

Tertiary Treatment



A Monthly Newsletter of the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited



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Membership Meeting Schedule

April 9: Save this date and mark your calendars for the annual Spring Creek TU Banquet - see the announcement and reservation form included in this issue.

May 6: Our speaker will be Greg Hoover and his talk is entitled "A Flyfisher's Entomology: Some Conservations I've Heard in Fly Shops Across the US".

While we know Greg as our local "bug expert", he is nationally recognized as an authority on aquatic entomology and is in high demand as a speaker at conferences and fly fishing shows where he generously distributes his knowledge of insects, especially those of interest as food for trout. Greg is an entomologist in Penn State's Cooperative Extension group, and also serves as faculty adviser for the PSU Flyfishing Club. The May 6 meeting will be held at 7:30 PM in the Comfort Suites Inn on Village Drive in State College.

Membership Meetings and SCTU Board Meetings are held at the Comfort Suites Hotel, 132 Village Drive, State College at 7:30 p.m. Board meetings are held on the second Monday following the scheduled Membership Meeting. Using this formula, the next Board meeting will be held on **April 12, 2010**. Chapter members are encouraged to attend the Board meetings. The Board members welcome and appreciate participation by 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 thank Karen Mansfield and her staff for their support.

March 4, 2010 Membership Meeting Activity

(Photo's and report by Chris Hennessey)

The 30 or so members of Spring Creek Trout Unlimited who turned out for the March membership meeting were the first public group to hear the encouraging results of work being done to halt acid mine drainage into the West Branch of the Susquehanna River.

Becky Dunlap, manager for TU's Eastern Abandoned Mine Program and Jason Detar, area fisheries manager for the state Fish and Boat Commission, gave presentations on ongoing efforts to halt AMD and monitor the river's recovery. The pair also took questions from the audience.



Dunlap reported that after 6 years of working to stop mine runoff laden with acid and heavy metals from making its way into the West Branch and its tributaries, a field survey was undertaken in the summer of 2009 to sample the river at various points between its headwaters and Lock Haven and compare the results to samples taken in the same locations in 1984 by the United States Geologic Survey.

The results show that acidity and iron levels are down by varying, but significant levels throughout the survey area, Dunlap said.

In coordination with the water sampling, Detar said the Fish and Boat commission carried out extensive electro-fishing on the West Branch in 2009. When compared to electro-fishing results from 1999, the results show a remarkable improvement in fish numbers. For example, fish numbers in the river at Hyner were up 910 percent; from 13 caught in 1999 to 400 in 2009.

The 4.5 million-acre West Branch watershed contains 12,173 miles of rivers and streams which hold 65 species of fish.

The complete results of the water quality tests and electro fishing will be compiled into a report to be available sometime later this year.

Board of Directors

Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Meeting of February 15, 2010, 7:30 p.m.

Comfort Inn Suites, State College, PA.

Board Members present: Judi Sittler, Bill Brusse, Rick Van Horn, Dick Stevenson, Ron Shealer, Chris Haser, Chris Hennessey, Bob Donaldson and Bob Eberhart. Also present was Jim Purtell.

Approval of January Minutes: The draft minutes of the meeting of January 18, 2010 were approved as submitted.

New Board Member Addition: President Sittler pointed out that a 12th Board of Directors seat is currently vacant. She introduced Jim Purtell, who is a member of the Banquet Committee and who is willing to serve on the Board of Directors. After discussion, Bill Brusse moved to appoint Jim as a Board Member, Rick Van Horn seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Rick Van Horn reported that as of January 31, 2009, the net worth of the Chapter was \$26,554. Note that this figure does not include grant funds held in separate accounts that must be spent on habitat projects.

Old Business:

a. Recognition of retiring Board Members: Judi Sittler said that she would like to recognize Al Phillips, Cliff Wurster and George Moellenbrock, former Board members who have just retired from the Board, for their services. She will arrange with the Editor to have their retirement noted in the Newsletter.

b. Memorials: Judi Sittler noted that the Chapter has planned for, and in some cases, has funds to be used for memorials for individuals who have served Spring Creek.

(1) Chris Hennessey will contact the family of Dave Carson to see how they would like funds donated to the Chapter in his name to be used.

(2) Bill Brusse will contact Clearwater to discuss a memorial for Tony Gerace. ClearWater is holding funds for this purpose, and a Gerace memorial may be placed in the new access area being developed at the old McCoy dam site.

(3) There was discussion of using funds from this year's banquet for a memorial for George Harvey.

c. Consolidation of Chapter records: Bill Brusse and Bob Eberhart agreed to work on consolidating Chapter records and will begin by contacting Mark Faulkner, a former Board member, who is believed to have many of the old records.

d. Name of the newsletter: There was discussion about whether *Tertiary Treatment* is the best possible name for the Chapter's newsletter. The first issue of the newsletter in January 1976 had no name but it did include a note saying that a name was being sought. The next issue, February 1976, was named *Tertiary Treatment* but there was no real explanation of why this name had been chosen. So the name does have some historical significance, but may have little meaning to those who don't know what tertiary treatment is. No action was taken and the Board will consider the name at a later meeting.

e. 2010 calendar of events.

(1) Spring Creek Clean-up day will be held on April 17. Allen Phillips will coordinate the Chapter's participation in this event. The Chapter will clean up a reach extending upstream from the Rock. There was some discussion about why the clean-up was scheduled for the opening day of trout season on many local streams (although there is no opening day on Spring Creek.)

(2) Chris Haser noted that the 2010 FlyFishing Film Festival World Tour will be in the State Theatre in State College on May 7. The tour is sponsored in part by National TU and will benefit the U.S. Youth Flyfishing Team.

(3) The April Board meeting will be held on April 19 (instead of April 12) to minimize conflict with the Banquet that will be held on April 9.

(4) No Membership meetings are scheduled for July or August. However, Jay Lynch has agreed to organize a picnic or steak fry for late May or early June, possibly in the Poe Paddy area.

New Business:

a. Madame President's Goal: Judi Sittler stated that she wanted to be known as the "membership president". Her goals are to increase membership, increase participation by the members, and make the chapter "member friendly".

b. Review of TU Areas of effectiveness. There was discussion of the four areas identified by National TU as core functions that successful chapters use to further the TU mission. These are conservation, education, service to members, and effective business practices.

c. Clarify committees, subcommittees, committee and subcommittee chairs and committee membership. After discussion, Committees were identified as follows:

(1) Banquet Committee: Chair - Dick Stevenson; other members –Jim Purtell, Chris Hennessey, Rick Van Horn, Dennis Charney, George Mollenbrock, Judi Sittler and Jeff Sturniolo.

(2) Membership Committee: Chair – Chris Haser; interim program coordinator – Allen Phillips. Functions – track membership, welcome new members, maintain email list, organize monthly membership meetings.

(3) Youth Programs Subcommittees: First Cast - Chair - Ted Trostle; Trout in the Classroom – Chair - Ron Shealer.

(4) Public Relations Subcommittees: Newsletter(*Tertiary Treatment*) –Editor- Ted Trostle, assistant - Chris Hennessey; Website – Webmaster – Dan Kerstetter; Face Book –Chris Hennessey.

(5) Conservation Subcommittees: Habitat - Chair – Bill Brusse; Watershed Watch – Co-chairs – Bob Donaldson and Ted Trostle; Advocacy and Governmental Affairs – members to be decided.

Additional Agenda Item –

Rockview Lands Divestiture: At its January meeting, the Board stated that our preferred position on the Rockview lands was that ownership of the entire 1800 acres being considered for divestiture should be transferred to the Clearwater Conservancy . At the January 28 public meeting on the Rockview lands, ClearWater indicated that it did not wish to own the lands. Shortly thereafter, President Sittler received an email from Chapter member Dwight Landis who argued that the Chapter should now take the position that the Rockview lands should remain in state ownership and that the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR)would be the preferred owner but that the Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) would also be a suitable owner.

Bob Donaldson made a presentation on the history and present status of the transfer of the Rockview lands. A lengthy discussion followed with some Board members saying that we should not take a new position at this time and others arguing that we should advocate for DCNR or PGC ownership. There was no consensus on this issue, and no action was taken.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Bob Eberhart, Secretary

Spring Creek Watershed Association

TU members should be aware of the monthly meetings of the Spring Creek Watershed Association, which are usually scheduled for the 3rd Tuesday from 7:30-9:30AM at the Patton Township building. Topics discussed include activities, actions by municipalities, developers, and environmental incidents impacting the watershed. The meetings are open to the public and your participation and attendance will be appreciated.

Many Thanks !!

Three Spring Creek Chapter members stepped forth to sell raffle tickets, leaders, patches and other wares at the 9th Keystone Coldwater Conference held at the Penn Stater, February 19 and 20. The conference, titled **Responsible Energy Development: Protecting Our Coldwater Resources, and organized by the Pennsylvania Council of TU**, drew 280 environmental advocates from Pennsylvania and beyond. The Council thanks Bob Eberhart, Chris Haser and Al Phillips for manning the Trout Unlimited table and Judi Sittler for rounding them up!

Ed Bellis and Deb Nardone, Conference Chairs

Fish Commission News

March 2, 2010 - Harrisburg, PA – “A 30-year veteran of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) has been chosen as the agency’s next executive director. During a special public meeting, the Board of Commissioners selected **John Arway** to lead the Commission, one of the oldest and most effective conservation agencies in the nation.”

“John brings a wealth of professional experience and institutional knowledge to the executive director post,” said Commission President Thomas Shetterly.

Watershed Clean Up

SCTU will again be looking for many members to help clean-up an area of our beautiful Spring Creek watershed. We take pride in cleaning up "The Rock" and the Rock Road area of Spring Creek. Join us at 8:00 am, Saturday April 17, 2010.

So get out your work gloves, work boots, and join the effort. The picnic food after the clean-up is well worth the effort!

Al Phillips will be our point man on this project. e-mail Al to volunteer: atp@psu.edu



Invites you to join
the 14th Annual Watershed Clean Up Day
Saturday, April 17, 2010 8:00 am to 12 Noon

(Picnic to follow at Millbrook Marsh Nature Centre)

Over the past 13 years, Watershed Cleanup Day volunteers have removed more than 2,000 tons of waste from local streams, roadways, sinkholes, and illegal dumpsites. Through a partnership with Centre County Solid Waste Authority and the generosity of local contractors, heavy equipment operators, businesses, municipalities, and the MS4 partners, Watershed Cleanup Day continues to grow every year.

History 101

SCTU Cleans Up

(This column will periodically feature a part of our SCTU past.)

This month we'd like to feature the Spring Creek cleanup efforts of the Spring Creek TU Chapter. As most of you know, we currently join forces with Clearwater Conservancy for their Annual Watershed Cleanup Day. They are in their 14th year of cleaning up. We can boast about 30 years of Spring Creek cleanup!

Back in March 1973, Bill Rininger put together a cleanup day with the help of other local organizations to assist Spring Creek Chapter members in cleaning up trash on Logan Branch. In 1980 and '81 Dan Shields was responsible for organizing large cleanup projects. If you look on page 15 of A Brief History of the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited posted on our SCTU website, it shows photos of Vince Norris, Bob Maddox, Ev Shaffer, Paul Smoczynski and Elton Tait cleaning up the stream in 1989.

On that same page you will see a quote by Ralph Abele, Executive Director of the PA Fish Commission at the time, "we were all very much refreshed to find that Trout Unlimited is still a great organization for digging in and getting things done and not just talking about them."

The Brief History referred to is a 33 page booklet written by Frank Zettle, which chronicles the history of SCTU from its start in Feb. 1973 until 1992. In 1973 the founding members, with Joe Humphreys as the president, took on a huge task. They were instrumental in making outstanding changes.

Spring Creek had taken some major hits back then, from several sources. There were toxic chemicals being drained into the stream, road construction dumped mud and silt, and poorly treated sewage effluent was being dumped into Spring Creek. The founding members knew something had to be done in an organized way. They met the challenge and made terrific strides in cleaning up Spring Creek.

If you are a "long-timer," please go through your photo albums and your memories for pictures and stories about our amazing past and send them to us. We want to continue to document our history. If you are a "new-timer," read the history, which is posted on our SCTU website, then let us know what you want to do to become part of our rich history.

Announcing the 2010 Annual Spring Banquet

**SPRING CREEK CHAPTER
OF TROUT UNLIMITED**

Where: Ramada Inn, State College, PA

When: Friday, April 9, 2010

Happy Hours 5:30 - 7:00

Deluxe Buffet Dinner served at 7:00

Silent Auction - Bucket Raffles - 52 Card Draws - Live Auction – 50/50

Ticket Price: Adults/\$35.00 - Children Under 15/\$15.00

(Buffet Dinner, Dessert, Free Keg, Cash Bar)

Mail Reservation Form & Check To:

Richard E. Stevenson

20 Mahala Street

Port Matilda, PA 16870

**RESERVATIONS MUST BE
RECEIVED BY April 5, 2010**

Phone Contacts: Dick Stevenson: 814-692-8471 email: res4@psu.edu

George Moellenbrock: 814-364-9528 [email: gxm3@psu.edu](mailto:gxm3@psu.edu)

Name

Address

Adults Attending _____ Children Attending _____ Amount Enclosed _____
(\$35.00/adult, \$15.00/child 15 & under) _____

Checks should be made payable to Spring Creek Chapter Trout Unlimited

Names of persons for whom you are making a reservation

Tables may be reserved for eight(8) or ten(10) people

Did You Know?

Early board members gave considerable thought to the name of the newsletter. Many titles were considered before *Tertiary Treatment* was decided on. Tertiary treatment is the highest level of treatment of sewage and the board felt such a name would be appropriate. Ron Evans, master of dry wit and president at the time, suggested that the president's column be named "Sludge" and the official board be called the "Sewage Authority." The first issue of *Tertiary Treatment* appeared in March 1976.

(Quoted from A Brief History of Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited, by Frank Zettle, 1992)

Spring Creek Trout Unlimited Committees

Public Relations: Promote SCTU; to educate & inform our members.

Newsletter Editor, Ted Trostle

Website Guru, Dan Kerstetter

Facebook/news/interface with newsletter & web, Chris Hennessey

Banquet: Raise money for SCTU operations.

Dick Stevenson, Chair; Jim Purtell, Chris Hennessey, Rick Van Horn,
George Moellenbrock, Jeff Sturniolo, Judi Sittler

Membership: Recruit and track membership; plan membership meetings.

Chris Haser, Chair; Jim Purtell, Al Phillips (interim program coordinator)

Youth: Provide education projects for youth.

1st Cast, Ted Trostle; T.I.C., Ron Shealer

Conservation: Coordinate conservation projects and campaigns.

Habitat projects, Bill Brusse

Watershed Watch, Bob Donaldson, Ted Trostle,

The Canyon, Bill Brusse, Bob Donaldson, Bob Eberhart, Ted Trostle

After serving for six years as President of the Spring Creek Chapter, Bill Brusse has stepped down from that position. During that time, Bill encouraged Chapter members to seek grants from state and federal agencies for habitat improvement projects, and he played an important role in managing grant funds once they had been received. Over the last several years, habitat projects have been completed near the PSU Sheep barn, at a site above 550, and upstream from the former site of the old McCoy dam. With grant funds still available for more in-stream work this summer, Bill will continue to serve the Chapter as Chair of the Habitat Committee.

Another of Bill's responsibilities was to oversee a sometimes divided Board as they tried to formulate a position on the divestment of the Rockview lands. Bill's goal was always to preserve and enhance the natural resources of the site, including especially Spring Creek. Once a position was reached, Bill was an articulate and effective spokesman for the Chapter.

The Chapter is indebted to Bill, and we are pleased that he will remain a Board member and that he will serve as Chair of the Habitat Committee.

Thanks Bill !!

From the Streambank - How many of you have stood by a stream that seems to have no bug activity or rising fish and wondered what now? But what do you do? You could try a garden nymph...Hmmm, would that be flyfishing?

The fly shown at the top of page one might be the answer. Can you name the fly?

The pattern can be found on the Flyfishers Paradise website !!

Chapter Officers and Board Members (2010)

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