

Gordon's Quill

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FALL 2005

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The View From Saltery Lake

A Kodiak Island, Alaska Expedition

James C. Aker

This past March the Theodore Gordon Flyfishers held their 43rd Annual Day Celebration in Manhattan, an enjoyable evening with erudite and interesting speakers and fine Auction and Raffle items to benefit the Conservation Fund. One of the items handed out to several lucky souls were two half-price trips to the Saltery Lake Lodge on Kodiak Island, Alaska. That sent my mind back in time for I am most familiar with the adventure these intrepid souls were about to embark upon.

It has been several years now, but pleasant memories remain of my own Alaskan expedition and the good times we had in the territory of *Ursus arctos middendorffi*, the great brown Kodiak Bear.

Our trip had gotten off to a rocky start with our plane being grounded on the runway at Newark airport due to thunderstorm activity. Todd Snyder, my usual expedition partner and fellow TGF member, was already getting real anxious for us to be on our way and frankly, so was I. If you know Todd, you know that anxious is not a good state of mind for him so the sooner we got off the ground, the better.

When we finally did get up in the air, three hours late, we both regressed to a state that resembled two restless Kodiak Bears waiting for the salmon run, but there was nothing to do but ride it out. We arrived at our midpoint destination in Detroit only to find that the airline had lost our luggage and our connecting flight had departed and there was no other flight until the morning. We resolved to find rooms and start fresh in the morning. It was then that we met the busiest desk clerk in the world. This poor young woman was alone on the desk at the airport Courtyard Marriot and she never stopped running once the entire time we were at the desk, bless her heart. She was just terrific. We booked our rooms, ordered a pizza and wished her a good night as we went off to eat and then to our respective beds hoping for no more problems.

The next morning we took the first flight out to Seattle for we knew from there we could get an Air Alaska flight right to Anchorage. At Seattle however, another fly was cast upon the waters. The Gate Agent for Alaska Air had taken both my ticket for Seattle /Anchorage and Anchorage/Kodiak. So, when we got to Anchorage and I discovered the error, I had to file for a lost ticket and buy a new seat to Kodiak. This combined with the delayed flights did not bode well for the expedition ahead.



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President's Message – FALL '05 GORDON'S QUILL

To steal and mangle a line from a '60s folk song: Where have all the anglers gone – short time ago? TGF has expanded its outing programs over the last couple of years. Last year we sponsored outings on the Farmington River, Shinnecock Park, Housatonic River and, of course, the Connecticut. We also did some fishing in the Catskills in conjunction with Project Access and with the Conservation Fund Dinner. So far this year we've had both Catskills events again, a new outing on the Musconetcong and Pequest Rivers in New Jersey in June and our third annual trip to the Farmington in late July. But where is everybody?



Last year we booked two successive October Saturdays on the Connecticut but, for the first time in memory, we failed to sell out these events. This year, only a corporal's guard turned out in New Jersey and, although there were a couple of new faces, we didn't break ten anglers on the Farmington on a really fine day. We have four more outings slotted this fall: Shinnecock on September 17, Housatonic on October 2 and Connecticut on October 22 and 29. We'd like to see some more TGF members at these events.

So what's happening? Or rather, what's not happening? If anyone has a clue or suggestion, please drop me a line or send me an e-mail at : President@TGF.ORG.



Due to travel commitments and vacations, the TGF Board of Directors was unable to meet in July. When we convened in early August, our meeting came to order only after a flurry of reports on individual fishing trips to Lands Within The Mountains – Colorado, Idaho and other places. We are sure that many other TGF members had fishing trips worth boasting about. For those of you who like to write, now is the time to put pen to paper or finger to keyboard and contribute an article on a good fishing trip to Gordon's Quill. Keep it interesting, informative and add some local color. Photographs are always in order. Send it to: Editor@TGF.ORG



Don't fish! That seems like a very strange message to give an angling and conservation group such as Theodore Gordon Flyfishers. Don't fish for trout in the Beaverkill or the Willowemoc or even the main stem of the Delaware! What is nature doing to us? Almost perfect storms twice ravaged the Catskills watershed during one half of the year and then drought and high temperatures imperiled the rivers in the summer. We humans may be inventive in introducing non-native species such as the brown and rainbow trout to our rivers, but in crunch time – when climate conditions turn hot, nasty and unforgiving – it's time to be sporting and put away our rods and pray that these fish find some refuge from thermal stress so that they can survive until cooler weather and more rain arrives. It's also time to give respect to our native brook trout, a creature that will survive these harsh conditions as it had done for thousands of years in the northeast and elsewhere.

Tight Lines and colder water,

Peter F. Smith

President, Theodore Gordon Flyfishers



TGF Active Membership grows in 2005

James C. Aker

Membership Chairman

In 2005, for the first time in four years, TGF can boast a modest growth in its dues paying members although we must admit that 2005 was not a banner year. This was a reversal of the prior difficult trend in our roll of active members in good standing. Membership had been in decline since 2002, but it is now on a positive trend that bodes well for the future. The Board and I as Membership Chairman, are guardedly optimistic about this change in the trend and the modest increase. We can only hope that the substantial efforts by the Board that have brought this change and that the growth in membership it will continue.

September kicks off our 2006 membership drive. It is therefore fitting for me as Membership Committee Chairman to address each of you about the benefits of membership in TGF and importance of joining anew or renewing your current membership in a timely manner and in making every effort to enlist your flyfishing friends and comrades in Theodore Gordon Flyfishers.

Over the years TGF has been involved in seemingly never ending work with organizations and institutions both public and private to encourage them to conduct themselves and their projects and proposals in an environmentally responsible fashion in the watersheds that TGF helps protect. Certainly the Beamoc watershed and the Delaware watershed would not exist as they are today without past involvement of TGF and its members. The Housatonic River as well is better than ever due to TGF's direct action on river flows last year. Our record of success continues to be impressive, but we cannot rest upon our laurels.

In recent years there have been and continue to be direct attacks on currently accepted environmental policy, conservation legislation, and law enforcement. We believe that in these difficult times we as a conservation organization cannot take a passive stance and still accomplish our mission. The achievements of the last thirty-five years have been and continue to be reversed, ignored or even rendered moot by imprudent bureaucratic decisions and policy changes by uncaring politicians with industry friendly agendas. There are active efforts underway to weaken or render impotent

the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, the Endangered Species Act and the 1964 Wilderness Act. The current ruling regarding the Esopus is a new example of this process and the issues we face. There has rarely in our nation's history been a greater need for the consummate dedication, passionate spirit and indefatigable effort brought to the battle by the membership of Theodore Gordon Flyfishers in addressing such issues.

Looking forward, TGF has many new activities planned and battles to fight. We and other organizations are actively seeking water flow relief for the East Branch of the Delaware River. I hope you all saw and read the email alerts or on the conservation bulletins on the TGF Website in the past few months. There is so much to do.

We officially adopted the lower Beaverkill River this past year. This great river, that occupies such a revered place in the hearts of dry fly fishers everywhere, took a major hit this summer. Warmer than average weather and low water took a deadly toll on the Beamoc watershed and low water records were broken. Both the Beaverkill and the Willowemoc Creek will need several years of average rainfall and temperatures to recover completely. Our stewardship of this river system now becomes a critical component of that recovery.

We are involved in helping to maintain our home waters of the Lower Beaverkill and so far we have cleaned up some of the lower pools and are now expected to provide caretaking activities for this storied stream. We will be out, hopefully in force, to do another cleanup on September 24th, we hope to see many of you there. The TU Catskill Coordinator has also asked TGF to become involved in a project to restore the mouth of Horton Brook, a tributary of the lower Beaverkill. We are now closer to beginning this project as NYC DEP is interested in becoming a partner in this effort. As the official custodians of the Beaverkill, we must be committed to this and other efforts.

Project Access continues. 2005 started as a disaster for Project Access sites as the

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massive rains of the winter of 2004 and the spring of 2005 washed away most of the structures that had been built up over the year and, in one case, completely obliterated the PA ramp and the very river bank it was built upon. The town of Rockland New York is still expecting TGF to assist them in installing yet another Project Access ramp at the new Town Park being constructed on the river. This is gratifying in that TGF has maintained several physically challenged access ramps on both the Willowemoc and the Beaverkill over the years for the benefit of our brother and sister anglers who may otherwise have difficulty reaching the river. One weekend each spring active members of TGF and guests arrive at the Catskill Fly Fishing Center and take up shovels, pruning shears, rakes, and wheelbarrows, and replace all that winter floods have washed away. The work is followed by a barbeque at the center and of course there is fishing in the afternoon. We need your help friends, so watch for the next announcement and please plan to attend this event.

There have been and will continue to be social outings where men and women who share the common interest of angling can gather at a river famous for its wily trout and drop a line on the water to try for some wary salmonid, or simply sit and talk about past superb catches. There have been fine days at the Farmington River, a joint outing with L.I. Salty Fly Rodders is upcoming, and we have Connetquot and Housatonic River outings coming in October that promise to be outstanding. For those who have easy access to Manhattan, a series of TGF lunches will continue at the Union League Club this fall and winter. A schedule is at this moment being finalized and can be found in the calendar elsewhere in this Quill as well as on the website and in the TGF Bulletin. We hope you all will join us.

The always anticipated Annual Day for 2006 is now in its planning stages. Attendance has fallen off over the years and the event, although quite enjoyable at venues such as the celebrated New York Anglers Club in downtown Manhattan, is certainly not what it was in its heyday. But this is not a reason for lamentation, but a call to action. We on the Annual Day Committee are determined to renew this yearly TGF tradition and make it again what it once was. It may take some time, but we are a determined lot and with your help and support, this

will be done. We are actively soliciting your comments and opinions as to what sort of event you would like to see for Annual Day, as you'll see elsewhere in this Quill as well.

Theodore Gordon Flyfishers has been recognized for more than forty years throughout the community of conservation and environmental protection organizations as a formidable force and highly effective advocate for clean waters and healthy fisheries. To that end, your Board of Directors is working tirelessly to revitalize this worthy organization by reorganizing time-honored activities and adding new plans and ideas. But, we need your help. We cannot hope to accomplish triumphs like the Housatonic victory or win battles such as stabilizing water flow on the Delaware River, and all that must be done for the good of coldwater fisheries under our protection without the help and support of our active membership. It takes members who care for the riparian habitat and protecting the fisheries that exist there. It takes members who treasure our heritage of clean air and clean water and will go to great lengths to defend these riches. It takes members who dream of seeing the storied trout and salmon streams of the northeast improved, preserved, and passed on to ensuing generations for their benefit and enjoyment. In short fellow anglers, it takes active members like you!

It is our hope that you will elect to join or to renew your active membership in 2006 and become an active participant in the great work we have ahead of us. It is also our hope that you will encourage your fellow anglers to join this historic organization and stand where men and women like Lee Wulff, Ed Zern, Joan Stoliar, and Arnold Gingrich once stood and where men and women like Ted Rogowski, Joan Wulff Rogowski, Ernest Schweibert, and David Kramer now stand. We hope that you all will join us and stand shoulder to shoulder with these and others dedicated to the fight to save, protect, and preserve our invaluable fisheries.

*If I can be of any assistance or if you have any questions I can be reached at
MEMBERSHIP@TGF.ORG or 908-387-8780.*

Jim

VP - Membership Chairman



TGF Founders Honored

It has been many years since the “Boys at Manny Wolfe’s”, as Arnold Gingrich called them in his short story of the same name, met to discuss the beginnings of the Theodore Gordon Flyfishers. They sat in a back room of the restaurant, Lee Wulff, David Kramer, Ernie Schwiebert, Ted Rogowski, Joe Pisarro, Keith Fulsher, Ed Zern, Gingrich himself and many others. These are the men who founded the club we call today the Theodore Gordon Flyfishers and forged a new idea. It was a new idea that took root and grew year after year, one that has provided countless fly fishers the opportunity to put back a little of what we all gain from practicing the quiet sport.

Well, Manny Wolfe’s is gone and is now Smith & Wollensky of New York. Arnold Gingrich is gone. God rest him and the many of our other founders who have been caught up in the creator’s landing net and found to be keepers. Time and tide wait for no man and much time has passed since the creation of the club by that august body of anglers.

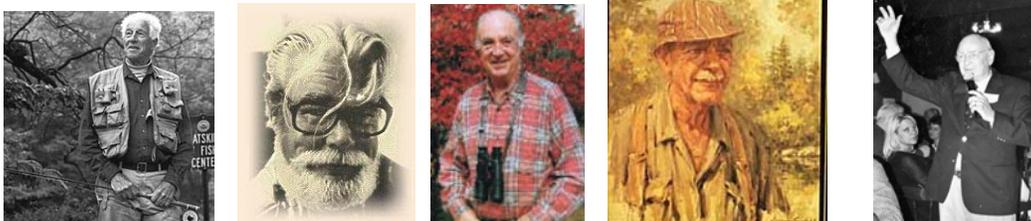
For that reason the Board of Directors of TGF felt it was high time to acknowledge TGF’s debt of gratitude to these twenty-one men. In June of 2005 it was announced at the Conservation Committee Banquet at the Rockland House in Roscoe, NY, that the following are recognized as the Founding Fathers of TGF:

<i>Lee Wulff</i>	<i>R.G. Ed Zern</i>	<i>Arnold Gingrich</i>	<i>David Kramer</i>
<i>Theodore R. Rogowski</i>	<i>Joseph A. Pisarro</i>	<i>Donal C. O’Brien Jr.</i>	<i>Stanley Bryer</i>
<i>Walter C. Khem</i>	<i>Eugene Anderegg</i>	<i>Erwin Edelman</i>	<i>Keith Fulsher</i>
<i>Richard P. Grossenbach</i>	<i>Ernest Schwiebert</i>	<i>Donald F. Leyden</i>	<i>Joseph Kleckner</i>
<i>Eugene Kelly</i>	<i>Richard Robinson</i>	<i>Henry Siegel</i>	<i>Norman Miller</i>
<i>David H. Brophy</i>			

It was also affirmed that Life Memberships would be conferred upon those surviving members of this group, and that a scholarship fund would be set up in the name of the entire group to benefit students in the New York tri-state area.

The Founders Fund Committee has already done considerable work and we are well on the way to having this most important investment in the future in place. It will be called the Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Inc. Founders Fund Scholarship and will be awarded at intervals to deserving students in the areas of Environmental Studies, in such disciplines as Fisheries Management, Environmental Law, and other appropriate fields. It is through this scholarship that we hope that our founders’ names and the heritage they began over forty years ago will live on and continue to foster good work in environmental protection and coldwater fisheries conservation.

Thus do we as an organization pay tribute and say thanks to those who have gone before.



From left to right: Lee Wulff, Ed Zern, Donal O'Brien Jr., Arnold Gingrich, Ted Rogowski



From left to right: Erwin Edelman, Ernie Schwiebert, Keith Fulsher, David Kramer

TGF in Action

Terry McCartney

The Conservation Committee is in the process of planning our projects and events for 2006. We are also monitoring the conditions on our home waters to protect them against harmful use and development. Here is a summary of some current issues and our upcoming activities:

Conservation Fund Dinner Our Third Annual Dinner on June 4th was another successful event. Approximately 70 people attended and we raised over \$5,000 for conservation. The Conservation Award was presented to Clem Fullerton and Phil Chase, two well-deserving TGFers who have devoted much of their lives to improving our home waters. Thanks to everyone who supported the event and especially our generous major donors Orvis New York, Catskill Flies, Nick Lyons, Phil Chase and the Reynold's House. The inaugural Clearwater Junction fly tying event was a big success thanks to the tireless efforts of event organizer Mark Romero. We look forward to building this into a major annual event along with the Dinner.

Rock-Rollers Needed Longtime TGF stalwart Ed Ostapczuk has alerted us that he has noticed an increase in the number of impassable barriers made by kids this year to create "swimming holes" on some of the tributaries in our area, particularly in the NYS Forest Preserve Lands. Anyone who has ever "rock rolled" knows that this is a common problem that must be corrected before the fall spawning runs begin. All you have to do is spend a few minutes knocking down the barriers and the water level will drop quickly and the channel will reform quickly. We are asking all TGFers to be on the lookout for this situation and to take them down wherever they are found. It is not difficult, anyone can do it. (See Notes from the Field in another section of the Quill, Editor)

Belleayre Highlands Resort Development We are a member of the Catskill Preservation Coalition (along with TU, the Sierra Club and others) that is opposing a huge resort development near the existing state-operated Belleayre Mountain Ski Center in the towns of Shandaken and Middletown within the Catskill Park. The resort proposes two 18 hole golf courses and two large resort hotels on separate sites. There were a number of hearings in 2004 during which information was presented to an administrative law judge, focusing on the DEIS submitted by the developer. We argued that the DEIS was inadequate to properly assess the environmental impacts related to aquatic habitat, storm water management and water supply issues. The judge has been deliberating on whether the DEIS is adequate or if further inquiries are required to properly determine the environmental impacts of the project. We have just found out today [Sept. 7] that Judge Wissler ruled in our favor on the issues we care about and has issued a 167 page decision outlining additional information that must be produced before the development can proceed. We have not yet prevailed but this is a very positive development.

Beaverkill As you know, we have officially "adopted" the Beaverkill as a part of the FFF's national Adopt-a-Stream program and there is a plaque commemorating that fact near Cairn's Pool. We are responsible for monitoring the Beaverkill and working to keep it clean and fishable. To that end, we have started monitoring stream conditions and held a clean up day back in April and another one is planned for October 15th. Please save the date and come out and help. You can pick up a stream monitoring worksheet at Catskill Flies in Roscoe the next time you fish. Thanks for your help.

Delaware River Flows This was a bad summer on the main stem. Water temps were very high and flows were low. The scenario that we were worried about came to fruition: the Experimental Flow Plan was in effect (so minimal releases were being made from the reservoirs) and the increased flows that enter the main stem via the Lackawaxen (which is above the Montague flow gauge) as PPL made money selling power in July and August allowed the DEP to write off the main stem above the Lackawaxen because the flow target at Montague was still being met. We mounted an impressive letter-writing campaign but the bureaucrats sat on their hands and did nothing. Thanks to all of you who helped. Things should improve with the lower air temps and increased rains we get this time of year but unless something is done, we'll see the same problems next summer.

Bumps Eddy Parking Several people alerted us to the fact that the Bumps Eddy parking area was being removed by the DOT because of the complaints of a local landowner. We and several other groups intervened and started asking hard questions of the Region 4 DEC folks and it appears that it will be resolved in a reasonable fashion that will allow fishermen to use the access in the future. Special thanks goes out to Ed Van Put for calling his fellow fisheries managers on the carpet and getting them to take action. Ed won our Conservation Award in 2004 and continues to earn his stripes every day.

Indian Casino on the Neversink The Legislature went home for the summer without approving a new casino bill so we have dodged this bullet in the short term. It will certainly resurface and we will continue our efforts to keep the proposed casino on the Neversink from opening its doors.

200th

ANNIVERSARY OF THE LEWIS & CLARK EXPEDITION

By: Peter Smith

We are still celebrating the 200th anniversary of the Lewis & Clark Expedition, certainly one of the greatest land explorations in history. Scores and scores of history buffs entranced by the feats of the Corps of Discovery have spent some of the last two years following some or all of its trail from St. Louis to the West Coast and back. As anglers, many TGF members have been west to fish in the same rivers followed by the expedition. The anniversary provides us with the opportunity to look at one aspect of the expedition that interests all of us – fishing.

Naturally, the expedition saw fish as a good source of food as it traveled by boat along the Platte, Missouri, Columbia and other western rivers. Mention of fish occasionally occurred in the journals kept by both Meriwether Lewis and William Clark. Before they set out, fishing tackle was obtained from one George Lawton in Philadelphia. The first piscatorial mention by Clark is in July of 1804 and that is of catfish on the Platte River, which he wrote were plentiful and *“very fat, a quart of Oile Came out of the surpolous fat of one of [them].”* The next mention of fish is almost a year later, when on June 11, 1805 Captain Clark records that one of his men, Silas Goodrich, caught dozens of fish of two kind near the Great Falls of the Missouri River. (If there is not a Silas Goodrich chapter of Trout Unlimited, there ought to be as he was the chief fisherman on the expedition.) We can be certain that one of those species was the cutthroat trout (the other is said to be whitefish) because Clark wrote a detailed description of the trout, including the observation that the fish had red slashes near the underside of its jaw. (The scientific name of the cutthroat bears the captain's name: *Oncorhynchus clarki*.) Of those Great Falls cutthroats, Lewis's journal noted that the men had a *“really sumptuous”* meal of trout and buffalo, which I guess is the early prairie version of surf and turf. Some of those fish were even dried and stored in their boats for later consumption.

A month later the expedition crossed the Continental Divide and was on the Lemhi River where it met up with a band of friendly Indians. Both parties shared a meal during which Captain Lewis was given a piece of fresh salmon, a fact that helped convince him the Corps of Discovery was truly on its way to the Pacific Ocean. On August 18, 1805 Lewis ordered his men to set out a net to catch *“trout which we could see in great abundance at the bottom of the river.”* Their camp was on a river that may have been a tributary of the Columbia. Three days later the expedition visited an Indian village where Captain Clark observed a fishing weir and described how the Indians used bone-tipped spears against fish trapped by the weir. The next day, Lewis had the men enter the river with a *“bush drag”* and in two hours they caught 528 *“very good fish, most of them large trout.”* Talk about a honey hole! Based on Lewis's description below, perhaps the reader can identify the fish:

“They are a silver color except on the back and head, where they are of a bluish cast. The scales are much larger than the speckled [Eastern brook] trout, but in their form, position of their fins, teeth, mouth &c are precisely like them. They are not generally quite as large but equally well flavored.”

As the expedition began its way down the west slope of the Rocky Mountains on the Snake and Columbia Rivers to the Pacific Ocean in the fall of 1805, the fish almost exclusively mentioned in the journals is salmon. In almost every Indian village were seen great numbers of salmon drying on scaffolds. Indians gave the white men boiled salmon to eat. Clark provided a detailed description of how the Indians dried and pounded salmon into 100 pound baskets for preservation. In one place, he saw an estimated 10,000 pounds of dried fish that was to be used as both food and for trade with other Indians.

In February, 1806, when Lewis and Clark were thinking of their return trip to the east from their camp on the Columbia River, Indians told them of a large herring run they could expect in March. The captains also became aware of just how keen the coastal Indians knew the habits of salmon as the latter predicted the arrival of fish on the full moon due in early May. When the first of that year's salmon arrived early on April 19, one of them was caught by the Indians, divided up and shared among their children, a custom of theirs to promote fishing luck. Lewis also mentioned that the Indians caught *“a few salmon of the white kind.”* In May the expedition was headed back on the Kooskooske River and it had almost run out of food. The only thing it had left to eat was roots. Like the Indians, it anxiously awaited the arrival of salmon but by the time the expedition

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Barrier Dams

[The following are two edited messages that we received from Ed Ostapczuk. Ed is a loyal correspondent and, as you'll see below, an avid coldwater conservationist too. He has some good observations and a recommendation that's worth your time and consideration. As Terry McCartney notes in his Conservation Report in this issue, these stone barriers are a real issue that we can act on with considerable effect on the Rock Rolling Day, September 24 this year. Editor]

Sept. 3rd – The Hollow: It's Labor Day weekend so we usually avoid travel and stay close to home working on chores. Surprisingly for a change I finished the day's list, and a few more, so I asked Lois if she would mind me fishing a couple hours before dinner. "Go ahead" was the response.

The Esopus Creek was not much of an option today. It was high and turbid from the scheduled Recreational Water Release; instead I decided to explore a favorite mountain hollow. I arrived to find the last remnants of summer users, impassable stone dams built to create "swimming holes".

Since this is Labor Day weekend, the unofficial end of summer is upon us. Kids will be back in school and the "dog days" should be done, but these rock structures left intact will severely impact the autumn spawning of brown and brook trout. Chances are good that spring high waters will take out these dams, but under normal fall low water conditions they become impassable barriers for wild trout migrating upstream to perform their annual ritual of reproduction. I don't think the summer folks who built these stone dams were unscrupulous people at all. But since they left them intact, I just do not believe they truly understand much about outdoor life cycles.

I spent 1 1/2 hours exploring my mountain brook during which time I breeched 3 barrier dams and still had time to catch 4 wild brown trout on a #14 Elk Hair Stone Fly. Two pictures of the most adverse rock barrier are attached. This brook is not stocked and is dependent solely upon the natural reproduction of wild trout. The stream supports wild browns, rainbows, and brook trout; two of these three species will be spawning shortly in the weeks ahead.

I would ask all anglers who read this message to consider breeching impassable barriers wherever they encounter them this autumn. Personally I find the vast majority of these dams on NYS Forest Preserve Lands in high use areas, mostly near campsites. You don't need a permit to open these. However, I would certainly ask permission to do so on private property and also use this opportunity to educate the landowner about the importance of this action. Even if you personally don't fish mountain brooks, consider the fact that many serve as wild trout recruitment areas for our larger Catskill Rivers. And if you have a bad back, welcome to the club. When I turned 40 seventeen years ago I developed chronic back problems. Be smart about what you do; take your time and don't over do it.

Anyone can do this. You don't have to be a card holding member of some fishing or conservation club, but you need to act as a steward of our wild trout streams. It's been a dry summer, our mountains are parched, our creeks are low, and autumn spawning of trout is just a few short weeks away.

"Whatever is important to the many who long for the magic of trout, whether it be love of family and friends, the oneness with nature, the call of the wild or more, a river truly does run through it all. But

The New Annual Day Celebration

The TGF Board solicits its members' comments

James C. Aker/Membership Chairman

Each year almost since its beginnings, Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Inc. has held an Annual Day Celebration. The Annual Day served two purposes. It allowed our membership to gather for the required Annual Meeting to vote on a slate of Directors and of course on proposals for changes to our charter. It also allowed members to meet in the evening for a nice dinner together, to tell fishing tales, hear an interesting speaker, and to take part in fund raising activities such as equipment shows, auctions and raffles.

Some of these activities have faded away with time. There was the inception of the big Somerset, New Jersey Fly Fishing Show, so a TGF Annual Day with exhibits and vendors seemed redundant to both members and vendors. Interest in the Annual Dinner has waned each year despite changing venues, and the cost for such an event is now perhaps prohibitively high.

There has been much debate amongst the members of the Board of Directors as to the direction to take with respect to Annual Day. Should we hold it at the NY Anglers Club or should it be some other establishment? Should we split the Annual Meeting from the Annual Dinner and hold each on a different day? Are weekends or weekdays best for such an event? Should we even hold an Annual Dinner in the first place?

For many of us, the TGF Annual Dinner is the beginning of trout season and an event warmly anticipated and thoroughly enjoyed. Others have never attended and are satisfied to read about it in the Quill. All of this has been hotly debated I assure you, for several months. One point is apparent. We can, as an organization, no longer continue going in the direction we have maintained for almost 40 years with respect to the Annual Day Diner. Each year TGF loses money on this event and each year the turnout is smaller and smaller.

That is why ladies and gentlemen, the board is soliciting your comments and suggestions:

Should we continue to hold the annual event?

What should the TGF Annual Day comprise?

Should we continue to hold the Annual Meeting on the same day as the Annual dinner or should we split the meetings?

What venue would you like to see? (Please remember that the majority of our membership hails from New York State and New York City).

Do you think we should try and reinstate the TGF Show and if yes what vendors would you like to see there?

Is a full sit down dinner in order or would a less formal cocktail party be in order? Are you willing to volunteer your services to help in the planning and organization of such an event?

You get the idea. We are looking for any and all comments and suggestions on what you our members want to see and do for a TGF gathering in the spring of 2006. We need your help in planning this TGF tradition.

Please e-mail your comments to INFO@TGF.ORG or if you do not have e-mail, please mail your comments to: Annual Day Committee TGF P.O Box 2345 Grand Central Station New York, NY 10163-2345 by October 30th, 2005. 



Continued from page 1 **The View From Saltery Lake**

We finally arrived in Kodiak late that evening sans further incident, and checked into our hotel for a good night's sleep. The following morning we toured the town and bought a few articles and took a few snapshots and returned to our hotel to meet our host. There we were met by Doyle Hatfield, one of the business managers of The Saltery Lake Lodge, who greeted us as if we were old friends home from a long trip.

We loaded our luggage into the back of a well-worn four wheel drive truck and we were off to meet with Doyle's partner and co-manager, Bill Franklin. On the way Doyle explained that it was his intention for us to be flown out to the lodge via float plane which was kept on a lagoon outside of Bill's home.

Bill does all the flying for the outfit and that was what he was hoping to do for us if the weather, which was bad, cooperated. Otherwise, the only other way was a four to five hour kidney busting trip on about thirty five miles of the worst road in the western hemisphere.



The road between Kodiak and Saltery Lake travels a fairly straight course along a mountain valley. It does however have holes in it that are named for the amount of money it will cost you to have a tow truck come out from town to pull your 4X4 out of them. There is, "Five Hundred Dollar Hole" and "Thousand Dollar Hole" and my favorite "Refrigerator Hole" because it has a full size refrigerator standing upright in it and you cannot see the top. Needless to say, we wanted to fly if possible.

At last, the Gods of travel were kind to us and the streak of transportation bad luck we had been having since the start of our trip came to an abrupt end; a window had opened in the weather. Swiftly we loaded and boarded the single engine float plane at the dock. After an exciting water takeoff from the lagoon, we quickly took to the air again and went winging westward towards our destination lodge and hopefully fine Sockeye fishing.



Bill proved to be a most experienced and careful Alaskan bush pilot, and our trip was beautiful and without incident. He circled the areas we were going to be fishing to give Todd and I a bird's-eye view of the terrain.



Kodiak Island is known as the

Emerald Isle of Alaska and with good reason. Everything that is not under water is covered with the verdant color of plant life. Not only was the lush vegetation plentiful, there were herds of buffalo and wild horses seen from the air, leftovers from a bygone era of failed cattle ranches and buffalo for meat operations. Of course there are also the bears.



Largest of the ursine species, the male Kodiak bear stands from nine to eleven feet tall when on his hind legs and can weigh up to 1500 lbs. His paws are twice the size of the average man's head and could easily remove said head with one swipe. Although solitary and non-aggressive by nature they do congregate when the Salmonberries are ripe or there is a salmon run in the river. They are particularly fond of Coho or Silver Salmon as they are know here and fishermen are wise to give right of way to these the true sovereigns of the wilds of Kodiak Island.

We landed within minutes on Saltery Lake itself and taxied back to the dock in front of the lodge and disembarked to meet the management and staff.





Saltery Lake Lodge is located directly on the banks of the Saltery Lake near Ugak Bay on the Pacific Ocean side of Kodiak Island. The two rivers that we fished extensively were the Saltery Creek and the Rough Creek.

Saltery Creek is a lake system stream with plentiful vegetation and high nutrient value. As a result, this is the primary salmon river in the area. The Sockeye make their run upstream every summer going from bright silver to deep red and green as they approach the Saltery Lake. The lake itself is home to a substantial fishery of Artic Char and Rainbow Trout, as well as the salmon. From there, Christmas colored hump backed Reds move upstream to the spawning beds where they lay their eggs and fertilize them and then die off in large numbers, their carcasses

providing protein for the carnivorous population of bears, red foxes, and eagles. What does not get eaten or carried inland to dens, aeries, and lairs, rolls back downstream to the Lake enriching the entire system with nutrients for next year's fry and paar. Saltery Creek measures from 15 to 40 feet across and is shallow enough to wade throughout most of the area.

The Rough Creek is by contrast a sterile environment with little or no vegetation and is a spring fed stream with no lake in its system. It is therefore host to a variety of piscivorous salmonids. The spring fed side channels or "slews" of the lower stream are home to huge schools of spawning Chum or Dog Salmon in the late summer season. It is also home to a population of Pink or Humpy Salmon that are almost always to be found when the Sockeye are running in the Saltery Creek. Another denizen of both rivers, but found in population and size in Rough Creek are the Dolly Varden Trout.

Actually a Char, the electric blue Dollies are a welcome change from the rigors of salmon fishing and provide a tremendous fight, and good eating as they are andronomous as well.

Our first full day out, and after a delicious breakfast courtesy of Camp manager and Cook, Scott Johnson and his assistant Susie Knoll, we fished the Saltery Creek with our guide Joe Solakian. Joe proved to be a man of few words, but as a certified master guide he was long on knowledge and good company for the hours astream. The Sockeye run had just begun about a week before our arrival and was building up nicely according to Joe. We found in just a few hours that we should take Joe at his word. The fly of choice for these silver beauties was an odd sort of arrangement. It was a wisp of yellow rabbit fir tied to a gold egg hook. It was simply fished streamer style on a six weight floating line into a pod of fish. We hooked many and landed some. We kept some of the cock fish but let all the hens go. Since this journey is to be their last, catch and release only makes sense for the hens with their load of eggs. They should be allowed to continue up stream to spawn and insure the continuation of the species. Besides, there is nothing quite like going home with a nice brace of salmon for the smoker that you have caught on your own.



At about 12:30 PM either Kris Poston or Jeff Breidenbach the assistant guides would roar up on an ATV and announce lunch was eminent. They would also take our catch back to the freezer to be dressed and prepared for smoking. After a delicious lunch back at the lodge, we headed out for fishing the Rough Creek in the afternoon.

This proved to be a different kind of fishing. We were after Pinks and Dollies and the fly of choice was a Deceiver in green and white. We fished these down the feeding lanes of the various riffles and rapids letting them slowly slip down the lane always mending to keep the line in the rapid, and then retrieving them with a rhythmic strip of six to ten inches of line at a time. If there were a fish there invariably he would take with an explosive attack. As I mentioned before, the Rough Creek is nearly devoid of insect life, so its trout and salmon are cannibals ready to pounce on any smaller fish. The Dollies were savage in their pursuit of the deceiver and they were all great fish.

The Pinks in the river also presented quite a fight and were great sport. Many were still quite silver from their time in the sea and the Ugak Bay which was just to our right as we fished downstream. You could hear the sound of the waves breaking on the black sand beach on the other side of the berm that separated fresh water from salt. An occasional commercial boat would make its way along that shore and the radio towers and flying bridge could be seen from Fox Run on the Creek.

Continued on page 14

responsibility is a cross we all must bear. And like it or not, we are the ones who will determine how the resources are maintained and, ultimately, how the sacredness of their spirit is preserved." - Jerry Kustich, At the River's Edge

If we avid trout fishers don't act in good faith, don't expect anyone else to either. Ed

Sept. 4th – Vernooy Kill: We went to the animal fair, the birds and the bees were there..... No, no, no, no, sorry 'bout that. Lois and I went to early Mass and than the Art and Crafts Fair held at the Ulster County Fairgrounds in New Paltz. Afterwards we had a superb lunch at the Gilded Otter with some liquid libation brewed with flavored grain and hops made at this local microbrewery; we both highly recommend this place. At the Crafts Fair we intelligently invested in only purchases that were bare essentials, enough to earn me a few hours fishing on the Vernooy Kill on our way back home.

The Vernooy Kill flows through the old Lundy property acquired by NYS a few years ago. It is managed as part of the Sundown Wild Forest and is perhaps the most southeastern portion of the Catskill Forest Preserve. There is very easy access to this area just off Route 209. It's gorgeous water, flowing through a wild forest, containing brook trout and browns, both stocked and wild. As much as I like the Vernooy Kill, I don't fish it much. When I'm in the area I'm probably heading towards the lower Neversink in search of large browns. So I was very much looking forward to today, all of it.

I entered the Vernooy Kill under a dense, well shaded forest canopy. The stream was cold, but low. Looking up the left bank bordered a private estate while the right bank was NYS lands; both banks contained majestic hemlock, leafy rhododendron, and grassy ferns. I pictured myself lost in the Great Smokey Mountains National Park somewhere, it was that exquisite. Judging by the walk back to my Subaru when I finished fishing this section, I probably worked upstream at least a half mile in one hour's time. Using a #14 Elk Hair Stone Fly, I caught 6 brook trout and 3 browns; I also managed to breach one impassable stone dam. My guess is that all the trout were wild.

We relocated once downstream about one third mile below where I had seen a large obtrusive barrier dam. I breached this also and than wandered this section of water for about 45 minutes. The stream was much sunnier here allowing me to easily see all the trout I had spooked. However, before quitting at 4:30 PM, I did manage to take one additional small brown.

Opening the dams is NOT a very time consuming or hard task to do. Today the Vernooy Kill height dropped some 12" above the one dam pictured once I breached it. Spawning brook and brown trout probably will not be able to navigate these barriers during normal fall low water conditions we are experiencing this year.

We had ideal Indian summer weather, did a crafts fair, and enjoyed a local beer; I killed two barrier dams, and still managed to catch ten trout. But best of all, I got to spend this time with my bride, a PERFECT TEN DAY!

"It is a constant distraction, and fishing is all I can think of. Fortunately, I have one stabilizing factor in my life; otherwise, work, family, and everything that resembles responsibility would undoubtedly go unattended while I chase trout. Like so many who suffer from this affliction, it is my wife who keeps in me line." – Rene Harrop, Trout Hunter

So that's it from Paradise. Ed 

Changing the Rules:

How to Reverse a Legal Decision, The Esopus Case

[The following is the latest information forwarded by Terry McCartney on the Esopus Case which TGF participated in, sent abby the Pace Environmental Litigation Clinic. He reports that it represents a significant threat to the victory in this case which we have been justly proud of, and unfortunately indicates that "it ain't over 'til its over" and TGF has work to do on this issue again. A bit of emphasis added in bold.

Editor]

Folks,

My apologies in advance for the long update but a lot has been happening and we wanted to make sure to keep you all in the loop...

As you may know, an Adjudicatory Hearing before DEC Administrative Law Judge Helene Goldberger is set to begin on October 17, 2005. This hearing, which will function much like a trial, will allow Judge Goldberger to rule on the major issues regarding the proposed permit for New York City's discharge of mud and silt from the Shandaken Tunnel into Esopus Creek.

At the same time, we are still awaiting a date for oral argument in the appeal currently before the Second Circuit Court of Appeals, in which the City is essentially asking that Court to reverse its prior October 2001 decision (the decision which sent this case back to the District Court and led us to trial in this matter in 2003).

Here's the bad news: Recently, on August 5, 2005, EPA issued an interpretation of the Clean Water Act which stated that the Second Circuit Court of Appeals' reading of the Clean Water Act in our initial case was wrong, and that inter-basin transfers of water such as the one conveyed by the Shandaken Tunnel **do NOT** require NPDES permits under the Clean Water Act, as the Clean Water Act was not intended to govern such discharges.

Despite the fact that an EPA interpretation does not overturn a federal court ruling, the City seized on this opportunity to ask the Second Circuit for permission to file a supplemental brief in its appeal of this case, in which they have argued that the Second Circuit Court of Appeals should either reverse its prior decision in light of this new interpretation or wait until EPA makes a rule on this specific issue (which generally takes about 7 years). The Second Circuit has not yet decided whether or not to accept the City's additional brief, and has still yet to schedule a date for oral argument in this case.

Last week, the City filed papers with Judge Scullin in the District Court asking him to stay the permit proceedings and order an injunction against the DEC, barring them from conducting any further proceedings in this matter until the Second Circuit has the chance to rule on the appeal.

Obviously, **we strongly disagree** with 1) EPA's recent politically-driven interpretation, 2) New York City's rationale that this interpretation somehow warrants further delay in the permit proceedings and 3) New York City's legal basis for arguing that the District Court has the jurisdiction to enjoin the state permit proceedings (not to mention all of the arguments the City made in its supplemental brief to the Second Circuit, which are equally outrageous).

We will be filing our response to NYC's motion this Friday. We expect to hear a decision from Judge Scullin early next week and will keep you posted as this latest drama develops.

Hope you are all doing well and we look forward to seeing you all soon.

Thanks,

Craig & Laura

*Craig Michaels, Laura Bucher
Legal Interns
Pace Environmental Litigation Clinic
Pace University School of Law
78 North Broadway, E Building
White Plains, NY 10603*



The View From Saltery Lake

It was there on Rough Creek that my fishing buddy Todd made the acquaintance of some of the Island's more bovine natives. There are several herds of wild buffalo wandering Kodiak Island.



When the cattle ranches all failed as a result of attacks of the Kodiak Bear, experiments were tried with Buffalo. Although Buffalo had the strength and wherewithal to fend off the bears, the experiment failed and the herds serve as a reminder of the past. In any case several of these big brown grunting females took quite a shine to our Todd. I yelled to him that he better be careful that the big one out front was winking at him. His comment was "As long as I can swim, I'm not in any trouble!" Joe yelled that as long as he didn't make any sudden move towards them, he was in no trouble." So there he stood, fishing among the Bison.

The Horses presented a bit of a problem as well. If you got too close to his family, a stallion would charge you but swiftly retreat if you stood your ground. We tried to steer clear of them so as to not create a situation. They are beautiful to behold moving swiftly over the plains. Seeing all this pristine and wild beauty made one think that this must have been the way the Native American saw this land perhaps as far back as thirty thousand years ago minus the horses of course.



At 6:30PM or thereabouts, we returned to the lodge for a rustic, but sumptuous dinner with Doyle and the Lodge Staff and Guides and after dinner we were free to wander at will. Todd decided to take part in the Midnight Monopoly tournament that went on each evening at the main lodge and I went down to the Lake to do a little evening catch and release fishing for Rainbows and Char and perhaps a Sockeye in full spawning color.

This is how it went in the land of the Midnight sun. Typically we went to bed by 11:00 PM for that is when the generator was shut down for the night. At first it was strange to be going to bed while it was still light out, but fatigue from the busy day finally got the better of me and drifted off and slept like a stone despite my cabin mate's serious wood cutting through the night. He must have at least 6 cords done every morning with all that racket going on. Luckily, I was too tired to listen.



We arose each morning at 06:30 and reported for breakfast a little sore from all the casting, but game for another fine day on the river. Each morning was filled with mist and promise and we ate quickly, eagerly anticipating more action on the rivers. On the third day Joe took us to the Saltery Creek and we called on the local conservation officer who does the fish counts for the stream. It was most interesting to see a counting weir in action. The State of Alaska does some things right with respect to its salmon resource. Above is one pictured one of them.

Evenings at the lodge were very restful and necessary after an active day in the pursuit of fine fish in beautiful landscape.

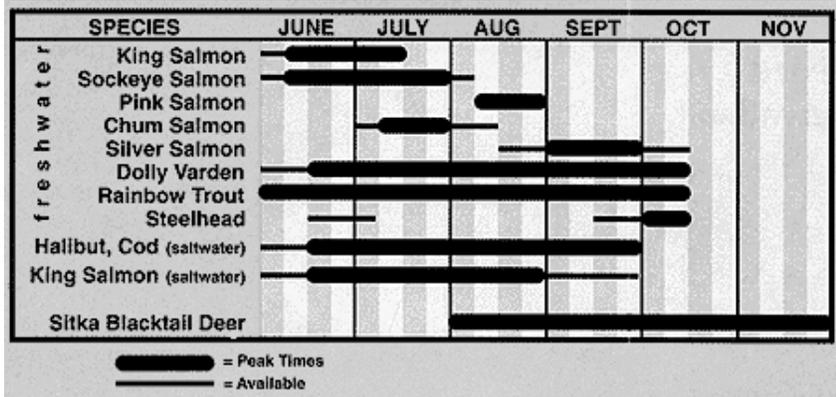


While we were there we made the acquaintance of a very foxy lady. As you can see by the picture, they don't come any foxier than this. She had become a sort of unofficial mascot at the lodge that summer. She was nursing a litter of kits in the area and was very friendly particularly if you had any food to give to her. She kept me company down at the lake shore in the evening, lying down on the bank and folding her paws up under her and watching me fish.

The week by went so fast, it hardly seemed as if we had just gotten started when it was time to go. Todd and I packed our bags and put them in the cart to be wheeled up to the dock, to be ferried out on the little blue plane with our frozen catch on the first flight. We would be on the second flight back to Kodiak. We policed our area and said our goodbyes to the wonderful staff and the Lodge and hoped to visit again sometime in the future.

Saltery Lake Lodge is located on the Eastern side of Kodiak Island. It is a rustic refuge amidst natural splendor. The Lodge itself is comfortable and the cabins are bunk-house style with hot and cold running water and a single bathroom and shower per cabin. The beds are comfortable and kept clean with crisp linen courtesy of Ms. Knoll.

The lodge itself was founded by Jim and Dot Magoffin, two of the most famous pilots in Alaska history. Jim Magoffin is the founder of Alaska Interior Airways, now Mark Air, and along with his wife are two of the great pioneers of aviation in America's 49th State. The Lodge offers Fishing and Photography adventures. They specialize in Sockeye and Coho Salmon and Dolly Varden Trout, as well as Pink Salmon and Chum Salmon with a small Rainbow Trout fishery in the Lake. Each package includes round-trip transportation to and from the lodge, cabin lodging with cleaning service, fish cleaning, packing and freezing, all your meals, shower and bath facilities, fishing assistance from an experienced staff. The best time of year for the various species can be seen on the following graph:



The management of the lodge business is handled by Doyle Hatfield and Bill Franklin. Reservations can be made through either of these two gentlemen. They can be reached at 1-800-770-5037 or Emailed at info@saltery-lake.com.

If you are interested in fishing over many fish and crave the action of leaping salmon then Saltery Lake Lodge is for you. I want to return someday and once you take part in the Saltery Lake Lodge experience, so will you!



**200th ANNIVERSARY OF THE
LEWIS & CLARK EXPEDITION**

arrived in the Rockies the salmon had yet to make their appearance in appreciable numbers or the rivers were too high to safely attempt to fish for them. When a few salmon were finally caught, Clark said they were so fat that no grease was necessary to cook them and they were "extremely delicious."

The final mention in the journals of fishing occurred at Collins Creek in the Bitterroot Mountains. Unfortunately, to our modern eyes the scene seems ignoble. Some of the men engaged in a practice that still happens in the less sporting enclaves of northern New England, shooting at the fish with guns. They had no success.

As Lewis and Clark reentered the Great Plains, four-footed animals again became plentiful. Fishing was no longer mentioned in the journals. But the next time one of us wades into a western river, we ought to pause a moment and try to imagine the sight of those brave men in their pirogues coming up a river 200 years ago, perhaps even trolling a fishing line. We would thus acknowledge the great accomplishments of the Corps of Discovery. And then we could tie on a fly.

NOTE: This essay is primarily based upon Bernard DeVoto's 1953 edited account of the journals of Lewis and Clark. I would think that there are other accounts of fish and fishing in the actual, multi-volume journals. The reader's attention is also directed to page 327 of Steven Ambrose's Undaunted Courage (Simon & Schuster, 1996) upon which there is a reproduction of a trout drawn by Lewis.



Proposed Members' Directory

We have received a number of suggestions that we publish a new Members' Directory. The Directory would be the "TGF Phone Book" so to speak and would include each member's name, address and phone number and an e-mail address where available in a printed volume. The TGF Directory would only be distributed to TGF members in good standing, and would and should not be used for commercial purposes.

We would like to hear from you about this proposal. Is this a tool that you will find useful? Is it something you agree with or would you prefer this information not be published, even within TGF?

Please let us know if you have comments and preferences on this idea by October 31st of 2005. E-mail Jim Aker at Membership@TGF.org or send a note to: Membership Chairman TGF P.O. Box 2345 Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163-2345.

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Horton Brook We are about to become a member of the "Horton Brook Conservation Initiative" along with the DEC, DEP and TU, with the goal of fixing the continued problems with the flows at the mouth. The large gravel deposits that clog the mouth originate 2 miles upstream at a site where years ago the City deposited dirt and gravel that came out of a tunnel as the reservoir system was being built. We hope to establish this cooperative effort to solve this problem that continues to worsen and threaten this valuable tributary. More to follow on this....

If you want to get involved with any of these projects or have a project in mind, get involved in the Conservation Committee. It's easy - we meet once a month at my office at 113 East 37th Street in New York City for most of the year and hold our meetings in Roscoe during the summer. Our meetings typically last about an hour and a half.

If you are interested, please contact Terry McCartney at 212-684-1880 (days) or 914-835-1961(nights) or by e-mail at mccartney@aol.com.



Catskill Preservation Coalition

Lauds Judge's Call for Adjudication of 12 Issues in Mega-Resort Proposal

Arkville, NY, September 7, 2005

In a far reaching, thorough and momentous ruling, DEC's Administrative Law Judge Wissler will require adjudication of twelve issues in connection with the proposed Belleayre Resort at Catskill Park.

The Catskill Preservation Coalition (CPC) today commended Judge Wissler's work in evaluating the proposed Belleayre Project and requiring further inquiry with respect to its environmental impacts. The Judge cited the following issues as requiring adjudication: "(1)Water Supply and Groundwater and Surface Water Impacts; (2) Aquatic Habitat Impacts; (3) Stormwater Impacts; (4) Impacts to the Catskill Forest Preserve; (5) Impacts to Wildlife; (6) Noise Impacts; (7) Traffic Impacts; (8) Visual Impacts; (9) Impacts to Community Character; (10)Secondary and Induced Growth Impacts; (11) Cumulative Impacts; and (12) Alternatives (to the current proposal)."

CPC spokesman Tom Alworth, director of the Catskill Center for Conservation and Development, said the ruling "dramatically confirms what our Coalition of groups has long contended: that the development would cause significant and pervasive adverse impacts that need to be aired and addressed in a public forum for all to see and hear. That is what the environmental review process is all about."

The 12 organizations comprising the CPC pronounced themselves "very pleased that Judge Wissler has found that the issues we raised are substantive and significant and need to be adjudicated," said Alworth.

"The ruling recognizes that open space and the Catskill's natural resources are the engine that drives smart economic development in the Catskills-as well as being the key to quality of life-and anything that compromises it needs to be examined thoroughly, deliberately, and very carefully," said Marc Gerstman, lead attorney for the CPC. "With his forthright statements on the substance and significance of the issues we've raised, the Judge has made an important and welcome statement for sustainability in the region."

The CPC argued for adjudication of the issues as part of its legal challenge to the mega-resort proposal.

In his ruling of September 7, 2005, Judge Richard A. Wissler of the state's Department of Environmental Conservation, lead agency for the review, determined that an even dozen issues raised by the CPC were both "substantive and significant" and "require further inquiry." An issue must be deemed to be "substantive and significant" to meet the legal requirement for the adjudication process-effectively, a trial-like proceeding with witnesses and cross-examination-and Judge Wissler found that the requirement was met for issues ranging from water supply to quality of life and community character, from impacts on wildlife and their habitat to the developer's failure to propose alternatives to the current proposal for a mega-resort.

The Catskill Preservation Coalition represents a collective membership of some 100,000 and reflects a wide range of interests including the environment, economic development, conservation, community, landscape preservation, and more. It comprises the Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc., the Catskill Heritage Alliance, the Pine Hill Water District Coalition, Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Inc., the Zen Environmental Studies Institute, Friends of Catskill Park, the Catskill Center for Conservation and Development, Trout Unlimited, the New York Public Research Interest Group, and Riverkeeper, Inc. The Sierra Club has joined with the CPC in its petition for party status in the adjudicatory hearing on the proposed development project.



TGF Sponsors First New Jersey Outing

James Aker

In June of 2005 TGF sponsored its first fishing outing in Northwestern New Jersey. Organized by long time member Elizabeth Shapiro and timed to coincide with New Jersey's "License Free Fishing Days", the event proved a success.

Called "The Two Rivers Outing", members and non-members alike spent the morning exploring stretches of the Musconetcong River in Stephens State Park outside of Hacketstown, New Jersey. Following a delicious home prepared lunch courtesy of Elizabeth, the group enjoyed a tour of the State Trout Hatchery, and the spent the afternoon practicing the art of flyfishing on the Pequest River near Great Meadows.

New Water was discovered by some and old memories were recalled by others. Both rivers are stocked by the State and are slightly over an hours drive from Manhattan via Route 80.

Long and often thought to be a wasteland for the coldwater trout, the west of New Jersey is home to several good freestone streams that hold trout all year. Since the New Jersey Trout Season runs from April 11th through March 21 of the following year, opportunities are available to the angler long after the season closes in New York and long before it opens in the spring.



Elizabeth Shapiro



Dining al fresco in the wilds of New Jersey



The fishing was off that day due to the oppressively warm temperatures and low water that have plagued us this summer, but fish were caught and a good time was had by all who attended.



The author on the Pequest River

Theodore Gordon Flyfishers 2005-2006 Calendar

September	17	TGF-Salty Flyrodders Outing, Shinnecock Inlet County Park
	22	TGF Luncheon, Union League Club
October	1,2,3	Housatonic River Outing
	6	TGF Luncheon, Union League Club
	15	Beaverkill Clean Up Day / Rock Rolling Day, Beaverkill and Willowemoc Rivers
	22	Connetquot River Outing
	25	TGF Luncheon, Union League Club Tilchik Wilderness, Fred Lowenfels and Charlie Thatcher
	29	Connetquot River Outing
November	5	TGF Luncheon, Union League Club
	15	TGF Luncheon, Union League Club: Kirt Mayland
December		TGF Luncheon date to be determined



Four Directors Become Life Members

In 2005 four of our directors or former directors elected to make a lifetime commitment to the Theodore Gordon Flyfishers organization and its mission. Our former President and longtime director Mr. Richard Schager Jr. made the commitment earlier this year. Both Richard and his father Richard Sr., who recently passed away, have been very active and supportive members of TGF.

Also three current Board members Robert Yunich, David H. Miller, and John Happersett have decided to make the commitment to become Life Members. Robert Yunich, who now serves as Secretary for the Board of Directors has been a member of TGF for many years and is very dedicated to the vision and values of our organization. John Happersett also a long time member who is very active in all of TGF's conservation activities, serves with distinction as the club's Treasurer. David Miller is a relative newcomer to our club, but you would never know it by the level of his commitment over the time he has been with us. Dave not only serves on the Board of Directors but also as Editor-in-Chief of Gordon's Quill, and he created and edits our monthly newsletter, the TGF Bulletin.

These men join the growing ranks of exceptional men and women who have chosen to support TGF and its vital mission for a lifetime. We welcome them.

If you are interested in finding out about Life Membership please send an Email to Membership@TGF.org or send a note to:

Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Inc.
ATTN: Membership Chairman,
P.O. Box 2345
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163-2345

In Memoriam

Richard J. Schager, Sr.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES REMINDER



Members, please note that if any of your contact information changes, whether address, telephone and most importantly E-mail address, you should send the information to Jim Aker at Membership@TGF.org or send a snail mail note to:

James C. Aker, *VP Membership Chairman*,
Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Inc
P.O. Box 2345 Grand Central Station,
New York, NY 10163-23245.

It's important that you keep this information current, in particular your e-mail address, since more and more of our information is now being distributed primarily by e-mail (e.g. the monthly TGF Bulletin and luncheon announcements) as a more efficient and economical way of keeping in touch with the membership.

Gordon's Quill

Theodore Gordon Flyfishers
P.O. Box 2345 Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163-2345
www.tgf.org

Address Correction Requested

Your Membership in TGF has expired.
Please renew your membership or this will be your final
issue of The Gordon's Quill.