

TROUT TALK

The Official Newsletter of Western New York Trout Unlimited (www.wnytroutunlimited.org) October 2019

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Library- [**open**]

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Spring Banquet- [**open**]

Conservation- **Joe Morgan** (Conservation@wnytroutunlimited.org)

Sunshine- **Chuck Godfrey**

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Welcome- **Bob Bohner**

Video Library- [**open**]

Erie County Federation Reps:

Chuck Godfrey (440-6995) steelheader03@hotmail.com;

Debbie Godfrey

State Council Delegates:

Chuck Godfrey (440-6995)

Gene Romanyshyn, Debbie Godfrey

Newsletter: **Russell Shefrin** AdkRuss@gmail.com.

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Next WNY TU Chapter Meeting: The next chapter meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 29, 2019, 7:30 pm, at the ORVIS SHOP, 4545 Transit Road, Williamsville, New York.

Fly-tying begins at 6 p.m. Please bring orange or red thread, because we will be tying egg flies and sucker spawn.

The presenter, for the “entertainment” portion of the chapter meeting, will be our chapter President, Mr. Chuck Godfrey. His discussion has two parts. The first is fly-fishing the small streams of Allegany State Park for wild brook trout. Then, Mr. Godfrey will explore the new Inland Trout Stream Management Plan which is being developed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Please join us on October 29.

President's Message:

Hi Everyone,

This is an exciting time to be involved with trout in New York State, either as a fisherman – pardon me, person – or as someone who is concerned with enhancing/preserving cold-water fisheries here. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has structured an updated (truly mostly new) Inland Trout Stream Management Plan. The process for this began three years ago, and included a series of public meetings two years ago, around the state, to find out what people desired from trout fishing in NYS. They spent over a year coming up with a plan for managing New York's inland trout streams. The previous plan was implemented in 1984 and has become woefully outdated. It no longer accurately reflects the present fishing experience in the state at all, nor does it represent the desires of modern anglers. On October 17, a public meeting was held at the Concord Town Hall. All of our Regional Fisheries biologists were there; and the presentation was primarily carried out by Mike Clancy, the Regional Fisheries Manager. Also present and contributing to the presentation were Steve Hurst and Fred Henson from DEC headquarters. Steve is the Chief of Fisheries for NYS, and Fred is the Cold-Water Fisheries Unit Leader. Neither of these people is what I would consider the typical Albany bureaucrat. They've come up through the ranks, and we couldn't be in better hands than theirs. There was about a half-hour presentation followed by questions and answers for the next hour, until the audience was out of questions. They also all stayed afterward to speak to individuals who wanted to converse. The presentation included a report on the five most frequently expressed desires at the public meetings and in written comments of two years ago and the Department's proposals to address them. The proposed timetable for implementation of the new plan is, hopefully, to have it solidly configured, including new regulations, and ready by December 31 of this year. Then, there will be a decision made on whether/when to propose these regulations, policies, etc., to the public. Once that is done, the proposed changes will be presented to the public. There should be 45-day public comment period. Once that has passed, the Department will once again review all those comments, finalize the plan, and hopefully implement it for the 2021 season. Part of our entertainment/presentation at the October WNYTU Chapter meeting will be some of the slides from the DEC's presentation and discussion(s) about them and their expected consequences. It will NOT be a full-blown presentation of the plan, as that doesn't truly exist yet.

As an organization, we are continuing to monitor the proposed wind turbine project *in* Lake Erie. There isn't really a position we can take, or advise taking, until there is an actual proposal submitted to the State under Article 10. That has not been done yet. Article 10 has been touted by the media and the State government as "streamlining" the permitting process, while assuring community input in siting decisions for energy-generating projects over 25 megawatts in size. (I'm including an article for anyone who would like to read it. The document details how people are chosen for the siting board[s] and how decisions are to be made by those[that] board[s]. In actuality, nothing could be further from the truth when it comes to REQUIRING communities to be even represented on the board[s], and they are expressly forbidden from taking part in decisions on whether or not to permit a project.) [Editor's Note: Mr. Godfrey's document can be found in the "Article" section, later in this newsletter. It is printed exactly as Mr. Godfrey sent it to me.]

On to lighter topics: We participated in the Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs' National Hunting and Fishing Day at Elma Conservation Society on September 28th. Bob Bohner, Dave Unetich, Debbie Godfrey, and Chuck Godfrey represented WNYTU at this event. There were over 20 organizations there, and a good time was had by all. We discussed TU with kids and their parents/guardians and also demonstrated fly-tying and fly-casting.

Our next Board meeting is Tuesday, November 12. It will be at Sorrentinos restaurant at Main and Mill in Williamsville at 7:00. Any member is welcome to attend.

We have rented a storage unit in West Seneca, because we have acquired so much equipment, etc., over the years that it's no longer practical to have it spread out among individuals' houses. We've put part of the donation from Jim Keech's family there, and we still need to pick up about twice as much as we already have.

The NYS Council of TU will have its Annual Meeting on November 23rd at Tailwaters Lodge on the Salmon River. All meetings are open to the public, and we are allowed three voting members at the meeting, namely, the president and two delegates. Lately, we've mostly been having just two go, as my wife has been a delegate for several years. If someone else would like to become a delegate, please let us know. There are only two meetings per year, and we can actually change delegates every meeting if we wish.

Our next Annual Meeting, as required by our bylaws, will be the March Chapter meeting. All officers and three directors' positions will be up for election. In addition, we still have one vacant Board position. Obviously, we would like to fill all of these. The president's position will also be open, because I will be "terminating out" as required by our bylaws. We very much wish to identify people who would be willing to become leaders in the group. We ask about this at the greeting table at meetings, and we also would like to hear from people who may not attend meetings regularly. We're in the process of documenting responsibilities and procedures for each position, including committee chairmanships. Our most critical need is to find a President. The job does not have to be very complicated or time consuming. A lot of what I do, as President, actually are things that are not part of the WNYTU President's job; and I'm planning on continuing them. Also, I'll certainly be around to help the new President as he/she wants.

Erie County Federation:

The Federation has two opportunities of which WNYTU members should be aware. First is the Joseph Jemiolo Jr. Lifetime Sport's License Raffle. This is a FREE raffle for kids under the age of 16, with a drawing held in December each year. Entries are only online and can be accessed, along with information on the program, at the Federation's website - www.ecfsc.org

Additionally, the Federation awards up to five \$200 scholarships each year to students who are residents of Erie County and who are enrolled in a curriculum for a degree in several qualifying outdoor-oriented careers or law enforcement programs. The application, along with relevant information, can likewise be found on the Federation's website. These applications can be sent either by email or USPS to the Scholarship Chairman – me for now.

Trout in the Classroom:

My wife, Debbie, and I delivered our TIC eggs to our cooperating schools on October 15th and 17th. We picked up eggs from the Randolph Hatchery on the 17th and delivered to Gowanda, ERIE 2 BOCES (N. Collins – new this year), Holland, Randolph Academy – Hamburg, Lackawanna, Nichols, and Maryvale. On the 17th we picked up from Bath and delivered to Brockport, Newfane, St. Mary's Elementary in Swormville, and St. Mary's High School in Lancaster. We are always looking for more schools to participate. If you or your children/grandchildren know of a teacher who might be interested, please have that person get in touch with me at steelheader03@hotmail.com or 716-440-6995. We can help with the expense of the materials necessary for the program.

Chuck Godfrey, WNYTU President

- **Project Healing Waters Fly-Fishing by Mr. David Bollman:** The next PHWFF fly-tying session in Buffalo will take place on October 22, 2019. It begins at 6:30 p.m. If you would like to help, please contact me, Dave, at (716) 697 – 3807. Any assistance would be appreciated. The November, 2019, dates for PHWFF will be Monday, November 4, and Tuesday, November 19.
- **News from our Canadian friends: Mr. Dennis Edell,** of the Niagara Chapter of Trout Unlimited Canada, sends us this message regarding an up-coming discussion of stream restoration techniques. The subject should be of interest to many of our members: *“The Niagara Chapter of Trout Unlimited Canada is holding Landowner Information session in Fonthill, Ontario on November 21 starting at 5:30 pm. Stream rehabilitation experts will provide practical advice on stream restoration techniques for landowners. All TUC Western NY members are welcome. To RSVP and more information contact tucniagara@gmail.com.”*
- **From the Editor:** Our “Trout Talk” newsletter is published in an expanded electronic format each month except for July, August, and December. In order to contain costs, the (typically brief) print version is only available once a year, namely, in September. Unfortunately, even on this schedule, the financial burden, to WNY TU, of the print newsletter remains considerable. Many of our members have agreed to forgo the print edition and to accept only the digital version (which is sent to them via email). It would help our organization considerably if more of our members agreed to this arrangement. All you have to do is send me your e-mail and surface mail addresses so that I can add you to the electronic mailing list and remove your name from the paper mailing list. I can be reached at AdkRuss@gmail.com
- **Treasurer’s Report for the Period September 1 – September 30, 2019** (Submitted by **Mr. Anthony Messina**):

		prior period thru 08/31/19	this period thru 09/31/19
	(CHECKING ACCT)		
BALANCE AT	JUNE 1, 2019	\$1,134.26	
BALANCE AT	SEPTEMBER 1, 2019		\$686.73
INFLOWS:	TU REBATES	\$90.00	
	TRANSFER FROM MONEY MKT. ACCT.		\$1,000.00
	TOTAL INFLOWS:	\$90.00	\$1,000.00
OUTFLOWS:	SUPPLIES (Greeter's Table)	\$6.53	
	PRINTING (TU Stream Books)	\$531.00	
	SUPPLIES		\$288.76

NEWSLETTER PRINTING	\$215.00
NEWSLETTER POSTAGE	\$236.50

TOTAL OUTFLOWS:	\$537.53	\$740.26
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BALANCE AT AUGUST 31, 2019	\$686.73	
BALANCE AT SEPTEMBER 30, 2019		\$946.47

prior period	this period
thru 08/31/19	thru 09/31/19

MONEY MKT ACCT)

BALANCE AT JUNE 1, 2019	\$28,367.49	
BALANCE AT SEPTEMBER 1, 2019		\$28,368.92

INFLOWS: INTEREST - June	\$0.47	
INTEREST - July	\$0.48	
INTEREST - August	\$0.48	
INTEREST - September		\$0.46

TOTAL INFLOWS:	\$1.43	\$0.46
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OUTFLOWS: TRANSFER TO CHECKING ACCT.		\$1,000.00
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TOTAL OUTFLOWS:	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
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BALANCE AT AUGUST 31, 2019	\$28,368.92	
BALANCE AT SEPTEMBER 30, 2019		\$27,369.38

prior period	this period
thru 08/31/19	thru 09/31/19

(RESTRICTED FNDS ACCT)

BALANCE AT JUNE 1, 2019	\$10,000.00	
BALANCE AT SEPTEMBER 1, 2019		\$10,000.00

INFLOWS: NONE	\$0.00	\$0.00
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OUTFLOWS: NONE	\$0.00	\$0.00
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BALANCE AT AUGUST 31, 2019	\$10,000.00	
BALANCE AT SEPTEMBER 30, 2019		\$10,000.00



Article

The Following is submitted by **Mr. Chuck Godfrey**: (This article is printed exactly as Mr. Godfrey sent it to me. Ed.)

According to Article 10, each proposed project of over 25 megawatts requires that its own "Siting Board" be appointed to evaluate the project and determine whether or not to issue a permit. At present there are 25 "Siting Boards" across the State, BUT there really are not presently "25 Siting Boards across the state", as by law the **same 5 Albany agency heads sit on each of them**. Here is how the members are appointed, as listed in the law itself:

the Chair of the Department of Public Service (DPS), who shall serve as Chair of the Siting Board; the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC); the Commissioner of the Department of Health (DOH); the Chair of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA); the Commissioner of Economic Development (Empire State Development) and two ad hoc public members, both of whom shall reside within the municipality in which the facility is proposed to be located, except if such facility is proposed to be located within the City of New York, then all ad hoc members shall reside within the community district in which the facility is proposed to be located.

This is the FAQ answer from the DEC's website as to how are they appointed:

A. One is appointed by the President Pro Tem (Majority Leader) of the New York State Senate and one is appointed by the Speaker of the New York State Assembly from a list of candidates submitted to them. The list of candidates is to be submitted within fifteen days of receipt of notification of the pre-application preliminary scoping statement. In the event that the President Pro Tem of the Senate or the Speaker of the Assembly does not appoint one of the candidates within thirty days of receiving the list, the Governor shall appoint the ad hoc member(s) from the list of candidates. In the event that **one or both of the ad hoc public members have not been appointed within forty-five days**, a majority of persons named to the Siting Board shall constitute a quorum.

This means that if either the Senate or Assembly appoints a community member, it's up to the Governor to do so. If he chooses not to, then 3 of the 5 Dept. heads from Albany constitute a quorum and can go about the work of the Board.

This is what the actual wording is in the law as to how the community members are appointed:

One ad hoc member shall be appointed by the president pro tem of the senate and one ad hoc member shall be appointed by the speaker of the assembly from a list of candidates submitted to them, in the following manner.....the chief executive officer representing the municipality shall nominate four candidates and the chief executive officer representing the county shall nominate four candidates for consideration. If such facility is proposed to be located outside of the city of new york and in a village located within a town, the chief executive officer representing the town shall nominate four candidates, the chief executive officer representing the county shall nominate four candidates, and the chief executive officer representing the village shall nominate four candidates for consideration.

Nominations shall be submitted to the president pro tem of the senate and the speaker of the assembly within fifteen days of receipt of notification of the pre-application preliminary scoping statement. In the event that the president pro tem of the senate does not appoint one of the candidates within thirty days of such nominations, the governor shall appoint the ad hoc member from the list of candidates. In the event that the speaker of the assembly does not appoint one of the candidates within thirty days of such nominations, the governor shall appoint the ad hoc member from the list of candidates. In the event that one or both of the ad hoc public members have not been appointed within forty-five days, a majority of persons named to the board shall constitute a quorum.

And here's how much power the community members have on actual decisions – zero. They're not even included in the "consultation" on the merits of the permit.

1. The board, exclusive of the ad hoc members, shall have the power to adopt the rules and regulations relating to the procedures to be used in certifying facilities under the provisions of this article, including the suspension or revocation thereof, and shall further have the power to seek delegation from the federal government pursuant to federal regulatory programs applicable to the siting of major electric facilities. The chairperson, after consultation with the other members of the board exclusive of the ad hoc members, shall have exclusive jurisdiction to issue declaratory rulings regarding the applicability of, or any other question under, this article and rules and regulations adopted hereunder and to grant requests for extensions or amendments to or transfers of certificate terms and conditions, provided that no party to the proceeding opposes such request for extensions or amendments within thirty days of the filing of such request.

Photography

Mr. Chuck Godfrey has provided these recent images:

Here, Mr. Rich Meyers of Newfane explains trout hatching to his Trout in the Classroom students.



Next is a view from our September, 2019, WNYTU Chapter meeting. Mr. Jim Markham talks about steelhead in the Lake Erie Tributaries.



Finally, DEC Regional Fisheries Manager, **Mr. Mike Clancy**, explains the new Inland Trout Stream Management Plan at the Concord Town Hall on October 17, 2019.



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