



The CREDIT RIVER CHRONICLE

THE VOICE OF THE GREG CLARK CHAPTER

SPRING 2008

President's Message **Bob Thomson**

It has been ten years since, after some initial hesitation, I agreed to let my name be put forward to take on the presidency of the Chapter. As it turned out, my hesitation was completely unwarranted. Throughout the period we have had a Board of strong and active Directors, supported by a passionate and dedicated membership. Together we have launched and completed some valuable and satisfying work. Altogether, it has been a productive time for the Chapter and a rewarding experience for me.

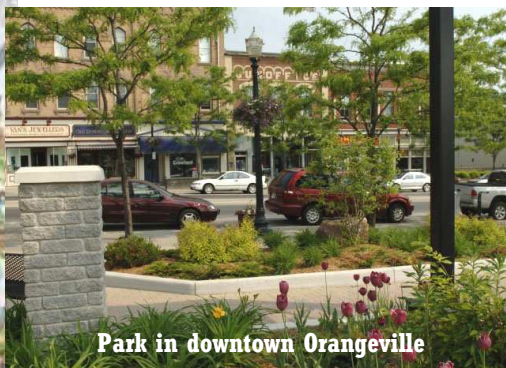
I am convinced, however, that the Chapter will benefit from new and different perspectives brought to it by a new President. I also believe I need to step aside and to create a vacancy before members will step forward to fill it. Therefore, I will be resigning as Chapter President at the April AGM, when a new President will be elected. I hope to continue working with the Chapter for years to come, but in different ways and capacities, perhaps with a somewhat narrower focus. I hope many of you will come out to the AGM to help elect a new President, and I hope some of you will consider more active leadership roles in carrying on our important work.



Greg Clark Chapter's Next Initiative **Brian Greck**

Through the fall and winter seasons a subcommittee of the Board met with the MNR district offices in Aurora and Guelph, the Credit Valley Conservation and the Town of Orangeville to discuss opportunities for our next major coldwater conservation initiative. Our goal is to identify projects with a clearer impact on conserving and enhancing coldwater quality and quantity, and to address some of the advocacy issues which are beyond the mandates of agencies such as the MNR and CVC.

While we identified a variety of issues across the watershed, including pond and dam removal, urban stormwater runoff, rural source water, mitigation of septic system impacts and water taking, we were particularly excited by the opportunity to build a broad working partnership with the Town of Orangeville. We met initially with directors from the Town Planning, Engineering and Parks Departments. We subsequently were invited to make a presentation to the staff, Councillors and members of the public who make up the Town of Orangeville's Sustainability Action Team.



Park in downtown Orangeville

From these meetings two courses of action have been launched. Along with our traditional partners, CVC, IWFFC and MNR, we and the Town will organize workdays to plant trees and shrubs, clean up the stream and install a garbage kiosk in Maywood Park, a small park adjacent to a relatively new urban development. A tributary of Monora Creek flows through this park. It has a good supply of groundwater and

supports a resident population of brook trout. This work will help protect the existing surface coldwater resources and help to sustain the existing brook trout population in Monora Creek. These activities will also help to increase public awareness of the high quality of surface water and fisheries within the community and to encourage future stewardship of this natural resource.

We have also begun working with the Town's Planning and Engineering staff to explore longer-term opportunities. A broad range of possible conservation-based projects includes:

- channel restoration projects on Mill Creek, a channel system impacted by both historical and new urban development,
- retrofit of an online stormwater management pond currently creating a barrier to the passage of brook trout on Monora Creek,
- Support of major sewer infrastructure works which to reduce extraneous flow to the sanitary sewer system, and
- implementation of educational programs such as "Yellow Fish Road" and "Stream of Dreams."

We can help these types of projects through active participation and through education and advocacy. We expect that by working in partnership with the Town of Orangeville and its Sustainability Action Team, we can help bring about measurable improvement and protective measures for the coldwater resources not only for the stream in Orangeville but also for the headwaters of the Credit River.

Advocacy/Regulatory Issues: Brian Greck



Green Drake Monitoring Update: In the coming year Dr. Henry Frania will publish in a scientific journal a study begun in the fall of 2004 about the disappearance of the Green Drake. This species of mayfly is found only on streams that are sufficiently pristine containing Brook Trout. This mayfly occurred in enormous numbers, but since the late 1990s it has largely or entirely vanished from substantial sections of the Credit River. The TU-GCC plans to provide financial support to assist Henry in the completion of this work.

Orangeville Sewage Treatment Plant Class Environmental Assessment: The Town of Orangeville is completing a Schedule C Municipal Class EA to evaluate in detail and to implement the preferred approach for future wastewater servicing. A number of factors influence the plant's treatment capacity, effluent quality, bypass frequency and the assimilative capacity of the Credit River, such as extraneous flow into the sewer system, treatment technologies, and flow quantity and quality from Island Lake. Public input and comments on the study are invited. Please provide your comments to the Town's Environmental and Development Services Department.

Credit River Species Partitioning Barrier Class Environmental Assessment: As part of the ongoing Class Environmental Assessment process for a species partitioning barrier, the Credit River Anglers Association has retained professional engineering services to help with preparation of the Environmental Study Report (ESR).

Fundraising Bob Thomson, Jack Mackay

The Streamside Assistance Lottery for the Toyota FJ Cruiser took place at the Toronto Dinner in November. The winner was Phil Anderson of Kitchener. Second and third prizes were won by Lalit Mohan and Don Blyth respectively. Full details are on the TUC website. As mentioned in Len's piece on Provincial Highlights the raffle raised over \$56,000 for TU's conservation activities in Ontario. Members of the Greg Clark Chapter sold 922 tickets, so a total of \$9,220 will be applied to our Credit River initiatives. Congratulations to the winners and thank you to all our members who participated in this successful fundraising event. In addition to the lottery, the Chapter received \$860 in donations from members and \$5,000 from TUC's Coldwater Conservation Fund.

Looking ahead to the 2008 season, we have enough money to launch a multi-year summer program with the Town of Orangeville. We plan to support this program in several ways, including corporate fundraising, member donations, raffle ticket sales, application to the TUC Coldwater Conservation Fund, and with grants from MNR's Community Fisheries and Wildlife Involvement Program (CFWIP). Some of these initiatives are underway. Others will begin as details of the project and its costs are further defined. Fundraising is, and will remain, an important aspect of the Chapter's activities.

Provincial Highlights Len Yust

Trout Unlimited Canada is continuing our environmental imprint in Ontario, working with 17 volunteer chapters throughout the province. TUC's monitoring, rehabilitation and education programs, as well as research and project activity, engage both Ontario-wide and chapter-driven community partnerships in order to move our mission forward. These projects are too numerous to list here and we encourage everyone to obtain updates from our revised website (www.tucanada.org)

With this unprecedented accelerated growth in Ontario our new challenge is to match growth with financial sustainability. In addition to our annual fundraising events, last summer TUC entered into an exciting new co-branding clean water promo-



tional campaign with Glenfiddich Distilleries via Peter Mielzynski Agencies Ltd. As a result \$20,000 was donated to TUC, opening the way to future proactive environmental corporate partnerships. Furthermore, TUC had a successful raffle for the SUV Streamside Lottery last year, raising over \$56,000; and last November our Toronto fundraiser dinner netted more than \$120,000, double that of the year before.

TUC is now in the early stages of fundraising for two new significant Ontario flagship projects, the Bronte and the Duffins Creek watersheds; updates will be provided as they develop.

2008 Workdays – Come Out and Get Your Feet Wet

Below is a list of workdays scheduled for 2008. Please bring friends, family, appropriate clothing, footwear and waders (where necessary). Many events are followed by a barbecue. For more information, please contact Heather Yates at (905) 670-1615 x285 or by email at stewardship@creditvalleycons.com Where locations and times are to be determined (TBD), or for updates and additional workdays, please check Credit Valley Conservation's webpage at <http://www.creditvalleycons.com/bulletin/calendars/workdaycalendar.htm>



EVENT	DATE	LOCATION/DETAILS	TIME
Garbage clean-up & tree planting (TU/IWFFC/CVC/Orangeville)	Saturday, April 19	Maywood Park and Amelia/College Street, Orangeville. BBQ to follow.	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Sligo Bridge Clean-up (TU/IWFFC)	Sunday, April 20	Meet at first bridge on McLaughlin Rd. north of Grange Sideroad; BBQ to follow.	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Stream clean-up, tree planting & garbage kiosks (TU/IWFFC/CVC/Orangeville)	Saturday, July 12	Maywood Park and Amelia/College Street, Orangeville. BBQ to follow.	9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Instream Habitat Construction (TU/IWFFC//CVC)	Saturday, July 19	16659 McLaren Road, Caledon. Waders needed. BBQ to follow.	9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Ainsworth Pond Rocky Ramp (IWFFC/TU/CVC)	Saturday, August 9	Park at Rail Trail parking in Hillsburgh. Waders needed. BBQ to follow.	9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Electrofishing - Belfountain d/s of dam (WeCARE/CVC)	Saturday, August 16	Belfountain Conservation Area. No breathable waders.	9:30 a.m.
Sediment Traps (CVC/TU/IWFFC)	Saturday, August 23	Meet at north side of Hwy 24 at McLaren Road parking lot. Waders needed. BBQ to follow.	9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Spawning Survey (Black Creek)	Saturday, October 25	Meet at Acton Community Centre on Hwy 7. Waders needed.	9 a.m.
Spawning Survey (Black Creek)	Sunday, November 2	Meet at Acton Community Centre on Hwy 7. Waders needed.	9 a.m.
Tree Planting (SGI/Alton Green Association)	TBD	TBD	TBD
Culvert baffle installation (CRAA/CVC)	TBD	Silver Creek at Maple Avenue in Georgetown. Waders needed.	TBD
Hillsburgh Weir Removal (TU/IWFFC/CVC)	TBD	County Road 22 west of County Road 24. Waders needed.	TBD
Instream Habitat Creation (MNR/CVC/TU/IWFFC)	TBD	Leonard Property, 10 th Line, Halton Hills. Waders needed.	TBD

The Notice Board Jack Mackay

Monthly Working Meetings: You are invited to join us at monthly working meetings to participate in the ongoing work of the chapter. These meetings are held at the offices of Inline Systems at 7:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of every month at 361 Applewood Cres. in Vaughan. In April the Annual General Meeting will replace the regular meeting and the regular meeting on May 14 will be the last for this season. Here is a map to help you get there.

Chapter Webpage: Visit the Chapter webpage at http://www.tucanada.org/TUC_chapter_GregClark.php to keep you posted on upcoming Chapter events and to read our newsletters. There is also a history of the Chapter on the webpage.

Chapter Membership: If you haven't yet renewed your Chapter membership, please take a moment to do so. We really need you to help us protect, preserve and restore our valuable coldwater resources like the Credit River. You can renew on the Trout Unlimited website www.tucanada.org Renewal now will extend your membership to the end of 2008. If you live in the Credit River watershed and want to help the river, we would like to welcome you to the Greg Clark Chapter. You can call **Jack Mackay** (416) 656-5277, email jackson.mackay@sympatico.ca or **John Clay** (905) 793-7808, email jclay@sympatico.ca

Annual General Meeting

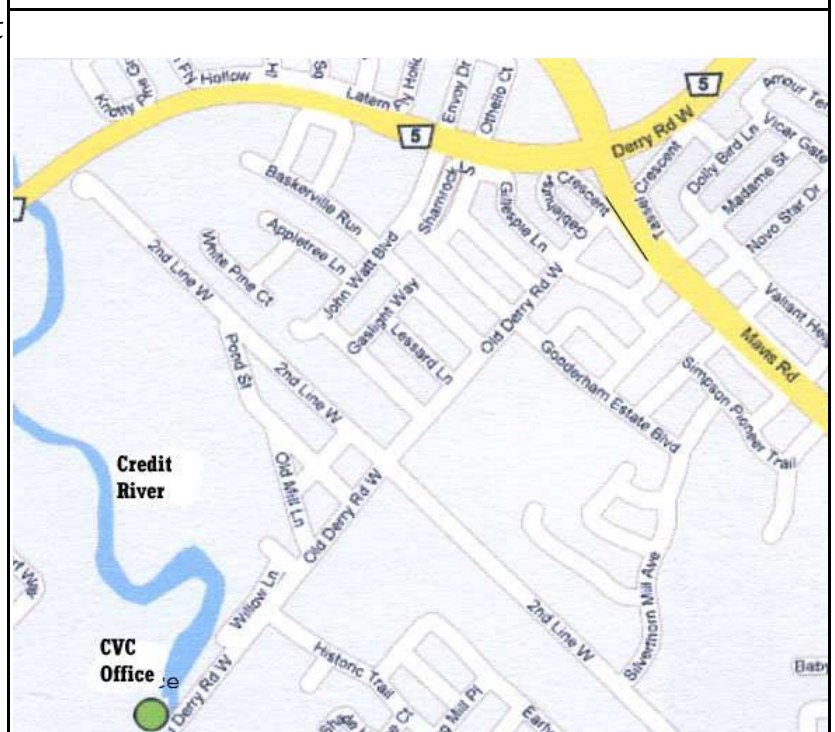
April 9, 2008 7:30 PM

Credit Valley Conservation

1255 Old Derry Rd. W., Meadowvale Village

The agenda will include:

- Review of financial results and budget
- Workday plans
- Next Initiative
- WeCare: Where to now?
- Elections
- Fundraising results and plans



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