



Tertiary Treatment

The Newsletter of the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited

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SCCTU endorses paper on drilling

The Board of Directors of the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited voted unanimously at a special meeting Jan. 18 to endorse the Marcellus Shale White Paper published by the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited.

“As a Trout Unlimited chapter, our support of PATU and all of its initiatives is implied, but the board of the Spring Creek Chapter felt that because of the magnitude of gas drilling and the potential impacts, we needed to single out the White Paper as something that we stand behind and support 100 percent,” said SCCTU President Judi Sittler.

The six-page document explains what the Marcellus Shale is, how gas is extracted, and the



2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS... The SCCTU board for this year includes, front row, from left: Bob Vierck, Bob Donaldson, President Judi Sittler and Secretary Bob Eberhart and back row, from left: Vice President Chris Haser, Scott Brumbaugh, Treasurer Rick Van Horn, Bill Brusse, Jim Purtell and Chris Hennessey.

permitting process for drillers. The paper also states PATU’s position on gas drilling, which reads, in part, “We understand that natural gas drilling and other energy developments are important to the economy of the Commonwealth and the nation. However, we are adamant that this drilling be done in a manner that does not damage our natural resources.”

“Those two sentences

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Banquet April 2— save the date!

The Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited will hold its Annual Spring Banquet Saturday, April 2 at the Ramada Inn, State College.

Enjoyed each year by TU members and non-members alike, the banquet features a silent auction, bucket raffles, 52 card draws, a 50/50 and a live auction.

While many auction and raffle items are fishing-related, a host of merchandise

and services from a variety of Centre County businesses will be included.

Proceeds are used to fund local conservation projects including the chapter’s extensive work to restore and protect Spring Creek.

Reservation forms are available at springcreektu.org. For more information, contact Jim Purtell at 814-383-0166 or jmp@goh-inc.com.

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Meet our new board members.

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Founded in 1973, the 350-member Spring Creek Chapter of TU seeks to to conserve, protect, and restore Spring Creek's coldwater fishery and watershed.

Officers

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Meeting Schedule

Eckwahl to present overview of steelhead fishing

March 3, 7:30 p.m.,
Boalsburg Fire Hall
Boalsburg

Barry S. Eckwahl will present, "Steelhead Solitude: Techniques to Avoid Crowds and Catch More Steelhead, Including Places to Go, Rod Set Up, and Favorite Flies"

The owner of A Perfect Drift Outfitters guide service, Eckwahl guides anglers in New York and Ohio.

Barry is a graduate of the Syracuse College of Forestry, a member of the Regal Vise pro staff and a Mystic Fly Rod pro guide.

The March meeting will be held at the Boalsburg Fire Hall in Boalsburg, between US Route 322 and Main Street, a block off Church Street.

New TU Field Organizer to discuss Marcellus Play

April 7, 7:30 p.m.,
Comfort Suites
State College

Join SCCTU and David Sewak, Trout Unlimited Pennsylvania Marcellus Shale Field Organizer, for his presentation, "Marcellus Play in PA and the Coldwater Conservation Corps."

A newcomer to TU, Sewak is part of an initiative to educate, organize and mobilize the commonwealth's sportsmen and women. Before coming to TU he was the manager of the Fly Fishing Shows for four years. Prior to his foray into the business world, he worked for 12 years in the conservation realm, focusing on Abandoned Mine Drainage, recreational trail development (both land

and water trails), river conservation planning, community parks, and tourism.

An avid outdoorsman, Sewak serves on the SCRIP (Stonycreek-Conemaugh River Improvement) board; volunteers for Mountain Laurel Trout Unlimited (maintaining the website and electronic correspondence) and is also a Somerset Conservation District board member.

Join us at a Board Meeting

All members are invited to attend the monthly meetings of the board of directors.

Board meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the second Monday following the regular membership meeting at the Comfort Suites in State College.

SCCTU endorses PATU White Paper

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really capture how our board feels, and how we believe our membership feels, about this gas drilling boom. We know it is going to happen, we just want it done in a way that respects the well-being of the forests, the watersheds, the creatures that live in those places and the folks, like us, that value them dearly," Sittler said.

The White Paper also contains a list of concerns and a list of actions that should

be taken to lessen potential negative impacts from drilling. These include water use and treatment, drilling of public lands, surface and groundwater contamination, drilling in wilderness, special protection and other sensitive areas, permitting and bonding, enforcement of regulations, need for a severance tax or fee, forest and watershed fragmentation, road building procedures, and impact studies.

To see the paper in its entirety, visit www.springcreektu.org.

For more information, visit the website at www.springcreektu.org

BOARD MEETING MINUTES: December 13, 2010

Board of Directors Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Meeting of
Dec. 13, 2010, 7 p.m.
Comfort Inn Suites,
State College, PA.

Board Members present:

Judi Sittler, Rick Van Horn, Chris Hennessey, Bob Donaldson, Chris Haser, Dick Stevenson, Jay Lynch and Bob Eberhart.

Approval of Minutes:

After several editorial corrections were made, the draft minutes of the Board meeting of November 15 were approved as amended.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Rick Van Horn reported that as of November 30, the net worth of the Chapter was \$29,942. This amount does not include additional grant funds that are held in separate accounts and must be spent on Habitat projects. The Treasurer's Report was approved as submitted.

Old Business:

Easements along Spring Creek Held by the Chapter: Rick Van Horn distributed copies of the deeds of the Wambold property in College Township and the SEDA-COG property just below Bellefonte on which the Chapter holds easements. National TU, wary of the potential liability of Chapters holding such

easements, has asked Chapters to consider divesting themselves of these easements.

Bob Donaldson reported that Dave Kurtz, speaking on behalf of the local Kayak club, would like the easement on the SEDA-COG property to be continued in order to provide access to Spring Creek during large kayaking events. If the Chapter is no longer interested in holding the easement, Dave would like to see it turned over to the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission.

Bob Donaldson also reported that in conversations with Jeff Stover, Executive Director of the SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority, he was told that SEDA-COG would like to eliminate the easement all together as it exposes them to too much liability and is a real safety concern.

Bill Brusse agreed to look into how much liability our Chapter actually has by holding these easements. The item will be placed on a future Board Agenda.

Nominating Committee:

This committee, comprised of Judi Sittler, Allen Phillips and Mark Pencak, has identified two candidates for upcoming openings on the Board of Directors.

The candidates are Scott Brumbaugh and Bob Vierick. Other members were asked to consider being nominated but

declined.

The nominees will be presented to the membership at the January Chapter meeting. Additional nominees for Director may be received from the floor.

Bylaws Update:

A draft of revised Bylaws prepared by Judi Sittler and the Bylaws Revision committee was reviewed. The draft generally followed the model Bylaws prepared by National Trout Unlimited. Several items including the process of dissolution of the Chapter and the meaning of the term "ex officio" require follow up. Bylaws review will continue at future meetings.

Chapter Position on Marcellus Shale Drilling:

Bob Donaldson discussed the white paper on this issue prepared by Pennsylvania TU that has a state-wide perspective and asked whether the Chapter should publicly support the recommendations in that paper. Jay Lynch thought that the Chapter should be more concerned about possible effects of drilling at near by locations on the water resources of the Spring Creek Watershed. Jay agreed to try to identify what those effects might be. The issue will be considered again at the next Board meeting.

Committee Reports:

Financial Development:
On January 8, Dick

Stevenson and Judi Sittler will attend a Fundraising Workshop organized by Pennsylvania TU.

Membership:

Chris Haser reported that there have been four new Chapter members in the last month and that membership is now 360.

Education/Youth:

Jessica Martin, a teacher from Penns Valley High will be writing a proposal for a Trout in the Classroom project. The Chapter may be asked to provide matching funds of \$350.

Conservation:

Bill Brusse is preparing an Embrace-A-Stream (EAS) grant proposal to National TU for in-stream and riparian improvements on sections of Spring Creek near Oak Hall. Total cost will be about \$23,000. The EAS grant may provide \$10,000; the remainder may come from in-kind donations and from Chapter funds.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Eberhart
Secretary

These minutes, with amendments made at their meeting, were approved by the Board of Directors on January 17, 2011.

Two new directors join SCCTU board

Scott Brumbaugh is originally from the Erie area, but has also lived in Chambersburg, Blacksburg, Va., and Albuquerque, N.M. For the past two years, Scott has lived in Bellefonte. He holds a B.S. in mechanical engineering from Penn State Behrend campus, and a M.S. in mechanical engineering from Virginia Tech. He

works as a mechanical engineer for PSU.

Scott started fly fishing when he was 10, and joined TU at the age of 13. He and his wife Allison most often fish Spring Creek, but they also love to escape north to Potter and Lycoming counties to wet a line.

His favorite fly is a CDC emerger.



Brumbaugh

Robert Vierck is a State College native who lived in Hawaii for 26 years and returned to this area in 2004. In Hawaii, he owned a computer service business called Decision Support Services, Inc., which provided computer repair and consulting services in Hawaii and the Micronesian Islands.



Vierck

There is no trout fishing in Hawaii and very little fresh water fishing, so when he returned to State College, he was an enthusiastic beginner.

He will be the second Robert Vierck to serve on the Spring Creek Chapter of TU, as his father was a founding member and served as the Treasurer.

News In Brief

Portion of Little J redesignated

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission voted at its quarterly meeting Jan. 25 to extend the wild trout stream designation on the Little Juniata River by an additional 19.7 miles.

The new designation covers the river from the Bellwood Sewage Treatment Plant downstream to the Barree Road Bridge (SR 4004).

Calling all fly tyers!

In support of our Spring Banquet, we are looking for a few good tyers to tie and donate a dozen or two of their favorite pattern or patterns to include in our raffles and auctions during the banquet.

If you can donate some of your handiwork, please contact Jim Purtell, banquet chairman at 814-383-0166 or jmp@goh-inc.com.

Get your banquet tickets early!

Please help our chapter by buying your banquet tickets early. And don't forget to spread the word! Bring your friends, neighbors and business associates. It's a great way to support our stream restoration efforts in the Spring Creek watershed.