

Pennsylvania TROUT



Winter 2013

Publication of the Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited

www.patrou.org

Caldwell Creek revival...



Contributed Photo

Trout Unlimited members, along with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and the Foundation for Sustainable Forests worked together to maintain access to a fly fishing only section of the northwest PA stream. For more, see page 9.

CHP announces grant recipients

By Samantha Kutskel
CHP Program Director

The Coldwater Heritage Partnership recently announced that over \$70,000 in grants have been awarded to local organizations to protect and conserve Pennsylvania's coldwater streams. The Coldwater Heritage Partnership

is a cooperative initiative amongst Pennsylvania Trout Unlimited, the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and the Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds.

This year the Coldwater Heritage Partnership awarded both planning and

See **GRANTS**, page 2

Legislative visits planned for Harrisburg

By Katy Dunlap
TU Eastern Water Project Director

As Harrisburg stirs to life for another legislative session, it is time for Trout Unlimited to rally our members to make the trip to Pennsylvania's Capitol. Last year's election resulted in a number of changes in the General Assembly, with dozens of new representatives and senators elected and new legislators appointed to leadership positions in key committees.

Why does this matter to TU?

If you are a TU member, you probably know the answer.

You spend your time planting trees along streams, restoring streams that have been impacted by legacy coal development, teaching a veteran how to fly fish for wild brookies, or educating youths about a

See **VISITS**, page 6

CCC to expand watershed monitoring

By Mitch Blake
PA Marcellus Shale Field Organizer

The PATU Coldwater Conservation Corps program has trained approximately 370 volunteers since its initiation in 2010. We are currently monitoring 170 locations

on over 140 streams throughout Pennsylvania, most of which are located within the Marcellus Shale region. The program has grown and matured since its origination and has become one of the best grassroots-based water quality monitoring programs in the state.

We have simplified our training manual to make information easy to find, created three videos demonstrating how to use the equipment and measure water quality, and developed an online data-entry portal that

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Pennsylvania TROUT

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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GRANTS

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implementation grants. Organizations funded by a planning grant will be responsible for creating a coldwater conservation plan that:

- Gathers existing data about the coldwater ecosystem;
- Identifies potential impacts, threats, problems and opportunities to our coldwater streams;
- Formulates a plan of action for proposed conservation and protection strategies; and,
- Builds community awareness and support for the conservation of our coldwater streams.

Organizations receiving an implementation grant will finish projects identified in previously completed coldwater conservation plans. Potential projects must enhance, conserve, or protect coldwater streams for which the original coldwater conservation plan recommended.

“Pennsylvania Trout Unlimited is excited to award grants to worthy organizations for the conservation and protection of their local streams,” said Brian Wagner, president of the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited.

Grants were given to the following organizations:

Planning Grants

Allegheny Mountain Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Clearfield County – \$6,000 to assess the headwaters of Sandy Lick Creek and provide valuable water quality, macroinvertebrate and fishery data to identify potential chapter projects and provide a hands-on educational experience for local Trout in the Classroom students.

Dauphin County Conservation District, Dauphin County – \$6,000 to compile current water quality data, conduct water monitoring and draft a coldwater conservation plan to restore and protect the aquatic habitat in Manada Creek.

Lackawanna County Conservation District, Lackawanna County – \$3,916 to study the chemistry of the Lackawanna River.



Upper Allegheny Watershed Association, Potter County – \$4,330 to gather and evaluate information on the coldwater streams of the Allegheny River headwaters system in order to prepare a conservation plan.

Implementation Grants

Juniata Clean Water Partnership, Blair County – \$10,000 to help to restore stream banks and trout habitat through the construction of in-stream structures and riparian vegetation plantings in Plum Creek.

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Warren County – \$10,000 to restore fish passage and reduce erosion and sedimentation caused by the flooding of Forest Road 156 due to insufficient culverts in Morrison Run.

Northampton County Conservation District, Northampton County – \$10,000 to fulfill recommendations in the conservation plan to restore or establish forested riparian buffers as needed along Fry’s Run, stabilize eroding stream banks and improve aquatic habitat for fish.

Bedford County Conservation District, Bedford County – \$10,000 to enhance habitat for wild trout populations and improve fish passage and bank stability through the construction of new devices and repair and maintenance existing devices in Wallacks Branch of Bob’s Creek.

Penns Valley Conservation Association, Centre County – \$10,000 to restore eroded stream banks and plant a 35-foot or wider riparian buffer of native trees and shrubs in a key 800-foot segment.

Besides offering grants, the Coldwater Heritage Partnership works to provide leadership, coordination and technical and educational assistance to organizations interested in protecting coldwater ecosystems. For additional information, please contact Samantha Kutskel at 814-359-5233, or visit the CHP website at www.coldwaterheritage.org.

Trout in the Classroom raffle to start in February

The annual raffle benefitting PATU's Trout in the Classroom program will begin in February. More information will be available at www.patrou.org when it is available. This raffle is a great opportunity to support Trout in the Classroom projects across the state and to help educate the next generation about coldwater conservation.

MONITORING

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includes a mapping application to centralize volunteers' monitoring locations, data and resources. Our program is truly one of a kind.

This spring we are looking to fine tune our monitoring effort by expanding into watersheds that are currently not being monitored and that have been identified as needing "immediate" monitoring by our Conservation Success Index, a tool we use to rank watersheds based on their potential for impacts from Marcellus development on the quality of trout streams. Immediate monitoring watersheds are defined as watersheds with:

- Greater than 10 percent of the watershed's streams classified as Natural Reproduction or higher by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission.
- Current Marcellus drilling (at least five wells) with a forecast for continued development (at least five total wells).

The goal of the CCC program this year is to have a volunteer assigned to every "immediate" monitoring watershed. There are approximately 40 watersheds we are pin-pointing for monitoring, mainly falling within Pennsylvania's northern tier.

We are seeking TU volunteers to conduct monitoring in the "immediate" monitoring watersheds identified below. If you are interested, please contact Mitch Blake at mblake@tu.org or 814-977-0007 to learn about how you can get involved in monitoring your home water.

Delineated by PATU region and county, the watersheds are as follows:

Northeast Region: Wayne County – East Branch of Lackawanna River, Lees Creek and Beaver Dam Creek. Susquehanna County – Gaylord Creek, Silver Creek, Middle Tunkhannock Creek and

Appalachian Creek.

Northcentral Region: Tioga County – Headwaters of the Tioga River, headwaters of Babb Creek, Trout Run/Pine Creek, middle Tioga River, Asaph Run, Lick Run, Norris Brook, Lower Crooked Creek and Slate Run. Elk/McKean County – East Branch of Clarion River/East Branch of Lake Dam, Rocky Run/West Branch of Clarion River, Allegheny Portage Creek, Potato Creek and Marvin Creek.

Central Region: Bradford/Sullivan County – South Branch of Towanda Creek and Lick Creek. Lycoming County – Elk Creek, Porter Creek-Hoagland Branch, Wallis Run, Trout Run, Upper Pine Bottom Run, Pine Creek, Little Pine Creek and First Fork of Larry's Creek. Clinton County – Hyner Run, Big Run and Baker Run. Centre County – Beech Creek and Bald Eagle Creek. Cameron County – Sterling Run, Driftwood Branch of Sinnema-honing Creek, Portage Creek and Hunts Run. Clearfield County – Laurel Creek and Lower Chest Creek.

Southwest Region: Indiana County – Richards Run/Conemaugh River.

Please join us at one of the following CCC trainings scheduled for this spring:

- Feb. 23 – East Stroudsburg. Hosted by the Brodhead Chapter of TU.
- March 9 – Port Allegany. Hosted by the Seneca Chapter of TU.
- March 16 – State College. Hosted by the Spring Creek Chapter of TU.
- March 23 (tentative) – Erie Pa. Hosted by PA Sea Grant.
- April 6 – Emmaus. Hosted by the Little Lehigh Chapter of TU.

For more details on these trainings, or if you are interested in monitoring and would like to find out about the monitoring effort in your area, please contact Mitchell Blake via email or phone: mblake@tu.org or 814-977-0007.

PA COUNCIL OF TROUT UNLIMITED 2013 COMMITTEES



Awards -- Gerry Miller
306 Baumgardner Drive
Harrisburg, PA 17112
717-583-2087 / fourquartets@verizon.net

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

Coldwater Heritage Partnership TU Delegate
Ken Undercoffer
1510 Village Rd., Clearfield, PA 16830
814-765-1035 / kcoffer@atlanticbb.net

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

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

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

Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture --
Ken Undercoffer
1510 Village Rd., Clearfield, PA 16830
814-765-1035 / kcoffer@atlanticbb.net

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

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

Membership -- Greg Malaska
218 W. 13th St., Jim Thorpe, PA 18229
570-657-7169 / gregmalaska@gmail.com

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

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

Trout in the Classroom -- Samantha Kutskel
P.O. Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823
814-359-5233 / skutskel@coldwaterheritage.org

Trout Management -- Richard Soderberg
Mansfield University, Mansfield, PA 16933
570-662-4539 / rsoderbe@mansfield.edu

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

Women's Committee -- Samantha Kutskel
P.O. Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823
814-359-5233 / skutskel@coldwaterheritage.org

Headwaters

A message from PATU President Brian Wagner

As I'm writing this column between the Christmas and New Year holidays, the weather outside has been cold, snowy and blustery. Only a few diehards are probably getting some last use from their 2012 Pennsylvania fishing licenses.

For most of us, we are busy checking our tackle, maybe tying some of our favorite fly patterns and looking forward to the first hatches of 2013. For me, I always look towards the baetis, "little blue-winged olive," hatch on some of my local limestone streams. Having purchased one of the new multi-year fishing licenses being offered by the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission, I'm ready to roll through 2017. The new three- and five-year license options offer you convenience, savings and great rewards. Check it out by clicking the link on our website, patrout.org.

In my last column, I indicated that Council had started the process of updating our strategic plan, a task that seemed somewhat daunting, but necessary. Putting together the strategic plan was a real opportunity to understand everything that is going on in Pennsylvania in regards to coldwater conservation with Trout Unlimited at all levels.

I felt that it was important to be as inclusive and comprehensive as possible, seeking input from as many sources as possible. The goal was to create a document that would assist in guiding Council over the next several years, but I soon realized it was much more.

It became a communication tool between National staff, PATU's Executive Committee and staff, our committee chairs and chapter leaders to build on the "One TU" concept and to provide mutual assistance to reach our goals. In the plan, you will find lots of opportunity for our members and chapters. Please take a look at it on the PATU website under the "Documents" section to see how you or your chapter fits into the plan and can help implement it.

One outcome of the plan is that Council will be hosting bi-monthly conference calls with chapter leaders to share information, provide updates and training, and listen to your needs and concerns. This was based

on input from a chapter president requesting alternate ways to communicate. The first call, scheduled for January, covered our Trout Management Position Paper which was published in the last issue of *PA Trout*.

We are interested in hearing what you would like to have discussed during future calls. If you or another chapter leader weren't able to make the first call, please consider joining the next. This is just one outcome in a plan loaded with strategies to assist with chapter development, programs and projects that Council expects to fulfill.

We are currently in the process of hiring a program coordinator. With additional staff, we can make this a reality.

Please make sure your chapters take advantage of all the grant programs that are available. Although the grant round is currently closed for the next Coldwater Heritage Program planning and implementation grants, it's never too early to start planning for next year. The grant round is open for our new "Back the Brookie" Plate Grant. By the way, the non-registration license plates featuring our state fish are available by clicking on the "Merchandise" tab on our website. Grant rounds for Trout in the Classroom Start Up and Existing Program Grants open in February.

National staff offered input to our plan, providing opportunities for us to enhance coldwater conservation in Pennsylvania. Amy Wolfe's group with the Eastern Abandoned Mine program and West Branch Susquehanna Restoration Initiative will be starting a new separate program on fish passage.

In order to gain a sense of just how prevalent stream crossing problems are to Pennsylvania's brook trout and to develop the appropriate long-term strategy to remedy the problems, they plan to initiate a stream crossing inventory effort and complete several highly visible demonstration road culvert repair and/or replacement projects.

Kevin Anderson will be engaging chapters in site identification and landowner outreach to restore riparian forest buffers along trout streams in south-central Penn-



sylvania (Lower Susquehanna, Potomac, Juniata watersheds). Katy Dunlap will be advancing a campaign to protect special places throughout the Marcellus Shale region, and specific streams in the state, from the impacts of shale gas development.

You will be hearing a lot more about this in the near future. Council donated a thousand dollars toward costs associated with the report. Katy will also be organizing legislative visits like the one I attended in October where we discussed with key legislators what legislation might be introduced next year including bills focused on flooding, restoration of erosion and sediment inspection authority to county conservation districts, using AMD water for fracking, and a resolution related to water consumption.

I would like to take this opportunity to highlight our Coldwater Conservation Corp monitoring program. Mitch Blake plans to hold six additional training sessions in 2013. As the dates and locations become available, please consider becoming a monitor or promoting these events.

The collection of baseline data is very important in places both where shale drilling is occurring and elsewhere. Without this information there is nothing to compare to when something does go wrong, and it's impossible to establish any trends.

We had an informative and productive meeting with the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission's Pleasant Gap staff in December. Much of the discussion revolved

Continued on next page...

Treasurer's Report

by PATU Treasurer George Kutskel

Happy New Year! Of course, our year started on Oct. 1. But I have just a few items that are important to our chapter leaders.

First, if you missed the leaders' conference call this month, please mark your calendar for the next one in March. This is a great way to stay current with all the issues affecting PA chapters.

Second, please make sure you keep chapter information up to date on National TU's website. We had several chapters with new people in key positions, like treasurer, that did not have access to the Leaders Only section. This can cause a number of problems when it comes time to file a chapter's annual financial report. Also, if there is a change in the treasurer position, the current treasurer should complete the report before turning the books over to his or her replacement.

Third, the Small Games of Chance rules are still causing many chapters angst. State

Chapter Donations

The following chapters have donated to further council's mission, in addition to supporting fundraisers, in 2012.

Oil Creek	Chestnut Ridge
Spring Creek	Adams County
Mountain Laurel	Allegheny Mtn.
Valley Forge	Lackawana
Brodhead	Bucks County
Hokendauqua	Penns Creek
Arrowhead	Fort Bedford

legislators are still fine-tuning many of the changes. The 50/50 game is legal as of Jan. 1. The financial report that was due to the state's Department of Revenue on Feb. 1 was postponed until next year. Chapters that must renew their license should start well before the expiration date because both the president and secretary need background checks. In one organization I belong to, it took several weeks to get

the president's background check back. If your chapter's Small Games of Chance license is about to expire it alone could stop your fundraiser. County treasurers will not issue a license without the background checks. If your chapter has not yet talked to the county treasurer it would do well to do so. They are the best resource to get answers to the many questions all license holders have.

Fourth, keep your eyes open for the leadership training we are holding sometime this summer. This will be a great opportunity to learn how to make your chapter stronger and run smoothly.

Lastly, we will again be holding a fundraising raffle. Details are still being worked on at this time, so please visit our website at www.patrou.org to keep apprised of the details. We hope to see more members around the state take advantage of these raffle tickets, along with the chapters.

Our program director is working on several new initiatives that are talked about elsewhere in this issue. And they all need funding.

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around our Trout Management Position Paper and PFBC's stocking policy, but we were able to discuss many other topics including Big Spring brook trout restoration, some changes to their habitat program and a fingerling study. We are looking forward to a much closer working relationship between our Environmental and Trout Management committees in order to attain

mutual goals.

Finally, I want to take the opportunity to personally thank everyone who was able to give during our end-of-year appeal. I know that requests for financial support from organizations like ours and others can be overwhelming at times. I am truly grateful for each contribution made to support our wild trout and coldwater conservation in Pennsylvania.



The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited has nearly 12,000 members in more than 50 chapters statewide, with one common goal: The conservation and enhancement of Pennsylvania's coldwater streams and fisheries, specifically our wild trout resources. Trout Unlimited is an IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, functioning for charitable, educational and scientific purposes. Donations are deductible to the extent provided by law. For information on advertising in PA Trout, call 814-692-5232, or e-mail advertising@patrou.org. See pages 2-3 for Council contact information, officers and committees. For listings of Regional VPs and Pennsylvania TU chapters, and their contact information, see pages 12-24. For TU membership information, see page 20.

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Riparian buffer planting projects set to begin

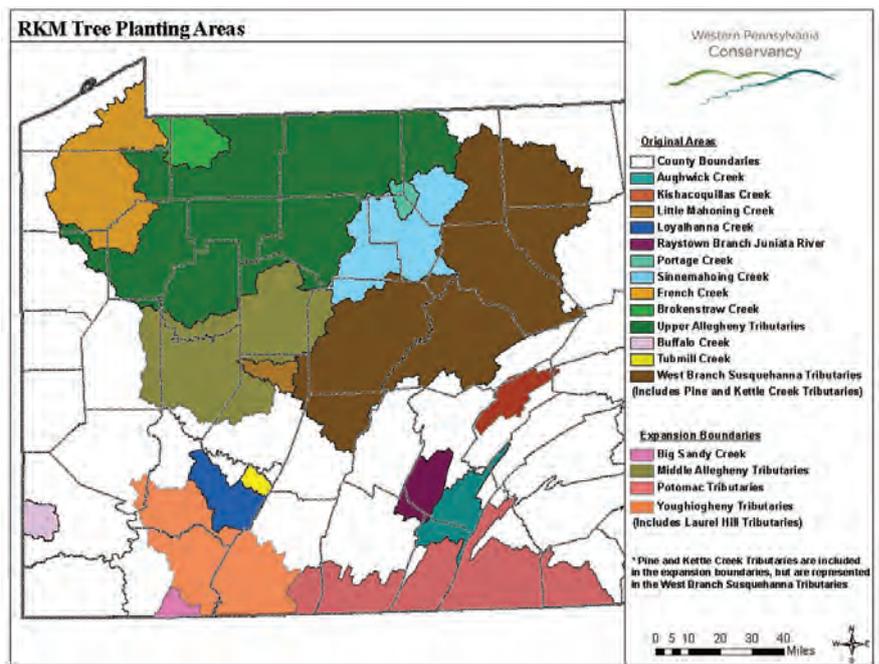
TU National has teamed up with The Nature Conservancy and Chesapeake Bay Foundation to promote reforestation along brook trout streams in the Lower Susquehanna River basin.

The team began the project in December by mapping reforestation priorities using new data from the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture. They will start reaching out to private landowners with offers of technical and financial assistance in February.

Staffer Kevin Anderson would like to make sure that TU chapters share their ideas for planting sites with the team, as well as any contacts they have with private landowners whose properties may be good prospects for buffer plantings.

Anderson also hopes that chapters will help him reach out to landowners by cosigning letters to them or contacting those they know by phone.

In related news, the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy will begin a major riparian buffer planting project this year through which they hope to plant 20,000 trees



and shrubs. They are equally interested in planting buffers along trout streams and welcome project ideas from TU chapters.

For more information on accessing these resources, contact Kevin Anderson at 703-

284-9420 or kanderson@tu.org.

Chapters in the Lower Susquehanna River basin should expect to hear from Kevin about the TU-TNC-CBF project this winter.

VISITS

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trout's life cycle. And yes, you also spend time in the stream, waiting for the first rise of the day and enjoying the peace and solitude that Penn's Woods offers.

Yet, despite all of these hands-on efforts, there is no guarantee that we will have long term protections for coldwater resources and our fishing opportunities, unless we work with those who are making the decisions. That means that we, as the TU community, need to play a role in educating state decision-makers about potential threats to coldwater resources and opportunities for adopting protective laws and regulations.

In order to make sure that legislation considered by the Pennsylvania General Assembly helps further TU's mission to protect, restore and conserve coldwater resources, it is critical that we have a regular presence in Harrisburg.

To that end, TU has organized monthly legislative visits to Harrisburg. The follow-

ing tentative schedule has been set:

- Feb. 12-13
- March 12-13
- April 16-17
- May 13-14
- June 17-19

These meetings will be great opportunities for TU members to share their concerns about water resource impacts with individual legislators and the General Assembly, talk about the great projects that chapters are doing on the ground and educate legislators about important protections needed for coldwater resources.

For more information or to register for a scheduled legislative day, please contact Katy Dunlap, TU's Eastern Water Project Director, at kdunlap@tu.org or 607-703-0256.

An issue briefing will be held at 8:30 a.m. before each legislative day, and meetings with legislators generally run between 9 a.m. and noon. If you can't make it to Harrisburg, contact Katy to learn how you can visit with your legislator on in-district days.

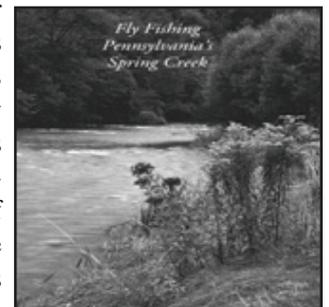
Book on Pa.'s Spring Creek available

Pennsylvania Council is offering for sale copies of Dan Shields's "Fly Fishing Pennsylvania's Spring Creek," at a cost of \$20 each, including tax and shipping.

The author examines what makes this fishery what it is, its angling history and, of course, the fly patterns and techniques for successfully fishing this limestone stream.

Dan is a former partner of a State College fly shop and one of the first to become a Federation of Fly Fishers certified casting instructor in the eastern U.S.

Order by sending a check for \$20 payable to "PATU" to George Kutskel, 107 Simmons Street, DuBois, PA 15801.



PA COUNCIL OF TROUT UNLIMITED

*Minutes of the Jan. 5, 2013
Executive Committee Meeting
PFBC Conference Room
Pleasant Gap, PA*

Officers Attending: Brian Wagner, Ken Undercoffer, Charlie Charlesworth, George Kutskel, Bob Pennell, Monty Murty, Greg Malaska, Mark Hanes, Fred Bohls, Fred Gender, Chuck Winters, Sherwin Albert

Others Attending: Samantha Kutskel, Bob Volkmar, Katy Dunlap

President Wagner called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and reviewed several items from his written report. A motion by G. Kutskel/seconded by Hanes was approved to accept the minutes of the Sept. 30, 2012 EXCOM meeting, amended Oct. 5, 2012 and Oct. 7, 2012, as previously distributed to EXCOM.

Treasurer's Report: The Budget Report dated Nov. 30, 2012 was approved on a motion to receive and file by Bohls/seconded by Gender. G. Kutskel reported that \$10,906 in donations by check (plus a small amount from online PayPal donations) had been received to date from Council's year-end appeal. Regional VPs were requested to include G. Kutskel on any emails to chapter presidents involving financial matters. It was also reported that for 2013 chapters will not be required to file financial reports as previously stated in the new Small Games of Chance regulations, and 50/50 raffles may be conducted using "strip" tickets as in previous years.

New Business: The Proposed Bylaws Revisions dated Jan. 5, 2013 were approved on a motion by Malaska/seconded by Hanes for approval by the general membership at the Annual Fall Meeting.

S. Kutskel was approved as chair of the new Women's Committee on a motion by Charlesworth/seconded by Malaska.

On a motion by Murty/seconded by Malaska, an annual salary increase of \$2,500 was approved for S. Kutskel as Program Director.

The Council's Strategic Plan dated Dec.

9, 2012 was approved on a motion by Charlesworth/seconded by Gender. Pennell will post this on Council's website and list the plan as an agenda item for review at future EXCOM meetings.

After discussion, the PATU Employee Handbook was approved on a motion by Malaska/seconded by Hanes to include the following revisions in the Vacation subsection on page 18: The first two sentences in the last paragraph were deleted, and a sentence added to read, "Vacation days may not be carried over into a subsequent calendar year and are not paid upon termination of employment."

Volkmar led a discussion on ideas to improve chapter participation in Coldwater Conservation Corps trainings, with the following chapters targeted for 2013: Cornplanter, Oil Creek, James Zwald, Schuylkill County, Hokendauqua, Western Pocono, Spring Creek, Lloyd Wilson, Mountain Laurel, Falling Spring, Cumberland Valley and Perkiomen Valley. It was emphasized that chapters serving a given geographical area will be given first opportunity to host trainings, but in those cases where no interest is shown, other organizations such as county conservation districts or watershed groups will be used as alternative sponsors. Other suggestions discussed were targeting TU members by zip code or watersheds, and possibly using the POWR organization to zero in on potential volunteers. Mitch Blake is planning 30 chapter presentations on the CCC during 2013.

Development Committee: G. Kutskel reported that Council's marketing relationship with Nationwide Insurance had been terminated due to National TU's reluctance to share the membership mailing list. Discounts will continue to apply for TU members who have already signed up under the Affinity agreement. S. Kutskel requested input by February on the prizes to be offered for this year's Youth Raffle (formerly TIC Raffle). S. Kutskel also announced that T-shirts with a TIC motif will be ordered to be used as a fundraiser for participating schools and



sponsoring chapters.

Environmental Committee: Volkmar reported that Dave Spotts of the PFBC has been assigned to act as a liaison with the Environmental Committee. One of the committee's primary goals for 2013 will be to incorporate the provisions

of the Marcellus Shale White Paper into an expanded Policy on Oil and Gas Activities.

Stream Access Committee: Winters announced that National TU will be applying for two block grants to be used as matching funds for stream access easements to be held by PFBC. The grants to be administered by National TU would come from the federal Ag Program (\$400,000) and DCNR (\$200,000). Upon further discussion, Winters was directed to obtain written clarification of exactly where the DCNR funding would come from to determine if any conflict exists with DCNR funding for the Coldwater Heritage Partnership.

Trout Management Committee: Undercoffer reported that Dave Miko of the PFBC has been assigned to act as a liaison with the Trout Management Committee. An issue still exists between the PFBC and Council over what constitutes an acceptable policy for stocking hatchery trout where a wild trout population already exists.

Youth Education Committee: Bohls reported on the success of the Cumberland Valley Chapter's "Streets to Streams" program for juvenile law offenders and suggested that this be expanded statewide by the Youth Education Committee.

Communications Committee: Charlesworth reported on his meeting with the Woolrich Co., which has recently reorganized and plans to focus on manufacturing its woolen goods solely in PA. As part of their marketing plan, they are considering offering a discount on retail sales to PATU members in 2013, and possibly expanding their program in 2014 to include advertising commitments in our newsletter. Further details will become available after a followup meeting with

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Woolrich in February. Other considerations presented by Charlesworth included sharing the cost with other Councils for placing a TU ad in the Mid-Atlantic Fly Fishing Guide, and placing limited banner ads and ads for PA fly shops on Council's website. It was agreed that advertisers must first be approved as "Friends of PA Council." On a motion by Bohls/seconded by G. Kutskel, the proposed advertising rate schedule was adopted and the Communications Committee was charged with developing ad policy language for EXCOM approval.

Legislative Committee: Bohls is planning to meet with his PA legislative reps in the near future to get a sense of where they stand on various environmental legislation issues. He also stressed the need for regional VPs to reach out to their chapters to establish working relationships with local legislators.

Membership Committee: Malaska stated that he is available to make presentations and work with the chapters in expanding Council's College Outreach Program.

National Leadership Council: Murty reminded all that it is highly important for our chapters to stress TU's coldwater conservation mission as part of our youth education programs on fishing and fly tying.

Marcellus Shale Update: Dunlap reported that Mitch Blake is planning six basic and four advanced CCC training sessions for 2013. Also planned are three sportsmen's mini-summits and a statewide conference to update all previously-trained CCC volunteers on next steps. Plans are in place to hire a third Marcellus-dedicated employee in 2013, and outreach to sportsmen-related businesses is expected to be increased. Dunlap has scheduled the following tentative dates to spend with legislators in Harrisburg: Jan. 22-23, Feb. 12-13, March 12-13, April 16-17, May 17-19 and June 17-19.

Program Director: S. Kutskel reported receiving 34 applications for the program coordinator position, from which seven finalists were chosen to be interviewed the second week of January. Twenty-nine applications for CHP grants have also been received, with funding available

for approximately 10 grants. A new TIC grant round will open on Feb. 1, and a TIC Program Partner workshop is planned for June. A "Families in TU" workshop is planned for the fall if a grant for \$1,200 is obtained. Chapter leadership training will be conducted separately from the Annual Fall Meeting, probably in July. The Annual Fall Meeting is scheduled for Sept. 21 at Shaver's Creek Fire Hall & Community Center near Petersburg, PA.

The annual Wayne's Coldwater Kids event will be held on April 28 with attendance limited to 40 kids and 20 adults statewide. A new web page will be developed to post chapter events, and consideration is being given to setting up a PATU list-serve which would be independent from National TU's bulk email service.

Regional Reports:

- *Central* – Four out of five chapter reports were filed. Columbia County is considering disbanding, but S. Kutskel will follow through to determine whether something can be done to restructure and save this chapter.
- *Northcentral* – Two out of six chapter reports were filed. Art Bradford-Northern Tier and Kettle Creek are scheduled for de-chartering in February, and chapter members have already been re-assigned to adjacent chapters. This region is still in need of a regional VP.
- *Northeast* – All nine chapter reports were filed. Malaska pointed out that the Pike-Wayne and Stanley Cooper,

Sr. chapters were spotlighted in the Winter 2013 issue of *Trout* magazine in an article on a Delaware River stream cleanup.

- *Northwest* – All seven chapter reports were filed. Hanes reported that Neshannock is looking for assistance from Council with the Small Games of Chance licensing procedures.
- *Southcentral* – All eight chapter reports were filed. Bohls reported that Codorus is looking for support from Council to ban felt soles on wading shoes and also to promote the Blue Ribbon Waters concept with the PFBC.
- *Southeast* – Six out of seven chapter reports were filed. Gender reported that Bucks County is in the process of restructuring and Little Lehigh is making good progress with their recent reorganization. Valley Forge is awaiting further word from National TU on their Siemens project.
- *Southwest* – All eight chapter reports were filed. Winters reported that Chestnut Ridge is concerned about the future of Morgan Run now that permits have been issued to Amerikohl for coal mining in the watershed.

Old Business: Charlesworth reported that National TU is expected to make a decision in February on Council's proposal to host the 2015 annual meeting in Scranton.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25 PM on a motion by Bohls/seconded by Gender.

– Bob Pennell, Council Secretary



Purchase a Quality PATU Fly Rod for 100 Bucks!

State Council is offering for sale custom-built fly rods in 9-foot, 5-weight, 4-piece for just \$100 each + tax and shipping, which includes a nylon-covered hard tube case. These rods are built on medium-fast olive green blanks with gold wraps over smoked chrome guides. The reel seat fitted to the half wells style cork grip is of graphite construction with double locking rings. Each rod carries the inscription "PA Council of Trout Unlimited" and the PATU logo is embroidered on the case. Council reserves the right to limit quantities on individual sales. Send your order to: George Kutskel, 107 Simmons Street, DuBois, PA 15801, and include a check payable to "PATU" for \$116 (\$100 + \$6 sales tax + \$10 shipping & handling).

PATU receives grants for Trout in the Classroom

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited received two grants through the Dominion Watershed Mini Grant program to help fund Pennsylvania Trout in the Classroom projects. PATU received \$800 to fund replacement equipment for TIC set-ups in classrooms. The funding provided

eight classrooms with needed equipment so they can continue to provide students with an opportunity to learn about coldwater conservation and why it is important to protect our coldwater streams.

PATU also received \$400 to create a promotional display that will be used as a tool to promote the program across the state. This display will get teachers and program partners interested in the program and increase traffic to the TIC website. The website provides information for potential teachers and program partners,

and for classrooms already participating in the program.

Financial support for these grants was provided by the Dominion Foundation, which is dedicated to the economic, physical and social health of the communities served by Dominion companies. The grant program was administered by the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy in the commitment to its core mission of conserving Pennsylvania's diverse ecosystems through science-based strategy, leadership and collaboration.

Partners team up to save the 'Queen'

By Bob Slagter
Caldwell Creek Chapter

Not far from Titusville, known in the old days as the Queen City, flows Caldwell Creek – a beautiful, largely unspoiled Class A trout stream.

It was fabled in the golden years as being a very good brook trout hideaway and still has some brookies, even after the advent of brown trout stocking.

In an effort to maintain this resource some years ago, Trout Unlimited along with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission implemented fly fishing only regulations along the middle section of the nine-mile creek between the Selkirk and Dotyville bridges. Additional projects such as float stocking, electro-shocking and over \$20,000 worth of in-stream enhancements were completed.

All seemed perfect until a parcel of land that traverses the creek was purchased and the new owner, after allowing stream improvements to happen on his property, posted it and would not allow any fishing directly in the heart of the fly fishing only area.

Beginning in 2011, local TU members were looking into a stream enhancement project when Mark Sausser, from PFBC, introduced the idea of a streamside right of way easement that the commission would buy from individual landowners, thus opening the stream for fishing in perpetuity. Jackie Kramer, also from PFBC, visited the stream and quickly provided her expertise. She began the process of appraising the stream's bordering properties, contacting landowners and putting together

offers for the easements. In less than six months in 2012, PFBC, TU members and a new player put together enough offers to provide permanent access to 90 percent of the stream, including the posted area.

The new player is the Foundation for Sustainable Forests, whose mission is "to protect forested land and ecosystems and support rural communities through working forests; to raise awareness of the importance of preserving intact forested ecosystems and to highlight sustainable forestry and practices for the benefit of the land (and water)."

The foundation had already owned land adjacent to Caldwell Creek, and the opportunity arose to purchase the previously posted property. The foundation used funds from its right-of-way payment to help fund the private property acquisition, guaranteeing that the easement would happen and open the previously closed stretch.

The work of the PFBC, TU members and the Foundation for Sustainable Forests made the dream of restoring Caldwell Creek's access a reality. The next steps are a \$50,000 in-stream project in 2013 and the acquisition of right-of-way easements over the entire length of Caldwell Creek in the coming years.



2013 PATU Calendar

Feb. 1: PATU Trout in the Classroom Grant round opens for start-up and existing grants. Applications can be found at www.patrouintheClassroom.org and are due by March 29.

March 16: Spring EXCOM Meeting at Pleasant Gap.

March 30: Back the Brookie Grants are due (spring selection). Applications can be found at www.patrou.org/programs.

April 28: Wayne's Coldwater Kids youth outing on Spruce Creek. Event is limited to 40 kids. Students between 14-17 should sign up through their local chapter.

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

June 29: Summer EXCOM Meeting at Pleasant Gap.

Date TBA: Summer Leadership Training. (This will take the place of afternoon training sessions usually held at fall meeting). More information to be announced.

August 4-8: River Researcher Teen Camp at Mahaffey Camp and Conference Center. Information is available at <http://www.wbsrc.org/teencamp/default.html>.

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

Sept. 21: Fall EXCOM Meeting at Shaver's Creek Community Center.

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

Nominations being accepted for Behnke Award

The PATU Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp is now accepting nominations for the Dr. Robert J. Behnke Award, which is given to a former camp graduate who has gone on to further the cause of coldwater conservation.

The award honors Dr. Behnke for his time and his talents in teaching at the Pennsylvania camp as well as educating thousands of students during his career as a professor of Fisheries Conservation and Wildlife Biology at Colorado State University. He is the author of more than 200 articles and papers regarding fish and fisheries and has served on numerous advisory boards for state and federal agencies. He is the author of several books, including the seminal *Trout and Salmon of North*

America (2002). Behnke began writing the quarterly column "About Trout" for *Trout* magazine in 1983. He lives in Fort Collins, Colo. with his wife Sally.

The deadline for nominations for the 2013 award is May 31.

Nominations should be emailed to Mike Klimkos at klimkos@embarqmail.com or sent by postal service to:

Behnke Award, Rivers Conservation Camp, P.O. Box 71, Boiling Springs, PA 17007.

The nominee must be a graduate of the Pennsylvania Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp or any other youth camp modeled after the Pennsylvania Camp. Graduates from camps across the country will be considered.

The nominee must have gone on to higher education and completed a bachelor's degree in Fisheries Biology, Ichthyology, Limnology, Marine Biology, Ecology, Biology, the Natural Sciences or Education, or obtained an advanced degree in Fisheries Biology, Ichthyology, Limnology,



Marine Biology or Aquatic Ecology or the Natural Sciences.

Or, the nominee has gone on to teach one of the natural sciences at the elementary, secondary, college or graduate school level, or gone on to a career in one of the fields of Fisheries Biology, Ichthyology, Limnology, Marine Biology, Ecology, Biology, or the Natural Sciences.

Or, the nominee has returned to a Youth Conservation Camp to serve as a board member for the Camp or returned to teach at a camp in a capacity other than as a ghillie or guide.

PATU Polo Shirts Now Available!

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

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

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

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



Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

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

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

With pocket _____ \$30.00

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

Make check payable to PA Trout

Practice casting game sales benefit veteran programming

Another item PATU has for sale is a fly casting practice game, introduced by Alan Folger from National TU at the fall meeting. We have a limited supply of games available for \$20.

The kit contains a blue mat that represents water, four pins to hold it in the ground, a fish that looks like a tarpon and three weighted flies. Because the flies are weighted, this serves to slow down the casting speed and teach users to properly load the rod with line.

Chapters, if you are involved with youth programs these make an excellent teaching tool. Contact George Kutschel at maksak@comcast.net to work out a special deal on a case of 10.

All proceeds from the sale of the casting games goes toward veterans service projects.

Like with the "Back the Brookie" plate, plans are to offer a grant program that helps chapters provide programs for veterans.

Council now offering 'Series Two' logo fly rods

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

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

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

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

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

Check out the "Merchandise" page on the PATU website at www.patrou.org where you will find a photo and ordering information. Or contact George Kutskel at maksak@comcast.net to place your order. Supplies will be limited.

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

Subscribe to PA Trout

If you would like to receive future Pennsylvania Trout newsletters by U.S. Mail, fill out the following form and mail with your check payable to "PA Trout" to: George Kutskel, 107 Simmons St., DuBois, PA 15801.

Name _____

Street or P.O. _____

City, State & Zip _____

Subscription rate is \$5.00 per year (4 issues)

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ for _____ year(s)

How to subscribe to PA Trout newsletters

The goal in changing our method of distributing future newsletters from essentially a print medium to electronic distribution is to save a substantial amount of dollars that can be used more directly for other worthwhile projects related to PA Council's mission, "To conserve, protect, restore and sustain Pennsylvania's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds, especially our wild trout resources."

It is our belief that this move serves the best interests of our PA Trout Unlimited members. Review the following options:

1. The newsletter will be posted electronically on www.patrou.org, where it can be read online or downloaded.

2. If you are a current PA TU chapter member, you will automatically receive a notice by email when each new issue of *PA Trout* is posted at www.patrou.org, provided that your email address on file with National TU is current. If not, then you should log on to www.patrou.org

and update your email address as follows: Click the "Member Login" box and enter your username and password which opens the "Welcome to My TU" page. Click "Edit Profile" and then click on "Account" tab where you will enter your email address.

3. If you do not have access to the Internet and/or you would prefer to receive a printed copy by mail, you can subscribe at a cost of \$5.00 per year (4 issues). **Please note that this is a reduction in the previously announced cost of \$10.00 per year. Those who have previously paid \$10.00 will automatically receive a one-year extension on their subscriptions.** Just send your check payable to "PA Trout" to George Kutskel, 107 Simmons Street, DuBois, PA 15801.

4. A limited number of printed copies for distribution to other organizations will be available at no cost to chapters on a first come/first served basis. Send requests to Samantha Kutskel, PATU, P.O. Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823, or by email to skutskel@coldwaterheritage.org.

New committee targets female members

PA Council of Trout Unlimited is excited to announce the creation of a women's committee that will focus on building female membership. This important initiative is aimed at getting more women involved in the organization, and to increase participation in local chapters.

In Pennsylvania, only five percent of

TU members are female. National TU has made strides in recruiting new members – especially women and young adults – and Council wants to do the same here.

With approval from the Executive Committee, PATU has approved a committee that will be made up of current members, and will focus on increasing participa-

tion and recruiting new women into the organization.

If you are interested in being part of this committee or would like to hear more about the other programs Council is working on, visit www.patrou.org or contact Samantha Kutskel at 814-359-5233 or skutskel@coldwaterheritage.org.

NORTHEAST CHAPTERS

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Stan Cooper Sr. 251

Western Pocono 203

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Greg Malaska

218 W. 13th St.

Jim Thorpe, PA 18229

E-mail: gregmalaska@gmail.com

Phone: 570-657-7169

Brodhead Chapter #289

Tom Battista

570-236-1734, mooseowl511@gmail.com

Website: www.brodheadstu.org

After many years, Bob Stevens resigned as the chapter secretary. We will miss his efforts greatly. Bob is one of the chapter's charter members. His name appears on the original documents when the original name was "Monroe Streams Chapter." During the November meeting, the board asked Will Daskal to be secretary for the remainder of Bob's term. Will officially resigned from the board to assume the position of secretary, since he cannot be an officer and board member at the same time. The board then appointed Dr. John Smith, a professor at East Stroudsburg University, to fill the vacated board position. At the December board meeting, Jeff Heberly, George Sappah and Greg Malaska were appointed directors. Scott Cesari instructed basic fly tying on Jan. 5, 12 and 19. Scott is leading an intermediate course in early February. The chapter will provide instruction for the annual fly fishing seminar offered by the Monroe County Environmental Education Center in March. Each year we show "The Way of the Trout," demonstrate equipment, give a brief entomology presentation, teach basic casting and tie flies for who attend. We partner with Stroud Township, the Knights of Columbus and PFBC in April for trout opening day and hold a fishing contest in Brodhead Park. This spring we will have our banquet earlier, on March 15. The new date does not compete with other northeast chapters. We changed the venue to the Stroudmoor, in their Ridgecrest banquet hall. We felt a change was necessary to better accommodate our members. Last year we had

a problem with parking at the hotel we have used for years. Stroudmoor's facility has more than adequate space and better access. Contact Eric Baird, treasurer, at 570-355-0165 or Tom Battista, president, at 570-236-1734 for tickets. Thanks to Eric Baird's leadership we completed the McMichael Creek project in September. After delays for weather and high water, the last of the rock was placed upstream of the parking area on Hickory Valley Road. The placement of large boulders has increased habitat in the delayed harvest area on the stream. Don Baylor has applied for an Embrace-a-Stream grant for the Cranberry Creek and Upper Paradise Creek watersheds. The project will arrange for educational signs to be placed along the creeks to identify them as supporting a wild trout population and encourage anglers to practice catch and release. He is also applying to have the Upper Paradise reclassified as an exceptional value stream. Pocono Heritage and Paradise Township arranged for access to these watersheds as part of their open space initiative. Don has the scientific data for fish and macroinvertebrates in this watershed. We will be developing a riparian buffer along Route 423 as it passes through State Game Lands 127. The

state replaced a bridge over the Tobyhanna Creek where Route 423 crosses, straightening the road to provide a better line of sight and a wider bridge. The area adjacent to the bridge overlooking the creek will be planted with a variety of trees native to the area. Eric Baird suggested this project, contacted the PGC manager in the area, and has arranged for seedlings to be provided this spring. We will be working with local Boy Scout troops and the Tobyhanna Conservation Association to plant the trees. The chapter will also provide plastic tubes since several species of trees chosen need the tubes to protect them from browsing animals until they reach maturity.

Forks of the Delaware Chapter #482

Joe Baylog

610-761-9116, baylogj@gmail.com

Website: www.forkstu.org

Meetings are at 7 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month, except July and August, at Stockertown Rod & Gun Club. Joe Baylog, president and Thom Beverly, VP, were elected at our November meeting. Our treasurer attended a local seminar



PATU BASEBALL HATS - Buy Now!

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

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

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

Amount Enclosed (\$15/each) _____

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

explaining changes to the small games of chance laws. Past president Ryan Rush was honored for his years of service and commitment to the chapter at our December meeting. He was presented with a fly box filled with flies tied by chapter members. Our 2012 holiday raffle was drawn Dec. 5. The chapter participated in two youth events held on Sept. 22. The first was a family fishing program held at Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center, where Lauren Forster, JEEC environmental education specialist, presented the PFBC basic fishing skills program. The second was a youth day at Roseto Rod & Gun Club, where we hosted a fly fishing station that included casting, tying and macroinvertebrate identification. We have distributed over 120 of the "My Healthy Stream" books to our municipalities, TIC schools, landowners and other conservation organizations. The chapter assisted in planting live stakes at several sites along Sobers Run and Bushkill Creek as part of a remediation effort by the Bushkill Stream Conservancy in areas disturbed by power line crossings. It's also part of a Coldwater Heritage Program implementation grant. The chapter also completed its fourth trout redd survey on two sections of Bushkill Creek. Participating TIC schools include Nazareth, Bangor and Wind Gap middle schools, Easton High School and Easton Academy. The chapter is preparing to offer its annual winter fly tying classes. We sent a letter in support of a grant application by Northampton County Conservation District for stream habitat work on Frys Run.

Hokendauqua Chapter #535

Dave Abraham

610-844-3459, dabraham@rcn.com

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

We are assisting with a stream restoration project on Hokendauqua Creek along a section of the Bodnarczuk Tract, a portion of land donated to the Northampton County Greenway Project by the Mauser brothers in the name of their grandparents. The donation is a conservation and recreation easement that is open to the public for fishing. Work began Oct. 22 in an area about a quarter-mile upstream of the "metal-gate" bridge on Kreidersville Road. About 130 feet of stream bank was restored with two modified mud sills and one log-faced stone deflector. They were installed without removing any existing trees. Our chapter partnered with PFBC, represented by engineer Tyler Neimond, who was there to direct and help, and Mauser Brothers Construction with their heavy equipment. Chapter members who helped with lighter work were Dale Steventon, Dale Ott, Mike Churetta, John Mauser, Phil Hublitz, Joe Schwartz, Al Herman, Dennis Kilian, Dave Myers and Greg Scheirer. We participated in the Walnutport Canal Association's annual Canal Festival on Oct. 21. We had a display booth

organized by Bernie Bast and several others. They provided information about TU as well as chapter activities with pictorial displays of stream bank restoration projects, Project Healing Waters events, TIC and Casting for Recovery. Fly tying demonstrations were held throughout the afternoon. Many people visited and five showed serious interest in joining the chapter. Ryan Haydt came to us a year ago wanting to do an Eagle Scout project as a public service. We suggested a kiosk and supplement planting of a few trees and shrubs near a previous stream bank project in Northampton Borough, which was accomplished. He acquired plans for the kiosk from the Pennsylvania State Park Department and erected it with assistance from his scout master, his father and few other scouts and members of our chapter. Our chapter has one side for announcements and the other side may be used by the public to post community events. On Oct. 7, a Project Healing Waters event was held at Dr. Robert Saks' pond. Ten veterans and 20 volunteers participated in casting, fly tying and fishing. Plans are to expand the program to include six events this year. Bob Cericola prepared fly boxes and tied another 2½ dozen flies to add to the collection being donated for the 2013 Casting for Recovery event at Skytop Lodge. Monthly membership meetings are open to the public and are held at Catasauqua High School on the third Wednesday of each month from September through June. Our October meeting speaker was John Mauser, who described the projected removal of the Atlas Dam on Hokendauqua Creek in Northampton Borough. It is being delayed due to the cost of the project as well as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and DEP's approval of a redesign for the project. Cost is projected at \$300,000 plus. Our November meeting speaker was Nathaniel Treichler, who presented a discussion and pictorial review of his experience while attending the Pennsylvania Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp in June 2012. In December, Phil Hublitz presented a video review of our 25th anniversary banquet held in April, along with video of Project Healing Waters events. Upcoming events will be posted on our website. Officers elected at the December board meeting were: Dave Abraham, president; Dale Steventon, VP; Arthur Williams, 2nd VP; Dale Ott, treasurer and Michael Churetta, secretary.

Lackawanna Valley Chapter #414

Gary Smith

570-718-0686, tu414@comcast.net

Website: www.lackawannavalleytu.org

Elections were Nov. 20 and Gary Smith was elected president. He replaces Charlie Charlesworth. Mike Kashuba was elected VP and other officers remained the same. The chapter reviewed and renewed its strategic plan and submitted its ideas to Council for consideration

in its own review. LVTU has a representative on the Planning Committee for National TU's Northeast Regional Meeting and the National Youth Outreach Committee. Two female members of LVTU took part in an organizational conference call for the PATU Women's Committee. Chapter representatives attended meetings of the NEPA Conservation Alliance, Lackawanna River Alliance of Groups and the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority. Members of the River Alliance of Groups, including two chapter members, met with South Abinton Township and its engineer to review plans for a sewage main overhaul that will cross Leggetts Creek, a Class A stream at six locations. The group made notice that they will be making periodic inspections of the work and taking water samples. The chapter's Stream Explorer Program was one of eight programs awarded education mini-grants at an awards ceremony at the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority Christmas Party and Awards Ceremony. This is the second year we have been awarded the grant and LVTU was the only

Continued on next page...



BUY SPECIAL PATU FLY BOXES

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

Name _____

Mail Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Quantity _____ / Amount _____

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

Send form or info and check payable to "PATU" to: George Kutskel, 107 Simmons St., DuBois, PA 15801

repeat organization to receive those awards. Our adopted river, the Lackawanna, will be featured in the new edition of the 100 Best Trout Streams in America and it will also be featured in the spring edition of Eastern Fly Fishing Magazine. The chapter applied for five different grants to help offset costs involved with conservation projects on the Lackawanna River and five of its tributaries. For these projects the chapter will partner with the Lackawanna Valley Heritage Authority, Lackawanna County Conservation Unit, Lackawanna River Corridor Association, Lackawanna College, City of Scranton Parks and Recreation/Shade Tree Commission and the Scranton Regional Chamber of Commerce. The chapter will be doing stream bank stabilization, shade tree planting, riparian buffer repair, brook trout habitat restoration in tribbs and trout habitat restoration in the Lackawanna. A research project was started to analyze the adverse effects the tributaries have on the quality of the river. The largest project entails over \$100,000 in repairs and restoration, and will become an environmental study area for three colleges and two high schools located nearby. This project will feature a one-of-a-kind native plant species rescue nursery.

Monocacy Chapter #491

Erik Broesicke

610-909-2652, monocacytu491@gmail.com

Website: www.monocacytu.org

Erik Broesicke and Dr. Ed Hart III accepted nominations of president and treasurer and were unanimously elected by the board. The board recognizes the dedication of Steve Vanya, Dr. Ted Burger and Darryl Diehl, who have held various leadership positions for over 20 years. Broesicke gave the January presentation on fishing the lower Chesapeake Bay. Bob Signorello, program coordinator, put together a fantastic program schedule for the new year that features some great new ideas and some old favorites. He also developed a survey to see how we can better serve our membership. The schedule and survey were mailed with our annual letter in January, and are available on our website. Planning for our yearly joint chapter fund-raising event has begun. Presenters and raffle ideas were discussed and the Stockertown Rod and Gun Club is booked for March 16. In December, chapter member Vicky Bastidas applied for a Coldwater Heritage Partnership implementation grant for \$10,000, which will be used to help the City of Bethlehem fund a dam removal in Johnson Park. We are also continuing to work with the Monocacy Creek Watershed Association to monitor new residential and commercial developments in the watershed. The new Traditions of America development in Hanover Township is of particular concern because the design could discharge storm water into the creek via two 54-inch pipes. Chapter member Vio Dragan has been reviewing the

permits, plans and recommendations to see if all requirements have been followed, and if a better solution can be suggested. Under the direction of member Mike Recine, we will also explore a TIC project for the Bethlehem Area School District.

Pike Wayne Chapter #462

Matt Wishneski

570-685-5420, mattwishneski@gmail.com

Website: www.pwtu.org

The chapter regrets to announce the passing of longtime member Pat Camuso after a long illness. He was an avid outdoorsman and conservationist who, as a journalist, championed conservation issues. Sponsorship efforts of a fly fishing club at Delaware Valley High School continue. Organization by the school is pending, though little progress has been made. The chapter continues its stream water quality monitoring efforts pertaining to the threat posed by Marcellus Shale drilling in our area. Guest speaker at our October meeting was Mitch Blake, TU Marcellus Shale field organizer, who gave an informative presentation on current issues. Our efforts to prevent the continuation of a watercraft livery on the Lackawanna River failed. Kittatiny Canoes, the new owner of the Threshman property, successfully fought off efforts by us, other interested conservation and civic organizations and residents to discontinue the operation. While this is a setback, severe restrictions were placed on the operation at this time. It remains to be seen if they will comply with the restrictions and what, if any, enforcement will take place. Plans for our 2013 banquet continue, though no definite date has been set.

Schuylkill County Chapter #537

John Bondura

570-640-5300, jgbond@verizon.net

The following officers were elected in November: John Bondura, president; Randy Emerich, VP; Tony Mione, secretary; William Degler, treasurer. Tom Folino and Ivan Willard were appointed to the board. Dave Derbes was appointed as a delegate to the Schuylkill County Chamber of Commerce. Bruce Herb was designated as fisheries advisor. The board met with American Computer Associates to discuss a revised website and is awaiting a formal proposal. Tony Mione, Wayne Maurer and Rich Kovitch attended the PATU Fall Meeting. SCTU volunteers put on a fly tying clinic at Boscov's Department Store. We held two meetings to discuss chapter operations. SCTU met with the Tamaqua Chamber of Commerce to discuss youth fishing programs. Our annual Christmas party was Dec. 18. Fly tying courses are Feb. 12, 19 and 28 at the Sweet Arrow Lake Clubhouse. The

chapter will participate in "Captain's Day" at the Hamburg Cabelas in March. Our annual picnic is at the Schuylkill County Fairgrounds on Aug. 24. Chapter volunteers stocked rainbow trout in Schuylkill County waters in October. We plan to stock fish in non-wild trout waters this spring. In November, the chapter assisted the Schuylkill Headwaters Association in a river cleanup. Volunteers also helped to clean up a pond along the Schuylkill River. Chapter members continued water quality monitoring on Locust Creek and Schuylkill River. The TIC program at Tri-Valley High School is doing well.

Stanley Cooper, Sr. Chapter #251

Heide Cebrick

570-675-4881, heide@baut.com

Website: www.sctu.org

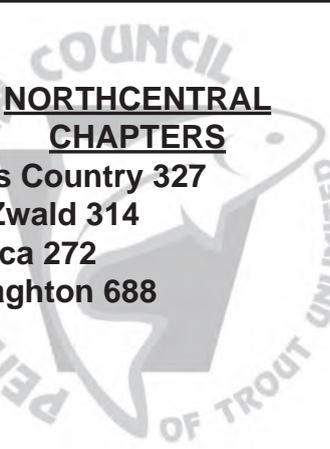
We enjoyed increased attendance and terrific speakers at our membership meetings in the fourth quarter. Our October meeting featured guest speaker Mitch Blake, Marcellus Shale field organizer, who gave a presentation on Marcellus Shale. Our November speaker was John Shaner, a Hardy representative, who educated us on "Spiders and Soft Hackles. The History, Flies and Techniques." In December, members heard Robert Hughes of the Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation share the proposed project for the Solomon Creek watershed. Members are excited about getting involved with this initiative. The December meeting was also our annual Christmas party. Local fly shops and members were invited to bring any items they were interested in selling. Chapter members and those from other chapters continue with the monthly Project Healing Waters program. The final fishing outing for 2012 was in October at Moon Lake Park. November was the annual appreciation luncheon, where the program volunteers are guests of honor at a luncheon hosted by the veteran participants. At the December meeting, gifts were distributed to veterans. Christmas ornaments were also made at this meeting featuring ties suspended in glass balls. Program volunteers introduced fly fishing to 29 veterans new to the program from an in-patient group at the VAMC. Rich and Cindy Grencavich took over the responsibility of the newsletter and public relations. The Wyoming Valley Fly Tyers continue to meet monthly to share advice, stories, and expertise. Mike Romanowski announced plans for fly tying lessons beginning in February. Classes are open to the public and cost \$50. Jay Downs and Dave Cebrick are planning the annual Adult Fly Fishing Camp for the spring. Chapter webmaster Philip Mancini continues to keep the website updated. Officer elections were held in October and filled two positions. Officers are Heide Marie Cebrick, president; Joe Gruszkiewicz, VP; Brian Jameson, secretary; Mike Matso, treasurer and new board members,

Cindy Grenavich, and Robert Gaiteri. Cebrick is working with the Women's Committee and participated in its first conference call. Plans for our 23rd annual banquet on Sept. 18 at the East Mountain Inn, Wilkes-Barre have begun.

Western Pocono Chapter #203

George Hludzik
570-233-0099, grhlaw@ptd.net

After a relatively successful first half of 2012, fall meetings saw a significant drop in attendance and we had two speakers cancel presentations on short notice. Everyday organizational tasks have been something of struggle as well, given thin active board participation and responsibilities of home, school and work competing for time. In an effort to stir more membership interest we secured a new meeting room at the Carbon County Environmental Center in Summit Hill. Membership meetings are held at 7 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month except during the summer months. We held off submitting for a grant with the Coldwater Heritage Partnership to fund stream temperature monitoring.



**NORTHCENTRAL
CHAPTERS**

God's Country 327
Jim Zwald 314
Seneca 272
Tiadaghton 688

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Open

God's Country Chapter #327

Dr. Peter Ryan
814-274-8718, drflyfish@yahoo.com

We had two chapter meetings during the final quarter of 2012 and kept quite busy. Bob Volkmar and Ted Bear traveled to Bellefonte to help get the TIC eggs ready for delivery. We were contacted by Aaron Rendos, a teacher at Coudersport High School, to help initiate a fly fishing club at the high school. Eighteen students attended the organizational meeting. Two letters of support were sent to the CHP grant fund. One was to support a grant submitted by the Upper Allegheny Watershed Association and another by the Pine Creek Watershed Council. Lori Davias, Tioga County watershed specialist and chair of the Water Resources Committee of the Pine Creek Watershed Council, attended the December meeting and explained the intent of their study. The Galeton Dam on Pine Creek continues to cause problems. The lake in Galeton has filled in with sediment, causing the water to warm significantly during the summer. This has led to thermal pollution in Pine Creek, and the dam prevents upstream migration of fish. The construction of a fish ladder or removal of the dam is being considered, but further study needs to be done to find a good solution for all involved. Our fly tying classes began Jan. 21 and is held on Monday nights from 7-9 p.m. in the conference room at Charles Cole Memorial Hospital. BJ Lowther is the organizer and main instructor for the class. This is the first class we have held in over 15 years. We're continuing our Marcellus Shale stream monitoring, and planning for our Project Healing Waters event in May.

James Zwald Chapter #314

Rick Leviski
814-335-2348, releviski@gmail.com

We continue to work closely with schools in Elk and Cameron counties supporting TIC. We currently have two classrooms in Cameron and seven in Elk. Murray Neeper and Stan Hastings have devoted a lot of time to insure each classroom has what it requires for the projects. We offered our help with the Bendigo project but have not received a reply. We sent letters for donations to support TIC and received donations from eight businesses in Elk and Cameron counties. Hastings continues to test approximately 50 streams in Elk and Cameron counties.

Seneca Chapter #272

Dave Mensch
814-642-2837, itiflies@gmail.com

The highlight of our fourth quarter was the member-guest banquet in October. We elected officers, board members and dealt with formal issues. We edited our 30-year-old bylaws to bring them up to National TU's requirements. Trout in the Classroom, stream improvements and water testing were discussed. We also finalized plans for our annual fly tying class, which starts Feb. 4 and runs for six Tuesdays.

Tiadaghton Chapter #688

Larry Harris
814-628-2123, wildbrookies@verizon.net

Election results were: Larry Harris, president; Jere White, VP; Carolyn Bair, secretary; and Kevin Hoferer, treasurer. Board of Directors are Dick Bair, Mark Bixby, Dr. Dave Cahill,

Continued on next page...

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

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

DRY FLY LEADERS

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

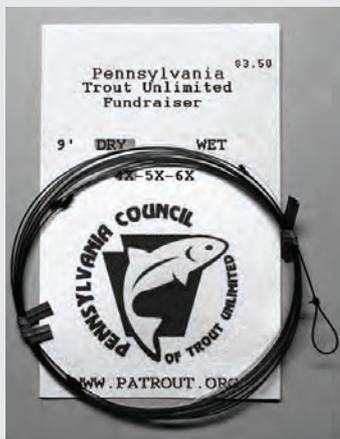
WET FLY LEADERS

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

HOW TO ORDER

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

Send your order, along with a check payable to "PATU" to George Kutschel, 107 Simmons Street, DuBois, PA 15801. Please be sure to specify type and size required.



Sheila Harris, Ed Vandergrift and Bill Paulmier, ex-officio. The yearly audit of the treasurer's reports is being conducted, per bylaws revised in 2012. Our February meeting features Don Kelly, owner of the "Tackle Shack" in Wellsboro, who will make a presentation on ice fishing. We are planning a raffle at the Morris Gun Show in March. We have no banquet planned at this time. We're preparing to continue habitat improvement projects on Lower Asaph Run in July with PFBC and the DCNR Bureau of Forestry. We have a road cleanup scheduled for April along Route 6 near Ansonia. Chapter members are currently monitoring 20 different streams in Tioga County through the CCC monitoring program. We will partner with the Pine Creek Watershed Council if it receives a 2013 CHP planning grant to explore the removal of the dam on Pine Creek below Galeton, or the possibility of installing a fish ladder to allow upstream migration of fish during in low water conditions. The chapter sent a letter to SRBC regarding the proposed installation of additional water removal stations for Marcellus Shale drilling on Route 6 and Pine Creek east of Galeton. One of the proposed sites would impact a wetland. Our annual "Flies and Lies" workshops are planned for January, February and March. We have four active TIC programs in Tioga County schools. We will participate as instructors at the May 18 Spring-Fest Family Fishing Day at Hills Creek State Park.

for another term at our October membership meeting held in the community room at Martins Grocery Store in DuBois. The 2013 banquet, our 47th, is April 6 at the Falls Creek Eagles. Mitch Blake held CCC training on Nov. 11. Rachel Kester, from TU's Eastern Abandon Mines and the WBSRC, was the featured speaker at our November meeting. She gave an overview of the many projects they have been working on. We gave an update on the Camp Run project. Kelly Williams is applying for a CHP grant to do an assessment on the Upper Sandy Lick Creek drainage. Eric Wilson, our youth chairman, hand-delivered eggs to our TIC schools. Our fly tying roundtable at DuBois Area High School is from 6-8 p.m. on Tuesdays and runs through March. It is open to the public and all students in the schools we work with. We will again host fly fishing programs with Brockway and DuBois schools on an after-school basis. We would like to increase the number of schools as well as the participation. We have started working with DuBois Middle School on Environmental Day in May.

Caldwell Creek Chapter #437

Tom Savko

814-664-2124, tksavko2@verizon.net

Four TIC programs are up and running. We scheduled a fly fishing introduction program for our January meeting, along with election of new officers. We will conduct fly tying classes from mid-March to mid-April. We have been working with the Foundation for Sustainable Forests and PFBC on procuring permanent access on Caldwell Creek between Selkirk and Dotyville bridges, which includes the fly area. The paperwork was signed as of Dec. 7, 2012 to purchase a key piece of property within that area that allows the finalization of the permanent access.

Cornplanter Chapter #526

Troy McDunn

814-723-3759, hdpartsman@verizon.net

We held elections in November and officers remain unchanged for the next year. President is Troy McDunn, Rob Arnold is secretary and Bill Bunce is treasurer. We began planning for our spring fundraiser. The Cornplanter Trout Expo is April 20 at the Lion's Den in Sheffield. We had our 4th annual in-stream habitat project on Morrison Run on Sept. 22. We had nine people assist. The crew put in structure to stabilize one bank, installed one vane and a log was chopped for a spillway. Habit work done in previous years is holding together and we are now seeing trout in these areas. We have two more major projects on Morrison Run that we hope to see completed in the near future - removal of the upper dam removed and two large sluice pipes that are fish barriers. We have six TIC projects in five schools.

Iron Furnace Chapter #288

Mark Hanes

724-464-7320, m_d_hanes@yahoo.com

Website: www.ironfurnacetu.net

Our board meeting was Jan. 2. Evan Say and Bruce Dickson were elected as new board members. Our 2013 banquet is April 6 at St. Joseph's Church in Lucinda. Our realtime monitoring network is now completely installed. The station on Tionesta Creek was installed in mid-December. The chapter received a grant for \$100,000 through 3 Rivers Quest to take grab-water samples through the upper Allegheny watershed. Samples will be taken at 10 USGS monitoring sites throughout the Upper Allegheny Basin. Board member and Marcellus Shale Coordinator Bruce Dickson will head the project. Info can be found at: <http://3riversquest.org/scientist-celebrate-expansion-of-wvu-sponsored-water-quality-monitoring-program>. Work on the watershed assessment of Cathers Run is ongoing and is slated for completion this summer. Plans are in the works for next year's Project Healing Waters outing. The date is to be determined. Fly tying classes will be hosted by the chapter on Feb. 16, 23 and March 6 at the Brookville Municipal building. To sign up for the class contact head instructor Mark Hanes.

Neshannock Chapter #216

Jeff Kremis

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

Website: www.neshannock-tu.org

The first big event of this year is our banquet on March 9 at the Park Inn by Radisson in West Middlesex. There will be several rods, some artwork and many nice prizes for the raffles and auction. Ticket information is in our newsletter and on our website. This summer we will complete the third and final phase of the stream bank stabilization project on Coolspring Creek. We don't have a date for the workday but it will be posted on the website. We will also be doing our annual spring cleanup of the DHALO Area on Coolspring prior to the opening of trout season. The Deer Creek group held a reorganization meeting in January to set plans for the year. For more information and to get involved with this project you can contact Jerry Przybylek at jerprz@peoplepc.com. We are looking for volunteer monitors for the CCC program. If you are interested in helping, contact Jim Kearney at mayfly1278@aol.com. We held a winter membership meeting on Jan. 28. There were speakers from PFBC and presentations from other local conservation groups. We have a full slate of educational and youth activities planned for 2013. We will again hold the Youth Fishing Derby on Wolf Creek this spring. We also plan on

NORTHWEST CHAPTERS

Allegheny Mountain 036

Caldwell Creek 437

Cornplanter 526

Iron Furnace 288

Neshannock 216

Northwest PA 041

Oil Creek 424

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Mark Hanes

P.O. Box 324

Clarion, PA 16214

E-mail: m_d_hanes@yahoo.com

Phone: 724-464-7320

Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036

George Kutskel

814-371-9290, maksak@comcast.net

Website: www.amctu.org

All current officers and directors were reelected

participating in the Grove City Sportsmen's Club Youth Day and Buhl Day in the fall.

Northwest PA Chapter #041

Lee Bloom

814-474-2495, leeflyfisher@velocity.net

We held our first membership meeting in November, which followed an organizing meeting in October. Discussions included a fundraising event and election of officers in January. John Bartlet informed us of the purchase of 85 acres on Caldwell Creek, including both banks, by the Foundation for Sustainable Forests. The charitable organization is asking for donations from individuals, TU chapters and other organizations. Lee Bloom presented a new possible project on Lamson Run and suggested that revision is needed on our projects downstream. Eric Cronk provided a slideshow on a very cold fly fishing adventure to Montana.

Oil Creek Chapter #424

Gary Ross

814-337-6931, info@oilcreektu.org

Website: www.oilcreektu.org

Chapter elections were held Nov. 14. All current officers and board members were reelected. Secretary Vaughn MacGregor attended PATU's Fall Meeting on Sept. 28-29. Mitch Blake, Marcellus Shale field organizer, presented at our meeting on Sept. 19. At our Oct. 17 meeting, DEP Water Pollution Biologist Joe Brancato, Jr. provided a program on electro-shocking and status of trout populations in area streams. Planning is underway for our 30th annual banquet on April 6 at the Quality Inn in Franklin. We made revisions to be in compliance with the state games of chance regulations. We are planning further habitat improvements on Little Sandy Creek upstream from the trestle pool, in conjunction with the Conservation District and PFBC. On Nov. 8, Gary Ross, Tom Young, Dan Rockwell, Joe Brancato, Vaughn MacGregor, Mark Kerr and Lance Bowes met with Mark Sausser, stream habitat manager for PFBC. We toured the area from the trestle to the pump station. Mark identified 40 possible devices that could be installed to improve stream habitat. Tom Young attended a meeting of the Dirt and Gravel Roads Committee in September. Nine grants worth \$88,700 were awarded for Venango County projects. There had been requests totaling \$92,000. Our display was removed from the county courthouse after the Franklin Apple Fest, which was in line with the removal deadline. Many people attending the Apple Fest saw our display. At our September meeting, Simoan Ray, TIC teacher from Cochranon, gave a summary of activities by her class. These included conservation, cleanups, water quality and Marcellus Shale education. All classrooms

on our TIC list are still involved. We have two new ones. Teachers have all the equipment they need, and we have a spare chiller and a new chiller for Titusville. We are planning to host another meeting with TIC teachers at our March meeting, possibly combined with a TIC program.

SOUTHEAST CHAPTERS

Bucks County 254

Delco Manning 320

Little Lehigh 070

Perkiomen Valley 332

SE Montgomery Co. 468

Tulpehocken 150

Valley Forge 290

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Fred Gender

E-mail: afgender@hotmail.com

Phone: 570-704-8764

Bucks County Chapter #254

Ed Harrington

215-260-6640, edlickflyfish@comcast.net

Website: www.bucksttu.org

General elections were held at the December membership meeting. Our annual banquet is March 23 at Pinecrest Country Club in Montgomeryville. In December, the culvert survey of Cooks Creek watershed ended. The survey, funded by a TU Embrace-A-Stream grant, and matching funds from the chapter and the Cooks Creek Watershed Association, was the first watershed-scale culvert survey to be done in Pennsylvania. Chapter and CCWA members were trained by project consultant Princeton Hydro in how to survey culverts and identify those blocking fish passage. Members of both organizations then surveyed 97 culverts throughout the watershed. Of the culverts surveyed, 42 were identified as potential barriers. Of these, 11 were identified as good candidates for retrofitting efforts. The 11 culverts were put through a prioritization process that included water quality, presence of wild trout, length of stream that would be reconnected by retrofitting the culvert and other factors. The final culverts identified as the best candidates for retrofitting are both on the same tributary located in area of the watershed with underlying limestone geology. If both culverts are retrofitted, 1.5 miles of high quality, cold water tributary would be reconnected to the main stem of Cooks Creek. The chapter will now begin to investigate sources of funding

to implement the retrofits. For a more detailed discussion of the survey, including retrofit conceptual designs, photos and cost estimates, go to our website <http://www.bucksttu.org>. This spring, we will return to our ongoing reforestation project at the Covenant Church property in the headwaters of Watson Creek and will plant another 125 trees.

DelCo Manning Chapter #320

David W. Wharton

610-583-2920, davidwharton@verizon.net

Website: www.dmtu.org

Delco Manning held its annual trout stocking on Nov. 17. We stocked 200 brown, rainbow and brook trout throughout the catch and release fly fish only section of Ridley Creek, and helped PFBC stocking the same section on Oct. 4. The chapter assisted Chester Ridley Crum Watershed Association with tree planting and vegetation maintenance along the same section of Ridley Creek on Oct. 6. This activity was part of CRC's ongoing TreeVitalize Stream Buffer Project.

Little Lehigh Chapter #070

John Tunney

610-360-1956, jrptunney@gmail.com

Chapter meetings are 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Wildlands Conservancy of Emmaus. During the last quarter of 2012, the chapter continued reorganization and identified several projects to address in 2013. Administratively, we completed our bylaws, held two meetings and had our first speaker at the October meeting. Owen Owens from the Valley Forge Chapter spoke to us about his book *Living Waters: How to Save Your Local Stream*. Many of the ideas on chapter function, organization and development will be a model for us to follow. We will also use his suggestions on stream restoration. In December, Samantha Kutskel gave a TIC presentation and we had a member of Seven Generations Charter School in attendance. We will begin working with Seven Generations, an environmentally-themed charter school in the Lehigh Valley, to place a program in 2013. Samantha also gave a presentation on the Back the Brookies grant program. One of our major challenges is increasing membership, and several initiatives have been or are in the development stage. We will be displaying at the annual sportsman's show in March at Allentown's Agricultural Hall. In February, we will have members giving fly tying demonstrations at another sportsman's club. In December, we met with Monocacy, Forks of the Delaware and the Hokendauqua chapters to discuss specifics for a joint program in the spring. We contacted representatives from LL Bean, TCO Fly Shop and Cabela's. Each of these organiza-

Continued on next page...

tions has offered assistance, and we will include them in our speakers program in 2013. LL Bean has offered their store as a meeting site in February. Two members agreed to work with the Boy Scouts on the fly fishing merit badge program and we expect that activity will begin soon after the necessary paperwork is completed. Our expectation is that we may acquire both adult and youth members in this collaboration. We have begun the process to address at least one dam removal on the Little Lehigh. Stakeholders were contacted and we are in discussion with the land owner, which happens to be Lower Macungie Township. They would first like to get results from an engineering study to determine if scouring would be an issue with the targeted dam. We also will be meeting with two owners of another dam to explore potential removal.

SE Montgomery County Chapter #468

Richard Terry

215-675-1536, rtroadrash@msn.com

Website: www.tu468.org

The chapter took its second annual trip to New York's Salmon River in November. Everyone was able to at least hook up, and several members did very well considering the conditions. A fall stocking of 250 10-inch rainbows took place in the section of the Pennypack that flows through the Pennypack Trust. At our November meeting, Cathy & Barry Beck gave an outstanding presentation on fly fishing. Both schools that participate in TIC have received their allotment of eggs and are doing great. In October, there was a planting of 36 river birches in the Natural Land Trust located in Horsham. Hopefully we will have a wet winter so the trees should be well on their way by spring. Plastic mesh was placed around the trees to deter damage by the deer population in the area.

Tulpehocken Chapter #150

Bill Eggleston

610-404-7278, info@tullytu.org

Website: www.tullytu.org

Elections were completed in December. President, Jeff Schronce, VP; and Ron Weidner, treasurer, remain the same. Rick Bell takes over as secretary. Dave Frees and Nathan Schaeffer were reelected to the board. Nathan takes over the membership chairman position. We held our annual raffle event in November. Looking forward to 2013, we are working on getting our banquet up and running again. This event fell by the wayside due to staffing issues. We are now moving forward with it and our scheduled date is April 20. We have four schools in the TIC program this year and they have all received their eggs. The Reading Eagle's outdoor writer, Roger Mallon, selected the Tulpehocken Chapter's TIC Program as a "Berks County 2012 Outdoor Highlight" as follows: "The Tulpehocken Chapter of Trout Unlimited partnered with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Pennsylvania TU and Rebecca Johnson's fourth-grade science classes at Robeson Elementary School for a 'Trout in the Classroom' project. During 18 hours of class time the children hatched and raised trout to fingerling size in a large aquarium. They observed trout development and learned about trout habitat, stream life cycles and larger water shed conditions." Cody Kline, the student we sponsored to the Pennsylvania Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp was guest speaker at our December meeting. Cody, who is also chapter member, gave a presentation on his experiences at the youth camp. We supported a rainbow trout stocking on the Tulpehocken Creek in October. We currently have six teams doing stream monitoring across

the county as part of the Coldwater Conservation Corps. This is being done to gather baseline stream data in preparation of natural gas pipelines being installed in Berks County. Paperwork for two stream projects in the Tulpehocken and Quittapahilla Creek watershed have been signed off and the checks have been sent to our chapter. We are moving forward on these two projects in 2013. We will also have a booth at the Lancaster Fly Fishing show March 2-3.

Valley Forge Chapter #290

Robbi Freisem

610-446-0341, rfreisem@verizon.net

Website: www.valleyforgetu.org

Many chapter members are expressing interest in our startup Veterans Services Program. Next is an organizing committee. Several women members participated in a November conference called by Samantha Kutskel to begin brainstorming on how to increase the participation of women in chapter activities. The VFTU Spring Trout Show is a few weeks early in 2013 and will be held on March 14 at Valley Forge Middle School. Speaker is Mike Heck, author of *Spring Creek Strategies* and operator of an Orvis-endorsed professional guide service for the Falling Springs, Letort, Yellow Breeches and other south central PA trout streams. Our book *Trout Tales and Watershed Heroes* is available through the chapter website, board members, local fishing shops and amazon.com. We will again be at the Lancaster Fly Fishing show on the weekend of March 2-3. Applications are available for the VFTU Fly Fishing School on May 5. In November, DEP issued a letter advising Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company (Transco) that their amended permit was approved. This will allow Transco to use a "dry open trench" to install a 42-inch pipe to replace

2011 Little Juniata Collectible Patch



The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited is offering a special set of collectible patches, to individuals as well as to TU chapters. By George LaVanish of Wilderness Editions, this is the fifth and final patch in this series. The 2011 patch features the Little Juniata River. The set includes one 6-inch and one 4-inch patch. Sales are first-come / first-served, as PATU's quantities are limited.

Mail this form or send same info to: George Kutskel, 107 Simmons St., DuBois, PA 17104; 814-371-9290; email maksak@comcast.net. Make checks payable to Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited. Include tax-exempt certificate, if your chapter is eligible.

Send me _____ sets	
@ \$26.00/set:	\$ _____
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Total enclosed:	\$ _____

Name: _____ Chapter (if applicable) _____

Mailing address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

the existing 30-inch pipe crossing the East Branch of the Brandywine in Downingtown as well as two crossings of Ludwig's Run. This method was specifically disallowed by DEP in 2009. Transco acknowledged that little changed in its application in the interim. What did change are a new state administration and a new DEP regional director. Pete Goodman sent a letter to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission encouraging their environmental assessment to weigh all environmental factors in an open, unbiased and scientific review. VFTU expects to work with other organizations to monitor the stream before, during and after construction. The turnpike slip ramp at Route 29 opened after significant stormwater management changes pursued by township and VFTU leaders. Turnpike widening in the same area will create an even more impervious surface. Pete Goodman, Frank Donohoe and others continue to attend meetings with the Turnpike Design Roundtable, emphasizing the need to protect Valley Creek to the letter of the law as an exceptional value watershed that is unmatched in any other urban area of the east coast. The current PTC stormwater management plans are inadequate to accomplish protection. Demonstration rain gardens were planned and planted in Wilson Farm Park in Treddyriffin Township. Chapter members are partnering with Green Valleys Association and Pennsylvania Environmental Council to assemble a Growing Greener Grant application for modifying retention basins in the Valley Creek watershed. Chapter members are also involved with the Chester County Conservation District's Valley Creek Trustee Council grant also targeting detention basins in the watershed. The Keeper of the Stream program for Valley Creek continues to seek permission for access from landowners.

Adams County Chapter #323

Dave Swope
717-624-8134,
swopeda624@embarqmail.com
www.adamscountytu.org

Chapter elections were held in October. Current officers were reelected along with the board of trustees. In December, the chapter presented a Christmas gift certificate to the local landowner on Conewago Creek's 1.1-mile regulated section adopted as catch and release, fly fishing only. Chapter members participated in the PFBC fall stocking with trout coming from Huntsdale Fish Culture Station. Two officers and our youth coordinator attended the PATU Fall Meeting. Our board decided to pursue other organizations to donate to our local TIC program, utilizing funds from their Games of Chance licensing that is designed to go to special interest groups. One organization has responded positively with a donation. The chapter's youth coordinator/Adams County watershed specialist received the TIC Coordinator of the Year award at the state meeting. The board plans to visit schools enrolled in the TIC program to speak on watersheds, vernal pools, water qual-

ity and the history of ACTU. Guest speakers were approved for chapter meetings scheduled for February and March. The chapter will participate in a new mentoring program adopted by the PFBC that starts the Saturday before the opening day of trout season to help kids connect with fishing and the outdoors. The chapter held its incentive awards program to recognize members that participated in chapter activities in 2012. There were over 20 categories to choose from. Donations to our state office, Reel Recovery, Trophy Trout program, Southcentral Outdoors for Youths and Rivers Conservation School were approved. We designed and purchased seven new banners for the TIC program. We approved designing a trout map of the eight approved trout streams to sell as a fundraiser. Three chapter members attended the "Spring to Sprinklers" program at Shippensburg with an ACTU table and new TIC banner. We held a meeting Nov. 14 to design fundraising activities in March 2013. The chapter began another stream restoration partnership with DCNR Forestry, CVTU and FSTU off Birch Run Reservoir, Conococheague Creek, Adams County with a stream survey on Dec. 18.

Continued on next page...

BACK THE BROOKIE PLATE

ORDER FORM FOR INDIVIDUAL ORDERS ONLY



TU Chapter presidents: Contact PATU Treasurer George Kutskel by e-mail at maksak@comcast.net or phone 814-371-9290 to order larger quantities.

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City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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S/H per plate: \$2.30		\$
TOTAL ENCLOSED		\$

Send form and check (payable to "PATU") to:

Samantha Kutskel
PATU
P.O. Box 5148
Bellefonte, PA 16823

SOUTHCENTRAL CHAPTERS

Adams County 323
Codorus 558
Cumberland Valley 052
Doc Fritchey 108
Donegal 037
Falling Spring 234
Muddy Creek 575
Penns Creek 119

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Fred Bohls
3519 Ada Drive
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050
E-mail: fcbp@ix.netcom.com
Phone: 717-732-5050

Codorus Chapter #558

Tom Feninez

717-817-8446, tom@codorustu.org

Website: www.codorustu.org

We submitted a grant application to the Cold-water Heritage Partnership. We hope to secure funding for some much-needed repair work on the Codorus in an area affected by 2011's floods and Hurricane Sandy. We were thrilled to learn that public access will be permanently restored to a significant section of the Codorus in the special regulation section. After a considerable effort by many stakeholders, a parcel that was under private ownership, and posted during hunting season, was acquired by Heidelberg Township. The wooded parcel of approximately 130 acres, and about one-third of a mile of stream, will now be available to the public for a wide variety of recreational activities. This effort was in the works for several years, and our chapter invested considerable time and effort to help whenever we could. This acquisition is truly a milestone in the history of Codorus Creek and our chapter, and we're proud that we were able to take part in bringing it to fruition. We are very close to completing more wader wash stations along the Codorus, and should have them installed in the near future. Due to our close proximity to Maryland's Gunpowder River and Big Hunting Creek, both contaminated with didymo, our chapter has decided to install stations as a preemptive measure. We often see vehicles with Maryland license plates, and we're

concerned about the potential for an outbreak in the Codorus' tail water environment. We hope these stations will both educate the public and prevent an outbreak in our home stream. We continue monitoring the progress of our two TIC projects. We are seeking a candidate to sponsor at this year's Youth Conservation Camp at Allenberry.

Cumberland Valley Chapter #052

Justin Pittman

717-360-8823, flyfishing80@gmail.com

Website: cvtu.homestead.com

During the last quarter of 2012 we held our last two membership and board of directors meetings of the year. We prepared our budget and agenda for 2013. Our Limestoner Committee has been meeting and preparing for the banquet on March 16. We have been meeting with PFBC to be the pass-through for \$550,000 for the phase two project on Big Spring Creek. We met with representatives from both the Adams County and Falling Springs chapters to review a project on Birch Run.

Doc Fritchey Chapter #108

Archie Fenton

717-533-2367, archief3@verizon.net

Website: www.dftu.org

Annual elections were held at our September

meeting. Archie Fenton was elected president and Ed O'Gorman was elected VP. Other current officers and board members were reelected to serve additional one-year terms. Archie Fenton, Bob Pennell and Gerry Miller represented the chapter at the PATU Fall Meeting in September, where the chapter received the Best Chapter Website award. The Banquet Committee held its first meeting in November to get started on the 2013 banquet. It is March 23 at the Holiday Inn in Grantville. Ticket sales for our seven-item raffle began on Black Friday at the BassPro Shop in Harrisburg. We received a \$500 check from Pennsy Supply for helping net and transport fish during the quarry's stream channel relocation project on Tulpehocken Creek. Skelly & Loy completed a state-mandated archaeological study along a section of Quit-tapahilla Creek planned for a future stream bank restoration project. The study was carried out by digging limited test pits rather than the 107 excavations originally estimated, saving the chapter about \$15,000 originally approved for the project. Additionally, the chapter approved \$6,500 for GTS Technologies to perform sediment loading models to justify qualification for funding under EPA Section 319 Impaired Waters guidelines. The Rausch Creek limestone diversion wells in the headwaters of Stony Creek, now in their 26th year of continuous operation, were prepared for arrival of a new load of stone designed for winter maintenance. The chapter is investigating the purchase of instrumentation to accommodate year-round monitoring of Stony Creek. Our six TIC projects are up and running after delivery of eggs in November. Attendance at our beginner fly tying classes that started in October was disappointing, and it was decided that further classes should be scheduled in the winter months to avoid conflicts with other activities in the fall. In honor of the late Frank Viozzi, who served as chapter president for seven years before his untimely death in 2012, details were finalized for the "Dr. Francis J. Viozzi Educational Scholarship for Environmental Studies" to be administered through the Foundation for Enhancing Communities (TFEC). Funds will be provided through memorial donations and chapter fundraisers. This \$1,500 scholarship will be awarded annually to a high school senior from Dauphin or Lebanon County who plans to major in an environmental science in college.

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Donegal Chapter #037

Tom Hall

717-898-8664, phallcat@comcast.net

Website: www.donegaltu.org

On the Saturday following Thanksgiving we lost chapter member and dear friend Dave Shenk, who was a well-known fly tyer both locally and internationally. He passed away as a result of a tragic accident. Dave was well known in many circles as a master of his craft. Dave was our program chairman and had lined up a very nice program with local tyers for our annual December fly tying clinic. The meeting was held as scheduled

and we had a record turnout. We have named the meeting the Dave Shenk Fly Tying Clinic, and to honor Dave this will be a yearly event in his name. Dave's wife, Jan, wants to remain very active in our organization moving forward and carry on the things Dave cared about. Our annual OktoberFest was a rousing success. Barry and Cathy Beck were the keynote speakers and it was a great evening. Our annual banquet is April 6 at the Host Resort in Lancaster. We have our 2nd annual Ladies Conservation Breakfast in April. It is organized by Faye Haering, who made last year's event a smashing success. Stream work continued through December on Climbers Run in southern Lancaster County. Some of this work is due to storm damage and some of it is addressing distressed areas upstream of the original project. We also had an invasive weed pulling party on Climbers. Tree plantings from last year were being overrun. We had eight or nine volunteers come out, led by Bob Kutz. The Lancaster County Conservancy recently purchased property on Climbers Run, upstream from where our current projects are located. It is an old campground known as Camp Snyder. A group from DTU, the Lancaster County Conservancy and Kevin Anderson from National TU, did a walk-through to evaluate the property. It is a very interesting property with several possibilities and probably some stream repair to be done. Many streams in southern Lancaster County have wild brown trout, but this section of Climbers Run also contains wild brook trout. Other streams in the southern end that we have worked on had damage from storms and repairs are ongoing. We have at least six new projects coming up in the Conowingo watershed, including Tanglewood Golf Course. The Conowingo still has over 120 distressed spots. Hopefully, funding will continue going forward. Locally, DTU, in cooperation with Millport Conservancy, stocked about 700 brown and rainbow fingerlings in Lititz Run in early November. The resident trout population seems to have dwindled dramatically. We're not quite sure why, but there may be some poaching. We hope to reestablish a viable trout population.

Falling Spring Chapter #234 **Rod Cross**

717-264-2747, rcross@mathesongas.com

The chapter finished fall shrub and tree planting at the Frey Dairy/Helman project site initiated in August. The historic water wheel that was removed and powder coated will have bushings and bearings installed on the shaft and will be placed back on the pilings in the spring. Final perennial and tree plantings will also be done in the spring. In December, the chapter met with members of the Cumberland Valley and Adams County chapters to help with the preliminary planning of four habitat improvement devices on the East Branch of the Conococheaque that flows through the old lake bed of the Birch Run Reservoir in Michaux State

Forest. The chapters were invited to partner with the DCNR on this project to improve and develop the native brook trout fishery by Phip Bietsch of the DCNR. It should be noted that Bietsch is an alumnus of the Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp. Also present was alumnus Morgan Crider, of the Falling Spring Chapter, who is studying environmental sciences at Shippensburg University. The chapter will host two Project Healing Waters outings in 2013.

Muddy Creek Chapter #575

Fred Hess

717-650-6556, muddycreektu@comcast.net

Website: www.muddycreektu.org

A 2013 Muddy Creek TU patch was designed and is for sale. The patch is a representation of Bruce Run, which is near the upper end of the Muddy Creek fly fishing only section. It seems that issues on the Pine Run project are settled with DEP and the permit is submitted for final approval. A representative from the contractor met on-site with the Army Corps of Engineers to review the plan and do a walk-through. The Corps will issue its own permit. The representative was very happy with the project plan. We were closed out of the stream due to stream restrictions (natural trout reproduction) until Jan. 1, but the permits were to have been approved shortly thereafter. The Owad Road project is tentatively scheduled for the second week of February on a section of stream that has severely eroded a portion of stream bank along the main stem of Muddy Creek. Chapter members are doing the reconstruction. Robert P. Davis, a junior at Mansfield University and the son of a former chapter president, made a presentation at our December membership meeting. He is majoring in Biology with a concentration in fisheries and environmental science. Robert discussed the issue of commercially raised fish verses wild fish, research being conducted on calcimine retention in fish and marking toll for data collection on fishes. He also discussed the process on forming a management plan for a watershed. Planning will soon begin for our second "Spring Fling" that is held to recognize our watershed landowners and educate the public on our conservation efforts.

Penns Creek Chapter #119

Gary Parzanese

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

The chapter completed and filed its 2012 financial statement for National TU. Chapter officers are the same for 2013 with Gary R Parzanese as president, Kevin Lutz, VP, Dottie Pieffer, secretary, Denny Pieffer, treasurer and Larry Winey, educational coordinator. The chapter secretary submitted background information for our Small Games of Chance

license. We held our winter social on Dec. 10 with 19 chapter members and spouses attending. Thanks to Karl Sheaffer for the use of his camp for the event. In January, Rich Morder from PFBC addressed the chapter about issues on Licking Creek in Juniata and Mifflin counties. In February, Don Doople will offer a slide presentation on hatches on our chapter's home waters. Our annual banquet is March 23 at the Belleville Mennonite School. It begins at 5 p.m. Our guest speaker is Steve Sywensky, proprietor of Fisherman's Paradise in State College. On Dec. 20, Gary Parzanese met with Justin Kozak, Mifflin County Conservation District watershed specialist, and Tyler Neimond, PFBC habitat manager, about a possible rehab project on Havice Creek. We installed habitat devices on Havice Creek in the mid-1980s. Due to erosion and cattle crossing the creek the devices are in need of repair. The chapter will work with Justin to determine the proposed cost of the repairs that Tyler suggested on our stream evaluation walk. All work will be done to current PFBC specifications. The property owner has received grant money to install needed stream bank fencing and the construction of stream crossings for his cattle. Eggs arrived for the five TIC programs. Education Coordinator Larry Winey is planning fly tying and fly fishing classes for this year's TIC programs. We received confirmation for its first TIC program in Mifflin County. Sacred Heart School will be applying to participate in next year's program. Chapter members Larry Winey, Tom Kauffman and Bill Hubler provided guide services for Project Healing Waters during an annual event held on Spruce Creek.

SOUTHWEST CHAPTERS

Arrowhead 214

Chestnut Ridge 670

Forbes Trail 206

Fort Bedford 291

John Kennedy 045

Ken Sink 053

Mountain Laurel 040

Penn's Woods West 042

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Chuck Winters

1898 Old Route 22

Duncansville, PA 16635

E-mail: wintershs@aol.com

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

Continued on next page...

Arrowhead Chapter #214

Chad Hough

724-422-8471, chadhough@verizon.net

Website: www.arrowhead214tu.org

November election results were: Chad Hough, president; Donald Carney, VP; Duane Ometz, treasurer; and Jerry Potocnak, secretary. Officers approved the chapter's strategic plan that was submitted to National TU. Our December meeting had great attendance and featured three club members showing how to tie various Lake Erie tributary steelhead patterns. It was also the chapter's Christmas party. We will be joining with Tri-county Trout Club of New Kensington in October to sponsor a presentation by author and guide George Daniel. The date is to be determined. March 23 is our annual banquet. Last November, our chapter was awarded funding from the Armstrong County Conservation District for maintenance work on Buffalo Creek DHALO stream improvement structures and removal of a large fallen tree in the stream. Arrowhead began offering a beginner fly tying class on Jan. 30 that is open to anyone 5th grade or older. Anyone under 18 can take the class for free. In October, we started our fourth year with TIC. We currently have two schools participating and three new schools are applying for 2013-14 school year.

Chestnut Ridge Chapter #670

Scott Hoffman

412-596-5436, smh_1959@yahoo.com

Website: www.chestnutridgetu.org

The chapter was selected to receive a capacity building grant. The gist of the grant is that a stronger organization can do more and better work. We won't receive any money from the grant, but rather expertise. As part of the grant a strategic plan will be developed and the chapter's website will be critiqued. Our 18th annual banquet is March 23 at the Uniontown Holiday Inn. On Morgan Run, a pipe delivering some the poorest water quality to the lower vertical flow pond is blocked or has collapsed. This has resulted in untreated acid mine discharge topping the conveyance channel and flowing directly into Morgan Run. We applied for and received a Quick Response Grant from DEP/WPCAMR to eliminate the blockage, prevent debris from entering the pipe and improve/raise the berm of the conveyance channel. The chapter applied for and received a grant from TU's AMD technical assistance program. The grant will be used to locate, characterize and develop conceptual treatment options for additional acidic seeps entering Morgan Run. Another component of the grant is to evaluate the exiting passive treatment system utilizing Geochemist Work Bench model. The model will predict pollutant removals, which will be compared to what is actually occurring so that the treatment process will be optimized. We anticipate this work to be completed within the

next few months. We are awaiting a response from the DEP on our Growing Greener application to fund an Operation, Maintenance and Replacement Plan and a trust fund. The OM&R Plan is required by the DEP to properly maintain the passive treatment system and so that the water quality improvements are maintained or improved upon and are not lost. The chapter has applied for funding to continue the Glade Run Alkaline Sand Project through DEP's Growing Greener Plus program and to the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. Benefits of this project include improved water quality in Glade Run and Dunbar Creek, a high benefit to cost ratio and the return of brook trout to Glade Run. While collecting water samples on Glade Run in the fall we observed numerous brook trout a few inches long (their parr marks were unmistakable), approximately six inches long and approximately nine inches long.

Forbes Trail Chapter #206

Monty Murty

724-238-7860, mmurty@verizon.net

Website: www.forbestrailtu.org

Our annual meeting was Sept. 19 where members approved the annual budget. Officers remain as were in 2012 and are available on www.forbestrailtu.org. The chapter received \$760 from the Pittsburgh Day of Giving campaign. We received public recognition for contributions our 2012 stream bank stabilization projects had on reducing the impact of Hurricane Sandy on low-lying areas of Ligonier Township. The chapter completed the 2012 First Cast Youth Group program with a steelhead fly fishing trip to Elk Creek in Erie. We certainly did not anticipate Hurricane Sandy in 2010 when we wrote our request for one of the Coldwater Heritage Partnership's first coldwater conservation plan implementation grants. We did mention that the stream bank stabilization and trout habitat projects we proposed could have a benefit to low-lying communities and public infrastructure in the event of an unusually heavy rain storm. We thought that was a bit of a stretch, but we included that potential benefit since the new FEMA flood maps had just been released and were on the minds of the landowners and township supervisors we needed to support our permit requests. In November, we were pleased and proud to receive the thanks of many in our community following Sandy's unexpected visit in the form of six inches of rain in 24 hours. The director of the Ligonier Valley Historical Society, which owns the 1799 Compass Inn in Laughlinton, directly attributes our project for saving their log barn from serious damage. It is on the National Register of Historic Places. Ironically, the chapter was founded 40 years ago, in 1973, as a response to Hurricane Agnes devastating the Ligonier Valley trout fishery. By 1983 we had restored the upper Loyalhanna Creek trout habitat and created a special regulations area in the heart

of the community. For that achievement Forbes Trail received TU's Golden Trout Award. We will hold our 40th Anniversary Coldwater Conservation Banquet on March 2.

Fort Bedford Chapter #291

Derrick Miller

814-276-3606, patrouthaser@yahoo.com

Website: www.fortbedfordtu.org

In an effort to attract more members to our monthly meetings, we adopted a motion to hold a short, interactive program at each gathering. The idea has led to increased attendance and feedback has been positive. The interactive programs have included an antique/classic angling gear "show and tell" where members were encouraged to bring items, a DVD showing of underwater footage of trout feeding and their lies, as well as a presentation of recent stream enhancement projects on some northern Bedford County streams. We started our annual winter fly tying program on Jan. 12. We also launched our chapter website at fortbedfordtu.org.

John Kennedy Chapter #045

Creg Strock

814-695-5598, channels4tu@aol.com

The following officers and directors were approved by a general membership election on Dec. 4: Creg Strock, president; Dan Beck, VP; Joe Antesberger, treasurer. Secretary was open. After the election, three members offered their services to the chapter to fill in current openings. They were: Josh Wilcox, secretary; Bill Getic, director, three-year term; Fred Smith, director, one-year term. In an effort to increase chapter membership active participation we sent out a survey to our current roster members and asked what specifically they would be interested in. We received over 40 responses from members with enclosed donations to the chapter totaling \$280, along with offers to assist with stream improvement projects, TIC, fly tying classes and an offer to serve the board as director. We completed and mailed our first full four-page newsletter to our members the first week of December. We detailed the upcoming events for the first quarter of 2013 along with planned events that will go into the second quarter. The newsletter will be published on a quarterly basis, giving our members an opportunity to plan, support and attend upcoming chapter's events. We scheduled guest speakers and demonstrations for our general membership meetings. In November, we had Dick Biemiller demonstrate how to make a furler leader. In December, Father Clement Gardner spoke on his 25 years of experience in fishing the famed rivers of Yellowstone National Park. For the first quarter of 2013, we have the

following demonstrations and featured guest speakers scheduled for our general membership meetings: Jan. 8 – Ed Thompson demonstrated “Rod Building 101” to create your own custom fly or spinning rod; Feb. 5 – Jonas Price, owner of The Feathered Hook fly shop in Coburn, will present “Fishing the Five Streams of Centre County.” Price is a renowned entomologist and will cover insect hatches and the best patterns to duplicate the naturals that hatch on Penns Creek, Spring Creek, Fishing Creek, Elk Creek and Pine Creek; March 5 – Mitch Blake, PA Marcellus Shale field organizer, will present “Marcellus Shale Exploration – What it means to us as conservationists, local businessmen and area residents.” The chapter currently has four fundraising activities planned for 2013. The Jaffa Sportsmen’s Show, at the Jaffa Mosque runs Feb. 22-24. We will be raffling off three great prizes. The chapter will also be selling flies donated by chapter members as well as having some fly tying demonstrations at our booth during the show. We currently have three other fundraisers on the drawing board for 2013. We hope to have a one-fly fishing tournament in early May on Yellow Creek, and a sausage and pancake breakfast tied in with the annual Children’s Fishing Derby held by the Roaring Spring Chamber of Commerce in early July. We are also planning our annual banquet, which will be held in September. The chapter is currently in negotiations with land owners bordering Clover Creek to plan at least one stream restoration and improvement project for 2013. We entered into an agreement with the Sheetz Corporation in Altoona to coordinate and oversee the installation of a wetlands project at the Legion Park in Hollidaysburg to correct a current drainage issue and act as a filtration system for excess water runoff. The plan includes planting in excess of 200 trees, shrubs and wetlands vegetation. This project has been reviewed and approved by the attorneys of National TU and a contractual agreement has been signed by both the Sheetz Corporation and officers of our chapter. This project will get underway upon receipt of the required permits and acceptable weather conditions. The chapter’s annual free fly tying classes began Jan. 5. These classes are for beginner and advanced tiers. We purchased 26 new vises and sets of fly tying tools to accommodate those that registered for the classes. Posters, announcements and personal invitations were sent throughout the community to advertise the event. Our chapter remains active with the TIC program. We are providing guidance and support for five schools in Blair and Huntingdon counties that are participating in this program.

Ken Sink Chapter #053
Eli Long
724-422-9884, eli.long@gmail.com

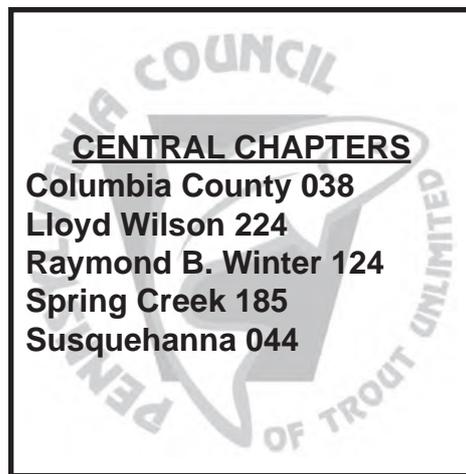
Board officers will continue their terms. Roger Phillips joined the board. Our newsletter will now be mailed out seasonally. Our January meeting featured a presentation from Joe Humphreys. The chapter’s banquet is March 24. Fly tying classes began in January. Our TIC projects include partnerships with Homer Center and Saltsburg area schools.

Mountain Laurel Chapter #040
Randy Buchanan
814-467-4034, prbfish4fun@aol.com
Website: www.mltu.org

Elections were held with the following results: Randy Buchanan, president; Gary Cooper, VP; Dave Maher, secretary; and Pat Buchanan, treasurer. The chapter’s constitution was recently modified and approved. Monthly meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month. Planning is underway for the annual banquet on March 19. Two fly tying courses were held in January.

Penns Woods West Chapter #042
Walter Reineman
412-999-8292, walterr28@hotmail.com
Website: www.pwwtu.org

This year marks the chapter’s 50th anniversary. Plans are underway for a special banquet in either September or October. A special commemorative pin has been produced and is available on website. Under the direction of Christian Shane, our TIC program is thriving in two locations. We are actively seeking additional partners. Our annual Cabin Fever Show is Sunday Feb. 24 at the Sheraton Four Points in Cranberry, just north of Pittsburgh. Featured speakers are Lefty Kreh and PFBC Director John Arway. In addition, a more casual “Dinner with Lefty” is scheduled the night before the main event. Our Holiday Rod Raffle and the Joe Kline Giant Fly Sale continue to be our other main fund raisers. All flies are tied and donated by friends and chapter members. Our annual bus trip is scheduled for Fisherman’s Paradise on Spring Creek on May 18. We have moved the date up over past years due to changing hatch patterns. We continue to partner with the Allison Park Sportsmen Club with both their spring cleanup and stocking, and with our fall habitat improvement projects. We have a strong core group of members that are monitoring three area creeks for water quality in relation to any impacts from Marcellus exploration and drilling. A youth fly tying class was reinstated after a 10-year hiatus and has been successful with about 10 students attending.



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

Lloyd Wilson Chapter #224
Bill Bailey
570-748-6120 or 570-295-1934
wbailey@kcnnet.org
Website: www.lwtu.org

At our annual meeting, Jim Smith, Bill Ferguson and Lynn Grieb were reelected to three-year terms as directors and Russ Smith was elected to the board. At our December directors meeting, the following officers were elected: Bill Bailey, president; Jim Smith, VP; Skip Frye, treasurer; and Bill Ferguson, recording secretary. Directors developed a calendar of chapter activities for 2013. The chapter joined the Sportsman’s Alliance for Marcellus Conservation, at Katy Dunlap’s request. We had our annual family banquet/meeting in November. PFBC Executive Director John Arway presented an informative program. Glen and Sandy McConnell of McConnell’s Country Store and Fly Shop in Waterville received our “Out of Chapter Award” for continued their support. Regional VP Sherwin Albert attended. Our annual fly tying classes begin in February and run for five weeks. We purchased a chiller for the TIC program at Renovo Elementary School. The eggs have hatched at all four of our TIC programs and the fry seem to be doing fine. Thanks to those students and faculty members who are working with these programs.

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

Continued on next page...

The chapter's October meeting featured Game Commission WCO Dirk Remensnyder, who updated the chapter on the latest rules and regulation changes within the PGC. Our December meeting featured Mike Klimkos, who presented on where to find trophy trout and the habitats in which they dwell. He also spoke on the upcoming Rivers Conservation Camp. Weekly fly tying classes run from Jan. 14-March 19. Winterfest at RB Winter State Park is Feb. 10. Our annual banquet is March 22.

Spring Creek Chapter #185

Judi Sittler

814-861-3277, jlsittler@comcast.net

Website: www.springcreektu.org

Our board has four members up for reelection. Treasurer Rick Van Horn is serving another three-year term. Bill Voigt is running for reelection on a three-year term. He filled in for two years of an unfinished term vacated by a previous board member. Chris Haser is not continuing on the board, but he is willing to continue organizing our stream cleanup in April. He will also be our point person for the Wayne's Coldwater Kids event. Chris Hennessey has done a great job with our newsletter and will continue with that task though he will not seek reelection. We appreciate the work these board members have done. We also appreciate that they have agreed to continue some of their responsibilities while not on the

board. One more board member is stepping down because of a career change conflict. Bill Brusse took a job with DEP, which precludes him from being a board member. He was the SCCTU president for five years and served on the board for several years. He dedicated many hours and contributed unlimited expert advice to our chapter. We submitted a grant proposal to the Centre Foundation Competitive Grants Program asking for funding to purchase and distribute the latest TU publication "My Healthy Stream; A Handbook for Streamside Owners." We did not get the grant but we will continue to look for funding for the purpose of distributing this terrific handbook to local streamside owners. Many landowners need some awareness of what constitutes a healthy riparian buffer. Bob Vierck is managing the \$69,800 NFWF grant awarded to us in the fall. The first project is erosion abatement on Spring Creek in the Milesburg area in the spring of 2013. Also in 2013 we expect work to be completed on the gravel parking areas at Fisherman's Paradise and "The Rock" along Rock Road, which will be graded and re-graded. NFWF has hired two new team members to support the Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund. Our contact for the fund will be Kristen Saacke Blunk, who will provide field-based interaction and presence for our project. There is a new teacher from Park Forest Elementary school interested in TIC. We will start the process of finding funding for the startup costs. Our chapter was approached by a summer camp

for children asking if we would be interested in giving basic fly fishing instruction to the campers. That idea will be explored early in the new year.

Susquehanna Chapter #044

David Craig, secretary

570-971-4744, davsalc@comcast.net

Chapter members completed a fishing platform at Trout Run Park, which sits at the edge of a long hole on Lycoming Creek. Lewis Township supervisors plan to provide access to it, allowing handicapped individuals to fish. The 10-foot by 24-foot platform was constructed with the assistance of The US Fish and Wildlife Service. The park continues to be upgraded by the township and provides excellent fishing for waders and boaters. Anglers Cove, our extensive fishing section of the James V. Brown Library, has been purged and reviewed in order to provide space for new issues. The section offers hundreds of classic and current books. Our fly tying classes will continue in 2013. The classes in 2012 drew over 30 students of varying skill levels. Mitch Blake, TU's Marcellus Shale field organizer, spoke on the new conservation success index system used to rank sub-watersheds for brook trout and other populations at our November meeting. Plans for the chapter's annual watershed meeting were discussed. The chapter continues to seek director candidates.



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