

**Officers:**  
Aaron Monroe  
President  
330-637-9009  
amonroe@neo.rr.com

Dick Natoli  
Secretary  
330-545-4576  
dnatoli@peoplepc.com

Jeff Kremis  
Treasurer  
724-588-4378  
bentley48@neo.rr.com

**Directors:**  
Bill Fay  
724-588-8222  
wlfay@nauticom.net

Reg McClelland  
724-588-6429  
vanorvis@pathway.net

Jim Mondok  
724-981-4513  
mondokjj@pathway.net

Jim Rafferty  
724-924-9256  
jjraff@zoominternet.net

**Watershed Coordinator:**  
Jeff Kremis

**Newsletter Editor &  
Banquet Chairman:**  
Nick Loprire  
330-638-2982  
steelhd789@aol.com

**Membership Chairman:**  
Tom Jochman  
330-544-2507  
tejochman@sbcglobal.net

**Munnell Run  
Nursery Coordinator:**  
Pete Anthony  
724-662-2271  
gpanthony@pathway.net



# CLEARWATER GAZETTE

A Publication of Neshannock Trout Unlimited Chapter 216

**November/December 2003**

## Editors Notes

Well sports fans, wasn't that a summer to remember. You didn't require a long memory since there were only about two weeks that were worth remembering. For a while I thought there was going to be another attempt at constructing an ark. The only things that stayed dry this summer were the boxes of flies in my vest. The club outing at Oil Creek was canceled and the Potter County trip was reduced to a test of rain gear and foul weather cooking. Shenango was at one point 12 feet above summer pool. Even the renegade beaver on Coolspring nearly died from exhaustion trying to keep his dam repaired.

Enough about fishing, let's talk about our gardens. NOT!! My tomatoes died and the raspberries got a blight. Thanks for nothing summer of 03. The silver lining in all this is that the steelhead arrived earlier than usual. Let's hope Mother Nature doesn't ruin this fishing.

The chapter was active this summer. We had two good workdays on Coolspring and we accomplished one  
*cont. from pg. 2*

### Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 1362  
Hermitage, PA 16148

### Website:

www.neshannock-tu.org

### Membership Meetings:

Are announced in the newsletter and on the website.

### Board Meeting:

Board Meetings are held at VFW Post 6166 in Hermitage. See the web site for dates.

## In This Issue

### Editors Notes

### Cabin Fever Symposium

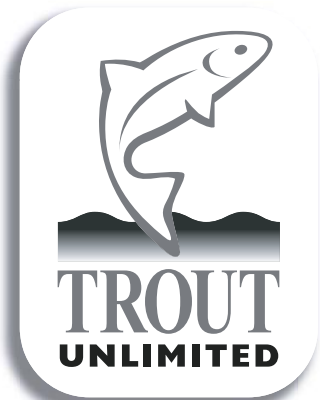
### Community Involvement

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### The Need for One of Each

*Trying to catch fish distinguishes the angler from other walkers in nature, and, as the angler binds himself by arbitrary rules, to catch fish with difficulty, is his unique pleasure.*

*John McDonald (1972)*



**Working to conserve, protect, and restore  
North America's coldwater fisheries, and their watersheds.**

## Summary

# Cabin Fever Symposium

N. Loprire

The second Cabin Fever Symposium is in the early planning stages. It will be held at the VFW in Hermitage again and this one will be better than the first. The date is January 31, from 11 to 3 pm. Look for more information in the January 2004 newsletter. We hope to have more and varied speakers on different types of fishing. We may even offer a primer on spring turkey hunting. There will be a raffle, free lunch provided, and a chance to purchase needed tackle from the local fly shops. We will have demonstrations and a flea market. REMEMBER, the flea market is open to all. You do not have to be a member of TU. So, gather that unneeded stuff and plan to sell it at the symposium.



## Happy Seasons

All the officers, members of the board, and Nursery personnel want to wish all of you a successful fall season of fishing, hunting and when it's time, successful Christmas shopping.

Be careful in the woods and remember to leave in the same condition or better when you leave. Pack a small garbage bag to pick up litter along the stream or hunting areas. Litter hurts everyone so do your part in looking after Mother Nature's backyard.



## Editors Notes cont.

*cont. from pg. 1*

of our largest undertakings as a chapter. More on this achievement is covered later in the newsletter.

Remember we would like to hear from **YOU**. Let us know about any good fishing trips or other pertinent news. Please send a story via email to [tjochman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tjochman@sbcglobal.net) or [steelhd789@aol.com](mailto:steelhd789@aol.com) and we will let our readers in on your adventures and add you to our database. When there is important chapter news we can contact you.

Lost your copy of the last newsletter, want to find out about fishing in a certain area or creek, then check out these items and more on our website [www.neshannock-tu.org](http://www.neshannock-tu.org). There is a wealth of information and links to other interesting sites.

# Community Involvement

Aaron Monroe

This year our chapter had displays at the Stoneboro Fair and participated in the Community Harvest Festival in Mercer County. We manned a booth at the fair, explaining the purpose of TU to fair goers and how our chapter is involved locally.

We toured people through our cooperative trout nursery, and got kids involved in a casting game at the Harvest Festival. We also had a display and demonstrated fly tying for those who were interested.

During the spring, summer and fall volunteers monitored local waterways to assess water quality and insect life with direction from Jeff Kremis.

It's this dedication that makes for a good relationship and service to the community.



## The Need for One of Each

Steven Barlow

"Hey, Dad wake up. Look what I've got."

In sleep's purgatory, between consciousness and dream, I heard the voice of my son Brian.

"Come on, Dad—you've got to see this."

It was Brian's voice and as my eyes opened I saw the blurry face of a largemouth bass about a half-inch from my own. "Isn't it a huge bass, Dad? It's 17 ½ inches long." "Great," I said. "What's it doing on my pillow?"

I didn't mean to discourage Brian from being so enthusiastic about his big catch, but I had worked a mid-night shift, and I really needed to get some sleep. It didn't happen. Three more times that morning Brian poking different fish at my face. "Dad, I've got a catfish, a bluegill, and a perch. What else is in that lake? I want to catch one of each."

Two hours later I was awakened again by arguing in the back yard. I got up to investigate. "So that's your life's ambition?" my wife Dawn scolded. "You're getting more like your father's side of the family every day."

*cont. from pg. 4*

August 21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>

# Wolf Creek Project...

You will note that there is no person's name listed under the paragraph title. The reason is that this was truly a dedicated effort by not only all of the chapter board members, and trout nursery personnel, but also members of the Grove City Sportsmen's Club, WCO Joe Morris, and volunteers from George Junior Academy. The project consisted of building deflectors in Wolf Creek to create a youth fishing area and later a handicap deck for fishing. This project was a year in planning. The plan was in two phases, first the deflectors and later the handicap deck. The deflectors placed in the stream would speed up the flow of the creek. The increased flow rate will transform the slow moving water into an area more suitable for the trout.

Phase one of the plan when executed was excellent. It resulted in an unbelievable accomplishment done in one day. Imagine building 5 special deflectors with dimensions of 38' by 24' consisting of 8 logs. The logs are dug into the banks at one end and meet in a triangular shape at a point in midstream. Then a second layer is pinned on top of the first. On the first layer of logs there is a layer of 30 or so flat 2x6x4 foot planks nailed on the upstream logs to provide cover under the deflector. This triangle shape is then filled with limestone rock that slopes increasingly higher back to the bank. Repeat the process in the flowing water of Wolf Creek 4 more times. Believe it or not this was accomplished in ONE DAY.

Tremendous credit must be given to everyone for a really special effort. Special credit is due to our WCO Joe Morris for coordinating the entire project and for directing the efforts that day. Don't take that as Joe sitting on the bank eating Krispy Kremes, Joe was directing while swinging a sledgehammer or prying a log into place.

I honestly can't give enough credit to all those who helped. Absolutely everyone, and I mean everyone worked very, very hard and accomplished a task that was estimated to take two to three weekends. No one sat down except for lunch. Though everyone worked hard, I think I can safely say the "star" of the show was the bucket operator. He operated this

piece of heavy equipment from the streambed with such dexterity that, I think he could have plucked a splinter from your finger with that bucket. He (Brian Pardon) of Thomas Construction) worked in concert with the crews constructing the deflectors and at one point actually used the bucket to drive a piece of 4-foot rebar through some stubborn logs and into the streambed.

Here is the list I took of the people that participated on that hectic day and for the clean up and grass seeding on Saturday.

- **WCO Joe Morris**
- **PBFC Dave Keller** for design and layout of the deflectors at the site.
- **Grove City Sportsman's Club**
  - Jeff McKee
  - Lee Covert
  - Jim Tidd
  - Jim Tibo
  - Carl Rhodes Greenville, SC
  - Ken Beck Greenville, SC
  - Tom Tomko Hidden Valley, SC
  - John Regalski
  - Dick Dunn
  - Bill Osborne
- **Trout Unlimited**
  - Dick Natoli
  - Rich Knauff
  - Tom Jochman
  - Pete Anthony
  - Nick Lopriore
  - Bill Fay
  - Aaron Monroe
  - Jeff Kremis
  - Reg McClelland
  - Jim Mondok
- **Borough of Grove City**
  - Terry Farren (manager)
  - Larry Reed
  - Jeff McKee
- **All the young men from George Junior** (they worked very hard for us)

*cont. from pg. 4*

## Wolf Creek Project cont.

cont. from pg. 3

### Corporate and Community Support

- Allegheny Mineral Corp** – Dave Bowser
- Byler Hemlock Lumber** – Mose Byler
- PA Game Com.** – Logs Jim Deniker
- McClymonds Supply & Transit** (limestone)
- Lezzer Lumber** (nails) – Mark Moore
- 84 Lumber** (nails) – Eric Merschiltz
- Thomas Construction** – Doug Thomas
- Rick Black** Logs – Logs
- Land owners** – E. Kenneth and Helen Black
- Armstrong Cable** – Dan Busatto

The handicap deck for fishing is spearheaded by a men's group (Elfuns) from the Grove City GE plant. At this writing construction has begun and they hope to complete the deck next spring.

Now for some of the staggering statistics for the deflectors:

- We used over **310 Tons** of crushed limestone. That was 13 large dump truck loads.
- Two 10 lb boxes of 9" spikes,
- 45 pieces of 5/8"x 4 foot rebar (driven through the drilled logs into the streambed),
- about 100 six foot pieces of 2x10 planking,
- 724 feet of spruce logs (each notched with a chain saw),
- one overworked gas powered drill,
- two 8 lb sledge hammers that really got a workout and
- about 40 gallons of sweat to complete the job.

Yes, Friday, August 22, 2002 was a great day for conservation. ***A heart felt thank you to all who donated time, material, and the dedication to see this project through to completion.*** It was truly a shining example of what good can be accomplished by caring groups and communities. We only hope others will follow this example to improve the environment in their communities.



## The Need for One of Each cont.

cont. from pg. 2

As I appeared Dawn shouted. "Tell your son he doesn't need a different fishing rod for every fish he catches."

"Dad, I had three carp on! They keep breaking my line. All I need is a carp and I'll have one of each". Dawn replied, "Does he need a different rod for each fish? We just bought him that one for his birthday. We've got so many rods around here, were tripping over them. And, he hasn't mowed the lawn yet." (When your sons get into their teens, your wife will stop yelling at you when you don't mow the lawn. Instead, she'll yell at you when the kids don't mow the lawn.)

"He probably does need something heavier than an ultralite to catch a carp."

"That's the way it starts with you guys," Dawn said. "You're never happy with one rifle, one shotgun, one knife, one fishing rod. You insist on something different for each game animal and each species of fish, until you don't have one of each, but 20 of each. Then you pick a favorite that you use 90 % of the time, and rest collect dust."

She led us onto the back porch where all my fishing rods were stored. She said to me "If you had to pick just one rod which would it be?" "It's not that easy, each one is for a different purpose." "Why not, you only have one pickup truck." Then she picked up a baitcaster and a fly rod and asks what was the difference. "The fly rod is for trout and smaller warm water fish and the baitcaster has 20 lb line for heavy fish." Brian then chimed in about the spincast rod he used and at that point Dawn realized she was out numbered. She walked quietly back into the house.

Brian and I decided we were a bit rough on mom and went inside to patch things up. "For the time being if Brian needs a heavier rod and line he can borrow mine." "Yeah, we're sorry, Mom," Brian said. "Dad was telling me how if he was really desperate he could get by with on shotgun one rifle, one handgun, one fishing rod...you know: one of each. And he said he'd be willing to do it—just as soon as you're happy with one of each. You know: one dress, one purse, one pair of shoes....."



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