



# Trout Unlimited

## Emerald Necklace Newsletter

www.TUCleveland.org

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### The Banquet

The planning is well underway for our annual banquet. Keep **November 6, 2004** open as it promises to be another fun filled night. The banquet will again be held at the Cleveland Athletic Club. The cost remains the same as last year, \$60 per person, or \$500 for a table that seats 10 (and comes with a limited edition Rod Crossman print). The price also includes free parking at the garage across the street from the CAC.

Cocktails (cash bar) begin at 5:30 P.M. Be sure to check out our web site [tucleveland.org](http://tucleveland.org) for more details and information on the auction/prizes.

What you can do to help:

- Plan for your attendance at the actual banquet!
- Encourage the participation of other members that you know, or encourage other individuals to join TU and the conservation effort!
- And it is still not too late to donate or solicit donations. If you have an item or obtained an item that can be auctioned off at the banquet, please contact Craig Strachan at.

Stay tuned in this news letter for examples of how this fundraiser contributes to make the world a better place.

### President's Article

By: Rich Nering - The Emerald Necklace Chapter has made great strides in the past few years to give our founding leadership a break. We have not let them go completely, but we now have more members on the board to help with events, projects and chapter business. As part of this progression of leadership, I am now your chapter President taking over from Chris Steffen. We owe Chris a large THANK YOU for his work over the past two years.

I look forward to working with you to continue to strengthen our chapter. This is not an individual effort – we need people to continue to contribute to this effort. I don't consider myself an expert in conservation or fly fishing. But if you are interested in getting to know a great group of like-minded people, I encourage you to get involved. I am continually amazed about the amount of knowledge and commitment of the members of our board. If you are passionate about a specific conservation issue, I challenge you to join our leadership to champion that initiative within the chapter.

I promise to do my best during my term to keep our membership informed about what the chapter is doing. Already this year, there have been several great things that have occurred due to the

work of our Banquet Committee. First, we calculated that our chapter has donated over \$55,000 over the past 9 years. Chris Steffen created a fantastic information donor information pamphlet that describes what our chapter is about. We are doing our best to keep the website updated with new activities of the chapter; I encourage you to visit it often.

## Meetings

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We have scheduled the following meetings for the coming year:

September 18<sup>th</sup> at Pine Lake Trout Club, Chagrin Falls, OH – Fishing (limited to 25 members) from 9:30 to 5:00. Meeting following lunch at noon. Cost \$50 for fishing and lunch and \$15 for lunch. Contact Rich Nering (440) 286-6236 to reserve your spot for fishing (on a first come first serve basis) and for lunch reservations.

October 12<sup>th</sup> at the Cleveland Athletic Club - A speaker from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources will talk about the water use agreements.

January 11<sup>th</sup> at the Cleveland Athletic Club – Brian Fleshig of Mad River Outfitters will speak on ‘ Carpín’ – Fly fishing for carp.

February 8<sup>th</sup> at the Cleveland Athletic Club – A Speaker from the Chagrin River Land Conservancy.

March 8<sup>th</sup> at the Cleveland Athletic Club – topic and speaker to be announced.

## Local TU Impact

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As Rich mentions above, our chapter has actively supported both conservation and education. The following was taken from a letter from Steven Gray, Chief, Division of Wildlife, Ohio department of Natural Resources.

“I would like to thank the Trout Unlimited, Emerald Necklace Chapter #133 for their continued support of Division of Wildlife. Your generous donation helped support a fish culture training class for our hatchery staff. We have a very dedicated staff at our hatcheries; unfortunately, many of these individuals have degrees in the natural resources field and do not have formal training specific to fish culture. The two-week U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service Coldwater Fish Culture course was a comprehensive class that covered all aspects of hatchery operations. We were able to send all but one of our hatchery staff to the class and I believe they will be better culturists because of the training. Thanks again for your support.”

**Your donations at work – wait there is more.**

The following is a reproduction of an article that appeared in the Plain Dealer on July 2 of this year.

“Chagrin River Land Conservancy extends its deepest gratitude to our friends at the Emerald Necklace Chapter of Trout Unlimited and at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History Trout Club for their work in preserving the last remaining populations of Native Ohio Brook Trout. Without these two organizations, we would have been unable to preserve Woodiebrook Creek in Munson Township, which is one of only two streams in all of Ohio with an

Historic Population of these Trout. Trout Unlimited and the Museum's Trout Club have partnered with us to purchase a critical segment of Woodiebrook Creek and adjacent upland areas that are vital to the long term survival of native Ohio Brook Trout. **Thank You!"**

**As you can see your support of TU and of our annual banquet is having a real impact.**

## First Cast Program

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For the third consecutive year, the emerald necklace chapter has continued its work with Boy Scouts for our First Cast initiative. Each year, we have learned more about how to run this program. Our major accomplishment this year was meeting with a scout troop (#261 from Northfield) several times before our main event which is a day of fishing at the Castalia Fish Hatchery. By attending scout meetings, we established a great relationship with the boys and were able to help them complete a significant amount of work towards their badges. Of course the incentive of a new fly rod (donated by LL Bean) to the first scout to complete get their badge also helped. Just a few weeks after the day at Castalia, Bobby Lempner completed his badge and received his rod.

Please do visit our chapter website and look through the First Cast page under the What We Do section. I think you will find that both scouts and TU volunteers were smiling – a lot! If you are interested in joining us next year in working with scouts, we welcome you to contact chapter President Rich Nering (216) 896-2406 (Day) or email

[RNering@adelphia.net](mailto:RNering@adelphia.net). You can also talk to First Cast Chair, Chris Eckley, at one our chapter meetings. We will be looking for more TU members who can attend a few scout meetings during the Fall/Winter 2004-05 and help at Castalia in summer of 2005. There is a lot we could do with this program if we can grow the number of volunteers. We have established some great contacts with regional Boy Scout leadership and we have the equipment and experience now to put on more events. Your banquet participation helps to support this event.

Many thanks to this year's volunteers who were able to attend events: Chris Eckley, Gary Bish, Chris Steffen, Keith Brewster, Lou Povinelli, Tony Jelenic. Thank you also to those who signed up, but whose schedules did not allow them to participate – we hope you can help next year.

## Steelheaders' Conclave

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The Ohio Central Basin Steelheaders in conjunction with Cleveland Metroparks are sponsoring the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Steelhead Fishing Exposition at Penitentiary Glen located on Kirtland Chardon Road, in Kirtland, Ohio. The 6 hour fishing exposition, which will feature a variety of fishing techniques, begins at 10:00 a.m. and the cost is \$6.00 per individual or \$12.00 per family. You can register for this event by calling 440-358-7275.

## Stocking Ohio's Streams

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This past spring (4-29 to May 6) the following streams were stocked with steelhead: Chagrin River - 95,907

- Conneaut Creek 150,764\*
- Grand River 92,787
- Rocky River 93,740

- Vermilion River 64,093  
\*75,000 were stocked by Pennsylvania.

In addition, toward the end of September/beginning of October, the Mad River and the Clear Fork River will each receive a stocking of 10,000 brown trout.

Our thanks to our friends at ODNR for the above information and their continued efforts.