



News from the Spring Creek Chapter



Centre Gives is Coming May 7 & 8 – Help Support the Chapter

Volume 41, Issue 1



Centre Gives, Centre Foundation's 36-hour online giving event, will begin on May 7 at 8 am and end on May 8 at 8 pm. Centre Foundation runs the event to support the great work of local non-profits serving Centre County. All gifts made to the Chapter during the 36 hour event go further thanks to Centre Foundation's stretch pool! We receive a portion of matching funds available from the Foundation.

The chapter's Centre Gives donation page can be found here: [SCCTU Centre Gives](#)

If you plan to donate please consider waiting until Wed, May 8 from 12–1 pm! We're trying for the *Nestlerode & Loy Investment Advisors Lunch Break Power Hour Prize* again this year. The group with the most unique donations during that time period wins an additional \$500! Stay tuned for more details....

A Home Water Love Affair: Fishing Spring Creek by Clifford Wurster, Life Member Trout Unlimited, Stream Restoration Volunteer, and Avid Flyfisher

"I fly fish a lot...locally, regionally, and nationally. Some view my commitment as an obsession, but for me, it's a passionate, near-amorous experience. My favorite target fish are the cold water species comprised of brook, rainbow, brown, and cutthroat trout. Of course, I have favorite destinations, and some secret ones too, where I spend anywhere from 100 to 150 days a year suited-up and coaxing trout to fur and feathered flies. However, when tethered in State College, I steal away to romance Spring Creek, my home water sweetheart." ...[To read More Click Here](#)

This article published in the [Spring Creek Watershed Atlas](#).

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Our Mission

To conserve, protect and restore Spring Creek's coldwater fishery and watershed

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[Visit the Website!](#)

Member Meetings

Our normal meetings are on the first Thursday of the month, 7:30 pm with speakers on a variety of fishing and conservation subjects.

[Calendar of Events](#)

Board Meetings

Board meetings are open to all members. They are

Save the Date and Volunteers Needed – June 2 Get Outdoors Family Fishing Event

This year the SCCTU will again 'host' the kick-off event for the Summer Get Outdoors Program– the Get Outdoors Family Fishing Event. Please SAVE Sunday, June 2nd and offers to help are most appreciated. We are planning on 200–400 people spending the day fishing, hiking, and enjoying the Outdoors. The event is from 2–6 pm at Tussey Mountain Pond, however set-up will begin about noon. Harris Township Supervisors have agreed to officiate the grilling, but volunteers of all ages and numbers will be most welcome.



held at the State
College Comfort Suites

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Please contact Hazel Stryker if you can volunteer:

hks7@psu.edu

Mark Nale awarded George Harvey Coldwater Heritage Award

The George Harvey Coldwater Heritage Award is given by the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited and the ClearWater Conservancy to a person who has made lasting and significant contributions to the preservation, conservation, and/or restoration of the Spring Creek Watershed over a significant period of time. This year's recipient is Mark Nale.

Many of us recognize Mark, a member of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association. His articles and photographs have appeared in local, state, and national publications including the Centre Daily Times, The Daily Herald, The Daily News and Pennsylvania Outdoor News. He is an accomplished birder and award winning photographer. Mark teaches nature photography at Juniata College. In 2017, one of his nature photos was selected by the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association as the best published newspaper photo. As an outdoor writer and past President of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association, Mark has proven to be an outstanding advocate for the conservation of our natural resources and has been extremely helpful in our efforts to protect the wild fish population throughout the state.



ClearWater's Deb Nardone with SCCTU Past President Bob Vierck and Award winner Mark Nale

He volunteers for conservation projects for the Little Juniata River Association, Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited and ClearWater Conservancy. In addition, he frequently participates in our combined efforts

to educate the community, especially the youth, on Nature Hikes at various outings such as Centred Outdoors. He also has provided nature talks at PA Brookies Academy, OLLI at Penn State, guest speaker in classes at PSU, Rivers Flyfishing and Conservation school.

We congratulate and thank our friend Mark for his help and support of the Spring Creek Watershed.

Paula Sowers awarded the Robert J. Eberhart Order of the Sulphur

This year the Robert J Eberhart Order of the Sulphur was awarded to one of the most active and popular members of our chapter, Paula Sowers. I think that you all recognize this picture of Paula with Aiden Wetzler, which has become our live person logo. It appears on the kiosk at Fisherman's Paradise and the education sign at Commercial St. project – where the picture was taken at our first Buffer Buddies.



Paula is primarily a conservationist – definitely not a fisherperson and has played an extremely important and active part of the success of our chapter she has served as a Board Member, Vice President, Annual Banquet Chair, Newsletter Editor, Public Relations Chair and a Conservation Activist. Three of the major contributions to the chapter are as follows:



1. As a Board member, she played an important and significant role for some six years providing insight and keeping the Board focused on the chapter objectives
2. As co-chairperson for the annual Dinner and Fundraiser, she has played an invaluable role in creating the structure and back office recording and records keeping the make the Banquet such a success over the past 6 years.
3. As a conservationist she participates in our conservation projects such as the McCoy Planting, Commercial Street (including steward for), and Fisherman's Paradise improvements.



The Jean Brenchley Women Anglers Support Fund Established

Jean Brenchley has been a key figure in keeping the Women Anglers group together since 2007. She saw the value in providing a learning environment for women that was educational as well as social. Her introduction to fly fishing came from Al Phillips, a close friend and biochemist colleague. After Jean retired from PSU, Al suggested that he teach her how to fly fish. Her description of those first lessons involve a lot of untangling of fly lines and retrieval of hooks from trees. Jean persisted under Al's tutelage and she was

"hooked." Al was also an active Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited board member for at least 10 years.

When Jean heard about the Central Pennsylvania Women Anglers, she joined the group in its early stages, and became a leader in keeping them together during the "growing pains" stage of the organization. In April, 2016, the Central Pennsylvania Women Anglers joined the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited (SCCTU) and became known as the SCCTU Women Anglers. They continue to have monthly get togethers to fish or learn new fishing skills.

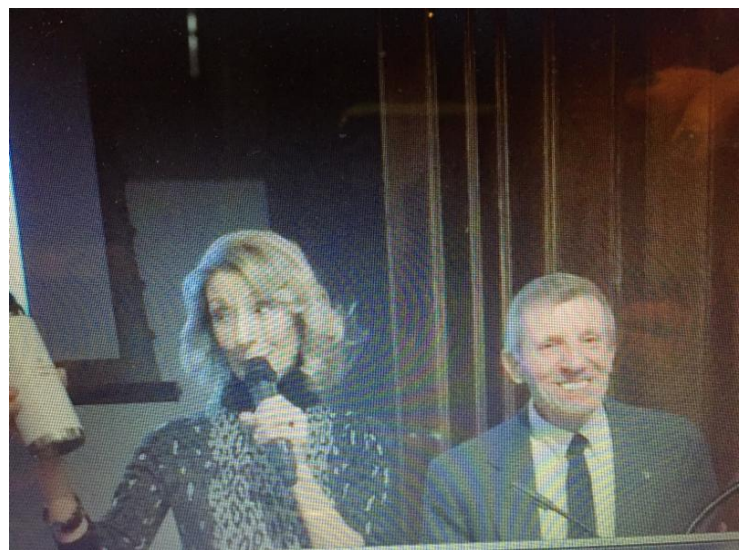
In the summer of 2018, Jean was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer that has taken its toll. When faced with the inevitable, she thought not only of her family but of her very enjoyable years with the Women Anglers as well as the value of Al Phillips taking the time and patience to introduce her to fly fishing. Jean has set up an Endowment Fund with the Centre Foundation called the Jean Brenchley Women Anglers Support Fund. This fund is specifically to promote the sport of fly fishing for women and help the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited develop a strong female presence. This fund will provide yearly monies that the SCCTU Women Anglers will use to teach fly fishing skills to the women who join us.

In honor of Jean and Al a new annual award has been established – , The Jean Brenchley and Al Philips Mentorship Award. The award will be given annually to an individual "recognized by the Women Anglers of the Spring Creek Chapter of TU as someone who has shown a commitment to mentoring women in the sport of fly fishing. In honor of Jean Brenchley who was mentored by Al Philips." Judy Sittler, Past President, awarded the inaugural award to Al Philips at this year's banquet. According to Jean and Judy Al is someone who has set the gold standard for encouraging and teaching women in the sport of fly fishing. We are pleased that many of Jean's family, friends and colleagues were able to join us for the banquet.

For more information on the SCCTU Women Anglers or to be added to the mailing list for their monthly outings please email Diane Brown at dmb490@gmail.com



Jean and Al hitting the stream



Judy presenting Al with his award

Fish with the Veterans Service Program

The SCCTU Veterans Service Program is back outside on the stream! The program has been such a success

that many of the veterans we initially taught to fly fish are now streamside mentors and very talented fly fishermen! If you are or know someone interested in fly fishing the VSP has decided to be open to anyone interested in learning to fish and the camaraderie the program offers. No experience or equipment is necessary. We have poles and supplies at the event. The public will need to supply their own fishing license (this is provided free for veterans). Details on the VSP are below.



All Veterans, Active Military Duty Personnel and their families are invited to join Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited for an afternoon of fishing on Spring Creek at Fisherman's Paradise, 1150 Spring Creek Road, Bellefonte PA 16823. The program operates the second and fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 pm now until the end of November. All equipment, lunch, and licenses for veterans are provided by the chapter. Trained mentors work one on one to provide on water fly fishing instruction. For more information call Bob Sills at 908-229-4727.



Here Marine and combat Veteran, Tom SanFilippo, learned how to euro-nymph in one weekend. He caught several wild brown trout while being assisted by two VSP Streamside Mentors.

46th Annual Dinner and Fundraiser

A great time was had by all and we raised over \$13,000 for SCCTU's conservation efforts! More than 170 avid conservationists and fishermen and women attended the 46th Annual Dinner and Fundraiser at the Mountain View Country Club. Thanks you to all who attended. Your generosity also allowed us to raise more than \$1,700 for the Joe Humphreys Student Angling Fund during our Bid for a Cause.



We would like to thank all of our sponsors and in-kind donors for their support.

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