



## Ernie Nester Chapter 2014 Annual Awards Banquet

### Homer Sweeney Is Recognized For His Years of Service!

Max Robertson

The **Paul Brannon Lifetime Achievement Award** recognizes Chapter Members for at least 10 years of exemplary service! Homer Sweeney joined Trout Unlimited in April of 2001 and has been running flat out on behalf of the Chapter ever since! On March 11, 2014 he received the Ernie Nester Chapter Lifetime Achievement Award!

Homer became involved in project activities immediately upon becoming involved in Trout Unlimited. He moved into Chapter leadership quickly as a member of the Board. In 2003, he was recognized with a **Certificate of Appreciation** for taking on the Trout Lines Editor job. In 2005 Homer received the **Silver Trout Award** for his outstanding three year tour as Newsletter Editor and his many activities up to that point! In November 2007 Homer was elected to a three year stint as Chapter President ending in October of 2010. During this period of active leadership in the Chapter, he

was so active in Chapter affairs that one of his peers thought maybe there were 2 or 3 Homer Sweeney's.

Homer became very active in The West Virginia Council beginning in 2005 and has remained active representing the Chapter right up until today! He had a personal work interest in the West Virginia Legislature and used his time there to review environmental legislation on our behalf.



Pres. Steve Young

Homer Sweeney

Homer was a member of the founding group for Trout in the Class Room and was a major facilitator in the early fund raising efforts for TIC. He was instrumental in forming the initial Chapter's Project Healing Waters program. He is Vice

President Fund Raising today and a member of the Awards Team as well.

Congratulations Homer upon receiving the Ernie Nester Chapter Paul Brannon Lifetime Achievement Award for your great efforts on behalf of West Virginia trout!

**Steve Sattler receives the Ernie Nester Chapter Silver Trout Award this year for a job well done over many years**

By Max Robertson

ing sure the fingerings arrive on time and in good health, volunteering many hours picking up the fish and delivering them to their respective locations. He provides the detail support required to be sure each Event Coordinator has a successful stocking.



Steve Young

Steve Sattler

Steve comes to Charleston when he is needed. He has also been involved in SOS, the Council, and water quality issues. As well as stocking coordinator Steve has done an outstanding job on the key task of maintaining close communications with the DNR

Steve Sattler wasted no time after joining Trout Unlimited in 2006. He immediately got involved in our Chapter Stocking Program and shadowed Joe Crowder, then Chapter Stocking Coordinator, until he had learned all the ropes! In 2008, Steve was recognized with a Certificate of Appreciation for participating in all the fingerling stockings in 2007 and becoming very active in many ways in the Chapter to include coming on the Board of Directors.

Steve took over as Chapter Stocking Coordinator when Joe stepped down in 2008. Steve received the Banfield Memorial Award for stepping up to this task! Steve has, by now, put in an additional 5 years of leadership in the Chapter's Fingerling Stocking Program working out of Craigsville. He runs a well oiled machine!

Steve has taken a deep personal interest in the program attending almost all of the stockings while mak-

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## SOUTH CHARLESTON PUBLIC LIBRARY IS RECOGNIZED WITH SILVER!

Max Robertson

small monetary gifts on two occasions.

It should be noted that the Silver Trout is the highest award that can be given by the Chapter to an outside organization.

## Lee Orr Is Recognized for His Good Works!

Max Robertson



Steve Young

Patricia Brown



Steve Young

Lee Orr

On November 29, 1978 the "then" Kanawha Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited moved into the fine meeting rooms available for use at the South Charleston Public Library (SCPL). Our Chapter Membership Meetings have been held in one place for **35 years!**

This long relationship with the SCPL, and the good parking and ease of access to the Interstates, has been a great aid in the growth of the Chapter. The Awards Team, recognizing this impact, as well as the great working relationships with the SCPL Staff, felt it was high time to thank the SCPL emphatically! The SCPL, the staff, past and present, were presented the **Ernie Nester Chapter Silver Trout Award** on March 11.

We want to thank Patricia Brown, SCPL Director, for allowing us to post our Awards and records on the wall of meeting room A. The staff has always been more than responsive to our needs including other special meeting requirements. We are pleased that Patricia was present at our March 11 banquet to accept the Award.

The SCPL was recognized in 2001 with a Certificate of Appreciation. In addition, the Chapter has donated books to the Library on two occasions and given

Lee Orr received the Ernie Nester Chapter Presidents Award at our March 11 Banquet. Lee is noted for his involvement in many facets of our Chapter programs. However, the main theme in this recognition is his environmental involvement. Lee developed a great understanding of environmental issues and actively pursued efforts focused on implementing specific objectives to improve cold water quality. Until recently Lee served as the Chapter Environmental Vice President and advised the Board on these matters. Also, Lee carried out his work on the environment as Chair of the West Virginia Council Fisheries Committee. There is no one else with any stronger support for West Virginia's native brook trout than Lee!

Lee became a member of TU in 2000. Since that time, and even before then, he has been deeply involved in all things relating to TU! Over the years he participated in many stream projects. Of particular note, is his whole families' (Asley and Avery) participation in the Elkhorn Cleanup and the Middle Fork Liming Project (Bucket Brigade).



A few of his many activities included teaching advanced fly tying, assisting in the Council Fly Fishing School, and handling Constant Contact communications. Lee received a Certificate of Appreciation in 2005 for his work on the Back the Brookie Program.

Lee is also an outstanding fly fisherman and practitioner of the angling arts. In fact he builds bamboo rods and has donated several to the Chapter.

Keep up the good work Lee!

### OUTSTANDING EFFORTS BY MANY!

Max Robertson

A total of 10 people were singled out by the Awards Team for outstanding contributions during Ernie Nester Chapter projects in 2013. Certificates of Appreciation (COA) were awarded at the Chapter Banquet. Without this type of dedication to West Virginia trout waters each year, we would be hard pressed to maintain Chapter's high level of activity.

**Marvin Conrad**, a resident of the upper Elk and non member, has assisted us in our Elk River fingerling stocking for a few years now, by letting us cross his property, clearing access, and helping with the stocking.

**Ralph Douglas** is being recognized for his expanding efforts in Trout In The Class Room (TIC). He supports four schools and is good at repairing equipment. He is still very active in SOS and stocking for which he has already earned a COA.

**Jim Duty** continues to expand his efforts in Angling Arts and has recently become involved with Project Healing Waters classes in Beckley and Huntington. He has also previously received a COA for his efforts in Angling Arts and youth activities.

**Alvan Gale** is being recognized for his continuing involvement in our Save Our Streams (SOS) Program. He provides technical expertise especially in insect analysis. Alvan received the Chapter's Silver Trout Award in 2007 largely for his long time efforts in the environmental area and as our environmental Vice President for a number of years. He retired from the DEP a few years back, and moved to the Marlinton area. He has remained a Chapter member and comes back to assist during the Loop Creek SOS.

**Rhonda Mullens** is being recognized for attendance at most Chapter stockings and SOS events. On her own initiative, she started taking pictures and seeing that they were posted to our Facebook page.

**Susan Nester** attended the Bucket Brigade this past June and saw to it that drinks and snacks were provided for everyone. Susan had participated in the previous Bucket Brigades along with her husband, Ernie. We are really honored to have her continued involvement!



Left to Right: Rhonda Mullens, Ralph Douglas, Jim Duty, Alvan Gale, Mike Sayre, and Susan Nester.

**Ted Bunson**, another member of the Blennerhassit Chapter, to travel from the Parkersburg area to assist us, participated in several fingerling stockings and the Bucket Brigade and Elkhorn Cleanup. He has been doing this for several years!



**Mike Sayre** took over as Event Coordinator for Dunloup Creek last year. That outstanding effort alone would earn Mike a Certificate of Appreciation! However, it is important to note that Mike has also become a Board member, a member of the Banquet Team, and has taken over the hat and shirt fund raiser function.

**Steve Shrewsbury** is the latest Chapter member to get heavily involved in the Angling Arts Program. He has assisted and even taught fly tying in support of Project Healing Waters in Beckley. Steve jumped right into assisting in the Fly Fishing and Rod Building Classes at the Elk Elementary Education Center.

**Chris Mullens** is being recognized for his long time effort on the Elkhorn Creek Cleanup. Most recently he has been leading the Maybeury section of the cleanup. He is a member of the East River Mountain Chapter in Bluefield Virginia.



Veterans work together in Project Healing Waters class at the Veterans' Hospital in Beckley, WV. Many of this Chapter's members assist with Project Healing Waters activities from helping in various classes to being guides on fishing trips with the veterans.

ENCTU ANGLING ARTS CLASSES



Participants listen intently to ENCTU member Ed Hayne's presentation in his "Fishing the Four Seasons for Trout in WV" class. This class is one of 11 classes being conducted by the Chapter this winter and spring.



*Give a man a fish and he'll eat for a day;  
Teach a man to fish and he'll sit in a boat  
and drink beer all day.*



**West Virginia University**  
**COLLEGE OF LAW LAND USE  
AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
LAW CLINIC**

include, but are not limited to, title examinations, advising landowners and land trusts, drafting conservation easements, negotiating with mineral owners/lessees, and drafting surface use agreements.

**Support local land use decision-makers**



Land and water protection strategies take on a variety of forms. The LUSD Clinic helps communities identify appropriate tools to protect sensitive properties, water quality and working lands such as timberland and farms. The LUSD Clinic will provide technical assistance to local government officials, planners and other land use decision-makers to

April’s program speaker is Jason Walls of the WVU College of Law’s Land Use Clinic. The following was taken from the clinic’s website as a preview of how the clinic works with individuals, local governments and non-profits to develop land conservation strategies. Please plan on attending. Many thanks to Bill Todd for his excellent work seeking and finding interesting individuals for our meetings.

encourage sustainable development in appropriate areas of the community. For example, the LUSD Clinic works with several communities to draft comprehensive land use plans and ordinances, per the requirements of the West Virginia Code.

West Virginia is home to some of the world’s most beautiful rivers and streams. Many of these waters are polluted, in part because of the way land is used in nearby areas. The Land Use and Sustainable Development Law Clinic (LUSD Clinic) provides legal services to local governments, landowners and non-profit organizations to develop land conservation strategies and practices. The LUSD Clinic aims to:

**Address wastewater issues**

Many residences and businesses dispose of human waste directly into rivers and streams without adequate treatment. Many others utilize antiquated wastewater treatment systems that result in harmful discharges. Through innovative legal strategies and funding assistance, the LUSD Clinic works with partner communities to identify and support alternative wastewater solutions.

**Identify and conserve sensitive land**

The LUSD Clinic collaborates with the West Virginia Land Trust, other land trusts and non-profits, landowners, and local governments to identify appropriate properties for conservation. The LUSD Clinic then assists with the legal services necessary to place voluntary conservation easements upon or otherwise protect the subject properties. Such legal services

**Provide educational opportunities for law students**

The LUSD Clinic provides WVU law students with an opportunity to gain practical experience in the field of land use law and policy. As a transactional and policy-based clinic, students develop research, drafting, negotiation and client counseling skills. Under the guidance of experienced attorneys and other land use professionals, students contribute to land and water conservation efforts throughout the state.

## UPCOMING ENCTU EVENTS

**April 8th**, ENCTU membership meeting So. Chas. Public Library, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM. April's program speaker will be Jason Walls of the WVU College of Law's Sustainable Land Use Clinic.

**April 9th-May 31st**, Trout in the Classroom fish releases start and run through the 31st. Contact Jack Williams, jackwilliams814@gmail.com to help with herding the cats!

**April 12th**, Annual Elkhorn Cleanup. Contact Larry Orr for information and to volunteer, edhorse@suddenlink.net.

**April 19th**, Kids day at Wallback WMA, Contact Larry Riffe, larryr@frontier.com.

**April 22nd**, ENCTU Board Meeting So. Chas. Public Library, 6:30 PM-8:30 PM.

**April 24th**, SCPL is looking for a couple of volunteers to demonstrate fly fishing and tying for "Boys Night Out", 6PM-8PM

**May 3rd**, Loop Creek S.O.S. WV Rte. 61 and Camp Branch Rd. 10:00 AM, Contact Larry Orr.

**May 9th**, Cranberry Catch and Release stocking.

**May 16th-18th**, WVCTU Fly-fishing School.

**May 31st**, Mountain State Trout Festival, Elksprings Resort.

**June 14th**, Bucket Brigade, Middle fork of the Williams, contact Larry Orr for info.

The stocking calendar is not fully complete as yet. Steve Sattler has been out of the country with work and his ability to devote time to the schedule is limited. Thanks to Joe Crowder for taking on the additional responsibility of piecing the schedule together.

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