



# Current Events

## The Newsletter of the Arkansas Stream Team

Volume 4 Number 3 July-September 2000

### Uncle Sam Wants You Stream Team and you came through!



Our U.S. Army, specifically Natural Resource Manager Carla Greisen, needed some ideas on how to control erosion on several of their rifle and machine gun practice courses and contacted the Arkansas Stream Team to see if they had any ideas.

We went out to the site at Camp Robinson, took some measurements of several eroded areas, took some pictures, and then gave your Army a few suggestions. They, in turn, suggested that we come back at a later date and help them at least start rehabilitation on 1 or 2 sites and then they could take it from there. Since we were standing on a 50 caliber machine gun practice range at the time, we realized that Carla and Company meant business so we immediately became very cooperative. As you can see from the 2 following photos, before the work was done, the small stream had eroded banks that were becoming worse over time. With the help of

servicemen Jerry Tindall, Jerry Fleenor, Rick Osborn, Daniel Hammersley, and the ever-encouraging Ms. Carla, Darrell Bowman and Steve Filipek completed a functional streambank stabilization project in the 99+ degree heat. Some grass seed was spread at the site and more vegetative plants will be planted by the Army when we get a little more rain. Way to go, TEAM. (See the "before" and "after" photos on page 2)

### Bayou Bartholomew Alliance is the Mood for Cleaning Up

Dr. Curtis Merrill, Bill Layher and others have been really going after the trash in their home stream this fall. They have done or have scheduled 4 cleanups this late-summer and fall and have picked up over 52,000 pounds of trash from the Bayou. Stream Team staff Phil Penny helped on one of these litter removals but the main participation came from locals like you who just want to see their waterways in good aesthetic as well as ecological shape. The Alliance has also planted some 420,000 trees to reestablish riparian areas along the Bayou. They have done this by partnering with a variety of groups including timber companies, the AR Stream Team, and other grant sources. They have TV savvy now and were on a Pine Bluff "Good Morning" show. In addition, they also work with other activities in the community including teaching hunter education and hunter ethics. If you want to help the group, call 870-879-4808.

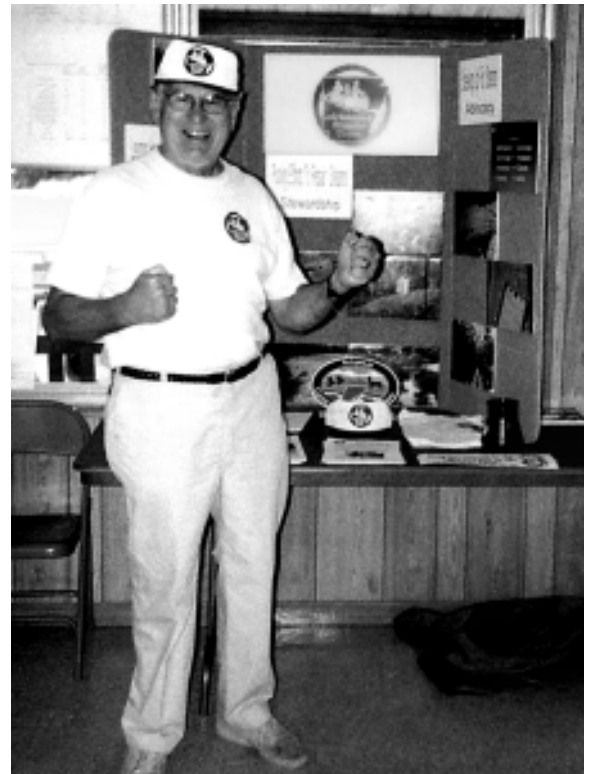
**Before**



**After**



**Fight  
Pollution!**



Bill Saunders in front of Stream Team Exhibit.

With the help of servicemen Jerry Tindall, Jerry Fleenor, Rick Osborn, Daniel Hammersley, and the ever-encouraging Ms. Carla, Darrell Bowman and Steve Filipek completed a functional streambank stabilization project in the 99+ degree heat.

---

## Paddlers Improve Streams While Staying Active (Arkansas Canoe Club)

---

One group that has really kicked in the after burner on stream work is the Arkansas Canoe Club. With volunteers like Gordon Kumpuris, John Barton, Jack Danielson, Libby Olsen, Donna Shanklin, Scott Wright, and Bill (Wildman) Saunders (pictured below in “fighting litter” mode) keeping everybody in tune to the theme of stream conservation, this club is doing some great things locally and statewide as well. Steve Filipek attended the recent Rendezvous held at Lake Catherine and was highly impressed with the numbers of people who came out from all ages to participate in this annual event. So impressed that after he set up the Stream Team booth, he became a member and encourages anyone who like to paddle the narrow boats around (or not) to do the same. This group does a number of litter cleanups a year but also is really trying to do some positive conservation work on Bayou Meto in central Arkansas. People interested in the Canoe Club or working on the Bayou Meto project can contact Jack or Bill at 501-664-2539. Keep on Paddlin’!

# River Adventure on the Spring

---

Another Stream Team in overdrive on conservation efforts in the Natural State is the Save Our Spring team, headed by Ruth Reynolds. This group has a knack for making the news (in a good way) and any team wanting to know how to crack the media might want to contact Ruth at 257-5714. SOS has been doing routine water sampling through Becky Horton of the Ozark Rivers Project on the Spring River near Hardy and have invited the public to take part in this Adventure. SOS is also doing what it can to help the conservation of the Ozark Hellbender, the largest of the North American salamanders at more than two feet long. This group has a lot of fun while working to help the Spring, so anyone interested should contact Ruth at the above number.

---

**Stream Team staff worked** on a variety of projects, gave numerous presentations, and received some training as well to better conduct their work of aquatic conservation in Arkansas. Ozarks coordinator Dave Evans (1-877-297-4331) worked to repair some flood damage to a habitat improvement project on Dry Run Creek near Norfolk. Dave has been doing a great deal of work with the NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service) and various local conservation districts in his region to continue the job of rehabilitating eroded streambanks. Dave is also helping coordinate a streambank survey of the Kings River to be able to contact and possibly help local landowners with erosion problems.

**Ever heard of a three-toed Amphiuma?** Me neither but Delta coordinator Stephen O'Neal (1-877-734-4581) has and I bet that he could bring one to a class or other meeting if you can get on his schedule. Stephen has a knack for working with reptiles and he is helping AGFC herpetologist Kelly Irwin work out nuisance alligator protocols.



**Ouachita and Arkansas River Valley coordinator** Darrell Bowman (1-877-967-7577) has really been into the habitat improvement and stabilization work lately. He's even taking on the Arkansas River along with a long list of partners from the AGFC, Corps of Engineers, Arkansas Bass Association, and several other groups. Their objective is to try to make the Corps' navigation structures (jetties, dikes, etc.) more environmentally friendly. Other Stream Team staff will be working on this in other areas of the state as well since the big Arkansas cuts across the entire mid-section of the state.

**Coastal Plains coordinator Phil Penny** (1-877-836-4612), besides working on Bayou Bartholomew on cleanups, has been looking into some possible habitat improvement for Connerly Bayou and Lake Chicot as well with AGFC fisheries biologist Diana Saul and local angler Barry Hall. Tons of sediment from above fields have settled into the bayou making it all but impassable at some times of the year, especially in a dry one like this year. Phil, Steve, and Diana are trying to work with NRCS, the landowner and others to see if there is any solution to this challenge.

**All Stream Team staff** received new HACH water quality kits and were trained in their use on a day on the North Fork of the Saline River. A training session for citizens has been set up for October and additional dates if needed.

**All Staff have also been working** with landowners around the state to show them the benefits of enrolling their land in either CP 21 or CP 22. These are Farm Bill programs aimed at restoring either grass or forest riparian zones (next to waterways) and helping the landowner out financially to be able to do this. Contact any of the coordinators or Steve at the main office to find out more about these truly helpful programs.

**Your Arkansas Stream Team staff** have been asked by the North Carolina Department of Wildlife Conservation and several in-state groups to present the concept, organization, and status of the Stream Team to them due to its growing popularity and reputation. Thanks for all the work that each and every one of you puts into this program that makes it shine in the eyes of many outsiders looking in!

**Steve Filipek** didn't Become An Outdoors Woman but was fortunate enough to teach a class on stream ecology to the group at the 4-H Center in Ferndale. Phyllis Speer of AGFC heads up this effort and Steve enjoyed the heck out of it. The interest level in this group of women for stream conservation was extremely high and bodes well for the future of conservation efforts in the state. Women of all ages who want to get into this interesting and mind enlarging program can contact Phyllis at 870-424-5750.



## Arkansas Game & Fish Commission Donates To Kingston School

## Arkansas Stream Team Gives And Receives

Through the innovative *STREAM TEAM MINI-GRANT Program*, the Stream Team gives money to deserving teams that are doing aquatic and landscape level conservation projects throughout the state. Above, Ozark and Boston Mountain Regional Coordinator Dave Evans is giving a check for \$1,400 to Marge Cotton, Science teacher at Kingston High School with help from Principal Marsha Shaver. The funding and training from AGFC Stream Team personnel, will help the school's students monitor the health of the Kings River in their area.



Any stream team has the potential to receive a Stream Team mini-grant if they meet the basic criteria of doing an aquatic conservation project. Stream Team personnel rank the grant applications that come in and then prioritize them according to their ranking on a statewide basis. The top grants are then funded through the Game and Fish's Stream Team budget which has been utilizing this program for three years to get people closer to their streams, watersheds and aquatic conservation responsibilities. The program is currently in its third year and has funded several award winning projects. If you are interested in receiving a mini-grant application form, just contact your regional coordinator or Steve Filipek at the main office in Benton at 501-776-0218.



# 2001 Stream Team Conference Coming Up Soon!

**March 9, 10, 11**

Don't forget about the 2001 Stream Team Conference being held in Eureka Springs this coming March 9, 10, and 11 at the Inn of the Ozarks. Put it on your calendar now and in fact, register for the conference now and register for your room at the Inn of the Ozarks in

Eureka Springs as soon as you can. We have reserved 60 rooms at the inn at \$49/night for up to 4 people per room. The sooner you reserve a room the better since this year's conference looks like it will be the best attended of all, what with natural history float trips, streambank and riparian area rehabilitation site tours, potential fishing trips, local artist's work being displayed, panel discussion on the latest hot environmental issues, and just good ol' networking amongst hundreds of Stream Teamers from around the state. For reservations, the Inn of the Ozarks phone number is 1-800-552-3785.

## 2001 Arkansas Streams & Waters Conference Registration Form

The conference will be held at the Inn of the Ozarks in Eureka Springs, Arkansas. The conference registration costs are minimal considering all that attendees will be receiving food-wise, information-wise, and other wise.

### Registration costs will be:

**Pre-registration (before March 1, 2001)**

- Student - \$5.00
- Individual - \$10.00
- Family - \$15.00

**Registration cost after March 1**

- \$10.00
- \$15.00
- \$20.00

**Basin you live in (circle one):**

If you're not sure, refer to map on the back of this page.

- Arkansas*      *Mississippi*      *Ouachita*      *Red*      *St. Francis*      *White*

**Your home creek, lake, river (write in):** \_\_\_\_\_

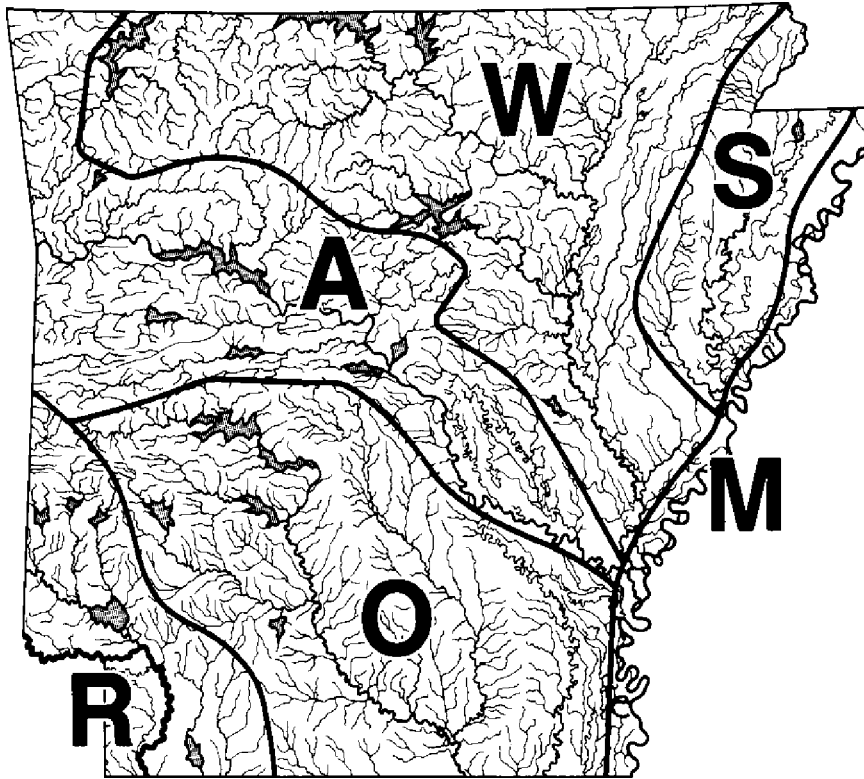
**Name (as you want it on your name tag):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone number:** \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to *2001 Stream Team Conference* and send to:

Stream Team Coordinator  
Arkansas Game & Fish Commission  
915 E. Sevier St. Benton, AR 72015



River Systems of Arkansas:  
M= Mississippi; W= White; A= Arkansas;  
S= St. Francis; O= Ouachita; R= Red



## Activity Report

Activities	Date	County	Stream Name	Basin	Miles of River Covered	Project Description Please give as much detail as you can about your activity such as location (e.g. 3 miles upstream from Hwy 63 bridge). Also include facts about the project not covered on far left (e.g. the first litter pickup ever conducted on Dry Fork Creek), etc. o help us include it in newsletter.	# of Volunteers	Project Duration (# Hours)	Measurement (#of...)
Conducted Inventory									#Inventories
Attended/Conducted Workshop									#Attendees
Held Meeting on Stream Team Subject									#Attendees
Wrote article/contact with media on ST issue									#article/interviews
Wrote letter in support of ST issue									#Letters
Held Litter Pickup									#Bags or p/u Loads
Monitored/assessed Water Quality									#Trips
Participated in other Agency Projects									#Events
Planted trees, stabilized banks or other stream improvements									#Trees or Streambank Events
Storm Drain Stencil Project									# of Drains Stenciled
Sponsored display at fair, mall, etc.									# of Events
Presentation at local state or Federal Gov't meeting/hearing									#of Presentations
River Watch									# Hours
ST Association Activities									# Hours
Education Project									# Events
Greenway Development									# Projects
OTHER (Describe)									

# The Process of becoming a STREAM TEAM

**It's really quite simple:**

- 1.** Express an interest and request more information: Send your name, address, and phone number to:  
STREAM TEAM PROGRAM COORDINATOR  
AR Game and Fish Office  
915 E. Sevier St.  
Benton, AR 72015
- 2.** Sign up. You will get the newsletter and be counted among Arkansas's STREAM TEAM members. This is the minimum level of involvement.
- 3.** Adopt a stream. To become more involved in the program, you can adopt a stream. Select a stream that you or your group is particularly concerned about-the creek on your land, your favorite fishing hole, or the stream you drive over every day to work, school or the store; for example:
  - a. Inventory your stream with help from STREAM TEAM coordinators.
  - b. Decide what you want to do-trash pick-up, habitat improvement, water quality monitoring, or whatever interests to your team!

For information, submissions, etc., contact the Editor: Steve Filipek, 915 E. Sevier St., Benton, AR 72015.  
Phone: 501-776-0218, Fax: 501-776-8362, e-mail: [sfilipek@agfc.state.ar.us](mailto:sfilipek@agfc.state.ar.us)

## **Stream Team News Editor**

AR Game and Fish Office  
915 E. Sevier St.  
Benton, AR 72015

