

**Trout Unlimited General Meeting  
January 23, 2007**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Roger Shott.

**Minutes:** There was no general meeting for the month of December.

**Fly Tying:** Barry Morris reported that Deloris Cummings will tie in February with the pattern to be announced. Tom Walsh stated that the January fly tying event held at Bass Pro was only fair and that perhaps better promotion would be helpful.

**Programs:** Tom Walsh. The following agenda was presented.

- February 23, 34, 25 – the Jim Strader Outdoor Show
- February 27 Monthly Meeting – Fly tying on the big screen followed by a swap meet. Sign up for March 2<sup>nd</sup> fin cutting.
- March 2 – Fin cutting.
- March 27 Monthly Meeting – Program on fishing in DBNF presented by Pam Martin.
- April 24 Monthly Meeting – Ky Department of Fish and Wildlife program on the state trout program presented by Dave Dreves.
- April 28 SPECIAL EVENT – TU sponsored cleanup on Otter Creek. 9:00 to 12:00 noon followed by one-fly contest.
- May 22 - Annual TU picnic.
- June 26 – Monthly Meeting – Clint Wilkerson of Wilkerson Outdoor Adventures will present “Ozark Mountain Fly Fishing.”

**Outings:** Roy Weeks. Four individuals have signed up for the March 8, 9, 10, and 11<sup>th</sup> steelhead trip, and to cut expenses, at least two more persons would be desirable to create groups of three for the outing. As many as twelve individuals can participate. Information on participants is needed by February 1<sup>st</sup>. The guides will be at the DCFE event this weekend.

**Casting Clinic:** Deloris Cummings. The event will be either in April or May.

**Public Relations:** Lee Squires. A 22” Brown Trout that has been created by Sportsman’s Taxidermy has been purchased and is now available for display at various events.

**Membership:** George Smith reported the possibility of a new member from the Casting for Recovery program.

**State Council:** No report.

**Conservation:**

Tom Walsh presented a choice of four projects to be undertaken by the general membership.

- a) Establishment of Doe Run Creek as a viable fishery.
- b) Establishment of a catch and release at Roundstone Creek.
- c) Otter Creek stabilization.
- d) Establishment of a fishery at Big Brush Creek.

After discussion, it was decided to undertake the Otter Creek Project. This will entail addressing the silting problem, a longer delayed harvest, and stream maintenance.

Barry Morris stated that the KY Conservation Easement and Public Access Program has been revisited and the Department of Fish & Wildlife have an updated proposal for the 2007 General Assembly (document on file). This proposal would be very beneficial to TU in the event that the Doe Run Creek, Roundstone Creek, and Big Brush Creek projects be revisited. To that end George Smith will find out who the land owners are at Round Creek.

It was mentioned that TU members may act in an individual capacity and contact their local representative concerning passage of the Easement Proposal. As TU is a nonprofit organization, lobbying is forbidden.

**Jim Strader Show:** Nancy Walsh stated there are four volunteer slots remaining, and that volunteers should bring their own fly tying gear. Information on Casting for Recovery will be available at the booth.

**Derby City Fly Fishers Show:** January 27<sup>th</sup> at Fern Valley Holiday Inn.

**Wolf Creek Dam Seepage Rehabilitation Project:**

Public notification was made in the *Courier Journal* that an emergency decision has been made by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers to drop the level of Lake Cumberland behind Wolf Creek Dam, maintaining a 680-foot elevation for the remainder of this year. The Corps plans to reevaluate lake levels in the September-October 2007 timeframe for next year's operation; however studies have indicated that the dam is at high risk of structural failure.

TU was notified of this project timeline last year and surmises that severe leakage has caused the project schedule to be speeded up. The 680' level may be maintained for the next seven years, and the near future general impact on the tailwater fishery is dependent on spring weather conditions, with the worst case scenario decimating the fishery for the next 15 years.

In view of the scope of this rehabilitation project, the Hatchery Project is on hold for an indefinite length of time. The Hatchery will, however, continue to support the state trout program.

**Miscellaneous:** A thank you for the Christmas fruit basket was received from the Commonwealth Bank. A letter was received from Sharon Brown.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Secretary, Diane Miller