



TALE OF THE POOL

WINTER 2006

OFFICERS:

President-Allen Tedrow
Vice President-Eugene Gordon
Treasurer-John G. Anderson
Secretary-Al Budinsky

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Dave Gilpin
Lou Giovannelli
Henry Deabner
Dale Kotowski
Bernie Manyak
Ben Moyer
Robert Musar
Tom Shetterly
Rick Young

COMMITTEES:

Resource Mgt.-Tom Shetterly
Nursery-Rick McClintock
Banquet- Eugene Gordon
Membership-John Anderson
Youth Education-Tom Wilson

Upcoming Events:

- Membership Meeting, February 8, 2006 Knights of Columbus, 7:00 pm.
- Membership Meeting, March 8, 2006 Knights of Columbus, 7:00 pm.
- CRTU Annual Banquet, March 25, 2006 Holiday Inn, Uniontown 5:30 pm.
- Dunbar Creek Clean Up, April 8, 2006, 9:00 am.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I begin my new term as President, perhaps I should introduce myself to new or long-time members who I have not yet had the pleasure to meet. I reside in Youngwood with my wife Dawn, my son James and daughter Kathleen. (I know, it's out of TU's Chestnut Ridge zip code range, but since I primary fish the Yough watershed I have always designated to belong to the chapter that does the most work to improve the streams I fish) I joined CRTU after I called the then President Tom Shetterly one day and eventually started to attend meetings. Past presidents Ben Moyer and Dale Kotowski inspired me to get more involved with the chapter and I eventually joined the membership committee and then became Vice President. Last October I took over the duties of President, due to the absence of President Dale Kotowski who had at the time had serious health concerns. Fortunately Dale is now doing well and will hopefully return to serve the chapter. One of the duties of the President is to deliver the annual report to the chapter at the annual meeting in November. To read my report please go to the "news" page of our website at www.crtu.org. As I begin my term, there is certainly a lot we as a chapter would like



Youghiogheny CRTU Rainbow

to accomplish. First we need to establish the long term goals of our chapter. The Board of Directors and the many committees we have must become more active and accountable. This does in not in any way imply that they have been inefficient. After all, we are all volunteers in a good cause, with family and other obligations and to criticize any volunteer is just not right. However, for the chapter to grow and reach our goals we must become more organized

and communicative. More importantly, we need help. Our membership is close to 300 and there is just a handful of us that are active in the affairs of the chapter. Over the past two years Dale, Cynthia Zibrida and I have tried to increase our membership and participation of current members. The results of our effort however, have been disappointing. As I look back to what brought

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CRTU ANNUAL BANQUET MARCH 25, 2006!

The 11th annual banquet of CRTU will be March 25, 2006 at Holiday Inn Uniontown. If you have never attended our banquet in the past please consider joining us for an evening of great food, our huge raffle of fishing and camping equipment (not to mention the fabulous

wild life prints) and a guaranteed good time. Cocktails start at 5:30 pm with dinner at 7:00 pm. The dinner choices are stuffed chicken breast or sliced beef. Cost per ticket is \$35. As you know this is our primary fund raiser so do your best to attend and

get the word out. Please help Eugene and the banquet committee by using the order form in this issue and reserving your tickets early. If you want to help in any way preparing for the banquet contact Eugene Gordon at 724-277-8688.

PRESIDENTS REPORT (CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

myself to meetings I realized it was programs about fishing. By attending more meetings and listening to Tom Shetterly, I became more interested in cold water conservation. This why the Membership Committee is so important. We need to increase participation in the chapter by offering more programs and having guest speakers. One concern is the fees some "high profile" speakers charge and at this time budget restraints prevent us from obtaining their services. We have finally established a budget for the chapter and hopefully we can increase our fund raising this year to allow us to bring in some exciting programs for our membership. Another goal for the Membership Committee is to create a new membership package, that will provide new members with the history of TU and our chapter, our current bylaws, contact information and a summary of our conservation projects. We also want to reach out to our friends in Washington and Greene county and have a few membership meetings closer to their area.

Over last couple of months the chapter has been primary involved in the financial responsibilities of a 501 C (3) non profit organization. Due to the fine efforts of now Treasurer John Anderson we now understand that it is not "business as usual" and that we have to keep better records of our financial affairs. Since our chapter traditionally receives Grower Greener grants and other income that is over \$25,000 a year, we must file an IRS form 990. This is certainly not a bad situation since it shows that our chapter is probably one of the most active in the state in combating the years of acid mine damage in the state of Pennsylvania. One of the problems in gathering information for the 990 was that we had accounts in different banks, administrated by different members. This has caused confusion and delays in filing the chapter's required information to TU and the IRS. Any future opening of bank accounts for the administration of grants should be done with the assistance of the Treasurer and the approval of the Board of Directors.

On November 1, 2005, we received over 12,000 fingerling trout for our unique "culture cage" nursery at the Yough tailrace in Confluence. The addition of the third cage was completed along with other repairs. Along with these and other expenses such as the fish food the cost for our nursery last year was over \$9000. This past year we have had serious vandalism done to our nursery, along with poaching. This issue must be addressed along with establishing a feeding schedule and a planned stocking policy. We welcome input from the membership as to where and when to stock our trout. We tried a stocking phone chain last year, but I feel the need for a long range schedule that can be posted to our website and newspapers for our members. Many comments from members suggest we should primarily stock the many delayed harvest streams in our area, to get a "bigger bang for our buck" so to speak. Again, Rick McClintock and Tom Shetterly can't do it all so we need a commitment from our members to be available to help stock these beauties in the spring.

The idea of adding deep-water habitat structures for the Yough reservoir is an exciting one and should contribute to this excellent fishery. Fourteen structures were deposited last year with plans for more in the future. CRTU has received a \$5000 grant to continue building these structures. Again, help is needed to do this, so if you are handy with a saw sign up for the next work detail. Another very exciting project that has come up is the possibility of CRTU leasing the two USACE brick houses above their campground in Confluence. Board members Rick Young and Ben Moyer are currently working on a proposal to the USACE, stating our short and long-term plan for the houses. One goal is to turn one into an environmental center, providing water conservation groups and youth groups a place to conduct workshops. Expenses to maintain these buildings is a concern, and we will know more details in the upcoming months.

Our chapter must do more for the youth of our area. Tom Wilson, our Youth Committee chairman is a teacher at West Greene high school and has formed a fishing club. Tom needs help to establish a plan and volunteers to teach fly fishing skills. However, according to Trout Unlimited these volunteers may need to obtain Act 34 & 151 clearances. Hopefully this year Chestnut Ridge will sponsor a youth for the River's Conservation camp held at the Yellow Breeches this summer. We have not had a candidate for two years and this should be a primary goal of the committee.

Our Resource Management and Protection committee, chaired by Tom Shetterly, has as usual, done an incredible job. Secretary Al Budinsky has taken over the Jonathan Run acid mine redemption project and along with John Anderson has provided Tom with much needed support for this most important function of our chapter. Written documentation and communication is a must and involving national Trout Unlimited to review our grants is now a requirement. The Morgan Run AMD project has had it's difficulties, but hopefully we will see this once fertile stream return. Our next AMD project is Drake Run (Somerset county), another tributary to the Youghiogheny. Al Budinsky has already contacted Amy Wolfe at TU national about doing a rapid assessment to start the grant application process. Members have also expressed interest for more stream restoration and a major disappointment last year was the cancellation of the Dunbar Creek restoration project sponsored by Dunbar Sportsman Club. Work was needed on the upper jack dam and the project had to be canceled because of low attendance. This cannot happen again. Laurel Hill creek is another beautiful stream in our area that should be monitored by water sampling.

Communication and getting the word out about CRTU to our local newspapers, the PA Council and national Trout Unlimited should be a continuing goal of the upcoming year. We are now starting to put our meetings in local newspapers and with Tom Shetterly winning the national TU award last year, we are no longer a secret to the national organization. Publicizing our accomplishments can only help us in all facets of our chapter. It could increase our membership, increase our fund-raising, and informing local and state legislators about us could aid us in obtaining grants. All good stuff.

In closing, I am honored by the chapter's nomination and hope, with your support, that I can continue the fine efforts of our past presidents. We have a ambitious agenda before us, which involves a lot of hard work. But as I stated in the annual report, through our accomplishments we also feel a sense of pride and camaraderie. Imagine one day in the future catching native brook trout in Jonathan and Morgan Run, or seeing a young man or woman we mentored become a leader and environmentalist in their community. It is a legacy we can all be proud of as a chapter.

Sincerely,
Allen Tedrow

CRTU ANNUAL BANQUET ORDER FORM

Help us by reserving your tickets now to CRTU's annual banquet held on March 25, 2006 at the Holiday Inn in Uniontown. Complete the form below and make your check or money order paid to the order of "CRTU" and mail to:

Eugene Gordon
Box 212
Mount Braddock, PA 15465

Your tickets will be at the check in table when you arrive. Members who use this order form will be eligible for a special raffle drawing! Deadline to submit your reservation is Sunday, March 19, 2006.

Name
Address

Phone number

Email address

tickets

_____	Stuffed Chicken Breast	X	\$35 =	_____
_____	Sliced Beef	X	\$35 =	_____
	Total			_____

LAST CAST: FROM THE EDITOR

Another award for CRTU's Tom Shetterly! Tom has been awarded the Fayette County Conservation District's "Conservationist of the Year" This award was designed to recognize an individual who has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to the conservation of Fayette County's natural resources. Tom was honored at the Fayette County Conservation District Holiday Party on December 19th.

The CRTU December meeting and Christmas party that followed had a very nice turn out. Many thanks to Dr. William Kimmel for his fine presentation on the Glade Run project. Congratulations to member Al Crawford on winning the bamboo rod raffle.

Perhaps you have noticed the change of location for our membership meetings and our annual banquet. Becker's Shadyside Inn is going through a change in ownership and until more details are known the Board of Directors have decided to move our meetings back to the Knights of Columbus. Many thanks and good luck to Darrell at Becker's for his friendship to the chapter over the years. The Knights of Columbus is about a half a mile up the road from Becker's on the left. Look for their white sign.

Kieran Frye, one of the area's premier fly tiers, will present a demonstration at our February 8th meeting. Look for future speakers Marc Billett for a program on Montana's Big Horn River and Ernie Pribanic to present a fly casting demo. Always check our website for upcoming events.

Tentative planned trout stockings are set for March 18, 2006 at Meadow Run and for March 26, 2006, where we will be stocking the Yough Tailrace, Laurel Hill, and in cooperation with the PFBC, float stock the Casselman River. A stocking of Dunlap Lake for a youth outing is also planned. Details are forthcoming.

Tom Shetterly recently distributed a portion of the alkaline sands into Glade & Little Piney Runs. Loads of alkaline sands are delivered every two years and placed along the banks of the two creeks. The material is pushed into the stream and is washed downstream by the spring rains; all along the way neutralizing the acidity. As for the Jonathan Run project, final engineering is being completed by Skelly & Loy. In a recent twist of events, the DEP is making the original coal stripper clean up the creek using the plans developed under our grant. It now appears Jonathan Run may be on the fast track on being completed this summer. All costs for the plans and remediation of the project will be bourn by the coal operator. There are however, some property discrepancies. Chapter member Dennis Rosatti has offered to assist the chapter by performing a property survey. The survey will be used to secure right of way agreements with the property owner.

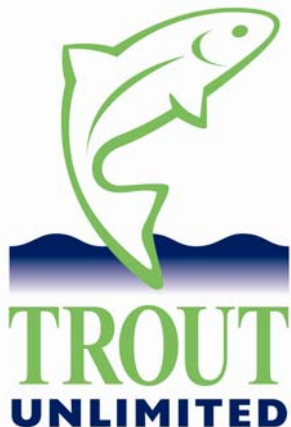
Allen Tedrow

Official Newsletter of the
Chestnut Ridge Chapter
#670 of Trout Unlimited

P.O. Box 483
Uniontown, PA 15401

Trout Unlimited's mission is to conserve, protect and restore North America's trout and salmon fisheries and their watersheds. Trout Unlimited's Chestnut Ridge Chapter has been a leader in coldwater conservation in southwestern Pennsylvania since 1995. With its efforts focused on the watershed of the Youghiogheny River, Chestnut Ridge TU works for cleaner streams, public awareness of water quality issues, and high quality trout fishing for the region's residents and visitors.

We're on the Web!
www.crtu.org



Tale of the Pool
Official Newsletter of CRTU

FROM THE BOOKSHELF: "STILL LIFE WITH BROOK TROUT" AUTHOR: JOHN GIERACH

Someone called John Gierach the "Mark Twain" of fishing writers. I would say that is a very accurate portrait of my favorite writer when it comes to the angling life. In this latest book, Gierach travels include Montana, Maine, Oklahoma and Nebraska. He spends time talking about the wildfires and drought that have made fishing the west an adventure in finding good trout water to fish.

One solution is to fish the high country headwaters of his Rocky Mountain home. He is always searching and exploring new water to fish. The Wind River Range, Rocky Mountain National Park, and especially the South Platte River are some of the places he fishes and enjoys. His travels along the Thompson River are telling. He never stops to fish, just cruises along in his truck, looking and dreaming. Even when he isn't fishing, he can't stay away from the flow of water that captures his mind!

In this book, his essays always have a deeper meaning than just the catching of a trout. He writes about life while a trout stream flows in the background. This book gave me great pleasure and enjoyment. I can't ask anymore from a writer.

Dave Gilpin