

www.bluegrasstu.org



January 2009 Newsletter

Bluegrass Chapter **Trout Unlimited** #478

"..conserving, protecting and restoring North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds."

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Our Next Meeting is Feb. 3rd at Columbia's

Our Annual Banquet Is Almost Here

Fellow TU members,

It is Banquet time, if there is only one event of the year you can attend this is it! As this is our major fundraising event of the year, its success establishes the budget for this years projects. For those members who have been you know what an exciting evening this, if you have never been you don't know what you're missing. The Annual Bluegrass TU Banquet will be held on March 7, 2009 at the UK Faculty Club. Tickets will \$40.00 for one, \$ 75.00 per couple and will available from any board member, or simply contact me; Cash Olszowy at 859-576-9337 or e-mail me at alexo@lfucg.com to reserve your table.

-Cash

February Presentation

Our Program Director, Gary Rose, has invited Don Matthews to our next chapter meeting on February 3rd. Some might remember the scheduled TU chapter trip in December to the Eerie Lake area for our annual Steelhead trip. Don Matthews is the guide that lead our courageous group of members through the freezing temperatures in search of Steelhead.

Don will be presenting on Steelhead head fishing in the tributaries of Lake Erie in both northern Ohio and Pennsylvania. The trip is one that everyone should experience, and the service provided by Don is top notch. He provides all necessary equipment including flies and tippet. Steelhead are Rainbow Trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) that travel to larger bodies of water to mature to spawning age. Steelhead exist on every continent except for Antarctica. Rainbow trout like species of Salmon return to their exact location of birth to spawn. This is a trait that has yet to be completely understood by scientist.

Please join us on February 3rd at Columbia's Steak House Downtown Location for more on Steelhead presented by DaFishinFool's Don Matthews.

There is a trout rising right now only minutes from your driveway...

Special Announcement & Offer to BGTU Members

Do you want to spend a weekend fishing in a spectacular location? Would you like to stay in a comfortable and luxurious lodge, designed both for the fisherman and his family? Do a couple days surrounded by waterfalls, wildflowers and the rolling hills of Central Kentucky sound like a good way to break that cabin fever?

Whether you are looking for a couple days of great fishing close to home, a weekend getaway with your spouse, or a nature inspired trip to get the kids out from in front of the TV, the Boone Creek Angler's Club will satisfy your needs.

For a limited time, the Boone Creek Angler's Club, a membership-based fishing and outdoors club located within a privately-owned gorge just outside of Lexington, is allowing Bluegrass Trout Unlimited members a special membership option. This option will allow up to 5 BGTU members to join the club for weekday use only (Monday – Friday) for a reduced rate and the ability to rent the remarkable lodge for 30% off regular price.

Fishing access to a couple miles of pristine water and thousands of hungry trout is included in the price of a lodge rental. Also included is the huge river rock fireplace, a giant hot tub with a view, nature trails, a big screen TV, and numerous other amenities associated with the serene, private lodge tucked into one of Central Kentucky's most beautiful limestone gorges.

The lodge can house up to 12 people, but is still cozy enough for a couple needing a romantic escape. Spa packages and private chefs are available for those wanting a pampered vacation, or there is a full kitchen and large outdoor grill for those wishing to "rough it". No matter what type of stay you are looking for, the lodge can accommodate you and your guests.

Why drive a couple hours to fish when you can cast a fly to a rising trout only 20 minutes from home? Scoop up the spouse, the kids, or a few of your fishing buddies and experience one of the hidden gems of the Bluegrass region.



Gene Slusher has taken over management of the Boone Creek Angler's Club. In the near future, members will see the club get a facelift and an increase in services offered. If you are interested in becoming a member, renting the lodge, or just learning more about this amazing local resource, you can contact Gene at geneslusher@yahoo.com or 859-221-3287.

-Gene Slusher

What Kind of Boots Should You Wear?



Are you ready to give up your felt soled wading boots? T.U. has asked fishing gear manufacturers to eliminate felt-sole waders & wading boots by the year 2011.

This action comes amid growing concern over the environmental impact of felt-soled shoes spreading aquatic nuisance species such as whirling disease, *Didymosphenia Geminata*, (commonly referred to as didymo the aggressive algae also known as "rock snot"), and also includes New Zealand mud snails, among others.

New Zealand has banned felt-soled boots for fresh-water fishing throughout most of the country. Many state fish & game agencies have banned the use of felt by any of their employees, for fear of spreading didymo to other streams.

The 2011 deadline gives manufacturers time to gear up and more importantly, convince anglers that the new wading boot technology is as safe as felt for wading.

At first, I was not happy with the idea of giving up my felt boots, but since doing a little research, I can tell you that I am thinking that I might survive the transition.

I was thinking of getting a pair of rubber soled boots anyway, mainly for fishing where you have to do some hiking, and also in winter when there is snow on the ground. Wet felt and snow do not go well together; you end up walking on ice chunks.

LL Bean has had its Aqua Stealth soles out for many years and will introduce a new line of boots this year.

Patagonia has had boots with sticky rubber soles since 2005.

Simms will eliminate all felt boots by 2010 and will be introducing a new line of boots that will be a part of its "clean stream" line of products.

In the end, it will be a personal choice, but one that should be made with many factors considered.

What do you think? You can go to our website and post your thoughts on this subject.

-Rusty



Buy * Sell * Barter

Looking to Buy or Barter? - Jerry Cambron sold his canoe through our newsletter!!! You could be next. Just send an email to Kevin at kekoonmen@yahoo.com for any item you would like placed in this section.



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Bluegrass Chapter Trout Unlimited #478
Kevin Koonmen - Editor
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From the President

Hello everyone. We are planning some fishing trips to several locations over the next couple of months. Please contact Rusty or see the web page for details and sign up info.

The banquet is coming up, and this a great opportunity for our members to get to know each other. As well as, help our organization raise some money for the many projects we have planned for the coming year. So make sure you come our and support your local TU chapter.

Keep a drag free drift.....

Todd Martin, President

Editor's note: We had a good number of responses from some of our members requesting to receive only the e-newsletter, and we will make sure to honor the request of those whom wish to no longer receive a traditional newsletter. We appreciate your responses and hope to get additional requests. If you no longer want the traditional newsletter please email me at kekoonmen@yahoo.com.

Please visit our Website!

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Attention Members!!!

Renewals are required every year. You should receive a notice from National TU approximately four months before your membership expires. If you don't renew they will keep sending a notice monthly until some time after your membership expires. After a certain time your local chapter will send you a final notice. You will save a lot of unnecessary mail along with work and expense for the local chapter and the national organization if you renew right away. Please, when you get the first notice do not put it down. Send in the renewal right away or go online at www.tu.org and get it done immediately. You might get a valuable coupon as a reward. Thanks - Charlie Ebling