

Newscasts

January 2019 Serving the Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited



Get to know your SWTU – Our Thursday, January 10 meeting

Instead of one guest speaker, you'll hear from a variety of SWTU leaders who will present and take your questions on focus areas like conservation, fishing programs, advocacy and how you can get involved.

As a reminder – the meeting is on **Thursday**, January 10 at the Coliseum Bar. (Note that the bar now has a loud live band on Tuesdays that would not be conducive to our meeting.)

There will be a **50/50 raffle to help cover the room fee**. Tickets will be available from 6:30 - 7:45 pm for \$5 each. The drawing will take place at 8:00 pm, or as soon as possible after the featured speaker is completed. This is a must be present to win drawing. One winning ticket takes home half of the cash raised.

We'll again meet upstairs at [The Coliseum Bar and Grill](#). As usual, the program begins at 7 p.m., but show up earlier for food, fish stories and friendship.



Somebody will win \$100

We've had a few winless meetings and so the award has risen to \$100 that a member is will walk away with on January 10. We will draw the name of one person in attendance who will win \$100 to Fontana Sports Specialties! (A drawing wasn't done at the December meeting.)

Check out this flier and following pages to learn more about our Icebreaker as well as a special Women's Fly Fishing event on Friday, January 25!



THE 36TH ANNUAL SWTU
ICEBREAKER
JANUARY 26TH 2019
AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE
6000 American Parkway, Madison, WI 53783

JOIN US FOR:

- TWO FABULOUS KEYNOTE SPEECHES
- PRESENTATIONS BY LOCAL EXPERTS
- MASTER FLY TYING DEMOS
- EXCITING BUCKET RAFFLES
- SILENT AUCTION
- CONSERVATION PARTNER DISPLAYS
- DELICIOUS LUNCH
- MUCH, MUCH MORE!

LOCAL SPEAKER:
DAVID ROWE, FISHERIES SUPERVISOR, WI DNR



David is a native of Middleton Wisconsin, and began his career with the WDNR in 1998 as a Fisheries Research Technician and is now the Fisheries Team Supervisor for the Fitchburg Fisheries Team. He is responsible for WDNR fisheries management for all of Southwest Wisconsin and is happy to share the status and trends of our local fisheries.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: SWTU.ORG

FEATURED SPEAKER
RICH OSTHOFF

Rich guides fly-fishers for trout in the Driftless Area of Wisconsin. He has fished extensively throughout the Rocky Mountains. His first book, *Fly-Fishing The Rocky Mountain Backcountry*, is considered by many anglers to be the bible on backcountry fly-fishing. His other books, *No Hatch To Match* and *Active Nymphing*, not to mention his many instructional YouTube videos make him a speaker you won't want to miss!



JUST \$10
FREE for Vets!
and Kids 12 & under

The Icebreaker – Fun, friendship and learning for a good cause!

The daylong event detailed on page 1 and the following pages powers a great deal of the good SWTU does for our coldwater resource throughout the year. It's a fun and relaxing day of learning, conversation and prizes. It's also a place where friendships are forged and renewed.

Planned Schedule for the Icebreaker

Visit fly tying demos and conservation partner booths through the day!

9:00 – 10:30 AM

Morning Keynote: "**Diverse Driftless Tactics**" – Rich Osthoff

Morning video presentation will be an informative and entertaining look at many methods of fly-fishing the Driftless with bugs, nymphs and terrestrials.

10:45 AM - 12:30 PM

Local Feature: "**State of The State: Trout Dynamics in Southwestern Wisconsin**"

David Rowe (Fisheries Supervisor – Wisconsin DNR)

12:30 – 1:30 PM Lunch (offered on site for \$10)

1:30 – 3:15 PM

Afternoon Keynote: "**Small-Stream Short-Line Toolbox**" – Rich Osthoff

An instructional video and demonstration seminar designed to help you build a fly fishing skill set especially tailored towards small-stream, short-line presentations in Driftless creeks.

3:30 PM

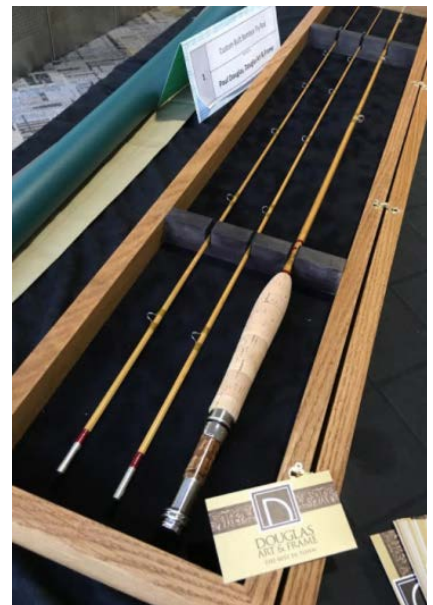
Bucket Raffle Drawings and Silent Auction Winners

A Bodacious Bucket Raffle!

We have some great items already, as pictured here and on [Facebook](#). We would be **pleased to accept your donation**. Consider donating new rods, reels, accessories, camping equipment, overnight lodging, custom woodworking and sets of flies. If you have questions, would like to donate an item or can help out on the day of, please contact Icebreaker Chair [Ben Lubchansky](#).

Donation from Rusty Dunn – He's donated a book about wet flies and a *substantial* collection of North Country wingless wets to the Icebreaker. You'll want to check them out!

Other raffle items include – Paul Douglas Bamboo Fly Rod, Framed Classic Salmon Fly by Brian Van Erm, Horseshoes & Hand Grenades Fan Pack, The Fly Tying Estate of Marty Kwitek, Yeti Tundra 65 and accessories, Bombers and 6 Packs from great Wisconsin breweries including 3 Sheeps and Restoration Cider.



More on the Icebreaker!

We invite you to join us

The Icebreaker will once again be at **American Family Insurance on the east side of Madison!** (See map and link below.) Join us for great speakers, conservation partners, and of course, a bucket raffle and silent auction featuring fabulous prizes!

Fly tiers and more fly tiers

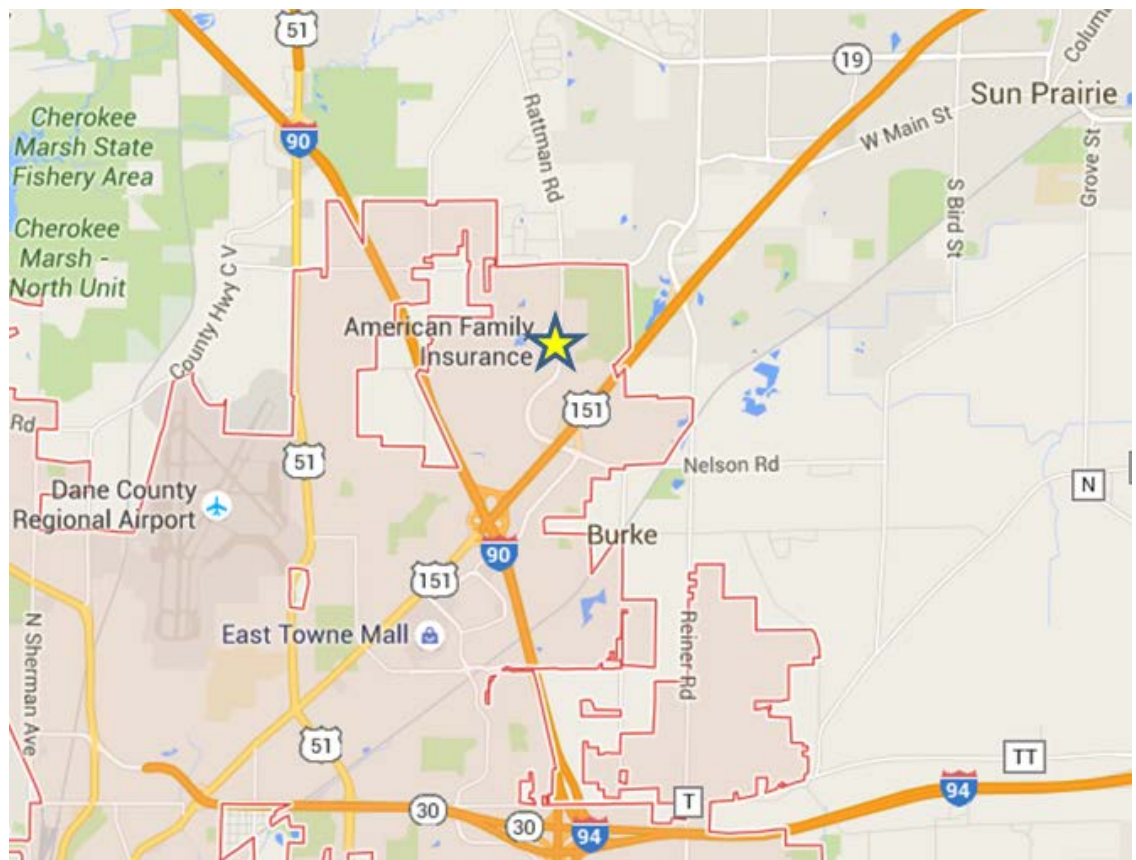
We're on track to have **more master fly tiers than ever** to share their expertise and stories with you. This is a fantastic hands-on aspect of the annual event and people always leave with nuggets of knowledge that help them better understand the natural world.

Many hands make light work!

This incredible event is powered by you, our members! We need a variety of volunteers the day of the event Contact [Ben Lubchansky](#) with questions or to volunteer.

The Icebreaker will once again be at **American Family Insurance on the east side of Madison!**

[Google Map Link](#)



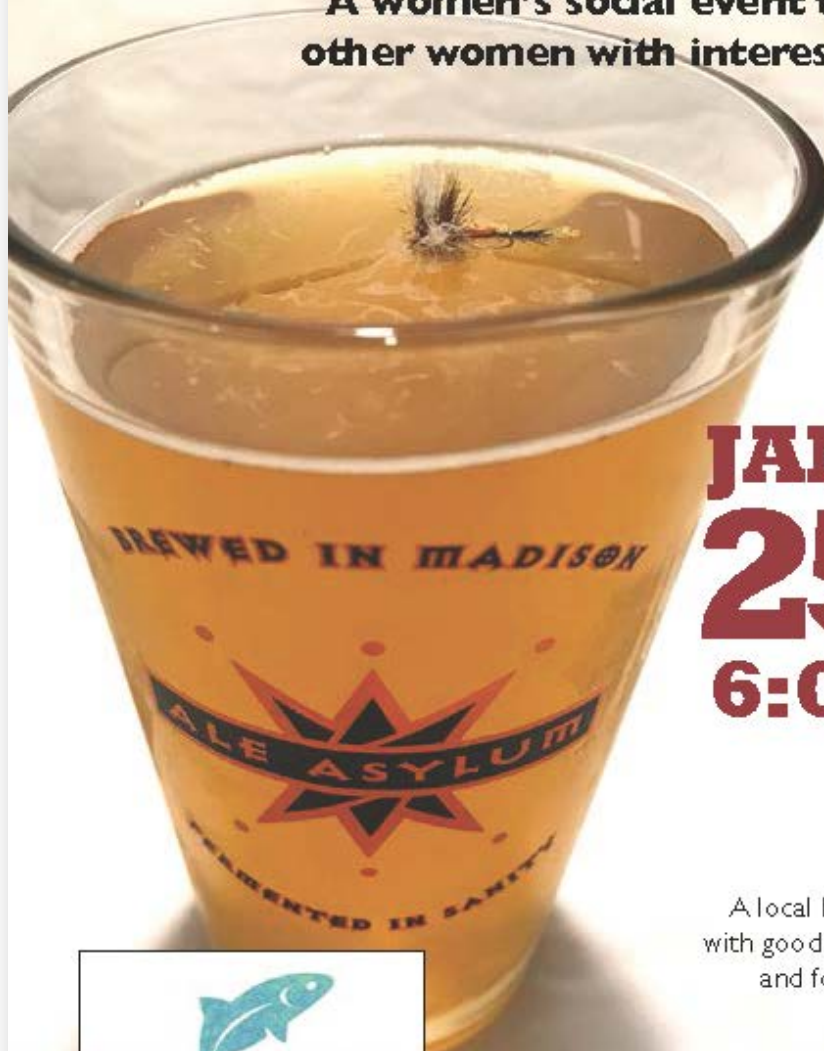
Raffle Instructions: *The Icebreaker will feature a large array of bucket raffle prizes. Tickets will be available the day of the event and can be purchased using cash, check or credit card. The drawing will begin at 3:30 pm on January 26, 2019. Ticket holders need not be present to win. The purchaser of a ticket may give the ticket to another person who may claim the prize on behalf of the purchaser, but only if that other person is present at the drawing. If not present to claim the prize at the event, winners will be posted in the February SWTU Newscast and prizes may be claimed at the February or March SWTU Chapter Meeting. Prizes will be held until 6:30 pm on Thursday, March 14, 2018. Unclaimed prizes will be auctioned off at the March SWTU Chapter Meeting.*

The evening *before* the Icebreaker!

See below for details on a fine annual event open to all women, regardless of membership or fishing experience.

Women & Fly Fishing **HAPPY HOUR!**

**A women's social event to connect with
other women with interests in fly fishing.**



**JANUARY
25th
6:00 to ...**

Ale Asylum
2002 Pankratz Street,
Madison, WI 53704
(608) 663-3926

A local brew pub near the airport
with good food and spirits. Cash bar
and food available for purchase.



Hosted by SWTU Women for other women interested
in or connected to Fly Fishing; **beginners, novices,
experts we welcome all levels of skill.**

Fly Tying Courses – 2019 (Last chance to register!)



Trout Unlimited invites you to learn fly tying or improve your fly tying skills this winter. Experienced SWTU instructors will teach both beginning level and intermediate level fly tying courses in Fitchburg beginning January 16, 2019. Classes consist of instructor-led demonstrations and hands-on tutorials. The courses are completely free of charge, and all materials needed in class are provided. You need only supply the tools and thread, a list of which is available at <https://www.swtu.org/learn/flytying/flytying-classes/>.

Beginning Fly Tying is intended for those with limited previous fly tying experience, including complete beginners. General techniques needed as a foundation for fly tying are established, and basic but effective trout fly patterns are demonstrated and practiced. An instructional booklet with pattern sheets is provided free of charge.

Intermediate Fly Tying is intended for those who have a solid foundation of fly tying experience and want to increase their proficiency. The course builds on the foundations of Beginning Fly Tying and progresses to more advanced methods. Techniques and materials are more varied, the patterns are often more complex, and the hook sizes can be smaller than flies of the beginning course.

Both Beginning and Intermediate Fly tying will be taught on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM at the Fitchburg Community Center, 5510 Lacy Rd., Fitchburg beginning January 16, 2019. Courses run for eight consecutive Wednesdays (final class March 6, 2019).

Advanced registration is required! Register online via the Fitchburg Recreation Department website (<http://www.fitchburgwi.gov/599/Recreation>). If you've not previously created a password-protected customer account with Fitchburg Recreation, you must first do so prior to course registration. To create an account, visit https://apm.activecommunities.com/fitchburg/Create_Account. Once you have created a Fitchburg Recreation account, visit <http://www.fitchburgwi.gov/599/Recreation>, select "View Programs and Register Here", click "View and Register for Activities", choose either "Fly Tying Class – Beginners" or "Fly Tying Class – Intermediate", and "Add to Cart". Courses are free, and fees will not be collected.

The registration deadline for both courses is January 13, 2019. Courses often fill to capacity, and early registration is encouraged. For more information, see <https://www.swtu.org/learn/flytying/flytying-classes/> or email questions to swtu-flytying@outlook.com.

Welcome New Members

We're pleased to announce the addition of the following new members to our ranks!

| | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Kasi Schroeder | Scott Solberg |
| Troy Mehlhoff | Charles McCarty |
| Chelsey Wolfgram | Dane Miller |

We are honored to have you among us. Please join us for a Chapter meeting, and we will give you **FREE** raffle tickets, flies and "an offer you can't refuse" from some of our most experienced fisher-folk! Try to get there at 6 p.m. for dinner and to sit with one of our board members to learn more about us. **If you will be attending your first meeting**, please contact [Mary Ann Doll](#) so we can expect you.



Attend the Badger Fly Fishers Spring Opener on Saturday, February 9

This is one of SWTU's most important partner organizations, and their big all-day event is Saturday, February 9, 2019, at American Family Insurance – the same place as our Icebreaker. Pat Dorsey will be their guest speaker and they also have great activities, prizes, vendors, etc. [Learn more at their website.](#)

Wisconsin Women's Fly Fishing Clinics

The MOST popular women's fly fishing clinics in the Midwest!

Registration is Now Open. Clinics fill fast, don't wait until spring!
 Registration information: <https://www.swtu.org/learn/womens-flyfishing-clinic/>

The **Beginners clinic** (by women for women) dates are June 14, 3 pm to June 16th at noon. *If you know a woman who is interested in learning fly fishing this is a great clinic where she will learn the basics from women instructors.*

The **Women's on the Water Skills Clinic** dates are June 12th 3 pm, June 13th all day and Friday June 14th by arrangement.

We will need about 20 Guides/ mentors willing to take a woman fishing 3 times over a day and a half June 12 & 13th. Please contact Scot Stewart at scotstewart2@gmail.com or (608) 273-5967



Wisconsin Women's Fly Fishing Clinics

Presented by Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited
<https://www.swtu.org/learn/womens-flyfishing-clinic/>
<https://www.facebook.com/SWTUWomensClinic/>

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>BY WOMEN FOR WOMEN BASICS CLINIC June 14-16, 2019</p> <p>Learn how to choose proper equipment, tie knots, cast, read water, select the proper fly and time on the water. You will learn new tactics, regardless of your level of ability. Equipment available for use.</p> | <p>ON THE WATER SKILLS INTERMEDIATE CLINIC June 12-14, 2019</p> <p>Personalized instruction streamside. Tune up workshops by women instructors to refresh skills in casting, matching the hatch & reading the water. Fish WI finest trout streams with experienced anglers.</p> |
|---|---|

Location: Avalanche, WI (near Viroqua, in Wisconsin's Driftless Area)

Cost: \$315 until April 1st, \$345 after (Pastor participants \$345)

Registration: <https://www.regonline.com/2019wffcbeginnersclinic>
<https://www.regonline.com/2019onthewaterskillsclinic>

Help support Project Green Teen

Project Green Teen is our youth education program. Students in conservation classes at Shabazz learn the sport of fly fishing and go on a week-long trip to the driftless area where they work with conservation partners completing environmental service projects and fly fish for 5 days with mentors from our chapter.

We need volunteers for these events – Please contact Dave Fowler, dkfowler82@gmail.com, or (608) 513-0681.

Fly tying at Shabazz High School Cafeteria **Feb 13 & 14th**, 12:45 – 3:15 pm
Casting, Shabazz High School Ball field **April 10th & April 24th**, 12:45 – 3:00 pm
Avalanche Trip – Westfork Sports Club May 12-16th Fishing 4-6:30, Dinner 6:45 – 7:45 pm

Flies are needed for both PGT (15 ea) and the Women's Clinics (20-24 ea)

These can be given to Tina Murray or Scot Stewart.

Dries like

Sulphur #16, Caddis, varying sizes & colors, Adams, Stimulators, Crane flies, BWO

Terrestrials like

Cricket #14 Hopper #14, Ants Beatles

Nymfs like

Scud #12, Pheasant Tail Bead Head #16 – #18, Gold Ribbed Hares Ears
 Caddis Larva, Copper John

Streamers Like

Weighted Wooly Bugger #12 & 10, Small Streamers #12 & #10, Mickey Finns

Mark Your Calendar for Apple Pruning – Sunday, March 10, 2019

This was a super fun event last year and we'll do it again in 2019 at the Neperud orchard. We'll get instructions, then get together with others and do the small trimming and shaping that will help the orchard prosper. So save the date and watch for more information to be shared in future *Newscasts*.



Fountains of Youth

A look at classic flies that have withstood the test of time ... flies that remain "forever young"

by Rusty Dunn

A mid-summer day in the late 1940s begins like many others in Pennsylvania's fertile Cumberland Valley. A young Vince Marinaro fishes the crystalline waters of Letort Spring Run. The day is brilliantly sunny, and as the heat builds, so does Marinaro's frustration. Insects are seemingly nonexistent, yet many fine trout rise steadily in the creek's weedy channels. The riseforms are slow and deliberate, leaving only the faintest hint of a ring. Marinaro has spent several days trying to decipher what the rising trout feed upon. He casts a box full of dries, wets, and nymphs with little success. He fishes *atop* the surface, *in* the surface, *under* the surface, and near the bottom. Nothing. He gives his flies a little twitch or a slow retrieve. Still nothing. He casts to a dozen steady risers, and one-by-one they stop feeding. Marinaro's frustration finally boils over. He quits fishing, sets his rod aside, lays flat on the ground, and crawls like a spider to the water's edge. Perched within inches of the surface, he intently scans for signs of life. Nothing. After a few minutes of hypnotic study, though, he begins to see things. Tiny things. Insects he had initially overlooked. Tiny mayfly duns struggling to shed their nymphal skins, beetles smaller than he thought possible, and tiny little leafhoppers. Marinaro is stunned by the miniature world before his eyes, revealed suddenly as if a curtain had been raised and the stage lights switched on. He hurries to a nearby fishing hut, finds a mesh bag, fashions a workable seine, and returns to the stream to seine the current. The net is alive with tiny insects. Beetles no more than 3/32" long; winged and wingless red ants so small that their slender waists are nearly invisible; unimaginably small mayfly nymphs and emerging duns; tiny green leafhoppers about 1/8" long; little inchworms fallen from the trees; and black ants, unseen at the surface because they drift underwater. Marinaro's day ended in wonderment, for he had dis-

covered the world of tiny terrestrials.

The classic angling literature frequently discussed terrestrial insects that fall or are blown into trout streams, but their importance as late season trout fare was rarely emphasized. As the hatches of spring decline, aquatic insects become increasingly scarce, and terrestrials can sustain trout for months. Marinaro described his day of discovery on the Letort in his 1950 book *A Modern Dry Fly Code*, in which he devoted about a third of the contents to terrestrials and their imitation. Marinaro's Jassid pattern is an excellent imitation of small beetles, but it was never very popular. Jassids require jungle cock nails, an exotic bird species whose feathers have always been rare and expensive. The scarcity of jungle cock made the Jassid itself an endangered species.

Meanwhile, Pennsylvanian John Crowe was a contemporary of Marinaro's from the nearby steel town of Johnstown, PA. Crowe fished many of the same streams as Marinaro and designed an affordable beetle imitation that is still popular today. It is a model of simplicity and was first described in Crowe's 1947 book *The Book of Trout Lore*. Marinaro's Jassid was a blue-blooded fly intended for fly fishing's *cognoscenti*. John Crowe's beetle was a blue-collared fly intended for fly fishing's rank and file. Both are first rate flies, but Crowe Beetles won't break the bank.

Fish a Crowe Beetle anytime from early summer to season's end, especially along grassy banks and near overhanging trees. The fly can be difficult to see, but a spot of paint or a tuft of bright yarn tied over the back aids visibility. Crowe Beetles are fragile, but don't be concerned when they become tattered; they fish even better that way. Many accomplished anglers maintain that Crowe Beetles are more effective than the ubiquitous and wildly popular foam beetles. Foam beetles float well, are easy to see, and are durable, but they are soulless gobs of synthetics. When the weather warms and the terrestrials of summer come calling, fish with passion. Fish with history. Fish with John Crowe's steel town beetle.

Copyright 2019, Rusty Dunn

----- Crowe Beetle -----

To imitate shiny green beetles, wrap an underbody of peacock herl or dub an underbody of sparkly dark green dubbing.

Hook: Dry fly, #14 - #20

Thread: Black, 8/0 or 6/0

Body: Deer hair, dyed black, lashed to the hook shank and pulled over to form a rounded oval shape; trim to leave a prominent head.

Legs: Three hair fibers on each side, snipped at the tail and pulled out sideways



Stay Connected



Know what's happening by connecting to our [Chapter Calendar!](#)



Check out [Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited on Facebook](#) to connect to activities, discussions and friends. (You should be able to view the page without a Facebook account.)

If you know of a member not receiving emails from SWTU, please have them email madkasel@gmail.com

Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited Leadership:

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|--|
| President | Amy Klusmeier | amy.klusmeier@gmail.com |
| Vice President | Mary Ann Doll | dollmaryann@gmail.com |
| Secretary | Topf Wells | topfwells@gmail.com |
| Treasurer | Tom Parker | tparker23@charter.net |
| State Council Rep. | Scot Stewart | scotstewart2@gmail.com |
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| Board Member | Tom Thrall | tthrall2@yahoo.com |
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| Women's/ Diversity Initiative Chair | Tina Murray | swtu.women.diversity@gmail.com |
| Youth Education Chair for SWTU | Tina Murray | swtu.women.diversity@gmail.com |

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