



Learn to tie the River Rabbit with fish skull heads inside

## ***Clearwater Currents***

**The Official Publication of the Clearwater Chapter of  
Trout Unlimited**

**17 Sutherland Drive Watervliet, NY 12189**

**Issue No. 16-03**

**March, 2016**





*America's Leading Coldwater Fisheries Conservation  
Organization  
Promoting Habitat for Wild Trout and Salmon  
Trout Unlimited Has Been Fighting for Coldwater Fisheries  
Conservation for 56 Years*

**Join us** before each meeting at 6:30pm for a tying demonstration. Meetings begin at 7:30pm, the third Monday of each month (except Banquet month, July and August), at the Albany Ramada located on Watervliet Avenue Extension off Exit 5 of I-90 (Everett Road).

**Upcoming Events**

- March 19 Chapter Annual Conservation Banquet - \$45 – 4pm start – Century House Latham – hundreds of prizes and giveaways – see inside for more details
- April 1 Trout season opens in NY
- April 2 Trout season opens in PA – southeastern part of state only
- April 16 Trout season opens in PA – rest of state

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Board Member	Glenn Kuhles	869-0817	Banquet	Bill Cosgrove	766-2405
Website	Trevor Tripp	380-6614			
Disabled Angler Program	Bart Chabot	393-9918			

**Clearwater Chapter of TU PO Box 9686 Schenectady, NY 12309**  
**[www.ClearwaterTU.org](http://www.ClearwaterTU.org)**

## **Clearwater Chapter General Meeting**

Remember that there is no meeting for March, 2016 as it is Banquet month. Please join us in April at our monthly meeting.

## **CLEARWATER ANGLING FLEA MARKET APRIL 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

Save the date! April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016 is the Clearwater TU Annual Angling Flea Market at the Ramada Plaza Hotel just off Everett Rd. Make plans now to attend. On sale: books on angling, hunting, fly tying, fishing; fly tying vises, tools and material; vintage lures and rods and reels, modern custom made graphite and bamboo rods. If it has to do with fishing it will probably be on hand. Three dollar general admittance, children 16 and under free.

Tables are available at the usual rate of \$20 while additional tables can be added at \$15 each. We also ask a 10 percent of sales donation. Contact **Bob Mead** at 518-399-9000 or email at [rmead1@nycap.rr.com](mailto:rmead1@nycap.rr.com) to reserve your table.

## **2016 Clearwater Chapter Ausable River Trip**

Please let me know if you will be joining us on the Ausable trip this year. June 3,4,5, Two night stay, 2 breakfasts and an order from the menu dinner Saturday evening. \$219 per person this year and as the last 3 years, pay your own tips. I've got 5 rooms plus a 3 or 4 person suite left so let me know ASAP. Thanks.  
As ever, Bob Mead – 518-399-9000.

## **Statement from Acting DEC Commissioner Basil Seggos on Passing of Former Commissioner Henry Diamond**

"The Department of Environmental Conservation is deeply saddened by the passing of our first commissioner Henry L. Diamond, who served the state with great distinction from 1970 to 1973.

"Appointed by Governor Nelson Rockefeller as the agency's first commissioner on the first Earth Day, Henry was a pioneer and steadfast champion for the environment during a period when government agencies were slow to recognize the need to combat air and water pollution.

"In his capacity at the DEC, he combined all New York State resource management and anti-pollution programs into the nation's first environmental department. Henry was at the forefront of creating programs to deal with mercury pollution and solid waste management, initiatives which later became models for many other states.

"For more than 60 years he devoted his life to public service and protecting our natural resources with a focus on leading by example. It's clear that New Yorkers and the environment are better off because of his efforts, and when the history of New York State environmentalism is written, the name Henry Diamond should be at the forefront.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with Henry's wife Betty and the Diamond family."

# **DEC Proposed 2017 Freshwater Fishing Regulation**

## **Changes Now Available for Public Review**

### **Anglers Are Encouraged to Review and Comment on**

### **Potential Changes**

Based on the State's ongoing monitoring of New York's freshwater fish populations and discussions with anglers, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has identified potential changes to the fishing regulations and is seeking additional angler feedback. Changes being considered to the [current freshwater fishing regulations](#) are now available at DEC's website, and if approved, these regulation changes would take effect on April 1, 2017.

Many of the changes being considered are intended for safeguarding and/or expanding fish populations while enhancing angling experience and enjoyment. Other changes under consideration are focused on eliminating special regulations that did not achieve their intended purpose, in a continuing effort to simplify New York fishing regulations. Proposed warmwater regulation changes include temporarily adjusting creel and minimum size limits for walleye as part of DEC's multi-year effort to establish walleye populations in candidate waters, as well as protecting walleye where they congregate during the spawning season. Coldwater regulation changes being considered involve the adjustment of creel limits for walleye and minimum size limits for select waters based on recent biological assessments.

Following the review of the public feedback received and further evaluation this winter, DEC will advance proposals that have general angler acceptance and are likely to result in better fishing. The proposals will be advanced in accordance with New York State's rule making process, and will include a formal public comment period. At this time, DEC is soliciting initial feedback on what may be proposed later this year. Input will be accepted through March 31.

DEC welcomes and encourages feedback on the regulation changes currently under consideration. To view these potential changes and to provide input, visit the DEC website. Hard copies of the list of changes being considered, as well as instructions on how to submit feedback by regular mail, can be obtained by contacting Shaun Keeler, at New York State DEC, Bureau of Fisheries, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4753.

### **Fly of the Month:** River Rabbit Streamers with Fish Skull Heads

The photo at the beginning of this newsletter is our fly of the month for March, 2016. I bought the fish skulls a while back and I think they offer a great option for those anglers looking for a streamer that gets down deep fast. Fast deep water exists all around us and a fly like this is just the ticket to working the fast deep water large fish reside in. Instead of me detailing all the steps I included two links that do a better job than I could. Plus check out several good videos on YouTube that teach how to tie the skull head series of flies.

<http://intheriffle.com/fishing-videos/fly-tying-tips-tricks/fish-skull-streamer-heads-video/>

<http://flymenfishingcompany.com/pages/fly-tying-fishing-tutorials-river-rabbit>

**Clearwater Chapter of Trout Unlimited**  
**Proudly invites you and your guests to attend the**

**44<sup>th</sup> Annual Conservation Banquet**  
**March 19, 2016**  
**at**  
**The Century House**  
**997 New Loudon Rd (Rt 9) Latham, NY 12110**

**Doors open with hors d'oeuvres at 4pm – Dinner served at 6pm**  
**Tableside menu choices to include Filet Mignon or Salmon or Rigatoni Oreganato**

**Live Auction – Silent Auction – Bucket Raffles – Card Raffles – Door Prizes**  
**Artwork – Fishing Gear – Tying Materials – Jewelry – Fly Rods and Reels – Gift Certificates**

**Reservations only available in advance**  
**\$45 per person**  
**Please complete this for and mail it by March 11, 2016 with your payment to:**

**Mike and Kim Walchko 244 Quarry St Cobleskill, NY 12043**  
**Make Checks Payable to Clearwater Trout Unlimited**  
**(Reservations will not be confirmed prior to the banquet)**

**Grand Prize drawing at the Banquet**  
**12' Hornbeck Canoe with Rowing Package**  
**Canoe raffle tickets are available: One for \$5 or five for \$20**  
**You need not be present to win**

**All proceeds from this event to benefit local conservation or our cold-water resources**  
**Contact: Mike and Kim Walchko (518) 234-4192**  
**[www.clearwatertu.org](http://www.clearwatertu.org)**

**All are welcome!**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number Attending:** \_\_\_\_\_ **x \$45 each= \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to purchase canoe raffle tickets:# of tickets:** \_\_\_\_\_ **x \$5 each=\$** \_\_\_\_\_

**I cannot attend, but would like to make a conservation donation of \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total amount enclosed=\$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Trout Unlimited  
Clearwater Chapter  
Annual Conservation Banquet**

**Saturday March 19, 2016  
The Century House  
997 New Loudon Rd (Rt 9) Latham, NY**

**Time:  
4:00pm Cocktails &  
Hors D'oeuvres  
Dinner 6:00pm  
Price \$45**



**Hornbeck Classic 12 Foot Canoe with Rowing Package  
Tickets \$5 each or book of five for \$20**

**Banquet RSVP: Kim Walchko, (518) 234-4192  
For more information please visit:  
<http://clearwater.org/banquet.html>**

**2016 Fly Fishing Film Tour**  
**March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Reamer Auditorium**  
**Union College**

The original and preeminent exhibition of fly-fishing cinema, *The Fly Fishing Film Tour* (<http://www.flyfilmtour.com/>) is a one of a kind experience. This prime event helps support educational and environmental efforts and will finally return to the New York Capital region.

This event will be on Sunday, March 6th at Reamer Auditorium located at Union College. Doors open at 3:30 PM, with the show starting at 4:00 PM. Tickets are \$10 and will be available online at <http://flyfilmtour.ticketfly.com/>. Guests will have an opportunity to win door prizes and raffles, as well as meet representatives to learn more about local efforts and how to get involved. After the show, all are welcomed to join and participate in an *Iron Fly* social competition at Schenectady's Wolff's Biergarten.

The main purpose of this event is to 1.) help promote the 5 Rivers Programs at Union College, Skidmore College, and SUNY Cobleskill; 2.) establish a greater support and networking system in the Capital District.

***Editor's Note – this event came to Albany several years ago and was a big hit so get tickets early!***