

# Tertiary Treatment



A Monthly Newsletter of the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Volume 33, Issue 12

December, 2009

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## A PLEA FOR VOLUNTEERS

TU needs you, and we need you now. Four TU board positions will be open in 2010. We also need new membership and habitat committee chairs.

Now is the time for you to step up and be counted. Please consider volunteering for a board position and/or a committee chair. **Board members are elected at the January membership meeting.**

Call or email Bill Brusse ( **234-8851**; [wbrusse@converseconsultants.com](mailto:wbrusse@converseconsultants.com)) to volunteer.

Whether or not you volunteer, please come to the January membership meeting to vote for new board members.

## LETTER FROM CLIFF WURSTER

President  
State College Chapter of Trout Unlimited  
1018 Metz Avenue  
State College PA 16801

Dear Bill Brusse,

My continued volunteer service to Trout Unlimited is in jeopardy. In part, since I am clearly on the wrong side of the tournament fishing during spawn issue, I personally feel frustrated as the habitat chair trying to take steps forward locally to enhance our coldwater fisheries only to be seemingly compromised by planners and supporters of an event that clearly impacts our brown trout. Moreover, and probably even more frustrating to me was the absolutely pitiful volunteer turnout of chapter members during

the three week project this summer at McCoy-Limm Dam. I am not the type to run around with my hair on fire over frivolous issues, but feel I am a responsible board member with a real obligation to our stated mission.

I can accept that a battle was lost over this year's tournament, but feel confident that our chapter could win the bigger war to wit, restrict tournament fishing, if not all fishing during the spawn on Class A Pennsylvania streams in the future. There is ample science to support such an initiative even though some folks apparently do not want to be "confused with the facts" that fishing over spawning trout is stressful and likely harmful to these fish. What I cannot accept, on the other hand, is being minimized for taking an unpopular stand on this issue. True, I was not at the September Board meeting because I was out in Yellowstone volunteering with the Yellowstone Foundation to improve their desperately struggling native fishery; therefore, I see that email arguments were discounted and probably scoffed because I did not show up in person to help the Board make a decision and then take an action that would be consistent with TU's mission, "to conserve, protect, and restore coldwater fisheries."

On the other issue of member volunteers, you as president joined by your elected Board have got to do a better job supporting your habitat committee. I was never more embarrassed than when more than one day this summer,

there were more volunteers from the LJRA, Lock Haven TU, and an out-of-town visitor who was looking for a way to kill time while his wife made a presentation at a Penn State conference than from our very own SCCTU. Shameful! It is a lot like *more of the same* when Dick Stevenson asks for help to plan, organize, and execute the annual fund raising banquet. I cannot continue to serve an organization that "stands by and watches from the doorway and refuses to come into the room" to pitch in and carry their own weight as committed and involved members. So what are you and the Board willing to do to energize our membership? A pledge to do better will not keep me on-board, but a deliberate action plan could. I personally do not want "to take my ball and go home", and I'm not trying to insight an insurrection and over through of current officers and board members, but I have the passion to do right by fisheries and would like an organization chartered to do that very thing to stand tall to the task.

I apologize for tiring you and others with these long exchanges, but these are two very serious issues for me and should be for our board.

Respectfully,

Clifford L Wurster  
SCCTU Habitat Chair

## **NEWSLETTER CHANGES....PLEASE READ**

From Board Member Ted Trostle

The annual cost to produce and mail this newsletter is over \$3600. Being that your chapter is a non-profit organization with a mission to preserve and protect the waters of Spring Creek, it has been decided to redirect this cost to support the mission.

Therefore, we will be making a change to provide the SCTU newsletter electronically via email using our List-server

The February 2010 issue will be the last post office mailing.

To assure that you continue to receive the newsletter, you **MUST** sign up or subscribe to this service.

To subscribe send an email to:

[l-sp-tu-subscribe-request@lists.psu.edu](mailto:l-sp-tu-subscribe-request@lists.psu.edu)

No subject or message text is needed. Note some email systems require a Subject, in that case simply type the letter "S" w/o quotes The system will collect your email address from the email header.

If you do not have an email address it is strongly suggested you obtain one.

If you previously subscribed to the list-server and later changed email addresses, please update your subscription as described above to continue to receive the newsletter. Invalid email addresses will be deleted.

Note: The newsletter may be also viewed on the SCTU Website [www.springcreektu.org](http://www.springcreektu.org)

### **Jan. Membership Meeting**

All membership meetings are at 7:30 PM at the Comfort Suites Inn, 132 Village Drive, just off North Atherton St.

January 7: **Election of new board members.**

Program: Don Douple will make a presentation on "Streamer Fishing for Bigger Trout". Don will be making a video presentation on streamer fishing for larger trout. He promises we will have video with lots of big trout, fly patterns that catch them, tying ideas and how to cast heavy flies. Some background on Don -- he graduated from Indiana University of PA, majoring in biology education. He is a terrific photographer of wild trout in their own environment, and was mentioned by name in the Ozzie Ozefovich video shown at a recent SC TU meeting. In addition to photography, Don is a fly fishing guide, fly tyer and custom rod builder. He currently lives in Belleville.

## **NOVEMBER 16, 2009 SCCTU BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

(Prepared by Bill Brusse in the absence of the Secretary)

IN ATTENDANCE: Wurster, Phillips, Stevenson, Donaldson, Trostle, Lynch, VanHorn, Brusse.

October 2009 Board minutes were approved

### **ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS**

Ted Trostle suggested that a letter acknowledging the action by Fred Strouse to protect the headwaters of Spring Creek should be a public letter. With the Boards agreement, Ted said he would send a letter on behalf of the Board and membership to the CDT for publishing. The letter was published November 20, 2009.

Dick Stevenson said that Jim Purtell agreed to become the next Banquet Chairperson.

Fran Stevenson through Dick Stevenson requested help with finding controllers for the May 5, Youth Services On the Fly. The Board agreed to post the notice on the web site.

Memorial for George Harvey. The Board has had on-going discussions about an appropriate location and design for a Harvey memorial. Ted Trostle reported that he had conversations with staff at F&B in Harrisburg that were very receptive to a memorial at the Paradise. The Harrisburg F&B staff said a request needed to be made to the local F&B office. Ted said he would get the letter out in January. D. Stevenson recommended a design team of Phill and Jean Stevens Sollmon for consideration.

A request was made to the Board to act as a grant administrator for habitat work that is being done on a posted reach of Spring Creek (Clair Property). The Board declined the request.

TREASURERS REPORT. The Board approved the report presented by Rick Van Horn.

### **HABITAT PROJECT UPDATE**

Cliff Wurster reported that plan are being finalized for the 2010 projects and that Katie Ombalski would make a presentation at the December 2009 Board meeting about budget status and 2010 plans.

### **COMMUNICATIONS WITH F&B CONCERNING REGS CHANGES**

Cliff Wurster reported that the ad-hoc group of SCCTU members have had 2 meetings to discuss and plan data collection concerning impacts of tournament fishing during the spawn. The members have talked to representatives of F&B, 3 states that close fishing during the spawn to solicit justification for limiting season from those states, and to faculty and staff at Montana State and Oregon State Universities. Cliff said that the group will have a position paper for the December 2009 Board meeting.

Ted Trostle reported that he had discussions with F&B representatives from the Harrisburgh Office and that these staff are interested in assessing impacts of fishing during the spawn and that F&B may consider ways to educate fisherman about the spawn and spawning beds.

### **ROCKVIEW STATUS**

Board members understand that State Representatives Kerry Benninghoff and Mike Hanna are discussing ways to compromise on the ownership issue and use of the property. No one had any information about a time line.

## **SCTU BOARD MEETINGS**

Board meetings are held at the Comfort Suites Hotel, 132 Village Drive, State College at 7:30 p.m. on the second Monday following the scheduled Membership Meeting. Chapter members are encouraged to attend the Board meetings. The Board members welcome and would appreciate greater participation from Chapter members. As many of you know, our membership and board meetings are held at the Comfort Suites Hotel. Comfort Suites provides the rooms to us at no charge. We want to thank Karen Mansfield and her staff for their support.

## **VISIT THE SCTU WEB SITE: [springcreektu.org](http://springcreektu.org)**

The Web Site lists membership and board meeting dates; contains the past 5 months of Tertiary Treatment; and provides links to Spring Creek USGS stream flow conditions, weather, and a number of other good information sources.

Officers and Board of Directors of Spring Creek TU:

Name	Term Ends	Contact
Judy Sittler <a href="mailto:jsittler@comcast.net">jsittler@comcast.net</a>	(12/09)	861-3277
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Cliff Wurster <a href="mailto:cliffwurster@comcast.net">cliffwurster@comcast.net</a>	(12/11)	238-2455

<b>Chapter Officers</b>	
President	Bill Brusse
Vice-President	Judy Sittler
Treasurer	Rick Van Horn
Secretary	Bob Eberhart

## Start or Renew Your TU Membership through SCTU

When your membership is about to expire, or join for the first time, fill out the form below and forward it with a check (payable to Trout Unlimited) to the address indicated below.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Check Membership Category \*

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Regular Membership (\$35)

Family Membership (\$50)

City \_\_\_\_\_

Senior/Student (\$20)

Individual Life (\$1000)\*\*  Family Life (\$1100)\*\*

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Business Member (\$295)

Conservator Member (\$250)

**CHAPTER: Spring Creek TU #185**

\* US Dollars Only \*\* No further dues

Send To:

Check enclosed. Payable to **Trout Unlimited**

Trout Unlimited

PO Box 7400

Woolly Bugger, WV 25438-7400

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