

# TROUT TALK

The Official Newsletter of Western New York Trout Unlimited ([www.wnytroutunlimited.org](http://www.wnytroutunlimited.org)) January 2015

## OFFICERS

**Antoinette Grote—President** (684-9523) [antoinettegrote@yahoo.com](mailto:antoinettegrote@yahoo.com)

**Gene Romanyshyn-Vice President**

5289 Roberts Rd., Hamburg NY 14075 (491-6111)

**Dave Unetich-Secretary** (759-2443)

**Tony Messina-Treasurer**

33 Deveraux, Buffalo, NY 14214 (832-8517) [amessina@hotmail.com](mailto:amessina@hotmail.com)

## COMMITTEES

Awards-**Dave Tooke** (688-7492) [tkflytier@yahoo.com](mailto:tkflytier@yahoo.com)

Education-**Dave Bollman (826-6214)**

Library-**Dave Unetich** (759-2443)

Membership-**Gary Coons** [yragсноoc@gmail.com](mailto:yragсноoc@gmail.com)

Fly tying sessions-**Dave Bollman**

Resource protection-**Gary Coons** (695-1003)

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

Shows-**Dave Bollman (826-6214)**

Spring Banquet- (vacant)

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

Sunshine- (Open)

Website: **Ric Toczek** [webmaster@wnytroutunlimited.org](mailto:webmaster@wnytroutunlimited.org)

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

Video Library- (vacant)

Erie County Federation Reps:

**Chuck Godfrey** (440-6995) [steelheader03@hotmail.com](mailto:steelheader03@hotmail.com)

State Council Delegates:

**Chuck Godfrey** (440-6995)

**Gene Romanyshyn** (627-2888)

Newsletter: **Russell Shefrin** [AdkRuss@roadrunner.com](mailto:AdkRuss@roadrunner.com)

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Label

**Next WNY TU Chapter Meeting: Tuesday, January 27, 2015, 7:30 pm, at the Donovan American Legion Post, 3210 Genesee Street, Cheektowaga, New York. Please note: There will be no fly-tying prior to this meeting.**

Our guest speaker, for the “entertainment” portion of the meeting, will be Mr. Jim Young of Cabela’s. He will discuss Cabela’s involvement with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s program to stop aquatic “hitchhikers”. This is an important issue for all of us who value clean waters and conservation of native species. Please join us for what promises to be a highly informative and timely presentation. (And, I hear tell, some Cabela’s coupons just might be available! Ed.)

## Announcements

- **Reports from Mr. Len Bigaj and Mr. Dave Bollman:**

**Shows:** (**Len Bigaj**) Our next show will be the W.N.Y. Sport and Travel Expo, which will take place from March 5, 2015 through March 8, 2015. The times are: Thursday, March 5 – Noon to 9pm; Friday, March 6 – Noon to 9pm; Saturday, March 7 – 10am to 8pm; Sunday, March 8 – 11am to 5pm. We will be looking for assistance with the booth. Also, on Sunday, we will be tying with the youngsters from Noon to 4pm. If you would like to help, please let me know. Thanks, Len.

**Banquet:** We are still looking for someone to take over the Banquet. Please let me know if you are interested. Thanks, Len.

**Project Healing Waters: (Dave Bollman):** Here are the dates for fly tying at the V.A.: February 12, 2015; March 19, 2015; April 16, 2015. Tying starts at 6 p.m. in the Freedom Hall at the Buffalo V.A. Hospital. I would like to thank Mr. Bill Koerner and Mr. Bill Schwartz for their help with this project. If anyone would like to volunteer, please call me at 826-6214, Dave. **(Editor's Note: Mr. Bollman has sent two very nice letters from the VA Medical Center. You can see them, after the "fish", later in this newsletter.)**

- **Reports by Stream Projects Committee Chairman, Mr. Chuck Godfrey:**

**Stream Projects:**

We will be heavily involved with tree planting this spring in on Wiscoy Creek (catch and release section), Cattaraugus Creek, Spring Brook in Springville, and in helping the Red House Brook Chapter with their project on Mansfield Creek. There may also be some tree planting along Oatka Creek under a new program for reforesting tributaries of the Genesee River. This will be a two year program. These programs will be conducted in conjunction the DEC, the SWCD's of Erie, Cattaraugus, and Wyoming Counties, as well as the Village of Springville. There will be information distributed on these projects as it becomes available. At some point in March or April, when there is decent weather (so it will probably be at short notice), we will be removing tree tubes from plantings that have died along the North Branch of Wiscoy Creek, so we can reuse the tree tubes on other projects.

We, and the Red House Brook Chapter, will also be cooperating in the ongoing steelhead survey on Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Creek being conducted by Bowling Green State University and the DEC. Finally, there will be an opportunity for us to work with the USFWS, DEC, Village of Westfield, Chautauqua County SWCD, and the Red House Brook Chapter on the repair of the fish passage(s) on Chautauqua Creek.

**Computer Crash:** Dell Computers created a great deal of difficulty with my computer for a period of 2 ½ weeks in late November/early December. Among other things that happened was the complete erasure of all specialized email lists that I had generated and maintained over the years. This would include the email list of volunteers for stream projects. I can obviously reconstruct part of it with the names of those who come to projects frequently, but there are another 40 or 50 people who are on the list and maybe come only once every couple of years or so. If you're not one of the regulars, and maybe even if you are, and would like to be included on my new list, please contact me at [steelheader03@hotmail.com](mailto:steelheader03@hotmail.com) to let me know.

**Special from National Trout Unlimited:** One of the benefits of holding a leadership position in the Chapter is that we periodically receive something called "Lines to Leaders" from National TU. The most recent version has a nice piece on entitled "Trout Unlimited 10 Special Places." This primarily is a listing of special places to protect during the current Shale Oil and Gas drilling. Of special interest to us might be the sections on the Lake Erie Basin section, Allegany State Park, both of which are listed. There's a nice picture of Stan Bishop in the section at Allegany State Park. Other sections of possible interest to our members deal with the headwaters of the Genesee River in Pennsylvania, Catskill Park in New York, the Upper Delaware River Basin and Slate Run in Pennsylvania, which I know some of our members and friends fish. Take a minute to check this out.

<http://www.tu.org/sites/default/files/10%20Special%20Places%20brochure%20final.pdf>

**Trout Unlimited Survey:** Editor's Note - Mr. Godfrey has forwarded this message, from TU, for your information. *"TU wants to understand what members like about our organization and what we can do to improve the experience of being a member. Members are the glue that holds the organization together and we want to make sure we are doing all we can to make the experience of being a member a positive one. We view this as crucial for membership retention and membership growth. To that end, TU has been developing a new branding initiative in order to apply clarity to the brand of TU. Simply put, we seek the answer to the question "What does TU do for me?"*

*Answering this question is key to examining the TU brand to better define it and to help improve how we express it to our members and partners, and in our media, marketing and communications – and we need you, our volunteer leaders, as well as all of our members and partners, to help make the process as productive and comprehensive as possible."* In order to participate in the survey, please copy/paste this link in your browser (Ed): <http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/1758486/Trout-Unlimited-Survey>.

**Genesee River Angler Diary Study:** Editor's Note - Mr. Godfrey calls our attention to the DEC "Summary of the 2014 Genesee River Angler Diary Program" prepared by Mr. Scott Cornett and Mr. James Zanett. The full report can be found in our electronic edition. Its conclusion is that, "The river appears to be providing adequate trout catch rates for experienced anglers, even through the summer months. Despite a limited number of trips targeting bass, catch rates and size of the bass indicate the river provides a high quality smallmouth bass fishery for skilled anglers".

- **A Message from our Chapter's friend, Mr. Brian Green, of the Niagara Chapter of Trout Unlimited Canada:** "Your members and other readers of Trout Talk might be interested in knowing about a little book that I wrote as a fundraiser for the Niagara Chapter of Trout Unlimited Canada. Called "Introducing Fly Fishing" it's all the stuff I wish I had known when I started out in the sport: from the basics of the equipment and which outfit to start with, through how to set up your gear, an introduction to the flies and knots we use, and even a bit about where to fish in the Niagara Region and Southern Ontario (with upstate New York getting a prominent mention). It's pocket sized so can be taken with you on the river, and at \$10 might make a nice little gift for someone who is curious about our sport or thinking about getting started. I've taken the liberty of attaching a picture of the cover, so if you think this might be of interest to your readers, you could add the picture if you wish. Anyone wishing to purchase a copy can contact me at [green\\_ink@sympatico.ca](mailto:green_ink@sympatico.ca) and I'll mail it out." (Editor's Note: A photo of the front cover can be found later in this newsletter.)

- **Salmon River Steelhead Update:** Editor's Note - Our Salmon and Steelhead Committee Chair, Mr. Don Kwiatkowski, relays this message, from Mr. Ron Urban, of New York State Council TU – *As many of you know there are concerns about the erratically swimming and dying Steelhead this year in our beloved Salmon River. We just received an update from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation and would like to share it with you. It's quite long so I will just give you an overview of what it states to be the primary concern. For more detailed information you may contact DEC's Bureau of Fisheries (Cape Vincent Fisheries Station) at (315) 654-2147.*

*"In mid-November, DEC fisheries staff began receiving reports of Steelhead Swimming erratically in the Salmon River and higher mortality of the species. Most recent reports indicate similar behavior in Steelhead in other Lake Ontario Tributaries."*

*The recent testing results by DEC, Cornell University, other agencies, and academia strongly indicate a severe thiamine (Vitamin B) deficiency, which means it is likely contributing to the Steelhead Mortality.*

*"Great Lakes fish predators (including Salmon and Steelhead) that feed primarily on alewife are prone to thiamine deficiency. Alewives, invasive bait fish in the Great Lakes, are known to contain thiaminase, an enzyme that degrades thiamine. A thiamine deficiency can impact eggs quality and the survival of eggs and newly hatched fish, and, in severe cases, can cause the death of adult fish."*

*"DEC is taking steps to meet its spring 2015 steelhead egg-take targets at Salmon River Hatchery, and will work with Great Lakes agency partners to provide assistance in meeting egg take quotas, if needed. Staff from DEC's Rome fish disease Control Unit and Salmon River Hatchery are preemptively injecting adult Steelhead returning to the hatchery with thiamine and feeding them while held in the hatchery raceways with a diet fortified with Vitamin B to improve the likelihood of successful Steelhead egg collection in 2015"*

*As you have read DEC is taking the necessary steps to ensure continued success of the tremendous Steelhead fishery we have here on the Salmon River as well as the entire Lake Ontario fishery. Kudos however goes to all the Fishermen who reported the problem. It goes to show how important it is for people on the front lines (the fishermen) to stay involved. A debt of gratitude to the caring nature of all fishermen. The highest form of dedication and commitment to our sport is to stay involved! Thank You....From the Staff at DSR.*

- **Treasurer’s Report for the Period Ended December 31, 2014, (Submitted by Mr. Anthony Messina):**

		(CHECKING ACCT)	prior period thru 10/31/14	this period thru 12/31/14
BALANCE AT	OCTOBER 1, 2014		<b>\$356.72</b>	
BALANCE AT	NOVEMBER 1, 2014			<b>\$752.72</b>
INFLOWS:	TRANSFER FROM MONEY MKT SHOWS		\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
	TOTAL INFLOWS:		<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
OUTFLOWS:	MONTHLY MEETING-Rm Rent			\$140.00
	TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM			\$17.10
	STREAM PROJECTS			\$53.90
	TRAVEL			\$219.25
	MEMBERSHIP			\$135.00
	HOLIDAY PARTY			\$215.33
	NEWSLETTER PRINTING		\$114.00	

	NEWSLETTER POSTAGE	\$490.00	
	TOTAL OUTFLOWS:	<b>\$604.00</b>	<b>\$780.58</b>
BALANCE AT	OCTOBER 31, 2014	<b>\$752.72</b>	
BALANCE AT	DECEMBER 31, 2014		<b>\$972.14</b>
*****			
		prior period	this period
		thru 10/31/14	thru 12/31/14
	(MONEY MKT ACCT)		
BALANCE AT	OCTOBER 1, 2014	<b>\$29,228.74</b>	
BALANCE AT	NOVEMBER 1, 2014		<b>\$28,229.23</b>
INFLOWS:	INTEREST	\$0.49	\$0.93
OUTFLOWS:	TRANSFER TO CHKING ACCT	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
BALANCE AT	OCTOBER 31, 2014	<b>\$28,229.23</b>	

- 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 twice a year (September and January). 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. Incidentally, a new feature of the electronic newsletter is a delightful column on fly tying by WNY TU member, Jeff Kohler. 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](mailto:AdkRuss@roadrunner.com).





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December 15, 2014

Mr. David W. Bollman  
Western New York Trout Unlimited  
104 Weiss Street  
Buffalo, NY 14206

Dear Mr. Bollman:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank your organization for the Fly Tying Event on December 11<sup>th</sup> at a cost of \$145.00.

Your commitment to the VA Western New York Healthcare System and the Veterans it serves is truly appreciated. We are pleased to count you as a partner in helping us to meet the needs of our veterans.

Thank you for your interest and support of our Nation's Veterans.

Sincerely,

*Mark J. Francis*

MARK J. FRANCIS  
Volunteer Program Manager

\* The VA Western New York Healthcare System did not provide you, the donor, with any goods or services in consideration of your contribution. "This is to comply with the Federal Tax Law."



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October 22, 2014

Mr. Dave Bollman  
 Western New York Trout Unlimited  
 104 Weiss Street  
 Buffalo, NY 14206

Dear Mr. Bollman:

*Dave's Member*

I would like to take this opportunity to thank your organization for the Fly Tying Event on October 16<sup>th</sup> at a cost of \$125.00.

Your commitment to the VA Western New York Healthcare System and the Veterans it serves is truly appreciated. We are pleased to count you as a partner in helping us to meet the needs of our veterans.

Thank you for your interest and support of our Nation's Veterans.

Sincerely,

*Mark J. Francis*

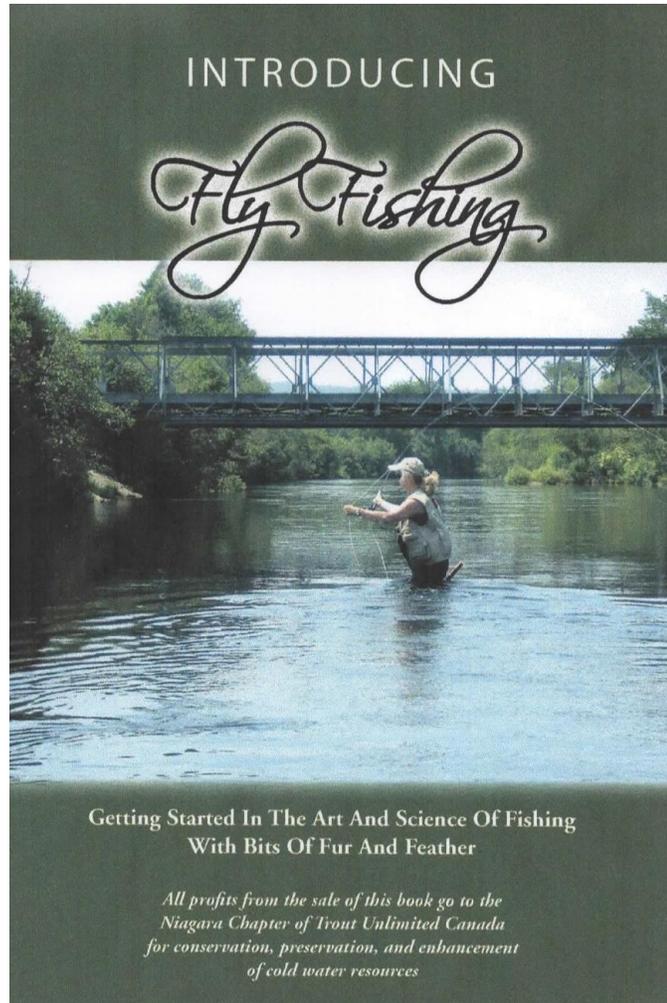
*Best Wishes!*

MARK J. FRANCIS  
 Volunteer Program Manager

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**And here is a photo of the cover of Mr. Brian Green's book:**



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