

Pennsylvania TROUT



Spring 2013

Publication of the Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited

www.patrou.org

Leadership trainings set for July, August

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited will hold a pair of leadership trainings this July and August. Chapters are encouraged to attend one of the two sessions.

The trainings are identical, but they are being held at different locations to better accommodate chapters.

The first date is July 27 at the Wildlands Conservancy in Emmaus, PA. The second date is Aug. 3 at St. Joseph Church in DuBois, PA

There will be a variety of trainings, networking opportunities and informational sessions throughout the day.

Chapters are encouraged to send their conservation chair, youth chair and any other member who may be interested in hearing about opportunities available for the chapter.

Potential topic ideas include:

See **TRAININGS**, page 5

PATU award nominations open

The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited will present its annual awards at the fall meeting held at the Shaver's Creek Environmental Center on Sept. 22, 2013.

There is a huge amount of extraordinary work being accomplished by PATU chapters, as well as many individuals, and that work should be recognized. The Awards

See **AWARDS**, page 11

Slate Run splendor....



Mark Hanes Photo

A wild brown trout is released on Slate Run. The Pine Creek Watershed in Pennsylvania's northern tier offers plenty of fishing opportunities, but also needs assistance to help maintain its cold, clean water. Read more on page 9.

Restoring native trout

By Ken Undercoffer

PATU Past President

TU National recently issued a policy stating that TU chapters and members should not stock non-native trout over native trout populations. This has initiated a lot of discussion and some dissent within PATU.

Some chapters and members are upset because it means that they would not be in compliance if they are supporting stocking in streams that hold self-sustaining native

brook trout. Others are delighted that TU has taken this stand.

THE TU MISSION

There are those who might ask: Why are we doing this, aren't we a trout fishing club? The short answer to that question is no. TU is, first of all, a coldwater conservation organization. Stocking certainly enhances fishing opportunities, but it is not conservation, unless it is being done in an attempt to restore an extirpated or endangered population. TU does not

See **NATIVES**, page 6

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Pennsylvania TROUT

PA COUNCIL OF
TROUT UNLIMITED
PO Box 5148
Bellefonte, PA
16823



PRESIDENT -- Brian Wagner
137 South New Street
Nazareth, PA 18064
Phone: 484-894-8289
E-mail: fish4brian@aol.com

**VICE PRESIDENT --
Charlie Charlesworth**
200 Camins Parkway
Clarks Summit, PA 18411
Phone: 570-586-3363
E-mail: ffnepa@epix.net

VICE PRESIDENT -- Sherwin Albert
161 Ryan Lane
Milton, PA 17847
Phone: 570-524-7645
E-mail: sherwina@dejazzd.com

TREASURER -- George Kutskel
107 Simmons Street
DuBois, PA 15801
Phone: 814-371-9290
E-mail: maksak@comcast.net

SECRETARY -- Bob Pennell
2319 Valley Road
Harrisburg, PA 17104
Phone: 717-236-1360
E-mail: rpennell37@comcast.net

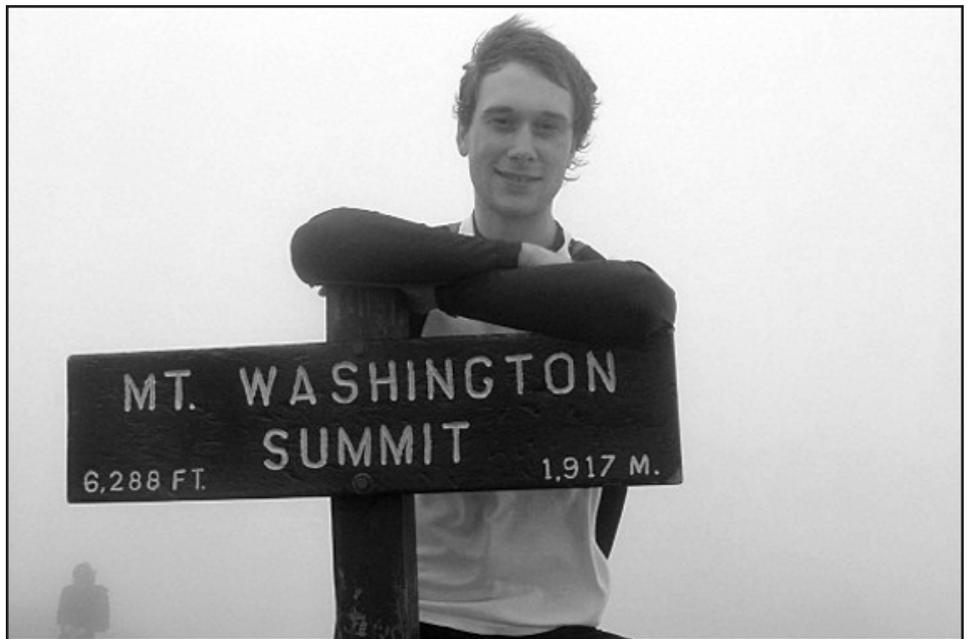
**PA TROUT EDITOR & DESIGNER --
Brad Isles**
P.O. Box 23
Grove City, PA 16127
Phone: 724-967-2832
E-mail: bisles@live.com

**PA TROUT ADVERTISING --
Charlie Charlesworth**
200 Camins Parkway
Clarks Summit, PA 18411
Phone: 570-586-3363
E-mail: ffnepa@epix.net

WEB EDITOR -- Bob Pennell
2319 Valley Road
Harrisburg, PA 17104
Phone: 717-236-1360
E-mail: rpennell37@comcast.net

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Contributed Photo

Education and Outreach Coordinator Justin DiRado.

PATU's names Education and Outreach Coordinator

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited is excited to introduce Justin DiRado as the new Education and Outreach Coordinator. Justin joined PATU in February and will be actively helping to organize and create education and outreach material and programs for Council.

Justin is a native of Greensburg, Pa. He graduated from Penn State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Science. In his free time, Justin enjoys the outdoors, playing sports and guitar.

Prior to his senior year at Penn State, Justin completed an internship at Millbrook Marsh Nature Center in State College. While there he helped direct, lead and assist with a variety of environmental education programs, presentations and summer camps for individuals ranging in age from pre-Kindergarten to adult.

After graduating, Justin worked as a research intern at Tin Mountain Conservation Center in east central New Hampshire. His work focused on restoring native brook trout streams by enhancing stream physical habitat structure, collecting stream data and analyzing all the information collected throughout the multi-year study.

Justin's focus at PATU will be to introduce kids to Trout Unlimited and encourage them to participate in activities offered by the organization. He will work largely with Pennsylvania chapters in their efforts to educate youths about the importance of coldwater conservation, help to increase membership involvement and work to help them become more active in Trout Unlimited.

He will be coordinating the Trout in the Classroom (TIC) program, working with program partners to engage youths in coldwater conservation activities and administer TIC grants. He will be developing educational programs, activities and events to engage both kids and adults, and help in efforts to build membership and active participation in TU.

Justin will also be creating brochures, handouts, presentations and other informational tools to help PATU communicate TU's mission. He will be an active member of the youth education, membership, development, communications and awards committees.

Justin can be reached at 814-359-5114 or jdirado@patrout.org.

Year-end appeal raises over \$13K for programs, initiatives

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited would like to thank everyone who donated to the Year-End Appeal Campaign.

Through your generosity Council collected over \$13,000 that will go to continuing state-wide programs and initiatives as well as help chapters in their efforts to protect, conserve and restore PA's cold-water streams.

Council appreciates everyone's donations and hope you will continue to support PATU and all of our programs.

Donations can be made at any time by going to www.patrou.org and clicking on the "Donate Now" button or by sending a check or money order to PATU at PO Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823.

PATU would like to extend a special thanks to our Trout Conservationist (\$100-\$199) and Coldwater Champion (over \$200) supporters.

Coldwater Champions (Over \$200)

Robert Bialy
Mark Collier
Rod Cross
Terry Feather
W.E. Pete and Judy Goodman
Robert Jennings Jr.
Christopher Larson
John Lea
Joseph Lock
Col. John Martin
Charles Mogish
Pamela Reid
Walter Reineman III
Archie Fenton and Kathleen Sheridan
Bob Tufel
Brian Wagner

John Wanamaker
Jack Williams

Trout Conservationist (\$100-\$199)

David Blair
Edward Bosley
Todd Brooks
Charles Clement III
Robert Campbell
John Capowski
Greg Case
William Cavanagh
Regis Dinkel
Carl Ernest
Ernst Conservation Seeds
Ron Ferris
David Fiorelli
H. Rodney Fitz
Tullio Gatti
Mark Haile
Joseph Headless
Karl Heine
Samuel Horton
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Hutchins
A. Bruce Mainwaring
John and Suzanne Mauser
Nicola Nicoloff
R. Orkin
Gary and Susan Parzanese
Tom Petroski
Gary Pivrotto
Robert Rosenberg
Joseph Shaeffer
Leigh Shuman
Gene Sullivan
Walter Woytek
David Zmijewski

PATU merchandise orders must be placed through form on website

To order items from PATU please use the form on www.patrou.org. We will no longer process orders placed on scrap paper or just a mailed check. Also, please understand we are not a store and no one but PATU is making a profit.

If you have an idea for different merchandise for PATU to sell please let us know. If it is feasible we will consider it. All orders are completed as time permits, which can lead to a delay in your order being shipped.

PA COUNCIL OF TROUT UNLIMITED 2013 COMMITTEES



Awards -- Open

Contact Samantha Kutskel at
814-359-5233 /
skutskel@coldwaterheritage.org

Coldwater Heritage Partnership Admin.

450 Robinson Lane, Bellefonte, PA 16823
814-359-5233 / skutskel@coldwaterheritage.org

Coldwater Heritage Partnership TU Delegate

Ken Undercoffer
1510 Village Rd., Clearfield, PA 16830
814-765-1035 / kcoffer@atlanticbb.net

Communications -- Brad Isles

PO Box 13, Grove City, PA 16127
724-967-2832 / bisles@live.com

Delaware River -- Lee Hartman

4978 Hancock Hwy., Equinunk, PA 18417
570-224-6371 / isff@hughes.net

Development -- George Kutskel

107 Simmons St., DuBois, PA 15801
814-371-9290 / maksak@comcast.net

Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture --

Ken Undercoffer
1510 Village Rd., Clearfield, PA 16830
814-765-1035 / kcoffer@atlanticbb.net

Environmental -- Bob Volkmar

443 W.Branch Fishing Creek Road
Roulette, PA 167465
814-544-7174 / rdvolkmar@gmail.com

Legislative Liaison -- Fred Bohls

3519 Ada Dr., Mechanicsburg, PA 17050
717-732-5050 / fcbp@ix.netcom.com

Membership -- Greg Malaska

218 W. 13th St., Jim Thorpe, PA 16229
570-657-7169 /
gregmalaska@gmail.com

National Leadership Council Rep. --

Monty Murty
P.O. Box 55, Laughlintown, PA 15655
724-238-7860 / mmurty@verizon.net

Stream Access -- Chuck Winters

1898 Old Rt. 22, Duncansville, PA 16635
814-943-4061; 932-8841 /
Wintershs@aol.com

Trout in the Classroom -- Samantha Kutskel

P.O. Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823
814-359-5233 /
skutskel@coldwaterheritage.org

Trout Management -- Richard Soderberg

Mansfield University, Mansfield, PA 16933
570-662-4539 / rsoderbe@mansfield.edu

Youth Education -- Eric Wilson

802 Treasure Lake Rd., Dubois, PA 15801
814-371-6789 / ericwilson@hotmail.com

Women's Committee -- Samantha Kutskel

P.O. Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823
814-359-5233 /
skutskel@coldwaterheritage.org

Headwaters

A message from PATU President Brian Wagner

With the promise of spring comes a fresh start, a renewal of things. Although while I am writing this, it doesn't really seem like spring yet; and everybody is blaming our beloved groundhog. I like to think of it as more of a traditional spring and for our coldwater friends that's a good thing.

Soon enough the canopy of trees will begin to leaf out and shade our streams. Spring peepers will begin singing their song. Mayflies will emerge from our streams on their short journey, completing their life cycle and providing a steady food source for our resident trout, including a new age class of native and wild trout just finding their way.

Ah yes, with the promise of spring comes the promise of a new angling season too. Reacquainting ourselves with old friends, rivers and streams, and of course the trout that we work so hard to protect and making new friends, planning new adventures and the excitement of meeting new angling challenges are all a part of it.

With the spring warm-up, activity also increases within Trout Unlimited. There are many events planned in our Council and chapters throughout the state. So I ask you, please get involved with your chapter or Council. There is plenty of opportunity. I guarantee the fishing is even more rewarding when you are an active TU member. Get your neighbors, friends and children involved. Get outdoors and be a part of it!

I would like to introduce Justin Di-Rado, our new Education and Outreach Coordinator. Justin's focus will be Trout in the Classroom and other education and outreach initiatives. He will be working closely with the Youth Committee to help increase youth participation and working on events, programs and projects that will engage members and the general public of TU's mission. Please welcome him aboard.

Justin created a Facebook page titled "PATU Youth." Brad Isles, our Communications Committee chair also created a new page for Council titled Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited. For those of you using the social media site, please "Like" these sites. A number of our chapters also are utilizing Facebook as another means

of communication between members and the public.

Speaking of communication, have you noticed all of the great information available at patrout.org? I encourage everyone to visit our site often for the latest updates. Kudos to Bob Pennell for keeping the site fresh and informative.

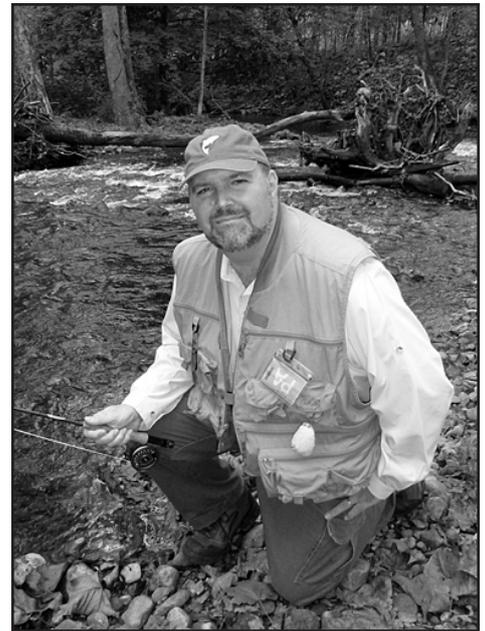
We held our second bimonthly Chapter Leadership Conference call on March 21. The topic was Marcellus Shale issues. Katy Dunlap gave participants a clear vision of how we approach issues with shale gas and the importance of speaking with a unified voice as sportsmen.

Because we approach these issues in a thoughtful, science-based way and offer proposed solutions, Trout Unlimited has a credible and respected voice. We reach a broader set of people and are more able to effect change. Katy has been organizing monthly legislative visits and tracking legislation so that we do not encounter any surprises. Mitch Blake reported on the current status of the Coldwater Conservation Corps. Good stuff!

I encourage chapter presidents to find someone from their chapters to join the calls if possible. We try to keep them short and informative and are geared for your input. The next call will be in May (TBA) and the topic will be youth initiatives.

I want to congratulate the Lackawanna Valley chapter and the Brodhead chapter for being awarded grants through the National TU Embrace-A-Stream program. The Lackawanna Valley chapter is planning a large multi-partner project on the Lackawanna River. The Brodhead chapter project is in support of upgrading the upper Paradise Creek and its tributaries to "Exceptional Value" and to design and put in place signage to educate the public and encourage preservation of the wild trout populations in the Paradise headwaters, including Cranberry Creek, a tributary that enters the Paradise at Henryville.

Speaking of stream upgrades and classifications, we sent a letter to the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission in support of designating the following waters as Class A Wild Trout Streams: Beaver Run



(Sections 1 & 2), Fireline Creek, Sawmill Run – all in Carbon County, and Logan Branch (Section 1) and Slab Cabin Run – both in Centre County. All were surveyed in 2012 and will be submitted for designation as Class A Trout Streams. We also sent a letter supporting the addition of 42 streams or stream sections to be submitted for classification as Wild Trout Streams.

These streams were surveyed recently and found to contain naturally reproducing, self sustaining wild trout populations. This will be decided on during a meeting of the PFBC commissioners on April 15-16. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the PFBC for their diligence in surveying our Commonwealth's streams.

It is important that these streams are identified. It is equally important that we support these upgrades and classifications with letters when asked for comment.

We are still looking for a Regional VP for the north central region. The area currently covers the Seneca, God's Country, James Zwald and Tiadaghton chapters. If anyone is interested in the position or would like to learn more about the position, please contact me.

So, by the time you are reading this, I hope to be casting some big flies to some bigger trout. Hopefully, I'll even catch and release a few. And feel rewarded that I am a member of Trout Unlimited, making it even more special. My hope is that you too will be out there catching and being rewarded for all that you do for TU.

Treasurer's Report

by PATU Treasurer George Kutskel

I would like to start by saying "thank you" to everyone who contributed to our Annual Appeal. Council realizes we are in tough economic times, and that making contributions to non-profits is not always priority. We thank those who were able to contribute.

The news lately has been full of cutbacks for various reasons. We were very lucky during the downturn, from 2008-2012, that we were not too adversely affected.

Lately, though, the news has not been so good. We lost our affinity with Nationwide, a grant from the PA Department of Education, and we were told that we may see a few other funding cuts down the road.

The affinity with Nationwide and the PDE funding was used to build and enhance the Trout in the Classroom program. Looking to 2014, without the help of our members, we may see this program greatly cut back.

The past few years we have sent chapters raffle tickets to sell to help fund our AmeriCorps TIC coordinator. This year we felt we needed staff to focus on TIC and also on youth and chapter programs. We hired Justin DiRado to fill this void and he is doing a fine job. The bad part is, just as we embarked on this path, the wheels started to wobble.

We need your help. In this issue we are

Chapter Donations

The following chapters have donated to further council's mission, in addition to supporting fundraisers, in 2013.

Allegheny Mtn.	Brodhead
Adams County	Mountain Laurel

beginning to sell Youth Education and Outreach Raffle tickets. Our goal is to reach \$10,000.

Consider this your chance to help keep the ball rolling for programs that not only help your chapter, but in many cases reach out to the next generation of conservationists.

There are 20 chances to win on each ticket, and like the credit card commercial says, "Who doesn't like more cash." We really need our members to support this or we may see some severe cuts to many programs in the next fiscal year.

I plan to attend both of the regional Leadership Trainings this summer to help answer questions about your chapter's financials and risk management, as well as providing a barbecue to satisfy hungry TU'ers after a day full of information.

I hope to get a chance to meet many new TU folks, and see many familiar ones.



TRAININGS

from page 1

- Cultivating new leaders
- Engaging current and new members
- Using social media and other forms of communication
- Trout Unlimited 101 – working together to achieve goals
- Engaging youth
- Finding funding/Grant writing

The ultimate goal of the trainings is to discuss topics that are of interest to chapters. A survey will be sent out later this month to chapter presidents to get feedback on information that chapters would be most interested in hearing more about.

These trainings replace the sessions that usually occur at the Fall Meeting in September. This year's Fall Meeting is scheduled for Sept. 21 at the Shaver's Creek Community Center in Petersburg, PA. More details on the meeting will be published in the next newsletter.

The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited has nearly 12,000 members in more than 50 chapters statewide, with one common goal: The conservation and enhancement of Pennsylvania's coldwater streams and fisheries, specifically our wild trout resources. Trout Unlimited is an IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, functioning for charitable, educational and scientific purposes. Donations are deductible to the extent provided by law. For information on advertising in PA Trout, call 814-692-5232, or e-mail advertising@patrout.org. See pages 2-3 for Council contact information, officers and committees. For listings of Regional VPs and Pennsylvania TU chapters, and their contact information, see pages 13-24. For TU membership information, see page 18.

Pennsylvania Trout is a supporting member of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association



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oppose stocking, but we do have serious reservations about stocking hatchery trout over viable native trout populations.

Pennsylvania was a brook trout fishing Mecca until just after the turn of the 20th century. Brook trout are our state fish and the only salmonid native to our streams. Stocking hatchery trout over native trout has been demonstrated to seriously degrade the natives, even to the point of extirpation in some cases. Preserving and protecting native trout and the streams where they live is TU's primary mission.

This is not a narrow view, by the way. Native species are declining precipitously all over the world and Pennsylvania is no exception. One of the major threats to native species is the deliberate and accidental introduction of non-natives into their habitat.

EVOLUTION OF THE EASTERN BROOK TROUT (*Salvelinus fontinalis*)

In order to understand the importance of our native salmonid and state fish, we first need to go into the history and biology of the brookie. It's a very long history.

The family Salmonidea, or salmonids, split off from the other ray-finned fishes some 105 million years ago. About 30 or 40 million years ago, the genus *Salvelinus* (the chars) split off. A million years or more ago, the brook trout evolved as the only salmonid in the coldwater streams of Pennsylvania.

Brookies survived three major Ice Ages, whenever massive sheets of ice crept down from the north. Each time, the advance halted near the NY border in the middle of and about halfway down into the eastern and western corners of the state. There were no fish or any other living creatures above the ice line for thousands of years. Pennsylvania would have been arctic tundra during these advances.

During glaciations, the ice advanced and retreated in pulses. Brook trout populations were alternately isolated for thousands of years and then reunited again, many times. During periods of isolation they developed characteristics unique to their home waters.



Brad Isles Photo

A wild brook trout caught and released on the opening day of the 2013 season.

Then when reunited, they shared genes. This created a large and malleable gene pool that allowed them to adapt to a wide range of conditions. They could inhabit lakes, ponds, rivers and small streams, even tiny trickle tributaries, as long as the water was clear and cold. This variability was, and still is, critical to their survival as a species. And they had no competition for living space as there were no other salmonids occupying the places where they found themselves as the glacier receded for the last time.

Brook trout were here long before the first native Americans set moccasin in Pennsylvania. Trout fishing as we know it here in Pennsylvania and the east began with the brook trout.

THE DECLINE

When the Europeans first arrived in Pennsylvania they immediately set to clearing the forest for farmland. This opened up streams to the sun. Silt from croplands washed into the once clean and clear, cold water so necessary to the survival of the native brook trout. As human development advanced the brook trout declined. The last major redoubt of the native brook trout in Pennsylvania was, and still is, the vast wilderness of the north-central region – “God’s Country.” It’s still a pretty good place to go for a great brook trout angling experience. But it’s nothing like it was a century ago.

In the large freestone streams of north-central Pennsylvania, brook trout averaged 9 inches. Twelve- to 14-inch fish were common and they even reached 20 inches on occasion, until about 1920. And they did even better in the limestone streams where food was far more plentiful and water levels and temperatures were more

constant.

Massive logging in the northern forests of Pennsylvania began about the middle of the 19th century. John James Audubon commented on the destruction of our vast white pine and hemlock forest in 1849. And it just got worse. By the turn of the 20th century nearly all of the forest was stripped of its timber. Nothing was spared and the slashings became tinder for terrible fires. In places the flames burned down into the soil and destroyed the deep layer of humus that acted like a sponge to soak up winter rains and melting snow, which kept streams flowing during the summer months. Big hemlocks and white pines no longer shaded the streams, so the water warmed beyond the tolerable range for brook trout. Many living at the time felt that brook trout would be extinct in Pennsylvania by the middle of the 20th century.

But the brookie turned out to be more resilient than anybody thought. That big gene pool paid off! They lived on in headwaters and tributaries where the water was still cold and clear. Until the trees grew back. Brook trout returned to many of the damaged waters as the forest grew back, but there were more assaults to come.

Unregulated coal mining during the 20th century dumped acid mine drainage into many miles of our once pristine coldwater streams, rendering them uninhabitable by most life forms. Eventually, regulations were enacted and the decline slowed. In the last 50 years or so, the conservation movement grew as TU chapters and other conservation organizations began to address abandoned mine drainage problems. But the damage done was vast. It will take many years and millions of

Continued on next page...

Support PATU youth programs through raffle tickets

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited is conducting a cash raffle, proceeds from which will be used to support Trout in the Classroom and other PATU youth education and outreach initiatives.

Through your past financial support of our previous raffles, the TIC program has grown to include nearly 200 participating schools. Your support for this year's raffle will help ensure continued growth for this popular educational program and support

...Continued from previous page

dollars to reverse it.

And acid deposition, mostly from coal-burning power plants, has acidified many headwater streams – the last refuge of the brook trout. Many streams in the Appalachian Plateau now have seriously depleted or extirpated brook trout populations because of acid rain and snow.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NON-NATIVES

Brown trout were brought to Pennsylvania from Germany and England about 1868. Many old-time anglers like Charles Lose (*The Vanishing Trout*) were disdainful of these foreigners. Brown trout were said to be coarse-scaled and of poor quality in the frying pan. And they had a nasty tendency to feed sporadically, unlike the usually willing brookie. But other anglers saw the brown as a superior quarry because they were said to be much more likely to take a dry fly. I have no idea where that came from, as brookies feed almost exclusively on the surface most of the time and readily take dry flies. They just aren't particular as to what pattern – a very admirable quality as far as I'm concerned. They can be very fussy on occasion, however, if they're being fished over regularly.

It seems our European ancestors had a tendency to believe that anything brought in from somewhere else was superior to whatever was living here at the time. Often exotic species have a problem catching on when they are introduced into

		Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited	
NAME		Education and Outreach Raffle SGOC# 3782	
ADDRESS			Winners 1-4: \$50
CITY, STATE, ZIP			Winner 5: \$250
PHONE NUMBER			Winners 6-9: \$50
NUMBER OF TICKETS PURCHASED			Winner 10: \$250
Drawing will take place April 12, 2014, in Bellefonte, PA at 12:00PM.			Winners 11-14: \$50
			Winner 15: \$250
			Winners 16-19: \$50
			Winner 20: \$500
			Winners 16-19: \$50
			Winner 20: \$500
			\$5.00 a chance
		Drawing will take place April 12, 2014 in Bellefonte, PA at 12:00PM.	

new initiatives.

The raffle tickets sell for \$5 each and can be ordered by sending a check to "PA Council of TU" at P.O. Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823.

Prizes will be awarded in the order of

the tickets drawn starting at noon on April 12, 2014.

Please do your part to ensure PATU's successful future for Trout in the Classroom and purchase your tickets before April 12, 2014.

a new environment. But when they do get established they can drive out native species in a very short period of time. There is no mercy in the wild. Brown trout now dominate most of our limestone spring creeks and many of the lower, more fertile and warmer reaches of our freestone streams.

Not only were brown trout planted into our streams, but rainbows as well. They were brought in from the west coast in order to "broaden" the angling experience. They didn't catch on nearly as well in Pennsylvania as they have in other places, but there are a few streams here with naturally reproducing rainbow trout. This is not the case in the southern Appalachians, however. There, rainbows have displaced brookies in a majority of the coldwater streams. A massive effort to restore southern strain brook trout is underway, but it is an expensive and almost monumental task. Even when non-native trout are removed to below barriers (natural or man-made), they often come back. And where the barriers are effective, anglers who prefer catching the exotics simply haul them back in.

Native species of all kinds are under assault, not just here in Pennsylvania, but the world over. Our state fish is no exception. Modern transportation has dragged all kinds of unwanted species into places where they can run amok and dominate the landscape. Native plants, animals and fishes of Pennsylvania are under threat as they have never been

before. Opening of the forest by deep gas drilling, even if spills are kept to a minimum, is a very tangible threat. The list of threats to our natives is a long one and growing longer every year.

Brook trout are extremely susceptible to angling pressure, and stocking draws angling pressure. It also fosters the notion that trout can be easily and cheaply replaced by the state. Stocking of many streams with native brook trout populations continues, often with non-native brown and rainbow trout. It's as if we keep making the same mistake over and over again.

The brook trout has been the loser to brown trout in all but the uppermost, and therefore least fertile, stream sections in the east. That's why brook trout now seldom get much over 10 inches. The streams where they still predominate are just too small and infertile to grow them much bigger.

The brookie has endured, but we have lost them completely in 34 percent of the stream mileage where they once swam. Their numbers are greatly reduced in another 39 percent. Only about 10 percent is still relatively intact.

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE

So we in TU have to make some choices. We haven't lost brook trout as a species, but we have lost a lot.

Let's try to consider the past and what it has shown us. With a little tender, loving care maybe we can get back some of the former glory that Pennsylvania's brook trout fishery once was.

PA COUNCIL OF TROUT UNLIMITED

*Highlights of the March 15, 2013
Executive Committee Meeting
PFBC Conference Room
Pleasant Gap, PA*

Officers attending were Ken Undercoffer, Charlie Charlesworth, George Kutskel, Bob Pennell, Monty Murty, Greg Malaska, Mark Hanes, Fred Bohls and Fred Gender.

Also in attendance were Samantha Kutskel, Justin DiRado, Steve Bloser and Michele Kittell.

The Treasurer's Report dated 2/28/13 was presented and approved, with Treasurer George Kutskel reporting that \$29,715 in chapter rebates had been received this year from National TU. After announcing that the PA Dept. of Education \$5,000 grant for Trout in the Classroom would not be forthcoming this year, approval was given to reallocate \$5,000 in Council funds for this purpose.

This year's TIC raffle will be based on awarding 20 prizes totaling \$2,500 in cash, with a goal of raising \$10,000. Program Director Samantha Kutskel plans to distribute flyers to all fly shops in PA to promote the raffle. Council is also in need of sponsors for the 2014 Keystone Coldwater Conference.

There was discussion about the PFBC proposal to enhance the brook trout population by eliminating rainbow trout from Big Spring in Cumberland County, and it was determined that consultation will be needed with the Cumberland Valley Chapter before EXCOM can comment further on this proposal.

There is growing concern over PFBC's limited control of the effluent discharges from co-op hatcheries, as well as where these hatcheries are stocking their fish. PFBC is expected to announce at their April meeting the detailed results to date for their Brook Trout Enhancement Program.

The Youth Education Committee is developing a presentation for sportsmen's and conservation groups as a means to increase youth membership. The Forbes Trail Chapter's youth program is available

to offer guidelines that other chapters can follow.

Approval was granted to contract for a bulk email service for Council's exclusive use, with the incentive of offering members a chance in a drawing for a Ned Smith print to sign up.

Samantha Kutskel is seeking more active participation from women members across the state to get involved with the newly-formed Women's Committee. A women's retreat is being planned for sometime this fall.

Dirt & Gravel Roads Program Director Steve Bloser of PSU presented an overview of the program and what has been accomplished since its inception in 1997. He also reported that funding for the program has not been cut in this year's state budget.

Wildlife Leadership Academy Director Michele Kittell presented her plans for conducting a "Brookie Camp" at the Lock Haven Sieg Center in July. Various PATU personnel will act as consultants to help flesh out the program.

NLC Representative Monty Murty plans to identify a candidate from PA to promote as a "grassroots" member to serve on the National TU Board of Trustees. It was also suggested that National President Chris Wood be invited to attend a future EXCOM meeting.

Program Coordinator Justin DiRado presented a comparison of Council's Year-end Appeal results for the three years since its inception. The total for 2012 was \$13,486, up \$2,836 over 2011, with 58



fewer donors but with the average donation increasing from \$38.45 to \$60.75. Justin also announced a new PATU Facebook page which is geared to youth education.

Samantha Kutskel announced that leadership training will be conducted July 27 in Emmaus and Aug. 3 in DuBois, with regional meetings to be scheduled in conjunction with these dates.

Approval was given for Council to sponsor one student plus pay for TU youth memberships for the Wildlife Academy "Brookie Camp," and sponsor two students for the TU Mehaffey Rivers Camp.

The Art Bradford-Northern Tier and Kettle Creek chapters have been de-chartered by National after repeated attempts by Council over the past year failed to generate sufficient interest in reorganization. Another attempt will be made by Council at revitalizing the Columbia County Chapter with an organizational event this spring. The North Central Region is still in need of a regional VP.

Charlie Charlesworth reported that National TU is expected to make a decision in June on Council's proposal to host the 2015 annual meeting in Scranton. Samantha Kutskel proposed a change in venues for the fall EXCOM meeting. Instead of holding it the same day as the annual membership meeting at Shaver's Creek Environmental Center, it will be rescheduled for the following day at the PFBC Stackhouse facility at Fisherman's Paradise.

– Bob Pennell, Council Secretary



Purchase a Quality PATU Fly Rod for 100 Bucks!

State Council is offering for sale custom-built fly rods in 9-foot, 5-weight, 4-piece for just \$100 each + tax and shipping, which includes a nylon-covered hard tube case. These rods are built on medium-fast olive green blanks with gold wraps over smoked chrome guides. The reel seat fitted to the half wells style cork grip is of graphite construction with double locking rings. Each rod carries the inscription "PA Council of Trout Unlimited" and the PATU logo is embroidered on the case. Council reserves the right to limit quantities on individual sales. Send your order to: PA Trout Unlimited, PO Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823, and include a check payable to "PATU" for \$116 (\$100 + \$6 sales tax + \$10 shipping & handling).



Todd Puleo Photo

Opportunities to fish for wild trout are plentiful in the Pine Creek Watershed.

Pine Creek Watershed's wild trout need fans

By Mark Hanes
PATU NW Region VP

You find yourself on a small stream deep in the wilds of Appalachia. The cold water rushes over your waders as you work your way upstream, anxious to hook up on the next true treasure that this little stream has to offer.

Yes, you could be on any number of trout streams that offer the opportunity to fish for wild trout in the northern part of Pennsylvania. Today, the stream making your perfect day just happens to be located in the Pine Creek Watershed. It may be Slate Run, Cedar Run, Asaph Run, Lyman Run, or any of the others that are home to native brook trout and wild browns.

If you are looking for where to start, just grab a Gazetteer, hook up your GPS and have at it. In many of these streams the pattern of choice is not all that important, though the fish may be spooky. Any well-presented dry fly or nymph will do.

As the summer goes on, terrestrials are often your best choice. Don't overlook the green weenie or inch worm patterns. I have watched fish move several feet to attack these flies in the summer.

If I am fishing dries I usually keep it simple. An Adams will usually work.

Some streams do offer great opportunities to match a hatch. Cedar and Slate both boast good hatches throughout the year: Hendricksons, BWO's, March Browns, Brown and Green Drakes, and isonychias (Slate Drake), to name a few. Check with local hatch charts for the general times of emergence, or call one of the local fly shops and they will gladly help you out.

Set up base camp in Galetton to fish the upper Pine region, or in Slate Run if you want to fish the Tiadaghton State Forest area. One thing that really sets this area apart from other larger watersheds in PA is its vast amount of public land. Yes, it is dotted with camps and some small towns, but it is also home to seven state parks. If you are looking for places to spend the day with family, opportunities are there.

I am a big fan of Lyman Run State Park for its fishing, swimming and boating opportunities. You can spend the day fishing for native brook trout in Lyman Run and your evening can be well spent casting to rising trout in Lyman Lake. Camping is within walking distance of the lake and has well maintained facilities on site. Little Pine State Park in the southern area of the watershed offers the same amenities, along with some good warm water fishing op-

See **PINE**, page 10

2013 PATU Calendar

April 28: Wayne's Coldwater Kids youth outing on Spruce Creek. Event is limited to 40 kids. Registration is closed.

June 16-21: Pennsylvania Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp at Allenberry Resort, Boiling Springs.

June 29: Summer EXCOM Meeting at PFBC facility, Pleasant Gap.

July 6: *PA Trout* summer issue deadline.

July 9-13: Wildlife Leadership Academy Pennsylvania Brookies Camp at the Sieg Center in Clinton County.

July 19-21: TU Northeast Regional Meeting in the Catskills, NY. Visit www.tu.org for more information.

July 27: Chapter Leadership Training at the Wildlands Conservancy, Emmaus. Visit the calendar at www.patrou.org for more information.

Aug. 3: Chapter Leadership Training at St. Joseph Church, DuBois. Visit the calendar at www.patrou.org for more information.

Aug. 4-8: River Researcher Teen Camp at Mahaffey Camp and Conference Center. Visit <http://www.wbsrc.org/teencamp/default.html> for more information.

Sept. 21: PATU Annual Fall Meeting at Shaver's Creek Community Center near Petersburg, PA. This will be a one-day event to better accommodate members. No lodging will be provided.

Sept. 22: Fall EXCOM meeting at PFBC Stackhouse Training Center, Bellefonte, PA.

Oct. 5: *PA Trout* fall issue deadline.

To stay up to date with the latest news from PA Council, please visit www.patrou.org.

PINE CREEK

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portunities. If you are looking for a break from fishing, or if you want to see some breathtaking sites, Pine Creek Gorge – “The Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania” – is a must visit. It is nationally-recognized as a natural landmark, and making one visit to explore is all you need to see why.

It is easy to see what makes the Pine Creek area a special place, and why it’s worth protecting and preserving its beauty and wild trout for future generations to enjoy. The area has escaped many threats like mining and gas extraction in the past. Unfortunately, it is currently a hot spot in the shale gas extraction boom. The economic impacts are welcome, but we really don’t know what the true cost to its natural resources will be.

Trout Unlimited is lucky to have a strong presence in the upper headwaters. Good work is being done by the Coldwater

Conservation Corps of the God’s Country Chapter in Potter County. They are out there every week monitoring water quality and keeping an eye out for any issues that may arise as a result of gas extraction occurring in the area. There is a large amount of water being used for hydro-fracking wells – 100,000 gallons or more per well. Water is being drawn from the local watershed and many of its smaller watersheds can’t support significant withdrawals during periods of low flow. Eyes in the field are needed so we can do our due diligence to make sure this does not happen and become a problem before it’s too late.

If you are interested in becoming a CCC volunteer please watch PATU’s website for future trainings, or contact your local TU chapter on how to get involved.

I encourage you to head out to the Pine Creek Valley and pick one of the many streams that support true Class A populations of wild trout, and find out what lies upstream during your next adventure into one of Pennsylvania’s special places.

Council now offering ‘Series Two’ logo fly rods

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited has introduced its “Series Two” logoed fly rods, which are now available for ordering on the PATU website.

The limited edition rods are 7-foot, 4-piece and 2-weight with “PA Council of Trout Unlimited” inscribed on the reel seat.

They are similar to the 6½-foot, 3-weight rods Council has been offering, but built to a higher quality standard.

The new rods are the GS2 Series built by Greys (Hardy/Grey’s, Ltd., whose U.S. distribution facility is in Lancaster, PA).

Rods are \$130, which includes shipping and taxes. All rods come with a cloth sack and clear plastic tube. The rods will be covered by the Grey’s warranty. Also included will be a PATU decal that can be applied to the tube or displayed in your vehicle window.

Check out the “Merchandise” page on the PATU website at www.patrou.org where you will find a photo and ordering information. Contact George Kutskel at maksak@comcast.net with questions. Supplies will be limited.

Don’t miss this opportunity and be forced to wait for “Series Three” rods at some point in the future.

PATU Polo Shirts Now Available!

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited is now offering polo shirts in two styles.

The polo shirts come in navy blue with the PATU logo on the left. Cost of a shirt without a pocket is \$25, a shirt with a pocket is \$30. This price includes shipping and handling. There will also be a \$3.00 charge for 2XL and 3XL shirts.

All individual orders for polo shirts will be batched and placed at one time. Please place your order by Sept. 1 to ensure you receive your shirt in the first shipment.

Orders placed by Sept. 1 will be delivered in November. Please check the “Merchandise” page periodically at www.patrou.org for information on future ordering deadlines.



Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Shirt size ____ S ____ M ____ L ____ XL ____ 2XL* ____ 3XL*

No pocket ____ \$25.00 *\$3.00 additional for 2XL and 3XL

With pocket ____ \$30.00

Send orders to: PATU | PO Box 5148 | Bellefonte, PA 16823

Make check payable to PA Trout

Practice casting game sales benefit veteran programming

PATU is selling a fly casting practice game, which are available for \$20.

The kit contains a blue mat that represents water, four pins to hold it in the ground, a fish that looks like a tarpon and three weighted flies. They make excellent teaching tools for youth programs. Contact George Kutskel at maksak@comcast.net to order or work out a special deal on a case of 10.

All proceeds go toward veterans service projects.

AWARDS

from page 1

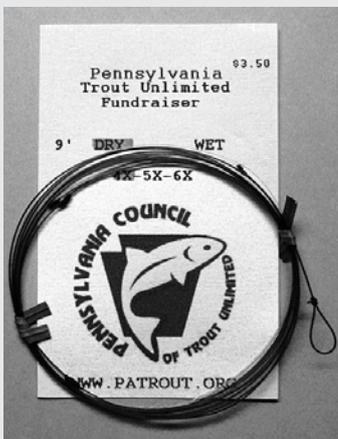
.....
Committee would like to be inundated by nominations and be forced to work overtime to make choices. If you have a group, chapter or individual you feel is worthy of a nomination, **please consider filling out a nomination form.** Nominations are due by July 31.

They may be emailed to Samantha Kutskel at skutskel@coldwaterheritage.org or mailed to her at P.O. Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823. Please include a brief written justification for the nomination, clearly stated award for which the person or group is being nominated, and the nominator's name and contact information (email, phone number and mailing address). For certain awards, there are specific people as indicated below who should receive the nomination form.

Following is a list of awards with a brief description of criteria for each:

- **Chapter with greatest membership increase** – Determined from National TU data.
- **Chapter with greatest percentage increase in membership** – Determined from National TU data.
- **Edward Urbas Award for Best PA Chapter** – This award is given to the chapter that best exemplifies the work of TU, including involvement in conservation efforts, community activities, outreach, youth activities, etc.
- **Best Small Chapter Award** – We will use the same criteria as used in the Edward Urbas Award, but this classification is limited to chapters with 150 or fewer members.
- **Best Chapter Project** – We are looking for work that is either unusual, demonstrates efficient use of resources, involves other organizations, or is notable for other reasons.
- **Doc Fritchey Award for Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist, TU Member** – Who do you know that has a history of exemplifying the TU mission? Who is your “go-to guy” for projects, problems or advice?
- **Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist, Professional** – Who have you worked with, either from a governmental agency or private enterprise, that was particularly helpful in helping you fulfill the TU mission?
- **Outstanding Volunteer** – Who do you know, or have worked with, that particularly contributed time and effort to helping a TU chapter or project, either one-time or ongoing, and was not necessarily a member of TU or a conservationist professional.
- **Best Chapter Website** – Is your website particularly attractive, clear, up-to-date and easy to navigate? If so, send nominations to Brad Isles at bisles@live.com.
- **Samuel Slaymaker Award for Best Chapter Newsletter** – If your newsletter has information about your chapter's activities that is current, is well-presented and clear, and is visually attractive, you may very well win this award. Send nominations, with a few copies of the newsletter, to Brad Isles at PO Box 23, Grove City, PA 16127.
- **Dr. Jack Beck Award for Outstanding Youth Outreach** – Do you have a particularly active program for youngsters, or are you involved in a number of programs or unusual programs? If so, submit your choice and reasons to Eric Wilson at ericwilson1947@hotmail.com.
- **Ken Sink Award for Outstanding Service to PATU** – This award is given to a person who contributes to PATU's mission in a notable way. It is intended to be given to people who have been involved for significant periods of time, and who have demonstrated unusual dedication. It is not necessarily presented every year.
- **Inky Moore Award for Outstanding Service to State Council** – This award is meant to recognize a person who would be considered an “up-and-comer” in PATU and demonstrates dedication to its mission and shows promise as a future major leader of the organization.

HIGH QUALITY LEADERS FOR AS LITTLE AS \$3 EACH!



Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited is offering the opportunity for individuals or chapters to purchase high quality hand-knotted tapered leaders in an assortment of types and sizes. These leaders feature Maxima material of several different types and are the very same leaders that retail for about 5 bucks in several leading fly shops.

DRY FLY LEADERS

Available in 9-foot lengths, featuring Maxima Chameleon hard butt and next 3 sections, with Maxima Ultragreen softer mid-sections and 24 inch tippets. Available with 4X, 5X or 6X tippets.

WET FLY LEADERS

Available in 9-foot lengths, featuring two droppers tied with mason hard knots and Maxima clear tippet sections. Available with 4X or 5X tippets.

HOW TO ORDER

Individuals: Leaders can be purchased for \$4.00 each or in minimum quantities of 10 or more for \$3.50 each. Chapters: Can order 10 or more leaders at \$3.00 each, payable by chapter check.

Send your order, along with a check payable to “PATU” to PA Trout Unlimited, PO Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823. Please be sure to specify type and size required.

PATU Awards 2013 Nomination Form

The 2013 Pennsylvania Trout Unlimited Awards will be presented at the annual meeting in September. Now is the time to nominate those chapters and individuals who have done outstanding work for Trout Unlimited.

Please submit nominations by July 31, 2013.

The awards are as follows:

- Edward Urbas Award for Best Chapter
- Best Chapter Project
- Best Small Chapter for Chapters with 150 or Fewer Members
- Dr. Jack Beck Award for Outstanding Youth Outreach

- Dr. John A. "Doc" Fritchey Award for Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist (TU member)
- Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist (professional)
- Outstanding Volunteer
- Inky Moore Award for Outstanding Service to Council
- Ken Sink Memorial Award for Long-term Service to Council.
- Best Chapter Website
- Samuel Slaymaker Award for Best Chapter Newsletter

Many chapters are involved in projects and issues that would not be completed

without the efforts of individuals committed to TU's mission.

Included below is the nomination form. Please copy and circulate it at your meetings. Questions should be directed to Samantha Kutskel, PATU program director, at 814-359-5233. Should you run out of space on the form, feel free to continue on a separate page.

The nomination form will also be posted on the PATU website for download. Printed copies can be mailed to: Samantha Kutskel at P.O. Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823 or emailed to skutskel@coldwaterheritage.org.

Awards Nomination

Fill out, clip and except where otherwise indicated mail this nomination form to: Samantha Kutskel, P.O. Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823. You may also download it from www.patrou.org and mail to the same address. Scanned submissions can be emailed to skutskel@coldwaterheritage.org. Call with questions at 814-359-5233. **The deadline for nominations is July 31.**

Your Name: _____ **Email:** _____

Telephone Number(s): _____

Name of Chapter/Person You Wish To Nominate: _____

Check one:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>_____ Edward Urbas Best Chapter</p> <p>_____ Best Chapter Project</p> <p>_____ Best Small Chapter (150 or fewer members)</p> <p>_____ Dr. Jack Beck Award for Outstanding Youth Outreach (Send to Eric Wilson at ericwilson1947@hotmail.com)</p> <p>_____ Ken Sink Memorial (not presented every year) For an individual who has made long-term significant contributions through their work with state council</p> <p>_____ Inky Moore Outstanding Contributions to PATU's Conservation Mission</p> | <p>_____ Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist, TU Member (Doctor John A. Fritchey Jr. Award)</p> <p>_____ Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist, Professional</p> <p>_____ Outstanding Volunteer (Person who contributed time or effort in helping a TU chapter or project, either one time or ongoing; doesn't need to be a member or conservation professional)</p> <p>_____ Samuel Slaymaker For Best Newsletter (Send copies of at least 3 recent issues or email to Brad Isles at bisles@live.com)</p> <p>_____ Best Chapter Website (Contact Brad Isles at bisles@live.com)</p> |
|---|--|

What particular characteristics, accomplishments or attributes merit consideration of this individual or chapter for this award?

(Continue on a separate page if necessary.)

NORTHEAST CHAPTERS

Brodhead 289

Forks of the Delaware 482

Hokendauqua 535

Lackawanna Valley 414

Monocacy 491

Pike-Wayne 462

Schuylkill County 537

Stan Cooper Sr. 251

Western Pocono 203

be sending data to the website. Trish Attardo, our local watershed specialist with the Monroe County Conservation District, will be testing in the Tobyhanna and Tunkahannock Watershed. Chapter member Rich Newell is testing in the Middle Creek and Pohopoco Creek areas of southwest Monroe County. We are still running TIC in the Pocono Mountain School District. The program is being supervised by Matt Piro, a science teacher who is a former student of Todd Burns, principal at Pocono Mountain East High School and our chapter vice president. On March 9 we provided instruction at the Monroe County Environmental Education Center's "Fly Fishing Seminar." We demonstrated equipment, gave a PowerPoint on entomology with actual preserved samples, tied flies for door prizes and taught basic casting in the parking lot. The April 10 chapter meeting was held on McMichael Creek. We toured the stream where our conservation project was just completed. On April 28, we are planting tree seedlings in SGL 127 along Route 423 by the new bridge over Tobyhanna Creek to develop a riparian zone and shade the water which exposed due to construction of the bridge.

Forks of the Delaware Chapter #482

Joe Baylog

610-761-9116, baylogj@gmail.com

Website: www.forkstu.org

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month, except July and August, at Stockertown Rod & Gun Club at 7 p.m. VP Thom Beverly attended the PATU leadership call held on Jan. 17. Our 11 annual spring event was March 16. Guest speaker was Jack Fekula, who gave a program called "Yellowstone National Park and the Yellowstone Volunteer Fly Fishing Program." The chapter hosted a table at Stockertown Rod & Gun Club's Outdoor Sports Flea Market on March 17. Chapter fly tying classes were a big success. Over 23 students learned the techniques and skills involved in fly tying at Arndt's Lutheran Church in Forks Township. Forks TU Chapter President Joe Baylog was the presenter to the class, and Forks TU members Thom Beverly, Steve Pacovich, Joe Velopolcak, Jerry Haas, Brian Kress, Dave Kubich, Norm Benton,

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Greg Malaska

218 W. 13th St.

Jim Thorpe, PA 16229

Email: gregmalaska@gmail.com

Phone: 570-657-7169

Brodhead Chapter #289

Tom Battista

570-236-1734, mooseow1511@gmail.com

Website: www.brodheadtu.org

Scott Cesari led our basic and intermediate fly tying classes in January and February. Scott has developed an excellent program in which the students tie flies in a progression, with each new fly building on the skills learned to tie the previous ones. He also has a website with links to YouTube videos he created so the students can review at any time. We hosted the annual "Kids Tournament" on April 13, opening day, with the Knights of Columbus, Stroud Township and PFBC. Each year we host a free contest for the children with food and a prize for every child to encourage them to fish. We are having a trip to fish the Beaverkill, Wilowemoc and East Branch of the Delaware in May. Details are on the chapter website. We held this trip last May and it has become very popular. Those attending receive a CD with hatch charts, pictures of the pools, maps and driving directions. Will Daskal, chapter secretary, has worked very hard in producing the information. We have a block of 10 rooms, which allows 20 people to go. We carpool in teams to each site we fish, so no one fishes alone. Our banquet was March 15 at the Stroudsmoor Inn. On Feb. 23, we hosted Coldwater Conservation Corps training at East Stroudsburg University. Brodhead Watershed Association sent several members who are already testing sites in the Upper Brodhead Watershed for effluent. They will be adding the CCC testing to those sites and also cross-training their BWA testing staff. BWA has three kits to cover that area. Bonnie Smith of our chapter has been already testing in the Upper Lehigh Watershed and will

Continued on next page...



PATU BASEBALL HATS - Buy Now!

PA Council is offering these top-quality baseball hats in khaki, camouflage and navy (not shown). Each hat is \$15, which includes shipping and handling.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Color(s): _____ Khaki _____ Camouflage _____ Navy Blue

Amount Enclosed (\$15/each) _____

Send form or info and check payable to "PATU" to:
PA Trout | PO Box 5148 | Bellefonte, PA 16823

...Continued from previous page

Darcy Dillion and Bill Heffner assisted students. Several chapter leaders attended an informational meeting on Jan. 24 held by Buzzi Unicem USA (Hercules Cement) in Stockertown regarding development of a quarry. A follow-up meeting with their hydrologist was requested when more data becomes available. Buzzi Unicem USA also reported on an environmental stewardship project to grow switchgrass for biofuel production on their property to help offset their carbon footprint. The chapter hosted a booth at Adventures in Agriculture held at the Palmer Park Mall, Easton, from Feb. 8-10. We had our chapter's educational display and Stream Explorer handouts and coloring pictures for the kids, and tied flies. We also had "My Healthy Stream" books available. Nazareth Middle School held its TIC release day on April 19 at Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center (JEEC) and Wind Gap Middle School is holding their release on May 22, also at JEEC. Our Feb. 6 meeting featured PFBC WCO Jeff Sabo and PFBC biologist Bryan Chikotas, who discussed the 2012 PFBC electro-fishing survey of Bushkill Creek and some of the stresses on the creek. An upgrade for Schoeneck Creek from WWF to a coldwater classification was also discussed. This is something the chapter supports and feels needs to be corrected. At the request of the Brodhead chapter, our chapter sent a support letter for the upgrade of Cranberry Creek to exceptional value.

Hokendauqua Chapter #535

Dave Abraham

610-844-3459, dabraham@rcn.com

Website: <http://mysite.verizon.net/vze26x43/hokendauquachaptertroutunlimited>

We have chapter T-shirts and caps for sale, and lanyards made by Mike Churetta for \$20. A time extension was granted for the chapter's Embrace-A-Stream grant for the project on Hokendauqua Creek to be completed by the end of 2013. Due to the poor weather conditions in 2012 it was impossible to move any heavy equipment at the project area. On Jan. 10, board members Dale Ott, Al Herman, Mike Churetta, Jack Fakula, Greg Scheirer, Art Williams, Will Kline and Erv Ulshafer, along with Lehigh County WCO Lee Cryer, walked along Coplay Creek. It was determined that this small Class B stream needs a lot of stream bank restoration work from the village of Ormrod to the confluence with the Lehigh River. The chapter is planning to move forward with research on this section of the stream. Another meeting with representatives of PFBC and chapter members was March 12. The four chapters in the Lehigh Valley completed their annual eight-week fly tying course held at Northampton Middle School. Forty-four students and 31 instructors participated this year. Of the

44 students, 17 youths under 18 and eight Project Healing Waters vets attended. The course was staffed with instructors from the Hokendauqua, Monocacy, Forks of the Delaware and Little Lehigh Chapters. Extended fly tying is offered by the chapter. A Project Healing Waters event is scheduled for May 4 at Dr. Robert Saks pond. Vets learn fly casting, fly tying and enjoy fly fishing for trout stocked in the pond for the event. Monthly meetings are held at Catasauqua High School on the third Wednesday of each month from September through June. At our January meeting, Brando Evans, a senior at Parkland High School, gave a presentation on his trip to the Outdoor Leadership School in Wyoming. In February, Phil Hublitz discussed his trip fishing out west. In March, Samantha Kutskel talked about "What's new in TU."

Lackawanna Valley Chapter #414

Gary Smith

570-718-0686, tu414@comcast.net

Website: www.lackawannavalleytu.org

Our new website is up and all information is current. We are holding a pig roast and raffle as our annual fundraiser. Our success last year has caused us to seek a different location with more parking. The chapter purchased copies of the book "My Healthy Stream," which will be given free to landowners along Liggett's Creek as part of our stream improvement project. We continue to work with local conservation groups on monitoring the health of the Lackawanna River. The Lackawanna has been reclassified as a Class A trout stream down to the Greenridge Bridge in Scranton. We continue to monitor water quality on several streams near gas well drilling sites. Our TU Teen fly fishing class, which runs from February to May, at the Dunmore YMCA doubled in size from last year's class. This year we have 12 students, six of them Boy Scouts working toward the fly fishing merit badge.

Monocacy Chapter #491

Erik Broesicke

610-909-2652, monocacytu491@gmail.com

Website: www.monocacytu.org

Our monthly meetings are the fourth Tuesday of the month. Tony Ballato of the Candlewood Lakes Chapter in Connecticut spoke at our March meeting. He presented his experiences of fishing in Labrador, Canada. Our February meeting was an extremely well attended presentation by chapter member Bob Signorello, which was titled "Advanced Subsurface Fly Fishing Techniques." We participated in the annual joint chapter event on March 16. Our conservation efforts are still focused on small dam removal and several other projects along the Monocacy. We

received permission from landowners to pursue the removal of a dam located in the trophy trout section of the stream. The dam is only about three feet high, but creates a large slow pool extending about 100 yards upstream. Removal of the dam will promote a narrowing of the channel and better sediment control. We also plan to meet with a retirement community developer in the same area to see if they can assist with the dam removal and possibly improve their stormwater management plan. The chapter has also contributed photos of aquatic trout foods and their corresponding flies to be used in a display at Fox Environmental Center. The display will be titled: "Wild About Trout and Mad for Shad - Brooks, Rainbows, Browns, Herrings and Bugs: The connection between clean water, the art of fishing, healthy fish and the food they love." We will also be helping to spread the word about the importance of a stream restoration project at Illick's Mill Park. The park is popular with local residents, and is an important opening day location for many fishermen. The project will significantly change the look of the park, but in the end will provide much better habitat for trout.



BUY SPECIAL PATU FLY BOXES

High quality, waterproof, double-sided fly boxes, featuring see-through lids and micro-foam inserts, which will accommodate over 200 flies, are now available from PATU. These boxes are 5" long by 4" wide by 1-3/4" thick and will include a PATU logo decal that can be applied to the box or used wherever you choose. Send this form or same information:

Name _____

Mail Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Quantity _____ / Amount _____

Price: \$20.00/box, including tax, shipping and handling.

Send form or info and check payable to "PATU" to: PA Trout Unlimited, PO Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823

We have also gotten interest from two middle school teachers about the TIC program, and we will be working to get them up and running as soon as possible.

Pike Wayne Chapter #462

Matt Wishneski

570-685-5420, mattwishneski@gmail.com

Website: www.pwtu.org

Cabin fever fly tying sessions were held at our January and February meetings. Our annual banquet was April 6 at Lukan's Farm Resort in Hawley. We are continuing to monitor water quality for baseline data in Marcellus shale areas.

Schuylkill County Chapter #537

John Bondura

570-640-5300, jgbond@verizon.net

Wayne Maurer, Rich Kovitch, Dave Derbes and John Bondura attended a meeting of the Schuylkill Headwaters Association on identifying the pollution sources on Big Creek, a tributary to the Schuylkill River. SCTU hosted a presentation by the SHA regarding Schuylkill County watersheds. President John Bondura accepted the 2013 Conservationist Award on behalf of the chapter, presented by the PA Outdoor Writers Association. Wayne Maurer and Rich Kovitch continue to monitor water quality in local streams. Chapter members gave a presentation on the chapter to the Tamaqua Area Chamber of Commerce. A similar presentation was given to the Schuylkill County Chamber of Commerce. Fly tying classes were held at Sweet Arrow Lake with 30 students receiving training from Bruce Schneck, Tony Mione, Bruce Herb, Ivan Willard and Dave Derbes. Members put on a two-day tying seminar for Captains Day at Cabela's. SCTU will give a fly tying presentation at the annual game dinner in Bethel. Upcoming events include a Big Brothers Big Sisters outing on May 4, family fishing at Sweet Arrow Lake in partnership with Schuylkill County Sportsmen's Advisory Board on May 5, Make-A-Wish trout derby at S&A trout ponds on May 5, Freidensburg Youth Camp on May 18, Bear Creek festival May 18-19, Norm Thornburg Camp June 13-15 and our picnic on Aug. 24.

Stanley Cooper, Sr. Chapter #251

Heide Cebrick

570-675-4881, heide@baut.com

Website: www.sctu.org

Our chapter has enjoyed steady attendance and terrific speakers at our membership meetings. The attendance incentive raffle is very popular and worked in this effort. Our January meeting featured guest speaker Greg Malaska, Northeast

Region VP and chairman of the membership committee. Greg informed members of topics from Council and did his presentation on the "College Outreach Initiative." Greg's program laid out a very logical and systematic way to try to reach out to colleges in our area. We formed a committee to proceed with the college outreach initiative, which is headed by board member Rob Gaiteri with Steve and Mary Seyfert assisting. Our February speaker was Jim Krul, executive director of the Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum. Jim presented a fascinating "History of the Dry Fly" and showed artifacts of the museum as well. The museum was presented with a check from our chapter. Members were very impressed and the museum and gained five new members from our chapter. Our March speaker was outdoor writer and lecturer Bob Ballantyne who presented a program titled "Fisheries Biology and Native Fisheries Restoration in Yellowstone National Park." Bob described how National Park Service biologists in Yellowstone have embarked on ambitious efforts to preserve genetically pure populations of several species of native fish in some park waters. These include two subspecies of the cutthroat trout – the famous Yellowstone cutthroats and the West Slope cutthroats – and the arctic grayling. Bob is a retired high school and community college instructor in the biological sciences, long-time fly angler, and has visited Yellowstone annually for the past 27 years. Chapter members and members from other chapters continue with the monthly Project Healing Waters program. It moved indoors for the winter meeting to Liberty Hall at the VAMC in Wilkes-Barre. This room change was necessary because the number of monthly participants has grown so much. Each month, program volunteers have a series of learning stations for the participants. Veterans new to the program get an overall view of fly fishing while our more seasoned vets can focus on specific areas they want to improve. Learning stations include fly tying, knot tying, stream entomology and casting. Our program was recently part of the annual review at our VAMC. The review is when the VAMC showcases programs and areas they are most proud of for their regional director. Program lead Heide Cebrick is honored the local PHW program is considered such a valuable asset to our vets by the Wilkes-Barre VAMC and very grateful to the support of the SCTU board. Rich and Cindy Grecavich continue to keep our members informed of upcoming events through the newsletter and public relations. The Wyoming Valley Fly Tyers, headed by Rich Grecavich, continue to meet monthly. More tyers continue to join in this enjoyable evening held the third Tuesday of the month at the VFW in Kingston. Fly tying lessons began and 15 students and adults are learning this art. Mike Romanowski, chairman, and his teachers, Rich Grecavich, Scott Brady, Joe Gruszkiewicz, Jr., and Brian Jameson are doing a terrific job keeping the

instruction interesting and fun. Jay Downs and Dave Cebrick announced the annual Adult Fly Fishing Camp will be May 11 at the American Legion in Mountaintop. Joe Ackourey has begun soliciting interest for the annual Youth Camp to be held on June 8. Joe has been organizing this event for many years and has it down to a science. The youths will enjoy learning stations and fishing in this all-day camp with lunch and snacks provided by the chapter. Chapter webmaster Philip Mancini continues to keep the website updated. President Cebrick is working with the Women's Committee and looks forward to introducing members of a women's organization she is involved with to TU. Plans for our 23rd annual banquet on Sept. 18 at the East Mountain Inn, Wilkes-Barre have already begun. Board members continue to monitor environmental issues on Bowmans Creek, the Lehigh and Delaware rivers, and offered to help with the Solomon Creek Watershed. Board member Brian Jameson walked Shades Creek with Joe Vinton, manager of the Bear Creek Preserve of the Natural Lands Trust discussing the possibility for a future joint project.

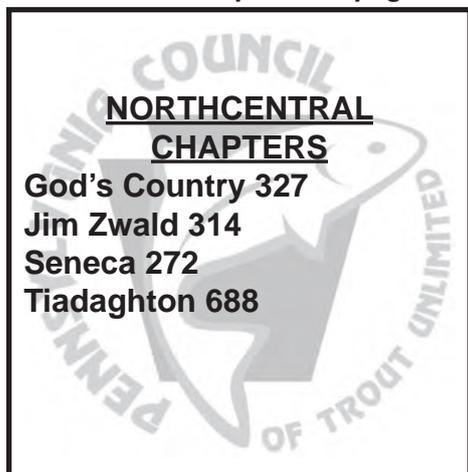
Western Pocono Chapter #203

George Hludzik

570-233-0099, grhlaw@ptd.net

Our January meeting went as well as could be expected under the circumstances. Since neither the chapter board nor the membership had met under the "new leadership" prior to this meeting, it was an organizational meeting. We had eight in attendance, which was more than usual. Several members are looking for and contacting speakers for future meetings and events. We discussed and are planning for another event at the White Haven Sportsman's Club on the Lehigh for the first or second weekend in June. We had a couple of volunteers help out with two events for the Boy Scouts – fly tying on April 1 and a fishing derby on April 27. Karl Lutz spoke about stream habitat restoration in February. We had good exposure with newspaper advertisement, and a number of other groups were contacted and expressed their interest in attending. Unfortunately, we had a late afternoon, early evening, snow storm which prevented even some of our usually attending members from being there. Those in attendance appreciated the presentation. Past president Paul Raubertas secured John Arway, director of the PFBC for our April meeting. The new meeting room at the Carbon County Environmental Center in Summit Hill is an exceptional location for our meetings. I believe that it is more centrally located, and hope it allows us to increase our meeting attendance. Meetings will continue to be held at the CCEC, at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month except during the summer. We hope to hold a Marcellus Shale training session for the chapter in the fall.

Continued on next page...



REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Open

God's Country Chapter #327
Dr. Peter Ryan
814-274-8718, drflyfish@yahoo.com

Fly tying class finished March 4. Charles Cole Hospital donated the use of a large conference room, computer and large flatscreen TV. On Feb. 7, Dave Saulter and Pete Ryan travelled to Bradford and gave a presentation to the McKean County Chapter of the Disabled American Veterans about our Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing event. We explained what we do, showed the 2012 DVD and received a sizeable donation. On Feb. 25, Dave and Tracie Edwards travelled to Eden, NY, and gave a similar presentation at the Eden American Legion. Project Healing Waters Mid-Atlantic Coordinator Raymond Markewicz presented certificates of appreciation to Dave and Tracie and all members of God's Country Chapter who have volunteered at our five events. Plans are underway for our 6th annual event from May 21-24 honoring WW II veterans. Mitch Blake attended our Feb. 28 meeting and explained how to use the new website for submitting Marcellus stream monitoring data as part of the CCC program. He also notified as that he is in the process of submitting a grant that will enable him to purchase in-stream data loggers that will take readings every 15 minutes. If successful, he plans on installing four or five in Potter County. Our chapter is aware of a proposed residual wastewater treatment facility along Route 49 in Ulysses. Chapter member and chairman of PATU's environmental committee, Bob Volkmar, has done extensive research on this proposal, and although we wish it was not proposed in our backyard, it appears to be the type of closed facility (with no discharge) for which we have been advocating.

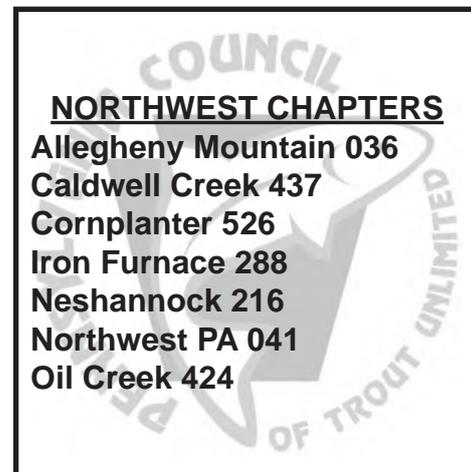
James Zwald Chapter #314
Murray Neeper

In January, chapter members reviewed the status of our eight TIC projects. The chapter committed to seeking grants and fundraising to provide setups for the remaining five schools in Elk and Cameron counties which do not currently have TIC systems. During the past year, the chapter raised \$5,000 through the Stackpole Hall Foundation, the Emporium Foundation and local donations to support TIC. Stan Hastings noted that the local media did an excellent job covering the TIC programs in Cameron County. In addition, we heard reports from the local WCO on rule changes and the proposed closing of two state hatcheries. Rachael Kester of the TU AMD educational outreach office requested assistance in seeking local grants to fund a youth educational seminar in August on the West Branch of the Susquehanna near Mahaffey. The chapter agreed to provide letters of support and general support to this project. In addition, Rachael reported that additional AMD projects are slated for the Crossforks area of Kettle Creek. During the February and March meetings, the chapter scheduled guest presenters for the March, April and May meetings. Todd Deluccia, predator fish angler, presented at the March meeting on equipment and flies for catching pike and muskies. Todd noted that he has caught a number of both species on local trout streams and lakes. In April, Craig Hudson presented a session on fly tying. He focused on current hatches and appropriate ties for the next several months. In May, Rachael Kester will be presenting on the status of AMD cleanup on local streams with special emphasis on Bennett's Branch. The chapter supported the St. Marys Area Catholic Middle School on its TIC release day by providing knot tying and insect identification stations. The program was at Bendigo State Park on the East Branch of the Clarion River on April 10. In addition, the chapter had a report on the current status of Mill Creek AMD from Jeff Buchheit, president of the Elk County Freshwater Association. The results of the two AMD remediation ponds has been pH readings averaging 6.5 on two tributaries well above the 4 to 4.5 readings before the project. We are continuing efforts to improve handicap access to the East Branch of the Clarion near Bendigo State Park.

Tiadaghton Chapter #688
Larry Harris
814-628-2123, wildbrookies@verizon.net

Our February meeting speaker was Don Kelly from Wellsboro, owner of the "Tackle Shack," who presented a program on ice fishing in Tioga County. Our March meeting featured Mitch Blake, Marcellus Shale field organizer. He discussed the local water monitoring program with our stream monitor volunteers and chapter

members. The chapter worked on two fundraising activities. Members set up an info table and sold raffle tickets at the Morris Gun Show on March 9-10. One of the raffle prizes was an original oil painting donated by former chapter president Bill Paulmier's wife Sharon. Tickets were sold at our spring banquet in April as well. Lori Davias was chair of the banquet committee. The banquet was April 27 at the Penn Wells Hotel. Featured speaker was Dr. Mel Zimmerman from Lycoming College. He is head of the Coldwater Institute in Williamsport and has been a leader in the student assisted program in the evaluation of the "Unassessed Streams Program." His group has surveyed over 230 streams not previously sampled for wild trout in the Pine Creek Watershed. Our chapter held a cleanup day along Route 6 as part of the Adopt a Highway program on April 6. We scheduled a two-day habitat improvement project with PFBC and the DCNR's Bureau of Forestry on Asaph Run in Tioga State Forest. We will be installing log deflectors and doing stream bank stabilization work near the Asaph Campground. Work is planned for July 12-13. On March 2 the chapter held the last session of its "Flies & Lies" tying workshops. On May 18, we will join the staff at Hills Creek State Park to assist with their family fishing day. Chapter members will also incorporate elements of our First Cast program in conjunction with this event. We currently have four active TIC projects in the county.



REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Mark Hanes
P.O. Box 324
Clarion, PA 16214
Email: m_d_hanes@yahoo.com
Phone: 724-464-7320

Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036
George Kutskel
814-371-9290, maksak@comcast.net
Website: www.amctu.org

Our 47th annual banquet was April 6 at the

Falls Creek Eagles. The chapter received a CHP grant for the Upper Sandy Lick Watershed. We plan to do an assessment on the riparian as well as a benthic survey. Mark Kelar from the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy and members of the chapter met with the City of DuBois, DEP, PFBC and the Army Corps to see how to proceed with much-needed habitat work in the delayed harvest area on Sandy Lick Creek. The Conservancy will work on the permits and we will provide manpower for any projects that meet the Army Corps' permits. The chapter was asked by PFBC to help with the unassessed waters program. A small group of chapter members will go out and check the streams in our area that have not been assessed both visually and by fishing them, then provide the results to the partners that go out and do the complete protocol needed to add these streams to the natural reproduction list. Our TIC schools have been scheduling their release days and programs that we have at the schools. The dates so far are May 17 for the DuBois Middle School Environmental Day and May 23 at the DuBois Area Catholic Schools Environmental Day. We will host our annual Big Brothers Big Sisters outing in June at the Tannery Dam in DuBois. Our fly tying roundtable at the DuBois Area High School in March was a big success. As many as 12 participants attended. We were asked to host a rod building class, which ran in March. We will again host fly fishing programs with Brockway and DuBois schools. We would like to increase the schools as well as the participation. We are helping National TU with their Brookie Camp at Mahaffey Camp in early August.

Caldwell Creek Chapter #437

Tom Savko

814-964-8899, tksavko2@verizon.net

There is going to be a stream project on Caldwell Creek in August. We will work with the Northwest Chapter, PFBC and landowners. Fly tying classes ran March 13-April 10 at the Corry Higher Education Building. We have four TIC programs up and running. We've had chiller problems and late swim-up issues complicating this year's efforts but things are going well now thanks to TIC and our teachers. Bear Lake Properties has started injecting frack fluid from Marcellus drilling into the two permitted wells in Bear Lake. We continue to monitor local streams at several locations and all information is filed through the CCC program.

Cornplanter Chapter #526

Troy McDunn

814-723-3759, hdpartsman@verizon.net

Our January meeting speaker was John Bartlett, from the Foundation for Sustainable Forests,

gave a presentation on the land that was recently purchased near Caldwell Creek. Our February meeting was at the Kalbfus Rod & Gun Club on Chapman Dam road. We have made the decision to permanently move our meetings from the Warren Public Library to the Kalbfus club. Our guest for our February meeting was local fly tyer Pat Jordan who shared information on deer hair flies and different tools for tying. Our Cornplanter Trout Expo was April 20 at the Lion's Den in Sheffield. We are moving forward on our Morrison Run project, to have the fish barrier sluice pipes replaced in the near future. On Feb. 17 we hosted a fly tying rendezvous at the Kalbfus Club. We had several children show up to learn about fly tying. The event went well enough that we held another on March 10.

Iron Furnace Chapter #288

Mark Hanes

724-464-7320, m_d_hanes@yahoo.com

Website: www.ironfurnacetu.net

Our banquet was April 6 at St. Joseph's Church in Lucinda. We started working on our strategic plan right after our banquet. We are still working on the 3RQuest water monitoring grab samples. We have been working with Mitch Blake to set up mini-grants we will have available in the Upper Allegheny Watershed. Grants will be available to chapters in the region to assist with setting up data loggers for baseline data work. More information will be distributed to the region's chapters in the near future. Work on the watershed assessment of Cathers Run is ongoing and is slated to be completed sometime during the summer of 2013. We will also be monitoring a permit that has been approved for water withdrawal on the North Fork of Redbank Creek at Humpback Bridge for natural gas extraction. We are currently monitoring 25 Marcellus locations with our current monitoring networks throughout the Upper Allegheny Watershed. Plans are in the works for another cleanup on Piney Creek. Fly tying classes were a big success this year with almost 20 in attendance. Thanks to all chapter members that came out to help. We plan to have our yearly fly fishing clinic at Fitzgerald's Pond on May 19.

Neshannock Chapter #216

Jeff Kremis

724-588-4378, bentley48@neo.rr.com

Website: www.neshannock-tu.org

Our banquet was March 9 at the Park Inn by Radisson in West Middlesex. We want to thank all of our donors, especially Bob Shuey of the Neshannock Creek Outfitters, for their support. Our annual fishing outing on Oil Creek is May 11. We will meet for lunch at the first picnic pavilion at Petroleum Center in Oil Creek State Park. If you

plan to attend please let any board member know so we can arrange for lunch. This summer we will complete the third and final phase of the stream bank stabilization project on Coolspring Creek. The workday is June 29 starting at 8 a.m. If you plan on attending or would like more information, contact Jeff Kremis at bentley48@neo.rr.com. Our annual spring cleanup of the DHALO area on Coolspring was April 6. The Deer Creek group held a reorganizational meeting in January to set their plans for the upcoming year. They have received approval for a youth only fishing area on Deer Creek for the first 30 days of trout season, and had an opening day picnic on the stream. They also have a workday planned for Sept. 28 on Deer Creek in the area of the Custaloga Boy Scout Camp to continue their work there. For more information and to get involved with this project you can contact Jerry Przybylek at jerprz@peoplepc.com. We are still looking for volunteer monitors for the CCC program. If you are interested in helping, contact Jim Kearney at mayfly1278@aol.com for more information. We held our Youth Fishing Derby at Wolf Creek on April 20. We also plan on participating in the Grove City Sportsmen's Club Youth Day on June 9 and Buhl Day which is held in the fall. If you are interested in helping with these or any other events contact any chapter officer for more information. Our five TIC programs are all doing well this year and release dates and activities are being planned.

Northwest PA Chapter #041

Erik Cronk

814-490-4632, ecronk@cronkinsuranceinc.com

Elections were held in January and Erik Cronk is the new president, Kevin Fritts is VP and Jack Bock is treasurer. Chapter members discussed different ways to re-energize the chapter, including possibly helping our neighboring Caldwell Creek Chapter with some stream improvement projects they have on tap for this year.

Oil Creek Chapter #424

Gary Ross

814-337-6931, info@oilcreektu.org

Website: www.oilcreektu.org

In January, our program was a showing of TU's veterans program video that provides fishing opportunities for wounded and disabled veterans. In February, we enjoyed a slide show and discussion on rattlesnakes by PFBC WCO Mark Kerr. Mark has had a lot of experience working with snakes in Venango County and used many of his own photographs in the slide show. A program on Steelhead presented by George Douglas, steelhead expert and guide, was held during our April meeting. Our 30th annual banquet was April

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6. We held a special rod raffle for a custom Sage rod donated by one of our members. We were informed by the Venango Conservation District of a Northwest Greenway grant for two stream bank stabilization projects near Cooperstown. There is one on Brannon Run, a small stabilization around a bridge. We are planning further habitat improvements over the next four years on Little Sandy Creek, upstream from the trestle pool, in conjunction with the Conservation District and PFBC. Last Nov. 8, Gary Ross, Tom Young, Dan Rockwell, Joe Brancato, Vaughn MacGregor, Mark Kerr and Lance Bowes met with Mark Sausser, stream habitat manager for PFBC. We toured the pump station. Mark identified a possible 40 different devices which could be installed to improve the stream habitat. We would like to do a big project next year, starting at the pump station. We are sending three students to Wayne Harpster's Coldwater Kids event this year. Three members will serve as mentors. We hosted a meeting with TIC teachers at our March meeting and combined it with a TIC program. Justin DiRado, PATU's education and outreach coordinator, attended. We received gracious donations from the Franklin Kiwanis Club and the Kelletville Sportsmen's club for TIC chillers. We need to have two spare chillers on hand for emergencies. We currently have eight classrooms involved in TIC. We would like to get data on the total number of students enrolled.

SOUTHEAST CHAPTERS

Bucks County 254
Delco Manning 320
Little Lehigh 070
Perkiomen Valley 332
SE Montgomery Co. 468
Tulpehocken 150
Valley Forge 290

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Fred Gender

Email: afgender@hotmail.com

Phone: 570-704-8764

DelCo Manning Chapter #320

David W. Wharton

610-583-2920, davidwharton@verizon.net

Website: www.dmtu.org

We conducted our annual winter fly tying classes. They were well-attended and led by some of our chapter's best tying instructors. Our annual banquet was Feb. 23. It was an overwhelming success and our most profitable in years. We

helped with a PFBC stocking on Ridley Creek.

Little Lehigh Chapter #070

John Tunney

610-360-1956, jrptunney@gmail.com

Our February meeting was at LL Bean in Center Valley. Manager Steve Johnson gave information on LL Bean's programs and invited us to their fly casting program. Staff demonstrated several fly rods available in the store. The fly tying instructor invited us to his free tying classes. We set up a display table in March during a special promotion at the store. We participated in a stream cleanup on the Little Lehigh in April. In February, we were invited to the annual banquet of Boy Scout Troop 8, where we presented information on TU programs, our chapter and a brief intro to fly fishing. Our intent was to offer assistance with merit badge requirements, specifically the fly fishing merit badge. We also asked for their help in some of our projects such as monofilament recycling, and hopefully we gain a few new members. We had a display at the Lehigh Valley Sportsman Show at Allentown's Ag Hall on March 2-3. On March 16, we participated in the joint spring event with four other chapters at the Stockertown Rod and Gun Club. Our thanks go out to the Forks of the Delaware, Hokendauqua and Monocacy chapters for inviting us and guiding us along the way. Our chapter started the year at the January meeting with a presentation by Brian Cowden on channel restoration and dam removal. The presentation gave us a better perspective in our local efforts to remove a dam on the Little Lehigh. It changed our view regarding cost and time. In January, we met with the vice president of conservation services and a biologist from the Woodlands Conservancy to discuss programs of mutual interest. The folks at Woodlands were extremely helpful and we agreed to assist each other throughout the year. They agreed to write a letter to the major landowner along the Little High, Lower Macungie Township in support of our dam removal project. Our conservation chair suggested that we write a letter to the consultant working on Lower Macungie Township's Recreation, Parks and Open Space Master Plan. The objective of the letter is to encourage the consultant to consider making positive recommendations on legal stream access and providing legal parking areas for that access.

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SE Montgomery County Chapter #468

Richard Terry

215-675-1536, rtroadrash@msn.com

Website: www.tu468.org

We held our annual "Polar Bear" outing on the Pennypack, where it flows through the land trust in Huntington Valley. Most members were able to catch at least one trout. Lunch followed at a local

restaurant. Our annual banquet was March 16 at the Moose in Willow Grove. A 12-foot kayak, fly rod and reel were prizes. We have two schools participating in TIC. Both had problems with the original allotment of eggs and received a second shipment. One school is doing fine now but the second is still having problems.

Tulpehocken Chapter #150

Bill Eggleston

610-404-7278, info@tullytu.org

Website: www.tullytu.org

Members Tom Ham, Jeff Schronce, Nate Schaeffer and Dan Shaffer manned a booth at the Lancaster Fly Show. We held a six-week fly tying course for beginners from March 19-23. On March 27, we held our membership meeting at the Robeson Elementary School. We had a chance to see a presentation on their TIC program. We also donated two adult and two youth TU memberships to the school's Funfest fundraiser on March 8. Our first banquet in a number of years was April 20 at the Fish Pond West in Leesport. We have two opportunities for schools to participate in TIC this year. Gov. Mifflin High School will be applying for a startup grant through PATU. The second opportunity came to us by way of an unknown donor thru the Berks County Community Foundation. This donor wanted to fully fund a TIC program at an inner-city school in Reading. A science teacher at Reading High School is prepared to accept this opportunity. We continue to do stream monitoring across the county as part of the PATU Coldwater Conservation Corps. We are gathering baseline stream data in preparation of natural gas pipelines being installed in Berks County. We have two stream projects in the Tulpehocken and Quittapahilla Creek Watershed that we have on our to-do list this year. Our chapter's resource manager, Len Good, plans to use these two projects as a training opportunity to get people familiar with this the requirements of a stream restoration project. Len also plans to resign from the resource manager position this year.

Valley Forge Chapter #290

Robbi Freisem

610-446-0341, rfreisem@verizon.net

Website: www.valleyforgetu.org

Chuck Cutshall and Fred Gender attended Project Healing Waters train the trainer meetings. We're working on a relationship with local government for a sponsor. Bev McGeehan and Mimi Feeg participated in a February conference call led by Samantha Kutskel on increasing the participation of women in chapter activities. Our spring trout show was March 14 at Valley Forge Middle School. Speaker was Mike Heck, author of "Spring Creek Strategies" and operator of an Orvis-endorsed professional guide service for

the Falling Springs, Letort, Yellow Breeches and other south central PA streams. We held a raffle for a box of flies at the Lancaster Fly Fishing Show. "Trout Tales and Watershed Heroes" is available through the chapter website, board members, local fishing shops and amazon.com. We received a donation from Downingtown VFW for our veteran services program. Applications are available for our fly fishing school on May 19. Chuck Cutshall and Fred Gender are pursuing relationship with Philadelphia and Chester County veterans' organizations to develop our veteran services program. At the Schuylkill Watershed Congress on March 9, Pete Goodman spoke about Valley Creek progress over the past 10 years. We participated in Earth Day activities with the Valley Creek Restoration Partnership and Cabrini College on April 20. We participated in LL Bean's Fishing Weekend on March 16 and had a table display of the Crabby Creek restoration. We received two inquiries for new TIC programs. Follow-up is being done by Neil Johnson and Dave Macaleer. Tredyffrin/Easttown Middle School is planning an education day with five 40-minute presentations connecting trout in the tank with their natural foods and fly fishing. Frank Donohoe and Pete Goodman are working with Trammell Crow and the Open Lands Conservancy

on an agreement for maintaining the Valley Creek easement and assuring perpetual coldwater flow to Valley Creek. New board member Jeff Bush is working with Owen Owens to live stake along Valley Creek. Demonstration rain gardens are planned/planted in Wilson Farm Park in Tredyffrin Township. Chapter members partnered with the Green Valleys Association, Chester County Conservation Districts' Valley Creek Trustee Council and Pennsylvania Environmental Council for modifying retention basins in the Valley Creek Watershed. We are planning monitoring activities for Williams Transco gas line dry cut crossing of the Brandywine above Downingtown. Some sewer line leveling work was completed on Crabby Creek south of railroad near erosion ditch. Trees were taken down in the area between the railroad and the Walnut Lane Bridge. Owen and Pete met with Kurt Imhoff, Sen. Casey's administrative representative, for a tour of the work. We're looking for support of our efforts to limit township disruption to the area. Pete Goodman and Frank Donohoe continue to work on issues of the PA Turnpike widening that will affect Valley Creek. The Keeper of the Stream program for Valley Creek continues to seek permission for stream access from landowners.

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Doc Fritchey 108
Donegal 037
Falling Spring 234
Muddy Creek 575
Penns Creek 119

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Fred Bohls

3519 Ada Drive

Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

Email: fcfp@ix.netcom.com

Phone: 717-732-5050

Adams County Chapter #323

Dave Swope

717-624-8134,

swopeda624@embarqmail.com

www.adamscountytu.org

Our chapter banquet was March 23. We made donations to PATU, Allenberry Rivers Conservation Program, Reel Recovery and the Trophy Trout Program. We attended the "Spring to Sprinklers" program at Shippensburg with an ACTU table and new TIC banner. Our fundraising banquet was March 23 at the Heidlersburg Fire Hall. We designed and completed a five-color map of the approved and wild trout streams in Adams County and will use the maps as a fundraiser. Stream cleanup was March 16 along Conewago Creek. Other sportsmen's clubs will perform cleanups on seven other approved trout streams. Our stream committee finalized the schedule of our next restoration workday during our 30th year of partnering with the NoVTU chapter. Since 1982, an annual restoration project was completed along the Conewago Creek with two distant chapters not sharing the same borders. Both chapters have been working together to design a memorial bench for all deceased members that have worked on the Conewago Creek project. On March 9, the chapter participated with PFBC in a spring float stocking of rainbow trout in the 1.1-mile CRFFO section. After two stream surveys, we have partnered with CVTU/FSTU/DCNR on designing 27 habitat structures and a five-year restoration project on Conococheague Creek in Adams County. Our chapter has increased the number of schools involved in the TIC program and two more have applied. Some TIC equipment

has been repaired for emergency situations.

Codorus Chapter #558

Tom Fenninez

717-817-8446, tom@codorustu.org

Website: www.codorustu.org

Chapter members have expressed interest in bringing back our annual chapter picnic. Plans are underway for an event later this summer. We met with the local County Conservation District to discuss funding and potential projects in the Codorus Creek Watershed. If a viable project can be identified, we will begin the grant application process during the second quarter of 2013. Our annual spring stream cleanup was April 20. Some minor repairs to our 2012 stream improvement project should also take place this spring, and will mostly involve replacing planted material that was stripped away during Hurricane Sandy. Our second annual Family Fishing Fun Day is scheduled for Memorial Day at Codorus State Park. We have reached out to PFBC to discuss adding sculpins to the creek. Trial stockings of sculpins by PFBC years ago have proven to be successful, and we'd like to expand their range in the creek to provide additional large forage for the trout. Two more wader wash stations have been constructed for installation along the Codorus, and we hoped to have them installed by early spring. Due to our close proximity to Maryland's Gunpowder River and Big Hunting Creek, both contaminated with didymo, we decided to install the stations as a preemptive measure. We often see vehicles with Maryland license plates on the Codorus, and we're concerned about the potential for an outbreak in the Codorus' tailwater environment. We hope these stations will both educate the public and prevent an outbreak in our home stream. We're continuing to monitor the progress of our two TIC projects.

Cumberland Valley Chapter #052

Justin Pittman

717- 360-8823, flyfishing80@gmail.com

Website: cvtu.homestead.com

Our Limestoner Banquet was March 16. We had planned to display at the Eastern Sports and Outdoor Show in February before it was canceled. We set up our booth at Bass Pro Shop on Feb. 8-10 to sell banquet tickets and to promote the Rivers Conservation Camp. Lastly, we have been working very closely with PFBC and the contractors for Big Spring to make sure that project continues as planned. If any chapter has questions in regards to Big Spring Creek and the upcoming phase two project please contact us. We continue to work with representatives from both the Adams County and Falling Springs chapters to fine tune and finalize plans for the

upcoming Birch Run projects. We also meet with representatives from National TU, Cumberland County, the Nature Conservancy and many other community members to talk about a possible project. We continue to prepare for our projects this summer on Boiling Springs Run and Yellow Breeches Creek.

Doc Fritchey Chapter #108

Archie Fenton

717-533-2367, archief3@verizon.net

Website: www.dftu.org

The chapter banquet was March 23. We received a generous donation from Enola Sportsman's Association for our participation in their annual fundraiser last fall. Progress continues on the Quitapahilla Creek project, extending the delayed harvest section. Landowners along the proposed extension have signed on. In partnership with Pennsylvania Game Commission, PFBC and the Clarks Creek Watershed Association, tree planting along Clarks Creek was scheduled for April 6. White pine seedlings provided by the PGC are being planted in an effort to replace the hemlock trees dying off from an infestation of the woolly adelgid. Adopt a Highway cleanup along Clarks Valley Road is in May. A work project to clear log jams blocking access by stocking crews along Manada Creek took place in March. The Dauphin County Conservation District received a PATU CHP Grant to assess and develop a conservation plan for the Manada Creek Watershed. A public meeting was March 28 at the East Hanover Township municipal building. Work continues at diversion wells on Rausch Creek. Approximately 94 tons of limestone has been used this past year. A beginner fly tying class started in January and we recruited a few new members from the class. Our TIC programs are planning releases at The Ned Smith Center in May. Several state agencies are participating, making a full day of fun and education. The chapter is hosting CCC training this summer at the Dauphin County Conservation District building. The chapter sponsored a table at the "Wild and Scenic Film Festival" Feb. on 13. Project "Home Waters," our chapter's version of Project Healing Waters, and our Ladies Day event are June 8 and 9, respectively.

Donegal Chapter #037

Tom Hall

717-898-8664, phallcat@comcast.net

Website: www.donegaltu.org

We currently have about 645 members, but until last October our regular membership meetings only drew 25 to 30 members. Due to efforts of our new communications chair, Jim Wellendorf, attendance at every meeting since he took over has increased to the point that we had 75 at our February meeting. If this keeps up we'll have to

look for a bigger meeting room. Faye Haering held her 2nd annual Ladies Conservation Breakfast on April 13 at the Millport Conservancy. She is also organizing a ladies fly fishing clinic to be held in June. We will be hosting a Big Brothers Big Sisters fishing event and a Special Olympics fishing outing at Hugh Wenger's farm outside of Elizabethtown later this year. Our spring banquet at the Lancaster Host Resort was April 6.

Falling Spring Chapter #234 **Rod Cross**

717-264-2747, rcross@mathesongas.com

The chapter finished fall shrub and tree planting at the Frey Dairy/Helman project site that began this past August. The historic water wheel that was removed and powder coated will have bushings and bearings installed on the shaft and will be placed back on the pilings. Final perennial and tree plantings will also be done in the spring. In December, the chapter met with members of the Cumberland Valley and Adams County chapters to help with preliminary planning of four habitat improvement devices on the East Branch of the Conococheague that flows through the old lake bed of Birch Run Reservoir in Michaux State Forest. The chapters were invited to partner with DCNR on the project, to improve and develop the native brook trout fishery by Phil Bietsch of DCNR. The petition to change the regulations from DHALO to CRFFO was denied by PFBC. Falling Spring serves multiple user groups and supports the commission's adult stocked trout strategy to provide recreational angling opportunities to all residents. The chapter has been busy planning two Wounded Warrior outings, one on April 20 and another on May 17-18. Chapter "in-stream companions" look forward to serving those who served and sacrificed at these events. Plans are also being made for the upcoming Franklin County Sportsmen for Youth Day on June 8 at the Waynesboro Rod and Gun Club. Kids will be taught to tie a fly and cast a fly rod. At the event, the chapter raffles off a free fly rod outfit donated by LL Bean. There is a request from a Chambersburg High School teacher to set up another TIC program at the school, which will give us four in the Chambersburg school system.

Muddy Creek Chapter #575 **Fred Hess**

717-650-6556, muddycreektu@comcast.net
Website: www.muddycreektu.org

Our second spring outing and landowner appreciation day is May 18 at Allegro Vineyards. It is our chance to recognize watershed landowners and to educate the public on our conservation efforts. In addition, we will have fly casting and fly tying demonstrations. A 2013 Muddy

Creek TU patch was designed and is for sale. The patch is a representation of the upper end of the Muddy Creek FFO section. North Branch Muddy Creek Phase 1 maintenance and repairs were completed on 3,200 feet of stream. Minor repairs to the project on the North Branch, which was completed in 2005, were necessary. We sent a letter authorizing construction to ARRC, with a recommendation to do the repairs to allow the riparian buffer plants the best chance for survival. ARRC completed these repairs at no cost. To meet our requirements, MCTU will need to complete one more monitoring on this project after the repairs are made. Restoration on 1,700 feet of Pine Run is complete. All structures were in place by the end of February. We have committed to provide plants and install the riparian buffer, seed and straw the length of this project as well as post construction monitoring as required by contract. The landowners are applying to the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program. For the third consecutive year the chapter will host the visually impaired and their families from "For Sight and Vision" at the handicap area on Tom's Run. We will provide a day of fishing, food and drinks.

Penns Creek Chapter #119 **Gary Parzanese**

717-242-3451, 6sneezes@comcast.net

We filed the required N-990 postcard with the IRS in January. Information on the Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Camp and for Wayne's Coldwater Kids Event were distributed and added to the newsletter. Our winter social in mid-December was attended by 19 members and spouses at Karl's Camping, New Lancaster Valley. At our February meeting, Don Douple provided a video presentation on local streams with an emphasis on brook trout spawning and streamer presentations for small mountain streams. The chapter's annual banquet was March 23 at Belleville Mennonite School. Guest speaker was Steve Sywensky from Fisherman's Paradise Fly Shop, State College. Rich Morder, of PFBC, made a presentation to the chapter for assistance in improving stocking access on Licking Creek in Juniata and Mifflin counties. This would require a joint agreement with DCNR's Bureau of Forestry and PFBC. Rich is requesting the chapter assist in planning and coordinating this proposal. Contact has been made with the Bureau of Forestry, but no date for a meeting is set. The Havice Creek Project is moving forward with the permits and clearances being secured. We are working on funding, material costs and securing a work date for mid- July, during low flow. This project is designed to repair existing structures that were installed by the chapter in the mid-1980s. The work will be done in conjunction with a stream fencing project in the same area. Dan Dunmir from the Mifflin County Conservation District discussed a project called "Juniata Rescue."

The project is a joint effort between a number of environmental and conservation groups to clear up the Juniata River. More information will be distributed as details are worked out. The chapter held a stream cleanup on the section of Kish Creek between the Old Mill and Rec Park on April 6. The chapter's TIC projects are progressing, though four of the five schools lost most of their fish in the first few months. The fry were replaced. Thompsontown Elementary held a release along Delaware Creek in Thompsontown on March 28, and Lack Tuscarora/Juniata High School's release is May 16 at Karl Guss Picnic Area in Licking Creek. Sacred Heart and Belleville Mennonite schools in Mifflin County are preparing grant applications for the 2013-14 school year.

SOUTHWEST CHAPTERS

Arrowhead 214

Chestnut Ridge 670

Forbes Trail 206

Fort Bedford 291

John Kennedy 045

Ken Sink 053

Mountain Laurel 040

Penn's Woods West 042

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Chuck Winters

1898 Old Route 22

Duncansville, PA 16635

Email: wintershs@aol.com

Phone: 814-943-4061(w); 814-932-8841(c)

Arrowhead Chapter #214

Chad Hough

724-422-8471, chadough@verizon.net

Website: www.arrowhead214tu.org

A presentation related to the restoration of three miles of Hulling Run in Armstrong County, damaged from AMD, and the restoration of its trout fishery was held at our April meeting. The project is a joint venture between Arrowhead TU and Armstrong County Conservation District. Grants for this project will be applied for in the June-July time period. Our annual banquet was March 23. We received a \$10,000 donation for work to be done under the supervision of Armstrong County Conservation District on the restoration of the water supply channel from the artesian well to the raceway channels in our co-op nursery. Chapter members did a classroom

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presentation for TIC participant Divine Redeemer. Fourth, fifth and sixth grade students attended. One-hundred brown trout, from 10 to 13 inches, were donated from the Arrowhead nursery for a kids' fishing/education event in East Brady. Trout were release into local approved waters after the event was over. On April 20, we participated in an event at the Home Depot in Butler. We had a video and other information such as photos, drawings, maps and handouts related to stream improvement work performed along Buffalo Creek's DHALO Section. The 3.6 miles of improvements were completed over a 12-year period. Arrowhead's Project Healing Waters participation with the Butler VA Hospital is active with a weekly fly tying class and other events planned for spring and summer.

Chestnut Ridge Chapter #670

Scott Hoffman

412-596-5436, smh_1959@yahoo.com

Website: www.chestnutridgetu.org

Dunbar Creek cleanup was April 6. In an effort to reach out to different geographic areas of the chapter, the April 10 membership meeting was held at the Washington Gander Mountain. Melissa Troutman and Joshua Pribanic presented portions of their documentary "Triple Divide." The film takes its name from the triple divide located in Potter County. "Triple Divide" tells a cautionary tale about the consequences of shale gas development by way of fracking. Blockage in the pipe on Morgan Run that delivers some the poorest water quality to the lower vertical flow pond has been removed and a trash rack has been installed. Other repairs included armoring the end of the conveyance channel and raising the berm. A Quick Response Grant from PADEP/WPCAMR was used to pay for the repairs. Inclement weather delayed the start to locate, characterize and develop conceptual treatment options for additional acidic seeps entering Morgan Run. Another component of the project is to evaluate the existing passive treatment system utilizing the Geochemist Work Bench model. Work will be funded through a grant from TU's AMD technical assistance program. We anticipate this work to be completed in the next few months. The chapter received a grant from the Growing Greener Plus program to fund an Operation, Maintenance and Replacement Plan development and a trust fund for future OMR costs. The OMR Plan is required by DEP to properly maintain the passive treatment system and so that the water quality improvements are maintained or improved upon and are not lost. The chapter has applied and received funding to continue the Glade Run Alkaline Sand Project through DEP's Growing Greener Plus program. Alkaline sand will be placed and the stream sampled to document the water quality. We anticipate sending four youths to the Wayne's

Coldwater Kids outing.

Forbes Trail Chapter #206

Monty Murty

724-238-7860, mmurty@verizon.net

Website: www.forbestrailtu.org

We've begun identifying new officers for the 2014 year. We held our 40th anniversary conservation banquet on March 2 at the Latrobe American Legion. A sold-out crowd of 175 attended. Our grand raffle prize was a custom Forbes Trail anniversary model fly rod in TU colors built on a Winston Boron III blank. We are partnering with the Lincoln Highway Heritage Corridor non-profit and the Laurel Highlands Visitors Bureau to attract fly fishing tourists to our area with a program we developed last year, the Laurel Highlands Trout Trail. Our award-winning annual youth education program began again on Jan. 24. We have TIC projects in four classrooms. For 2013, the chapter has assembled a partnership among state parks, cultural and historical attractions, upscale boutique shops, restaurants and lodging partners to promote fly fishing tourism in our area. Tourism is our largest industry. Called the Laurel Highlands Trout Trail, we will host more than 50 special events, geared to fly fishermen and their families throughout the Laurel Highlands region during April and May. The highlight is the Laurel Highlands Trout Trail Rendezvous on April 20 at Hidden Valley Resort. The Rendezvous offers demonstrations, information booths, fine arts, hearty appetizers and dessert, cash bar, door prizes and a compelling speaker – world renowned fly fisherman and instructor Leo Vensel. Visit www.LHtrouttrail.com to see this year's "Top Ten Trout Streams" list by coordinates and description, recommended go-to flies and equipment for the Trout Trail, specific PA fishing regulations and license guidelines, a calendar of events that will appeal to youths, women and hard core fly fishermen; and suggested lodging accommodations.

Fort Bedford Chapter #291

Derrick Miller

814-276-3606, patrouthaser@gmail.com

Website: www.fortbedfordtu.org

We completed our annual winter fly tying courses. Members are in the planning stages for various community outreach projects, such as the Bedford County Youth Field Day and assorted programs at local state parks.

John Kennedy Chapter #045

Creg Strock

814-695-5598, channels4tu@aol.com

We have taken an aggressive position to market and promote the chapter by updating our current membership roster. We have been sending members email reminders for upcoming chapter events, general membership meetings, guest speakers and presentations. By taking this approach and using the special membership offers currently available from National TU we have added 21 new members since Jan. 1, 2013. Attendance at our membership meetings continues to increase each month. Our first fundraising event of the year was the Jaffa "Outdoor Sportsmen's Show." We raffled a Winston VSL 9-foot, 5-weight fly rod, a Coleman grill and an Okuma Ultra-light spinning rod and reel combination. Income generated from the sales of raffle tickets, flies, spinners, ferruled leaders and fly tying materials produced the highest revenue to the chapter for this event to date. Our next event is the annual chapter banquet, which is Aug. 24. We will be gathering an assortment of prizes that will be raffled off, including a five-day fishing trip to Longlac, Ontario to fish for brook trout, lake trout, walleye, northern pike and perch in McKay Lake and the five rivers that feed into the lake. The joint JKTU and Sheetz Corp. wetlands project is finalized and permits have been received. When the weather becomes suitable we will schedule and commence work on this project in Legion Park in Hollidaysburg. It will address and correct current drainage issues and act as a filtration system for excess water runoff. It includes planting in excess of 200 different types of trees, shrubs and flowering plants. Our chapter is still negotiating with several different landowners on Clover Creek in hopes of scheduling a stream and habitat improvement project later this year. The chapter's annual fly tying classes had their largest participation ever. We had 26 new tyers registered in the beginner class and 15 in the advanced class. Classes ran every other Saturday from January through the end of March. Our TIC projects continue to grow. We are currently involved with six schools, and have gotten inquiries from other schools interested in projects next school year.

Ken Sink Chapter #053

Eli Long

724-422-9884, eli.long@gmail.com

Website: kensink.blogspot.com

Our January meeting featured Joe Humphreys, who drew one of the largest crowds we can remember. Special thanks to those from our neighboring chapters who attended. February was our Fly Tyers Round Robin, featuring patterns from midges to musky flies and salmon flies to sculpins. In March, Karl Weixelman gave a presentation on fishing Presque Isle Peninsula. Our annual fundraising banquet was March 23. As spring arrived our fly tying classes wrapped up. We closed with a fly fishing class featuring

classroom and on-stream activities. Our annual banquet was March 23 at the Indiana Elks. Prizes raffled were fly rod combos, artwork, streamside equipment and more.

Mountain Laurel Chapter #040

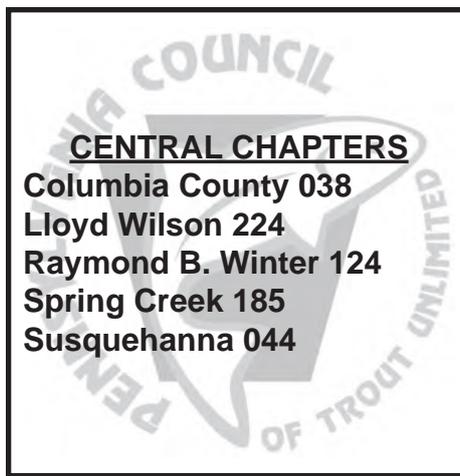
Randy Buchanan
814-467-4034, prbfish4fun@aol.com
Website: www.mltu.org

Our annual fundraising banquet was March 19. We will be participating in cleanups on Clearshade Creek, Paint Creek and Yellow Creek, and monitoring streams as part of the Coldwater Conservation Corps. We cleared brush and debris along Yellow Creek to improve access. Two fly tying courses were held in January. We are supporting 10 TIC classrooms.

Penns Woods West Chapter #042

Walter Reineman
412-999-8292, walterr28@hotmail.com
Website: www.pwwtu.org

Recent speakers and topics at our monthly meetings have been Olga Herbert discussing the Laurel Highlands Trout Trail; Bob Phillips explaining the potential impacts of the Pebble Mine on Bristol Bay, Alaska; local tyers Jim Hoey, Dale Fogg and Joe Kayafas showcasing steelhead patterns and John Hayes explaining the effect of didymo on local waterways. We continue to sponsor two TIC projects. Our other big event of the year will be our 50th anniversary banquet on Sept. 21. Our Cabin Fever event was a resounding success. Over 60 vendors and various nonprofits helped us get 750-plus attendees. Featured speakers Lefty Krey and John Arway can be seen on a YouTube video, linked to from our website. As an additional fundraiser, a casual "Evening with Lefty" was held the night before the show. With limited ticket sales, this quickly sold out and was successful beyond expectations. Proceeds will be used for work on local Pine Creek and for monitoring Marcellus Shale activity. Our annual free fly fishing seminar was March 24. Rob Reeder and Scott Loughner led the event. Over 20 students attended. We continue to partner with the Allison Park Sportsmen Club on local Pine Creek. On opening day, the kids fishing area at Fawcett Fields was stocked for those 12 and under. Funding for the stocking is from a grant to PWWTU by the Allegheny Conservation District. April 6 was our annual cleanup day. Our Pine Creek workday and improvement project will be in September. We are pleased that we have a strong core group of members that are working with Mitchell Blake in monitoring area creeks for water quality in relation to any impacts from Marcellus exploration and drilling.



REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Sherwin Albert
161 Ryan Lane
Milton, PA 17847
Email: sherwina@dejazzd.com
Phone: 570-524-7645

Lloyd Wilson Chapter #224

Bill Bailey
570-295-1934; wbailey@kcnet.org
Website: www.lwtu.org

Scott Koser of the Clinton County Conservation Office presented information on a grant program that provides funding for planting trees in riparian zones. We will pursue this if we can get the necessary manpower to do the planting. Our annual fly tying class began on Feb. 28 and ran for five consecutive Thursdays. Fifteen students participated. Our four TIC programs are all doing well. Central Mt. High had about 50 survivors, Central Mt. Middle School had about the same. Renovo Elementary had some problems with bacteria in the tank, but the students were able to solve the problem and had several survivors. The Jersey Shore program is doing exceptionally well with about 150 survivors. Chapter members will instruct fly casting and fly tying at the Jersey Shore Middle School's Outdoor Environmental Days on May 9-10 at Ravensburg State Park. The first "fishing event" of the year will be held at the NE Fishery Center in Lamar on June 1 for children up to age 12. The annual chapter picnic is June 5 at the Sieg Conference Center.

R.B. Winter Chapter #127
Robert Laubach
570-966-3379, oldfrstr@dejazzd.com

In January, Jonathan Niles, a research biologist studying trout populations in Susquehanna River tributaries, presented results of stream surveys for tributaries to Penns creek. Most headwater

streams contained a good population of brook trout, with some streams having a wild brown trout population. In February, PFBC Area Fisheries Biologist Jason Detar presented a program on proposed regulations for the current trophy trout section of Penns Creek in the Coburn area. New proposals include an all-tackle regulation with a slot limit of keeping two trout in the 7-12 inch range. He presented stream survey results for both the current trophy trout stretch and the catch and release area. Fish populations were about three times higher in the trophy trout section, thought to be a result of lower water temps during the summer due to the flows from Elk and Pine creeks. He also noted the number of larger trout were the same in both sections. He discussed the new stocking schedule for the CRFFO section of White Deer Creek. Brown trout fingerlings will be stocked in the fall for five years and the stream will be sampled every summer. Stocked fish will be fin clipped for identification. We hope that after three years there will be a fishable population of trout in this section. The stream will not be float stocked in the spring as was done for many years. It will be interesting to follow the results of these new stockings. In March, guide and innovative fly tyer Don Daughenbaugh presented a program on fishing in the area and fly patterns. Chapter members presented a fly tying program at the Winter Sno-Fest held at R.B. Winter State Park. Fly tying classes are going well with 25 students registered. Trout in the Classroom activities at Mifflinburg Middle School are going well with very little fingerling losses. May 15 is our fishout and annual picnic along Penns Creek.

Spring Creek Chapter #185

Judi Sittler
814-861-3277, jsittler@comcast.net
Website: www.springcreektu.org

Lynn Mitchell is joining the board for a three-year term. He has been a big contributor to our efforts to write grants for stream work. He assisted in getting an Embrace-a-Stream grant submitted and is currently putting hours in working on a Water Resources Education Network (WREN) grant. A second addition to the board is Mark Pencak, who has been assisting Al Phillips with our general membership meetings and will help with presentations. Mark has been instrumental in getting our meeting information out to the public via flyers put up at the various fly shops in the area. Those flyers have brought in several active new members to our chapter. We owe a big debt of gratitude to Al Philips, program director for our monthly general meetings. He has brought the best programs to our membership for the past 10 years. He will be taking a well-deserved "retirement" and plans to be in the audience for a change. Our banquet celebrated 40 years as a

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chapter. Joe Humphreys and his cohorts started this chapter in 1973 with the help of Gene Brown, from the Penns Creek chapter. We realize that a once-a-year banquet alone is not enough to raise funds for our chapter's operating costs, and we are always looking for alternatives. We received a check for \$1,200 from the State College Rotary Club. They raise money annually through a sandwich sale and donate the proceeds to various organizations in the community. The money is for our youth programs. We will once again participate in the "Centre Gives" event, a 48-hour online fundraising event where many community non-profits participate. Preparation for restoration work to be done using NFWF grant funds continues. Bob Vierck is working closely with PFBC and construction personnel to bring the first phase of a two-year plan together. Art Kempf is putting in hours and hours of research going back through papers, previous grants we received, visiting sites we worked on and talking to those involved, in order to put together a history of our streamside restoration projects. Once completed, we will be putting the history on our website. It will be an excellent resource for our leadership and members in general. So far, in terms of money spent, he has added up \$96,000 in geomorphic assessments, \$437,000 in habitat restoration and \$40,000 spent on water quality monitoring.

We are putting together a WREN grant that will allow us to purchase the TU book "My Healthy Stream, A Handbook for Streamside Owners" for dissemination to streamside landowners. We have identified areas along Spring Creek where homeowners are mowing up to the stream bank. We hope to reverse that practice and get more landowners to understand the importance of deep root vegetation along the stream bank. The grant has also brought to light the need for a different, more active approach when attempting to reach out to a community and ask them to change their behavior. We are partnering with a teacher at Park Forest Elementary School, hoping to get a start-up grant for him to begin a TIC program in his 5th grade. Park Forest Elementary is noted for its conservation activities. Samantha Kutskel gave our chapter a very informative presentation on the things that PATU is doing for its chapters. Upcoming events include: PSU Arbor Day, where we will instruct children in casting, knot tying, fly tying and bug identification on April 26; the On the Fly event at Harpster's on Spruce Creek on May 13; the International Women Fly Fishing Annual Festival at Allenberry Resort on May 16-18; our Spring Creek Family Festival at Millbrook Marsh beginning at 10 a.m. on June 2 and our general membership meeting – "Do Fish Feel Pain?" with Victoria Braithwaite, Jason Detar and Bob Carline on June 6.

Susquehanna Chapter #044

David Craig, secretary

570-326-1002, davsalc@comcast.net

www.susquehannatu.wordpress.com

Our annual watershed meeting was a productive gathering with over 50 attending. Nine watershed protection associations were represented along with DEP, Lycoming County Conservation District, Lycoming County Planning Commission and Susquehanna Greenway Partnership. Each association gave a report on their past activities and future projects. Our second annual fly tying class had 18 students, including six kids, and five excellent instructors. They produced larvae, nymphs, soft hackles and mayflies. Dr. Mel Zimmerman presented a class at Lycoming College to orient students about aquatic insect life, and they observed living samples of common larvae and nymphal stages. Three students who were not members joined the chapter. A fishing party is planned for the weekend of May 3 on Antes Creek, provided by Andy Lyon of Nippenose Valley Watershed. Camping and food will be available. A yard sale of used and surplus fishing gear is in April. Members are encouraged to donate their surplus gear in support of the chapter. Our new website is now in operation after the loss of the old site and the departure of the former webmaster.



**PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL
OF TROUT UNLIMITED
Post Office Box 5148
Bellefonte, PA 16823**

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