

**TROUT UNLIMITED OF SOUTHWESTERN VERMONT**  
**1/10/06 Chapter Meeting MINUTES**

**Attendees**

**Officers**

Eric Rickstad	President
Doug Lyons	VP (Via phone)
Frank Nelson	Treasurer
Peter Bellamy	Secretary
Bill Bullock	Director
Dave Carmona	Director
Steve Hemkins	Director

**Members**

Meg Mayer  
Barry Mayer  
Jason Elkins  
Tanya Elkins  
John Rano  
Marty Oakland  
Jim Lepage

**Minutes**

1. Meeting was called to order by president Rickstad at 7:05 PM
2. President Rickstad reviewed the following agenda:
3. Announcement: Our guest speaker, Steve Roy, Fisheries Program Manager for Green Mountain & Finger Lakes National Forests, who was to describe the details of the planned Batten Kill restoration project for 2006, was unable to attend this meeting. We hope to reschedule Steve's visit for a later chapter meeting. Updates to follow.
4. Discussion of the ongoing Batten Kill conservation efforts, potential projects for chapter involvement, and future TU calendar of events:
  - a. Potential restoration projects include working with Ken Cox, VT Fisheries Biologist, on the Lesko project along the Route 313 stretch of the BK. It was noted that there might not be much need for manual volunteer work on this project, as this project will largely make use of heavy equipment. Updates to follow.
  - b. Possible tree-planting project in conjunction with annual Green-Up VT Day. Updates to follow.
  - c. Possible restoration projects and demonstration projects on Perkins land on Batten Kill in Manchester. Updates to follow.

- d. Pancake Breakfast for Opening Day (April 8<sup>th</sup> 2006)
    - i. Eric Rickstad & Dave Carmona to investigate Lionshare Bakery owner for pancake / food donation.
    - ii. Bill Bullock to investigate syrup donation through Rich Mears at Sugar Shack.
    - iii. Various members to search out location for pancake breakfast to be held.
  - e. Riverkeeper program suggested by Doug Lyons
    - i. Need to identify key person for each river in our district (BK, Mettowee, Hoosic, Walloomsac, Green River, Castleton, Poultney, Otter Creek
    - ii. Hoosic Riverkeeper should work with HOORA (info below):
      - 1. **Group Name:** Hoosic River Watershed Association  
**Contact:** Lauren R. Stevens  
**Contact Address:** P.O. Box 667  
 Williamstown, MASSACHUSETTS 01267  
**Contact Phone:** 413 458-2742  
**Contact Email:** [hoora@berkshire.net](mailto:hoora@berkshire.net)  
**Activity:** Volunteer Monitoring  
**Description:** Hoosic River Watershed Association conducts several surveys each year, working with school groups and with adult volunteers. Surveys typically feature bacteria and/or macroinvertebrate monitoring, for baseline purposes as well as to locate and assess pollution sources. Temperature surveys are also conducted, to identify cold-water fishery zones and impacts to fisheries. It is also more generally watershed in water quality issues
    - iii. Chapter needs to examine TU National's Riverkeeper program
      - 1. Motion made to include the Riverkeeper program in the next newsletter with a plea for volunteers for study
  - f. Doug Lyons presented his idea for a Two Fly contest on the river. Met with support from chapter
    - i. Doug to do more investigation and report back to chapter for newsletter item. Specific issues to study will be:
      - 1. Tournament issues with state
      - 2. Possible fundraising potential with picnic
5. A look at the brand new Southwestern VT TU website ([www.tuswvt.org](http://www.tuswvt.org))
- a. Membership reviewed website
  - b. Chapter recognized the excellent work being done by Webmaster and secretary Peter Bellamy
  - c. Site content needed and requested from chapter members for the site. People should email materials to Peter Bellamy at the following address: [secretary@TUSWVT.org](mailto:secretary@TUSWVT.org).
    - i. Some of the most important content needed for the site is a stream description of each of our primary trout streams and member photos (local scenery, local fish, local fisherman, stream restoration projects, etc.). Also needed is narrative of chapter history and submissions for chapter member favorite fly patterns and tying recipes, etc.

6. Tying Flies – group tied flies and toured the museum
7. For the good of the order:
  - a. Need for each director to bring at least one new person to the next chapter meeting
  - b. Next Meeting on Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at the American Museum of Fly Fishing at 7PM. We hope to reschedule Steve Roy for this meeting
  - c. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM

Notes taken by Bill Bullock & Peter Bellamy