



SENECA

VALLEY ANGLER

Official Publication of Seneca Valley Trout Unlimited –
Chapter # 369 – Vol. 29. No.12
www.senecavalleytu.org

FEBRUARY 2, 2011 Chapter Meeting

7:00-7:30 p.m. – Social Time

7:30-8:00 p.m. – Meeting

8:00-9:15 p.m. – Program: CHAPTER ELECTIONS & FLY-TYING: Matt Rosenthal, the proprietor of the new Beaver Creek Fly Shop, will show us how to tie a few flies that are effective on Beaver Creek. Bring your tying gear!

**Location: Up-County Regional Service Center; Rm. D
12900 Middlebrook Road | Germantown, MD 20874
240-777-8000**

Future Events: 2011

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Jan. 19 | SVTU Board Meeting |
| Feb. 2 | SVTU CHAPTER Meeting |
| Feb. 16 | SVTU Board Meeting |
| Mar.12 | NCCTU fly fishing show, Bethesda |
| Mar. 16 | SVTU Board Meeting |
| Mar. 23 | SVTU CHAPTER Meeting |
| Apr. 16 | Stream Cleanup – Location TBD |
| Apr. 20 | SVTU Board Meeting |
| Apr. 27, | SVTU CHAPTER Meeting |
| May 18 | SVTU Board Meeting |
| May 25 | SVTU CHAPTER Meeting |
| Jun. 15 | SVTU Board Meeting |
| Jun. 18 | Stream Cleanup – Location TBD |

Other Planned Events:

Casting Clinic: Usually held the first Saturday of the month on the lake at Seneca State Park (see website for updates).

Fly-tying classes – See info that follows.

Check our website, or, as noted below, sign up for our listserv to receive updates and announcements!

Current SVTU Officers and Board

The current officers and open board positions include:

Officers:

President – Noel Gollehon

Vice President – Stan Oaks
Secretary – Charles August
Treasurer – Nate Wallace

Board Members:

Stan Oaks Jr. (*ex officio*)
Charles August (*ex officio*)
Noel Gollehon (*ex officio*)
Nate Wallace (*ex officio*)
Warren Junium '10
Al Smeltz '10
Jason Andrick '11
Ron Uleck '10
Dale Thatcher '11

Committee Chairs:

Conservation Chair: Noel Gollehon
Program Chair: Ron Uleck
Newsletter Editor: Warren C. Junium, Jr.
Education Chair: *Vacancy*
Banquet Chair: TBD (for 2011)
Membership Chair: *Vacancy*
Activities Chair: *Vacancy*

Chapter Delegates to the Mid-Atlantic Council:

Charles August
Noel Gollehon
Stan Oaks
Al Smeltz
Ron Uleck
Nate Wallace
Two vacancies

BEST WISHES TO ALL FOR 2011!

Greetings for the New Year to all members and your families.

Don't forget to purchase your 2011 fishing licenses and trout stamp. Also, check your TU membership for your renewal date! Memberships have expired or are about to expire for many of you.

Last year, if you expected to fish tidal or salt waters in any of the coastal states, you had to register with NOAA's National Saltwater Angler Registry. Free in 2010, there is a \$15 fee for 2011; however, Maryland changed its recreational fishing license structure for 2011 to comply with angler registry requirements. Due to these changes, Maryland applied for exempt status. As an exempt State, anglers in Maryland will not have to register with NOAA. The contact information required by the angler registry will be automatically provided to NOAA for Maryland licensed or registered anglers. For additional info, see: http://www.dnr.state.md.us/fisheries/pdfs/2011FG_Final2p2.pdf

YOUR CHAPTER!

2010 was a very busy and successful year for the Chapter. Many of our members may not be aware of the activities and opportunities provided by SVTU. Some highlights include: co-sponsored and provided instructors for youth fly fishing clinics; transporting and presenting our invasive species booth at events; Chapter fly-tying and casting

clinics; stream cleanup of Little Seneca and Great Seneca Creeks; and, continued work for the Beaver Creek restoration project.

We plan to continue the same level of effort in 2011, but to accomplish this, the Chapter needs your support. As a volunteer organization we are limited by the number of active members who are willing and able to assist with Chapter leadership and activities. We have approximately 350 members of TU assigned to our Chapter, Our active membership from this pool is less than 10 percent. In order for the Chapter to continue to be a viable organization we need your support.

The first critical need is upon us. At the start of each calendar year we hold our **elections of officers**. This year we have many openings, including the positions of President and Vice-President. The present holders of these positions have reached their term limits per TU rules. Replacements are needed. Many of our officers have been rotating through the various positions. We could use some additional support from others. There are enough members with experience who can help anyone who is willing to take on a position. Please consider volunteering at the February 2nd meeting!

Sign-up for Email Updates from SVTU

The chapter maintains a secure opt-in email alert and event invitation system. It has been active for a year. Since the newsletter is only mailed twice a year, in January and September, this service, along with the Chapter's website, provides up to the minute communication of upcoming activities.

If you would like to opt-in to this service email your name, address, phone number, and preferred email address to: svtroutunlimited@gmail.com. You will receive an opt-in message with the necessary instructions to join. We will not provide/sell your email to others.

SVTU Website

Organize a special fishing outing, spread the word about a new fly, tell us about a conservation opportunity, and share your fun and serious information with your fellow SVTU members and others who visit the SVTU web site. Go to the SVTU site, <http://www.senecavalleytu.org>, (register, if you have not already done so) and then click on 'Forum,' under 'PAGES' on the right side of the front page. Add a new post or read and respond to items that others have posted.

Fly Tying Classes for 2011

The Chapter will once again hold a series of fly-tying classes for members and guests. Commencing Jan. 18th and continuing through April.

Where: Isaac Walton League, Rockville Chapter Clubhouse, located at 18301 Waring Station Road, Germantown, Md. (Off of Clopper Road).

SVTU Coordinator: Charles August, MD.
Contact: csaugust@comcast.net

Schedule / Curriculum:

Beginners: 3 weekly sessions, Tuesday evenings from 7:30-9:30pm Jan. 18, Jan. 25, and Feb. 1.

Session #1: Introduction to fly tying with a description of tools and materials, explaining the arcane definitions of fly tying terms, preparing hooks, and, finally, tying the "Green Weenie".

Session #2: Will involve tying a "Walt's Worm" and will include putting lead and/or a bead head on the hook, then preparing and using rabbit's fur dubbing and ribbing.

Session #3: Will be devoted to tying wooly buggers; the standard, all black, fly and some variants, for example, "Patuxent Specials", bead head buggers, and of course, the "IWL Special" bugger.

Experienced: Six sessions will commence Feb. 8 and will be held every other Tuesday evening from 7:30 - 9:30 PM. The current dates are: Feb. 8, Feb. 22, March 8, March 22, April 5, and April 19.

TU - Mid-Atlantic Council (MAC) News

The Council includes the six TU Chapters in MD and the District of Columbia. Two of our Council delegates, Charles August and Stan Oaks, are currently on the MAC Executive Committee.

The Council is currently focusing on developing a strategic plan, as well as some making our stance known to relevant government officials regarding fracking/Marcellus shale, dewatering of Hoyes Run, and several other critical issues to coldwater fishing in the State/region. In addition, a MAC banquet/fundraiser is planned for March 26.

Cutthroat Trout and Other Critters in Rocky Mountain National Park

By Stan Oaks

Early this year, when my wife, Linn, and I decided to take a road trip out west in September and October, my immediate thought was to contact Guy Turenne. For those of you who don't know Guy, he was a founding member of this chapter and had moved to Fort Collins, CO after retiring a few years ago; he and I have been trying to get together to fish ever since. Well, this was my chance and I took the bait, so to speak.

We arrived in Fort Collins on day 5 of our trip and spent the first afternoon catching up with Guy and his wife, Roxanne. We visited the New Belgium Brewery, tasted some of their products (very nice!), and went out for a nice Mexican dinner afterwards. Later that evening we made our plans for the following day; Guy and I to fish, and Roxanne and

Linn to tour Poudre Canyon and the art camp where Roxanne teaches.

So, on a cool morning in mid-September, Guy and I set out for Rocky Mountain National Park – one of his favorite haunts – about 30 minutes away. In addition to what was necessary for fishing, we took along our camera gear – we're both avid amateur photographers, Guy a little more than I – as we hoped to see some elk and, with any luck, bighorn sheep or other willing subjects.

We were in luck, photographically speaking, as we located a small herd of elk in one of the lower meadows – Guy had told me that they were just starting to migrate down from the higher elevations, in preparation for winter. I managed to take a few decent shots of a small bull. The bighorns were nowhere to be seen that day.

We then headed up to the upper portion of the park, where we left Guy's car and set out on foot to hike up to Loch Vale, a small alpine lake at about 10,000 ft elevation. The lake was beautiful but there were a fair number of anglers there. We both tried a few casts but it seemed like the fish had been put down, so Guy suggested we move to the other sides of the lake, where we each hooked into our first catches of the day, greenback cutthroats – small, but very feisty!

After about 30 minutes of limited productivity (i.e., no more fish), we decided to move on, so headed up the nearby canyon, following Icy Brook, our next fishing destination. We hiked up to a spot that had been previously productive for Guy and wet our lines, each using a light elk hair caddis in size 14-16. Fish on! Over the course of the next hour or so, we each managed about five or six more cutthroats, ranging between 10 ½ and 12 inches. We caught all but one on dry flies; either the caddis imitation or a light-colored fly that I believe was a yellow sulphur. Guy also caught one on a bead-head zebra midge, size 18, I believe. My attempt with a similar fly ended in a strike but no hookup. By then it was getting to be late in the afternoon, and the temperature had dropped considerably, so we called it a day and hiked back down to the car.

The following day, the four of us journeyed back into the park to view the sights and to search for suitable subjects to photograph, both animate and inanimate. We were not disappointed! We found some more elk, a few bighorn sheep, various birds, marmots, pikas, chipmunks and ground squirrels, and several other species (including the village idiot – a guy who walked within 60 feet of a large bull elk, to get a picture – he was lucky that the elk didn't charge), all relatively willing to be photographed. We also found incredible vistas everywhere we turned and a sky that was dark blue, with incredible cloud formations!

That afternoon, we returned to their home, said goodbye to Guy and Roxanne, and headed west to Utah, to continue our adventure. Prior to leaving, we made tentative plans to return and tour with them into Wyoming and Montana, to visit Yellowstone, Grand Teton, and Glacier National Parks. I suspect that a little fishing will be in order for that trip also.

If you haven't been out west, I highly recommend it. The scenery is breathtaking and the fishing...well, what can I say!

Successful SVTU Planting on Beaver Creek

By Noel Gollehon

On October 16, 2010, 40 members and friends of Seneca Valley TU came together with about 600 potted trees and shrubs in a newly restored area of Beaver Creek in Washington County. At the end of the day, the vast majority of the trees and shrubs were planted into predetermined locations along the streambanks. The planting on October 16 (and the follow-up work) culminated almost a year of activity on the part of SVTU to secure adequate funding, and to plan and implement the planting. In the end, funding was obtained through a National TU Embrace-a-Stream grant, a direct appeal to the SVTU membership, and contributions by the Mid-Atlantic Council and other local TU Chapters - Thank you!

The almost 1.5 acres of riparian area replanted in this effort was the final stage in an over \$100,000 restoration of about 850 feet in the fly-fishing only portion of Beaver Creek. The project implemented a Natural Channel Stream Design to correct the width and depth of the stream. A series of riffle, run, pool, and glide configurations were constructed to enhance the stability of the stream and to provide fish habitat. This was accomplished by installing rock/log cross-vanes, rock/log J-hooks, boulder clusters, and scour logs. These changes will provide increased sediment transport, lower water temperatures, and provide an area for higher flows to over-top and relieve some of the channel velocity. Banks and low-flow benches were stabilized with coir-matting, and annual rye and native grasses. The SVTU-led effort to plant the 600 native trees and shrubs contributed to the bank stabilization and addition of a riparian buffer.

SVTU thanks the supporters and volunteers that made this effort possible. Your efforts have already made a substantial positive change to this fishery. GO FISH IT!

Editor's Note

Contact me if you have articles, photos, fish stories, fishing/stream reports, etc. that you think might be appropriate for inclusion in the next edition of the newsletter, or the website. My e-mail address is: wjunium1@hotmail.com.

**Seneca Valley Angler
Seneca Valley Trout Unlimited, Chapter 369
9 Lavenham Place
Gaithersburg, MD 20877-3469**

