

Pennsylvania TROUT



Spring 2015

Publication of the Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited

www.patrou.org



NPR StateImpact PA Photo

An unplugged oil well in Tamarack Swamp, Warren County, results in an oily film on the water's surface.

In search of abandoned wells

By Genevieve Elsworth

PSU Earth and Environmental Systems Institute

Pennsylvania has a nearly 150-year history of oil and gas development, beginning in 1859 with the first oil well drilled in

Titusville by Edwin Drake. Working for the Pennsylvania Rock Oil Company in search of petroleum as an alternative to rare and expensive whale oil, Drake's first productive oil well extended 69 feet below

See **WELLS**, page 3

PATU award nominations due July 31

The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited will present its annual awards during the fall meeting at the Shavers Creek Community Building in Petersburg, PA on

Oct. 3, 2015.

There is a huge amount of extraordinary work being accomplished by PATU

See **AWARDS**, page 10

Range of activities on tap for National TU meeting in Scranton

By Charlie Charlesworth
National Meeting Chair

Many of you who have expressed interest in coming to Trout Unlimited's Annual Meeting in Scranton from Sept. 16-20 have asked the same question, "Will there be activities for my spouse to take part in while I am busy attending break-out sessions or meetings?"

It would probably be best if my wife addresses that issue.

Rosangela says: "Last year, National TU conducted the greatest spouses' tour and activities in Santa Fe (NM). I am a fisherman and a member of TU, but I elected to forgo the meetings and go on the tour with a fantastic group of ladies. I told my husband that he was going to have to come up with something very special to outdo what was done last year."

Well it certainly looks like Nancy Bradley and National TU have done just that.

Friday and Saturday tours and shopping will brighten the trip for those who take the spouses' tour. I can't elaborate on everything because some things have not been

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Pennsylvania TROUT

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CHP announces grant awards

The Coldwater Heritage Partnership is pleased to announce that over \$58,000 in grants have been awarded to local organizations to protect and conserve Pennsylvania's coldwater streams. The Coldwater Heritage Partnership is a collaborative effort between the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds, PA Fish and Boat Commission and PA Council of Trout Unlimited.

The purpose of the program is to provide leadership, coordination, technical assistance, and funding support for the conservation and protection of Pennsylvania's coldwater streams. The program awards planning and implementation grants to conservation organizations in an effort to protect and conserve Pennsylvania's coldwater resources.

The planning grant is awarded to organizations to create a coldwater conservation plan that evaluates the biological, physical, and chemical features of the stream or watershed to identify potential threats, impacts, and opportunities and compile recommendations for future protection.

The implementation grant is awarded to organizations to complete projects listed as recommendations in Coldwater Conservation Plans or similar documents. Potential projects must conserve, protect, or enhance the resources.

Grants have been awarded to the following organizations:

Planning Grants

Natural Lands Trust, Inc.

- \$5,000 to create a collaborative and comprehensive plan in an effort to understand and protect Shade Creek, Luzerne County.

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy

- \$4,300 to develop a Coldwater Conservation Plan for the East Branch Tionesta Creek, McKean County to aid regulatory agencies, local residents, and conservation groups in a more informed manner in the management of the resource.

Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited

- \$5,000 to develop a comprehensive Coldwater Conservation Plan for



the Rock Run watershed, Lycoming County that may be used to secure additional funding for the restoration projects to enhance the native brook trout fishery.

Eastern Pennsylvania Coalition of Abandoned Mine Reclamation

- \$5,000 to complete an assessment of natural trout populations and potential AMD and AML impacts to the Laurel Run, Luzerne County, a tributary in the Mill Creek watershed.

Implementation Grants

Heritage Conservancy

- \$6,923 to improve the habitat quality and stream buffer along the Cooks Creek, Bucks County.

Trout Unlimited, Eastern Abandoned Mine Program

- \$4,000 to stabilize 500-600 feet of eroding streambank and enhance habitat through the placement of multiple PFBC-approved habitat structures on the Chase Estate property in the Potts Run watershed, Clearfield County.

Wildlands Conservancy

- \$7,000 to implement stream restoration recommendations along high priority reaches in Coplay Creek, Lehigh County.

Monocacy Chapter of Trout Unlimited

- \$7,000 to restore Monocacy Creek, Northampton County through dam removal as recommended in the Monocacy Creek Management Plan.

Lackawanna Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited

- \$7,000 to complete instream habitat, shade tree plantings, bank stabilization, riparian buffer improvement and knotweed eradication on the Lackawanna River, Lackawanna County.

Penns Valley Conservation Association

- \$7,000 to complete 20 fish habitat and streambank stabilization structures, and establish a 2.5 acre forested buffer of 400 native trees and shrubs in Muddy Creek, Centre County, a tributary to Penns Creek.

WELLS

from page 1

the surface and produced between eight and 10 barrels of crude oil daily. Since this first successful attempt at oil extraction, Pennsylvania has experienced an explosion in oil and gas development.

This industrial development proceeded unfettered for nearly 100 years, until the passage of legislation required permitting to drill through coal seams in 1956 and permitting to drill all wells in 1963. Regulation of oil and gas wells that had been abandoned by responsible operators was not established until 1985, with the passage of the Oil and Gas Act of 1984, which required operators to plug nonproducing wells and established the Abandoned and Orphan Well Program to plug wells abandoned before 1985. Additionally, this legislation established the distinction between abandoned and orphan wells.

Although both terms describe nonproducing oil and gas wells, an abandoned well has a responsible oil and gas operator to properly plug well and restore the site location while an orphan well has no responsible oil and gas operator to do so, and is thus under the jurisdiction of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

Although assessments of the number of wells drilled since the inception of oil and gas development vary, estimates by the Independent Petroleum Association of America suggest approximately 325,000 wells have been drilled since 1859. Of this total estimate approximately 125,000 wells are permitted while a staggering 200,000 wells are undocumented. However, the number

of undocumented wells verified by the PA Department of Environmental Protection Abandoned and Orphan Well Program, the government agency responsible for documenting and plugging abandoned oil and gas wells, are substantially lower with only approximately 12,000 wells located. The proportion of these undocumented oil and gas wells that are unplugged is relatively unknown.

Unplugged or improperly plugged oil and gas wells can negatively impact the environment. These wells can act as a conduit for the migration of natural gas, oil, or brine to the surface, potentially contaminating surface waters or subsurface freshwater aquifers. Additionally, the emission of greenhouse gases, such as methane, to the atmosphere from such wells contributes to air quality degradation.

To mitigate these harmful environmental effects, it is important to locate and document abandoned and orphan oil and gas wells. Many of these undocumented abandoned wells are located on stream banks in valleys, due to the belief by historic oil and gas prospectors that subterranean rivers of oil followed the streams.

Pennsylvania's anglers can contribute to this environmental protection effort by reporting such abandoned oil and gas wells to both DEP's Bureau of Oil and Gas Management and to Penn State's Earth and Environmental Systems Institute.

Additional information on the search for Pennsylvania's abandoned oil and gas wells can be found at marcellusmatters.psu.edu. Further inquiries can be directed to Geneviève Elsworth (gwe107@psu.edu), Community Science Volunteer Coordinator at Penn State's EESI.

PATU Calendar

- May 16** – Coldwater Conservation Corps Training in Lake Harmony, PA
- June 5-7** – Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting (Frederick, MD). *Information at www.tu.org.*
- June 11** – Coldwater Conservation Corps Training in Smethport, PA
- June 21-26** – Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Camp
- June 24** – Trout in the Classroom New Teacher Workshop.
- June 27** – EXCOM Meeting
- July 7-11** – Wildlife Leadership Academy Brookies Camp
- Sept. 16-20** – National Meeting, Scranton, PA
- Oct. 3** – PATU Annual Fall Meeting

More information about all the above programs and activities can be found on www.patrou.org

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The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited would like to thank the businesses on the next page for sponsoring the digital edition of *PA Trout*.

For information on how to become a sponsor of the digital edition or to advertise in the printed newsletter, please contact Charlie Charlesworth, Samantha Kutskel or Brad Isles.

Contact information is available on pages 2-3.

Digital edition sponsorship is \$25 per issue for an approximately 3.5-inch by 3-inch ad that runs online only.

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Headwaters

A message from PATU President Brian Wagner

I felt like I was running late as I headed upstairs. I grabbed the rod tube holding my five-weight. I wanted to throw some streamers today.

What about a spinning rod? I grabbed my lightest spinning rod and unzipped my tackle bag in the corner of the room. I grabbed the reel; the monofilament line appeared a bit yellowed but strong in my hands as I gave it a good yank.

A large box of lures and a smaller empty box to subdivide them into also accompanied me as I headed downstairs with multiple rods and equipment and stumbled out the door.

For those who know me well, I like to fish dry flies to rising trout. I'm not a purist. I just like to hunt rising trout and figure out what's on the menu and then serve it to them just the way they like it.

It was the regional opening day of trout season, April 4, and even if the "olives" would be hatching, with the 25 mph sustained winds that were called for, I figured I'd better change things up. I needed to be on a stream and I wanted it to be one that held some traditional value to me.

As I pulled out of the drive, I still wasn't sure where I was heading. I stopped at the local 7/11 for a coffee and a Pop Tart and then headed toward Stockertown Rod and Gun Club, where I have been a member since age 12, and the Little Bushkill Creek.

I grabbed my five-weight and my streamer box and headed toward the stream. I found a fishy-looking spot and rigged up. It was 10 minutes till 8 o'clock. I counted down the time on my cell phone. There is no excuse for an early start now that everyone has the time being beamed down from a satellite.

Although my traditions have changed, I have to admit I still felt some exhilaration as my cell flipped to 8:00. Overnight rains had left the stream in good shape, although slightly stained. I cast a woolly bugger into all the fishy looking places but the only tug on the end of the line was when a leaf caught on it.

The rain must've dropped the stream temperature overnight and the trout had be-

come moody. At least that was my excuse.

I headed to Martins Creek, not to fish but for a late breakfast. Martins Creek's time is coming soon, as it offers one of the earliest Hendrickson hatches in my area and willing wild brown trout if you hit it right.

I drove back home to Nazareth and renewed a library book on Gifford Pinchot, but that's another story, and then headed to my home stream, the upper Bushkill Creek in Bushkill Township.

I got off the phone with my brother and we had talked about how things have changed over the years. Some of the water we fished as boys has been posted along the creek, but I recalled a short stretch below Hahn's bridge that still had fishing permitted posters. I made a mental note to come back here in a few weeks with a garbage bag to pick up any trash left behind by others.

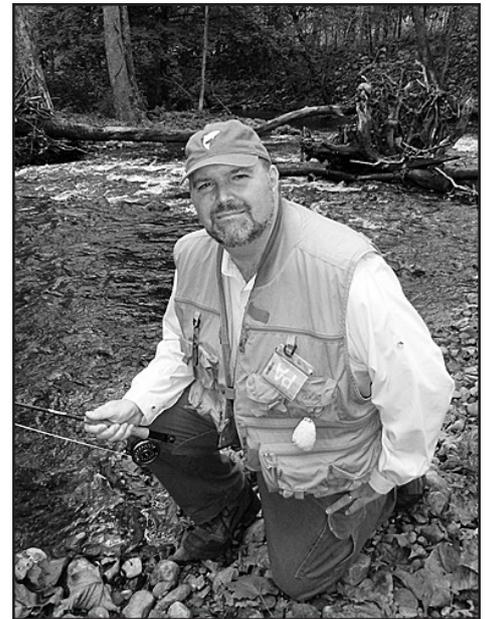
This time I grabbed the spinning rod and a few old CP Swings. That brought back some memories. The stream looked to be in great shape, the way I remembered it from the past. This part of the Bushkill gets pretty small in the summer and has some thermal issues that limit the number of wild trout that it holds, although I have caught some wild browns on occasion and brook trout have been documented in the headwaters.

I certainly hadn't been racking up any big fish numbers today, so when I felt that first swipe at my spinner blade, I got a little excited and when I netted the first of what would be five rainbows throughout the stretch, I got a little emotional.

A lot of memories came flooding back, mostly of my dad and fishing that stream as a youth. All of those trout were hooked in the outer lip and released stress-free. I take pleasure in releasing a fish, because I know I have given an opportunity to someone else to catch that fish. Who knows, it might be a kid's first fish.

I hope you enjoyed me sharing the day with you, but you may be asking yourself, "what is the moral to this story?"

I understand completely why the majority of our members gravitate toward fly



fishing, including myself, and why we market to the fly fishing community. I fished on opening day with different equipment than I typically use, but it didn't change my conservation values and I think we need to remember that sometimes.

As anglers, it is certainly our right and duty to weigh in on rules and regulations that affect the quality of our fisheries and angling experience, but I just want to make certain that we remember the big picture and focus on larger issues that can dramatically impact our sport like climate change, land use, storm water, riparian habitat and energy extraction.

We are working on all of these issues at some level within this organization, and we need to focus the grassroots on these issues as well.

I'm glad to see that there will be two breakout sessions at the Mid-Atlantic Regional meeting in Frederick, MD from June 6-7 on Climate Change: Forecast for the Mid-Atlantic Region and Marcellus Shale: How TU Chapters & Members Can Make an Impact.

These two issues have a high potential for negative impact on our native brook trout. I hope to see some of you there for this multi-state Mid-Atlantic TU get-together.

I will end with a quote from Gifford Pinchot, "The vast possibilities of our great future will become realities only if we make ourselves responsible for that future."

MEETING

from page 1

engraved in stone, but no trip to northeast Pennsylvania is complete without a trip to the Anthracite Coal Mine and Museum, or the Dorfinger Glass Museum and gift shop. The Glass Museum has actually been restored and is owned by NEPA resident fly fisher and chairman of Trout Unlimited's Board of Trustees, Jim Asselstine.

Anyone who has watched "The Office" on television knows the show is set in Scranton. All of the locations filmed were actual businesses in Scranton. Take the time to buy some stationery at the Dunder Mifflin Store in the downtown mall.

Scranton is known as the "Electric City" because it was the first city in America to have public transportation. An electric trolley circuit covered the city.

Your tour will take you to the national historic site, Steamtown, which showcases steam locomotives from a past era. There will also be a trolley ride through town on a completely restored car from the Trolley Museum.

Did I mention shopping? Oh yeah, shopping. Bring comfortable shoes.

Now for a bit of housekeeping. From now until the PATU Executive Committee meeting in June, your regional vice president will be visiting chapters to pick up items donated for the fund-raising auction at the national banquet. Each chapter has been asked to donate an item of \$100 or more for the auction. Please keep in mind, unlike a local banquet, most people attend-

Tentative Agenda

This agenda has not been finalized and is subject to change, please check back for updates. Note: ALL posted meetings are open to everyone.

Wednesday, Sept. 16

7:30 a.m. - ? – All-Day Hosted Fishing Trip (incurs addtl cost)

Thursday, Sept. 17

7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. – Watershed Conservation Tour (incurs addtl cost)

8 p.m. - 10 p.m. – Welcome Reception

10 p.m. – Hospitality Suite

Friday, Sept. 18

7:30 a.m. - 8:15 a.m. – Breakfast Buffet

8:30 a.m. - 10 a.m. – NLC Work groups – Conservation

10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. – NLC Work groups – Organizational

12 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. – Grassroots Luncheon

1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. – NLC Business Meeting

3:45 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. – Insurance Talk with Doug Adams

3:45 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. – Conservation Specific Discussion

6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. – Cocktail Hour (no host)

7:30 p.m. - 10 p.m. – BBQ and Volunteer Awards Presentation

10 p.m. – Hospitality Suite

Saturday, Sept. 19

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. – Breakfast Buffet

8:45 a.m. - 11 a.m. – Annual Members Meeting:

- State of TU (Chris Wood)
- Financial Update (Hillary Coley)
- NLC – State of the Grassroots (Mick McCorcle)
- Board Business (Jim Asselstine)

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. – Speaker Lunch (Speaker TBD)

1:15 p.m. - 4 p.m. – Workshops (TBD)

4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. – Council Chair Meeting

6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. – Cocktails, Hors d'oeuvres, & Silent Auction

7:30 p.m. - 10 p.m. – Banquet, Mortensen Award Presentation and Live Auction

10 p.m. – Hospitality Suite

Sunday, Sept. 20

8 a.m. - 12 p.m. – Board of Trustees Meeting

Vendor Displays will happen throughout the meeting. Please be sure to stop by and support those who support TU.

ing this one will have flown into Scranton and will not have the ability to take large items like framed artwork on the plane. We already have three large pieces that we hope will be purchased by people who didn't fly or are willing to pay the freight

to have them shipped.

Please contact your VP when you are ready to have him pick up your donation.

Contact me for information on the meetings at 570-954-5042 or ffnepa@epix.net.

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Lackawanna County



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PA COUNCIL OF TROUT UNLIMITED

Minutes of the April 11, 2015
Executive Committee Meeting
PFBC Facility, Pleasant Gap, PA

Officers Attending: Brian Wagner, Ken Undercoffer, Charlie Charlesworth, George Kutskel, Greg Malaska, Chuck Winters, Ben Hayes, Chris Burns, John Leonard, Monty Murty.

Others Attending: Samantha Kutskel, Nancy Bradley, Brad Isles.

President's Report: The meeting was called to order at 10:37 a.m. by President Wagner. Wagner referenced a meeting that he, Katy Dunlap, Bob Schott and Amy Wolfe had with DEP Acting Secretary Quigley to discuss Marcellus Shale and Delaware River issues. A motion by G. Kutskel/seconded by Charlesworth was approved to accept the minutes of the Jan. 10, 2015 EXCOM meeting, as previously distributed to EXCOM.

Treasurer's Report: G. Kutskel reported that the Council's 990 has been filed and audit is complete. Kutskel also mentioned that if chapters receive a letter from the IRS that they did not file their 990N that they need to send the IRS the email that confirms they completed the 990N. A motion by Charlesworth/seconded by Burns was approved to accept the treasurer's report.

Discussion/Action Items

- ***Discuss requirements of Act 153 Amendment to PA Child Protective Services Law*** – Wagner reported that we have sought guidance from National. We may need to reach out to Human Services to try to get some additional guidance. There was a motion by G. Kutskel/ seconded by Winters to send the guidance document from Human Services to our members along with a letter that suggest any member who plans to conduct a youth event obtain their clearances.
- ***Approve \$500 donation for Wildlife Leadership Academy Brookies Camp*** – On a motion by Charlesworth/seconded by Murty, approved the donation of \$500 to the Wildlife Leadership Academy for an Education Award.

- ***Discuss PFBC Rulemaking #264 proposal to change Fly Fishing Only regulations*** – We decided to not comment on this at this time. The regulation states you must use a fly rod and fly reel, so we feel the wrong language may have been used.

Awards Committee: No report submitted. S. Kutskel stated that the awards form will be in the next issue of *PA Trout*. We will also be seeking nominations at the next EXCOM meeting from Regional VPs.

Delaware River Committee: Report submitted.

Development Committee: G. Kutskel discussed a deal with Fish in the Garden, which would give PATU 15% of each sale on any purchase that uses a TU promo code. A motion by Charlesworth/ seconded by Burns to move forward with this deal.

Stream Access Committee: Report submitted.

Trout Management Committee: Report submitted.

Women's Initiative: S. Kutskel reported that we are still looking for a chairperson to head up this initiative for at least a one-year term, with the option available to serve multiple terms.

Communications Committee: Report submitted. Brad Isles reported that he is working with Charlesworth to create advertising for National Meeting. Isles also mentioned that fly shop advertisements are available for the digital copy of the newsletter for \$25/ year.

Environmental Committee: Report submitted. Jeff Ripple reported that he is still working on updating policies. He also reported that there has been a decline in participation in the committee. S. Kutskel will work with Ripple to facilitate a face to face meeting. We will send an email to the entire membership looking for volunteers. Ripple will be writing a letter of support to DEP on the new riparian buffer guidelines. We discussed an issue on injection wells in Indiana County. It was suggested that Ripple get the local chapter involve. It



was also suggested we look at possibly creating a policy on injection wells.

Legislative Committee: No Report.

Membership Committee: Report submitted.

Youth Education Committee: No report submitted. S. Kutskel announced that Judi Sittler has volunteered

to take the recently vacated chair position. We thank Eric Wilson for leading this initiative over the last few years.

National Leadership Council: Report submitted. Chapters are up for re-charter again next year. We will need to evaluate each chapter to determine how many years their chapter should be renewed. S. Kutskel and Murty will work on getting information to Regional VPs.

Program Director: Report submitted. A motion by Charlesworth/seconded by Malaska to approve upgrading the current additions of our website software (effects the CHP and PA Trout websites only). S. Kutskel reminded everyone that the Mid-Atlantic Meeting is scheduled for June 6-7 in Fredrick, MD. Keystone Coldwater Conference is scheduled from February 26-27, 2016.

Regional Reports

- ***North Central*** – Seven out of eight filed. Hayes reported that the Columbia County chapter has elected officers and is moving forward.
 - ***Northeast*** – Nine out of nine chapter reports were filed.
 - ***Northwest*** – All nine chapter reports were filed.
 - ***South Central*** – All eight chapter reports were filed. Leonard is planning a regional meeting for July 11.
 - ***Southeast*** – Six out of seven chapter reports were filed. Delco Manning was planning to submit a report over the weekend. Burns, Wagner and S. Kutskel attended and facilitated a reorganization meeting for the Perkio-men Valley chapter in March. We will continue to work with the chapter in reorganizations. A May picnic is to
- Continued on next page...***

Treasurer's Report by PATU Treasurer George Kutskel

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited would like to thank all members who contributed to our year-end appeal to help protect, conserve and restore Pennsylvania's coldwater streams. We could not do this without your support. We wish we could recognize everyone who contributed in the newsletter, but do to limit space we would like to thank those who contributed at the Exceptional Value, High Quality and Class A levels.

Exceptional Value (\$500 and up)

Pete and Judy Goodman

High Quality (\$250-\$499)

Robert Carlson
Greg and Jennifer Case
Mark Collier
John Giustozzi
David Hess
Michael Rish
Lee Serota
Henry Spire
Brian Wagner
Jack and Frances Kay Williams

Class A (\$100-\$249)

Jay Aikens
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Kenneth Vansickle
David Voelker
Al Warner
David Wood
Walter Woytek

...Continued from previous page

be planned by the current leadership.

- **Southwest** – All seven chapter reports were filed.

New Business

- **Update on TU National Annual Meeting** – Nancy Bradley attended the meeting to discuss the upcoming National Meeting. The event will be at the Hilton Scranton. The hotel cost is \$129/ night and full registration is

\$325. The information should be on the website soon. Members can attend breakouts at no charge, but they have to pay if they want attend any of the meals. Nancy also mentioned that the annual award nominations are due July 31 and that they have moved to an online application.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

– Samantha Kutskel

Chapter Donations

Exceptional Value \$1,000 or more

- Mountain Laurel
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- Doc Fritchey
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- Penns Creek
- Penn's Woods West

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- Chestnut Ridge
- Donegal

Wild Trout \$100 to \$249

- God's Country
- Muddy Creek
- RB Winter
- Spring Creek

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Art Walaszek
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Daniel Yohanna
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Dr. Stephen Scheiber
Rebecca O'Donnell

Donations in Memory of

Mr. Howard Jackson

Trevoe Behavior Modification Program
Leighton Jackson
Howard Cantz
James Maratea

AWARDS

from page 1

chapters, as well as many individuals, and that work should be recognized. 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.

Forms 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 state 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?
- **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.

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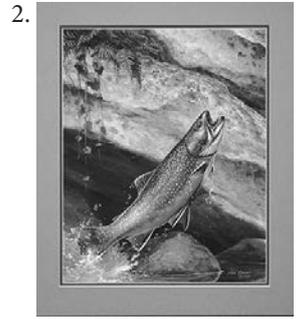
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	Dry Fly – 6X Tippet			
	Wet Fly – 4X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers			
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	Subtotal – Leader Quantity (1 to 9)	\$4.00		
	Subtotal – Leader Quantity (10 or more)	\$3.50		
	Dan Shields' <i>Fly Fishing PA's Spring Creek</i> Book	\$20.00		
2	Ned Smith "Sting of the Hook" Print – Unframed	\$148.40		
3	Little Juniata Patch 2011 – 4"	\$6.00		
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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

Northampton County Conservation District has been meeting to oversee a restoration project on Bushkill Creek. Plans were made for two stream cleanups in April. Our chapter held a successful eight-week fly tying class at Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center. The chapter had a display and fly tyers at the Grace Fellowship Church sportsmen's dinner and the St. John's U.C.C. sportsmen's dinner. We have TIC release days in May and Northampton County Youth Day in June. Our 3rd annual Corn & Pig Roast is Sept. 12 at Riverside Barr & Grille.

Hokendauqua Chapter #535

Dave Abraham

610-844-3459, dabraham@rcn.com

hokendauqua.tu.org

Dates are set for Project Healing Waters outings in 2015. On June 20, the Marine Corps League is sponsoring a golf tournament with proceeds being donated for our PHW events. On March 24, John Mauser and other members met with Tyler Neimon of PFBC to look over the Atlas dam removal project. Planting will take place May 2. Work on the Coplay Creek restoration project starts Aug. 24 in Hokendauqua Park. Cleanup on Coplay Creek is May 9. Our other cleanup was April 25 on Hokendauqua Creek. On May 16, we will be at Minsi Trails Boy Scouts Jambo held at Kutztown University. June 13 is the National Wild Turkey Federation's Women in the Outdoors event at Ontelaunee Rod and Gun Club. We will teach the ladies about fly fishing and TU.

Lackawanna Valley Chapter #414

Charlie Charlesworth

570-586-3363, ffnepa@epix.net

www.lackawannavalleytu.org

LVTU received an "Environmental Partnership Award" from Pennsylvania Environmental Council. The chapter conducted a cleanup on the Lackawanna River, installed wooden lunkers for trout habitat at the boulder placement project, attended a stormwater runoff symposium presented by Penn State University, along with having members attend meetings with the NEPA Conservation Alliance, the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority, the Lackawanna River Corridor Association and the Lackawanna County Conservation District. LVTU members met with representatives of PFBC, the Susquehanna County Conservation District and supervisors from Clifford Township to discuss habitat and stream restoration programs on the East Branch of Tunkhannock Creek, which is part of the Susquehanna River watershed. A chapter trip for steelhead was March 8-10. We started a program that includes 12 monthly newsletters emailed, two monthly newsletters printed and mailed, and two mini-newsletters printed on an oversized postcard and mailed. We participated in a used fishing tackle flea market and sold nearly \$800 in used tackle collected from chapter mem-

bers. We started our fifth round of TU Teens Fly Fishing School, held every other Saturday for four months. We normally only accept 12 students, but 30 registered and we narrowed that down to 21. We opened registration for the Keystone/Trout Unlimited Teens Conservation camp June 14-20. The chapter conducted all-female fly tying classes from February through March. Keystone College, through LVTU, started both a continuing education fly fishing course and a one-credit science lab fly fishing course for Keystone students. Classes are limited to 20 students and 57 registered. The college decided to conduct two classes of 20 students and told the other 17 they would register first in the fall semester. We received a CHP grant for \$7,000 and a \$3,000 grant from the Lackawanna County Conservation District.

Monocacy Chapter #491

Erik Broesicke

610-909-2652, monocacytu491@gmail.com

www.monocacytu.org

The annual Joint Chapter Spring Event was March 14. On March 25, we held a screening of the Fly Fishing Film Tour. We sold out the 200 seat theater on a Wednesday night. Special thanks to ArtsQuest, guest fly tyer Jerry Hadden, and everyone who supported this event. In partnership with the Wildlands Conservancy, the chapter received a CHP grant to help fund the removal of a small dam. We are also pursuing a brush deflector project on city property. A casting instruction program for TU members is set for May. The class was so popular that the first date sold out and a second was added.

Pike-Wayne Chapter #462

Matt Wishneski

570-685-5420

www.pwtu.org

Our annual banquet was March 21 at Lukan's Farm Resort on Long Ridge Road, Hawley, PA. PATU VP Greg Malaska presented a banner recognizing the chapter as PATU's 2014 best small chapter. He also presented Pike/Wayne's Evening Hatch Award to past president John Hart for his leadership in organizing and executing local conservation projects. The chapter is planning to establish an area on the Masthope Creek for physically challenged anglers. Cabin fever fly tying meetings were held in January and February and one of our members is working with local Boy Scouts as a fly fishing and fly tying instructor as well as merit badge counselor.

Schuylkill County Chapter #537

Tony Mione

717-979-0235, tonymione@outlook.com

www.schuylkillcountytu.org

Local company, Solar Innovations, contacted TU and asked if we could come to their location in

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Fred Gender

Email: afgender@hotmail.com

Phone: 570-704-8764

Brodhead Chapter #289

Todd Burns

610-704-4549, tgburns@rcn.com

www.brodheadtu.org

Our annual banquet at Stroudsmoor Country Inn was March 20. We will be able to completely fund the Pocono Creek restoration project in Tannersville with money raised. We are finishing plans for Pocono Creek near the former campus of Northampton Community College in Tannersville, which call for multiple diverters, veins and boulder emplacements throughout this channelized section of creek. Thanks to the Pocono Heritage Land Trust and Northampton Community College for their efforts in making this project a reality. Construction will take place at low water this summer. The chapter recently completed a fly fishing workshop on March 28 at the Kettle Creek Environmental Education Center. Additionally, our TIC program at Swiftwater Intermediate School is progressing and trout will be released this spring. We assisted at the Children's Fishing Derby in Stroudsburg with the Knights of Columbus, Stroud Township and PFBC on April 18. Our fly fishing workshop at the Pocono Environmental Education Center near Dingman's Ferry was April 26. Our annual chapter Picnic on the Stream is June 13.

Forks of the Delaware Chapter #482

Joe Baylog

610-751-9116, baylogj@gmail.com

Website: www.forkstu.org

The chapter participated in the 13th annual Spring Event on March 14 at East Bath Rod & Gun Club along with other Lehigh Valley chapters. A steering committee of Forks of the Delaware TU, Bushkill Stream Conservancy and

Pine Grove to analyze a stream that runs through their property. After a few visits, it was decided brook trout would do very well in the stream and our chapter will work with them. A family fishing derby is May 2 after the Big Brothers Big Sisters Derby at S/A Trout Ponds in Orwigsburg. Sales of flies, spinners and monthly raffles continue. Our chapter was invited to attend Schuylkill Haven Scott Shade Annual Trout Rodeo at Stoyer's Dam to set up a tent and sell our goods. Greg Wood of Rivers Outdoor Adventures held a one-fly event in the delayed harvest area of the Little Schuylkill River on March 22. All proceeds were given to SCTU. He will also be giving away an eight-hour float trip on the Lehigh River in September to benefit the chapter. Our major stream project will be in the Little Schuylkill River in the New Philadelphia area to install a handicapped ramp and plant trees along the stream. We ran four different fly tying classes around Schuylkill County this year. We were asked to do a radio program out of Pottsville on WPPA 1360. We have a one-hour program the third Tuesday of every month. Members attended a seminar on non-profit organization at Schuylkill Haven Art Center held by the Chamber of Commerce. We presented a check to Saint Clair Middle School teacher, Morgan Bretz, and Superintendent Jason Bendel for their TIC program.

Stanley Cooper Sr. Chapter #251
Joseph Gruszkiewicz Jr.
570-430-2300, blastncast@frontier.com

We are preparing for our annual youth and adult fly fishing instruction camps. Board members Joe Ackourey and Stanley Cooper Jr. will have as many as 30 youths under age 18 participating in fly casting, fly tying, entomology, knot tying and time on the stream to fish for a fly fishing camp in June. Members Jay Downs and Dave Cebrick will do a similar program for adults in May. The chapter received an Embrace-a-Stream grant. Member John Levitsky was most instrumental in researching and writing of the grant application. The grant money, along with additional funds from SCTU, will purchase additional lime to be used on the head waters and small tributaries of Bowman's Creek. Money will also be used to purchase plants and trees to create and repair riparian buffer zones.

Western Pocono Chapter #203
George Hludzik
570-788-2121, grhlaw@ptd.net

The third event of our new speaker series was held at the Penn State University, Hazleton Campus, on March 19. Melody Remillard of the US Forest Service spoke on Grey Towers and "Gifford Pinchot: The Greatest Pennsylvanian You Never Knew." We are hoping to have another presentation at Penn State in October. Our April 21 meeting was at the Nescopeck State Park Office. Don Baylor, renowned Pocono fly fisherman, art-

ist and author provided a program on the history of trout fishing in the Poconos. The chapter's summer outing is June 27 at Austin Blakeslee Park on the banks of Tobyhanna Creek. We are currently involved with the Nescopeck State Park to do a riparian planting project on the banks of a tributary to the Nescopeck Creek this summer. Tom Jones is a certified Boy Scout Fly Fishing Merit Badge instructor, and he led our chapter in conducting a merit badge class on fly fishing and fly tying for Boy Scouts in Berwick. Our chapter also helped at the Cub Scouts Fishing Derby the same day. We are currently working to find and provide funding for a TIC project. We were approached by a teacher in the Hazleton Area School District STEM Program who has everything in place except for the funding.

NORTHCENTRAL
CHAPTERS

Columbia County 038
God's Country 327
Lloyd Wilson 224
Penns Creek 119
Raymond B. Winter 124
Spring Creek 185
Susquehanna 044
Tiadaghton 688

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT
Ben Hayes
119 Vista Drive
Mifflinburg, PA 17844
Email: brh010@bucknell.edu
Phone: 570-939-0730

Columbia County Chapter #38
Erick Lewis
ealewis@geisinger.edu
info@coldwaterheritage.org

Arrangements are being made to secure chapter members to offer tying and casting instruction for a new club at Bloomsburg University. We have been unable to locate a suitable venue for the Fly Fishing Film Tour. We will try again in the fall or next spring. At our April 17 meeting, we discussed the TU family picnic along the banks of Fishing Creek at Kocher Park in Lightstreet. A great brook trout presentation by Ken Undercoffer followed.

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

We have been busy organizing our 2015 Project

Healing Waters "Vietnam Veterans - Welcome Home" event in honor of the 40th anniversary of the end of the war in Vietnam. Pete Ryan met with National PHWFF CEO Ellen Killough, COO David Folkerts, and Regional Coordinator Skip Hughes at the Fly Fishing Show in Somerset, NJ, on Jan. 23. They have designated ours a "Destination Event" and committed to sending four to six disabled Vietnam vets from throughout the country to our May 19-22 event. The remaining nine to 11 participants will be disabled Vietnam vets from the Pittsburgh, Buffalo, Erie, Batavia and Bath VA hospitals. Pete, Dave Sautler and Paul Campbell traveled to Brockport, NY, and met with Sgt. Gary Beikirch (Ret.), a Medal of Honor recipient and Army Special Forces medic from the Vietnam War who now serves as chaplain of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society. Gary not only agreed to attend this year, but asked if he could be one of the participants. Dave and Pete gave PHWFF presentations at the McKean Legion Riders, the McKean County Disabled Veterans and Port Allegany Legion membership meetings. They also presented the Coudersport Legion Post #192 a matted and framed print of Medal of Honor recipient, the Marine Corps' Jason Dunham, in thanks for all of the support the Legion has given the chapter for eight years of PHWFF events. Our TIC trout are doing well under the watchful eyes of Ted Bear, Kathy Mitchell and sixth grade teacher Mrs. Nicole Frame. Tickets for our "Castaway Fishing Trip" raffle were distributed to members with thanks to Captain Fred Forsythe, who donated a six-hour, four-angler charter fishing trip on Lake Erie. Amy Wolfe, TU director of the Eastern Abandoned Mine Program and PA Eastern Brook Trout Habitat Initiative, and Dick Soderger, president of the Kettle Creek Watershed Association attended our March meeting. Amy presented a program concerning the history of the partnership of National TU and the KCWA and their involvement in all the great work in the past 15 years in acid mine remediation and habitat improvement in the Kettle Creek watershed. We voted to donate \$100 to and help with the Potter County Envirothon.

Lloyd Wilson Chapter #224
Bill Bailey
570-748-6120, wbailey@kcnet.org
www.lwtu.org

We finished our annual five-session fly tying instruction on March 26. Our TIC program at the Jersey Shore Alternative School, under the direction of Kurt Jones, was doing well, as was the program under Jim Rogers at Central Mt. High. Students are eagerly anticipating a release day in May. Our next membership meeting is May 27 at Citizens Fire Co. Katie Cassidy and Michele Kittell from the Wildlife Leadership Academy will update us on the outreach projects that last year's "Brookies Camp" students are working

Continued on next page...

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on. Our annual family picnic is June 3 at Sieg Conference Center.

Penns Creek Chapter #119

Gary R. Parzanese

717-667-7171, 6sneezes@comcast.net

The chapter welcomed WCO Cory Girt to our February meeting. Information on two veterans programs were discussed by Kevin Lutz. The first is an event being run by Spring Creek TU that we were asked to assist with on Penns Creek in May. The second is the Wildlife for Warriors Fly Fishing Tournament in September that benefits the Wildlife for Everyone Foundation and Project Healing Waters. Our annual banquet was March 7 at Belleville Mennonite School and featured a presentation by Mifflin and Juniata county conservation districts. The districts discussed past, present and future projects planned for local streams in both counties. Our TIC programs are progressing with only a minor issue with a chiller failure which was replaced in late December by Education Coordinator Larry Winey. Tuscarora Elementary School students are completing work on their annual "Trout in the Classroom" book that will be going to the publisher soon. TIC release dates were in March and April. The chapter hosted a workshop on Aquatic Invasive Species and Conservation on Feb. 28 at the Lewistown Rec Center. Chapter members from Penns Creek, Spring Creek, R.B. Winter and some local residents attended the workshop. The chapter is working Matt Shank on signage with information on invasive species and proper care of equipment to be placed along Penns Creek. Our annual spring stream cleanup was April 11.

Spring Creek Chapter #185

Bob Vierck

**814-350-3702, pres@springcreektu.org
www.springcreektu.org**

Our 42nd annual dinner and FUNraiser raised \$21,000, honored Flyfisher's Paradise for 42 years of partnership with the chapter and featured a video retrospective of our activities. We also held a "Bid for a Cause" auction at the fundraiser on behalf of the Veterans Service Program that raised \$4,600 for this vital program. We ordered material for spring maintenance at Lower Milesburg and signed a three-year agreement for herbicide treatment at Upper Milesburg. The kiosk at Fisherman's Paradise is in the final design stage. The Veteran's Service Program held fly tying seminars each week at the YMCA. Guest speakers included Joe Humphreys, George Daniel, Bob Carline, Dave Holmes and Steve Swyensky. Fishing activities for the VSP began in very cold weather on March 15 and continue twice a month until winter. Outdoor writer Mark Nale spoke on "Hooking Mortality of Trout Caught in the Bald Eagle Creek

Tournament" during our April 2 meeting. Scheduled riparian planting at Fisherman's Paradise was April 22 at Fisherman's Paradise, followed by a Spring Creek cleanup and planting at Rock Road on April 25. Our next general meeting is May 7 at Comfort Inn State College with Jeff Skelding of Friends of the Upper Delaware River. On June 4, author and fly tyer Henry Ramsay will speak. Our family picnic is June 13 at Spring Creek Park.

Tiadaghton Chapter #688

Jere White

570-662-2167, whitesgordonsetters@gmail.com

We will be doing more stream improvements on Asaph Run this summer in cooperation with PFBC. We purchased several in-stream data loggers with funding supported by the Arnot Sportsmans Club. We recently funded repairs on chillers for two of the five TIC programs in our county. On May 16 we will be teaching fly casting and fly tying at Springfest 2015 at Hills Creek State Park. We supported two students to attend Wayne's Coldwater Kids on April 26. The chapter received a partial Embrace-a-Stream grant. We will be studying gas development impacts on four tributaries of Little Pine Creek. We will also be assessing aquatic organism passage within the watershed. We will be looking at water quality, fish life and macroinvertebrate populations in partnership with the USGS lab in Asaph, National TU, Mansfield University and local school districts.

NORTHWEST CHAPTERS

Allegheny Mountain 036

Caldwell Creek 437

Cornplanter 526

Iron Furnace 288

Jim Zwald 314

Neshannock 216

Northwest PA 041

Oil Creek 424

Seneca 272

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Mark Hanes

254B S. Main St.

Brookville, PA 15825

Email: m_d_hanes@yahoo.com

Phone: 724-464-7320

Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036

George Kutskel

**814-371-9290, maksak@comcast.net
www.amctu.org**

The chapter is hosting a picnic and fishing at the park on the North Fork of Redbank Creek's catch and release section on May 20. Our 49th annual banquet was March 28. Next year's 50th will be April 2 at the Falls Creek Eagles. In lieu of the Golden Reel Award, this year we named our Big Brothers Big Sisters fishing event after Joe Fieo, a big supporter of the event and a chapter board member who lost his fight with cancer. We are looking at streambank stabilization on Wilson Run in northern Clearfield County. Our DuBois Middle School Environmental Day is May 15 at Camp Mountain Run. On the 16th we will host a family fishing event at the Tannery Dam in DuBois and have one of our TIC schools release their trout.

Caldwell Creek Chapter #437

Tom Savko

814-664-2124, tksavko2@verizon.net

We are working with the Firth Foundation supporting acquisition of additional property bordering Caldwell Creek. Our annual tying classes finished on April 8. We had four TIC programs this year. We hosted a successful fly fishing clinic at Presque Isle on March 21.

Cornplanter Chapter #526

Troy McDunn

**814-723-3759, hdpartsman@verizon.net
www.facebook.com/pages/Cornplanter-Chapter-Of-Trout-Unlimited**

We had a table at the Warren Outdoor Show in January, and we signed up six new members at the show. We also had fly tying and fly casting demonstrations. The chapter has agreed to team with other groups to start a cleanup of the East Branch of Tionesta Creek. One of our TIC classrooms scheduled a release date on Hatch Run April 20.

Iron Furnace Chapter #288

Mark Hanes

**724-464-7320, m_d_hanes@yahoo.com
www.ironfurnacetu.net**

Our banquet was April 11. Porcupine culvert replacement GP-11; PASPGP-4 permits were received from DEP. Work will start this spring. We are excited that native brookies will again be able to reach the headwaters of the watershed by fall to spawn. Plans are in the works to fix the deflector at the fly area on North Fork Creek with Boy Scouts this summer. Fly tying sessions were again a success with 15 to 25 attending each class.

James Zwald Chapter #314

Murray Neeper

814-834-3472, mneeper@zitomedia.net

The chapter president met with Elk County Conservation District, Cameron County Conservation District, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, and the Headwaters Charitable Trust

Foundation to advance planning on the Bendigo Park habitat project. We developed conceptual plans for 500 feet of in stream habitat and bank stabilization structures near the dam removal site in Bendigo State Park on the East Branch of the Clarion River. The adjacent landowner reviewed these drawings and he has agreed to support the project. In addition, several local businesses have agreed to support the project with in-kind and financial recourses. The chapter will continue to develop formal plans, seek permits and funding for this project during the coming year. We submitted letters of support and appreciation to PFBC for its consideration for wild trout status on four unnamed tributaries of Wycoff Run in Cameron County. We conducted six fly tying sessions during February and March. Several students from Cameron and Elk counties participated in Wayne's Coldwater Kids. We will be supporting TIC release days for St. Marys Area Senior High School and Elk County Catholic Middle School.

Neshannock Creek #216

Jeff Kremis

724-588-4378; Bentley48@neo.rr.com
www.neshannock-tu.org



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Bob Pennell
 2319 Valley Road
 Harrisburg, PA 17104

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www.patrou.org

Our annual banquet was March 21 at the Park Inn by Radisson in West Middlesex. Due to logging activity on the Beagle Club property along the Coolspring DHALO area, this summer's workdays will be dedicated to restoring the access trail. We also need volunteers for a workday on Wolf Creek in Grove City that is a joint project with other local agencies. Watch our newsletter or website for details. Our five existing TIC programs are getting ready for their release dates and all have reported having a good year. The annual Wolf Creek Fishing Derby was April 25 and featured fishing and instruction. The Youth and Handicap Special Regulation Area on Deer Creek is open for the first month of the trout season. The area is located along Creek Road between Route 173 and the Custaloga Boy Scout Camp. Opening Day festivities were handled by the Deer Creek Improvement Group. Our annual Oil Creek fishing outing is May 9.

Northwest Chapter #41

Erik Cronk

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The chapter sponsored the Fly Fishing Film Tour at the Tom Ridge Environmental Center at Presque Isle on March 21 with 150 in attendance. Proceeds will help us fund TIC projects in local schools as well as sponsor students for the PA Rivers Camp.

Oil Creek Chapter #424

Gary Ross

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www.oilcreektu.org

The chapter's annual banquet was April 11. Our Dirt & Gravel Roads Committee chairmen report that, with the addition of the low volume roads aspect to this program, it has become a lot bigger with much more money to spend. The Quality Assurance Board met Feb. 3 to finalize new guidelines for the program based on the state's model. Venango Youth Field Day is June 20. We provided a \$300 donation and will be providing fly-tying instruction again this year. We received a corporate donation and will use it to help fund TIC this year. We had four students attend Wayne's Coldwater Kids on April 26.

Seneca Chapter #272

Chase Howard

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www.facebook.com/SenecaTroutUnlimited

Our annual fundraising banquet was April 25 in Port Allegany. Our chapter recently hosted George Daniel's Nymphing 2.0 Seminar. Our fly tying class just finished up, where attendees tied everything from nymphs to musky flies.

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

Chris Burns

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Phone: 610-467-0142

Bucks County Chapter #254

Dan Weaver

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We had a successful banquet on March 21. We are expecting progress and the first phase of breaching the dam at Aquetong Lake in Solebury Twp. Four TIC scheduled release dates in May. Our next chapter meeting is May 7 with Paula Piatt at Bucks County Fish and Game. Our chapter picnic is June 4 at Lindquist Farm.

Little Lehigh Chapter #070

John Tunney

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Our members supported the Lehigh Valley chapters' Joint Spring Event at the East Bath Rod and Gun Club on March 14. We also supported Monocacy TU's Fly Fishing Film Tour event at ArtsQuest in Bethlehem. We had a stream cleanup on the Little Lehigh April 11. We were assisted by the Allentown Friends of the Parks, who provided trash bags and a dump truck to dispose of debris. At our February meeting, Barry Dobril and Mike Detamore displayed their progress with the construction of bamboo rods under the tutelage of Art Weiler. Also in March, we encouraged our members to attend a South Whitehall Twp. meeting to support the removal of Wehr's Dam on the Jordan Creek. The project was to be funded by the Wildlands Conservancy. Unfortunately, township supervisors voted to keep the dam.

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Perkiomen Valley Chapter #332

Chaz Macdonald

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The chapter continues to be active in conservation activities on both the upper main stem and west branch of Perkiomen Creek. A stream cleanup is planned for May. On March 16, Samantha Kutskel, Chris Burns and Brian Wagner met with chapter members for the purpose of determining the course of chapter reorganization. About eight members attended. Four additional members were unable to attend but contacted Chris Burns and expressed interest in becoming involved. TIC release days are planned for May 7 and 8.

SE Montgomery County Chapter #468

Richard Terry

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www.tu468.org**

Our banquet was a huge success with some great prizes and a fun evening. Our annual Polar Bear fish outing was the second Saturday in January. Spring stocking took place in the Pennypack stream that flows through the Trust Property.

Tulpehocken Chapter #150

Daniel Shaffer

**610-334-2615, info@tullytu.org
www.tullytu.org**

This year we are using a raffle to raise money for our chapter. The grand prize is a 1,000 gift certificate to TCO and the first prize is a \$500 gift certificate to TCO. There are many other great prizes worth at least \$400. Buy tickets on our website at www.tullytu.org and click on "purchase tickets." We rescheduled our Casting for Recovery program for July. Our February and March programs centered on the Unassessed Waters Initiative and Marcellus shale. The chapter is moving forward with the UWI and will start to look at unnamed tributaries in the Maiden Creek watershed. TU National and PFBC will be working in that watershed this spring. Breakfast on the Tully begins May 9 at the Tully house from 8:30-10 a.m. Cost is \$6. Breakfasts continue on the second Saturday each month thru September. We visited one of the elementary schools that is in its first year of the TIC program and they are doing a great job. Stroud Water Research is working with a few of the schools this year by visiting and talking about what trout eat and their habitat. The kids are going to plant "leaf packs" about a month before they stock their fish. They will then open the leaf packs and see what has developed. We plan to adding a couple more schools this coming year. Upcoming events include Bass Fishing on the Schuylkill with TCO's Jake Villwok at 7 p.m. May 20 at the Tully House; and George Daniel at 7 p.m. June 17, also at the Tully House.

Valley Forge Chapter #290

Robbi Freisem

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www.valleyforgetu.org**

The VFTU Trout Show was March 26 with Steve Schweitzer speaking about trout fishing in Rocky Mountain and Indian Peaks national parks. This year's Dusenberre Keeper of the Stream award went to Chuck Cutshall, who led the way in getting the PHWFF program started at the Coatesville VA, which led to an additional program for non-patient veterans at the West Brandywine Fire Company building. He has also worked with Tredyffrin Township to coordinate multiple tree plantings and repair work at Wilson Farm Park. Artist Susan Yoder donated the artist proof of her painting that was selected as a PFBC trout stamp. Member Charlie Griffen donated an engraved bamboo display fly box containing an assortment of 12 flies tied by A.K. Best and a copy of his book "Fishing with AK." The flies and book are being raffled, and the drawing takes place at VFTU's general meeting in May. Discharge from Atwater Lake (Quarry) is supplying more cold water to Cedar Hollow Run than it had been last year but there may still be some blockage. The Trammell Crow/Atwater agreement continues to be on hold for assurance of complete discharge repair. A survey of member interests is being prepared to assist determination of new projects and potential participants. The VFTU Fly Fishing School is held yearly on the Sunday after Mother's Day, which is May 17 and is an all-day immersion into fly fishing. We are keeping tabs on eight TIC programs. PHWFF programs meet weekly at West Bradford Fire Company and the inpatient program at the Coatesville VAMC. Our upcoming meeting is 7:30 p.m. May 14 with Willy Eldridge from Stroud Labs speaking on "Healthy Streams" at Stroud Water Research Center, 970 Spencer Road, Avondale.

SOUTHCENTRAL CHAPTERS

**Adams County 323
Codorus 558
Cumberland Valley 052
Doc Fritchey 108
Donegal 037
Falling Spring 234
John Kennedy 045
Muddy Creek 575**

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

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Adams County Chapter #323

Dave Swope

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www.adamscountytu.org**

State Rep. Dan Moul presented Adam McClain, Adams County watershed specialist and youth coordinator for the chapter, with a House of Representatives citation for being named Conservationist of the Year, Professional by PATU. Also on hand to recognize McClain was the Adams County Commissioner Jim Martin. Our annual banquet was March 14. Phase 2 of our Conocoheague Creek restoration project was completed and has received kudos from numerous organizations. A celebration was held on April 11. TU members helped float Conewago Creek with PFBC on March 14. Litter cleanup was March 20 with Gettysburg High School TIC students assisting. We have 10 schools participating in TIC programs. One youth member signed up to attend the Teen Summit this June in North Carolina.

Codorus Chapter #558

Tom Feninez

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www.codorustu.org**

Our annual stream cleanup was April 11. We are holding a Family Fishing Day event with a wide variety of activities at Codorus State Park on June 13. Our West York TIC program's trout release date is May 7. We've been in contact with the Spring Grove Area School District about possibly adding TIC next year. We've completed and submitted pre-contract paperwork for our recent Growing Greener grant.

Cumberland Valley Chapter #052

Justin Pittman

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www.pacvtu.org**

We had three fundraisers this quarter, including our banquet on March 20. On March 21, we had a booth at the Fly Fishing Museum for Yellow Breeches Anglers, and March 27-28 we had our booth at the Fly Fishing Museum open house. We have been working closely with our chairperson to focus on our TIC program and we continue to expand into more schools. We plan on sending two members to the regional meeting in the beginning of June. The Rivers Youth and Conservation Camp is June 21-26 at Allenberry Playhouse. The Street to Streams Program is June 30-July 1 at the same location and the East Licking Creek chapter trip is June 6.

Doc Fritchey Chapter #108

Edward O'Gorman

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www.dftu.org

We are in the process of implementing a contact management system for the chapter to better communicate with members and other stakeholders such as donors, other conservation contacts and vendors. Our annual banquet was April 11 at the Holiday Inn of Grantville. Volunteers meet on Sunday afternoons to maintain our diversion wells in the headwaters of Stony Creek. The Quittapahilla Watershed Association continues to move forward on a substantial restoration and improvement project in the Quittapahilla Nature Park. The chapter has identified a site on Stony Creek to install a permanent monitor and data logger that will allow continuous monitoring of various water quality parameters. Finally, the chapter is moving forward with a project to improve stream banks and habitat in the children and handicap only fishing area on Clarks Creek. We support six TIC programs in Dauphin and Lebanon County schools. We participated in Earth Day in the Park at East Hanover Twp. Park on April 19 and the Wetlands Festival at Wildwood Park on April 25.

Donegal Chapter #037

Jim Wellendorf

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www.donegaltu.org

Clay Pankewicz, a vet and a new member of our chapter, is eager to establish a veterans program for the chapter. Donegal TU was the top chapter for recruiting women into TU during Women's Initiative. We are working aggressively to improve our women and youth membership. Our 36th annual banquet was March 28 at the Host Farm Resort in Lancaster. We have installed, graded and seeded four mudsills at the Climbers Run Preserve project. An informative poster will be placed at strategic locations in the preserve so visitors can learn about the project. We will install a sign at each end of the trails leading to the project area and one in the education center. We planted 20 trees during the Lititz Run stream cleanup on March 21. Our seven TIC programs are doing well. Two additional classrooms were for the 2015-16 school year. Two youths will be attending the 2015 Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Camp and one attended Wayne's Coldwater Kids. We applied for a \$90,000 migration grant from the Williams Gas Company for a 1.1 mile section of a stream in Conowingo Twp. We also submitted a Riverlands mini-grant application to Lancaster Conservancy for a project on Fishing Creek that runs through Drumore Twp. Park. The chapter submitted an application for a mini-grant from the Williams Gas Company for property on Fishing Creek. We will also look for additional funds for this project.

Falling Spring Chapter #234

Rod Cross

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Planning is underway for the chapter's banquet in October. Dialogue continues for a stream improvement project in the fly fishing only section of Falling Spring at the request of a landowner. The chapter responded to a financial aid request for the 2015 Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp by donating \$750 to be used for supplies and materials used at the camp. The Falling Spring Invitational PHWFF event is May 16. The Franklin County Sportsmen for Youth Day is June 13 at Waynesboro Rod and Gun Club.

John Kennedy Chapter #045

Dan Beck

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Two chapter projects have received permits, and we are awaiting dates from PFBC for work on Poplar Run and Clover Creek. We have four schools in the TIC program. Release dates were at the end of April and beginning of May. Our Women's Field Day is May 16 at Riggles Gap Sportsman's Club, and Youth Field Day is June 6 at the same location.

Muddy Creek Chapter #575

Fred Hess

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www.muddycreektu.org

Patches and buttons for 2015 have arrived and are on sale. We also have an opportunity to raise funds by doing some volunteer work for the York Revolution baseball team this summer. The second phase of Pine Run monitoring will be conducted this spring. The chapter is currently in the process of partnering on a project with the York County Conservation Society. We were contacted by YCCS about partnering for a grant to design and set up educational displays on its Bonham Sanctuary, which is in our watershed. Spencer Run, a tributary to Muddy Creek, runs through their reserve.

SOUTHWEST CHAPTERS

Arrowhead 214

Chestnut Ridge 670

Forbes Trail 206

Fort Bedford 291

Ken Sink 053

Mountain Laurel 040

Penn's Woods West 042

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Arrowhead Chapter #214

Chad Hough

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Our annual banquet was at the CU Club in Ford City and it was our most successful banquet to date. We acquired a \$150,000 grant to restore 3.2 miles of Hulings Run in Armstrong County, which is a wild trout producing stream and has been damaged by AMD for many decades. The chapter will be assisting with TIC releases for Divine Redeemer, Lenape Elementary, West Hills Intermediate, South Buffalo Elementary and Buffalo Elementary. We will also conduct a macro study in conjunction with the local conservation district and have casting demonstrations during the releases. We will be donating trout to the Buffalo Valley Sportsman's Club and the Cadogan Field & Stream Youth Field Days. A casting demonstration is set for May 14 at Crooked Creek Lake.

Chestnut Ridge Chapter #670

Dale Kotowski

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www.chestnutridgetu.org

We celebrate our 20th anniversary in 2015. Activities culminate on June 26 with the second Youghiogheny River Symposium at the Penn State Fayette campus. It will examine the Yough as a biological, social, recreational and community resource. The chapter received a proclamation from the state Senate honoring us for our conservation efforts in the Laurel Highlands. Sen. Richard A. Kasunic, sponsored this proclamation. Our chapter's Coldwater Conservation Corps continues to monitor four local streams: Beaver Creek, Ramcat Run, Quebec Run and Mill Run. Data has been entered into TU's database since April 2013. Our Research Management & Protection Committee continues remediation efforts on Jonathan, Morgan and Glade Runs. We are also monitoring activity on the Curry Mine coal-stripping project above the Youghiogheny River and the Great Allegheny Passage rails-to-trails. We are partnering with DCNR staff from Ohiopyle State Park to provide coldwater conservation outings for area middle schools to study water chemistry and stream hydrology, sample macro invertebrates and learn to fly cast. Several participate in TIC and will be releasing their trout on these scheduled days.

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Forbes Trail Chapter #206

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www.forbestrailtu.org

We are ahead of budget projections this year, having received two grants from the Laurel Highlands Visitors Bureau, one for outreach and advertising, and one for our Rock Run acid remediation and brook trout restoration project. Another grant is pending. The chapter and the Lincoln Highway Heritage Corridor have established contact with and will develop a relationship with State Rep. Ted Harhai, Democratic chair of the House Game and Fish Committee. Our 4th annual Laurel Highlands Trout Trail fly fishing tourism and regional economic development program began March 20 with an opening reception titled "Wine on the Fly." Our 13th annual Youth Fly Fishing and Conservation Program began in January.

Fort Bedford Chapter #291

Guy Stottlemeyer
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www.fortbedfordtu.org

FBTU fly tying classes ended on March 21 after 10 Saturday sessions. Members participated in the annual Bobs Creek cleanup on April 4. Members also volunteered at the Keep Bedford County

Beautiful Earth Day Stream Sweep on April 25. The chapter is planning a riparian planting along Wallacks Branch in the Bobs Creek watershed at a date to be determined. Also, members will assist in the installation of habitat and streambank stabilization devices at a site on Little Wills Creek. FBTU is planning a fundraising picnic for Aug. 22.

Ken Sink Chapter #053

Dick Farabaugh
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kensink.blogspot.com

Our annual banquet was March 28. We are planning cleanup of Little Mahoning Creek in May, and our yearly microinvertebrate study of the creek is also scheduled for May. We are checking and making needed repairs for mine-belt diversion devices on Cessna Run to control run off from gas well roads.

Mountain Laurel Chapter #040

Randy Buchanan
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www.mltu.org

The chapter held its yearly banquet on March 21. Fly tying courses were held during January and February at Gander Mountain.

Penn's Woods West Chapter #042

Walter Reineman
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www.pwwtu.org

We manned a booth at the Monroeville Sportsman's show Feb. 14-16. In addition to promoting the chapter and the TU message to a constituency not necessarily aware of our conservation message, we also sold flies tied during the show. We are excited about our new women's outreach program. Events are being finalized for spring and summer. Our membership chair is fine-tuning our mentoring program and we expect to have small groups of new or neophyte members going out with experienced fishermen this summer. Our Cabin Fever show on Feb. 22 with speakers Jon Hooper, Mick Schmidt, George Daniel and Scott Loughner was a resounding success. Our involvement continues with local suburban stream, Pine Creek, in Allison Park. Our expenses have diminished recently due to our relationship with Hampton Twp., which has generously provided materials and heavy equipment time for recent projects. In addition, the Allison Park Sportsman's Club coordinates a stream stocking, cleanup and youth fishing derby. Another offshoot of our tenure with Pine Creek is a one-day exclusive stretch of Little Pine Creek for young fishermen under 12 that's stocked for opening day. We have two strong TIC participants with a third in the pipeline.