

# Pennsylvania TROUT



Spring 2020

Publication of the Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited

www.patrou.org

Visit page 12 for a recap of the Keystone Coldwater Conference held Feb. 28-29, 2020 in State College.

## Moving forward

By Greg Malaska  
PATU President

*“Far and away, the best prize that life has to offer is the chance to work hard at work worth doing.”*

– Theodore Roosevelt

Today is May 2. The first day of spring gobbler and the nicest day we’ve had in weeks. After a long week at the office (dining room table), I needed to get out of the house. Faced with blown out rivers and tailwaters due to the major rains on Thursday, today seemed like a perfect day to get after some “natives.”

A few hours on the water chasing wild trout and a couple miles on the Danners helped to put a lot of things in perspective, an opportunity many of us have been craving.

See **FORWARD**, page 3



Rob Shane Photo

The Delaware River, one of the top recreation areas and trout fisheries in the state, received the prestigious designation of River of the Year by American Rivers.

## Delaware named River of the Year

By Rob Shane  
TU Mid-Atlantic Organizer

For those in the Mid-Atlantic, or for anyone who’s been trout fishing long enough to have a bucket list of rivers, you’re certainly familiar with the Delaware River.

Aside from being the source of drinking water for more than 15 million people in two of the largest cities in the United States (New York and Philadelphia), it provides so much more to all of us who rely on the Delaware for their livelihood, a source of  
See **RIVER**, page 7

## Introducing: Fly Patterns of Pennsylvania tying column

Visit page 6 for the debut of a new fly tying column, *Fly Patterns of Pennsylvania*, a quarterly feature focusing on flies with historical significance to the Keystone State and its waters.

Pittsburgh-based creative director and visual designer, and Penn’s Woods West

TU member, Nick Cobler kicks things off with Charles Meck classic “The Patriot.”

Cobler is a Pittsburgh-based creative director and visual designer, and a former LL Bean casting and tying instructor who was first introduced to fly fishing by his father, Dwight, more than 36 years ago.

## PATU Awards

Information regarding this year’s PATU award nominations is available on pages 10-11. The awards will be presented at the PATU Annual Meeting on Sept. 19. Nomination deadline is July 31.

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## New Council merchandise available

If you haven't taken a look at PATU's merchandise offerings lately, please take a few minutes to check out our latest additions on page 14: Insulated stainless steel travel mugs, brook trout-themed dog collars and Lee Hartman's new book, "The Delaware River Story."

**Insulated Stainless Steel Travel Mugs**

– These PATU-logoed, BPA-free insulated stainless steel 16 oz. travel mugs are designed to fit in the console of your vehicle and feature a removable plastic lid with a sliding cover for sipping your beverage. An easy-grip handle assures stability and minimal spillage when you are on the go. Price: \$14.00 each.

**Brook Trout-themed Dog Collars**

– Treat your canine fishing companion to a new collar that features a unique Brook Trout design and offers waterproof technology that is impervious to dirt, moisture and odors. Available in two sizes:

Small/Medium – length 20.75" (fits neck size 12.5" to 17") Price: \$23.00 each.

Large/ X-Large – length 25" (fits neck size 17" to 21.5") Price: \$25.00 each.

**"The Delaware River Story/Water**

**Wars, Trout Wars and a River Reborn"**  
– This 268-page book authored by professional river guide and co-chair of Council's Delaware River Committee Lee Hartman is not a how-to or where-to-go-to fish book, but rather it chronicles the natural and unnatural history of the Delaware and its watershed.

The book focuses on four centuries of history and the author's own personal stories as well as those of the many individuals and organizations who have, and are continuing to sacrifice their time and effort to keep the Delaware River flowing free and clear without detriment to its flora and fauna. Price: \$25.00 each.

All items are priced to include shipping costs and sales tax (where applicable) and can be ordered using a credit card for online payment at [www.patrou.org](http://www.patrou.org) or by downloading an order form and paying by check.

Profits from the sale of merchandise are used exclusively for Council programs that benefit our mission "to conserve, protect, restore and reconnect the coldwater resources of Pennsylvania."

## Actions Taken by EXCOM since Feb. 1, 2020

*By email vote:*

**February 22:** Approved Council's sign-on to two letters from the Choose Clean Water Coalition to the PA House in support of funding for the Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018 (2018 Farm Bill).

**March 10:** Approved letter from Council to PA Fish & Boat Commission recommending the addition of the proposed list of Class A and Wild Trout Waters at the Commission meeting on April 27-28.

**March 14:** Approved letter from Council to the Western PA Conservancy in support of their C2P2 grant application to acquire property adjacent to the Susquehannock State Forest in Potter County, with the intention of conveying this property to the PA Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources.

**March 24:** Approved Council's FY2021 Operating Budget; commencing April 1, 2020 and ending March 31, 2021.

**March 24:** Approved postponing Council's Eastern Regional Training originally scheduled for April 25 until a date in August to be determined.

**March 25:** Approved National TU drafting a letter to the Susquehanna River Basin Commission outlining concerns due to possible groundwater contamination and proposed water withdrawals for a Nicholson Meats processing plant to be built near Fishing Creek in Clinton County.

**April 18:** Approved Council sign-on to a National TU letter to the President of the U.S. in opposition to the proposed Pebble Mine project in Alaska.

# Join TU's social distance fishing effort

TU and our partners are asking everyone to practice #ResponsibleRecreation when outside enjoying America's great fishing opportunities. Here's what we recommend, given what we know about the threats posed by the coronavirus outbreak and the COVID-19 disease:

1. Practice good social distancing on the water. The Centers for Disease Control recommends staying six feet apart from others. We're taking it a step farther — we're asking anglers to stay a rod's length apart from their fishing partners whenever possible. The standard fly rod is nine feet long.

2. Wear a multi-layered face covering when in the vicinity of other anglers. Even a double-layered cloth mask can help slow

the spread of the virus.

3. Avoid fishing from a boat with someone you haven't been in lock-down with. In other words, if they're not family, don't fish from a boat with them.

4. Drive to the river separately to get to the angling destination.

5. Stay local, if at all possible, to limit exposure to others, and limit others' exposure to you.

Spread the word by posting photos and videos on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter of you and your family practicing social distancing while fishing. Be sure to use #ResponsibleRecreation and tag @troutunlimited to be entered to win some great prizes and TU swag.

## FORWARD

*from page 1*

It's been 47 days since Gov. Tom Wolf told us to all go home. Since that time, many of us have been working from home and have had plenty of time to reassess what's really important in our lives, our jobs, and our streams.

It's also given me some time to think about our role as conservationists.

You, our volunteers, are the lifeblood of this organization. Without you, streams don't get improved, bills and permits don't get monitored, and new conservationists of all ages and groups don't get to join the effort. Protecting our streams is hard work and is definitely worth doing.

Sometimes our work is harder than usual, especially in times of crisis.

The past few weeks have shown how proud I am to be a part of this organization. Our Executive Committee has been forced to take some tough positions in response to COVID-19 and will need to make even tougher decisions moving forward. Regardless, our decisions will be guided by two directives: 1.) They must be in the best interest of our streams and wild trout; and 2.) They have to prioritize the health and safety of our volunteers.

As you know by now, we had to cancel our regional trainings and TU National has canceled its annual meeting in Maine.

Many of our chapters have canceled their annual fundraisers and even more have had their conservation projects put on hold. We are all chomping at the bit to get back to our events, but we have to be prudent and patient to protect everyone's safety.

We at PATU are doing our part as well.

We held our first Zoom board meeting last week and are developing some scenarios to move the organization forward regardless of the length or intensity of the COVID-19 pandemic. We are patiently waiting to see how this virus matures and hopefully, it won't impact our annual meeting in September, but the health and safety of our members comes first.

After nearly two months of quarantine, social distancing, wearing masks to buy groceries, and missing our friends and family, we're all a little punch drunk right now. I'll task all of you to use this time to think about the future and what your chapter will be in the future. Update your strategic plans, learn new technology, and cultivate future volunteer leaders. I'll challenge all of you to get to that hard work that is worth doing.

Eventually, we'll get out of this bottleneck and all that pent-up TU energy will have to be used somewhere. See today as an opportunity to plan where to direct that energy once the straitjacket is off. I really believe that we are at the cusp of the greatest period of conservation success in our history... start writing your narrative now.

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

Contact information is available on pages 2-3.

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# Headwaters

A message from PATU President  
Greg Malaska

## So what does Council actually do?

After visiting with 27 of our 49 chapters, you begin to see certain issues and questions that continue to arise. As president, I thought it was high time to address one of them. This is the article that needed to be written and should have been written a long time ago. This issue's piece is designed to respond to two related, yet all-too-common questions from our chapters:

1. What does Council actually do?
2. What does Council do for me?

In order to answer these two important questions, it's critical to look at our organization and operations from 10,000 feet.

TU is a national 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit corporation. PATU is a state council of the larger whole. Our chapters are subsets of both TU and PATU. Regardless of these multiple layers of operation, we are still "One TU".

The Coldwater Heritage Partnership is a partnership between PATU, the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, and the Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds. CHP is staffed by a Program Director (Rachel Kester) and has oversight from PATU and a CHP steering committee made up of the four funding partners. CHP is responsible for three primary tasks: 1) administration of the CHP coldwater grant program; 2) coordination of the biannual Keystone Coldwater Conference, and 3) coordination, with PFBC, of the Trout In The Classroom program.

Now that we understand how we are structured, we can go back to the core question: what does PATU do? Well... we do a lot.

### Advocacy

PATU, in concert with National staff, advocates for trout and our coldwater resources. We constantly monitor legislation and DEP regulations through our Conservation Committee and also track regulatory changes at the Fish and Boat Commission through our Trout Policy Committee. Jen



Orr-Greene, our new MidAtlantic Policy Advisor, is our "eyes and ears" in Harrisburg. We regularly schedule meetings with legislators and agency staff to promote trout-friendly legislation and regulations and also work to defend against the contrary. While Jen oversees and creates the message, Rob Shane brings the message to our chapters and helps members to understand the issues and advocate on the local level. Jen and Rob are both National staff serving several Mid-Atlantic states and are an invaluable component to our conservation efforts. Once the message is developed, PATU also uses its website, social media, and email blasts to notify our members of the upcoming issues.

### Education and networking

Education is perhaps PATU's greatest benefit to our chapters.

Every year, we hold two separate trainings, one in the east and one in the west. The trainings provide advocacy reports, updates from the PFBC and TU National staff, and also showcase 1-3 chapters' efforts on specific projects. This year, we hand-picked four different presentations from four different chapters to help provide a resource for chapters considering similar projects. While the lecture-type format has great value, even more value is added by the networking opportunities provided by these events. Being around 50-75 chapter leaders from across the state is a great environment for cooperation and idea sharing. There is no one-size-fits-all model for

successful chapters, but swapping ideas amongst each other allows for a synergy that can't otherwise happen through phone calls or emails. WE are hoping to reschedule the trainings for later this year.

Our Keystone Coldwater Conference is also a great learning opportunity for our chapters and members. Every two years, the KCC brings together agency staff, academics, and nonprofits to share and discuss cutting-edge research impacting our coldwater fisheries.

### Outreach

We also maintain a great new website which shares up-to-date info with all our members. We have a Facebook page and a Twitter account as well. We help to edit and publish a quarterly newsletter which is posted online four times per year and mailed once annually. We also send action alerts to our members via email regarding hot issues.

### Fundraising and grant programs

One of our biggest changes in the last few years is our reinvestment in our Forever Wild grant program. As you recall, this program grew out of the Back the Brookie program, which raised funds from the sale of license plates. Our goal with Forever Wild was to expand the scope of the BTB program to those projects impacting wild brown and rainbow streams. We also expanded the scope of projects funded, providing grants for projects ranging from stream improvements to signage. In this

**Continued on next page...**

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year's budget, we prioritized fundraising to ensure that more and more FW grants are funded. These grants are administered by PATU's Conservation Committee in concert with CHP Program Director, Rachel Kester. Myself and EXCOM are committed to find ways to provide value back to our chapters and this is the most visible opportunity. If you haven't sent in an annual appeal donation, Forever Wild could really use the help. Right now, we can only fund up to \$1,500 per applicant. With your help, perhaps this could grow.

Let's also not forget our merchandise sales. We have really streamlined our marketing efforts and are actively selling merchandise to assist with our programs, including Forever Wild. PATU Secretary Bob Pennell is spearheading this effort. Make sure to check out our website to see the new look and diverse set of goods available for purchase. Even better, if you see a type of merchandise that we don't sell and you are interested in purchasing, let us know. The more we sell, the more we can put back into programs.

One last item. For years, we held a raffle to raise funds for the Trout in the Classroom program. After some initial success, the ticket sales stagnated and EXCOM decided it was no longer able to raise TIC funds in this manner. TIC is an incredibly valuable program and we continue to look for creative ways to help pay for it.

We're a nonprofit, so every purchase and donation counts. In an upcoming issue, Bob Volkmar, PATU Treasurer will

explain where the money comes in and where it goes out.

### **Committees and Regional VPs**

PATU, like many other nonprofit, accomplishes much of its strategic work through committees, which are entirely volunteer-driven. Eleven committees meet in person or via teleconference to develop strategic plans and make recommendations to EXCOM for implementation. They are open to all PATU members and are discussed on our website. These committees provide a great opportunity for those volunteers with a passion for a special topic or those that just want to learn more about a certain PATU initiative. We are always looking for new volunteers to serve on committees, so I encourage you to get involved.

Similarly, an important component of our Board is our six regional vice presidents. They are the eyes and ears of EXCOM, serving as a conduit to our chapters. The RVPs are the go-to people for chapter questions and issues. I served as NE Regional VP for four years and had the chance to develop hands-on working relationship with each of my chapters.

### **The elephant in the room: Can we tell you what to do?**

Well...Sometimes.

TU National publishes a document known as the Leadership Manual. It catalogs all of TU National's Policies. It is a great resource for all of you. It can be found at <https://www.tu.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/TU-Leadership-Manual-Nov.-2019.pdf>. PATU must follow that Manual and so should every chapter. PATU

also has Bylaws, which EXCOM and its members must follow.

Over the years, we have had issues with Chapters or members not complying with National or PATU's policies where we have had to notify the Chapter or member of the noncompliance. Absent violations of express policies, we have generally taken a hands-off approach with our chapters. In fact, wherever possible, we prefer to address possible violations through the Chapter directly.

We're here to help, not to dictate. If there is an impression to the contrary, that is on us and we are prepared to restore that image and its impact on our relationship with our chapters. Over the last two years, I have made it my priority to reinvest into our chapters. We are one TU and we respect each chapter's unique challenges and opportunities. Again, we're here to engage, not micromanage.

I hope this piece has answered your questions and dispelled some myths. We all need to work together to protect our coldwater resources on the state and local level. Teddy Roosevelt once said, "Do what you can, with what you have, where you are". That credo has never been more relevant. Thanks for all you do for this organization.



**The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited has more than 14,000 members in nearly 50 chapters statewide, with one common goal: The conservation and enhancement of Pennsylvania's coldwater streams and fisheries, specifically our wild trout resources. Trout Unlimited is an IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, functioning for charitable, educational and scientific purposes. Donations are deductible to the extent provided by law. For information on advertising in PA Trout, call 814-692-5232, or email [bisles@live.com](mailto:bisles@live.com). See pages 2-3 for Council contact information, officers and committees. For listings of Regional VPs and Pennsylvania TU chapters, and their contact information, see pages 15-20.**

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



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# Fly Patterns of Pennsylvania

by Nick Cobler

## THE PATRIOT

Designed by Charles R. Meck (1932–2018)

### Fly Design / Highlights

- Highly visible to the angler on the water's surface
- Great attractor pattern in any situation
- Perfect top fly for a dropper rig

### History

This dry fly pattern was first tied by Charles Meck many years ago and was originally called the RB Coachman. The RB stood for “really blue.” The body was constructed of barbules from a blue marabou feather. When krystal flash became available, he replaced the marabou body with smolt blue krystal flash. And after showing the pattern to Art Gusbar, of Somerset, PA the name was changed to the Patriot because Art pointed out it was comprised of red, white and blue. The name stuck and this attractor pattern has proven itself consistently across the state – and even country!

### About the Fly Pattern Designer

Mr. Meck, a lifelong Pennsylvania resident, was a noted author and fly fishing expert. He wrote several successful books and numerous magazine articles on fly fishing and had fished virtually every trout stream in the state of Pennsylvania. He loved teaching others the sport of fly fishing and the appreciation of the beauty of the natural world. Charlie was inducted into the Pennsylvania Fly Fishing Museum Hall of Fame. He was also a member of the Outdoor Writers Association and PA Outdoor Writers Association.



Pittsburgh-based creative director and visual designer Nick Cobler is a member of Penn's Woods West TU and a former LL Bean fly casting and fly tying instructor. See more of his work at [Brushes-with-Brookies-and-Beer.com](http://Brushes-with-Brookies-and-Beer.com).

### Materials

- **Thread:** Red
- **Tail:** Brown hackle fibers
- **Body:** Smolt blue Krystal Flash wound around the shank; wind some of the red thread in the middle of the shank, similar to the Royal Coachman
- **Wings:** White impala or calf tail, divided with figure 8 wraps
- **Hackle:** Brown
- **Hook:** Mustad 94833, sizes 10-18



Insert hook into vise and start thread at least an eye length behind the eye of the hook. Wrap back to bend and attach tail, then a few krystal flash strands. Wrap thread forward.



Clean, stack and measure calf tail for wing. Tie in with tips forward and build thread dam to prop wings to vertical. (Tip: stagger cuts of calf tail to help with a smoother transition.)



Divide wings with figure 8 wraps; Try to create a nice smooth transition with thread over the trimmed calf tail. Cover or trim any stray fibers.



Wrap krystal flash forward and tie off with thread. Attach appropriately sized hackle feather behind wing and move thread to front of wing. Secure with a half-hitch.



Grasp the feather with hackle pliers and wrap forward behind the wing a few turns. Then wind a few turns in front of the wing. Capture with thread and trim any stray barbules. Wrap a red band with thread and whip finish.



Create a small, neat head with thread, trim any stray barbules if you like. I prefer mine as buggy as possible. Whip finish and coat with head cement to secure wraps. Hit the stream and do some prospecting!



from page 1

escape from everyday life, and a place to call home.

Earlier this month, [American Rivers named the Delaware its River of the Year](#). It's a prestigious designation that those of us who know the story of this river's troubled history and have worked hard to change that narrative know did not come easy.

Before George Washington famously crossed the Delaware on Christmas night in 1776, the basin was home to the Lenape tribe – the first to recognize its value and cherish its bounty. The tribe's territory spanned the entire length of the river, from its headwaters in New York to the mouth in Delaware Bay. The great Lenape people thrived by harvesting migratory returns of American Shad and growing crops in the fertile valleys of the Delaware River.

The Delaware River is also the birthplace of American fly fishing.

Although disputes continue about whether the Catskills in New York or the Brodhead Creek in Pennsylvania can officially claim the title, all who enjoy the sport can thank the cold, clean water in the Delaware Basin for the sport as we know it.

With the introduction of fly fishing in the upper reaches of the Delaware in the late 1800s also came some of the earliest stories of coldwater conservation. We at Trout Unlimited can thank these founders, at least in some small part, for our own existence today.

The story of the Delaware River took a turn, though, as industry took precedent and water quality quickly became a victim of growth and economic prosperity.

Timber harvest, coal mining, and manufacturing giants such as Bethlehem Steel were fueling the American industrial revolution. Alongside these prosperous industries came booming metropolitan populations, roads, parking lots, and lots of impervious surfaces.

At one point, the river's water was so foul that it would turn the paint of ships brown. Vast sections of the river were void of aquatic life.

Enter the Clean Water Act in 1972, and the story of the river started to shift.



Rob Shane Photo

**TU members and supporters have worked hard to ensure that future generations can enjoy the recreational opportunities of the Delaware River.**

Because of these new regulatory tools, as well as the effort of the newly formed Delaware River Basin Commission, the river's health improved. Dissolved oxygen levels, which had been extremely low or even non-existent in some parts of the river, began to increase. Phosphorous and other harmful chemicals started to disappear.

With the resurgence of clean water, migratory fish such as American shad, striped bass, and Atlantic sturgeon returned.

Coincidentally, at the beginning of the River's resurrection in the 1970s, communities upriver in the Pocono Mountains were fighting a battle that would ultimately define the future of the River as we know it today.

The proposed Tock's Island Dam, near the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, would have been the largest east of the Mississippi, creating a lake nearly 37 miles long and flooding one of the most popular National Park Service units in the country.

Local advocates fought this flood-control dam tooth and nail, refusing to see their beloved river and its history needlessly buried behind a man-made structure.

And they won.

Today, the Delaware River remains the longest undammed river in the Eastern United States, flowing freely for 330 miles from the confluence of the East and West Branches in Hancock, N.Y., to the Delaware Bay.

Additionally, more than 400 miles of the River and its tributaries are designated as *Wild and Scenic*, garnering protections from the federal government from future development projects.

The Delaware River basin is an econom-

ic driver for much of the region. The famed Upper Delaware wild trout fishery alone contributes more than \$400 million to that region. In total, more than \$22.5 billion is pumped into the regional economy from recreational activities, and that number continues to grow.

There's still plenty of work to be done, though.

Since 2018, Congress has appropriated between \$5 million and \$10 million annually as part of the [Delaware River Basin Restoration Program](#).

Trout Unlimited has been the benefactor of more than \$969,000 of this funding, allowing us and our conservation partners to carry out projects in New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania to improve wild trout habitat and watershed connectivity.

We are thankful for this financial commitment, but we must continue to advocate for its growth into the future, securing clean water for recreation enthusiasts, businesses, and those who rely on the Delaware for clean drinking water.

TU members and supporters, in addition to restoring stream miles throughout the Delaware River Basin, have been vocal advocates in support of such efforts, helping to ensure that future generations can enjoy the recreational opportunities of the Delaware River.

Earlier this month, the Fish and Boat Commission upgraded more than 120 Class A and Wild Trout streams, receiving more than 1,200 public comments in favor of these upgraded protections.

*Rob Shane is the Mid-Atlantic Organizer for Trout Unlimited. He's based in Carlisle, Pa.*

# PA Council of Trout Unlimited

*Minutes of the April 26, 2020  
Executive Committee Meeting  
Teleconference*

**Officers Attending:** Greg Malaska, Bob Pennell, Monty Murty, Ken Undercoffer, Bob Volkmar, Charlie Charlesworth, Russell Thrall, Brian Wagner, Dale Kotowski, Brian McGuire, Bobby Hughes

**Others Attending:** Rachel Kester, Len Lichvar, Jen Orr-Greene, Robert Shane, Brad Isles

The meeting was called to order at 9:06 AM by President Malaska. A motion was made and carried to approve the Minutes of our February 1, 2020 EXCOM meeting as submitted.

**President's Report:** Malaska submitted a report of his activities since the February 1, 2020 EXCOM meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** A motion was made and carried to approve the Treasurer's Report dated April 2020 as submitted.

**Actions Taken by EXCOM since February 1, 2020:** The list of action items taken by email vote since February 1, 2020 was approved as submitted.

**Program Director's Report: Coldwater Heritage Partnership** - Report submitted. Kester reported that an application has been submitted to DCNR to fund \$112,175 for the 2021 (Round 26) CHP Grants program. It is anticipated that Round 21, 22 and 23 grants will be closed out by the end of December. Volkmar stated that our cashflow related to CHP funding is in good shape.

**Trout in the Classroom Program** - Report submitted. Kester reported that the new TIC website developed by Stroud Research will be launched very soon. The annual order for TIC T-shirts is on hold until the vendor is permitted to resume production under COVID19 guidelines.

**Keystone Coldwater Conference** - Report submitted. Kester reported that there were 153 participants in the February Conference. She is working with Volkmar to develop a task list for the 2022 Conference.

**National Leadership Council Report:** Report submitted. Wagner reported that the

TU Climate Change Workgroup has developed a roadmap to raise awareness of climate change by communicating a consistent TU science-based message to our members.

## **Mid-Atlantic Policy**

### **Director's Report:**

Report submitted. Orr-Greene reported on her advocacy work regarding

PA HB2426 and SB317, and requested approval for Council to sign on to a letter in opposition to HB1822 (see action taken under New Business). Shane reported that the four regional Trout Forums proposed for 2020 with PFBC have been put on hold.

**Financial Reviewer's Report:** John Leonard's report was submitted for the months of January, February and March 2020, showing no irregularities in any of the accounts/charges, and everything is well documented.

### **Regional Reports:**

- **Northcentral** - All eight chapters reported.

- **Northeast** - Eight of 10 chapters reported. Schuylkill County and Schuylkill County did not report.

- **Northwest** - Six of nine chapters reported. Allegheny Mountain, Cornplanter and Seneca did not report.

- **Southcentral** - Four of seven chapters reported. Adams County, Falling Spring and Muddy Creek did not report.

- **Southeast** - Six of seven chapters reported. Bucks County did not report.

- **Southwest** - Four of eight chapters reported. Fort Bedford, John Kennedy, Ken Sink and Mountain Laurel did not report.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Trout Policy** - Report submitted. Lichvar reported that the meeting scheduled with PFBC for April 27 has been postponed. Malaska requested that the committee establish a policy for moving forward on the issue of proposed rulemaking for Section 3 of Penns Creek.

**Budget/Development** - Report



submitted. Council's FY2021 operating budget was approved by an email vote of EXCOM in March. Murty outlined a proposal for applying for Education Innovation Tax Credits (EITC) to benefit businesses who donate funding for the TIC program (see

further information under New Business).

**Investments** - No report submitted. Volkmar pointed out that we will just have to ride out the current downturn in the economy until conditions improve.

**Awards** - No report submitted.

**Delaware River** - Report submitted. Lee Hartman reported that the newly proposed fisheries regulations for all streams and rivers (stocked and wild) in the State of New York, including the border waters of the Upper Delaware River, have been put on hold until further notice.

**Conservation** - Kotowski reported that the committee is now staffed with 7 members and requested the assistance of the Regional VPs in compiling a list of the conservation/environmental committee chairs for each of their chapters.

**Women/Diversity** - Report submitted. Amidea Daniel reported that a decision will be made on April 29 on moving ahead with plans for a Women & Diversity Leadership Retreat scheduled for May 15-17.

**Youth Education** - No report submitted.

**Membership** - No report submitted. Erick Lewis has been appointed chair of this committee.

**Communications** - Report submitted. Discussion on printing and mailing a second issue of *PA Trout* resulted in a decision to go with the Winter issue. Murty suggested that we develop an editorial schedule with themed editions to attract more advertisers and supporters.

**Veterans Services** - No report submitted.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**PATU Annual Meeting** - Malaska stated that as of now we are still planning to hold our Annual Meeting on September

**Continued on next page...**

# Treasurer's Report

by PATU Treasurer

Bob Volkmar

The Executive Committee approved the purchase of a laptop computer for the treasurer; PATU's financial information will no longer reside on his personal computer. Russ Thrall, Northeast Regional VP, was kind enough to configure and set up the computer. With the latest software and backup to the cloud, we're moving into the 21st century. However, becoming acquainted with the new system has precipitated frequent profanity-laced rants from the treasurer. This could go on for a while.

We're all struggling to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic, which also could go on for a while. President Greg Malaska has appointed a committee to develop an operations continuity plan. Committee members are Rachel Kester (program director), Bob Pennell (secretary), Russ Collins (southcentral regional VP), and Bob Volkmar (treasurer). The continuity plan is a contingency plan of sorts that identifies how PATU will deal with the impacts of the pandemic and its economic fallout, and thus avoid placing decisionmakers in the position of having to make hasty decisions amidst chaos.

I wish to thank all the members and chapters that donated to PATU in response to the Annual Appeal. Also, a shout-out to the Kettle Creek Watershed Association, which gave a generous donation in support of Trout in the Classroom.

## Chapter Donations

Thank you to all chapters that donated to State Council in support of the Trout Unlimited mission over the past six months.

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

- Valley Forge

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

- Allegheny Mountain
- Doc Fritchey

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

- Adam's County
- God's Country
- John Kennedy
- Oil Creek

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

- Forks of the Delaware
- Tiadaghton

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

19 in Bedford.

**Regional Trainings** – Malaska stated that while everything is set to conduct our regional trainings later this year, he is requesting feedback from the Regional VPs on whether we should postpone these trainings until next year due to probable conflicts with the date for our Annual Meeting in September.

**Update on Merchandise Sales** – Pennell reported that since taking on this responsibility last April, merchandise sales have totaled \$5,469. It is anticipated that publishing and mailing of a Winter issue of our newsletter will give the program a much-needed boost in sales.

**Stroud Research/TIC Program** – The contract with Stroud has been closed out and it was reported that they did a good job for us on the TIC program.

**PA Collegiate Fly Fishing Championships** – Charlesworth reported that this event has been canceled for this year, but we are in good shape for next year due to having a student in place who was responsible for organizing the event this year. Saint Francis University in Loretto will be added to the College/Five Rivers program, with the Mountain Laurel Chapter serving as its sponsor.

**ARIPPA Grant Initiative** – Malaska

will schedule a conference call with Steve Moyer of National TU to discuss the feasibility of accepting grant money from the Appalachian Region Independent Power Producers Association for stream restoration projects.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Forever Wild Grants** – Requests for proposals will go out in May, with a decision on grant awards scheduled for August.

**Lancaster Fly Fishing Show** – Charlesworth reported that Council has been allocated a space for the 2021 Show. A motion was made and carried to participate, based on identifying volunteers from local chapters to man our booth for 2-hour shifts during the two days of the show. Volkmar will register us for the show online.

**Riparian Buffer Grant** – Kester suggested that we postpone any action on this until next year.

**Education Innovation Tax Credit (EITC) Application** – Malaska asked Murty to make any final changes to the application, then submit it to EXCOM for approval pending solicitation of the 10 support letters.

**Keystone 10 Million Trees Initiative** – A motion was made and carried for Council to join this Chesapeake Bay Foundation initiative which will be available through 2025 to allow chapters to obtain live stakes and tubes for planting trees in the spring

and fall.

**Operations Continuity Planning** – Malaska appointed Volkmar to chair an ad hoc committee of Kester, Collins and Pennell to develop a plan to identify adverse impacts on our Council operations, with the goal being to develop safeguards and procedures to ameliorate or prevent those impacts, in short...a recovery plan for a return to normal operations.

**Letter to SRBC on Nicholas Meats** – Orr-Greene will circulate a letter to EXCOM for signing on to a letter to the Susquehanna River Basin Commission objecting to the expansion of a Nicholas Meats processing facility in the Fishing Creek (Clinton County) watershed.

**PA House Bill 1822** – A motion was made and carried for Council to sign to a letter prepared by Orr-Greene opposing passage of HB1822 which would freeze state funding for environmental projects during the virus pandemic.

**Erosion Problems on Sandy Creek** – Malaska will reach out to Bob and Linda Steiner to suggest that they coordinate their efforts with the Oil Creek Chapter in combatting erosion problems they reported on Sandy Creek (Venango County).

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent at 11:52 a.m.

– Bob Pennell  
Council Secretary

# PA Council Award nominations are due by July 31

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited will present its annual awards during the fall meeting at The Hall at Kinton's Knob (Bedford County Historical Society), 6441 Lincoln Highway, Bedford, PA 15522, on Saturday, Sept. 19.

There is a huge amount of extraordinary work being accomplished by PATU chapters, as well as many individuals, and that work should be recognized. If you are aware of a group, chapter or individual you feel is worthy of a nomination, **please consider filling out a nomination form.** Nominations are due by **July 31.**

Forms may be emailed to Rachel Kester at [c-rkester@pa.gov](mailto:c-rkester@pa.gov) or mailed to her at PATU P.O. Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823.

Please note: nominations for Best Newsletter and Best Chapter website (described below) should be sent to Brad Isles at [bisles@live.com](mailto:bisles@live.com).

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

- **Chapter with greatest membership increase** – Nominations not accepted; Recipient determined based on data collected from National TU.
- **Chapter with greatest percentage increase in membership** – Nominations not accepted; Recipient determined based on data collected from National TU
- **Edward Urbas Award for Best PA Chapter** – This award is given to the chapter that best exemplifies the work of TU, including involvement in conservation efforts, community activities, outreach, youth activities, etc.
- **Best Small Chapter Award** – The same criteria used in the Edward Urbas Award will applied to this award, but it is limited to chapters with 150 or fewer members.
- **Best Chapter Project** – This award recognizes an exceptional initiative, project, or effort on the part of a TU chapter which demonstrates efficient use of resources and which utilizes effective partnerships with other or-

ganizations such as government agencies, other non-profits, schools, etc., and which had a notable impact on the community and/or environment.,

- **Doc Fritchey Award for Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist, TU Member** – This award recognizes a TU member with a history of exemplifying PATU's core values and mission- conserving, protecting, and restoring PA's coldwater fisheries and watersheds – and who demonstrates a commitment to volunteerism.
- **Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist, Professional** – This award recognizes an individual, either from a governmental agency, private enterprise, or non-profit organization, who has made an exceptional effort to help fulfill the TU mission of conserving, protecting, restoring, and sustaining PA's coldwater fisheries and watersheds.
- **Outstanding Volunteer** – This award recognizes a person who, while not necessarily a member of TU or a conservationist professional, was particularly helpful and who contributed time and effort to supporting a TU chapter or project. Their efforts on either a single project or on an ongoing basis can be considered and described in the nomination.
- **Best Chapter Website** – Is your Chapter's website particularly attractive, clear, up-to-date and easy to

navigate? If so, send nominations to Brad Isles at [bisles@live.com](mailto:bisles@live.com).

- **Samuel Slaymaker Award for Best Chapter Newsletter** – If your newsletter includes information about your chapter's activities that is current, well-presented and clear, and is visually attractive, your chapter may very well win this award. Send nominations, with a few copies of the newsletter, to Brad Isles at PO Box 23, Grove City, PA 16127. A digital copy can also be sent to Brad at [bisles@live.com](mailto:bisles@live.com)
- **Dr. Jack Beck Award for Outstanding Youth Outreach** – This award recognizes an individual who has shown exceptional leadership and commitment to youth outreach, programs, and activities.
- **Ken Sink Award for Outstanding Service to PATU** – This award is given to a person who contributes to PATU's mission in a notable way. It is intended to recognize a person who has been involved for a significant period of time and who has demonstrated steadfast dedication to coldwater conservation, protection, restoration, as well as volunteerism and leadership. It is not necessarily presented every year.
- **Inky Moore Award for Outstanding Service to State Council** – This award recognizes a person who through his or her recent efforts shows promise as a future leader of the organization.

## Subscribe to PA Trout

*If you would like to receive future PA Trout newsletters by U.S. Mail, fill out the following form and mail with your check payable to "PA Trout" to: PA Trout, PO Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823.*

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)*

# PATU Awards 2020 Nomination Form

Fill out, clip and except where otherwise indicated mail this nomination form to: Rachel Kester, P.O. Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823. You may also download it from [www.patrou.org](http://www.patrou.org) and mail to the same address. Scanned submissions can be emailed to [c-rkester@pa.gov](mailto:c-rkester@pa.gov). Call 814-359-5233 with questions. **The deadline for nominations is July 31.**

Nominator's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

*\*\*Nominator will be notified once a decision has been made.*

I would like to nominate \_\_\_\_\_ for the

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

Reason for nomination (250 words or fewer): \_\_\_\_\_

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# Keystone Coldwater Conference puts focus on conservation, education

By Rachel Kester  
PATU Program Director

The 14th biannual Keystone Coldwater Conference was held on Feb. 28-29, 2020 at the Ramada Conference Center in State College. One hundred fifty-three participants took part in the two-day conference.

The theme for this year's conference was Coldwater Conservation and Education: Resiliency in a Changing Environment.

Friday, February 28, professional conservationists from the PA Fish and Boat Commission, Trout Unlimited's Pennsylvania Coldwater Habitat Program, the Penn State Center for Dirt and Gravel Road Studies, and the US Forest Service led a workshop on Aquatic Organism Passage.

They educated workshop participants about the resources available for AOP projects and how replacing undersized culverts can benefit fish and other aquatic species while also benefiting human health and safety by reducing flooding impacts. An additional benefit is reducing maintenance costs for municipalities.

The AOP workshop was followed by a student mentoring dinner, student poster session, and an evening reception. Thirteen students representing four colleges and universities across the state participated in the poster session.

While all the students did an excellent job presenting their research, three students were recognized for their exemplary research and poster presentations.

First place was awarded to Meredith Bennett of Duquesne University for her poster titled *Two Approaches for Aquatic Environmental DNA Surveys: Advantages and Concerns*.

Second place was awarded to Sara Mueller of Penn State University for her poster titled *Phenotypic Variation in Brook Trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) Among Pennsylvania Drainages*.

Third place was awarded to Rachel Kim of Juniata College for her poster titled *Standardizing Methods for environmental DNA (eDNA) sampling in stream water: Examining the role of filter material, pore*

*size, and water volume on brook trout eDNA recovery.*

The keynote address on Saturday was given by Tim Schaeffer, executive director of PFBC.

During his address, Schaeffer talked about the various ways that his agency is working to help our coldwater ecosystems be more resilient in the face of climate change. He then moderated the plenary session which was focused on resiliency in a broad sense.

Panelists spoke about how organizations can be more resilient, how conservationists can help coldwater ecosystems and trout populations to be more resilient, and how organizations can continue to advocate for coldwater resources and raise funds for conservation projects.

The remainder of Saturday was filled with concurrent sessions focusing on coldwater conservation and education. Links to the presentations can be found on the Keystone Coldwater Conference website under the "Presentations" tab or by following this link: <https://www.coldwaterconference.org/presentations.html>.

Council would like to thank all the sponsors, speakers, students, exhibitors and participants for making the 2020 Keystone Coldwater Conference another successful event. A special thank you to the conference planning committee for their dedication and hard work to bring the conference to fruition.



Brian Wagner Photo

**Student research is a key part of the bi-annual Keystone Coldwater Conference.**

A list of sponsors along with other information about the conference can be found on the website by following the above link.

The next Keystone Coldwater Conference will be held in the spring of 2022.



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2319 Valley Road  
Harrisburg, PA 17104

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[bjuniata@verizon.net](mailto:bjuniata@verizon.net)

# CHP awards \$80K in Coldwater Conservation Grants

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited announced that 12 grants totaling \$80,000 have been awarded to conservation organizations across Pennsylvania through the Coldwater Heritage Partnership's Coldwater Conservation Grant Program.

The funds will be used to perform stream assessments and develop conservation plans in seven watersheds and complete on-the-ground projects, such as construction of instream fish habitat structures, tree plantings, and stabilization of eroding stream banks in six additional watersheds.

These grants are made possible with financial assistance from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources through a Community Conservation Partnerships Program grant administered by the Bureau of Recreation and Conservation; AND through funding from the Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds. The Coldwater Heritage Partnership is a collaboration between PATU, PA DCNR, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, and the Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds.

Organizations receiving funding support from the CHP this year:

**Clearfield County Conservation District** – This project will entail installation of structures to stabilize the banks of the Bennett Branch of Sinnemahoning Creek and Wilson Run in Clearfield County, improving sediment transport and instream habitat for native brook trout.

**Eastern Pennsylvania Coalition**

**for Abandoned Mine Reclamation – EPCAMR** will assess naturally reproducing and wild trout populations, aquatic connectivity, macroinvertebrates, and fish passage barriers within the Mill Run watershed in Luzerne County, and will identify where potential restoration and watershed improvement projects can be recommended for future implementation.

**Falling Springs Chapter of Trout Unlimited** – This project will implement plans to clean, improve access to, and plant a riparian buffer along Falling Springs Branch in “The Meadows” section in Franklin County.

**Huntingdon County Conservation District** – This project will entail completion of a watershed assessment and development of a conservation plan that will provide a foundation for the management of the coldwater stream ecosystems in the Upper Standing Stone Creek watershed in Huntingdon County.

**Juniata College** – This project will identify barriers to wild trout passage and areas for fish habitat improvement in the Doe Run watershed in Chester County.

**Moshannon Creek Watershed Association** – This project involves updating water quality information in Moshannon Creek and its tributaries and identifying risks to the trout streams within this watershed in Blair, Clearfield, and Centre Counties.

**Penns Valley Conservation Association** – This project will install 16 streambank stabilization and fish habitat structures and

plant 3,000 riparian trees and shrubs in a 1,200-foot segment of Muddy Creek on five adjacent properties in Centre County.

**Trout Unlimited PA Coldwater Habitat Program** – This project will improve habitat for the existing Class A population of brook trout and reduce an estimated 5,400 pounds/year of sediment by addressing 7,920 feet of streambank erosion along Beaverdam Run in Clinton County.

**Warren County Conservation District** – Project partners will gather data to prioritize projects that will improve the water quality, fish habitat, and streambank stability of Farnsworth Branch in Warren County.

**Western Pennsylvania Conservancy** – This project will restore a 200-foot section of Clear Creek at Clear Creek State Park in Jefferson County by removing failing gabion baskets along the bed and banks and installing 12 fish habitat enhancement structures.

**Western Pennsylvania Conservancy** – This project will mitigate the negative effects of stream acidification by strategically adding alkaline material to various locations in the headwaters of Shade Creek, in Somerset County, through instream dosing of limestone sand.

**Western Pennsylvania Conservancy** – WPC staff will complete at least 70 road-stream intersection surveys to determine current aquatic organism passage potential in three focal watersheds in Clearfield County.



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

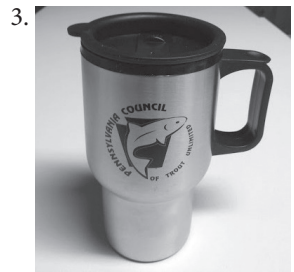


# Merchandise Order Form

Thank you for supporting the efforts of PATU in protecting, conserving and restoring PA's coldwater streams. Please allow 1-2 weeks to receive your order. Some items may ship sooner. For pictures and complete descriptions of these items please go to [www.patrou.org/merchandise](http://www.patrou.org/merchandise). If you have questions about the availability of any specific items, please feel free to contact Bob Pennell at [rpennell37@comcast.net](mailto:rpennell37@comcast.net) or 717-395-5124.



	Item Description	Price	Qty.	Total
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	Large Waterproof Fly Box (6"x4"x1")	\$20.00		
1	Medium Waterproof Fly Box (5.5"x3.75"x5/8")	\$14.00		
	Custom-tied Leaders			
	Dry Fly – 4X Tippet	\$6.00		
	Dry Fly – 5X Tippet	\$6.00		
	Dry Fly – 6X Tippet	\$6.00		
	Wet Fly – 4X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers	\$6.00		
	Wet Fly – 5X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers	\$6.00		
	"The Delaware River Story" Book	\$25.00		
	"PA Limestone Trout Creeks" Book	\$24.00		
	"History of Trout Unlimited in PA" Book	\$15.00		
	"Fly Fishing PA's Spring Creek" Book	\$15.00		
	"More of CVTU's Favorite Flies" Book	\$20.00		
	"Keystone Fly Fishing" Book	\$30.00		
2	Traveller Fly Rod – 9'0, 5-wt., 7-piece (temporarily out of stock)	\$130.00		
	PATU Travel Rod Case	\$24.00		
	Official PATU T-shirt (circle size) S M L XL	\$20.00		
	Official PATU T-shirt (circle size) 2XL 3XL	\$23.00		
	PATU Sticker	\$1.50		
3	PATU Travel Mug	\$14.00		
<b>Note:</b>	6% sales tax (where applicable), shipping and handling costs included in unit prices.	<b>Total \$</b>		



\* Prices effective May 1, 2020

6% sales tax (where applicable) and shipping and handling costs are included in unit prices.

Mail this form, along with money order or check payable to "PA Trout" to:

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

Or you can order directly online using a credit card at [www.patrou.org/merchandise](http://www.patrou.org/merchandise).



**Note:** Due to ever-changing COVID-19 restrictions, shut-downs and county-by-county reopenings, any upcoming events listed in the following chapter reports should be considered *tentative*. Please check the individual chapter's website or newsletter for updated status.

### NORTHEAST CHAPTERS

**Brodhead 289**  
**Forks of the Delaware 482**  
**Hokendauqua 535**  
**Lackawanna Valley 414**  
**Monocacy 491**  
**Pike-Wayne 462**  
**Schuylkill County 537**  
**Shehawken 81**  
**Stan Cooper Sr. 251**  
**Western Pocono 203**

### REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

**Russell Thrall**  
159 Swift Road  
Stroudsburg, PA 18360  
Email: russ@thrall3.com  
Phone: 570-620-8677

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### Brodhead Chapter #289

Eric Baird  
570-396-4647, ericrobertbaird@gmail.com  
www.brodheadtu.org

Our annual banquet was postponed until July 31, 2020. All current conservation projects on hold until construction activities are allowed to proceed. TIC programs and other educational programs hit a snag with the closing of the schools and prohibition on meeting people. Once we have a date that we can start planning around the chapter can begin laying the groundwork for new educational events. We have no program speakers planned until September, tentatively.

### Forks of the Delaware Chapter #482

Joe Baylog  
610-751-9116, baylogj@gmail.com  
forksofthedelaware.tu.org

We purchased supplemental accident insurance for the new fiscal year. We held a successful Zoom board meeting on April 15. The chapter created a Facebook group to focus on community engagement and promote more social interaction between members during these challenging times. The chapter received another anonymous \$100 donation for our Bushkill Creek restoration project. The chapter is considering impacts from coronavirus to construction of the Bushkill Creek restoration project that is expected to start this summer. Our Feb. 5 meeting featured guest speakers Kerry Reider focusing on local Bushkill Township open space, and WCO Zach Rudd with an update from PFBC. School closures led to some hurried trout releases by our TIC teachers. We did hold three Bugs & Suds fly tying events at Riverside Barr & Grill on the second Thursday in January, February and March.

### Hokendauqua Chapter #535

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

The three TIC programs we sponsor have been suspended, and several other programs were planned but had to be canceled because of COVID-19 shutdowns. We held our eight-week fly tying course from January through February and had 13 students which included three women, several VSP members and two teens.

### Lackawanna Valley Chapter #414

Jacob Bliss  
570-833-2091, jacobbliss93@outlook.com  
www.lackawannavalleytu.org

No report.

### Monocacy Chapter #491

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

All meetings are canceled until the fall. There are several land developments we are keeping an eye on, but nothing to report as of yet.

### Pike-Wayne Chapter #462

Paul Ranello  
973-452-9301  
www.pwtu.org

In March PWTU celebrated its 35th year of being a charter member of Trout Unlimited. We continue to be an active member in the Pike Conservation Dirt, Gravel and Low Volume Road Program. PWTU will provide three \$500 stipends to graduating seniors from the three area high schools who will be majoring in environmental or related studies in the fall. Plans are underway for our second annual Women's Introduction to Fly Fishing program. In February, Jack Harris gave a presentation on fishing in Alaska, and wildlife conservation. In March, Scott Major gave a presentation on fly fishing on the Delaware River.

### Schuylkill County Chapter #537

Brian Lengel  
717-708-8846, brianlengel7@gmail.com  
www.schuylkillcountytu.org

No report.

### Shehawken Chapter #81

Joe DeMalderis  
914-475-6779, crosscurrent@optonline.net  
https://www.facebook.com/Shehawken-Trout-Unlimited-811023349070239

No report.

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## Stanley Cooper, Sr. Chapter #251

Scott Brady

570-479-6106, jsbrady@bradygrabowski.com  
www.sctu.org

Our banquet scheduled for March 28 at the Holiday Inn Wilkes-Barre was canceled. We essentially finished a phase of a stream improvement project at Mountain Springs Lake, where we took down a dam, and planted 2,000 plants and trees in conjunction with Luzerne County Conservation and to revitalize Bowman's Creek where Mountain Spring Lake was before the construction of the dam. Bowman's Creek roadside and stream cleanup was postponed. May fishing camps for youths and adults were canceled. We're planning a women's fly fishing camp held in conjunction with the PFBC.

## Western Pocono Chapter #203

George Hludzik

570-788-2121, grhlaw@ptd.net  
www.tu.org/connect/groups/  
203-western-pocono

In February, the chapter heard Catawissa Creek Restoration Association president Ed Wytovich speak about the AMD remediation projects on wild brown trout in Catawissa Creek, but had to cancel March meeting with Lehigh Coldwater Fishery Alliance representatives. WPTU hoped to help students or designated participants from Hazleton STEM school release TIC-raised trout if permitted.

### **NORTHCENTRAL CHAPTERS**

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

## REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

**Bob Volkmar**

**443 West Br. Fishing Creek Rd.  
Roulette, PA 16746**

**Email: rdvolkmar@gmail.com**

**Phone: 814-544-7174**

## Columbia County Chapter #38

Erick Lewis

607-621-8126, ealewis@geisinger.edu

facebook.com/Trout-Unlimited-Columbia-County-PA-Chapter-038-149965298455579

We are working with the Columbia County District Conservation Office to provide grant access and boots on the ground for stormwater/culvert repair improvement, which has been delayed due to COVID-19. A planned litter cleanup at Orangeville Steps access area was also delayed. The chapter completed weekly fly tying classes in February. Our chapter picnic is scheduled for July 14 at Kocher Park, Lightstreet.

## God's Country Chapter #327

David Saulter

814-274-9763, saulterdg@yahoo.com

Chapter meetings were held in January and February. The march meeting was canceled. Planning was conducted for the chapter's booth at the annual Maple Festival in mid-May, which was also canceled, along with a TIC release day for Coudersport Elementary School.

## Lloyd Wilson Chapter #224

Bill Bailey

570-748-6120, wbailey@kcnnet.org  
www.lwtu.org

We are attempting, along with some other groups, to stay on top of the request by Nicholas Meats in Loganton to withdraw a minimum of 175,000 gallons of water per day from wells in the Big Fishing Creek watershed. As of March 12, the Susquehanna River Basin Commission's technical review is ongoing and is expected to continue for several months. Everyone who submits a comment to SRBC and provides contact information will be added to a list to be notified regarding a future public hearing and also when the application is scheduled for action at a quarterly commission business meeting. The trout that were raised in the TIC programs have been released, but without student involvement. All projects, events and programs we have been planning for the second quarter and into the summer are on hold.

## Penns Creek Chapter #119

Joe Dunmire

717-899-6085, jhazzbo@hotmail.com

The Annual Financial Report and Form 990 for fiscal year 2020 were prepared and submitted. Our annual banquet was held on March 14 with speaker Sara Mueller, a Ph.D. candidate at Penn State. She presented an excellent program on her research into brook trout in a changing climate. The chapter purchased many truckloads of stone for repair of stream improvement structures at Karl B. Guss State Park. Park employees placed the stone. Tying classes were held at the Juniata Valley YMCA in January and February. All TIC programs released fish early due to school shutdowns.

## R.B. Winter Chapter #124

Rod Jones

570-259-7205, flyrodjones@gmail.com  
facebook.com/  
RBWinterTroutUnlimitedChapter/

We held election of new officers, and Dave Nihart, PFBC cold water specialist, was the speaker at our January chapter meeting. In February, Steve Sywensky presented. Our March and April chapter meetings were canceled. Our annual banquet scheduled for March 27 was canceled. In February, members did a fly tying demonstration at Winterfest, an annual event hosted by RB Winter State Park. President Bob Laubach and President-Elect Rod Jones visited all TIC programs in February. Starting the first Monday in January, the chapter ran a 10-week fly tying course for beginners. An advanced fly tying course was also organized. All chapter meetings and events have been suspended until September 2020.

## Spring Creek Chapter #185

Jamie SanFilippo

SanFilippo.Jamie@gmail.com  
www.springcreektu.org

The SCCTU Board and a few members volunteered for the YMCA of Centre County's, Backpack Program on Jan. 23, where we packed over 100 bags of food for local children in need. Our annual banquet was rescheduled for July 25. Stream cleanup and McCoy Dam maintenance in May were postponed. Our Veterans Service Program hosted a VA Briefing on Jan. 11. Our Smart Angler Program on Jan. 18 was canceled due to snow. We had 16 women attend a bug identification workshop in January, and 20 attend a Wine, Women and Waders Happy Hour as part of our women's initiative. Other events included Vino & Vices on Feb. 6 and the 10th annual Joe Humphreys Film Festival on Feb 16. The chapter applied for a Growing Greener grant for \$107,685. Brian Swistock spoke on the effects of climate change on PA water resources on Feb. 6.

## Susquehanna Chapter #044

Charles Knowlden

570-971-1296, cjknow@comcast.net  
www.susquehannatu.com

The Susquehanna Ripples newsletter was distributed in January, February and March. Several veterans have expressed interest in fly rod building. We are organizing a raffle and other fundraising activities utilizing donated fishing items to purchase rod-building kits. We convened our annual summit of area watershed organizations, public officials and conservation organizations on Jan. 8 in order to learn and promote synergies about the volunteer efforts and accomplishments to protect and conserve our area streams and watersheds. Tim Schaeffer, executive director of PFBC, and Eric Hussar, PFBC president, pre-

sented the strategic plan for the commission at the Feb. 12 chapter meeting. We are monitoring the Sugar Valley water withdrawal applications in the Big Fishing Creek watershed and will provide comments. Geoff Smith, Susquehanna River lead biologist for PFBC, gave an update on Susquehanna River smallmouth bass population and related research programs at March 11 chapter meeting. We concluded another successful weekly fly tying course in February and into March, although we had to cancel the last three sessions. Several chapter members have been approached about participating in Casting for Recovery, as we have done in the past. The chapter will not sponsor a Casting For Recovery program due to concerns about administrative requirements similar to Project Healing Waters, although we will encourage women to participate in fly casting instruction in conjunction with our Veterans Service Program. We applied for a Technical Assistance Grant that involves the TU Lock Haven office gathering data and creating a plan for potential AMD-related conservation projects in the Upper Loyalsock Creek watershed. Shawn Rummel was going to present a program about the project at our April 8, chapter meeting which that postponed. Shawn is continuing with his work.

### **Tiadaghton Chapter #688**

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

Several members attended the Keystone Coldwater Conference in February. F3T film and hors d'oeuvres was held March 14, though it was lightly attended. Project planning for the EAS grant on Long Run is on hold and trees will not be available to plant this spring. Our final free Flies and Lies event was canceled. The film "Live the Stream: The Story of Joe Humphreys" was shown Feb. 19 at the Victoria Theater in Blossburg.

### **NORTHWEST CHAPTERS**

**Allegheny Mountain 036**  
**Caldwell Creek 437**  
**Cornplanter 526**  
**Iron Furnace 288**  
**Jim Zwald 314**  
**Neshannock 216**  
**Northwest PA 041**  
**Oil Creek 424**  
**Seneca 272**

### **REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT**

**Ken Undercoffer**  
1510 Village Rd.

### **Clearfield, PA 16830**

**Email: kcoffer@atlanticbb.net**

**Phone: 814-765-1035**

### **Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036**

**Codey Schlemmer**

814-953-5295, schlemmerservices@gmail.com  
www.amctu.org

No report.

### **Caldwell Creek Chapter #437**

**Tom Savko**

814-664-2124, tksavko2@verizon.net

Work on area streams with the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy is on hold. Weekly water testing with AALLARM is also on hold. Our four TIC programs released fish early due to school shutdowns. Outdoor Day for May 16 was canceled.

### **Cornplanter Chapter #526**

**Troy McDunn**

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

No report.

### **Iron Furnace Chapter #288**

**Mark Hanes**

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

In mid-January we had a "Pint Night" recruitment event at Mechanistic Brewing in Clarion. It was held on a Friday night and we signed up about 20 new members to the chapter. Plans are to have more of these events in future it really got some excitement going within the chapter and community. Terry Morrow gave a presentation at the Clarion Rotary Club's February meeting about the chapter and what we are working on. We have been working on a packet with information about that chapter that will be sent out for an appeal to members and friends of the chapter. Hopes are we can start work on the Clear Creek Habitat Improvement with our EAS grant. Work was set to start in early to mid June. We are still waiting to hear from our partners at the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy on when this project will move forward. Fly tying classes in February were again a success this year. We again held Pies and Flies events at Clarion University in January and February. We had to cancel our April meeting and fly casting clinic/picnic at Cook Forest.

### **James Zwald Chapter #314**

**Murray Neeper**

814-834-3472, mneeper@zitomedia.net

Considerable work was conducted on the upper section of the Middle Fork of the East Branch of the Clarion River. The chapter partnered with the

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy in conducting LWD work in order to improve the habitat of the upper section of the East Branch. Work was conducted under a grant from the PATU Coldwater Heritage Program. Four of a planned six fly tying classes were held before the COVID-19 led to shutdown. The chapter is trying to put together plans for the completion of the last two classes. The chapter is working with the Elk County Conservation District to formulate an AMD cleanup plan for West Creek. Recent high water flows have been increasing the acid mine drainage entering the creek and causing problems for the trout population.

### **Neshannock Creek #216**

**Jeff Kremis**

724-588-4378, jjkremis@gmail.com  
www.neshannock-tu.org

Our annual banquet planned for March was canceled and rescheduled for next spring. We will be having the annual spring cleanup on the Coolspring DHALO area with date and time to be announced after restrictions have been lifted. The Deer Creek group is also working on plans for stream improvement projects and any work-day details will be provided once everything is set. TIC release day plans had to be changed on short notice and all schools were able to release their fish.

### **Northwest PA Chapter #41**

**Bill Eckert**

814-392-2696, bill@eckertappraisals.com  
http://nwpachaptertu.blogspot.com

Our Board approved a \$500 donation toward purchasing trout to support the Edinboro University Fly Fishing Club's 2nd annual kids fishing derby to be held again at Mallory Lake on the EU campus. Several members were set to volunteer to help with activities. Unfortunately, the derby was canceled due to the closing of the campus. President Bill Eckert and board member Matt Kemp attended the Keystone Coldwater Conference in State College. Our annual showing of the F3T movie had to be canceled. Chuck Keepports, hydrologist for the Allegheny National Forest, gave a presentation on the results of three years of water quality sampling of numerous forest headwater streams for PH, methane and other contaminants. While several streams showed higher than desired heavy metals, overall PH levels are rising due to the diminished use of coal in our power plants.

### **Oil Creek Chapter #424**

**Jennifer Lyons**

814-671-1292, lyonssj3876@gmail.com  
www.oilcreektu.org

We have a number of new members/leaders and have been looking forward to this year's activities. A Veterans Service Program event at the

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Sandy Creek Conservancy on June 6 was postponed. Our banquet planned for April 4 at the Ale House in Franklin was canceled. Tom Young, Dan Rockwell and WCO Mark Kerr attended the annual meeting of the Venango County Gravel and Low Volume Road committee. They approved spending of all the monies allocated for this year and needed to ask for a number of requests to be resubmitted next year, as this has become a very popular program in our county. We helped with equipment for the Titusville TIC program. The program for our February meeting was presented by Mike Reynolds, teacher at Titusville Middle School. His science program includes TIC and field lab work.

**Seneca Chapter #272**

**Chase Howard**

**814-598-3449, chaserhoward@gmail.com**

**www.facebook.com/SenecaTroutUnlimited**

No report.

**SOUTHEAST CHAPTERS**

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

**REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT**

**Brian McGuire**

**52 W. Princeton Rd.**

**Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004**

**Email: cbrianmcguire@comcast.net**

**Phone: 484-270-8505**

**Bucks County Chapter #254**

**Joe Mihok**

**215-589-9531, joemihok@verizon.net**

**www.buckstu.org**

No report.

**Delco Manning Chapter #320**

**Fred DeWees**

**610-547-9403, fredde4@gmail.com**

**www.dmtu.org**

Mono recycling tubes being placed on streams is completed. We did not qualify for any recent grants. Our January meeting was our annual Fly

Tying Night. In February, we had a tightline vs. indicator nymphing presentation. Our 2020 Fly Fishing Film Tour at the Colonial Theatre, Phoenixville, was postponed.

**Little Lehigh Chapter #070**

**Scott Alderfer**

**610-390-6219, salderfer@gmail.com**

**www.lltu.org**

We have continued planning for possible stream improvement projects on the Little Lehigh Creek. We held the drawing for our annual fall raffle on Jan. 8. Chapter leadership met with representatives from the Watershed Coalition of the Lehigh Valley, an umbrella group of watershed associations from Lehigh and Northampton counties. Also attending were several master watershed stewards, graduates of Penn State Extension's Master Watershed Steward Program. We discussed partnership opportunities in which the stewards would assist LLTU with labor on future stream improvement projects. Our TIC schools made plans to release their fish as soon as possible given school closures in mid-March. We plan to apply for a 2020 Embrace A Stream grant. Recent speakers included Caitlin Mercier, watershed specialist, and Jolie Chylack, environmental educator, both from the Lehigh County Conservation District, talking about partnership opportunities for LLTU with the Conservation District; and Waterways Conservation Officer Travis Miller (Lehigh County territory) speaking about stocking efforts and new regulations.

**Perkiomen Valley #332**

**Thomas W. Smith**

**215-513-9709, twsmith623@comcast.net**

**www.pvtu.org**

The chapter secured PADEP GP-1 approval to proceed with stream restoration on Hosensack Creek, which we're planning to implement in September, 2020. We are working on final design and funding for a quarter-mile length of Perkiomen Creek at Camelot Park, Upper Hanover Twp. Our F3T event on April 23 was postponed. We are scheduled to participate in "Schuylkill River Greenways" Summer Camp in 2020.

**SE Montgomery County Chapter #468**

**Richard Terry**

**215-675-1536, rtrroadrash@msn.com**

**www.tu468.org**

The chapter held its annual Polar Bear fishing outing on the second Saturday in January. A winter stocking took place in March and resulted in a lot of activity on the Pennypack that flows through the Pennypack Trust Property. Our annual banquet in March was postponed until the fall. A fly tying class was offered to TU and Pennypack Trust members during the winter resulting in several new members joining the chapter. Our TIC

program trout were released early and without the kids due to school closings.

**Tulpehocken Chapter #150**

**Brenda Bittinger**

**610-704-4676, b.bittinger@gmail.com**

**www.tullytu.org**

We are continuing to work on updating and migrating to a new website design. Many of our fundraising activities were canceled. From May to June we'll be holding a "Local Business Gift Card Raffle" with three tiers of prizes. Tickets will go out in mailed newsletters, and we're working on setting up an online portal. Restoration projects include working with Javius Galan for wetlands project grant support, working with Berks Parks and Rec to establish lumber-based deflectors in the Tulpehocken. Our TIC programs released their trout before schools closed. Our annual casting competition and BBQ is tentatively scheduled for July 15 at the Tully House, Grings Mill Park, Wyomissing.

**Valley Forge Chapter #290**

**Pete Hughes**

**610-827-9239, phtrout@comcast.net**

**www.valleyforgetu.org**

All activities, including our major fundraiser for the year have been postponed or canceled. We will still hold one of the raffles usually held as part of our Spring Trout Show. The tickets for this raffle were mailed in advance. All 14 schools in our TIC programs released their trout. VFTU still has several grant applications pending for stream monitoring and for installing additional stormwater trenches in the headwaters of Valley Creek and its tributaries. We are also working with other organizations to submit grant applications for stream improvement work.

**SOUTHCENTRAL CHAPTERS**

**Adams County 323**

**Codorus 558**

**Cumberland Valley 052**

**Doc Fritchey 108**

**Donegal 037**

**Falling Spring 234**

**Muddy Creek 575**

**REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT**

**Russ Collins**

**1167 S. Forge Rd.**

**Palmyra, PA 17078**

**Email: russthepres@dftu.org**  
**Phone: 717-580-3958**

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

**Hank Rajotte**

**717-408-8747, hank.rajotte@gmail.com**  
**www.adamscountytu.org**

No report.

### **Codorus Chapter #558**

**Tom Feninez**

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

The status of two planned projects for which we were awaiting permits is unknown. We were hoping for a late summer/early fall timeframe. We completed a significant stream cleanup project earlier this year, removing a variety of large objects that have been lingering since our historic flood in 2018. Furniture, televisions, tires, kids toys and tires were all among the items. Also before the state shutdown, we held two informal, open fly tying sessions for members and others. We managed to organize a release day into the south branch of Codorus Creek for two of our TIC schools prior to their closings. Our other two schools also arrangements to release their fish as well.

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

**John Leonard**

**717-512-4620, johnleonard222@gmail.com**  
**www.pacvtu.org**

Our Limestoner Fundraiser and Conservation Banquet was postponed until Oct. 3, 2020. We are still working on our LeTort restoration plan, which is being written by Lori Glace from the Cumberland County Conservation District. We hope to fulfill all the CHP grant requirements by the end of 2020. When able, membership meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month (except August & December) at Appalachian Brewing Company, Mechanicsburg.

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

**Russ Collins**

**717-580-3958, russthepres@dftu.org**  
**www.dftu.org**

All plans and preparations were completed in anticipation of our annual fundraising banquet, which ended up being postponed. We took a different track for the fundraising in that we sought "Special Sponsors" for our conservation efforts. We raised \$4,250 from these business partners. The chapter is doing the groundwork for a major effort to restore Spring Creek watershed in Derry Township. This effort may lead to submission to EPA for a 319 grant for a Watershed Implementation Plan. Additionally, plans are being discussed to form a watershed association for this creek. The chapter is awaiting word on a Growing Greener

grant to DEP for restoration of a handicapped and children's fishing area on Powell's Creek in upper Dauphin County.

### **Donegal Chapter #037**

**Tom Hall**

**717-898-8664, phallcat@comcast.net**  
**www.donegaltu.org**

Our spring fundraiser originally scheduled for April 4 was postponed. Our projects are all on hold and most of our conservation activities for the summer were canceled or postponed. As part of a grant from the Campbell Foundation, on Jan. 23 we held a land-owner outreach at Camp Andrews on Fishing Creek. Speakers included Shaun McAdam from National TU, Strouds Water Research Center and local farmers. Our new Women's Initiative coordinator is Becky Whitson, a teacher at Montessori School who is very involved in the TIC program. She gave a presentation about the TIC program at our February membership meeting.

### **Falling Spring Chapter #234**

**Chris Rudyk**

**717-387-1246, chris.rudyk@imiproducts.net**

No report.

### **Muddy Creek Chapter #575**

**Jimmy O'Connor**

**717-451-5200, jim.oconnor.001@gmail.com**  
**www.muddycreektu.org**

No report.

### **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**

**Dale Kotowski**

**304 Fordyce School Road**

**Waynesburg, PA 15370**

**Email: dalekotowski@icloud.com**

**Phone: 724-747-1513**

### **Arrowhead Chapter #214**

**Bill Libengood**

**724-498-6632, libengood2000@yahoo.com**  
**www.arrowhead214tu.org**

Arrowhead's banquet originally scheduled for March 28 was rescheduled. The chapter was able to stock the DHALO on Buffalo Creek with fish furnished by the PFBC as well as from Arrowhead's nursery prior to COVID-19 restrictions. Subsequent stockings are yet to be determined. The chapter completed our annual beginner fly tying course in January and February of 2020. We are considering an application for an additional grant for future work on Huling Run. TIC interaction with our seven schools was halted in light of the school closures.

### **Chestnut Ridge Chapter #670**

**Ben Moyer**

**724-329-3772, bcmoyer@verizon.net**  
**www.chestnutridgetu.org**

The Chestnut Ridge chapter has developed an ambitious schedule of educational, outreach, and fund-raising (which are also educational) events over recent spring seasons. These include several TIC release days with instruction on stream ecology and casting, a kids' fishing experience for urban children, a veteran's fishing day, our chapter's totally-fun-and-no-work fishing day at Beaver Creek, hosting the International Fly-Fishing Film Festival, and our 25th annual chapter banquet. Because our board concluded it was the only responsible course, we canceled all these events. We will, however, run our banquet in March 2021, as if it were indeed our 25th annual fete. We also canceled our annual litter cleanup on Dunbar Creek, and a first-ever cleanup on Pike Run, a Delayed-Harvest stream in Washington County. These will be resumed at the earliest possible time. Physical habitat improvement work to improve aquatic organism passage on Dunbar Creek, in partnership with Habitat Partners at California University of Pennsylvania, is temporarily suspended, but will be completed later this year. We have been trying to maintain a sense of chapter-unity, with frequent updates on Facebook and our website, and as-needed exchanges among the board and officers. The president also reported to the CRTU membership a summary of the Zoom meeting hosted by National TU president Chris Wood and other national staff on April 16. We are currently working within the totally rational restraints and guidelines established by Governor Wolf, to secure delivery and placement of alkaline limestone sand to our Glade Run acid-mine-drainage remediation project. Our partners in this, the Pennsylvania Game Commission, Mountain Watershed Association, and Wharton Township have been supportive and as helpful as possible. Our objective is to have 225 tons of limestone sand treating the Glade Run headwaters (tributary to Dunbar Creek) by the end of April. The remote location and the nature of the project will enable us to complete this treatment safely and

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**PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL  
OF TROUT UNLIMITED**  
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Permit No. 280

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within the guidelines of “essential enterprises,” since it supports higher water quality within the commonwealth.

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**Forbes Trail Chapter #206**

Larry Myers  
724-454-9345, [myersld@comcast.net](mailto:myersld@comcast.net)  
[www.forbestrailtu.org](http://www.forbestrailtu.org)

The chapter had a number of school field day and trout release events scheduled for spring along with a few public outreach activities. Those were all canceled due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Members continue monthly water quality testing on both Linn Run and Rock Run. The stream chemistry is holding relatively steady. Our annual Veterans Service Partnership fishing event in partnership with the Kingston Veterans Sportsmen Club has been tentatively rescheduled for May 1, 2021. We invited our youth fly tying class from Ligonier Valley Middle School to our February monthly meeting. At our March monthly meeting we held our annual Show & Tell. Our executive committee meets via Zoom videoconference as needed to manage business matters. We want our members to enjoy the outdoors and especially trout fishing during these trying times. But, we

remind them to follow the social distancing guidelines offered by PFBC.

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**Fort Bedford Chapter #291**

Rylan Schnably  
814-494-3751, [rschnably@bedfordcounty-conservation.com](mailto:rschnably@bedfordcounty-conservation.com)  
[www.facebook.com/fortbedfordtu](http://www.facebook.com/fortbedfordtu)

No report.

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**John Kennedy Chapter #045**

Jerry Green  
814-934-7046, [jgreen51@embarqmail.com](mailto:jgreen51@embarqmail.com)  
[tu.org/connect/groups/045-john-kennedy](http://tu.org/connect/groups/045-john-kennedy)

No report.

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**Ken Sink Chapter #053**

Keith Ewing  
724-840-3145, [goirish50@gmail.com](mailto:goirish50@gmail.com)  
<http://kenskink.blogspot.com>

No report.

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**Mountain Laurel Chapter #040**

Randy Buchanan  
814-467-4034, [prbfish4fun@aol.com](mailto:prbfish4fun@aol.com)

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

No report.

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

Charles Buffington  
412-388-1666, [buffingtoncw@gmail.com](mailto:buffingtoncw@gmail.com)  
[www.pwwtu.org](http://www.pwwtu.org)

The Board has had three meetings by phone conference with the primary topic being the review and approval of chapter policies to be more in compliance with National TU. We're still working on the language of a Youth Protection Policy which should be ready for review by the May phone conference. We've been working to revise our communication with members. The newsletter has been incorporated into the website, which has been expanded considerably. We've decided to keep using an email service that will provide a quick look into topics on the website instead of a full commentary with embedded links. We plan a survey of members to gauge their reaction to the revised communication and to the revised website. Our Cabin Fever Fly Fishing Expo was held before COVID-19 shut things down. Given the quarantine, we have elected to have a contest in which individuals or families go to a stream and collect trash.