

Gaslight News

The Historical Society of Riverton
Riverton, New Jersey

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"The Jewels of the Pinelands" at October 4th Meeting

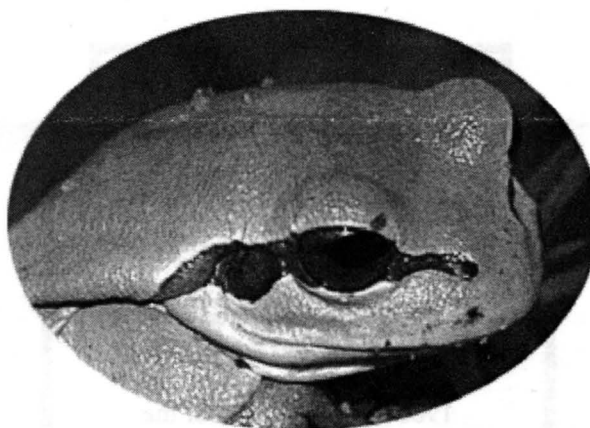
The Historical Society of Riverton will meet on Monday October 4th at 7:30 pm for a general meeting and program at the Riverton School, Fifth and Howard Streets, in the School Media Center.

R. Bruce Gebhardt will present a talk and slideshow program on the history of native Pinelands fishes. The program is titled, **The Jewels of the Pinelands**, made possible by the New Jersey Pinelands Commission.

As a six term president of the *North American Native Fishes Association* and founder of the *Society on North American Fishes*, Mr. Gebhardt specializes in the study of Pinelands fishes. He fondly refers to the fishes of the Pine Barrens as "the jewels of the Pinelands" and his talk includes images from his personal photograph collection. His photographs of fish have appeared on the covers and pages of national magazines. He is also familiar with fishes in surrounding geographic areas and will take questions from Historical Society members following his presentation.

The Pinelands, also known as the Pine Barrens, is a geological wonder formed over 70 million years ago and covers about one million acres of forest, fields, streams and bogs in Southern New Jersey. The receding waters of the Atlantic Ocean left behind sand and minerals along the coastal plain while deposits of gravel and pebbles were deposited in the Pine Barrens from streams running down from the emerging Appalachian Mountains in the west.

"The Jewels of the Pinelands" continued on page three



**PINELANDS SYMBOL LEAPS OFF
ENDANGERED SPECIES LIST
PINE BARRENS TREE FROG**

Inside This Issue

**THE JEWELS OF THE
PINELANDS OCTOBER 4TH
PROGRAM FEATURING
R. BRUCE GEPHARDT**

**HISTORY OF THE SUFFRAGETTE
MOVEMENT OCTOBER 21, 2004
BURLINGTON COUNTY FREE LIBRARY**

**PRESERVING YOUR FAMILY
PHOTOGRAPHS SEPTEMBER 29TH
AT STATE ARCHIVES IN TRENTON**

**ONLINE SOURCES FOR NEW
JERSEY GENEALOGY OCTOBER
27TH AT STATE ARCHIVES IN TRENTON**

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The Historical Society of Riverton

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HISTORY OF THE SUFFRAGETTE MOVEMENT

OCTOBER 21, 2004

7:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.

This fascinating three-fold
lecture, slide and music show
will include postcards from
1900 to 1920 and cover the
history of Quakers in New
Jersey, the biography of Alice
Paul and Paulsdales, and the
women's right to vote
movement.

Free program no registration is required.

Adult Programs Headquarters
Burlington County Free Library
5 Pioneer Blvd. Westampton, N.J.

609-267-9660

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF RIVERTON 2004-2005

GENERAL MEETING SCHEDULE
MONDAYS AT 7:30 P.M. RIVERTON SCHOOL

OCTOBER 4TH, 2004
NOVEMBER 29TH, 2004
JANUARY 24TH, 2005
MARCH 7TH, 2005
MAY 9TH, 2005

NEW JERSEY STATE ARCHIVES & THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

PRESERVING YOUR FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHS

Presented by:
Joanne M. Nestor
&
Janet T. Rierner

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 29TH
6:30-7:30 P.M.

CASE STUDIES IN NEW JERSEY GENEALOGY III, TRACING YOUR PRE-CIVIL WAR FAMILY

Presented by:
Bette M. Epstein

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 20TH
6:30-7:30 P.M.

ONLINE SOURCES FOR NEW JERSEY GENEALOGY

Presented by:
John W. Konvalinka

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 27TH
6:30-7:30 p.m.

State Archives Building
225 West State Street, Trenton, New Jersey.

Registration fee of \$8.00 for each session.

Pre-registration required; limit of 25 maximum per session.
Lectures will be held in Archives' Manuscript Reading
Room at 6:30 p.m. Registration begins one half hour be-
fore session starts. Please arrive early.

Visit their web site for registration information.

[http://www.state.nj.us/state/darm/
links/jersey-roots2.html](http://www.state.nj.us/state/darm/links/jersey-roots2.html)

"The Jewels of the Pinelands" at October 4th Meeting

Today the sands and gravels of the Pinelands filter the rainwater as it percolates down through the ground into a vast underground reservoir known as an aquifer. The aquifer feeds the many streams of the Pine Barrens as well as being a renewable water resource for millions of people in communities throughout Southern New Jersey.

The harsh environment limits the variety of wildlife in the Pinelands yet the lowland cedar-sphagnum bogs and marshes offers a habitat that supports a number of fish and amphibian species.

Research conducted by Robert W. Hastings of the Pinelands Commission in 1978 indicated that New Jersey was home to over a 100 species of fish while the Pine Barrens was limited to only about 15 species of fishes.

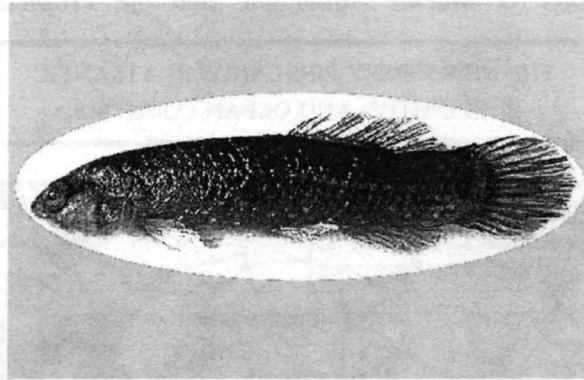
"Among the frogs, the Southern Leopard Frog, Green Frog and Fowler's Toad are abundant in the Pine Barrens. The Carpenter Frog and Pine Barrens Tree frog are most characteristic of the area since they do not occur elsewhere in the state. The Carpenter Frog is commonly found around the larger rivers, lakes and cranberry bogs; the Pine Barrens Tree frog is found in cedar bogs where it breeds in small acid pools or slow-moving streams." Robert W. Hastings (1)

Today the Pine Barrens tree frog is found only in the Pinelands. Listed as an endangered species in 1979 the Pine Barrens tree frog reproduced in sufficient numbers over the past twenty five years to be downgraded to a "threatened" wildlife species.

In May of 2003 The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection credited the work of the Pinelands Commission's Comprehensive Management Plan in preserving the natural habitat of the tree frog.

Among the native fishes of the Pine Barrens is the dazzling-colored Black banded Sunfish. Once common in the waters of the Delaware River near Trenton this sunfish is now unique to the lakes and streams of the southern New Jersey Pinelands. (2)

The Eastern Mudminnow lives in the dense growth of the swamps and marshes. The Eastern Mudminnow is particularly adapted to low water conditions for in addition to gills for taking air from water, it can survive during drought and low water by drawing air from it's gas bladder. (1)



THE EASTERN MUDMINNOW IS A NATIVE FISH STILL COMMON IN THE NEW JERSEY PINELANDS.

PINELANDS SYMBOL LEAPS OFF ENDANGERED SPECIES LIST

"When the Pine Barrens tree frog was added to the endangered species list in 1979, state Pinelands protections were in their infancy," Campbell said. "The removal of the Pine Barrens tree frog from the state endangered list is testimony to how effective the Pinelands Commission has been at preserving southern New Jersey's natural treasures."

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT
OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

MAY 2, 2003

"The Jewels of the Pinelands" continued from page three

While the State of New Jersey stocks game fish in local waters the only sport fish that spawns in the Pine Barrens is the Chain Pickerel. The Pickerel is a predator adept at feeding on other fishes. The limited variety and numbers of fishes in the Pine Barrens requires the Pickerel to diversify its diet to include larvae and crayfish.

Join us on Monday October 4th for Mr. Gebhardt's talk on "The Jewels of the Pine-lands." Bruce Gebhardt holds a master's degree from the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers. Mr. Gebhardt has authored numerous articles and book reviews on fishes for over thirty years including the *Aquarium Fish Magazine*, *Fresh-water & Marine Aquarium*, and the *Tropical*

Mr. Gebhardt has written for *American Currents* magazine on the subject of live keeping of North American fishes. He also co-authored a series on "Fishes of the Lower Susquehanna and Northern Chesapeake Tributaries" in *American Currents*. He is the author of "Fishes of the Wissahickon Creek", available through the Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association, Ambler, Pennsylvania.

THE NEW JERSEY PINELANDS IN ATLANTIC
BURLINGTON AND OCEAN COUNTIES.

REFERENCES

- (1) HASTINGS, ROBERT W. NEW JERSEY PINELANDS COMMISSION. ARTICLE IN *FRONTIERS*, A PUBLICATION OF THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, WINTER 1978.
- (2) PARNES, ROBERT. THE JERSEY PINE BARRENS. THE GLOBE PEQUOT PRESS, OLD SAYBROOK, CONNECTICUT, 1994.
- MCPHEE, JOHN. THE PINE BARRENS. THE NOONDAY PRESS, FARRAR, STRAUS AND GIROUX, NEW YORK 1968.

