
FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS

TWIN TIERS-FIVE RIVERS CHAPTER

[Canistee-Chemung-Cohocton-Susquehanna-Tioga Rivers in NY South & PA North Tiers] www.TwinTiersFFF.org Dec 2007

NEXT MEETING

Monday Dec 3 7:00 p.m.

Big Flats Community Center

Amy Wolfe

**TU Kettle Creek & West Susquehanna
Restoration**

We are very fortunate to have **Amy Wolfe** with us in December. Amy is the director for Trout Unlimited's much-celebrated **Abandoned Mines Program** – which is overseeing vital watershed restoration efforts in Central PA. Amy directed Home Water's restoration of Kettle Creek – and now is overseeing the critical West



Susquehanna Restoration. You may have read about these projects in the Summer's Trout Unlimited's magazine *Trout*.

Under Ms. Wolfe's leadership since 1999, the Kettle Creek Home Rivers Initiative has grown into a \$4.1MM watershed restoration program that focuses on abandoned mine drainage abatement, fish habitat improvement, and landowner stewardship education.

Trout Unlimited's West Branch Susquehanna Restoration Initiative

More than eight years has passed since Trout Unlimited embarked upon one of its most successful Home Rivers Initiative programs in the Kettle Creek watershed in northcentral PA. During these past eight years, TU secured approximately \$3 million and leveraged an additional \$1 million for numerous projects, which included comprehensive resource assessments and restoration planning, stream and riparian habitat restoration in the upper watershed, abandoned mine drainage remediation projects in the lower watershed, and extensive outreach to local landowners.

Building upon TU's successful abandoned mine drainage (AMD) planning and remediation efforts for the Kettle Creek watershed, in 2004 TU expanded its efforts into a



West Branch Susquehanna Restoration Initiative. The comprehensive assessment, strategic planning, and prioritized remediation program that TU and its partners have developed for the Kettle Creek watershed is being used as a model for this new initiative. Similar to TU's role in the Kettle Creek Home Rivers Initiative, its main objective is to act as a lead catalyst toward establishing a comprehensive, prioritized watershed plan aimed at the restoration of coldwater streams and the ultimate recovery of the West Branch Susquehanna watershed.

The West Branch Susquehanna watershed drains an



area of just under 7,000 square miles, twice the size of Yellowstone National Park. The basin contains more than 1.4 million acres of State Forest

Land, more than 250,000 acres of State Game Lands and over 29,000 acres of State Park Lands. This region is truly a gem nestled in the Commonwealth's interior that has the tremendous potential to provide a mecca of outdoor recreational opportunities. Unfortunately, that potential is impacted by the pollution and other problems left behind from historic unregulated coal mining activities that once provided a boon to local industry and communities. The legacy that remains



today is in the form of AMD, which is the cause for 60% of the pollution to the West Branch's waterways.

More than 1,200 miles of the main stem and coldwater tributaries are documented as AMD-impaired.

The benefits from abatement of AMD impacts to the West Branch watershed are numerous, with one of the most obvious being improved fishing opportunities.



The potential for fishery restoration on all AMD impacted streams throughout the West Branch is phenomenal due to the fact that most of these have been assessed as potential trout-stocking, high quality coldwater fishery, or exceptional value, and the headwaters of most streams above the AMD are classified as Class A wild trout fisheries. Water quality degradation from AMD is the main reason for impairment of aquatic life throughout most of the West Branch watershed, whereas the physical stream habitat is already in relatively good condition.

Hold your calendar's open. This meeting will be a do-not-miss opportunity. We have invited folks coming for various TU chapters from around the area.

[Photos: West Branch Susquehanna River, close-up of a cross vane at a fish habitat improvement project on Kettle Creek, Middle Creek Passive Project, and Head Gate Project.]

Last Month's Program featured Joe Cambridge and his "Strategies for Rising Trout."

Joe's program focused on approaching situations when trout are taking on top. Joe explained with white board drawings the various rise forms we might expect to see and how to use them to our advantage. A few of us took home reams of notes and Joe's descriptive handouts were to "fight to get." If you missed this one you really missed a great opportunity to read rising

trout and to be able to increase your catch and release "limits."

TT-5R New Officers

The following candidates for office were elected to one-year terms at the November meeting:

- President- Tom Krajci
- First Vice President- Jake Trimmer
- Vice President Program- Kirk Klingensmith
- Vice President Education- Russ Hyde
- Vice President Conservation- John Lively
- Treasurer- Dick Naylor
- Secretary/Newsletter- Tom Rood

NEW MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

From Rodney Pridle FFF Regional President: A number of items were discussed during a Council of Presidents national conference call. One that affects us is the announcement of a new membership promotion. This is only available to FFF charter clubs like ours. Beginning January 1, 2008 new members coming into charter clubs and the FFF can purchase their first year FFF membership for \$10.00.

OPEN FLY TYING NIGHTS

Every Tuesday evening from 6 to 9 PM members can come to the Big Flats Community Center to tie flies or to just visit and share big trout stories. You might even get some one to show you a few new tricks as well. Our club is gifted with several wonderfully experienced fly tyers.

PROGRAMMING

- ♠Jan 7: Kirk Klingensmith- **Trout Bugs- All You Need to Know to Get Started.** A video will also be shown: *Bugs of the Underworld* - with Ralph and Lisa Cutter
- ♠Feb 4: Keith Matthew's -**The Origins and History of Our Classic Catskill Dry Fly Patterns**

If you have a good program to suggest - call Kirk at 607-562-3344 or e-mail at kklingensmi@stny.rr.com Club meeting programs are also on-line on the club's web site: www.twintiersFFF.org

LIBRARY

The TT-5R Chapter has its own library. If you have books, periodicals, tapes, or CD-ROMs involving flyfishing in any aspect that you wish to donate for this program, please bring your donations to any meeting.

Business Meeting Minutes for November

At our November business meeting present were T. Krajci, J. Timmer, K. Klingensmith, R. Hyde, R. Naylor and E. Ryan. We all agreed that we need a coordinator for club outings in 2008.

John Lively could not attend but submitted a number of suggestions for the club's conservation projects including Cayuta Creek (Install a stile in the fence for easier access and Riprap on bank in first hole below bridge in special regs area).

TT-5R to continue to monitor work on Chemung River, Keith Matthews to continue representing the club at Chemung River Council, Monitor airport relocation/Sing Sing Creek, Support action for Cornell to install a deeper discharge pipe to reduce weed

growth, and Kirk Klingensmith to maintain contact with DEC for float stocking.

We discussed various fund raising strategies. The two most important ones were to continue the fly fishing seminar. An alternative would be a one day fly fishing school. The advantage of the fly fishing school is lower cost and easier to manage and man than the seminar. Fly tying demonstrations at appropriate venue can be a source of new members and should be encouraged. We look for member's comments and suggestions on these three areas of club activity

All officers agreed that business meetings will the third Monday of the month. The next one will be Monday Dec 17, 2007 at 7 PM. Location to be announced.

Editor's email address change to
<tom@gracegardens.com>

Directions to Big Flats Community Center: Exit off NY Rte 17/I-86 at Exit 49. Go south. At tee turn left onto Maple St. Follow Maple St. for approximately 0.2 miles. Community Center will be on your right just beyond the town hall.

Tom Krajci- Pres- (607.734.1156 Email tkrajci@stny.rr.com)

Tom Rood- Sec/Editor- (315.536.2556 E-mail tom@gracegardens.com)

The Federation of Fly Fishers is a 41-year-old organization working to conserve, restore and educate through fly-fishing. The FFF is the only organization that advocates for fly anglers on all waters. *Join the Federation of Fly Fishers.* Send a check for \$35 (seniors over 65 \$25) to **Federation of Fly Fishers, PO Box 1595, Bozeman, MT 59771.** Include Twin Tiers-Five Rivers as your club affiliation on your FFF membership form to be recognized as part of the TT-5R Chapter. *Join or renew FFF membership online at www.fedflyfishers.org or by phone at 406.222.9369*

Club Web Site www.TwinTiersFFF.org

NEXT CLUB MEETING: Monday Dec 3

Amy Wolfe and

TU Kettle Creek & West Susquehanna Restoration

Big Flats Community Center

Federation of Fly Fishers
Twin Tiers-5 Rivers Chapter
C/o Tom Rood, Secretary
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