



Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Inc.
2022 ANNUAL REPORT



**THEODORE
GORDON
FLYFISHERS
INC.**

**OFFICERS AND
DIRECTORS 2022–2023**

President
Bruce Pollock

Vice President
Julian Antebi

Secretary
Steve Lieb

Treasurer
Andrew Worthington

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Conservation
Julian Antebi

Education
Janice Robinson

Advocacy
Charles Flickinger

Membership
Jay Graves

Public Relations & Archives
Kitty Stanton

DIRECTORS

Terms Expiring in 2023

Julian Antebi
Steve Lieb
Avram Schlesinger
Andrew Worthington
*Position to be filled

Terms Expiring in 2024

David Berman
Kelly Buchta
Bud Bynack
Jay Graves
Bruce Pollock

Terms Expiring in 2025

Jessica Steinberg Albin
Charles Flickinger
Hyun Kounne
Janice Robinson
Catherine Stanton

**GORDON'S QUILL
Staff**

Publisher, Editor-in-Chief
Bud Bynack

Art Director
Bruce Corwin

All correspondence regarding
Gordon's Quill should be sent by e-mail to:
publications@tgf.org or by post to:
Editor, TGF
PO Box 2345, Grand Central Station,
New York, NY 10163-2345
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President's Report 2022



The year 2022 was different in many ways for Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Inc. As we moved into the post-COVID-19 days, we found ourselves getting most activities back to normal.

We were not able to hold an in-person Annual Meeting, but we did manage to hold an in-person Founders Fund Reception, and we were able to attend the Fly Fishing Show in Edison, New Jersey. The best news was that by the time fishing season arrived, our angling outings were back on the calendar.

Zoom will continue to be used for our monthly board meetings. It is convenient, but more importantly, Zoom allows us to cast a wider net in our search for new directors.

TGF's conservation work involving stream-improvement projects again felt the effects of the pandemic, because the organizations that we work with have kept things on hold. Julian Antebi and Kelly Buchta are working on ways to expand our community networking in order to find new opportunities.

Because of the work by the Education Committee, headed by Janice Robinson with Jessica Steinberg Albin, we selected two excellent degree candidates to receive the Founders Fund scholarships and four high school students to receive Stoliar scholarships.

TGF's membership is doing well and has seen new members join this past year while keeping our base. Jay Graves, our new membership chair, has been doing a great job making this happen.

TGF also made some changes to organize ourselves formally by adding two new committees in the hopes that we will be better at meeting our objectives.

The new Advocacy Committee, chaired by Charles Flickinger, started the year with the announcement of that the Environmental Legal Defense Fund is now the Bert Darrow Fund for Legal Defense, and the Annual Dinner fund-raiser was dedicated to its support. TGF has participated in environmental advocacy efforts over the years, so it was time to recognize this mission formally.

The other new committee added is Public Relations and Archives, chaired by Kitty Stanton, with Bud Bynack assisting. We all owe Kitty for her efforts in collecting and organizing our historical records. And we owe Bud for his efforts as the editor of our newsletter, *Gordon's Quill*. It is truly a professional publication. We should also thank Bruce Corwin for his work on the design, layout, and formatting of the *Quill*.

Financially, TGF is in very good shape, as you can see from this report. Our treasurer, Andrew Worthington, has done an excellent job of handling the books for our organization. And a special thanks to Barry Tunkel, our accountant, for holding us to task.

In closing, I thank all the TGF directors for the time that they volunteer for TGF. This is what makes it such a great success. I would also like to thank the membership for their continued financial support, which makes it possible for the ~~organization to do the~~ work that it does.

Bruce Pollock

**Bruce Pollock, President
Theodore Gordon Flyfishers**

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT 2022

Janice S. Robinson, Esq., Education Committee Chair

The Founders Fund Scholarships and Leadership Award

On November 30, 2022, with the support of the Founders Fund Society, the Founders Fund Committee awarded the 2022 Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Inc. Founders Fund Scholarships to Anna Lenaker and Peter Searle and honored Jennifer Grossman, the recipient of the 2022 Founders Fund Leadership Award. After the hiatus of the pandemic years, the annual Founders Fund Reception was held once again in person at the Union League Club in New York City.

The Founders Fund Scholarships were instituted to encourage young people working in environmental conservation and protection in the New York area by offering scholarships to students showing excellence and outstanding dedication in an environmental field. Theodore Gordon Flyfishers now awards two one-year scholarships of \$5,000 each to students who will be entering their first or second year of graduate school or law school and who demonstrate excellence and outstanding dedication to environmental conservation through study that falls within an environmental field such as ecology, hydrology, conservation biology, fisheries, natural resource management, zoology, environmental studies, environmental science, environmental law, or environmental policy and who after graduation consider employment in either the public or private sector furthering the cause of environmental protection and riparian habitat conservation for the benefit of all.

Anna Lenaker is an MS candidate in Environmental Management at the Yale School of

the Environment, specializing in climate change science and solutions and environmental policy. She has a BA in Religious Studies from Brown, with an exchange-program year at Oxford, and a Master of Public Affairs from Brown. She intends to seek a position in local government focused on adaptation to climate change or a research and leadership role devoted to the best policy solutions for issues related to climate change.

Peter Searle is a PhD candidate in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at Cornell with an MS in Biodiversity and Conservation from Brigham Young University. Focusing on the evolution and maintenance of biodiversity, at Cornell, he is generating a comprehensive phylogeny of rockfish as a basis for management plans that will protect the species from rapid global changes. He also is a longtime fly fisher and fly-fishing instructor.

The recipient of the Founders Fund Leadership Award for 2022, Jennifer Grossman, has devoted almost thirty years to strategic environmental legal work in the public, private, and not-for-profit sectors, including the Office of General Counsel for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the Open Space Institute. We also honored her for the work of her conservation consulting firm, FarmCo New York, with the Natural Resources Defense Council, her support of environmentally conscious family farm business ventures, and for BK MANOR LLC, a community-revitalizing hospitality venture based in the Catskills.

The 2021–2022 Joan and Arthur Stoliar Science Awards


Annually, TGF now presents the Joan and Arthur Stoliar Science Awards of \$1,000 each to two graduating seniors from Livingston Manor High School and two from Roscoe High School. The 2022 recipients from Livingston Manor were Uriel Cortes-Hidalgo and Julia Trotti, and the recipients from Roscoe were Gianna Ballard and Ashley Nieves.

Uriel Cortes-Hidalgo was the valedictorian of the Class of 2022 and maintained an A+ average, which has earned him multiple appearances on the Superintendent's List and an LM Academic Letter Award. He was a member of the Elinor E. Decker Chapter of the National Honor Society and received several academic awards. He

participated in golf and soccer and spent time working locally in several restaurants in Sullivan County. Uriel is attending SUNY Buffalo to study biological sciences.

Julia Trotti was ranked third in her class, with an A+ average and all the associated honors and awards, and was student council president/treasurer and representative. As a cadet with the Livingston Manor Fire Department, she also responded to fire and motor vehicle calls. She was also a contributing member of the LMCS/RCS/DCS soccer team and worked at Peck's Market. Julia is attending SUNY Albany for the 3 + 2 program with the Albany College of Pharmacy, majoring in human biology and seeking an MS in clinical lab sciences.

Gianna Ballard is attending SUNY Broome to study health and radiologic technology, and Ashley Nieves is in the premed program at Dominican College. Roscoe Central School did not respond to our requests for biographies.

The Founders Fund Reception also serves as a way to welcome members of the Founders Fund Society and as a fund-raiser for the Founders Fund. This year, the event added \$18,300 to the Founders Fund account. The Education Committee is grateful to all who contributed. 



CONSERVATION COMMITTEE REPORT 2022

Julian Antebi, Conservation Chair

In the postpandemic world, things are progressively becoming more “normal.” This includes projects that TGF supports, such as stream restoration projects, but also unwanted development on some of our most pristine creeks. TGF remains an active advocate and participant in stream-related conservation projects and has asserted its position against irresponsible development that threatens our cold-water fisheries.

Lopatcong Creek

In 2022, TGF added to its support for a stretch of the Lopatcong Creek located near Phillipsburg, New Jersey. In 2019, TGF pledged \$10,892 as a contribution toward the restoration of a stretch of the creek, New Jersey’s largest limestone tributary to the Delaware River. In 2021, TGF’s donation became a reality after permitting issues and COVID delayed the start of the project until June of that year. The stakeholders of this \$386,000 project included TGF, the local municipality, North Jersey Resource Conservation and Development, the New Jersey Audubon Society, the Lopatcong Creek Initiative, the Warren County Department of Land Preservation, the Morris Canal Society, and the Ridge and Valley Trout Unlimited chapter.

The restoration of this two-mile stretch of the creek is nothing short of amazing. While there was some manipulation of the streambed, much of the work includes several long sections of stream bank that were stabilized to provide erosion and flood relief. Nearly vertical banks were sloped to allow water to spread into the flood plain during high water to dissipate flow rates and erosion. Coir matting and rock revetments were used to stabilize banks, and riparian plantings were established to help with erosion control and invasive species.

The aspects of the project that were provided by TGF’s donation included in-stream placement of boulders for structure and habitat; rock revetments; placement of coir matting used for erosion control and to implement bioengineered banks; placement of LUNKER structures, criblike wooden structures installed along a stream bank to create overhead cover and resting areas for fish, a feature specifically designed for spring creeks; and installing interpretive signage.

The true test of the restoration came at the beginning of September 2021, after the remnants of Hurricane Ida pummeled the streams and rivers of New Jersey, including the Lopatcong. I was able to visit the completed work in early December 2021 and found that remarkably, the restoration held together. TGF pledged to fund the additional work

in 2022 needed to touch up the damages, and in March 2022, TGF allocated an additional \$7500 that was used for repairs and for riparian tree planting. TU is already exploring additional work on some of the lower sections of the creek, where more springs come in and brook trout populations are higher. We look forward to hearing more about these projects in the future.

Battenkill Restoration Projects

The Battenkill Home Rivers Initiative is a Trout Unlimited program established in 2020 and focused on restoring the Battenkill watershed. Since its inception, TU has collaborated with multiple partners, including TGF, to complete 0.7 miles of stream restoration projects, reconnect 1.8 miles of cold-water habitat, plant 1,150 trees, and engage over 200 volunteers in restoration work in the watershed. To continue work on sections of the Battenkill upstream of Black Creek for which TGF has previously provided funding, on June 8, 2022, the TGF board of directors approved an additional \$8000. The work above Eagleville within the Wild-Quality Catch-and-Release Only section of the river will use root wads to narrow the stream channel and promote sediment movement where there is an overly wide channel. The work above Black Creek within the larger of two Stocked-Extended reaches of the Battenkill involves in-stream excavation to remove stream material. This will allow more hydraulic connection with groundwater and promote cooler water entering the stream and deeper pool structure.

Connetquot State Park


On August 20, 2022, TGF members descended upon Connetquot State Park for one of our one-day outings at the park. This event is a popular gathering in this urban oasis and unique fishery. More importantly, TGF schedules these events to raise money for the park. This event raised \$1,345, which gives the park much-needed funds for day-to-day needs. This donation allows the park to address issues that are outside the New York State budget

Kerilands Development

A developer who owns the Kerilands property submitted to the Town of Neversink a request for a variance allowing for the construction of a high-density development on the property, which is across the road from the Fir Brook. The initial proposal envisioned 170 hospitality rooms, 180 multifamily units, and 74 single-family homes, with a total, for just the residential build-out, of 1,362,957 square feet.

TGF president Bruce Pollock and a group of concerned local citizens were involved in monitoring the progress of the development, including the zoning variance application, and raised the issues of environmental impact that the development poses. On October 12, 2022, the Neversink Town Board determined that a conservation resort is not consistent with the town's Master Plan and denied the variance application. At the end of October, the developer was instead proposing building the first 42 of up to 297 single-family homes in the New York City watershed, and the environmental impacts from the proposed development runoff would potentially enter the Neversink River above the reservoir and in the vicinity of the Department of Environmental Conservation (4H) public fishing access on Claryville Road. The proposal required future action by the Town of Neversink. TGF continues to work with local groups to keep tabs on this development and to advocate for the preservation of cold-water fisheries.

Prospects: Partnerships

For 2023, there are a number of projects that TGF is following in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and particularly in our home waters of the Catskills. TGF is now part of a newly formed Conservation Roundtable that meets to discuss conservation projects in the Catskills. The roundtable is a monthly meeting with our conservation partners, including TU National, the Sullivan County Department of Planning, the Friends of the Upper Delaware River, TGF, the Town of Rockland, and the Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum. We are hoping that this group can leverage the collective strengths of its constituents to promote conservation projects, community outreach, and water protection in our Catskill home waters 



FOUNDERS FUND CONTRIBUTORS 2022–2023

Patrons \$3,000 and above

Terry Brykczynski
Shirley Darrow

Sustainers \$1,000–\$2,999

Walter Dec

Supporters \$500–\$999

Julian Antebi
Peter and Jeanne Ceballos
Mark Izeman
Diana Jacobs Kalman
David Kramer
Stephen Lieb
Elaine Paris
Janice Robinson
Catherine Stanton

Members \$250–\$499

Jessica Steinberg Albin

David Berman
Bud Bynack
Sarah Douglis
Joel Filner
Charles Flickinger
Victor Fried
James Hofrichter
Enoch Lipson
Sara Low
Asia Mernissi
Jennifer Morton
Bruce Pollock
Karen Raihofer
Beth Scullion
Warren Stern
Donna E. Tedford
Debra Weiner

Other Donations

Carolyn Summers



THEODORE GORDON FLYFISHERS, INC. WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING BENEFACTORS FOR THEIR EXTREME GENEROSITY.

Founders and Life Members:

Mr. Eugene Anderegg*
Mr. David H. Brophy*
Mr. Stanley Bryer
Mr. Erwin Edelman*
Mr. Keith Fulsher*
Mr. Arnold Gingrich*
Mr. Richard P. Grossenbach*
Mr. Eugene E. Kelly*
Mr. Walter C. Khem*
Mr. Joseph Kleckner*
Mr. David Kramer
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Mr. Norman Miller*
Mr. Donal C. O'Brien, Jr.*
Mr. Joseph A. Pizarro
Mr. Richard R. Robinson*
Mr. Theodore Rogowski*
Dr. Ernest Schwiebert*
Col. Henry Siegel*
Mr. Lee Wulff*
Mr. R.G. (Ed) Zern*

Life Members:

Mr. James C. Adams
Mr. & Mrs. John Adams
Mr. & Mrs. David Beveridge
Mr. Joe Blaze
Mr. Stanley Bryer
Mr. Terry Brykczynski
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Ms. Joan Wulff-Rogowski

TGF also thanks the Beaverkill Valley Inn, <https://beaverkillvalleyinn.com>, The DeBruce, <https://www.thedebuce.com>, and Dette Flies, <https://detteflies.com>, for their support.

*Deceased

THEODORE GORDON FLYFISHERS, INC.
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2022

ASSETS	October 31, 2021	October 31, 2022
Current Assets		
Cash & Equivalent:		
Chase - General	13,595	3,266
Chase - PayPal	1,537	-
Square	-	-
Total	\$15,132	\$3,266
Accounts Receivable	-	1,890
Investments		
Vanguard Life Strategy Conservative Growth	340,656	283,878
Total	\$340,656	\$283,878
Prepaid expenses	1,347	1,568
Inventory	1	1
Total Assets	\$357,136	\$288,713
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable -other	868	3,275
Sales Tax Payable	-	2
Total	\$868	\$3,277
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	193,955	115,830
Restricted		
Beaverkill Restoration Project-Conservation Fund	613	613
Conservation Fund	-	-
Founders Fund Scholarship Society	161,700	159,175
Legal Defense Fund	-	9,818
Total	\$356,268	\$285,436
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$357,136	\$288,713

THEODORE GORDON FLYFISHERS, INC.
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2022

Revenues

Events

Annual Day Income	\$ 5,550
Founders Fund Scholarship Event	5,500
Outing Income	2,953

Donations

General Funds	538
Restricted - Conservation Fund	6,890
Restricted - Founders Fund Society Scholarship	5,975
Restricted - Legal Defense Fund	9,820

Other Revenues

Membership Fees	11,110
Interest Income & Capital Gain	14,219
Merchandise Sales & Shipping Income	1,051
Donations for Credit Card Fees	1,261
Donations for TGF Merchandise	202
Total Revenue	<u>\$65,069</u>

Expenses

Events

Annual Day Expense	7,887
Founders Fund Scholarship Event	78
Outing Event Expenses	5,071
Other Event Expense	40

Conservation Projects

Conservation-Restoration, Protection & Support	17,600
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Other expense

Insurance	1,799
Advertising	547
Bank Charges	1,488
Board meeting expense	335
Student Awards (from Scholarship fund)	4,000
Student Awards (from Operating funds)	10,000
Lease of Storage Locker	451
General Postage	218
Gordon's Quill expenses	1,685
Tax filing fees	127
Accounting Services	5,383
Software & Support services	2,959
Plaques & gifts expense	509
Printing & Reproduction	325
Communications	168
Merchandise Expense	3,146
Website	963
Dues & Subscriptions	125

Total Expense

\$64,904

Net Income

165

Unrealized gain on investments	\$(70,997)
Net Assets - Beginning	\$356,268
Net Assets - Ending	<u>\$285,436</u>

THEODORE GORDON FLYFISHERS, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2022

Note 1: Organization

Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Inc. (TGF or the Club), founded in 1963 by Ted Rogowski, Ernest Schwiebert, Lee Wulff, Ed Zern, and others, is devoted to fly fishing and the conservation, preservation, and reclamation of trout streams and salmon rivers.

Note 2: Significant Accounting Policies

Financial Statement Presentation

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

These classes are defined as follows:

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

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

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

Basis of accounting

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on a modified accrual basis of accounting, which reports income when earned and expenses when incurred.

Contributions

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

Investments

Investments consist of shares in Vanguard's Life Strategy Conservative Growth mutual fund. The balance for the account is shown on the accompanying Balance Sheet.

**THEODORE GORDON FLYFISHERS, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2022**

Volunteer Services Performed by Members

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

Note 3: Tax Status

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

Note 4: Vanguard Portfolio Account

The aggregate amount in the Vanguard Life Strategy Conservative Growth mutual fund is \$283,878. In fiscal year ending 10/31/2022 the current year's unrealized loss on the Vanguard portfolio is (\$70,997).

Note 5: Art Work and Collections

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

Note 6: Change in accounting for expenses for the Conservation, Founders, and Legal Defense Funds

The Board of Directors decided that for the year ending October 31, 2016, and succeeding years, those fundraising and administrative expenses for the Conservation Fund, Founders Fund, and Legal Defense Fund will be paid out of operating income. This will result in 100 percent of the funds being raised used for the purposes for which they were established.

