

# Tertiary Treatment

The Newsletter of the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited

December, 2011 Volume 34, Issue 8

## Holiday Party Dec. 9!

Spring Creek Chapter TU members and their families will gather for the 2011 Holiday Party Dec. 9 at the home of president Judi Sittler.

**When:** Friday Dec. 9 starting at 6:00 pm

**Where:** 108 Gaslight Circle

Judi & Stu's house (Lemont adjacent; off Elmwood along Spring Creek) 1st house on the right

Parking in overflow lot across street from house or on right side of Gaslight Circle (we have Township permission).

Chili, salad and drinks provided. Bring something to share. Bring a spouse or friend! Bring your fun loving side! Call Judi at 861-3277 for more information. **See you on the 9th!**



### Officers

**Judi Sittler**  
President

**Chris Haser**  
Vice President

**Rick Van Horn**  
Treasurer

**Bob Eberhart**  
Secretary

### Board of Directors

**Bill Brusse**

**Scott Brumbaugh**

**Bob Donaldson**

**Chris Hennessey**

**Jim Purtell**

**Robert Vierck**

**Bill Voigt**



December's membership meeting featured Hannah Stout, a graduate student in Entomology at PSU. She discussed her efforts to restore the green drake to Spring Creek. She said it will take at least 10 years to re-establish the green drake. They are transferring eggs to three different spots on Spring Creek each year. One larvae like the one in the photo, was found on Spring Creek last year.

## ***Board elections in January***

SCCTU has two vacant seats on the board of directors. One seat is a three year term. The other seat, currently occupied by Bob Eberhart, will be a two year term. Bob has been a long time board member, who served as a terrific secretary for years. He is stepping down so he can devote more time to his other worthy endeavors. Judi Sittler and Bob Donaldson are up for renewal of three year terms. We welcome nominations for officers on or before our January 5th general meeting when election of officers will take place. Each board member spends quality time working on issues that serve to conserve, protect and restore Spring Creek's coldwater fishery and watershed.

## ***Next meeting focuses on history***

Our January 5 Membership Meeting will feature local historian Bob Hazelton, who will give a presentation titled, "The History of Spring Creek Canyon".

Bob Hazelton is a retired Electrical Engineer. He is on the boards of the Centre County Historical and Genealogical Societies and focuses his research on "lost" civilization in the local area. He is also a member and works on projects for ClearWater and the Bald Eagle Archaeological Society.

Bob's presentation will cover:

- General Philip Benner and the establishment of the iron operation at Rock
- Harvey Mann's axe factory - an extension of his operation at Boiling Springs, (now Axemann). on the Logan Branch of Spring Creek
- The acquisition of the Benner/Mann lands by Major William F. Reynolds and its later ownership by his nephew, Colonel Fred W. Reynolds
- The sale of the land to the Western Pennsylvania Correctional Institution at Rockview
- The evolution of Fishermen's Paradise.

The meeting will be held in the first floor conference room at the Comfort Suites State College starting at 7:30 p.m. and is free and open to all.

## ***TU helped youth get started fishing***

**Email newsletter editor**

**Chris Hennessey**

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## **Upcoming Programs**

Our presenter for the February 2 Membership meeting will be Don Bastian, who will give a fly tying demonstration on classic wet flies and streamers. Many of you know Don is an extremely talented fly tyer, particularly for traditional wet flies. If you have ever admired the flies that are featured in Ray Bergman's "Trout" book, Don tied all of those, plus more. For us, he will be tying traditional winged wet flies, including old-time married wing patterns. He also plans to tie a Carrie Stevens streamer pattern and demonstrate her method of cementing the wing components together. Part of the display he is bringing to the meeting will be coordinated to include Rangeley Style Maine streamer patterns.

The meeting will be held in the first floor conference room at the Comfort Suites State College starting at 7:30 p.m. Free and open to all.

Owen Welch is the "poster boy" for youth involvement in Trout Unlimited.

He caught his first trout with a fly when he was about 10 years old, during a "First Cast" field trip to Fisherman's Paradise, sponsored by the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited and Centre Region Parks and Recreation. He remembers Dan Shields teaching the kids to cast during that camp and he loved all the field trips. He says he owes his fishing skills to his parents and to Trout Unlimited. He was introduced to bait fishing at age 4, by his dad and grandpa. By age 8, he got curious about fly fishing, so his family, not being fly fishing people, did the next best thing and gave him a fly tying kit. At age 10, they enrolled him in the First Cast camp in State College. They took him to the Penns Creek TU Chapter banquet where he won the raffle "Kids Fish for a Day with Larry Winey."

Owen says, "Without that TU guy who took me fly fishing and my parents who sent me to the First Cast camp, I wouldn't be where I am today in the world of fly fishing."

Today, at age 17, Owen's fly fishing world includes being a member of the US Youth Fly Fishing Team. That team won the gold medal in world competition in Italy this summer. And speaking of the US Youth Fly Fishing team... as if the Penns Creek Chapter, with Gary Parzanese as president, doesn't have enough to brag about by helping Owen, they can also boast to having Adam Pickets, Spencer Miller, and Kyle Winey as TU chapter members. All four of these young men have been on the US Youth Fly Fishing Team over the years. Owen says he got most of his appreciation for stream conservation from his regular attendance at TU meetings.

He has one more feather in his cap -or is it in his fly tying box - that is 1.5 university credits from Penn State University. Both his mom and dad work on the PSU campus. Someone showed Owen's mom a video of a fly fishing course offered at Penn State. One week later Owen's dad ran into Mark Belden, who teaches the fly fishing classes at Penn State. Belden is another big advocate of teaching kids to fish and appreciate the environment that goes with fishing. He is also a very active member of the Spring Creek TU Chapter.

Mark told Owen's dad about the summer fly fishing basics class. After some arranging with Lewistown High School, Owen took the course for credit. You better believe that the college students were pretty impressed when they learned that Owen was only 14 at the time.

He didn't stop with just learning for himself. For three summers, he



**Owen Welch with a brown trout.**



**Don Bastian**

**[Click Here to read the latest SCCTU Board Meeting Minutes](#)**

went on to mentor the Arnell, multi-cultural fly fishing classes offered to high school students getting a campus experience.

What we all want to take away from Owen's story is how much of a difference each of us can make in the life of a kid. We are contributing to the leaders of tomorrow.

Owen says, "Being a part of TU and the US Youth Team got me out in front of people. I learned to talk to lots of different people."

He is well on his way to being a leader in his community and a steward of the environment.

### *Our Mission*

**The mission of Spring Creek Trout Unlimited is to conserve, protect, and restore Spring Creek's coldwater fishery and watershed.**