eligible to receive the Early Bird rate of \$15 for adults and \$7.50 for students. Group rates are available.) Confirmed speakers include Jim Lorenz, former Buffalo Sabres forward, who will share his fishing experiences; Jim Hanley of the "Northeast Outdoors" TV program, who will be providing some tips on bass fishing in Lake Erie; Dave Tosetto, waterfowl expert, who will be discussing his insights into the world of ducks; Dr. John Casselman of Queen's University in Canada, who will present data he has collected on the effects of climate change and water level on Great Lakes fisheries; Ray Li, fishery biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, who will explore the issue of stream and river obstructions and how they affect fish migration and life cycles.

Registration includes attendance at all five speaker presentations, continental breakfast, lunch, and a one year membership in the Friends. Pre-registration is required. If have any questions about the Fish and Wildlife Day or its sponsor, please contact Randy Oppenheimer at 858-3780 or Kofi Fynn-Aikins at 691-5456, ext. 129. The complete text of the announcement of the Fish and Wildlife Day (which gives additional information beyond that provided here) is included as an attachment to this newsletter.

- **Fly Fishing Course.** A fly fishing course will be available through Lake Shore Community Education (Town of Evans). It will start on Tuesday, January 27, 2009, 6pm to 8pm, and will run for six weeks. The course is designed for beginner to advanced fly fishers. All equipment will be provided. The instructor is Ray Markiewicz, founder of Lake Erie Chapter FFF and Northeast coordinator for Project Healing Waters. The cost is \$45. To enroll, call 926-2270 (Lake Shore Central Schools).
- **Nichols School "Trout in the Classroom" project.** Mr. Chuck Godfrey has forwarded a message, from Sandy Cunningham, about the Nichols School's participation in the "Trout in the Classroom" program. Brown trout eggs had been obtained from the Randolph hatchery, and these were hatching in early November. A link to the website about the project:  
<http://mail.nicholsschool.org/~scunningham@nicholsschool.org/>.
- **Stream Projects (by Chuck Godfrey).** Here are the stream projects currently planned for 2009:
  1. Tree planting on the slopes of the Kennedy property, Oatka Creek, just south of Warsaw, N.Y. This should finish the vegetating of the project. We hope to plant in late April/early May, when the trees are delivered from the DEC nursery.
  2. We anticipate that repair work will be needed on the McIntosh Brook project in Allegany State Park. A survey will be conducted, after the high waters of spring have subsided, to determine what repairs will be needed. The work will probably be done after May, during low water conditions.
- **Stop Invasive Species.** Mr. Chuck Godfrey has kindly supplied the following web link, which seeks to address the important matter of limiting the spread of invasive species in our waters. It is well worth a look: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/48221.html>.

- **WNY TU Treasurer's Report For the Period Ending December 31, 2008. (Submitted by Anthony Messina):**

November 1, 2008	(Checking Account)	\$430.62
Inflows: 50/50 Drawing	\$94.00	
Raffle	\$119.50	
Transfer fm Mon Mkt	\$750.00	
	Total Inflows:	\$963.50
Outflows: Newsletter Printing	\$122.00	
Monthly Meeting	\$60.00	
Travel	\$120.25	
Fly-Tying	\$28.28	
Holiday Party	\$292.97	
50/50 Drawing	\$47.00	
	Total Outflows:	\$670.50
December 31, 2008	(Checking Account)	\$723.62

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November 1, 2008	(Money Market Account)	\$12,179.19
Inflows: Interest (Nov & Dec)	\$12.28	
Outflows: Transfer to Checking	\$750.00	
December 31, 2008	(Money Market Account)	\$11,441.47

(All funds on deposit at Bank of America)



**Want to see some trout eggs?** The photo at left is on the website of the New Jersey Dept. of Environmental Protection. (<http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/troutintheclassroom.htm>)

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**TROUT UNLIMITED  
ANNUAL FUND RAISING BANQUET**

**WESTERN NEW YORK CHAPTER**

**SATURDAY MARCH 21, 2009**

**LUCARELLI'S BANQUET CENTER  
1830 Abbott Rd  
Lackawanna, NY 14218  
(716-824-8711)**

**\*TICKETS COST \$30.00/PERSON\*  
\*8 OR MORE TICKETS RESERVES A TABLE\***

- **6:00 PM CASH BAR/COCKTAIL HOUR**
- **7:00 PM BUFFET STYLE DINNER**
  
- **DOOR PRIZES**
- **SILENT & VERBAL AUCTION**
  - **BUCKET RAFFLES**
  - **OTHER SPECIAL RAFFLES**

**FOR TICKET INFO CONTACT:**

**LEN BIGAJ  
58 BALEN DRIVE  
LACKAWANNA, NY 14218  
(716)-826-4178**

**\*\*\*ALSO AT OAK ORCHARD FLY SHOP, AND ORVIS SHOP AT EASTERN HILLS MALL\*\*\***