



# *Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Inc.*

---

2 0 0 4      A N N U A L      R E P O R T





Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Inc.  
would like to thank the following benefactors for their extreme generosity  
in the years past:

**Life Members**

Mr. & Mrs. David J. & Diane C. Beveridge  
Mr. Joe Blaze  
Mr. Jay J. Cohen  
Mr. Francis J. Fallon  
Mr. David L. Goodman  
Ms. Harriet Goodman  
Mr. Charles Hurley  
Mr. & Mrs. David & Nancy King Kramer  
Mark S. & Brett Kristoff  
Mr. & Mrs. Jack & Jane Rivkin  
Mr. John M. Shanahan  
Mr. Lawrence Solomon  
Ms. Jane M. Timken  
Mr. Terrance E. McCartney  
Mr. David H. Miller  
Mr. Richard J. Schager, Jr.

**Patrons**

Mr. J. James Gordon  
Mr. George Jenkins  
Mr. Joseph J. Owcarz  
Mr. Robert H. Yunich  
Mr. Stephen Sloan

**Contributing Members**

Mr. Joel B. Filner  
Mr. Leon C. Holt  
Mr. John B. Ashton  
Mr. Stephen Feinberg  
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard M. & Joan Leiman  
Mr. William H. Lord  
Mr. Jonathan L. Paterson  
Mr. Clarence O. Peterson, III  
Dr. Michael I. Robinson, DMD  
Ms. Lynne W. Scanlon  
Mr. Arthur Stoliar  
Dr. Edward K. Swain, Jr., DMD  
Mr. Christoph Von Strasser  
Mr. Jonathan R. Warner  
Mr. Howard Olian  
Mr. Roy R. Russo  
Nutmeg Chapter Trout Unlimited  
Mr. Hal R. Mattes  
Mr. Vincent Giarratana Jr.

# Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Inc.

2 0 0 4      A N N U A L      R E P O R T



## President's Report

I feel fortunate to help present the 2004 Annual Report for Theodore Gordon Flyfishers. As those who have read my message in the current Gordon's Quill have learned, TGF had what should be considered a good year. There were awards given and honors bestowed, and there were enough activities to keep us busy almost every month.

The Board of Directors was strengthened in 2004 with both returning directors who provide leadership and continuity – Joel Filner, Len Bryer, Richard Machin and Arthur Stoliar – and new directors who brought with them initiative and innovation – Jim Aker, Dave Miller and John Happersett. Increased membership and the launching of the electronic TGF Bulletin are two of the more visible results of their contributions.

Financially, TGF is in adequate shape. The Conservation Fund grew in 2004, in large part due to proceeds from the Second Annual Fund Dinner first inaugurated by Terry McCartney, our Conservation Chairman. We need to keep strengthening the fund because there darkly looms on the horizon two big threats to Catskills streams, namely the plans for the Bellayre development on the Esopus Creek, and Albany's plan for up to five Indian casinos along Route 17, including one proposed for a location on the banks of Theodore Gordon's own Neversink River and which most of us find to be a particularly egregious insult to our namesake following the sesquicentennial of his birth. Without the financial muscle to oppose such threats, the rivers may be subject to irreversible damage.

As far as the operating fund goes, that is, the revenue not allocated to the Conservation Fund, we did have some concerns early in 2004 that we were spending money faster than we were taking it in, but those expenditures leveled off and we began to pick up revenue from increased membership. We also made a point of studying the costs of our popular luncheon program. We again determined that although it is necessary to subsidize the lunches at the Union League Club, under the able administration of David Berman they remain one of the pillars of all TGF programs, being an inducement to untold memberships in TGF over the years. We expect to leave the program unchanged except to keep an eye on controlling costs where we can.

Lastly, as any member can easily observe from reading the more frequent appearances of the "In Memoriam" box in Gordon's Quill, TGF, with 40 years under its wading belt, finds itself in a state of generational transformation. One of the major challenges for us over the next few years will be to continue to recruit new members to add strength to the club and carry on our mission of cold water conservation. The work is constant, defies the years and must be done.

Peter Smith  
President





# Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Inc.

2 0 0 4 A N N U A L R E P O R T

## TGF Education Committee Report - 2005

Arthur P. Stoliar, Director



This committee has been active in two distinct areas. The Trout in the Classroom (TIC) Program and the Environmental Education Summer Camp Program.

For several years it has been clear that TIC was naturally expanding beyond the capability, resources and geographical area of TGF. Trout Unlimited has successfully taken over the sponsorship and management of this program so that it can expand nationwide. TGF will continue involvement in TIC activities in NYC and its watershed as the founding sponsor and as a member of the TIC Advisory Council.

TGF current responsibilities include production of a TIC Instructional Video that will demonstrate the details of the equipment setup & maintenance, water testing, summer care etc. A grant from the NYC Environmental Fund has been received for this.

2

We will show how to select, order and setup the equipment, explaining each of the various components and their function. We will talk about the importance of water quality and how to test the system. It will continue with the unique process of handling the eggs. In all these steps the video will suggest how to involve students.

Techniques needed to grow trout after they have hatched will be shown, including testing of water (temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, ammonia, etc.). We will encourage each class to enter their test data on a regular schedule into a special data base which currently exists on the TIC web site. This will involve students in a novel interactive use of the internet and also encourage grassroots research. Feeding the alevins is a special process too. It is important to review situations where things can go wrong, e.g. loss of electricity can lead to elevated temperatures and increased mortality - just as "thermal pollution" does in nature.

As a result of meetings with TIC teachers a draft storyboard for the video was generated. A videographer, was competitively selected. The budget is currently under review.

Every year TGF sponsors young people to attend a unique residential program in conservation education. They spend a week at one of NY State's DEC Environmental Education Summer Camps. There, campers view the environment in a unique way, up close and first hand. Activities that emphasize the wise use of natural resources fill the camp week. Campers enjoy a blend of learning and recreation under the watchful eyes of skilled environmental educators. They explore the interrelationships between living things as they investigate ponds, streams, fields and forests. Sampling streams for aquatic life, hiking in the dark or quietly listening to the sounds of the forest bring conservation concepts to life.

Every year TGF asks Trout in the Classroom teachers to identify worthy teenage students that they feel would be interested in, and benefit by, attending these camps.

Since 2000 TGF has sponsored about 50 students. The feedback is wonderful.





## The TGF Conservation Fund

Richard J. Schager, Jr.,    Former TGF President

Early in 2003 your Board adopted an important financial reform by establishing the TGF Conservation Fund. TGF has a 40-year history of commitment to conservation, and it often conducts drawings and dinners to raise money for its conservation mission. At the same time, TGF also conducts many other activities central to our function as a club but are not specifically conservation, such as organizing Annual Day and periodic outings, selling shirts, hats and other equipment to publicize our group, and sponsoring the Tuesday lunches in the tradition of our early lunches at Manny Wolf's. To facilitate fund raising for conservation, and to assure members and donors that our financial house was in order, the Board decided to segregate funds raised specifically for conservation in an account designated for that purpose.

The response to this action has been very rewarding for us. The Board kicked off the Conservation Fund by recognizing the intention of past donors and shifting \$50,000 from our general coffers. At TGF's fiscal year-end (October 31, 2004) the Conservation Fund contained about \$72,300, an increase of 40% over the last two years (net of expenditures, discussed below). This increase is attributable to generous contributions members have made with each of the last three annual renewals, and to contributions of auction and raffle items. We also have had two successful Conservation Fund dinners in the Catskills, which (being held before dark during the midsummer spinner falls) demonstrate how our members recognize this as a priority. This year's Annual Day auction proceeds will be for the benefit of the Conservation Fund.

When we started the Conservation Fund the common wisdom was that fundraising for conservation was possible only when there was a crisis that inspired contributions. TGF's goal, however, was to begin building a "war chest" so that we could respond when the need arose. So far there have been no major expenditures from the Conservation Fund, although this year we anticipate a significant expense to restore the mouth of Horton Brook on the Beaverkill, a smaller expense to support the Project Access stream access paths for the disabled, and a possible expenditure to oppose construction of a large casino on the banks of the Neversink. The Conservation Fund also has been used to support limitations on the proposed Belleayre development on the headwaters of Esopus Creek (\$2,000), Project Access (\$400), ongoing expenses relating to the litigation with the NYC-DEP over pollutants being released from the Schoharie Reservoir through the Shandaken Tunnel (\$1,000), and a donation to the North Atlantic Salmon Fund, the conservation group chaired by last year's Annual Day speaker, Orri Vigfusson (\$1,000). The Conservation Fund also may support various stream improvement projects, installation of culverts to improve fish access to spawning tributaries, and expenses related to projects like the successful Esopus Creek litigation.

Over the next year you will see more information regarding the formation of a Board of Advisors for the Conservation Fund. The Board expects that the TGF Conservation Committee Chair will also be an ex officio member of and Chair of the Conservation Fund Board of Advisors.





# Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Inc.

2 0 0 4 A N N U A L R E P O R T

## Conservation Committee

Terrence E. McCartney Chair, TGF Conservation Committee

This past year was a challenging one for TGF's conservation efforts. While we did have a few victories in 2004, we are now involved in more significant challenges to the health of our rivers than ever. We need more member involvement if we are to fulfill our mission as a conservation organization. Please make it a point to actively participate in at least one conservation effort in 2005. TGF has been successful over the years because certain TGF members have given countless hours of their free time to work on our conservation projects. Get involved this year!

### The following conservation projects were accomplished in 2004:

**Conservation Fund Dinner** - On June 12, we held our Second Annual Dinner and auction to raise money for the TGF Conservation Fund. Larry Solomon and Ed Van Put were honored for their lifelong commitment to the conservation of our beloved home waters and David Berman served ably as our M.C. and auctioneer. Attendance was up from the inaugural event. Auction items were donated by Dennis & Ellen Skarka at Catskill Flies, Bob Jacklin, Orvis NYC, our guest tyers (Mary Dette, Ted Rogowski, Dick Smith and Mark Romero), Bill Drucker, Howie Strathie and many others. Our sincere thanks go out to all of our generous donors. The event was again a big success and over \$5,000 was raised for the Fund. The Third Annual Dinner will be held on June 4, 2005. Don't miss it!

**Project Access** - This is an annual effort coordinated by TGF involving our group as well as several TU chapters and other organizations from all over the tri-state region. On a bright sunny Saturday in April we gather on the banks of the Beaverkill and Willowemoc to repair the winter storm damage to the half-dozen or so handicapped access points that we have built and maintained over the years. We had a beautiful day and a good turnout so Project Access Day 2004 was one of our best efforts yet. After the work was done, we held our now traditional TGF-sponsored cookout under the pavilion at the Catskill Flyfishing Center & Museum. Good times were had by all.

The next Project Access Day is April 30, 2005. We meet at the Catskill Fly Fishing Center at 9:00 a.m. and will work until we're done. This is an excellent and easy way to participate in an important conservation activity if you are wondering about a way to get involved. It is a good family activity and many members now bring their entire families out for Project Access Day. Conservation Committee member John Merlino will be hosting a post-work barbeque at his home in Livingston Manor this year. Please join us.

**Rock-rolling** - Each year, TGF members spend a day in the fall ensuring that several tributaries on the Delaware are open for the spawning brown trout. We had planned to rock-roll on the Beaverkill as well this year but, for the second year in a row, the water levels were high enough to make rock-rolling unnecessary! In 2005, if water levels are normal we will rock-roll in the fall.

**Delaware River Flows** - We are one year into the three year Experimental Flow Plan. The results from this past year were mixed. Several months out of the year brought excellent conditions and excellent fishing on the Upper Delaware while in other months we had low flows and temperature spikes and their unfortunate consequences - fish kills and insect habitat destruction. After much research and discussion, we,



# Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Inc.

2 0 0 4      A N N U A L      R E P O R T



as an organization, supported the Plan because the alternative was no plan at all. We remain involved in the process with an eye toward making meaningful recommendations for the next plan which will begin in 2007. This past year, we held a special Conservation Committee meeting and a luncheon program with several interested groups (e.g., FUDR, DRF, DEC) to keep the dialogue going and to educate our membership. This is an incredibly complex issue with numerous parties and it will continue to be a challenge for us.

**Belleayre** - This year we became an "interested party," as well as a member of the Catskill Preservation Coalition (CPC), in the administrative proceedings that are underway to study the proposed development of a major ski/golf resort at Belleayre Mountain on the Esopus. The issues conferences have now concluded and we are awaiting the Judge's ruling as to which parties and issues shall advance to the adjudicatory hearings stage that inevitably will determine whether all the necessary permits for the Belleayre Resort shall be issued. The parties filed their legal briefs at the end of December regarding whether or not the Judge should hold formal hearings. Of course, the developer says it has done all it is required to do and formal hearings are unnecessary while we, the CPC and the DEP say that the analysis done by the developer is totally inadequate and fails to comply with the law and that formal hearings are necessary to properly discuss and demonstrate the many problems with the development plan so that it can be altered or the application can be denied entirely.

**Casino Development on the Neversink** - There is a proposal for a massive Indian casino on the banks of the Neversink just off of the Quickway in Thompson. The development will encompass well over a million square feet of casino buildings and tens of thousands of parking spaces right on the banks of the Neversink. The negative impact to the Neversink will be immense and the casino development could ruin the prime fishing waters downstream of the casino which includes the pristine Neversink Gorge. The developer had been required to complete a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project and a public hearing was held to solicit input on the scope of the EIS. TGF appeared at that hearing and provided a detailed written statement demanding a meaningful study of the impact of the project on the Neversink fishery and local environment. We are still awaiting the Draft EIS and will oppose it at every opportunity. We are also opposing the proposed state legislation increasing the permissible number of casinos in the Catskills from three in Ulster/Sullivan County to five only in Sullivan County. Please write your state representative now to tell them you are against this legislation.

**Adopt-a-Stream Program** – TGF became one of the inaugural members of the Federation of Flyfishers national adopt-a-stream program by adopting the Beaverkill this year. In addition to our Project Access and rock-rolling work on the Beaverkill, we will now be conducting periodic clean-ups (May 1 this year) as well as monitoring water and insect conditions on the river. Of course, we will also continue our stream improvement efforts on the river as well. The mouth of Horton Brook remains a problem and we are planning a combined effort with some other conservation groups to correct it this year.





# Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Inc.

2 0 0 4 A N N U A L R E P O R T

## Theodore Gordon FlyFishers, Inc. Statement of Income for year ended October 31, 2004

6

### Income

Membership Dues	15,488.00
Conservation Fund	
Includes Conservation Dinner Proceeds	15,191.00
Annual Day	11,140.00
Luncheons	7,417.00
Connetquot Outing	3,632.00
Merchandise Sales	649.00
Contributions received –	
Trout in the Classroom	570.00
Dividends	307.00
Other	134.00
Total	<u>\$54,528.00</u>

### Expenses

Printing and Production	8,430.00
Luncheons	8,189.00
Postage and Delivery	3,792.00
Annual Day	3,380.00
Grants	3,000.00
DEC Camp Sponsorship	2,925.00
Connetquot Outing	2,900.00
Contributions	2,020.00
Other	1,336.00
Promotional Items	1,176.00
Conservation Dinner	1,000.00
Insurance	725.00
Awards	721.00
Accounting and Bookkeeping	390.00
Dues and Subscriptions	320.00
Bank Charges	268.00
Total	<u>\$40,572.00</u>

Net Income	<u>\$13,956.00</u>
------------	--------------------



# Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Inc.

2 0 0 4    A N N U A L    R E P O R T



**Theodore Gordon FlyFishers, Inc.**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**October 31, 2004**

**Current Assets**

Cash in Bank and Cash Equivalent	
Unrestricted	37,597.00
Restricted TIC	7,299.00
Restricted Conservation Fund	72,300.00
Subtotal	<u>\$117,196.00</u>

**Other Assets**

Art Work and Collections	1.00
Judgment Receivable	1.00
Total	<u>\$117,198.00</u>

**Net Assets**

Unrestricted	37,597.00
Restricted TIC	7,299.00
Restricted Conservation Fund	72,300.00
Total	<u>\$117,196.00</u>





# Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Inc.

2 0 0 4 A N N U A L R E P O R T

## Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Inc. Notes to Financial Statements

### Note 1: Organization

Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Inc. (TGF or the Club) founded in 1962 by Ted Rogowski, Ernie Schwiebert, Lee Wuff, Ed Zern and company, is a club devoted to fly fishing and the conservation, the preservation and reclamation of trout streams and salmon rivers.

### Note 2: Significant Accounting Policies

#### Financial Statement Presentation

The classification of an organizations' net assets and its support, revenue and expenses is based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. It requires that the amounts of three classes of net assets – permanently restricted, temporarily restricted and unrestricted – be displayed in a statement of financial position and that the amounts of change in each of those classes of net assets be displayed in a statement of activities.

These classes are defined as follows:

8

**Permanently Restricted** – Net assets resulting from contributions and other inflows of assets whose use by the Club is limited by donor-imposed stipulations that neither expire with the passage of time nor can be fulfilled or otherwise removed by actions of TGF.

**Temporarily Restricted** – Net assets resulting from contributions and other inflows of assets whose use by the Club is limited by donor-imposed stipulations that either expire with the passage of time or can be fulfilled and removed by actions of TGF in accordance with those provisions. Upon satisfactions of the conditions, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and are reported in the statement of activities and changes in net assets.

**Unrestricted** – Net assets that are neither permanently nor temporarily restricted by donor-imposed stipulations.

#### Basis of Accounting

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

#### Use of Estimates

Accounting estimates, including the underlying assumptions, are an integral part of the financial statements, prepared on behalf of the Club's Officers and Directors, and are based upon their current judgments. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### Contributions

Contributions are recorded as restricted support if they are received with donor-imposed stipulations. When the conditional restriction is accomplished, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and are reported in the statement of activities as net assets released from restrictions.

#### Dues

Revenues received for future dues are deferred to the applicable year.



# Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Inc.

2 0 0 4     A N N U A L     R E P O R T



## Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Inc. Notes to Financial Statements October 31, 2004

### Investments

Investments are generally stated at market value which are determined at quoted market prices. Investments consist primarily of shares of The Dreyfus Money Market Fund, a mutual fund, which holds short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less. Due to the short maturities, the value of these shares approximates market value.

### Inventory

Inventory consists of items bearing the Club's insignia and other merchandise available for sale, stated at the lower of cost or market, using the first-in, first-out method.

### Volunteer Services Performed by Members

The Club relies, in part, upon the services of volunteers to achieve its objectives. While the value of these services is not recorded in the financial statements, the Club's Officers and Directors gratefully acknowledge the collective and tireless efforts of many Club members.

### Note 3: Tax Status

TGF is an Internal Revenue Code 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization and was incorporated in the state of New York.

### Note 4: Dreyfus Money Market Account

The aggregate amount in the Dreyfus Money Market Account as of 10/31/2004 was \$77,887.00 consisting of \$72,300.00 of restricted conservation fund money and \$5,587.00 of unrestricted funds.

### Note 5: Art Work and Collections

Art Work and Collections is stated at a nominal amount of \$1.00 and includes various items owned by TGF that are currently in storage.

### Note 6: Judgment Receivable

The judgment receivable is stated at a nominal amount of \$1.00 and relates to a confession of judgment in the amount of \$102,086.00.

Payments in the amount of \$500 per month have stopped as the result of the death of the payor after the end of the fiscal year. The current value of this receivable has not been determined.

### Note 7: Grants

North Atlantic Salmon Fund	1,000.00
Catskill Mtn. Chapter Trout Unlimited	1,000.00
Catskill Center for Catskill Park Coalition	1,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>





THIS ANNUAL REPORT WAS PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER