Since the fall of 2006 the Metro East Anglers have had their own Bring Back a Salmon Campaign of sorts. During our first Chinook Egg Collection we observed a significant run of Coho. It was at this time we decided to advocate for their reinstatement. We presented our interest for this species to a very supportive Ministry of Natural Resources. In 2007 we began this program with the collection of approx. 100,000 wild Credit river eggs, and in the fall of 2008, we stocked 79,808 yearlings. This would become our last substantial year class for Coho egg collection and stocking. Every year that followed has seen our volunteers struggle to collect enough eggs to meet the permitted stocking quantity.

In 2009 we stocked 12,862 yearlings, in 2010 we stocked 24,415. There has been a regrettable decline in the runs of Credit river Coho since the elimination of stocking in 2006 and 2007. Unfortunately we are experiencing the effects from those missed stocking years.

It is with disappointment that the MEA reports that the 2011 wild Coho egg collection did not produce the numbers we were permitted. This past November we collected approx. 30,000 Coho eggs. This small quantity required us to take four separate trips down to the Credit River and a “Gorilla Style” collection hike up Cobourg creek. We had many volunteer “spotters” checking the various tributaries for any signs of spawning Coho. The MEA was ready to go at a moment’s notice if anyone had reported some decent numbers for our collection. Regrettably, all reports came back negative. It is important that people understand that 30,000 eggs does not generate 30,000 stocked fish. For many reasons that number can shrink between 30 and 50%. However, on a more positive note our first Coho alvein or sac-fry hatched approx. 45 days after fertilization. Things are progressing as expected and all looks normal to date.

As the MEA inspects past stocking numbers it seems probable that future egg collections will most likely suffer the same shortfalls. The Lake Ontario Coho program, out of Ringwood, has been shored-up in the past by using American collected wild Salmon River eggs. If we can secure the necessary funding and crucial support it is our sincere hope that we too will be allowed to supplement our collections with this valuable source of Coho eggs. The MEA will strive to support Coho as well as continue to get support from all parties involved.

By Steve Lynas

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**SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:**

- **Coho Egg Collection**
- **Brown Trout Update**
- **New Sponsors Signed**
- **Volunteers Help out Ringwood**
- **Electricity Costs**
- **Pen Leads Elected**

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**COHO UPDATE**

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**BROWN TROUT ARRIVE**

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By Glenn Anderson
The Metro East Anglers Inc.

THE M E T R O E A S T A N G L E R S I N C.

January, 2012

PARTNERS AND SPONSORS STEP UP

The Metro East Anglers has forged a great partnership with the Ministry of Natural Resources over the last decade or so, but at no time has it been demonstrated as keenly or as strongly as it has now. With the signing of the agreement to keep Ringwood open for another year, the MNR has entrusted the MEA to look after the Ringwood facility and at the same time gotten behind our now 6 year old desire to keep Coho going in Ontario. Beyond just the facilities agreement the MNR has stepped up in several ways to help the club on items that would have been difficult for us to tackle on our own. A perfect example was sending a large stocking truck to stock out the 70,000 Coho this fall. If we had to do it on our own it would have taken over 2 weeks and 10 or so trips. With the MNR stocking vehicle it was all done in one day. Another example of this great partnership came when we started having trouble finding enough Coho eggs this past fall. The MNR scouted streams and even sent staff to help us do a last minute collection on Cobourg Creek. So a big hats off to our Partners in the MNR. Together we make the fishery better.

I am sure everyone is aware that the Toronto Sportsmen’s Show/Great Ontario Salmon Hunt is a major Sponsor of the MEA and all our efforts at Ringwood. Not surprising because it seems that the Chairman, Walter Oster, has always been there to help the Lake Ontario Fishery in whatever way he can. First with the original Ringwood deal and then with contributions to all the new Pen Projects on Lake Ontario. He continues that tradition by supporting our Coho, Brown and Rainbow efforts. Thanks Walter for stepping up and making a major financial contribution to the MEA and Ringwood. Your support makes it possible to keep Ringwood producing great fish.

As a Normark/Rapala representative, Matt Santoro, has been instrumental in helping us sign our new sponsor. Such that we can now count Normark/Rapala as the second major sponsor to sign on and help us not only keep Ringwood open, but the Coho program alive on the North Shores of Lake Ontario. Normark/Rapala is the largest fishing tackle manufacturer and distributor in the world. You are likely familiar with some of their many brands and products, such as Blue Fox, VMC, Luhr Jensen and Suffix, just to name a few. It just so happens that Suffix fluorocarbon leader line is my favourite for making fly and cutbait rigs, and under the Blue Fox brand they make the Matrixx Salmon Spoon, which is also one of my top go to spoons...wonder if we can get samples? Normark products are available in every tackle store under numerous brand names. Go to their Website and familiarize yourself with their products at http://www.rapalaworld.com/

Please remember to always support our Sponsors and Partners

In closing I would like to say we are still in need of some more financial sponsorship. We are about $18,000 short of raising enough to cover a full year of operation at Ringwood. If you know any companies or organization that might be interested in supporting us please let me know at, Bruce.Burt2@sympatico.ca

W O R K D A Y O U T A T R I N G W O O D

On Saturday October 29th members of the Central Lake Ontario Sport Anglers arrived at Ringwood to get down to work. These guys don’t fool around when it comes to helping out and they take supporting the Lake Ontario fishery very seriously. After over a 100 mile drive they arrived at Ringwood early that morning. They came from Prince Edward County where many of them live in and around the Wellington area. When the word went out that Ringwood and the Metro East Anglers needed help, they were the first to volunteer. This is not really surprising since CLOSA has been supporting Ringwood for years. Unfortunately, on this workday we had a particularly nasty Ringwood chore.

The hatchery’s water supply comes from three artesian wells that flow at a maximum rate of 3000 litres per minute. The water is gravity fed to an aeration building where it is then dropped 7 feet through three, 16" diameter columns. Each column is filled with plastic agitators to ensure the water is oxygenated and harmful nitrogen gases are released. These columns must be removed and cleaned every couple of years to keep them running efficiently. The water at Ringwood has a high iron content. Therefore, after a period of time iron and scale build up to impede the system and reduce both water flow and oxygen content. It is vitally important to the health of the young Trout and Salmon that routine maintenance be done on these towers. It is without a doubt one of Ringwood’s dirtiest jobs.

President of CLOSA, Al Van Dusen and his members got down to it and after a full day of scrubbing and power washing the columns were crystal clean. They were then lifted back into their positions high up in the aeration building. While some of the members worked on the columns, others got down to business cleaning heath trays. Individually hand scrubbing the build up of scale and rust on them. After a week of flushing the system with clean water the heath trays were then ready for the reception of wild fertilized Coho eggs that following week-end.

CLOSA members have made several of these long trips to Ringwood over the years. When extra hands were needed we could always count on this fine organization. They have supported our efforts right from the get go and the MEA is very grateful to these members.

I am happy to report to the CLOSA members that the columns still look as clean as the day you guys worked on them. The same, however, can not be said of our driveway which still has the large rust stain where the club got down to business.

By Steve Lynas

CLOSA Members help Ringwood

Bruce Burt

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Results of the pen projects were seen this past fall when a great number of Salmon returned to Whitby harbour. From September to end of October you could see Salmon porpoise the harbour frequently. This results in better fishing opportunities for both the pier and boat fisherman, a fantastic testament to the work of the Whitby Pen Project over the years and I’m sure similar results are being seen in the other 8 sites that line the North Shores of Lake Ontario.

The Metro East Anglers would like to thank all those who took the time to support this exhaustive campaign. The Aviva Community Fund Contest ran for a momentous 51 days. It stretched over a period of about 9 weeks. A special thanks goes out to all websites that helped us gain votes.

The funding idea was brought forward by a long standing MEA member, Ettore Dellaquila. “We had to work quickly submitting our idea because the entry deadline was only a week away from when I learned about the contest.”

The MEA/MNR agreement for the Ringwood Facilities was technically unsigned at the time of Ettore’s submission. Therefore, we would like to thank the Ministry of Natural Resources for understanding and letting us go public with this idea early. Putting us into the small funding category proved to be a smart move by Ettore and it ultimately helped us secure a spot in the Semi-Finals. However with a total of 29 Nation Wide Semi-Finalist to compete against we finished 22nd. The final vote was a disappointing 2876.

By Steve Lynas

Spring Fin Clipping

In September 2011 the following MEA Inc. Pen Directors were unanimously voted in:

Chris Currie        Buffers Park
Matt Santoro        Port Whitby
Scotty Richardson   Port Darlington
Hoss (Ocean) Hele   Oshawa Harbour

With the 2012 spring fin clipping project quickly approaching, it is important to start thinking about how we will accomplish the goal of 100,000 clipped fry this year. In order for the four designated pen locations to receive their allotted quota, it will be necessary to rally sufficient volunteers to accomplish the goal. So let’s start getting the word out to your pen project volunteers. The timeframe of the fin clipping will continue to be in and around Mid-March. The clipping project is the same as other years, however it will take place at a different venue, the Normandale Fish Culture Station located on the North Shore of Lake Erie. Since the Normandale F.C.S. is approximately a 2 1/2 hour drive, the MNR is currently working on identifying inexpensive lodgings near the hatchery for those that want to stay the night. Some brief information on the Normandale F.C.S. can be found at the following site:

http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/en/Business/Letsfish/2ColumnSubPage/STI02_1666020.html

Power Use

Home electrical use is one of the few things that we have complete control over. The same is true at the Ringwood Fish Culture Station with the exception that our use at the hatchery can be up to 10 fold what it is in our homes. MEA members have been working diligently over the last few months to identify “high consumers” of electricity at the hatchery and shutting them down in an effort to reduce our operating costs. A special thanks goes out to John Tensen and Frank Teklenburg who spent a full day out at the hatchery going through all the circuits and mapping meter consumption sources. With these efforts we have been able to reduce our electrical operating expenses by about 40%, an amazing savings!

By Glenn Anderson

Power Use continues...
The Board of Directors would like to express regret for the length of time it took us to produce our first volume of this, The New MEA Newsletter. It has always been our objective to keep the lines of communications open to those who in a positive way support MEA projects. We hope that this Newsletter will not only communicate the happenings out at Ringwood, but also provide a collective gratitude towards those whose charity is so vitally important to this project. We hope that you will get behind this Newsletter by thinking of ways you can contribute to it. As we are a Community supported organization this Newsletter can only get better if the community has a hand in its evolution.

As we welcome all those who want to contribute, we ask only that you respect our Partners, Sponsors and Members in any article you feel a desire to write. The Newsletter should contain articles that help promote and/or educate readers about projects related to Ringwood. Volunteer experiences or other positive stories related to the MEA or Ringwood are a nice way to foster a sense of community goodwill. The Board maintains the right to edit material viewed as inappropriate for this Newsletter. If you are interested please submit articles with any supporting pictures to,

steve.lynas@gmail.com

If you are not a member yet and want to join. Then send an email to,
metroeastanglers@gmail.com

We need your name, email and mailing address. You will then be put on our MEA Inc. mailing list for all the upcoming events and hatchery happenings.

UPCOMING WORK
- SHELLING BROWN EGGS
- COHO TANK TRANSFERS
- MARCH FISH LADDER RAINBOWS

Please check our website for up to date info on all upcoming work.

The Metro East Anglers Inc. is a Not-For-Profit Organization Established in September, 2011, under the following Mission Statement:

our Mission is to Establish a Conservation Club for the Purposes of Preserving, Protecting and Restoring Rivers and Lakes. This will be achieved in Partnership with the MNR through the following activities:

- Raising of fry at a hatchery for release into Lake Ontario and its tributaries
- Operation of a Fish Ladder on the Rouge River to improve spawning opportunities for Rainbow Trout in that watershed

Please visit our website at:
HTTP://RINGWOODFCS.PROBOARDS.COM

Ringwood Fish Culture Station
13232 Highway 48
Stouffville, Ontario
L4A 7X3
Phone (905)640-6204

Board of Directors
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Bruce Burt...............................Finance/Sponsorship
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Steve Lynas.............................Hatchery Operation
Steve Rivard............................Recording Secretary

Thanks to the Port Whitby Sportsmen Association and The Central Lake Ontario Sports Anglers

Thanks goes out to Jeremy Green whose family business helps care for the Ringwood property
http://aboutgreen.webs.com

Volume 1, Issue 1 of The Metro East Anglers Inc. Newsletter was produced by Steve Lynas. Please forward any questions or comments to
steve.lynas@gmail.com