

# Pennsylvania TROUT



Spring 2018

Publication of the Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited

www.patrou.org

## Collegiate competitors...



Madeline Cree Photo

The inaugural Pennsylvania Collegiate Fly Fishing Championship tournament was held April 6-8 on Spring Creek in Milesburg, and featured nine Trout Unlimited 5 Rivers College Outreach Program chapters and 28 competitors. Read more on page 5.

## PATU Award nominations due July 31

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited will present its annual awards at the fall meeting at the Center Regional Office of the PA Fish and Boat Commission, 595 Rolling Ridge Dr., Bellefonte, PA 16823. There is a huge amount of extraordinary work being accomplished by PATU chapters, as well as many individuals, and that work should be recognized. If you are aware of 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 Ashley Wilmont at [c-awilmont@pa.gov](mailto:c-awilmont@pa.gov) or mailed to her at PATU P.O. Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823 Please note: nominations for Best Newsletter and Best Chapter website (described below) should be sent to Brad Isles at [bisles@live.com](mailto:bisles@live.com).

Below is a brief description of each award with eligibility criteria when applicable:

- **Chapter with greatest membership increase** – Nominations not accepted; Recipient determined based on data collected from National TU.
- **Chapter with greatest percentage increase in membership** –

See **AWARDS**, page 8

## Wilmont named Program Director

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited appointed Ashley Wilmont as its new Program Director in late April.

A major part of her responsibilities will be devoted to overseeing the Coldwater Heritage Partnership program as well as Council's Trout in the Classroom program, plus a host of other PATU-related duties.

She will be working out of the PA Fish & Boat Commission's Centre Region offices in Bellefonte, and can be reached at [c-awilmont@pa.gov](mailto:c-awilmont@pa.gov) or 814-359-5233.

Wilmont hails from Chester County in southeastern Pennsylvania. During high



Wilmont

school, she started a fly fishing club, volunteered with the Stroud Water Research Center, attended Exploring Careers Outdoors Camp and was a Leon Chandler award winner at the Rivers Conservation and Fly

Fishing Youth Camp hosted by Cumberland Valley TU in Boiling Springs. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in

See **DIRECTOR**, page 3

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Codey Schlemmer Photo

A full house packed the Ramada Inn Conference Center in State College for the 2018 Keystone Coldwater Conference on Feb. 23-24. The conference's theme was "Coldwater Resource Conservation and Education: Rising to the Challenges; Embracing Opportunities" and featured a number of speakers, presentations, student poster presentations and more. The conference is an opportunity for grassroots conservation organizations, environmental professionals, college faculty, staff, and students to share ideas, concepts, and network in order to protect, conserve and restore Pennsylvania's coldwater resources.

## Coldwater Heritage Partnership announces 2018 grants awards

The Coldwater Heritage Partnership has announced that more than \$74,000 in grants have been awarded to local organizations to protect and conserve Pennsylvania's coldwater streams. The Coldwater Heritage Partnership (CHP) 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 CHP 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

- Berks County Conservation District will complete an assessment and coldwater Conservation Plan for the Cacoosing Creek.
- The Eastern Pennsylvania Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation will conduct an assessment of natural trout populations, aquatic connectivity, and AMD/AML impacts to Toby Creek in Luzerne County.
- Elk County Conservation District will create a coldwater conservation plan for the Elk Creek Drainage by

*Continued on next page...*

## DIRECTOR

from page 1

Environmental Studies from Penn State Altoona.

During college, she served as Eco-Action Club president and was a liaison to the campus sustainability council. She also worked as a white water/fly fishing guide on the Youghiogheny River and its tributaries while also interning for the Washington County Redevelopment Authority under the Brownfields and Municipal Planning manager.

After college, Wilmont worked in the camping and fly fishing department of the local Field & Stream store until obtaining a position with the Washington County

Conservation District as an Erosion and Sediment Control and Dirt, Gravel and Low Volume Road Program technician. Wanting to be closer to more cold water resources, she was hired by the Fayette County Conservation District, working in the same capacity.

Wilmont is a volunteer fly fishing instructor for Casting for Recovery Western Pennsylvania and assists with Pittsburgh Project Healing Waters outings.

She is a Trout Unlimited member and recently obtained her PFBC Fishing Skills Instructor certification. In her free time, she ties flies and enjoys pursuing fresh water and salt water species on the fly.

### ...Continued from previous page

completing a comprehensive evaluation of Elk Creek habitat, biota, and water quality.

- Penn Soil RC&D Council will complete an assessment of Pithole Creek in Forest and Venango counties to document water quality issues and develop remediation and restoration options.
- The Seneca Chapter of Trout Unlimited will coordinate efforts to assess Skinner Creek Watershed's current condition and write a comprehensive plan for the creek in McKean County.
- The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy will complete an assessment of the current conditions of the Middle Fork East Branch Clarion River Watershed to identify opportunities to improve this vital coldwater resource in Elk county.

### Implementation Grants

- The Central PA Conservancy will complete a 34-acre acquisition, including the LeTort's spring-fed wetland headwaters, for addition to the Spring Run and Rail Trail Greenway. The project will include opportunities for restoration, coldwater education, appreciation, and conservation training in Cumberland County.
- The Cumberland Valley Trout Unlimited chapter will complete in-stream habitat work to improve natural repro-

duction and survivability of coldwater aquatic species in Yellow Breeches Creek.

- Mifflin County Conservation District will complete a comprehensive stream improvement project including fish habitat structures, bank stabilization, fishing access improvements, and riparian buffer plantings.
- Patriots Cove will complete an in-stream habitat improvement effort on Beaver Run in Wyoming County.
- The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy will remove a dam on John's Run, an HQ tributary to Callen Run, to restore fish and aquatic organism passage to over four miles of wild trout habitat in this headwaters stream in Jefferson County.
- The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy will provide outreach to landowners about riparian buffers and other conservation practices, establish riparian buffers, and complete water quality monitoring on Plum Creek in Blair County.

Additional information about the grant opportunity as well as plans, reports, and photographs from previous grant awardees can be found on the CHP website [www.coldwaterheritage.org](http://www.coldwaterheritage.org).

For questions about the program, please contact [info@coldwaterheritage.org](mailto:info@coldwaterheritage.org) or 814-359-5233.

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# Headwaters

A message from PATU President Charlie Charlesworth

It's that time of the year again. It's our time of the year again. While most of us fish year-round, it is still considered to be the beginning of trout season.

I want to remind you all about what I consider to be the two golden rules of fly fishing. Let us all practice proper stream etiquette. No fish is so important that we should permit it to ruin someone else's perfect day – that sort of "Do unto others" routine.

The next thing is to respect the property of others. In most cases it is only through the generosity of property owners that allows us the chance to fish these great Pennsylvania creeks, streams and rivers.

For farmers, do not walk across their fields. Rather, skirt the outside boundaries. Even though a crop may not be visible, the field may be in the germinating process. Not only that, you can transfer seeds into unwanted areas.

For other property owners, leave their property cleaner than you found it. Better yet, carry out some of other irresponsible fisherman's garbage.

I learned a very valuable lesson many, many years ago. I was fishing in south central Pennsylvania when I came across a great looking trout stream I was greatly disappointed when I found that the property was posted. Never one to be bashful, I politely knocked on the farmer's door. I told him that I saw his property was posted but I wondered if I would be permitted to

fish in the stream. I received a very pointed "NO."

I thanked him for his time and started walking back to my car. I heard him yell, "What kind of fishing do you do?" I replied that I am a fly fisherman. He said, "Well, then you can fish on my property. I used to let everyone fish but those ^\*x # bait fishermen leave all their trash and don't clean it up. You fly fishermen never leave trash."

That was the first time I carried out garbage I didn't take in with me. From that day on I began carrying an empty garbage bag in the back of my car. Do the right thing. Clean up after yourself – and others.

It will probably already be history by the time you get this newsletter. We did everything we could to protect the Fish and Boat Commission from this scurrilous attack by the state legislature. I am hoping we did enough to prevent this miscarriage of justice and interference of an independent state agency.

Regardless of the outcome, we have to demand that PFBC does what is necessary to control spending and that we demand a license rate increase for the agency.

We have a lot of great programs taking place this spring and summer. We just completed the first-ever, Pennsylvania Collegiate Fly Fishing Championships. They were a huge success. We had teams and individuals from nine different universities competing. Next up we had our first-ever Women of Fly Fishing Retreat the weekend



of April 20-22 with close to 50 women attending from across the state. It was held at the Godspeed Hostel in Port Matilda.

Also for the first time ever, we are developing a working program with the Girl Scouts. For many years we have worked with Boy Scouts. Taking the lead from National TU, Amidea Daniel and Kelly Williams, our joint chairs for the Women and Diversity Initiative, and Judy Sittler, our Youth Education chair, are implementing what is known as the Stream Girls of the Girl Scouts. They will do a Train the Trainer on May 5 and then will have the first Stream Girls state outing in July.

None of these great activities can be done without members volunteering time and members donating money.

If any of this interests you and you'd like to help, please call any of the aforementioned individuals or myself. Or email me at [ffnepa@epix.net](mailto:ffnepa@epix.net).

## Chapter Donations

The following chapters have made a commitment to PATU within the last 12 months.

### Exceptional Value \$1,000 or more

- Cumberland Valley
- Mountain Laurel

### High Quality \$500 to \$999

- Allegheny Mountain
- Doc Fritchey
- God's Country
- John Kennedy
- Neshannock
- Oil Creek

- Penn's Woods West
- Seneca

### Brook Trout \$250 to \$499

- Adams County
- Buck's County
- Donegal

### Wild Trout \$100 to \$249

- Hokendauqua

Want to see your chapter listed? Please contact your chapter leaders and tell them!

## In Memoriam

In memory of Gerald Lessmann from Danielle Bianco.

# Inaugural Collegiate Championship a success

By Madeline Cree

*Special to PA Trout*

The inaugural Pennsylvania Collegiate Fly Fishing Championship tournament was held April 6-8 on Spring Creek in Milesburg, PA.

Hosted at Godspeed Hostel, the competition was planned by Pennsylvania college students Ryan Heisler of Juniata College and Dan Collins of Mansfield University, with help from Charlie Charlesworth, PATU president.

The competition was proposed during late winter at a Pennsylvania TU Council meeting, where Amidea Daniel of the

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission was in attendance. She compiled the information presented during the meeting and forwarded it to PFBC Director John Arway, who agreed that the competition was a step forward in increasing collegiate involvement in state environmental initiatives, and it was worthy to support the competition in 2018 and in the future.

Heisler and Collins invited 11 Trout Unlimited 5 Rivers College Outreach Program chapters to the event. Ultimately, nine chapters were represented at the competition with 28 students in attendance.

"I am very appreciative of all of the support that this event was given from

the start," Heisler said after the successful event. "Seeing it all come together and everyone enjoying such a fun weekend was all me and Dan could have asked for. If it weren't for Mr. Arway's support of the young anglers in our state this event wouldn't have been possible."

Heisler extended his gratitude for the support the event received, including that from sponsors Syndicate Fly Rods, Live-ly Legz, Wingo Belts, TCO Fly Shops, Costa Del Mar and Yeti. Each provided prizes for the top three individual competitors and the top three winning teams, in addition to items available to all participants.

## TU pipeline monitoring training in Emmaus on June 3

Trout Unlimited has established a program to train volunteers to monitor water resources that may be affected by natural gas pipeline development.

Focusing on potential erosion and sedimentation impacts, the goal of this workshop is to train volunteers to effectively monitor water quality on high priority streams along proposed pipeline routes before, during, and after pipeline construction.

The Pennsylvania Pipeline Construction Monitoring Program is an objective data collection effort and does not engage in advocacy-related activities

The primary goal of this training to be conducted at the Wildlands Conservancy in Emmaus, PA from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, June 3 is to establish water monitoring efforts along the proposed PennEast Pipeline route in Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton and Bucks counties.

Please register for the training by contacting Jake Lemon at [jlemon@tu.org](mailto:jlemon@tu.org) or 814-779-3965. Provide your name, email address, phone number and mailing address. Registration will close on Wednesday, May 30. Directions to the training session and an agenda will be provided the week of the training.



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The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited has more than 14,000 members in nearly 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 email [bisles@live.com](mailto:bisles@live.com). 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 10-20.

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



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# PA Council of Trout Unlimited

Minutes of the March 24, 2018  
Executive Committee Meeting  
Lycoming College – Williamsport, PA

**Attendance:** George Kutskel, Charlie Charlesworth, Bobby Hughes, John Leonard, Brian McGuire, Ken Undercoffer, Brian Wagner, Dave Kinney, and Greg Malaska.

**President's Report:** The meeting was called to order at 9 a.m. by President Charlesworth who referenced his written report as previously submitted. A motion was seconded and carried to approve the minutes of the Jan. 17, 2018 meeting as previously distributed to EX-COM.

**Treasurer's Report:** Coldwater Heritage Partnership assurance letters are incoming via snail mail. Signed copies of the letters will be forthcoming to grantees. Twelve grants were recommended to be awarded – six Planning, six Implementation. Ninety percent of the funds will be released to the grantees with the amounts detailed below, while 10 percent is withheld until final reports are received. A motion was seconded and carried to approve the CHP Planning and Implementation Grants for 2018.

## Planning

*Penn Soil RC& DC – \$4,500*

*Elk Co. CD – \$3,500*

*Berks Co. CD – \$4,500*

*EPCAMR – \$4,500*

*WPC – \$2,250*

*Seneca Chapter TU – \$4,012*

**Total: \$23,262**

## Implementation

*WPC – \$7,200*

*Cumberland Valley TU – \$7,200*

*Central PA Conservancy – \$7,200*

*WPC – \$7,054*

*Patriots Cove – \$7,200*

*Mifflin Co. CD – TBD*

**Total: \$35,854 + Mifflin Co. CD Award**

A motion was seconded and carried to approve the Treasurer's Report and file for audit.

## Financial Reviewer's Report to EX-

**COM:** Report submitted. Filed for audit.

## Selection of accounting

### **firm for Council busi-**

**ness:** Four firms close to the Bellefonte Area were identified. Discussion was held on how to announce and advertise to obtain quotes based on PATU's RFP. Brian McGuire researched several local area accounting firms that work with non-profit organizations in the region and provided a link to Maher Duessel CPA and Wigfield.

**Approval of timesheet format:** A motion was seconded and carried to approve the timesheet format for the Treasurer's Report.

## Formation of Budget Committee:

The committee will meet no later than June 1. Appointed to the committee were Brian Wagner, Greg Malaska, Brian McGuire and George Kutskel. Secretary Bob Pennell will send out any budget related information.

## Survey form for Regional Trainings:

A SurveyMonkey survey will be created about what the attendees who came liked about the Regional Trainings and for those who weren't able to attend to provide us with input as to why they weren't able to attend.

## Status of new Program Director po-

### sition:

The Committee met with Ashley Wilmont on March 21 and offered the position of Program Director to her at an annual salary of \$42,000 with an anticipated start date of April 23, 2018 for 40 hours/week with benefits explained in the Offer Letter that will be going to National TU; Everything is contingent upon her completion and passage of the mandatory background check; She was formerly with the Fayette County Conservation District and was a previous recipient of the Chandler Award at a PATU sponsored Rivers Camp.

## Redesign of PATU Display Booth:

Charlesworth said PATU needs to have a more mobile booth/exhibit to take to events around the state and when PATU is conducting programs; George stated that we have two booths in storage and that if anyone needs to utilize them to contact him. John Leonard suggested that we



consider the purchase of a tabletop skirt with the PA TU logo and keep it in State College. Bobby Hughes mentioned that there are plenty of conferences and workshops that the booth/exhibit could be set up at to promote PATU. He mentioned the 20th Anniversary PAAMR

Conference at the Ramada Inn Conference Center & Hotel in State College on June 20-21 and the Exhibit space is free for non-profits. ([www.treatminewater.com](http://www.treatminewater.com))

## 2018-2019 CHP funding application

**approval:** Application is due April 11 to PA DCNR. Malaska requested a copy of the grant application being submitted and will not approve of the application without seeing the grant. Kutskel stated that he was not able to produce a copy of the online grant application that he is working on due to the nature of the online submission process at the moment. No action was taken.

## June 16 EXCOM meeting location:

It will either be at CROW or in Lamar; TBA once Ashley comes on board and sets it up and makes arrangements.

## National Leadership Council Report:

Report submitted. Wagner announced that four chapters were dechartered. He announced that National TU is still discussing a fiscal year change of date. The New Initiatives Work Group is in the process of electing a new nominating chair. And National TU has a Marijuana/Illegal Substance Abuse Policy where no marijuana can be at any TU sponsored events and no TU chapters can take money, grants, donations from marijuana growers or medical facilities. While certain states are passing laws to allow for medical use of marijuana, federal law still makes it illegal.

## Eastern Policy Director Report:

Dave Kinney said the Delaware River Basin received authorization for \$5M in Omnibus Bill package for projects within the watershed. They are looking for more funding in FY19-20. Funds will be administered by the US FWS (<https://www.tu.org/blog-posts/proposed-funding-for-delaware-basin-a-promising-start>). On May 12, there will be an advocacy event

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and nature hike at the Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge with Mike Horn and Debbie Schuyler-Cherry Valley, Audubon Society, Appalachian Trail. The Bushkill Action Alert was sent out to eastern TU members and over 2,200 signatures were collected to provide to the PA DEP to look more closely at the water withdrawal issue on the Bushkill Creek. Kinney is also trying to put together a list of sportsmen's groups and coalitions and is looking for contacts of groups and issues that may be discussed.

**Committee Reports:** The following committee reports were received and filed (except as noted) with specific action items noted.

• *EVP Greg Malaska*

Delaware River

Diversity Initiative – Women's Leadership Retreat on April 20-21 at Godspeed already has 29 women registered.

Membership – Membership is up this year, going from 13,080 members state-wide to 14,170 members; only three chapters showed regional declines in membership.

Trout Management  
Veterans Service (no report)  
Youth Education  
• *EVP John Leonard*  
Awards (no report)  
Environmental (no report)  
Communications  
Development

**Regional Reports:** The following regional reports were received and filed (except as noted) with no specific action items noted.

- **Northcentral Region** – Seven of eight chapters submitted report.
- **Northeast Region** – All 10 chapters submitted reports.
- **Northwest Region** – Eight of nine chapters submitted reports.
- **Southcentral Region** – Six of eight chapters submitted reports.
- **Southeast Region** – Six of seven chapters submitted reports.
- **Southwest Region** – All seven chapters submitted reports.

**New Business Items:** Brian McGuire, Ken Undercoffer, and Bobby Hughes were contacted by Bill Shifko to see if we could

let PATU be aware that he is interested in selling off his prints that are over 35 years old.

George Kutskel mentioned that the PA Outdoors Writers Association will hold its annual banquet on May 5 in Franklin (Venango County); PATU is a supporting member and annually supports a Trout and the Coldwater Resource writing award.

Bobby Hughes discussed that Pike/Wayne Chapter is looking for a support letter from PATU to help save the Dyberry Creek/Tanners Falls Bridge crossing (Honesdale, Wayne County), advocating for its repair or replacement or provide funding for a bicycle or pedestrian bridge crossing. The bridge supports a major access point to SGL 159 and the Tanners Falls Village Archaeological Historic District. A motion was seconded and carried to have the Pike/Wayne Chapter TU provide PATU with the necessary language to sign a letter of support to advocate for saving the crossing; Hughes will assist in drafting the letter to be provided for the PATU president to sign.

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent at 12 p.m.

– Robert Hughes, NE Region VP

## Actions taken by EXCOM since Jan. 7, 2018

**February 14:** Approved filing of Forms 990 and 990-T with the Internal Revenue Service.

**February 17:** Approved Resolution and Application for DCNR grant funding for the Coldwater Heritage Partnership program.

**February 24:** Approved spending Council funds up to a maximum of \$5,500 for PA Collegiate Fly Fishing Championship expenses, based on receiving reimbursements for the total amount from the PA Fish & Boat Commission and private sponsors.

**March 5:** Approved spending \$3,500 to support the Women's Initiative Conclave at the Godspeed Hostel during the last weekend in April.

**March 13:** Approved sending a letter to PA legislators opposing the passage of SB935 which would place term limits on the Executive Director of the PA Fish &

Boat Commission.

**March 17:** Approved signing on to a letter to the Delaware River Basin Commissioners, the governors of PA, NY, NJ and DE, and the U.S. Corps of Engineers urging the DRBC to strengthen regulations that would prevent exportation of large volumes of water outside the basin, as well as prohibit drillers from bringing fracking

waste water into the basin.

**March 19:** Approved purchase of 250 logoed drawstring bags for handouts at various PATU events at a cost not to exceed \$300.

**March 19:** Approved National TU Action Alert on Bushkill Creek quarry issues to be sent to eastern PA TU members.



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## AWARDS

from page 1

Nominations not accepted; Recipient determined based on data collected from National TU

- **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** – The same criteria used in the Edward Urbas Award will applied to this award, but it is limited to chapters with 150 or fewer members.
- **Best Chapter Project** – This award recognizes an exceptional initiative, project, or effort on the part of a TU chapter which demonstrates efficient use of resources and which utilizes effective partnerships with other organizations such as government agencies, other non-profits, schools, etc., and which had a notable impact on the community and/or environment.,
- **Doc Fritchey Award for Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist, TU Member** – This award recognizes a TU member with a history of ex-

emplifying PATU's core values and mission- conserving, protecting, and restoring PA's coldwater fisheries and watersheds – and who demonstrates a commitment to volunteerism.

- **Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist, Professional** – This award recognizes an individual, either from a governmental agency, private enterprise, or non-profit organization, who has made an exceptional effort to help fulfill the TU mission of conserving, protecting, restoring, and sustaining PA's coldwater fisheries and watersheds.
- **Outstanding Volunteer** – This award recognizes a person who, while not necessarily a member of TU or a conservationist professional, was particularly helpful and who contributed time and effort to supporting a TU chapter or project. Their efforts on either a single project or on an ongoing basis can be considered and described in the nomination.
- **Best Chapter Website** – Is your Chapter's 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 news-

letter includes information about your chapter's activities that is current, well-presented and clear, and is visually attractive, your chapter 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. A digital copy can also be sent to Brad at bisles@live.com

- **Dr. Jack Beck Award for Outstanding Youth Outreach** – This award recognizes an individual who has shown exceptional leadership and commitment to youth outreach, programs, and activities.
- **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 recognize a person who has been involved for a significant period of time and who has demonstrated steadfast dedication to coldwater conservation, protection, restoration, as well as volunteerism and leadership. It is not necessarily presented every year.
- **Inky Moore Award for Outstanding Service to State Council** – This award recognizes a person who through his or her recent efforts shows promise as a future leader of the organization.

## PA Brookies field school scheduled for July 17-21

At the Pennsylvania Brookies field school sponsored by the Wildlife Leadership Academy, students spend a week learning about our state fish – the brook trout – its biology, coldwater conservation and more. The field school takes place at the Sieg Conference Center along Fishing Creek in central Pennsylvania near Lock Haven. Accommodations include a large classroom space, barracks-style rooms with bunks and shared bathrooms.

Fisheries and coldwater conservation professionals from various agencies and conservation organizations teach at the field school, including the PA Fish & Boat Commission, US Fish and Wildlife Service, SeaGrant, Clearwater Conservancy and the PATU. For more information visit [www.wildlifeleadershipacademy.org](http://www.wildlifeleadershipacademy.org).

## Join TU at a nearby Regional Rendezvous

Join fellow anglers and TU volunteer leaders from across Pennsylvania for a Trout Unlimited Regional Rendezvous to enjoy some great fishing, enlightening presentations, inspiring dialogue and engaging camaraderie with those who share your dedication to TU and our mission.

TU regional rendezvous are occasions to be inspired – by the work of TU staff, lessons from volunteer leaders, and conversations with newfound friends. They are also an excellent opportunity to discuss the unique issues facing the region as well as a chance to network and build relationships.

There are two nearby Rendezvous' you can choose from.

### Southeast Regional Rendezvous

May 18-20 in Davis, W.Va.

Details at [www.tu.org/southeast-regional](http://www.tu.org/southeast-regional)

### Northeast Regional Rendezvous

June 8-10 in Lake Placid, NY

Details at [www.tu.org/northeast-regional](http://www.tu.org/northeast-regional)

Every regional meeting offers a fun-filled schedule of fishing, workshops, conservation discussions and a special conservation tour to see first-hand how TU from the chapter to the staff level are making an impact on our rivers and streams.

The event schedule includes:

Friday – Optional day of hosted fishing with local TU volunteers.

Friday Night – Optional no-host dinner

Saturday – Full day session of workshops and discussions.

Saturday Night – Evening meal and fundraiser for the local state council.

Sunday – Morning sessions followed by an optional conservation tour to nearby project sites.



## **NORTHEAST CHAPTERS**

**Brodhead 289**

**Forks of the Delaware 482**

**Hokendauqua 535**

**Lackawanna Valley 414**

**Monocacy 491**

**Pike-Wayne 462**

**Schuylkill County 537**

**Shehawken 81**

**Stan Cooper Sr. 251**

**Western Pocono 203**

featuring Dave Rothrock as the guest speaker on March 10 at the East Bath Rod & Gun Club. Several chapter members attended a Bushkill Creek stakeholder meeting on Feb. 20 at Lafayette College. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the removal of three (possibly four) dams on the lower Bushkill Creek. Removal of these dams would improve aquatic habitat and open a sizable portion of the creek to fish movement and improved spawning habitat. The proposed schedule calls for design work and permit waivers to occur in 2018, with demolition of the dams in 2019. During the meeting, our chapter was able to present on our Bushkill Creek restoration project between Tatamy and Mill Race Park in Palmer Township. A work plan is currently being designed by Hanover Engineering with initial meetings about permitting and funding underway. These projects are being done in partnership with the Bushkill Stream Conservancy and the Wildlands Conservancy. In conjunction with Dave Kinney, TU's Mid-Atlantic policy director, and Conservation Voters of PA, our chapter rolled out an online petition along with a short video to raise awareness and ask DEP for a solution to the dewatering of the Bushkill Creek whenever the pumps at Buzzi Unicem, a local cement company operating a quarry that pumps 64 million gallons per day, are inoperable due to power outages, both planned and unplanned, without a required back up energy source. The chapter completed a five-week fly tying course held at Stockertown Rod & Gun Club in January and February. We provided a letter of support to Nazareth Middle School for a TIC grant to cover field trip transportation costs. We sent five members to the PFBC's Fishing Skills/Fly Fishing Instructor Course on March 17 in White Haven.

### **Hokendauqua Chapter #535**

**Art Williams**

**610-266-1788, awilliams1947@hotmail.com  
http://hokendauqua.tu.org**

Our stream cleanup was April 8. The chapter added a new TIC program at Southern Lehigh Middle School to go with our affiliation with Catasauqua High School. We held eight fly tying instructional courses in January and February. We had 43 students, which included nine Project Healing Waters, 12 youths and five female participants. We participated in and helped organize a joint Trout Unlimited presentation with other chapters from around the Lehigh Valley. We are working with Women in the Outdoors in conjunction with other organizations on June 16 at Ontelannee Rod and Gun.

### **Lackawanna Valley Chapter #414**

**Adam Nidoh**

**570-489-1650, info@agoutfitters.com  
www.lackawannavalleytu.org**

We continued restoration work on Sweeney

Beach, Scranton, for Earth Day. Our next membership meeting is May 16 at A&G Outfitters. The Teen Summer Camp at Keystone College is June 17.

### **Monocacy Chapter #491**

**Erik Broesicke**

**610-909-2652, monocacytu491@gmail.com  
www.monocacytu.org**

Two board members attended PATU's training in Pine Grove, which was extremely worthwhile and helpful. We held a stream cleanup on April 21 at Illicik's Mill. Our Bugs and Dogs Family Picnic was April 22, also at Illicik's Mill. Our next chapter meeting is "Fishing the Sulphur Hatch" on May 22 at 6 p.m. at Illicik's Mill.

### **Pike-Wayne Chapter #462**

**Tony Capitano**

**570-676-9994, tcapit2@verizon.net  
www.pwtu.org**

Our annual banquet was April 7 at Lukan's Farm Resort, Hawley. In January, Tony Capitano and Paul Ranello attended an open hearing sponsored by the Delaware Basin River Commission concerning fracking in Wayne and Pike counties. Our main concerns based on DBRC reports is the potential acquisition of millions of gallons of water from the Delaware River and its tributaries. Withdrawal of surface water in the amounts required for fracking may adversely affect aquatic ecosystems, and river channel, and riparian resources downstream including wetlands and may diminish the quantity of water stored in the aquifer, or the river's capacity to assimilate pollutants, particularly during periods of low precipitation or drought and the effects of the minimum required water flow at Milford (1,750 cfs). Another concern is the disposal of produced water into the river. We are being proactive and trying to maintain the high quality of water we have today on behalf of the 15 million people who get their drinking water from the Delaware River Basin. Four chapter members attended the fly fishing instructor course in White Haven on March 17. We held a Lackawaxen River cleanup on April 8.

### **Schuylkill County Chapter #537**

**Brian Lengel**

**570-915-1500, blengel@solarinnovations.com  
www.schuylkillcountytu.org**

Our radio show on WPPA-AM 1360 in Pottsville has completed 26 programs, and our audience is growing every month. The Schuylkill River near Cressona and Schuylkill Haven gets a lot of fishing pressure and litter, so we do several cleanups. We also did a cleanup along Bear Creek in April for our monthly meeting, and planned a cleanup of the stream in New Philadelphia. We worked with six area schools for TIC. We also work with the Boy Scouts doing fishing programs.

## **REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT**

**Robert Hughes**

**394 E. Washington St.**

**Nanticoke, PA 18634**

**Email: rhughes@epcamr.org**

**Phone: 570-239-3909**

### **Brodhead Chapter #289**

**Todd Burns**

**610-704-4549, tgburns@rcn.com  
www.brodheadtu.org**

Our 20th spring banquet was March 23 at Ridgecrest, Stroudsmoor Country Inn, Stroudsburg. We are currently putting the finishing touches on our Pocono Creek Phases II/III and look forward to Phase IV being completed this year. Other planned projects will occur on Cherry Creek, near Stroudsburg. This, too, should be completed this summer. We completed a multi-week beginners fly-tying course in January and February. The chapter's TIC group at Swiftwater Elementary Center was successful. Brodhead TU is also picking setting up another classroom at Stroudsburg High School and should have them up and running next year. Our annual chapter cleanup was April 28 at Alger Avenue Ball Fields, Tannersville. We also held an intro to fly fishing on April 29 at Pocono Environmental Education Center, Dingmans Ferry. Our annual members' picnic is June 9.

### **Forks of the Delaware Chapter #482**

**Joe Baylog**

**610-751-9116, baylogj@gmail.com  
www.forkstu.org**

Our chapter has added a new recurring monthly event to our meeting schedule with the intent to increase diversity within our chapter. It is primarily a social fly tying night at a local pub that we call "Bugs & Suds." We had about 30 attend our kickoff event in February. Along with the Hokendauqua, Little Lehigh and Monocacy chapters, we participated in the 16th annual Spring Event

We are applying for CHP grant money this year. We are continuing our fly of the month thanks to John Robertson and his wife. Our chapter newsletter is up and running. Regular meetings are held at the Ambers, Pottsville, on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

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## Shehawken Chapter #81

Fred Gender

570-704-8764, shehawkent@gmail.com  
<https://www.facebook.com/Shehawken-Trout-Unlimited-811023349070239/>

Chapter officers continue to work through the many administrative tasks associated with new chapter startup. Shehawken TU was voted in as a member of the Upper Delaware River Tailwaters Coalition. This coalition is made up of local and county government, local businesses and NGO community organizations. Chapter leaders attended Council's NE Regional Training in February. Chapter leadership attended the Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed Capitol Hills Days. Shehawken TU has attended planning meetings with NY DEC on the joint study with PFBC on the wild trout population of the Upper Delaware River. The chapter received a \$1,500 grant from PATU's Forever Wild grant program. The money will be used to participate in a joint agency fisheries study on the coldwater ecosystem of the Upper Delaware system.

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## Stanley Cooper, Sr. Chapter #251

Scott Brady

570-479-6106, jsbrady@bradygrabowski.com  
[www.sctu.org](http://www.sctu.org)

Our banquet was April 7 at Genetti Hotel in Wilkes Barre. We have scheduled a Bowmans Creek and roadside cleanup. Our summer picnic will be held after. Two TIC programs are doing releases in May. A youth fly fishing camp will be held May 19 and an adult fly fishing camp will be held June 10 at the Natural Lands Trust, Bear Creek. Brews and Bugs is held the fourth Tuesday of each month. A women's fly fishing camp is tentatively set for June, in conjunction with LVTU. We received a grant with Luzerne County Conservation District to revitalize Bowmans Creek where Mountain Spring Lake was before destruction of the dam.

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## Western Pocono Chapter #203

George Hludzik

570-788-2121, grhlaw@ptd.net

We attended meetings held by North Pocono CARE regarding the PPL powerline and communicated with NPC on its stream monitoring project for tributaries on the Upper Lehigh River near Thornhurst and Pinchot State Forest that are affected by the new powerline. WPTU volunteers did an introduction to fly fishing program at Nescopeck State Park on March 8 and April 5.

Chapter volunteers assisted Hazelton Area School District STEM for its TIC project. Volunteers helped the classes in releasing trout in tributaries of Nescopeck Creek. Plans are being made to start a second TIC project in another Hazleton area school. On Feb. 20, Mike Horne of the US Fish & Wildlife Service provided a program on the new Cherry Valley Wildlife Refuge near Stroudsburg, and the Cherry Run Stream Improvement Project that Brodhead TU and Pocono Heritage Land Trust area also participating in. Bobby Hughes, PATU's NE Regional VP, also attended this meeting and was introduced to membership. On March 20, Matt McConnell of the Lehigh River Stocking Association spoke at our chapter meeting and explained the conservation projects the organization is working on, including AMD remediation efforts on the Lehigh River. He also discussed the stocking program on the Lower Lehigh River. On April 10, the chapter hosted its annual trout season kickoff at Nescopeck State Park where renowned Pocono trout fisherman Don Baylor presented a program on "Trout Fishing the American West." Chapter meetings are held at the historic White Haven Library and Conference Center in White Haven.

### **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**

**Open**

**Columbia County Chapter #38**

**Erick Lewis**

814-621-8126, ealewis@geisinger.edu

Chapter representatives attended the PATU Eastern Leadership Training in Schuylkill County, and followed that with a trip to Lancaster on March 4 for The Fly Fishing Show. Our fishing trip to Spring Creek in Bellefonte was March 24. Chapter directors attended the North Central Region meeting at Lycoming College on March 24. Cardy Pursel is heavily engaged with the Susquehanna Riverkeeper in monitoring of natural gas pipeline construction on the Fishing Creek watershed in the Columbia County area. He reports: "Beginning in late summer 2017 and continuing on, we have been monitoring two pipeline crossing locations: One on Cole's Creek

North of Benton and one on Fishing Creek near Grassmere. This monitoring involves collecting data upstream and downstream from the crossing sites. Training and testing equipment is provided by TU and the Susquehanna Riverkeeper. Data collected includes weather, stream flow, pH, air temp., water temp., turbidity, conductivity and stage measures. The data is reported to TU's office in State College. This monitoring also includes general observation of the pipeline, excavation, construction and protective activities. To date we have not noticed any adverse effects on the two streams." We are researching information relative to pending 2.88 million gallon Fishing Creek water withdrawals planned later this year for hydrostatic testing of the Sunrise Pipeline. We held a cleanup on our stretch of Route 487 in Orangeville on April 23. We also volunteered to assist R.B. Winter TU with stream cleanup along Penns Creek near Weikert. Our chapter family picnic is June 12 at 6 p.m. at Kocher Park, Lightstreet.

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## God's Country Chapter #327

Dr. Peter Ryan

814-274-8718, drflyfish@yahoo.com

Regular monthly meetings are at 7 p.m. the last Thursday of each month at the Coudersport Public Library. President Pete Ryan and secretary Bob Volkmar represented the chapter at meetings of the Potter County Conservation District. Pete chaired the March 19 QAB meeting of the Dirt & Gravel and Low Volume Road program at which the proposed project on South Woods Road was granted a "special exception" for an additional \$75,000 grant for the completion of the project before the road collapses 40 feet into the South Woods Branch of the First Fork. In early January, Pete, Bob, and GCTU member and Upper Allegheny Watershed Association president Frank Weeks attended a DEP meeting in Coudersport to give oral comments in support of a permit application by Epiphany for a proposed residual waste water treatment facility west of Coudersport along the Allegheny River. Pete and Bob attended the February and March JKLM Energy stakeholders meetings as well as the March Epiphany stakeholders meeting at which a great deal of information was given and knowledge gained as to JKLM's future plans as well as Epiphany's data, science, technology, and blueprints concerning the permit application for their proposed waste water treatment facility were again explained. Our 11th annual PHWFF event is May 22-25 and will be held in honor of 9/11 heroes and first responders. We assisted in the stocking of the DHALO on the upper Allegheny on March 6. A chapter representative attended the March 9 legislative luncheon sponsored by the conservation district and discussed Senate Bill 935 with Rep. Causser. We hosted an evening of fly fishing and fly tying instruction for the Shinglehouse Boy Scouts on April 2. The chapter's TIC release/environmental

**Continued on page 15...**

# For some, trout fishing in Pennsylvania is like church

By Monty Murty  
*Forbes Trail TU*

Pennsylvania once boasted 1.3 million license-buying trout anglers. Now, that number is down by half. Why? Older anglers are dropping out and not taking younger people fishing. We of Trout Unlimited find it hard to understand why so many older anglers have given up. Why is that?

Perhaps it's because they never learned trout fishing isn't just fishing for trout on Opening Day. Trout Unlimited believes that it's fishing for the true enjoyment of the sport, the love of the challenge, and the battle of wits, not necessarily a full creel a few times in April and May. It's the feeling of satisfaction that comes from limiting your kill instead of killing your limit. It's communing with nature where the chief reward is a refreshed body and a contented soul, where a license is a permit to use, not abuse, to enjoy, not destroy our trout waters.

TU has a saying about trout fishing in Pennsylvania; it's like church, "many attend, few understand." We believe there are phases of trout fishing, and most PA trout fishers never make it to the most rewarding phases. They never get past "how many did you catch?" or "how big were they?"

We believe the rewarding phases begin by learning more about trout and the bug-food they live on, both signs of a healthy environment. Trout food bugs only exist in the cleanest water. Their presence or absence in a stream is the scientific indicator of the health of the stream. We believe the real fun begins with catching a trout on a bug-food imitation you tied yourself, fly fishing. Beyond that, the reward increases as you challenge yourself, not other anglers, attracting hungry trout to your handiwork. That's real rewarding trout fishing, the kind



Contributed Photo

**Forbes Trail Trout Unlimited member Monty Murty, of Lionier, enjoys the highest form of fishing for trout, replacing himself.**

that makes you stay with the sport for a lifetime.

Finally, there comes a time in a trout angler's journey when the joy is mostly in giving back to the sport, in volunteering your time to preserving, protecting and restoring our trout streams, Trout Unlimited's mission. In the end, the highest form of trout angling is enticing a young person to get out there too.

We of Trout Unlimited believe the highest form of trout angling is replacing yourself. Come join us in 2018 on that journey.

## WANTED

### *PA Trout* Advertising Rep

Our quarterly newsletter, *PA Trout*, needs a part-time advertising sales representative to solicit ads for our quarterly publication.

Candidates must have experience and the drive to work on their own and will be paid quarterly on a commission basis.

If this position is of interest to you, please contact Bob Pennell at [rpennell37@comcast.net](mailto:rpennell37@comcast.net) or by phone at 717-236-1360 for more details on the job responsibilities and compensation.



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RepYourWater provides creative and unique designs on high-quality apparel and merchandise, and makes a difference for wildlife habitat around the country. RepYourWater donates 1% of Pennsylvania designed apparel sales to Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited to support our Coldwater Conservation Corps program. We would like to thank RepYourWater for its support and for those who have purchased items. Please check them out at [www.repyourwater.com](http://www.repyourwater.com) and support coldwater conservation!



## GET A CUSTOM TROUT UNLIMITED PENNSYLVANIA LICENSE PLATE!

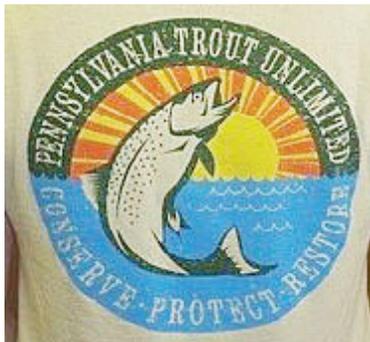
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In return, you'll receive an application form to complete and send with your \$26 payment to PennDOT.

Back



Front (left pocket)



## PA COUNCIL OF TROUT UNLIMITED T-SHIRTS

The official PATU T-shirt is now for sale! Shirts are \$18.00, plus \$2.00 per shirt for shipping. **\*Please note that shirts in size 2X & 3X cost \$3.00 more.** All proceeds from T-shirt sales go directly toward implementing state-wide conservation and education projects.

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  Medium   
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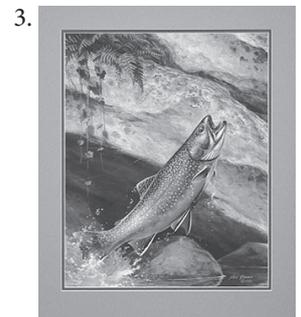
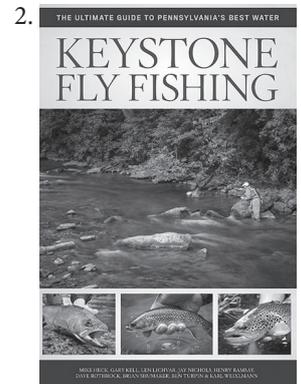
*Thank you for supporting PATU and coldwater conservation!*

# Merchandise Order Form

Thank you for supporting the efforts of the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited in protecting, conserving, and restoring Pennsylvania's coldwater streams. Merchandise orders are processed during volunteer time. Please allow adequate time for your order to be filled and shipped. Direct questions to George Kutskel at maksak@comcast.net or 814-371-9290. See the Merchandise page at www.patrou.org for additional details.



	Item Description	Price	Qty.	Total
	"Back the Brookie" License Plate	\$25.00		
1	Ball cap w/logo (circle) Khaki Navy Camo	\$15.00		
	Large Waterproof Fly Box (6"x4"x1")	\$25.00		
	Custom Fly Leaders			
	Dry Fly – 4X Tippet			
	Dry Fly – 5X Tippet			
	Dry Fly – 6X Tippet			
	Wet Fly – 4X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers			
	Wet Fly – 5X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers			
	Subtotal – Leader Quantity (1 to 9)	\$5.00		
	Subtotal – Leader Quantity (10 or more)	\$4.50		
	Dan Shields' <i>Fly Fishing PA's Spring Creek</i> Book	\$20.00		
	"More of CVTU's Favorite Flies" Book	\$22.00		
2	"Keystone Fly Fishing" Book	\$30.00		
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	Ned Smith "Sting of the Hook" Print – Framed	\$259.70		
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Mail this form, along with money order or check payable to "PA Trout" to:

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\*\* Phone and email are needed should PATU have questions regarding your order.

**...Continued from page 11**

day is May 17 at the Austin/Costello Sportsmen Club. A \$37,000 Fish & Wildlife grant was received by the Allegheny Plateau Invasive Plant Management Area. Letters were sent to Hon. Keith Gillespie, chair of the House Game & Fisheries Committee as well as Rep. Causer opposing Senate Bill 935. A letter was also sent to the Delaware River Basin Commissioners supporting proposed regulations regarding natural gas development in the watershed. Directors attended the PATU North Central Regional meeting on March 24 at Lycoming College.

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**Lloyd Wilson Chapter #224**

**Bill Bailey**

**570-748-6120, wbailey@kcnet.org**

**www.lwtu.org**

Chapter members continue to pick up litter along the narrows section of Big Fishing Creek on an as-needed basis. The Jersey Shore TIC program held a May 9 release into Little Pine Creek. We assisted with a Wounded Warrior fishing event in April. We taught fly casting and fly tying to Jersey Shore Middle School students at their outdoor environmental days. We are partnering with the NE Fishery Center in Lamar for several fishing events for special needs students and others. Our chapter picnic is June 6 at Sieg Conference Center.

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**Penns Creek Chapter #119**

**Joe Dunmire**

**717-899-6085, hjjazzbo@hotmail.com**

Members attended the PFBC meeting on proposed rule changes to Section 5 of Penns Creek. Chapter members attended a meeting with the Mifflin County Conservation District and PFBC about possible changes to structures and reviewed other options, such as handicapped access and vegetation options for the Kish Creek project. Funding and plans are in place to begin this year. Our annual banquet was held at Belleville Menonite School on March 10. We assisted with a number of TIC release days in April and May, and the Mifflin County High School ECO Day at Kish Park on April 30. Our summer social is June 16 at Joe Dunmire's farm. On June 17, we will assist with Centered Outdoors and man a fly fishing station on Penns Creek from 2-6 p.m.

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**R.B. Winter Chapter #124**

**Bob Laubach**

**570-966-3379, oldfrstr@dejazzd.com**

No report.

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**Spring Creek Chapter #185**

**Lynn Mitchell**

**717-250-0009, lynnmitchell74@gmail.com**

**www.springcreektu.org**

We represented TU at the Spring Creek Watershed Association and at the Spring Creek Watershed Commission, and also met with area legislators in Washington, D.C. to discuss pending legislation and support for the Clean Water Act and the Chesapeake Bay. Recent meetings included fly tying by the Penn State Fly Fishing Club and outdoor writer Mark Nale who gave an interactive presentation on the flora and fauna of Spring Creek. "Women who Care" donated \$3,200 to the chapter's TIC program. We also received a donation of \$20,000 from the estate of James R. Firrell to be used for habitat improvement on Spring Creek. We signed a Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant for \$160,700 for habitat improvement and riparian planting at three locations. The chapter conducted a site evaluation of the Kissinger Meadow to evaluate future stormwater abatement project with US Fish and Wildlife, College Township, University Area Joint Authority and ClearWater Conservancy. We evaluated and commented on the University Area Joint Authority's permit extension for water augmentation of reuse water at the Kissinger Meadow. There was extensive analysis utilizing monitoring data provided by the Water Resources Monitoring Project. We attended a number of meetings and began evaluation of a Nestle request to withdraw 300 gpm from Logan Branch. The Spring Creek, Penns Creek and R.B. Winter chapters joined forces to do a Boy Scout and Cub Scout fishing event at Black Moshannon State Park. Our chapter's women's group held its annual "Joe Humphreys Film Festival" and had a "Fishing 101" session for new members along with a class on matching the hatch. Our Veterans Service Partnership program conducted three different winter programs - Fishing 101 for the beginning fly fisher, fly tying for beginners, and an intermediate fly tying class. PFBC Director John Arway spoke at our May 3 meeting at Comfort Suites State College. Our VSP program meets May 13 and 27 and June 10 and 24 at Fisherman's Paradise. Women Anglers meets May 20 at Benner Springs and June 24 at The Rock. Get Outdoors Day is June 4 at Tussey Mountain Ski Resort.

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**Susquehanna Chapter #044**

**Walt Nicholson**

**570-447-3600; waltnicholson10@gmail.com**

**http://susquehannatu.wordpress.com**

The chapter met in conjunction with PFBC's Sportsmen's Forum on March 17. Two chapter directors serve on PFBC's wild trout work group. We continue to participate in volunteer stream monitoring. The chapter is coordinating with Susquehanna Riverkeeper on Loyalsock Creek River of the Year activities, and with the local TIC coordinator regarding a conservation program for fish release/field days. We convened a summit of area watershed and conservation organizations and public officials to learn more about and promote volunteer efforts and accomplishments

in order to protect and conserve our area streams and watersheds. Weekly fly tying lessons started on Feb. 6 and continued for eight weeks.

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**Tiadaghton Chapter #688**

**Jere White**

**570-662-2167, whitesgordonsetters@gmail.com**

Our annual banquet was March 24 at the Penn Wells Hotel in Wellsboro. We joined the Keystone 10 Million Tree Partnership and planted 500 trees along an unnamed tributary of Wilson Creek on April 27. We continue to partner with the Creek Watershed Council on its hemlock headwaters project, which includes replacing the dying hemlock trees in the riparian buffer that are dying off from an infestation of the wooly adelgid. We helped PFBC with a float stocking of the new Keystone Select waters along Pine Creek near Darling Run. Stream monitoring efforts of area streams continue. Our annual Flies and Lies events were held at the Wellsboro Community Center in Wellsboro on Saturdays in January, February and March. We hosted an information table at the seventh annual Earth Day Celebration at Mill Cove Environmental Center in Mansfield on April 22. Chapter members will provide fly casting and fly tying from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Springfest on May 19 at Hills Creek State Park. Chapter meetings are the first Tuesday of every month except July and August at 7 p.m. at the Wellsboro Community Center.

**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**

**Ken Undercoffer**

**1510 Village Rd.**

**Clearfield, PA 16830**

**Email: kcoffer@atlanticbb.net**

**Phone: 814-765-1035**

**Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036**

**George Kutskel**

**814-371-9290, maksak@comcast.net**

**www.amctu.org**

The chapter's 52nd annual fundraiser was April

**Continued on next page...**

**...Continued from previous page**

7 at the Falls Creek Eagles. We held a riparian tree planting April 21 and April 23. We have been working with Westover Borough on a mining permit on the edge of Rogues Harbor Run, a wilderness and Class A brook trout stream. We held our weekly fly tying roundtable at the DuBois campus of Penn State University earlier this year. Our six TIC schools did well and release days were organized. We have three SMART angler and three family fishing events set this year. A women's into to fly fishing event was held March 17.

**Caldwell Creek Chapter #437**

**Tom Savko**

**814-664-2124, tksavko2@verizon.net**

We ordered 50 American elm trees to plant this spring. We continue monitoring water quality in our area streams every week, and participated in the Water Quality Snapshot in the Allegheny National Forest on April 10. We held a fly fishing instructional workshop on March 31 at Presque Isle State Park in Erie, and another on April 7 at Mead Park in Corry. Our TIC projects all did well.

**Cornplanter Chapter #526**

**Troy McDunn**

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

No report.

**Iron Furnace Chapter #288**

**Mark Hanes**

**724-464-7320, m\_d\_hanes@yahoo.com**  
**www.ironfurnacetu.net**

Our annual banquet was April 7 and St. Joseph's Church Hall in Lucinda. Our John's Run fish passage project should begin work this summer. The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy received a Keystone Coldwater Implementation grant to cover most of the work. This is a joint

project with WPC and Allegheny Mountain TU. Plans are also in the works to remove the other two bigger dams in the Callen Run watershed as well. WPC did a coldwater conservation plan for all streams in Clear Creek State Forest and Parks, and we hope to use those plans to identify other projects in that area as well. Cleanup of our Adopt-A-Highway section along Piney Creek near Limestone was held. Last year we were recognized for 10 years of participation in the program. Fly tying classes were held the first two Saturdays of February. There are plans in the works for a chapter float trip on the Clarion River in mid-May. Our TIC programs are planning their release days around the region.

**James Zwald Chapter #314**

**Murray Neep**

**814-834-3472, mneep@zitomedia.net**

We had a chapter delegate attend the PATU regional meeting held in DuBois in February. We received the completed year-long study of West Creek tributary of Driftwood Branch of the Sinnemahoning. Our chapter, in partnership with Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, received a CHP grant of \$2,500 to study the impact of culverts, Marcellus Shale activity, and other environmental factors impacting the Middle Fork tributary to the East Branch of the Clarion River. Other partners in the project include the Elk County Conservation District and PFBC. In addition, the chapter is supporting Elk County Conservation District with its \$5,000 CHP grant to study the Elk Creek Tributary of the Clarion River. We supported a local tackle shop in conducting fly tying classes in January and February. The chapter supports TIC programs in nine buildings in Elk and Cameron counties. We submitted a grant for initial planning and permitting for four sites on West Creek tributary of Driftwood Branch of the Sinnemahoning to the Elk County Commissioners and the Cameron County Commissioners for Act 13 funds to continue restoration activities. The project has been divided into four parts.

**Neshannock Creek #216**

**Jeff Kremis**

**724-588-4378; jkkremis@gmail.com**  
**www.neshannock-tu.org**

Our annual banquet was March 24 at the Park Inn by Radisson in West Middlesex. We are currently working on three different stream improvement projects on Neshannock Creek. One is in Mercer County at Plantation Park Campground just outside of Mercer. There are two areas of severe bank erosion that need to be addressed and we have plans from PFBC for modified mudsills, one is 260 feet and the other over 600 feet. These will be large projects and we are partnering with the Mercer County Conservation District. The other two projects are on the DHALO section of Neshannock Creek in Volant. One is just past the bridge in Volant that will be a series of deflectors to help improve stream flow and the other is near the covered bridge to help stop bank erosion in that area. We held our spring cleanup on Cool-spring Creek's DHALO area on April 21. All TIC programs are reporting successful years and are making plans for their release day activities. The North Deer Creek group is again sponsoring a 45-day youth and handicap fishing area on Deer Creek. We are also holding a Youth Fishing Derby on June 16 in partnership with the Grove City Sportsmen's Club on its pond on Centertown Road in Grove City. We hosted a chapter outing at Oil Creek on May 12.

**Northwest Chapter #41**

**Erik Cronk**

**814-490-4632, ecronk@cronkins.com**  
**http://nwpachaptertu.blogspot.com**

We had our recent F3T night at the Tom Ridge Center. We also had one of our students accepted to the Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp. Other than that, things are pretty quiet.

**Oil Creek Chapter #424**

**Gary Ross**

**814-337-6931, info@oilcreektu.org**  
**www.oilcreektu.org**

We are continuing plans for involvement in the Veterans Service Partnership with a start-up in October. We are tentatively planning an event at Oil Creek State Park at that time. Our 35th annual banquet was April 7. We donated to Venango Coon and Fox Club for trout pond restoration for Big Uncle Day and other youth-related activities. We provided a mini-grant to Venango Conservation District to purchase an electro-shocker to enable them to complete stream surveys. The Conservation District did get a state grant to electro-shock Pithole Creek. Our Cochran High School TIC program held its trout release on May 9. Our annual budget and membership meeting is May 16 at King's Restaurant in Franklin.

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## Seneca Chapter #272

Chase Howard

814-598-3449, [chaserhoward@gmail.com](mailto:chaserhoward@gmail.com)

[www.facebook.com/SenecaTroutUnlimited](http://www.facebook.com/SenecaTroutUnlimited)

Seneca TU's annual banquet was April 21 at Port Allegany Fire Hall. As the 2018 project season begins, the chapter looks forward to completing an Embrace-A-Stream grant project on Kinzua Creek and a Coldwater Heritage Partnership Planning Grant on Skinner Creek. The chapter's temperature and water quality monitoring efforts will continue in the Upper Allegheny Watershed. We completed a six-week fly tying class. We partnered with the McKean County Conservation District to coordinate TIC programs in McKean County schools as well as support the McKean County Envirothon.

take personal action against climate change, the chapter held a native tree sale. As long as a tree is alive and growing it is sequestering carbon and so helping to mitigate climate change. The sale offered a variety of long-lived native trees for members to plant in their yards.

BBQ, Fly Casting/Fishing instruction for Boy Scouts and parents is June 24 at Musser Scout Reservation, Pennsburg, PA.

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## Delco Manning Chapter #320

David Wharton

610-583-2920, [davidwharton@verizon.net](mailto:davidwharton@verizon.net)

[www.dmtu.org](http://www.dmtu.org)

Our chapter assisted PFBC with a spring trout stocking. We conducted seven weeks of fly tying instruction during January and February.

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## SE Montgomery County Chapter #468

Richard Terry

215-675-1536, [rtroadrash@msn.com](mailto:rtroadrash@msn.com)

[www.tu468.org](http://www.tu468.org)

The annual chapter Polar Bear fishing outing on the second Saturday of January was canceled due to high water and rain that day. A winter trout stocking took place in the Pennypack stream that flows thru the Pennypack Land Trust. Fly tying took place each Tuesday night in January and February with several new members being involved. One of our TIC schools received a second distribution of fish after the first died. Our annual banquet was March 24 at the environment center in the Pennypack Land Trust.

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## Little Lehigh Chapter #070

Scott Alderfer

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[www.lltu.org](http://www.lltu.org)

No report.

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## Tulpehocken Chapter #150

Brenda Bittinger

610-704-4676, [b.bittinger@gmail.com](mailto:b.bittinger@gmail.com)

[www.tullytu.org](http://www.tullytu.org)

Our Sept. 16 5k Walk/Run is moving forward as a fundraiser. We are working with our local parks and rec and conservation district to do a cleanup. We are also working to establish a Tulpehocken Watershed Association. We have 17 TIC schools and held training on March 2. We are planning a Women in Waders day later in the year with DVWFFA.

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## Valley Forge Chapter #290

Pete Hughes

610-827-9239; [pht trout@comcast.net](mailto:pht trout@comcast.net)

[www.valleyforgetu.org](http://www.valleyforgetu.org)

VFTU sponsors three PHWFF programs and all are doing well. The vets participated in rod building activities earlier this year and moved on to practicing for regional, state and national fly casting competitions. Col. Todd S. Desgrosseillers, CEO of PHWFF, presented to our chapter in January. Our annual Trout Show was March 17. Ben Turpin was guest speaker. We attended the Fly Fishing Film Tour on April 5, and the proceeds were shared with regional TU chapters. The third annual VFTU trip to the Little Juniata was April 20-22. Along with the National Parks Conservation Association, we formed a technical consultation group with the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission to find solutions to our complaints regarding the storm water management plan for the expansion of the turnpike between mile post 320 and 326. The first technical meeting was in November 2017 and the fourth meeting was in mid-March. These meetings are very successful and the team of engineers found compromise

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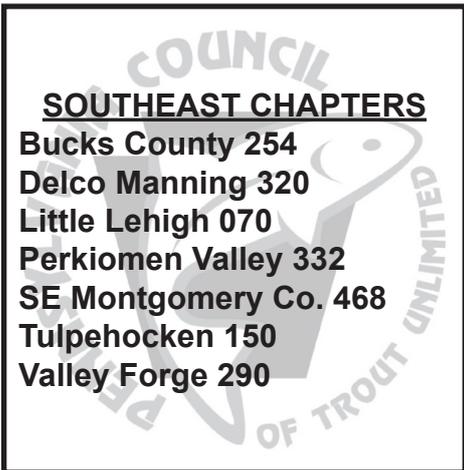
## Perkiomen Valley #332

Thomas W. Smith

215-513-9709, [twsmith623@comcast.net](mailto:twsmith623@comcast.net)

[www.pvtu.org](http://www.pvtu.org)

Three chapter officers attended PATU Regional Leadership Training in Pine Grove on Feb. 3. We developed and submitted our four-year strategic plan to National TU. The chapter established a social media program and appointed a director to oversee it. The social media channels are integrated into our chapter website. We have been conducting ongoing upgrades to our website, including the appointment of a technical support individual to assist with populating information on the site. We held our first raffle at the March 19 chapter meeting. On our most recent ongoing project, we planned a collaborative workday, assisting in the removal of invasives and planting of native plugs at the American Legion site on Perkiomen Creek on April 5. We are also working with various sources (the Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy, the stream habitat section chief from PFBC and the chapter's conservation chairman) to identify our next major restoration project. We assisted with a Perkiomen Stream "Cleanup Day" in cooperation with the Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy on April 7. PVTU began a program providing ongoing weekly fly tying instruction to veterans on Feb. 15 at the local Vets for Vets facility in Pennsburg. At our chapter meeting on March 19, Tom Allen, tied a fly while simultaneously projecting his tying on a screen and broadcasting it "live" on YouTube. Lee Hartman presented "Fishing and Protecting a Treasured River" on April 16. TIC release days were set for May. Upcoming monthly meetings are May 21 and June 18 at Upper Perkiomen Valley Library, Red Hill. Meetings are in the Community Room, downstairs in the rear of the building. The BSA



## 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

Brian McGuire

52 W. Princeton Rd.

Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

Email: [cbrianmcguire@comcast.net](mailto:cbrianmcguire@comcast.net)

Phone: 484-270-8505

## Bucks County Chapter #254

Joe Mihok

215-589-9531, [joemihok@verizon.net](mailto:joemihok@verizon.net)

[www.buckstu.org](http://www.buckstu.org)

Our annual banquet was March 28 at Spring Mill Country Club. We will survey Aquetong Creek in June to determine the success of our brook trout capture and transport project. In April 2017, chapter members released 50 wild brook trout into Aquetong Creek that were captured in a Lehigh River tributary. Our survey in June will be to determine the survival rate of these fish and to look for young of the year brook trout as evidence of successful spawning. We are planning riparian buffer projects to be implemented in the fall in the Cooks Creek and Watson Creek watersheds. As a way to give chapter members an opportunity to

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solutions to all the major storm water issues. We believe the extensive changes the turnpike commission made to its storm water plans will work and provide the protection we must have for Valley Creek. Our annual cleanup along Valley and Little Valley creeks was April 14. We are prioritizing sections of Valley Creek for stream work, most of which will entail repairing and upgrading structures first installed 10 or 20 years ago. VFTU hosts its fly fishing school on May 20. We will also be helping with Orvis 101 fly fishing activities as we have in the past. VFTU displayed at the Watershed Congress in Pottstown on March 10, and we participated in the Watershed Roundtable on March 14. Our nine TIC programs all did well. One school had a fish-kill, but the cause was discovered and remedied. Another school had a problem with its aquarium chiller but a substitute chiller was found and the fish survived. We sponsored a Family Fishing Day on May 5 along with the Lower Merion Conservancy.

### 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

**Russ Collins**

**1167 S. Forge Rd.**

**Palmyra, PA 17078**

**Email: russthepres@dftu.org**

**Phone: 717-580-3958**

### **Adams County Chapter #323**

**April Swope**

**717-778-1876, hey3hallelujah@gmail.com**

**www.adamscountytu.org**

Rob Shane, TU's Mid-Atlantic organizer, spoke on the Unassessed Waters Initiative, the Clean Water Rule, and threats to wild trout from energy and other forms of development at our February meeting. Our ACTU Family Night and fundraiser event featuring Jack Hubley was Feb. 10 at the Adams County Agricultural and Natural Resources Center. We donated \$800 to the Mummasburg Sportsmen Association for its Adams County Trophy Trout Program. We met with Tyler Neimond on March 21 to walk the catch and release area on

Conewago Creek in order to view the work done last year, and to discuss the continued repair of old devices and new projects to enhance this 1.1-mile stretch of trout habitat later this year. Our stand at the Heidlersburg Fishing Expo contained posters that were handed out to interested children and our TV featured a myriad of photos of our projects, including fishing derbies, TIC, SOY, and various stream restoration enhancements. We have 11 TIC projects in Adams County, and set release days at Strawberry Nature Reserve in May. Our annual Latimore Fishing Derby for ages 12 and under was May 5 at Latimore Valley Fairgrounds near York Springs. Amidea Daniel, PFBC Youth and Women's coordinator, was our guest speaker on March 20. Our April meeting featured Tyler MacGillivray, with the 5 Rivers club at Gettysburg College. Eric Richards of Coveted Waters Guide Service spoke at our May 15 meeting. Other upcoming events include Southcentral Outdoors for Youth on June 2 at East Berlin Fish and Game and our annual picnic on June 19 at the Rodgers Farm on Zeiglers Mill Road, Biglerville.

### **Codorus Chapter #558**

**Tom Feninez**

**717-817-8446, tom@codorustu.org**

**www.codorustu.org**

Our annual stream cleanup day was April 7. We recently held an open fly tying event, dedicated to one of our founding members, Jake Paules. TIC release days were held in early May. Our chapter spoke to 150-plus third graders at one of our TIC schools, Lincolnway Elementary, for their "Pennsylvania Day" event in April. We're sponsoring a candidate for this year's PATU Youth Conservation Camp. We're holding a Women's Fly Fishing clinic on June 23. We are awaiting DEP approval on two grants from Exelon Corp., both of which will be used for stream improvement projects in the Codorus watershed. Our next chapter meeting is June 13 at Laughman's Sawmill Picnic Area.

### **Cumberland Valley Chapter #052**

**John Leonard**

**717-512-4620, johnleonard222@gmail.com**

**www.pacvtu.org**

No report.

### **Doc Fritchey Chapter #108**

**Russ Collins**

**717-580-3958; rwarrencollins@gmail.com**

**www.dftu.org**

Our conservation banquet was held at the Holiday Inn Hershey/Harrisburg and featured guest Joe Humphreys. The chapter worked with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation to find areas in flood plains and ephemeral stream sites to for a tree planting between Earth Day and Arbor Day this spring. Two areas were identified and one project – including the planting of 200 native

trees – has gained the approval of the landowner. Additionally, in cooperation with South Annville Township and the Quittapahilla Watershed Association's Watershed Implementation Plan, the chapter will develop projects on the Bachman Run for fencing and riparian buffer plantings. We are also partnering with townships within our two counties to do streambank restoration projects in connection with their mandated MS4 and PCP requirements. It is anticipated that the work will center on fencing, and riparian buffer planting. Releases for our affiliated TIC schools are scheduled. We completed a six-week beginner fly tying program. We received a Forever Wild grant that will be used to hire two interns to survey a selected tributary to the Quittapahilla Creek watershed as part of the development of a WIP grant on the watershed. Our Home Water Veterans Day event is June 9 at the O'Gorman Property, Clarks Creek, followed the next day by a women's fly fishing event at the same location.

### **Donegal Chapter #037**

**Joy McMaster**

**717-781-9783; joy.a.mcmaster@gmail.com**

**www.donegaltu.org**

Two members of our conservation committee attended the Keystone Coldwater Conference. Three board members attended the Eastern Regional Training. Our fundraising event was April 7. Work started in January on a section of Fishing Creek that flows through Camp Andrews. Construction is now finished. We completed a planting in April. Trees and shelters were provided by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation as part of its Keystone Tree Initiative. We attended an organizational meeting of Lancaster Clean Water Partners, various organizations within Lancaster County working to improve our environment and water. The goal is to coordinate all the work in the county for a better outcome. This program is made possible by a NFWF Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund Grant awarded to the Lancaster County Conservation District. Two TIC classrooms had problems with their chillers. We have had inquiries from a few schools about joining the program in the fall. Our VSP program continues fly tying twice a month. The kickoff event this year was April 14 at Millport Conservancy, Lititz. The group plans to fish the second and fourth Saturdays from April to October. The Lancaster County Conservancy is holding a Water Week celebration in June, and we will join with various organizations to present educational/fun events throughout the Lititz Run watershed. We learned there is about \$6,000 left in a 319 grant we used in 2016-2017. We plan to use this money for removal of invasive plants on completed Conowingo Creek projects. Dave Rothrock spoke at our April 18 meeting. Henry Ramsey is slated to speak at our May 16 meeting at the Farm & Home Center, Lancaster. The Fish and Golf Tournament is June 7 at Foxchase Golf Course, Stevens, PA.

## Sold-out intro...



The Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission held a pair of sold-out ladies intro to fly fishing classes at Moraine State Park in Butler County at the end of March. Classes have been a great success and are filling up across the state. The educational program is designed for women interested in learning the basics of fly fishing equipment, knot tying, casting techniques and on water skills. Participants receive hand-on instruction from PFBC staff and community instructors.

### Falling Spring Chapter #234

Warren Christman

717-860-6414, 1.christman@innernet.net

No report.

### John Kennedy Chapter #045

George Baker

814-942-5623; george@myfiorebuickgmc.com

www.tu.org/connect/groups/045-john-kennedy

The Jaffa Sports Show was March 26-28. Weekly fly tying classes were held Jan. 12 to March 3. Dennis Johnson spoke at our March meeting and Frank Nale presented on trout spinners at our April 3 meeting. A Blair Women Take Aim event is May 19 at Blair County Fish and Game Club, Rigglesgap. A chapter fly fishing program will be June 23 at Legion Park, Hollidaysburg, and will be followed by the JKTU Family Fun Day on July 14 at Greenhills Campground, Baree.

### Muddy Creek Chapter #575

Beth Boyd

717-404-7642; ycpnurse@gmail.com

www.muddycreektu.org

Our first quarterly meeting was held the middle of February, and we selected a Rivers Camp applicant to sponsor. We also discussed TIC partnerships and release day events. And we also received a final report on our work with the Bonham project. We will once again hold fall fest at a date to be announced. Our new annual patch is in and for sale, as are our buttons. The chapter formed a small group to begin exploring

a new conservation project or areas that need some maintenance. We also have plans to work to restore and restock our plant nursery this spring. The chapter will be doing a stream cleanup May 16 along with Master Watershed Stewards. All three of our TICs have release days planned. Two of our TIC schools had trouble with fungus in their tanks and lost a higher number of fish. A casting demo with Chris Haag will be held at 7 p.m. June 20 at the co-operative nursery.

### SOUTHWEST CHAPTERS

Arrowhead 214

Chestnut Ridge 670

Forbes Trail 206

Fort Bedford 291

Ken Sink 053

Mountain Laurel 040

Penn's Woods West 042

### REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Chuck Winters

1898 Old Route 22

Duncansville, PA 16635

Email: wintershs27@gmail.com

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

### Arrowhead Chapter #214

Jeff Wasson

724-664-0216; jeffreywasson@gmail.com

www.arrowhead214tu.org

Our annual banquet was March 24 at 10th Street Station in Ford City. The Hulings Run project is proceeding. We float stocked some of our nursery trout in the DHALO section of Buffalo Creek. Our fly tying classes concluded in mid-February. The chapter sponsors eight TIC schools. We held a fly tying madness meeting in March. Our next meeting is May 17 at the Mantini Auxiliary Building in Ford City.

### Chestnut Ridge Chapter #670

Dale Kotowski

724-747-1513,

pheasantfarmflyfish@icloud.com

www.chestnutridgetu.org

Our banquet was March 24. The International Fly Fishing Film Festival was April 13 at the Elks Club in Washington, PA. We held a Dunbar Creek cleanup in April, while also working on a restoration project. We held a veteran's and active duty fly fishing retreat from May 4-6 in Ohiopyle State Park. We held nine TIC release days scheduled in April and May.

### Forbes Trail Chapter #206

Monty Murty

724-238-7860; mmurty@verizon.net

www.forbestrailtu.org

The chapter began holding monthly meetings on the first Wednesday of the months in which we

**Continued on next page...**



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### **...Continued from previous page**

hold meetings. We are scaling back the number of formal chapter meetings to six (September, October, November and March, April, May), and adding weekly fly tying lunch/afternoons in the winter months. Our March 2018 meeting covered organizational and leadership topics such as using the TU, PA Trout, and chapter websites and Facebook pages. Our 45th anniversary celebration and fundraiser is July 14, a Saturday, to allow potential attendees to fish the major hatches before a summer event. We are selling Forbes Trail Chapter Veterans Service Partnership program buttons to raise funds for our May 2018 veterans' event. Our conservation committee continues to conducting monthly water sampling on the Rock Run tributary of Linn Run in Linn Run State Park. Winter's heavy snows and rains caused major acidification events in our local streams; e.g. alkalinity down to 4 from 12 and pH down to 5.2 from 6.8. Acid deposition is still very much a problem in Pennsylvania's highest mountains, the Laurel Highlands. Twenty students from the Ligonier Valley Middle School Outdoor Club signed up for our eight-session Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing program that began in January.

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### **Fort Bedford Chapter #291**

**Guy Stottlemeyer**

814-207-1930, [gmstottlemeyer817@gmail.com](mailto:gmstottlemeyer817@gmail.com)  
[www.fortbedfordtu.org](http://www.fortbedfordtu.org)

Our fundraising picnic is June 16 at Egolf Park and will be catered by Horn O Plenty Farm-to-Table Restaurant. Plantings of native tree and shrub live stakes at recent streambank and habitat projects occurred in March and April and was followed by bare-root seedling planting in late April and early May. The annual Bobs Creek cleanup was March 31. Our free fly-tying classes ended March 17. We held a chapter social, an informal meet-and-greet for FBTU members and potential members at Horn O Plenty on April 18.

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### **Ken Sink Chapter #053**

**Roger Phillips**

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<http://kensink.blogspot.com>

In March, PFBC regional biologists Jason Detar and Dave Kristine gave their report on the stream surveys of tributaries into the West Branch Susquehanna River. We made a donation to the Indiana County Conversation District for its annual Envirothon. We received a grant that will be used to take samples and monitor a local stream. Our annual banquet was at the Indiana Golf and Country Club on April 7. We assisted with Indiana Conversation Days, April 26-27, along with Saltsburg's TIC release day on May 8.

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### **Mountain Laurel Chapter #040**

**Randy Buchanan**

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Our Bens Creek cleanup was April 8. Soap Hollow Run knotweed cutting will be held June 10 and July 22. The chapter conducted two separate beginner fly tying courses in January and February. We are preparing to support nine local schools with their TIC releases. We participated in a Johnstown Nature Works event on March 9. A fly tyers reunion was April 27 at the Seven Springs Sporting Clays Lodge. Our next meeting is June 7 at the Richland Township Municipal Building at 7 p.m.

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### **Penn's Woods West Chapter #042**

**Dale Fogg**

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[www.pwwtu.org](http://www.pwwtu.org)

Our Cabin Fever event was March 4 and was another success. Our Pine Creek cleanup day was April 7. We partnered with Allison Park Sportsmen's Club for a Pine Creek improvement project, which will be Aug. 24. We will install a series of rock and log devices under the supervision of PFBC. We held a free fly fishing seminar April 7-8 at Wilkins School Community Center, Swissvale. The chapter has six TIC programs.