

# Tertiary Treatment

The Newsletter of the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited

May 2010

Volume 33, Issue 5

## *Trout go from the classroom to the wild*

**S**CTU Board Member Ron Shealer and his Park Forest Middle School Trout in the Classroom students capped off their school year May 20 when they released about 50 lovingly raised fingerling trout into Laurel Run at Whipple Dam State Park.

Shealer is a teacher at Park Forest Middle School in the State College Area School District and our chapter's Trout in the Classroom instructor.

Trout in the Classroom is a national, conservation-oriented environmental education program for elementary, middle, and high school students. Through the school year, students raise trout from eggs to fry and then release them into approved cold water streams and lakes. The act of raising, monitoring, and caring for young trout fosters a conservation ethic



Trout in the Classroom instructor and SCTU Board Member Ron Shealer and six of his students prepare to release trout they raised from eggs into Laurel Run at Whipple Dam State Park May 20. Below, fingerling trout spend their last moments in captivity May 20.

within participating students and promotes an understanding of their shared water resources.

Following the release of the fingerlings, Shealer and his students went to Fisherman's Paradise, and with the help of a few adult volunteers, did some fishing for larger specimens.

Congratulations to Ron and his students!

**See Page 4 for another photo**



## Steak Fry coming up June 12

This year's Spring Creek TU Steak Fry will kick off at 4 p.m. June 12 at Group Tenting Area A at Poe Paddy State Park.

This is an event for the whole family, so bring the spouse and kids, your friends and neighbors. Plan to come early and fish Penn's Creek (maybe the Green Drakes will cooperate and hatch for us) or see the other natural attractions Poe Paddy and Poe Valley State Parks have to offer, then refuel at the Steak Fry with friends. You can even pitch a tent and stay the night if you wish.

Chef Jay Lynch and staff will provide a tasty fire-grilled steak and baked potatoes for adults and hot dogs for the kids. Bring a covered dish, salads, dessert or other foods to share. Also bring drinks and your eating tools, plates, etc.

Cost of the adult meal varies based on market price of steaks and has yet to be determined, but kids will eat free.

RSVP to Jay at 814-234-0813 or by email to [jlynch@meiserearl.com](mailto:jlynch@meiserearl.com).

For directions and more information about the Poe Paddy State Park, go to [www.http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/poepad-dy.aspx](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/poepad-dy.aspx).

**Inside This Issue**

Board Meeting Minutes Page 3

President's Column Page 2

Call for First Cast Volunteers Page 4

History 101: Picnics and Parties Page 2



Founded in 1973, the 350-member Spring Creek TU is dedicated to the preservation and restoration of the Spring Creek watershed for the benefit of trout and other species.

## Officers

**Judi Sittler, President**  
jlsittler@comcast.net

**Bob Eberhart, Secretary**  
rje1@psu.edu

**Rick Van Horn, Treasurer**  
rickvanhorn@hotmail.com

**Chris Haser, Vice President**  
brookiebrown@comcast.net

## Board Members

**William Brusse**  
wcbrosse@gmail.com

**Ron Shealer**  
ronshealer@yahoo.com

**Dick Stevenson**  
res4@psu.edu

**Bob Donaldson**  
rbdonald@comcast.net

**Jay F. Lynch**  
jlynch@meiser-earl.com

**Jim Purtell**  
jmp@goh-inc.com

**Chris Hennessey**  
c.hennessey@comcast.net

# SCTU has something for everyone

The members of our Spring Creek TU chapter are active, smart, and are doing a great job in the protection, preservation and enhancement of our cold water resources. This chapter also does a terrific job to promote educational and informational programs that enhance the public understanding of issues relating to those conservation goals.

Furthermore, this chapter holds such interest in land and waters as will be beneficial to the protection, preservation and enhancement of cold water resources and the species which inhabit those waters. Oh, and many of us like to fish too!

Much of the wording above comes from the SCTU mission statement. We manage to balance serious "on-the-stream" conservation/habitat projects, with programs that inform our membership about fishing techniques, water quality issues, or the progress of the Rockview land transfer.

Our mission statement is serious. Our attitude is one of enthusiasm and pleasure while working out conservation issues.

If you have had the pleasure of participating in any of our many activities, you can attest to the laughter, hard work, jokes, intense desire to do the right thing, search for more information, fun paired with


## Looking Upstream

By Judi Sittler,  
SCTU President



focus.

There is something for everyone in our chapter. Keep your eye on the newsletter for a list of activities needing your interest. Keep your ears open for anyone who is not able to access our newsletter. Let me know.

Keep June 12 open on your calendar. Bring the family to our Steak Fry at Poe Paddy State Park. We do good work and we have fun doing it. 

## Get Involved!

Below are some upcoming SCTU activities and volunteer opportunities:

- Trout in the Classroom. We will be looking for funding sources to establish a second teacher with the equipment needed to raise trout from eggs in the classroom.
- Habitat Projects. Hands-on volunteers will be needed this summer for stream work. Keep an eye on your email for dates.
- Program Coordinator. We need someone to take over setting up monthly programs for our general membership meetings.

Email Judi Sittler for more info. on the above opportunities.

## History 101: Picnics and Parties

(An excerpt from "A Brief History of the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited," by Frank Zettle)

Although all members of the family have been invited to the regular monthly meetings, it is only when special programs are held that many come out. To include the families, friends and spouses, a number of picnics have been held. Some of the first ones were held at Joe Spino's cabin at Stone Valley in 1980 and in 1982. Joe also hosted the 1989 affair.

The picnic in 1981 was held at Colyer Dam and in 1983 at the American Legion Picnic Grounds. To make up for the lack of recent picnics, a Christmas party has been hosted by Ev Shafer in her home the past several years. The Spring banquets have also been family affairs, as have the later camping trips. (End of excerpt)

In our last newsletter, we published an excerpt from the history book which talked about the fishing trips that started back in 1975. This year (2010), we will combine the "fishing trip" experience with the picnic event now known as the Steak Fry.

**June 12; Poe Paddy State Park; Tenting Area A; fishing & food; Bring the family; Stay just for the day or tent overnight; RSVP to Jay Lynch (814) 234-0813 or email: jlynch@meiser-earl.com**

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES: April 19, 2010

### Board of Directors Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited Meeting of April 19, 2010, 7 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,  
Jim Purtell and Bob  
Eberhart. Also present was  
Katie Ombalski of  
ClearWater Conservancy.

### Approval of March Minutes:

The draft minutes of the  
meeting of March 15, 2010  
were approved as submitted.

### Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Rick Van Horn  
reported that as of March  
31, 2010, the net worth of  
the Chapter was \$28,795.  
Note that this figure does  
not include grant funds held  
in separate accounts that  
must be spent on habitat  
projects. Rick noted that  
most of the transactions of  
the past month were related  
to the Annual Banquet. The  
Treasurer's Report was  
approved as submitted.

### Habitat Update:

Katie Ombalski of  
Clearwater Conservancy  
provided an update of the  
Habitat projects. It appears  
that there will be adequate  
matching funds to meet the  
grant requirements. Projects  
for 2010 are 1) final phases  
of the Sheep Farm project,

2) some improvements at  
Fisherman's Paradise and 3)  
in-stream work at Spring  
Creek Park. Name signs for  
public access areas along  
Spring Creek will be set up;  
where possible, names will  
reflect the history of the site.  
It is expected that some  
grant funds will be left over;  
these may be used to  
upgrade the McCoy Dam  
access area. Katie said that  
she would like to present an  
update at the May Board  
meeting.

Bill Brusse reported that  
a work party including TU  
volunteers had made stream  
repairs at a point above the  
old McCoy dam site where a  
tributary enters Spring  
Creek.

Galbraith Gap  
Preservation: Katie  
Ombalski reported that  
ClearWater will submit a  
grant application to DCNR  
for funds to acquire a 152  
acre tract that has great  
conservation value, including  
an unnamed tributary of  
Galbraith Gap Run that  
supports a wild brook trout  
population. If ClearWater is  
able to acquire this land, it  
will be given to DCNR, and  
it will become part of the  
Rothrock State Forest. The  
Board voted to submit a letter  
of support for the grant  
application.

### Old Business:

- a. Memorials:
- (1) Dave Carson area: no  
report
  - (2) Tony Gerace : a  
memorial plaque may be  
erected at the McCoy dam  
access site.
  - (3) George Harvey - two

hundred dollars have been  
received for a memorial.

(4) Duck Pond Plaque :  
Chris Haser was unable to  
find the commemorative  
plaque

erected at the time the  
Thomson Spring outflow  
was diverted around the  
Duck Pond. Judi Sittler  
reported that the plaque had  
been made by Moyer's  
Jewelers.

The plaque may have been  
given to Dan Hawbaker; Jim  
Purtell will ask Mr.  
Hawbaker if he knows  
where the plaque is.

b. Consolidation of  
Chapter Records: \

(1) Bob Eberhart believes  
that he has assembled a  
nearly complete file of  
Tertiary  
Treatment, beginning with  
Vol. 1 of 1976. Minutes of  
Board meetings prior to  
2001 have not been located,  
but Judi Sittler believes that  
she has some minutes in  
materials that have been  
turned over to her.

### New Business:

Tournament fishing during  
the spawn: The Board  
chose not to discuss further  
the efforts made by Cliff  
Wurster, Art Kempf and others  
to influence the Pa. Fish  
and Boat Commission to  
ban tournament fishing during  
the brown trout spawning  
period.

Erosion of dike at the  
Duck Pond: Judi Sittler  
reported that the dike that  
separates the Dick Pond and  
Thompson Run is beginning  
to erode. Bob Donaldson

said that he thought the  
University would probably  
be interested in this. Bill  
Brusse will contact Rob  
Cooper of PSU's Physical  
Plant about this.

Monitoring Spring Creek  
Water Quality: There was  
discussion of who monitors  
water quality, and especially  
storm water runoff, in  
Spring Creek. It was  
explained that the Water  
Resources Monitoring  
Project, an activity of the  
Spring Creek Watershed  
Association, has in place an  
outstanding monitoring  
program.

### Committee Reports:

a. Banquet Committee:

Dick Stevenson reported  
that income from the annual  
Banquet was down considerably  
from previous years,  
presumably due to the economy.  
Judi Sittler noted that  
the Chapter had awarded  
Dick the Order of the Sulfur  
for his long and conscientious  
service as Chair of the  
Banquet Committee. The  
Board wished Jim Purtell  
good luck as he assumes the  
chairmanship. Jim  
announced that next year's  
Banquet will be held on  
Saturday, April 2.

b. Public Relations  
Committee:

Chris Hennessey reported  
that little progress had been  
made on the Chapter  
brochure but that he is soliciting  
photos for the  
Chapter's FaceBook page.

**Continued on Page 4**





**STREAMBOUND...** Trout in the Classroom students and volunteer mentors get ready to wet a line at Fisherman's Paradise May 20.

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES: April 19, 2010

### From Page 3

#### c. Membership Committee:

Chris Haser said that he has some concerns about the Chapter membership lists that are maintained by national TU; he is not sure that they are up to date. The number of Spring Creek chapter members shown on the national list is 317. There is also some question about who should have access to the membership list. Chris will check on these matters.

Chris said that he plans to send an email welcome note to new members reported to the Chapter by National TU.

Chris also said that he will be seeking a coordinator to arrange for the programs to be presented at the monthly membership meetings.

#### d. Youth Committee:

Ron Shealer reported that Amy Driebelbis, a teacher at the Young Scholars Charter School, did not receive the

Trout in the Classroom (TIC) grant for which she had applied; he did not know why the application was not approved.

He recommended that next year the Chapter should budget enough for this program so that a new project could be funded in an area school even if an application to Pennsylvania TU is not approved.

Ron will let principals of area schools know about the TIC program and ask them to identify teachers who might be interested in undertaking such a project.

Ron reported that he and Chris Haser had served as mentors to five local students who participated in Wayne's Cold Water Kids program that included fishing Spruce Creek at the Harpster Farm.

Ron also said that the Chapter will need a new coordinator for the First Cast program in 2011.

#### e. Conservation Committee:

Bob Donaldson reported that John Sengle, DEP's water quality specialist in this area has been transferred to another area and a new person will be appointed. Bob also said that some contamination at the former Cerro site along Logan Branch has been reported and that some remediation will likely be required.

Bob said that concerning the Rockview lands, the Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC), which cannot accept a conservation easement on its lands, has prepared a first draft of deed restrictions that are intended to control the management of the lands that are to be transferred to PGC.

The meeting adjourned at about 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Bob Eberhart**  
Secretary

## Mentors needed for First Cast fly fishing camp

Summer is fast approaching and that means it's almost time for the First Cast Camp, a program Spring Creek TU and Centre Region Parks and Recreation have collaborated on for many years.

The aim of the camp is to introduce area youngsters to the sport of fly fishing. Part of Spring Creek TU's role in the partnership is to provide adult volunteers from our ranks to help staff the camp.

Help youngsters in grades 5 to 8 learn to cast, tie, read water and catch fish. Some days will include van trips to local waterways for on-stream instruction. The two-week camp runs every morning from 7:50 a.m. to noon July 12 to 16 and July 19 to 23. If you can give just one morning, that's great, but volunteers are needed every day, so if you can do more than one day or even the whole two weeks, you will be needed.

Volunteers need not be expert anglers to be a mentor: any pair of adult eyes is a help! Background checks and other clearances are not needed. Mentors are asked to bring their own fishing gear, drinks and snacks.

For more information or to volunteer, email Chris Hennessey at [c.hennessey@comcast.net](mailto:c.hennessey@comcast.net) or call 814-237-0154.