



Stonycreek-Conemaugh River Improvement Project Make Use of Our Rivers

SCRIP Elects New Treasurer

Volume XX
Number 1
Winter 2013

Save the Date:
March 15– SCRIP board meeting, Central Park Complex, Johnstown, 9am

March 16– MLTU banquet, Holiday Inn, Johnstown, 5 pm

March 22– CCCD Annual Tree & Plant sale deadline to order

April 5 & 6– ACT Conference (PA Watersheds)

April 6– Paint Creek Cleanup, 8:30 am

April 19– SCRIP board meeting, Gander Mt., 9 am *(continued p.2)*

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After serving as treasurer for many years, Thurman Korns decided to turn over the reins to someone new. Stepping up to fill this most important position was Jim Eckenrode.

Educated at Penn State University and earning a BS in Environmental Resource Management with a focus on soil and water, Jim is currently a Watershed Specialist with the Blair County Conservation District. He previously served as Education and Outreach Coordinator at the Juniata Clean Water Partnership from 1998 to 2000.

As a SCRIP board member, his love of canoeing and kayaking has served him well on the Que Classic organizing committee, his service as a judge at many of the Que Classic events and his assistance with the Paddle the Que event last year. In his spare time,



Jim Eckenrode, recently elected SCRIP Treasurer.

he also enjoys hiking, snowmobiling, and motorcycling.

Two important awards have come his way this past year. Jim, along with Donna Fisher, received a Special Recognition Award from the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission for his role in the purchase of the Exceptional Value 50 acre Sandy Run wetlands located in Antis Township, Blair County. In the Fall of the year, he was named Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist, Professional Winner, by the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited.

The judges comments in bestowing this award, in addition to citing the previously mentioned duties, included his work overseeing a county wide volunteer stream monitoring network, as well as his work with the Stonycreek River Improvement Project, Western Pennsylvania Coalition of Abandoned Mine Reclamation, the Kiski Conemaugh Stream Team, and Southern Alleghenies Conservancy.

We would like to acknowledge the years of faithful service provided by Thurman Korns in managing the books for SCRIP. Thank you, Thurman! We know that the dedication shown by Jim to all of his duties will make him an excellent treasurer.

Annual Litter Cleanup

Set for April 6

by *Melissa Reckner*



The Kiski-Conemaugh Stream Team and Paint Creek Regional Watershed Association have chosen Saturday, April 6 for its annual litter cleanup along Route 160, Berwick Road, and Little Paint Creek.

Volunteers are asked to meet at 8:30 AM at the pull-off along Route 160 between Windber and Elton, where Little Paint Creek passes under the road.

Participants should wear sturdy boots, long sleeves, and pants and dress for the weather. Safety vests, gloves, trash bags and light refreshments will be provided. Contact: mreckner@kcstreamteam.org or 814-444-2669 if you have any questions. Spread the word!

Congratulations to the Mon!

The Monongahela River was voted **Pennsylvania's 2013** River of the Year, edging out the Schuylkill River 8,156 to 8,010 with 25,000 votes cast. The Lackawanna, Kiskiminetas, Swatara, and Juniata were also in the running.

Paddle the Que Event Will Return to Summers Best Two Weeks



The Paddle the Que event was such a success last year that we decided to bring it back again this summer. This program, conducted by the Fish and Boat Commission, taught paddle and safety skills to the participants and al-

lowed for a half hour practice on the Que using those skills. Canoes, kayaks and a couple tandem canoes were available and provided to the participants.

The program will be available to adults (\$5 per person for anyone 16 years of age and older) and children (\$2 per person for those under the age of 16). If the child has enough arm strength to paddle on their own, they may be in their own boat. If not, they must ride with an adult who can paddle.

Some details need to be finalized, including the date and method of registration. Stay tuned for more details in the next newsletter .

CVC West Penn Trail Triathlon Planned for October 12

CVC is sponsoring the West Penn Triathlon on October 12 with all proceeds used to benefit the trail network. Registration will begin in June and package pickup will be at the Saltsburg Fire Hall in Saltsburg, PA. The race will begin at 9 am.

The race itself will be a modified sprint distance triathlon using the unique features of the Conemaugh River corridor and the West Penn Trail system. One important difference is that the swim will be swapped out for a non-motorized boat leg.

For more information including cost, please visit www.conemaughvalleyconservancy.org/recreation/westpenntriathlon.html

Save the Date (continued)



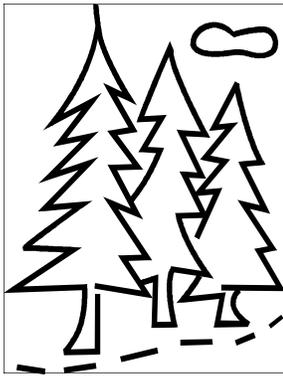
May 10-11– Forest Landowner Conference, Blair County Convention Center, Altoona, PA

June– Registration begins for CVC West Penn Trail Triathlon to be held on October 12 in Saltsburg.

July 9– Abandoned Mine Reclamation Conference deadline to register.

August 8-10– Abandoned Mine Reclamation Conference, Ramada Inn and Conference Center, State College, PA

Private Forest Landowner Conference:
The Future of Penn's Woods
 to be Held in Altoona



A first-ever comprehensive conference for private landowners in Pennsylvania will be held on May 10 and 11 at the Blair County Convention Center in Altoona, Pennsylvania. The conference is targeted toward woodland owners of all sizes –the backyard woodlot owner, conservation-minded landowners, those who view their woodlands as business ventures and everyone in be-

tween.

Whether you own five or 500 acres, decisions you make affect the health and well-being of nearly 12 million acres of private forest. Presentation topics include: conservation options, invasive species, taxes, tending your woods, water quality, wildlife, and woods in your backyard.

The conference is hosted by the Center for Private Forests in Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences. To register, visit: ecosystems.psu.edu/private-forest-conference. For more information, contact: Allyson Muth, abm173@psu.edu or 814-865-3208. Dr. Doug Tallamy, noted author of *Bringing Nature Home*, will be the guest speaker at the Friday banquet.

Two Important Conferences Slated for
 Spring and Summer

Two conferences of interest to SCRIP members are slated for this Spring and Summer, the PA Watersheds Conference (ACT) and the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Conference.

The PA Watershed Conference ACT– *Advocate, Communicate, Transform* will focus on invigorating and engaging volunteers and getting your message across to the community and your local legislators. It will be held at the Nittany Lion Inn, State College, PA, April 5-6. More info and registration at: <http://www.pennsylvaniawatersheds.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/PA-Watersheds-ACT2013.pdf>. Deadline to register is March 28.

The Abandoned Mine Reclamation Conference will be held August 8-10 at the Ramada Inn and Conference Center in State College, PA. The 2013 theme is *15 Years and Counting– Full Steam Ahead*. The committee is in full conference planning mode and working to develop the agenda. Be sure to visit: <http://2013.treatminewater.com> in the coming months for more details. July 9th is the deadline for registration and discount on rooms.



Congratulations on the New Arrival

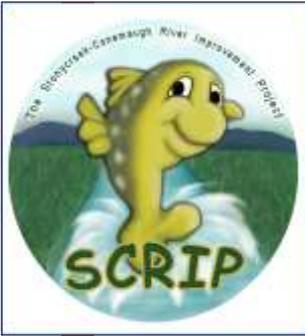
SCRIP board member, Bill Strosnider and his wife, Kristina welcomed their first child into the world on January 28, 2013. William Haywood Jackson Strosnider, Jr., arrived weighing 7 pounds, 6 ounces, and measuring 19 inches long. Congratulations from the SCRIP board members. We wish Bill and Kristina our best as they enter this new phase of their lives.

March 22 Order Deadline for CCCD 41st Annual Tree and Plant Sale



The Cambria County Conservation District is holding their annual tree and plant sale to support local conservation and environmental education programs. The order deadline is Friday, March 22 with order pickup scheduled for Friday, April 12.

Selections include an array of evergreen seedlings, fruit trees, shade and ornamental trees, flowering trees, berries, shrubs, perennial grasses and flowers, and other items of interest, such as tree bark protectors, tree tubes, compost tea bags and wildlife boxes. There are a number of native plants available including mountain laurel, arrowwood, and serviceberry shrubs and perennial flowers such as columbine and coral bells. Two items inadvertently listed as US natives and too late for correction in the catalog are the Lynwood Gold Forsythia and the Stella D'oro Daylily which are native to Asia and Eurasia, respectively. To view the catalog, visit <http://www.co.cambria.pa.us> and download the pdf file or visit their Facebook page for the link.



The Southern Alleghenies Conservancy
 SCRIP
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www.scrippa.org

SCRIP is the Stonycreek-Conemaugh River Improvement Project, a coalition of grass-roots groups and local resource agencies working to restore and promote the Upper Conemaugh watershed.

Board of Directors:

Len Lichvar,
Chairman

Joe Gorden,
Vice-Chairman

Melissa Reckner,
Secretary

Jim Eckenrode
Treasurer

Jim Eckenrode
Larry Hutchinson
Thurman Korns
Karlice Makuchan
Rob McCombie
Robb Piper
Bob Ritchey
Dave Sewak
Kristin Sewak
Bill Strosnider
John Vatauk

People of SCRIP

New and Renewing Members

Donald & Mary Anderson
 Gregory & Carol Dick
 Ron Donlan
 Edward & Beverly Englehart
 Pat & Heather Ferko
 David Fink
 William Glosser
 Hooversville Borough
 Larry Hutchinson
 Jenner Rod & Gun Club
 Thurman Korns
 Margaret Mayer
 Jim & Meg Moses
 Howard & Adelle Picking
 Somerset County Sportsmen's League

Join or renew* SCRIP today!

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____ Date _____

Do you wish to volunteer? _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$6
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$15
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$20
<input type="checkbox"/> Club/Small Business	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor	\$500
<input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime	\$1000

Make your check payable to SCRIP, or for a tax-deductible contribution, make the check to Southern Alleghenies Conservancy/ SCRIP.

* If you are not sure of your membership status contact SCRIP's secretary at mreckner@kcstreamteam.org or 814-444-2669.

Send donations to:
 SCRIP
 P.O. Box 164
 Windber, PA 15963