



Gordon's Quill

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Theodore Gordon Flyfishers: Supporting the Future of Environmental Protection

Karen Kaplan

Chair, TGF Education Committee

Spring is the season of new beginnings and during this season TGF is pleased to continue to help the nascent careers of young scholars in the environment and sciences.

TGF Founders Fund

The Founders Fund Committee convened in April and selected its fifth Founders Fund Scholar, Laura Bandernagel, an Earth and Environmental Engineering major at Columbia University. She has a perfect 4.0 GPA and is considered by the Chair of her undergraduate program to be the strongest student in her graduating class of 2011 and possibly the strongest student he has seen in his entire career at Columbia. She has interned at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratories and worked on two geothermal energy projects including one that was in collaboration with the government of Rwanda. That project may result in bringing a new geothermal energy source to the country that will provide much needed environmental sustainability. Laura intends to become a professional environmental engineer which will allow her to pursue any number of environmentally-related fields from habitat protection and conservation to ecosystem restoration to alternative energy technology innovation. She is a truly promising scholar for this era.

TGF Stoliar Science Awards

This spring TGF also presented the Joan and Arthur Stoliar Science Awards of \$200 each to two high school students who have achieved the highest academic average in their science classes.

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FLYFISHERS,
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President's Message June 2010



The warm weather and the early low warm water conditions have made fishing a little tougher this year for most anglers. Expected time periods for most major hatches seemed to be at least three weeks earlier than normal and now the Delaware System is producing very low insect activity during the daylight hours with the major insect population taking to flight at dark and well after dark. Anglers are getting to the river at 9 PM and staying well after dark in some cases. No matter what the weather is, the TGF Board and members have been working steadily on many projects and initiatives.

There are a number of major conservation issues that are being addressed by the Conservation Committee headed by John Barone and Steve Lieb. Natural gas that is located in the Catskills in the areas and the Delaware water flows are two very important and time consuming topics that keep John and Steve very busy. They also oversee other conservation projects for TGF and you can read about them in this Quill.

The Annual Day Dinner was a great success thanks to Joe Ceballos, Dave Miller and Jim Duda. Joe is the Chairman for this event and the Conservation Fund Dinner that will be held in October this year.

Karen Kaplan is our new Education Committee Chair and she has brought some new ideas to that committee and we will be hearing more about those ideas in the near future. Dave Miller as Editor of the Quill is expanding the articles that are in this publication and at some point we will try sending it online to our members that can receive it that way. This will be a way of TGF "Going Green" and at the same time save money for conservation projects. We now have two new Board members that have really taken over their new positions with great enthusiasm and energy. They are Pat Key, as the Chair of membership and Jim Duda as Treasurer. Both Pat and Jim have new ideas to their positions that will benefit all TGF members and ultimately conservation.

With our spring luncheons now over, TGF has fishing outings that are a lot of fun and usually well attended. These outings are a great place to meet other members in a relaxed setting. I will be at the upcoming Farmington River trip on Saturday, June 26 as will other Board members so come share a day of fishing, fun and lunch.

I look forward to seeing you at our outings on the river!

Respectfully,

Bert Darrow, President
Theodore Gordon Flyfishers

Catch & Release at the Hawley Mountain Guest Ranch In McLeod, Montana

Stephen C. Gerard and Larry Boutis

Most conservationists would likely agree that Catch & Release (C&R), one of the primary tenets of most conservation groups like Trout Unlimited and Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, preserves breeding fish that contributes significantly to the survival of any fish population, notwithstanding the pressure of sport fishing.

As Hall-of-Fame fly fisherman Lee Wulff once said, “a good game fish is too valuable to be caught only once.” Yet, many in the general population of fishing folk can’t understand why anyone in his or her right mind would actually release a caught fish, particularly a trophy. Ironically, it is the bigger fish that are the breeders and, therefore, should be released unharmed in order to spawn.

The unbelievably robust wild trout population on the stretch of the Boulder River at the Hawley Mountain Guest Ranch (www.hawleymountain.com) in Montana is a shining example of just how effective C&R can be. The Ranch has enforced a strict policy of C&R for over 35 years. It is located in the Absarokas-Beartooth Wilderness Area of the Gallatin National Forest near McLeod, Montana, about 22 miles north of Yellowstone National Park as the crow flies, (but can’t be accessed from the south unless you are a crow, that is).



Scenic view of the Lodge (on the cliff to the right)

Theodore Gordon Flyfishers and Trout Unlimited members Steve Gerard and Larry Boutis, spent the first week of August 2009 at the Ranch. They enjoyed some of the best dry-fly fishing that either has ever experienced.

The Ranch is currently owned by Montanans Ron and Phyllis Jarrett, and fellow Montanan Bryant Blewett and his California raised wife, Ellen Marshall. Although the area in which the Ranch lies had been occupied by Native Americans some 8,000 to 11,000 years ago, it traces its modern roots to the late 1880's when Tom Hawley homesteaded about 160 acres along a 1.5 mile stretch of the Boulder River. The Ranch and the large mountain it faces are named after him.

In 1917, the site was purchased by the Jarrett family of Big Timber, Montana. Ron’s grandmother arrived in 1919 as a young bride and, with her new husband, operated it in the summers as a cattle ranch. Later, it was used as a stopover for shepherds and their sheep, traveling to higher alpine summer grazing areas in the Absarokas and the Beartooth Mountains.

In 1974, Ron’s older brother, Bill and Bill’s Japanese-born wife, Sadako, converted it to a guest ranch featuring horseback riding and fly fishing. They built a log-cabin style lodge with 4 guest rooms, 2 more guest cabins (the Absarokas and the Beartooth), and “Jarrett’s Pond” which they stocked with Rainbow trout. Later, a new guest cabin, Carbonate, was added. The current guest capacity is 20.

CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE

¹ Freeman, Criswell: “Fisherman’s Guide To Life”, 2004, Elm Hill Books, an imprint of J. Countryman®, a division of Thomas Nelson, Inc. Nashville, TN 37214. ISBN 1-4041-8508-9.

² Scenes from “A River Runs Through It” were shot at (or near) the Ranch. For example, in one scene, while Norman, the story’s main character, was in the Forest Service, he is pictured sitting on the porch of Beartooth Cabin writing home.

Bill and Sadako were quite progressive for their day and, from the Ranch's inception, imposed strict flyfishing-only and "no-kill" policies on the river. Sadly, Bill died in 1990 and Ron and Phyllis bought the Ranch from Sadako. In 1992, they sold a half-interest to Bryant and Ellen. Both couples share Bill's and Sadako's vision and believe passionately in C&R. As a result, their stretch of the Boulder River teems with wild cutthroats, rainbows, cut-bows, and brooks. Strict enforcement of C&R on the river is made easier by the well-stocked "Jarrett's Pond" from which guests may keep a fish or two.



Jarrett's Pond (center) and just a bit of the Boulder River (on the far left). Carbonate Mountain is in the background.

Empirically, the wild trout count at the river seems astronomically high, and these western fish feed aggressively all summer. On a good day an experienced fly fisherman can catch from 50 to 100 fish. Even novices can boast 5 to 25 trout-days. Wild trout range in size from 6" to 20+" and, because the insect hatches are so prolific, the fish (even the big ones) rise to dry flies all day. Rainbows in the pond are even bigger.

There were 8 to 10 other fishermen at the Ranch while Steve and Larry were there but crowding was not an issue as there are numerous good pools and riffles. In one pool, Steve pulled out 6 or



TGF member and co-author, Larry Boutis of Westchester and the Catskills standing in the Boulder River with a nice rainbow

7 trout ranging in size from 13" to 17" on a single March Brown.

One Ranch guest asked Steve if he tried nymphing. "No", replied Steve, "I certainly have nothing against nymphing when necessary, but with the best dry-fly fishing that I've ever experienced, why in the world would I tie on a nymph? I don't even use a dropper because it just isn't necessary". Dry-fly fishing at the Ranch is excellent from about mid-July through mid-September. Hot flies, sizes 10 to 18, include elk hair caddis; humpies; stimulators; hoppers; Wulffs; Hendricksons; Adams; BWOs; March Browns, Cahills and numerous others. You can purchase flies at the Ranch should you run short.

And, for those anglers who crave a truly remote Rocky Mountain experience, a day-trip on horseback to catch Cutthroats in the high mountain-meadow streams of Meat Rack and a 4X4 day-trip to Monument Peak to catch Goldens in Blue Lake are available. Last but not least, room & board (3 meals per day), fishing, horseback riding and excursions are all included at under \$200 per person per day for a week's stay!

CONTINUES ON PAGE 8

9th ANNUAL THEODORE GORDON FLYFISHERS FARMINGTON RIVER OUTING

J U N E 2 6 , 2 0 1 0

A popular tradition with TGF, the Farmington outing combines great fishing, mid-summer cookout and camaraderie. The Farmington is one of the best trout fisheries in the northeast with 2.5 miles of protected fishing and many more fishing miles beyond. The river boasts cool, clear water with easy access all year long. There are numerous fly hatches throughout the day and into the evening, so be prepared for a solid day of fishing.

In addition to the great number of trout in the many pools, runs and riffles in the river, there is abundant wildlife along the banks: moose, mink, and beavers as well as bald eagles, great blue heron, and osprey.

For those who are interested, we will meet at the river at 9 am for an introduction to the Farmington by trip leader and TGF President Bert Darrow, who will provide insight on fishing techniques and the best places to fish this river. (See Orientation below.)

A Cookout Lunch will be prepared by the leaders of this trip. There will be a \$15 charge per person for lunch. Pay online on the TGF website (www.tgf.org) or in person.

We hope to see everyone from last year's trip and welcome new attendees this year.

RSVP: Please RSVP to Bert Darrow at bdflycaster@aol.com no later than June 22 if you plan to attend so that appropriate purchases can be made.

ORIENTATION: There will be a short introduction to the river and its pools at 9:00 AM on Saturday morning at Whittemore Grove recreation area on East River Road in Barkhamsted. From Route 44 take Route 318, go across the steel bridge and take your first left onto East River Road. Whittemore Grove recreation area is about 2 miles up on your left. It's the second recreation area you will find.

LICENSES: Either 3-day (\$22 out-of-state) or annual fishing (\$55 out-of-state) licenses may be obtained at Upcountry Sportfishing, McAllisters Fly Shop, by phone (860-424-3700), on-line (<https://ct.outdoorcentral.net/InternetSales/>) or at any town hall in Connecticut.

FLY SHOPS AND DIRECTIONS:

- UpCountry Sportfishing, 352 Main Street, Pleasant Meadow, 860-379-1952 and www.farmingtonriver.com (fishing licenses are available here)
- McAllisters Fly Shop, 2 Main Street, Riverton, next door to the General Store., 860-379-0071 and www.mcallistersflyshop.com

Directions to the area will be found on these websites. If you get lost or expect to be late, call Bert Darrow on his cell phone at (845) 235-4557.

ACCOMODATIONS:

Hillside Motel, Route 44, Canton (860) 693-4951

Old Riverton Inn, Riverton (860) 379-8678

Pine Meadow B&B, 398 Main St., Pine Meadow (860) 379-8745

"Search out and feast upon the ensuing beauties of the Farmington..."
Rev. J.B. McLean, 1895



“Gasland” premiere’s on HBO June 21

Josh Fox’s Prize Winning Documentary film on Gas Drilling/Hydro-fracking

On June 3 there was a major shale gas well explosion in Clearfield, Pa. As part of TGF’s role in ensuring that the environment is protected and sufficient controls are in place to reduce the threat to the environment, we want to bring your attention to a series of local screenings of an important documentary film, “Gasland” by Josh Fox coming up in the regions of New Jersey, Pennsylvania and New York in the new three weeks. This film looks at the impact of Hydro-fracking drilling for shale gas on places where drilling is active at present.

The film has already won numerous awards including the 2010 Sundance Documentary Award, the Big Sky Documentary Award, and the Huffington Post says it “might just be the best film of the year.”

You can learn more and see clips at www.gaslandthemovie.com as well. “Gasland” will be shown on HBO on June 21.

Here’s the schedule of the local screenings which we urge you to send on to you friends and neighbors, fellow conservationists and those who might also be thinking about leasing their land to the gas companies.

Spring Screenings of “Gasland”

Josh will be screening Gasland and speaking in these towns in June.
Check the website for updated information and additional venues.

June 12 - Ithaca, NY

June 13 – Auburn, NY

June 14 – Milford, PA

June 15 – Binghamton, NY

June 16 - Cooperstown, NY

June 17 – Albany, NY (Josh will not be in attendance)

June 18 – Loch Sheldrake, NY

June 20 – Los Angeles Film Festival

June 21 – HBO premiere!

TGF and Your Legacy

None of us like to think about a time when the streams flow and the trout rise without us around to cast a line, but it happens. Trout fishing and TGF have been an important part of your life and for the past 40 years TGF has been a leader in conservation advocacy and action.

You have the opportunity to help TGF continue its conservation activities far into the future when you're making your estate plans. In planning for the legacy that you will leave for your family, your grandchildren and your country, please put TGF in your list. Many of us already have.

First Steps to a Lasting Legacy

Most of us have been contacted by our universities or other organizations for planned giving, often including a legacy gift in our wills that will continue to support the values that you believe are very important for the future. Theodore Gordon Flyfishers is one of these, an organization that can continue to achieve the goals that you hold so dear. You can name Theodore Gordon Flyfishers as a beneficiary of your will, find out why retirement plans make the most highly tax-efficient bequest to charity, and be inspired by the stories of some of our own TGF members who have already made a bequest by talking to our own head of Development, Karen Kaplan.

Gifting Retirement Plans

The reality is that retirement plans and IRAs can be the most highly taxed assets in an estate. With income tax on distributions and possible

estate taxes factored in, the total tax bill for heirs can exceed 70% of the assets.

However, because Theodore Gordon Flyfishers is a tax-exempt institution, ownership of retirement assets can pass to TGF without taxation. Members and friends who would like to make a tax-efficient bequest should consider naming TGF as a beneficiary of an IRA, Keogh, tax-sheltered annuity, or qualified pension or profit-sharing plan—it's the most tax-efficient way to create a legacy.

We recommend you of course discuss all anticipated gifts with your estate and tax attorneys and your accountant, of course, to ensure that the gifts meet all legal requirements and all of your personal goals.

TGF's "Thank You"

If you have already designated TGF as a beneficiary of your estate please let us know so we can recognize your legacy for TGF's work on cold water conservation. When you create this legacy, you'll become a member of the TGF group of those who have made arrangements to help TGF continue its conservation work far into the future.

Contact Karen Kaplan at kswell@msn.com for further information on this TGF Legacy program.

TGF's Hands-On Conservation Work

TGF has been active this year on a number of fronts to protect and improve the health of cold water fisheries. As part of TGF's Beaverkill Restoration Project we have continued to improve spawning habitat at Horton Brook and at the Beaverkill tributary now known only as T22B. And of course we have our eyes on other streams as part of this project on the burners that we'll announce when there is enough certainty that we can make a commitment.

We also remain committed to our fellow anglers through Project Access held once a year along the Beaverkill River and Willowemoc creek. Finally, TGF continues to be a leader in addressing horizontal drilling and high-volume hydraulic fracturing in the Catskill Mountain Region and Delaware River Basin, perhaps the greatest threat our waterways in the Northeast have ever faced.

Horton Brook – Horton Brook is an important spawning tributary to the Beaverkill. Cold water flowing from Horton provides a vital thermal refuge for Beaverkill trout in the hot, low flow days of late summer. As many of you are aware, last year the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYDEP) completed a project to reshape an unstable bank along Horton Brook that was subject to regular erosion. The bank was formed from waste "tunnel muck" dumped in the 1950s when the City of New York built one of its water supply aqueducts. Last year

the NYDEP reshaped the bank and a broad floodplain was created. To further stabilize the bank, limit erosion, and provide shade to keep water temperatures lower, TGF volunteered to help plant trees along the newly restored bank. Last October, in concert with volunteers from local TU chapters and NYDEP personnel, hundreds of hardwood trees were planted along the slope and floodplain.

This April we returned to the site to plant willow stakes along the bank of Horton Brook itself. TGF'ers were joined by members of Beamoc TU along with volunteers and friends from NYDEP. Jen Greiser, head of NYDEP's stream program supervised the work. Approximately 200 willow cuttings were harvested on site, cut to size and planted along the bank. In addition, sedges and other herbaceous plants were planted on the floodplain.

We are also pleased to report that the trees planted last September are holding up well and were budding. Deer browse did not seem to be much of a problem. We will continue to monitor the site, and if needed, we will return to Horton next year.

T22B – Plans are in the works to return to the stream designated T22B. This year we will plant trees along the stream along a marshy stretch just below the headwaters. We will also add a series of

step pools near the mouth of the stream to improve access and provide additional spawning habitat. This work is now planned for August.

Project Access – Once again TGF returned to the banks of the Willowemoc and Beaverkill to restore access points along the stream for less agile

anglers. This year, thanks to the fact that relatively little damage was done to the sites by winter storms, we were able to restore access at two paths near the Catskill Flyfishing Center as well as at Hazel Bridge and Cairns pool.

Gas Drilling – TGF has been active in opposing

measures that will allow horizontal drilling and high-

volume hydraulic fracturing to develop gas reserves ("Hydro-fracking") of the vast Marcellus Shale formation. This drilling may have major regional impact on the delicate ecosystem in the Catskills and Delaware River Basin if drilling be allowed.

Hydro-fracking requires the use of millions of gallons of water drawn from the watershed for every well drilled. This water is mixed with chemicals that drilling companies thus far have refused to identify (claiming it as a trade secret) and is pumped deep underground at enormous pressure to fracture the shale. Most of the water, now mixed with drilling chemicals as well as toxins and radioactive isotopes released from the rock forma-

tions, returns to the surface where it can potentially contaminate groundwater and aquifers.

TGF has come out strongly in opposition to Hydro-fracking in the Catskills and in the Delaware River Basin. TGF has also voiced its opposition to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) draft Supplemental General Environmental Impact Statement (dSGEIS) which, if approved, would allow drillers to proceed without obtaining a site-specific environmental impact statement. Instead, compliance with the general impact statement would suffice.

The dSGEIS released in 2009 was woefully inadequate to protect the environment from potential impacts and eventual disaster. Moreover, even if it were strengthened, the risk of drilling, particularly in the Catskills and the Delaware River Basin, which provides drinking water to millions of people, is unacceptable.

John L. Barone and Lem Srolovich, on behalf of TGF, drafted and submitted extensive comments on the dSGEIS to the DEC, highlighting its deficiencies and calling for a complete reassessment of the issues. The DEC has not approved the dSGEIS but has publicly stated that it intends to release the Final SGEIS by the end of 2010.

TGF will continue the fight to protect the environment and closely monitor this issue. We will keep our members well informed. 🐾



Watering a new Willow cutting.

Meow Mix

by Jim Duda

This beginning is an old story that is probably familiar. It was the morning after the first evening we gathered at our fishing camp. Last night we had a big dinner, and a copious variety of beverage and tobacco. Boy stuff! Coupled to the extravagance was the ever present loud and humorous conversation about events of the past year. This happy talk was a pleasant relief from the mind numbing cable news.

I rose from my bed. It was late morning and my friends let me sleep as they went fishing. Last night, I must have had more fun than everyone else. Undeterred by my fuzzy feeling, and after a couple of aspirin and some coffee, I prepared to fish the new day.

Parking near a bridge, I geared up, marched slowly to the river, and stopped to observe a young man. He was standing on an old WPA bridge, built in flat red brick, with large cement flower filled urns at each corner. He was on the near side of the bridge, and was leaning on a red iron railing while looking downstream to the river.

He was tall and thin, and young and handsome with a chiseled face. I looked that way – many years ago, I thought. He was dressed for fly fishing somewhere between Orvis and Simms. His fishing rig looked 100 percent Hardy. This I speculated because I didn't want to get caught staring at labels. Staring could be misunderstood.

At the edge of my eye, I noticed his attempt to get my attention and wave me over to him. I walked over.

He said, "Watch this!" Suddenly, he waived quickly his forearm over and horizontal with the railing. Startled, I noticed a five yard diameter boiling mass of river next to the bridge. Below in the river, there were trout looking like squirming eels in a big woven basket. Squirming eels in a woven basket are commonly seen in the Netherlands. "Whoa dude!" I exclaimed trying to sound contemporary. "What's going on here? What did you do?"

In a loud voice he said, "Look again!" He moved his forearm in the same fashion as before.

The trout swirled in a boil. Now I was spooked even though I sensed something like rain drops on the water as the fish surfaced. "Is this a religious thing?" I asked. He didn't respond and kept staring down into the water. I started slowly to back away. It was my time to fish and abandon this mystery man with the moving arm.

I made it back three steps before he said, "I am trying to find some fish to catch." I stopped and asked, "Why not just put your fly in the water?"

He said, "After I locate a bunch of fish, I drop my fly upstream and drift the fly over those I just waived to the surface." Makes sense to me I concluded. He just demonstrated a lot of rising fish.

"Exactly how do you locate the fish?" I asked. "Are you telling me you simply wave your arm over the water and surface fish?" I followed after witnessing his two previous exercises in raising fish. "That's only part of it." He responded.

"OK, I'm hooked. Give me the rest of the story." I said.

"I use MEOW MIX." He confessed as he pulled a handful of the dry cat food from a plastic bag located in a small pocket in his fishing vest. "You have got to be kidding me!" I exclaimed. "Is this all about cat food?"

"Why don't you just tie on an attractor fly pattern like a Stimulator, an Adams, or a Royal Coachman? I asked. "They seem to work fairly well in locating fish."

"I have limited time to fish, so I need to find fish quickly, and get on with my program to catch them. Traditional attractor patterns take simply too much time." He said.

"Have you thought of pond fishing stocked fish? I asked. He ignored my inelegant comment. He stared darkly into the water as he massaged a handful of MEOW MIX in his closed fist. Now, this is where I really get beat up, I thought.

"Perhaps you are right." He said in a somewhat sullen voice. Then, he continued, "But, I'm usually in a hurry to catch fish, and I don't have the luxury of time like most people. I need to catch fish quickly."

He added, "Besides, there are other reasons. I am testing MEOW MIX for its commercial use in fishing. There are financial opportunities for me to explore.

"What opportunities?" I asked. As the words left my lips I regretted extending our conversation. Turning away and moving toward the upstream side of the bridge I heard him say, "Wait until I explain."

"OK." I said with hesitation, "What opportunities?"

"It seems to me that MEOW MIX should have a place in every fly fishers vest – not just those

with limited fishing time. I see this as an indispensable fishing accessory - like nippers." He said. "Limiting MEOW MIX to just cats should end. This product's use should be expanded to include fish, because they really like it."

My eyes opened wide, and I felt like I had just stepped into something soft. I just let him continue to speak while trying to control my instinct for comment.

"Just think, if I arrange to license MEOW MIX and place a couple of ounces in small plastic zipper bags with a zinger attached to the bag. The bag could be attached to the fly vest and placed in a pocket." He said excitedly.

"What an opportunity! The bags could even be refillable if one elected to go to a pet food store and buy MEOW MIX in bulk. In fact, I have a five gallon plastic tub of the stuff on the bed of my pickup truck." He said while gathering steam. "A large quantity enables me to cover large stretches of river. I simply keep going back to my truck to refill my fly fishing MEOW MIX pouch."

"Currently, I am designing a product display for the filled pouches to place in local fly shops before I go regional, and then national. I am also working on a slogan to headline the display."

"'MEOW MIX AND THE END OF THE ATTRACTOR FLY' should get their attention." He blurted as his display headline. "Underneath, I would add, 'IT'S THE STIMULATOR THAT REALLY WORKS.'"

"After I establish myself in fly shops, I will approach large national sporting goods stores. They should be able to sell large containers of MEOW MIX to Bass fisherman who can install them in their boats. The containers should have special dispensers to distribute the product into small pails. The pails would then be used for distribution into the water. Just think what this will do for tournament fishing. I am engaged in a sporting revolution." He said in an even more aroused state.

I guess each of us can do an injustice to the sport of fly fishing. Just give us the proper chance, I thought

I could not wait any longer for his presentation to end. I thought of an old lyric from Woody Guthrie. "So long, it has been so nice to know you." Humming to myself, the melody in my ears, I tied on my green size 12 Stimulator and disappeared around the other side of the bridge in to the river. 

Save the Date!

TGF's Conservation Fund Dinner October 16, Rockland House, Roscoe

Once again TGF members and friends will gather at the Rockland House in Roscoe, NY, to celebrate the closing of another trout season and to help raise funds for TGF's ongoing conservation projects.

This year TGF will present the TGF's highest honor, the Ed Zern Salmo Award for conservation achievement to John Adams, the nationally known former executive director of the National Defense Resources Council which has done so much for conservation nationwide. John Adams served as NRDC's executive director and later president from the organization's inception in 1970 until stepping down in 2006. His tenure is unparalleled by the leader of any other environmental organization.

John is a graduate of Michigan State University and the Duke University School of Law. Prior to his work at NRDC, John served as assistant U.S. attorney for the Southern District of New York. He is chair of the board of the Open Space Institute and sits on the boards of numerous other environmental organizations. He has also served on governmental advisory committees, including President Clinton's Council for Sustainable Development.

John continues to play an active role in NRDC's work. *Rolling Stone* writes, "If the planet has a lawyer, it's John Adams."

In addition to this distinguished honoree, there will be silent and live auctions as part of the fund raising activities, and the award of the TGF Founders' Fund Scholarship.

There is also a TGF outing on the Beaverkill planned for the following day, October 17, with the opportunity for mid fall fishing.

Put this event on your calendar now!

Below is a typical testimonial from a 2008 Ranch guest that appears on the Ranch's web site (www.hawleymountain.com):

September 14, 2008

Just wanted to drop you a note to tell you how great my 7th trip (and Joe's 2nd) to Hawley Mountain Ranch was. Joe and I had a wonderful time -- superlatives are barely sufficient to describe it. It's a little piece of heaven surrounded by beautiful mountains and spectacular scenery. And in the midst of all that beauty is one of the finest and prettiest trout streams in the lower 48. Joe is still talking about the day he caught 20 fish and 6 in a row during a large caddis hatch. We caught trout using a whole variety of dry flies. And it seemed that when action slowed on one fly, a simple pattern change would be enough to restart the strikes. No matter what we used we were always catching fish. We didn't keep exact count but I know we caught several of each of the five different kinds you have in the river. All in all, we averaged about 25 fish a day between us and sometimes a lot more, but who's counting? As a couple of seniors, we appreciate the fact from either the stream or the well stocked Rainbow pond, the lodge is always in sight and a modest hike will get us to either delightful fishing site. John Jones and Joe Warren

10/13: Steve Kinsella and Hannah Moulton, the editor and associate editor respectively of Trout Magazine.



The TGF Annual Day Dinner 2010

A large group of TGF stalwarts, for given the weather of Saturday evening, March 13, they truly deserve the name of stalwarts, came to the Angler's Club for the Annual Meeting and dinner. The wind was howling and the rain was racing horizontally across Broad Street that evening but it was warm and cozy midst the flyfishing memorabilia of the club.

Joe Ceballos had done the lion's share of work in organizing the evening, making the necessary arrangements, lining up a series of important donations for the silent and live auctions, and schlepping the items from TGF's new storage in Chelsea to downtown in a howling storm.



It was another fine evening of friendly conversations, lively bidding for rods, reels, rain jackets, waders and other paraphernalia of flyfishing, as well as a special Vietnamese dinner donated by new Board member Pat Key and Lauren Suter, and a day of duck and brant hunting on Barnegat Bay courtesy of Board member David Miller.

The only disappointing moment of the evening was when we learned that the Arnold Gingrich Literary Award Honoree, James Prosek, was stuck in the storm near Westport and wouldn't make it to the dinner. That was understandable if regrettable since the trains had already stopped running

and the number of trees and electric lines downed by this storm were already reaching record proportions. Later we'd learn that some folks would be out of power for 5 days as a result of this near hurricane. A number of dinner reservations went unused for the same reasons, of course.

But despite the storm it was a great success, raising a significant amount of money for TGF's conservation activities through the silent and live auctions. If you didn't make it this year, we hope to have better weather in 2011 and see you at that dinner!



More Advantages of TGF Membership

OK, that sounds like an advertisement we know. And we also know that you're a member of TGF not for its advantages but because you want to contribute to conservation efforts through TGF's activities. You care about cold water fisheries and the environment.

As our late friend Ernie Schwiebert said:

"TGF was not founded as a social organization. It was not intended as a fishing club that met for lunch at the Williams Club. It was conceived and chartered to muscle Albany, Hartford, Harrisburg and Trenton in days when fly-only and no-kill seemed as elusive as gene-splicing and fetal cell transplants."

And that's still an important part of the mission of TGF as our work on issues such as the Belleayre project, pollution of Esopus Creek, improving trout spawning access on the Beaverkill, and the Marcellus Shale drilling issue indicate.

But through the efforts of Board member Joe Ceballos there are new advantages of TGF membership: discounts on purchases at the following stores:

Orvis

Now you can get a 10% discount on purchases at the Orvis store in New York City

Ramsey Outdoors

And there's also a 10% discount on your purchases at Ramsey Outdoors, both a very kind appreciation of the conservation work that TGF and its members support.

Scott and Nix Publishers

Charles Nix and George Scott were recently presenters at a TGF luncheon and have offered a 25% discount to TGF members on their posters, calendars, card sets and clothing. You already know their trout and other fish posters I'm sure, as these are classics of their kind and you can see their complete line at www.scottandnix.com.

And perhaps when you save some money on fishing equipment purchases you can donate a bit more to TGF to help do the important work that the founders of TGF envisioned. 

TANI ON THE RIVER



I am Tani, a little brown Stonefly. Tani is short for Taeniopterygidae shown on my Beaverkill birth certificate. However, I am certain no one cares about pedigree stuff. I am however, photogenic.

Alas, everyone cares about spring. The fishing season starts soon, and I thought I would give you a spring view from the river.

The water is cold. No one is moving around much. I mean grumpy old Kaiser the big Brown trout is hiding underneath a fallen log. Denver, a little Rainbow, is in a funk behind a rock. I suppose once the temperature reaches about 48 or so degrees all 'hell' will break lose. Predictably, both Kaiser and Denver will chase and try to eat me. How dastardly! Why don't they pick on other guys like the Epeorus nymphs? After all, they are bigger and tastier than I.

Wait! I see a pair of beat up boots, and waders. The waders have lots of bubbles coming out of them. Hmm! It must be one of those insipid fly fishers with a big leak. Why don't these people get a life, wait a couple of weeks, and repair their equipment? Also, of all things, the human is hanging and shaking, from a string, a puppet that is trying to look like me. Get real!

Well, I might as well crawl onto a rock and watch. Maybe the sun will come out today. See ya! 

In Memoriam:

Daniel Joseph Duggan

Daniel Joseph Duggan, 67, a resident of Pepperell for the past 40 years died on April 3, 2010 after a period of declining health at his residence surrounded by his loving family. He was the husband of Judith A. (Tetreault) Duggan.

He was born on August 4, 1942 in Lowell MA, the son of the late Donald F. and Mildred A. (Latour) Duggan. He was educated in the Lowell School System and graduated from Lowell High School, Class of 1960.

He was a Civil Engineer belonging to the A.F.L. C.I.O Union Local #4, a musician, master craftsman, avid fisherman, and a dedicated conservationist. He was a lifetime member of the Lowell Sportsmen's Club, Past President and lifetime member of Trout Unlimited and owner/operator of Riverstix Custom Bamboo Fly Rods in Pepperell.

Besides his wife of 37 years, he leaves four sons, Christopher Duggan of Brooklyn, NY, Michael Bartrum of Tewksbury, MA, Mark Bartrum of Milford, NH and Matthew Bartrum of Merrimack, NH; two daughters, Heather Duggan Walker of Tilton, NH and Michelle Bartrum of Princeton, MA; five grandchildren, Chase, Hailee, Zachery, Tristan and Amelia.

Memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society

Jack Gartside

Jack Gartside passed away peacefully in early December, 2009.

As many of you know Jack was diagnosed with small cell cancer in October, 2008. The initial treatment was positive and Jack was able to enjoy trips to Florida in the spring and local venues throughout the summer. However in early fall of 2009 it became apparent that the cancer had spread and Jack was admitted to hospital in November.

Jack's fly tying skills were legendary and his impressionistic patterns fooled fish of all species. Gurgler, Soft Hackle Streamer, BMG, Gartside Hopper, Firefly & Sparrow to name but a few of the many unique patterns he developed - so often with materials discarded or overlooked by others.

Anyone lucky enough to have fished with Jack will remember his stealthy, heron like approach, efficient casting style and repertoire of retrieves that breathed life into his patterns. Even on the slowest of days when you couldn't "buy a take" he would keep your spirits up with his enthusiastic chant of "Any minute now, any minute now..."

As many of you know Jack was truly one of those rare and special people who lived life to the full and who captivated so many of us with his infectious charm, enthusiasm and some truly terrible jokes & pranks...

Jack will be hugely missed. 

Casts in the Wind: Fly Fishing Tales

James Rudaitis

Catskill Flyfishing Center & Museum, 2009

This is a delightful collection of essays ostensibly about fly fishing, which provide much of the context for the stories, but really about human relationship with all their quirks and glories. It is often set in the places that TGF members know well, the Beaverkill and Roscoe as well as elsewhere, with almost recognizable personalities chatting through the pages.

If you read such stories as "Guiding Miss Judy", "Mothers Day", or "Einstein in Waders" you'll recognize people you've fished with without doubt. And for those of you who have a husband or wife who does not fish, "Mothers Day" will be a special treat, dealing as it does with the dynamics of relationships in which fishing is an important if not always constructive part of the relationship. Curiously enough the characters often seem to be pretty good flyfishers, even though Rudaitis is very good at setting you up to expect that they will be novices in expensive gear. He is also excellent at calling forth the current context of fly fishing life, not afraid to use real names of things and places that make the stories seem like they're about the fishing you do, the places you fish, or the people you fish with.

This collection definitely deserves wide circulation among the fly fishermen of the Catskills and elsewhere as it is universal in its approach and appeal. It's a perfect companion to have along and dip into either streamside when you're taking a break and want to dip into the stories, or when you're cabin bound and want to recall the delights of flyfishing. I took my copy on a trip on the Lindblad Explorer and enjoyed its companionship.

And we must note that Jim has donated all proceeds from the sale of the book to the Catskill Fly Fish Center & Museum. You can order the book from the Center (845-439-4810) for \$14.95, probably not including postage.



Theodore Gordon Flyfishers: Supporting the Future of Environmental Protection

(con't from page 1)

Alex Cummings is a senior at Livingston Manor Central School. He has been a member of the Junior and Senior National Honor Society, has excelled in his environmental science classes and is a member of the Beaverkill Valley Fire Department. He will attend Paul Smith College this fall and plans to major in Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences which is fitting as he just happens to be Joan Wulff's grandson.

Abigail Dusseldorf is the Valedictorian at Roscoe Central School. She has been a

member of the Junior and Senior National Honor Society and among other awards has received the President's Award for Academic Excellence, the Bausch and Lomb Science Award and the Air Force Recruiting Service Mathematics and Science Award. This fall she will attend Northwestern University Honors Program.

Theodore Gordon Flyfishers is pleased to encourage all of these promising, young scholars in their pursuits of environmental studies. 

Lee Wulff Exhibit

Bienecke Rare Book Library, Yale University
June 25 through September 16, 2010

Lee Wulff: "Each fly is a dream we cast out to fool fish"

Theodore Gordon Flyfishers is pleased to announce an important exhibit honoring Lee Wulff, who holds a position of particular honor in American sport fishing. Catch and Release, a standard fishing practice today, was pioneered by Wulff. Where to put your flies and gear?--in the fishing vest that Wulff designed and sewed himself in 1931. While Lee Wulff may be best known for fly fishing, he captured fish by all means possible. From native brook trout to enormous bluefin tuna, he successfully fished for nearly everything with fins. We may think that Wulff was ahead of his time, but in a very real sense he was exactly of his time.

In his long career, Lee Wulff (1905-1991) balanced broad-ranging interests and talents. Fly fisherman, fly tier, conservationist, poet, scientist, artist, naturalist, pilot, writer, and film-maker cover some, but by no means all of his endeavors. His inquisitive nature and inexhaustible energy propelled him into remote regions of the world, on the ground and in the air. During his tenure operating fishing camps in Canada, he witnessed the depletion of that once abundant species, the Atlantic salmon, due to overfishing, timber harvesting, and the encroachment of civilization.

Whether flying in his floatplane to remote areas of Newfoundland, wearing his waders with his fly rod by his side, or leading a party of high-ranking US generals on a much-needed fishing trip before the Normandy Invasion, Lee devoted a substantial portion of his time to salmon fishing and salmon conservation. His legacy is carried forward today by scores of sportsmen and sportswomen, as well as scientists, naturalists, political figures, and academics, all striving to protect Lee Wulff's beloved Atlantic salmon.

We urge you to see this exhibit honoring a leader whose legacy TGF honors and strives to carry on.

Bienecke Library Exhibition Gallery Hours

Mondays – Thursdays 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Fridays 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Saturdays 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.