

Pennsylvania TROUT



Fall 2017

Publication of the Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited

www.patrou.org

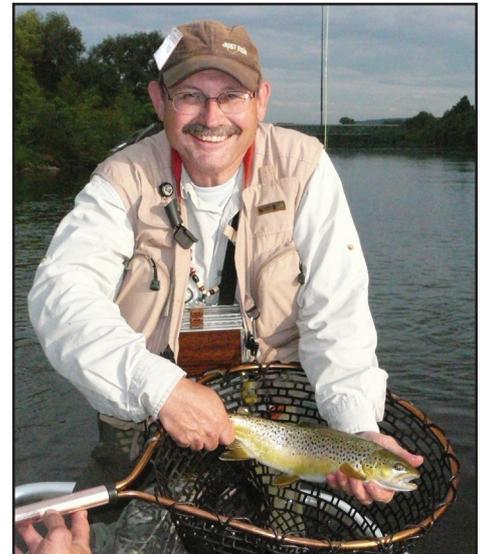
Fiscal responsibility and a Commonwealth plan for fishing and boating in PA

By John A. Arway
Executive Director
Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission

By now, most TU members have likely heard about the bold action taken by our Board of Commissioners on Sept. 25. Facing escalating costs and declining revenues after 12 years without an increase in the price of a fishing license, the Commission Board authorized me as executive director to make up to \$2 million in cuts in fiscal year 2018-19 if the legislature doesn't act on a revenue increase.

The current plan for achieving the \$2 million reduction in operating expenses would involve closing two warmwater hatcheries and one trout hatchery in FY 2018-19. The plan would reduce the number of trout stocked in 2019 by 7.5 percent and result in severe reductions to the cooperative nursery program. Barring a revenue increase, the Commission must begin to take these steps to remain financially solvent and provide basic services to Pennsylvania's 1.1 million anglers and nearly 3 million boaters.

See **PLAN**, page 10



John A. Arway

Chapters in spotlight at annual meeting

By Tali MacArthur
PATU Program Director

Eighty-five attendees representing 40 chapters and one out-of-state Council attended the 2017 annual fall membership meeting at the Nittany Event Center in Pleasant Gap in September.

Highlights included the presentation on riparian buffers by Alysha Trexler of the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, as well as the chapter successes roundtable.

See **MEETING**, page 6



Brad Isles Photo

Alysha Trexler, watershed scientist and project manager for the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, presents on riparian buffers during the PATU annual fall membership meeting held in Pleasant Gap in September.

'Forever Wild' mini-grant apps being accepted

Grants of up to \$1,500 will be awarded to eligible PA Trout Unlimited chapters to assist with efforts to protect, conserve, restore and sustain wild brook, brown and rainbow trout populations and/or to carry out education and outreach programs that increase the awareness of and support for coldwater conservation among a non-TU audience.

The following list provides examples of projects eligible for funding. Other projects may be considered. Please contact PATU to inquire about your project proposal.

See **GRANTS**, page 11

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Fight against funding cuts, weak oversight continues

By David Kinney
TU Mid-Atlantic Policy Director

Trout Unlimited members in Pennsylvania, along with our many partners in sportsmen's groups and conservation organizations, have been making noise in the Statehouse this fall in an effort to beat back proposals to cut conservation funding and weaken oversight of development along our streams.

Thank you to all who helped in these efforts, but the fight continues.

This winter, for instance, we're looking ahead to a debate over a proposal by the Delaware River Basin Commission to prohibit hydraulic fracturing in the watershed. Given the wild trout fisheries in question, TU is supporting this effort, and watching to ensure that the Commission properly regulates other potential fracking-related impacts to protect the special fisheries in the region.

DEP oversight and Pennsylvania conservation funding

In Harrisburg, the Pennsylvania General Assembly passed the budget this summer, but lawmakers spent months trying to find ways to pay for it. In the process, they floated a number of misguided ideas that would take the Commonwealth's environmental policies in the wrong direction. Which of them might become law, if any, was still up in the air at press time.

One legislative provision would weaken the ability of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to protect against potentially damaging impacts on coldwater resources.

First, oil and gas permits would need to be approved within short time periods – whether or not the applications are complete. Second, a third-party private review system would be set up to consider backlogged permits.

The lawmakers' goals make some sense: Everyone would like to see these permits reviewed thoroughly and efficiently. The trouble is, these proposed solutions wouldn't speed up the process. The first

proposal would force DEP to prematurely approve or deny permits in order to meet the deadlines. The second would set up a private bureaucracy and drain agency funds. Both proposals would likely lead to more litigation and, potentially, added confusion and delays.

DEP acknowledges that lengthy permit reviews are a problem, and is taking steps to speed them up. The right course is to support those efforts – and properly fund the agency.

Meanwhile, organizations like ours have relied on grants from the Pennsylvania Growing Greener program as seed funding for the sort of work we do.

Growing Greener grants worth more than \$4 million have supported the efforts of Amy Wolfe, director of TU's Eastern Abandoned Mine and Pennsylvania Coldwater Habitat Restoration programs, to clean up mine drainage impacts on miles and miles of streams. Chapters are using Growing Greener funds to conduct their own stream restoration and stormwater mitigation efforts.

One of the ideas floated in Harrisburg to close the budget shortfall involves raiding the Environmental Stewardship (Growing Greener) Fund of millions of dollars. This would put future projects in jeopardy, but it could also threaten current projects.

Fracking in the Delaware River Basin

Six years after putting in place a de facto moratorium on fracking in the Basin, the DRBC is finally returning to the issue. This time, they're set to prohibit the practice.

In September, the Commission voted to begin a rulemaking process that would bar hydraulic fracturing in the watershed. Representatives of New York, Pennsylvania, and Delaware voted in favor; New Jersey abstained and the federal government voted against.

The Commission left the door open to the possibility that it would allow other activities in the watershed related to drilling that occurs outside the Basin. Fracking requires a lot of water – as much as

Continued on next page...

Coldwater Heritage Partnership 2018 grant program now open

The Coldwater Heritage Partnership (CHP) announces the opening of the 2018 Coldwater Conservation Grants Program. The program provides two grant opportunities which help to protect and conserve the health of Pennsylvania's coldwater ecosystems.

The two grant opportunities are:

Planning Grant – designed to help develop a conservation plan that identifies the threats to the health of local coldwater ecosystems that have naturally reproducing trout as well as the opportunities for habitat restoration and conservation within those watersheds. The information and analysis can be used as a catalyst for more comprehensive planning or for development of watershed improvements projects. Planning grants average around \$5,000.

Implementation Grant – designed to provide funding for projects recommended in a completed conservation plan or other approved plan such as a Rivers Conservation Plan. Proposed projects must enhance, conserve or protect the coldwater stream for which the coldwater conservation plan or similar document was originally completed. Implementation grants average around \$8,000.

Additional information, including the Applications for both grants, can be found at www.coldwaterheritage.org. Applications will be accepted through December 15, 2017. The Coldwater Heritage Part-

nership urges watershed associations, conservancies, conservation districts, municipalities and local chapters of Trout Unlimited to apply.

The Coldwater Heritage Partnership provides technical assistance and funding support for the evaluation, conservation and protection of Pennsylvania's coldwater streams.

Grants will be awarded for project proposals that outline planning strategies and define implementation projects that best conserve and protect Pennsylvania's coldwater fisheries.

In addition to its grant program, CHP strives to foster greater public understanding of watershed characteristics and how they affect coldwater ecosystems; identify special areas of concern, such as areas with exceptional water quality and high potential for impacts; and provide technical assistance and financial opportunities to organizations dedicated to protecting coldwater ecosystems.

The CHP is a cooperative effort among the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited (PATU), the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), the PA Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC), and the Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds.

For more information, contact Tali MacArthur Program Director, at 814-359-5233 or visit www.coldwaterheritage.org.

...Continued from previous page

five million gallons for every well – and the withdrawal, storage, transport, and discharge of that water can have major impacts on our trout streams.

Nationally, TU has a responsible energy development policy. We support policies and practices that avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts to coldwater resources. The Upper Delaware is home to one of the best wild trout fisheries in the East, so we look forward to participating in this DRBC process to ensure the protection of that resource.

Stay tuned for ways to help us make our case in this debate.

All three of these issues underscore the importance of vigilance. It's important for TU members to build and maintain relationships with their elected officials, stay informed, and take steps to make their voices heard. One way to do that is to take action when we alert you to issues of concern, as we did this summer amid the debates over DEP reforms and Growing Greener funding.

Another way is to sign up to be your chapter's Advocacy Chair, and become a point person for efforts to protect our coldwater resources in the state.

If you're interested in helping the cause, contact me at dkinney@tu.org.

PA COUNCIL OF TROUT UNLIMITED 2017 COMMITTEES



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Headwaters

A message from PATU President Charlie Charlesworth

Wow, what a year this has been! Welcome to the new and improved Pennsylvania Trout Unlimited.

Over this past year we have embarked on a planned makeover of PATU, including how we can better serve you, our members. These organizational improvements include 12 bylaw changes, an updated strategic plan, and a highly thought out, all-inclusive operating budget.

These bylaw changes were designed to create more transparency in the conducting of Council's business...utilizing our regional vice presidents to facilitate communications and reporting between National TU, Council, our chapters, and you, our members.

Over this past summer the Executive Committee reviewed our existing strategic plan to re-focus our efforts on the tasks that are most critical for Council to achieve in the years ahead. A planning session was convened that was professionally facilitated by Jeff Yates, National TU's head of volunteer operations. The time frame for our planning strategy was shortened from five years to three years, with a review of our performance toward our goals to be completed every year right after the PATU annual membership meeting.

This year we also formed a Budget Committee and appointed a Council financial reviewer to periodically examine our financial records, just as all chapters are now required to do. Council Treasurer George Kutschel walked the committee through the entire budget process in much greater detail than had ever been done previously. On the recommendation of the Budget Committee, EXCOM approved the 2017/2018 operating budget. The Budget Committee will also review our third party accounting firm that submits Council's IRS Form 990 as well as Council's annual financial report to National TU. Our new budget also earmarks funding to develop stronger and more productive committees.

We have always placed a great deal of emphasis on the work of our Trout Management and Environmental committees, and will continue to do so. This

year we will also be placing a great deal more emphasis on our Veterans Services, Youth Education and Diversity (formerly Women's Initiative) committees. To accomplish our goals we will require a more committed effort by Council, our chapters and you, our members. Our goal is to facilitate this cooperation with the help of your regional vice presidents. Each RVP is assigned responsibility for one of six geographic regions, with each region comprised of seven to 10 chapters.

To give you a better idea as to how this will play out, permit me to use the Diversity Initiative as an example. Amidea Daniel and Kelly Williams are our co-chairs of this initiative. Together they will work with each of the six RVP's in their regions to identify a Diversity Initiative chair for each chapter. One of the chapter Diversity Initiative chairs will then be selected to represent that region as its organizer and coordinator and will serve on Council's Diversity Initiative as a regional vice chair to Amidea and Kelly.

It is through Council's committee and initiative chairs, each RVP and their respective committee and initiative representatives that we will formulate regional activities for not only the Diversity Initiative, but also the Youth Education Committee and the Veterans Services Partnership. It will be so much more affordable and less cumbersome to hold such events in this manner.

Remember that none of this activity will become reality without commitments from individual volunteers such as you. If any of these activities are of interest to you and you need more information about what is being done, I encourage you to contact me at ffnepa@epix.net. If you feel that you'd like to help out but you're not sure you have the expertise, please consider attending one of two regional trainings to be held next February: in the east at Pine Grove, and in the west at DuBois. The exact locations and dates will be posted on the calendar at www.patrou.org.

The regional trainings referenced above proved to be highly successful when rein-



stituted earlier this year. Many favorable responses were received about the content and subject matter that was covered, and many who attended departed those trainings eager for more information. The regional trainings will continue to focus on TU business and required operational procedures, while the fall membership meetings will focus more on social activities and a celebration of each chapter's accomplishments throughout the year.

Many of you who attended this year's annual meeting responded to our survey with a plethora of subject matters that you'd like us to cover at future meetings... much more than we could cover in one day. Based on that, would you be willing to attend a two-day event, particularly if we could tie this in with more fishing-related activities? I would appreciate hearing from you on this subject.

Finally, please contact your local state representative and tell him or her that you support the PA Fish and Boat Commission's need for a license rate increase.

Help protect and improve the Little J
Join the
Little Juniata River Association
Free River Tour
www.littlejuniata.org or email
bjuniata@verizon.net

Treasurer's Report

by PATU Treasurer George Kutskel

Happy New Year. I know the calendar says October, but we just arrived at the beginning of our fiscal year.

I know that most chapter treasurers are working on the annual financial report for National TU. We may have a few new folks in chapters that may not understand that this is a requirement, and it is due at National by Nov. 15.

As in the past, I will be available to assist chapters in getting answers to questions and other help. Please do not wait until the last week. Many of our chapters have very easy to complete AFRs, and I know we all have lives outside of PATU, but make sure you finish your obligation to your chapter and file the report before you leave on your hunting or fishing trip. You may reach me at maksak@comcast.net or call 814-371-9290 with questions.

If you have not yet purchased your ticket for the Trout in the Classroom Sweepstakes please consider doing so. We know that our chapters support their schools with programs and assistance when asked. Still, many schools do not have a partner or the partner does not have the funds to help with field trips or release day events. Funding for field trips and events has really become difficult to obtain. Last year we received many more requests than we were able to fulfill.

The Sweepstakes is a way to provide additional revenue that can be used to fund the big ticket items needed by the schools that most chapters could not provide without additional fundraising for the school.

Please support this worthy cause and be as generous as possible.

Actions taken by EXCOM since June 25, 2017

July 8: Approved support for a letter from National TU urging that Congress, not the Executive Branch or Dept. of the Interior, take responsibility to rule on the National Monuments issue.

July 21: Approved signing on to the Growing Greener Coalition's letter requesting the PA General Assembly to oppose current PA budget proposals that reduce or eliminate dedicated funding for programs that protect our water, build our communities, and protect our families.

Aug. 4: Approved signing on to a letter from National TU to PA legislators objecting to proposed amendments to HB542 which would require DEP to: Review well permits, air permits, and ero-

sion/sedimentation control permits within shorter time frames. Any application not approved in that time frame would be automatically approved, with no flexibility for dealing with applications that don't meet standards. And establish a private, third-party review program for delayed permit applications, which basically outsources DEP's authority.

Aug. 6: Approved a donation of \$1,000 to PFBC to help offset the costs of conducting the Wild Trout Summit on Aug. 26.

Aug. 17: Approved sending two letters to the PFBC supporting the designation of 99 additional streams as wild trout waters and three streams as Class A waters, to be approved at the Commission's September meeting.

Aug. 18: Approved signing on to National TU's letter to the EPA

objecting to the repeal of the Clean Water Rule.

Aug. 21: Approved spending \$174 for a one-year purchase of "Go To Meeting" software for conducting Council business.

Sept. 1: Approved sending a letter to NFWF in support of the Conservation Fund's 2016 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Acres for American program application for funding to help permanently protect over 15,000 acres of land located in Potter, McKean and Cameron counties in northern PA.

Sept. 8: Approved the creation and chartering of the Shehawken Chapter in northeastern PA, including the transfer of selected zip codes from the Lackawanna Valley, Pike-Wayne and Stanley Cooper chapters in PA, and Upper Delaware Chapter in NY.

Chapter Donations

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

Exceptional Value \$1,000 or more

- Cumberland Valley
- Mountain Laurel

High Quality \$500 to \$999

- Adams County
- Allegheny Mountain
- Doc Fritchey
- God's Country
- Neshannock
- Penn's Woods West

Brook Trout \$250 to \$499

- Donegal
- Schuylkill County

Wild Trout \$100 to \$249

- Hokendauqua
- Spring Creek

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

In Memory of:

We received a very generous bequest from the estate of Donald Hawthorne. We thank the family for remembering Don in this way.

We also received a donation in memory of Dick Packer, a great fishing partner.

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. See pages 2-3 for Council contact information, officers and committees. For listings of Regional VPs and Pennsylvania TU chapters, and their contact information, see pages 13-20.

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



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PATU award winners

Each year, Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited honors individuals and chapters who, during the previous year, achieved notable results in enhancing the overall mission of TU in Pennsylvania.

The following awards were presented at the Annual Membership Meeting in Pleasant Gap on Sept. 23, 2017.

- **Edward Urbas Award for Best PA Chapter** – Brodhead
- **Best Chapter Project** – Muddy Creek
- **Chapter with Greatest Membership Increase** – Spring Creek
- **Chapter with Greatest Percentage Increase in Membership** – Brodhead
- **Best Chapter Website** – Forks of the Delaware
- **Samuel Slaymaker Award for Best Chapter Newsletter** – Doc Fritchey
- **Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist, Professional** – Luke Bobnar and Kylie Maland
- **Outstanding TU Volunteer** – Bruce Schneck (posthumous)
- **Dr. Jack Beck Award for Outstanding Youth Outreach** – Jim Tobal
- **Inky Moore Award for Outstanding Service to State Council** – Jeff Ripple
- **Doc Fritchey Award for Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist, TU Member** – Ann Foster



Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist (Professional)
Luke Bobnar and Kylie Maland



Dr. John A. "Doc" Fritchey, Jr. Award for Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist (TU Member)
Ann Foster



Dr. Jack Beck Award for Outstanding Youth Outreach
Jim Tobal

MEETING

from page 1

Attendees also learned more about the Stream Girls program and other youth initiatives. Rachel Kester gave a summary of projects completed and planned by TU national staff in PA. Greg Malaska, executive VP of PATU, gave an overview of the recent strategic planning process and shared the many ways that chapters can get involved to help meet the goals and objectives in the plan.

It seems though, that what attendees most appreciate is the unstructured time to socialize and network with representatives of all the other chapters present. It is during these free-flowing conversations that new ideas are generated and shared.

Refreshments were served throughout the day and a late BBQ lunch was enjoyed by most (some people really missed George's famous pig roast...we'll try to bring it back next year!) The annual raffle raised over \$1,000. Thank you to all the chapters that donated items and to those of you who

purchased tickets.

Finally, additional thanks and appreciation to those who volunteered their time and energy to helping set up and clean up: Chuck Winters, Jim Lanning and VSP volunteers, George Kutschel, Pat and Randy Buchanan, and Greg Malaska.



Save the Date

The 2018 Keystone Coldwater Conference will be held Feb. 23-24, 2018 at the Ramada Inn Conference Center in State College, PA.

The conference theme is:

Coldwater Resource Conservation and Education: Rising to the Challenges; Embracing Opportunities.

Sponsorship details and more information and can be found at www.coldwaterconference.com.



Edward J. Urbas Award for Outstanding PA Chapter
Brodhead



Best Chapter Website
Forks of the Delaware



Greatest Membership Increase
Spring Creek



Outstanding TU Volunteer
Bruce Schneck (posthumous)

Accepted by Cliff Hutton, center, and Brian Lengel, right



Outstanding Chapter Project
Muddy Creek



Best Chapter Newsletter
Doc Fritchey



Greatest Membership % Increase
Brodhead

Not Pictured:

Enoch S. "Inky" Moore Award for Distinguished Service to PA Council
Jeff Ripple

PA Council of Trout Unlimited

*Minutes of the Sept. 23, 2017
Executive Committee Meeting
Nittany Event Center – Pleasant Gap, PA*

Officers Attending: Charlie Charlesworth, George Kutskel, Bob Pennell, John Leonard, Brian Wagner, Greg Malaska, Fred Gender, Jim Lanning, Chuck Winters.

Others Attending: Ken Undercoffer, Tali MacArthur, Dave Kinney.

President's Report: The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by President Charlesworth who referenced his written report as previously submitted.

A motion was seconded and carried to approve the minutes of the June 25, 2017 meeting as previously distributed to EXCOM.

Treasurer's Report: A motion was seconded and carried to receive and file the Budget Report dated August 31, 2017, as previously distributed to EXCOM. Kutskel announced that Council recently received a \$50,000 unrestricted donation from the estate of a deceased member.

Discussion/Action Items

- **FY2018 Operating Budget:** A motion was seconded and carried to approve the FY2018 Operating Budget as submitted and approved by the Budget Committee.
- **EXCOM Meeting Dates:** The following dates were set for 2018, with locations to be determined: Saturday, January 6 (snow date January 13), Saturday, March 24, Saturday, June 16, Saturday, September 8 or 22 (to be determined).
- **PATU Regional Meeting Dates:** The following dates were set for 2018: Eastern meeting in Pine Grove on Saturday, February 3 Western meeting in DuBois on Saturday, February 10
- **Disposition of Perkiomen Chapter:** A motion was seconded and carried to de-charter the chapter unless all minimum chapter requirements are met within a period of one year.

Charlesworth is to send a letter to chapter outlining these requirements.

- **Chartering of Shehawken Chapter:** All necessary paperwork has been filed with National TU who will vote on October 1 to charter this new chapter in the Northeast Region of PA.
 - **Form 990 Concerns:** A motion was seconded and carried for EXCOM to table further discussion until after meeting with National TU representatives on September 30.
 - **Election of PATU Officers for FY2018:** A motion was seconded and carried to accept the results of the general membership election on September 23 (see addendum following).
 - **2017 Fall Retreat for EXCOM:** The date is set for Sunday, October 22 at the Hampton Inn near Lamar from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to finalize details for a one-year Strategic Plan.
 - **PATU Officers Operating Manual Update:** A motion was seconded and carried to accept the updated version of the manual, dated September 23, 2017.
 - **Proposed Policy on Bio-solids:** A motion was seconded and carried to table approval for this proposed new policy prepared by the Environmental Committee until EXCOM meets again on October 22.
 - **Council Financial Reviewer Appointment:** A motion was seconded and carried to appoint John Leonard as PATU Financial Reviewer.
- National Leadership Council Rep:** Report submitted. Wagner reported that all 48 PA chapters now have assigned financial reviewers. He also reminded the Regional VPs that one of his roles as the NLC Representative is to act as a liaison between chapters and National TU staff and assist chapters with issues that may require attention by National staff.
- Mid-Atlantic Policy Director:** Kinney



reported that his second Sportsmen's Forum in partnership with PA Fish & Boat Commission personnel will be hosted by the Forks of the Delaware Chapter on October 4, and a third forum is being considered for the northwest, to be hosted by the Allegheny Mountain Chapter. He

also announced that Rob Shane from National TU will be filling the Mid-Atlantic Organizer position effective October 9.

Program Director: Report submitted. MacArthur announced that the new Forever Wild Mini-Grant program is now open for proposals which are due no later than December 15, 2017.

Committee Reports & Executive VP Assignments: The following committees submitted their quarterly reports (except as noted) with no specific action items requested. The two Executive VPs were assigned oversight responsibility as indicated below. It was also announced that Russell Thrall will be the new chair of the Membership Committee.

John Leonard: Awards (no report), Communications, Development, Environmental.

Greg Malaska: Delaware River, Diversity Initiative, Membership (no report), Trout Management, Veterans Services, Youth Education.

Regional Reports:

- **Northcentral Region** – Six of eight chapters submitted reports; Susquehanna & Tiadaghton did not report.
 - **Northeast Region** – Three of nine chapters submitted reports; Lackawanna Valley, Western Pocono, Stanley Cooper, Brodhead, Hokendauqua and Monocacy did not report.
 - **Northwest Region** – Eight of nine chapters submitted reports; Northwest PA did not report.
 - **Southcentral Region** – Seven of eight chapters submitted reports; Falling Spring did not report.
 - **Southeast Region** – Six of seven chapters submitted reports; Perkiomen
- Continued on next page...**

Sweepstakes aids Trout in the Classroom

Each year, PATU supports the Trout in the Classroom program with an Existing Program Grant. This competitive grant helps offset the costs of the release day field trip that is both fun and educational – a day full of hands-on learning activities for the students who have helped raise and care for their trout.

With the number of classrooms participating in TIC growing every year, so too does the number of applications submitted for this grant. This year, PATU was only able to fulfill about 50 percent of requested funds.

By entering this TIC Sweepstakes fundraising effort, you will be supporting not only the hundreds of teachers and thousands of students who participate in the program, but also your local chapter, which very likely already partners with one or more schools and also helps with some of costs of the program.

There is no question that TIC is meeting the goal of connecting students to the coldwater resources in their communities and instilling a conservation ethic that will last a lifetime. Help support this critical educational program by participating in this year's sweepstakes.

Pennsylvania Trout in the Classroom Sweepstakes

- First Prize:** \$500
- 2nd Prize:** \$250
- 3rd Prize:** One night stay at the Nature Inn at Bald Eagle State Park (Valued at about \$120)
- 4th Prize:** \$50
- 5th Prize:** \$50
- 6th Prize:** \$50



Please fill out all of the information below. PATU program staff will create requested number of tickets:

Name: _____

Address: _____ **City:** _____

State: _____ **Zip** _____ **Phone:** _____

Email: _____

Suggestion Donation: \$5 for 1 ticket, \$20 for 5 tickets, \$50 for 20 tickets.

** I understand that my donation does not increase my chances of winning.*

Enclosed is my donation of \$ _____ for _____ tickets.

Clip and Mail Entry Form and Donation to:

PA Council of Trout Unlimited, Attn: Sweepstakes, PO Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823

Mail by Dec. 31, 2017 | Make Checks payable to PA Trout

No donation required to enter or win.

Drawing to be held at the Winter Council Executive Committee meeting.

...Continued from previous page

did not report.

- **Southwest Region** – All seven chapters submitted reports.

New Business: Kutskel requested that Regional VPs remind their chapters that Annual Financial Reports (AFRs) should be submitted to National TU by November 1.

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent at 6:15 p.m.

– *Bob Pennell, Council Secretary*

Addendum to EXCOM Meeting Minutes of September 23, 2017

Actions Taken at PATU Annual Membership Meeting – September 23, 2017

1. Election of Officers for FY2018:

President – Charlie Charlesworth

Executive Vice President – Greg Malaska

Executive Vice President – John Leonard
Secretary – Bob Pennell

Treasurer – George Kutskel
National Leadership Council (NLC)

Rep – Brian Wagner
Northcentral Region Vice President – Jim Lanning

Northeast Region Vice President – Robert Hughes

Northwest Region Vice President – Ken Undercoffer

Southcentral Region Vice President – Open

Southeast Region Vice President – Open
Southwest Region Vice President – Chuck Winters

2. Adopted proposed Bylaws changes as published in Summer issue of *PATRIBUT* and as posted on PA Council website.

PA Trout Ad Rep Needed

Our quarterly newsletter, *PA Trout*, needs a part-time advertising sales representative to solicit ads for our quarterly publication. Candidates must have experience and the drive to work on their own and will be paid quarterly on a commission basis.

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

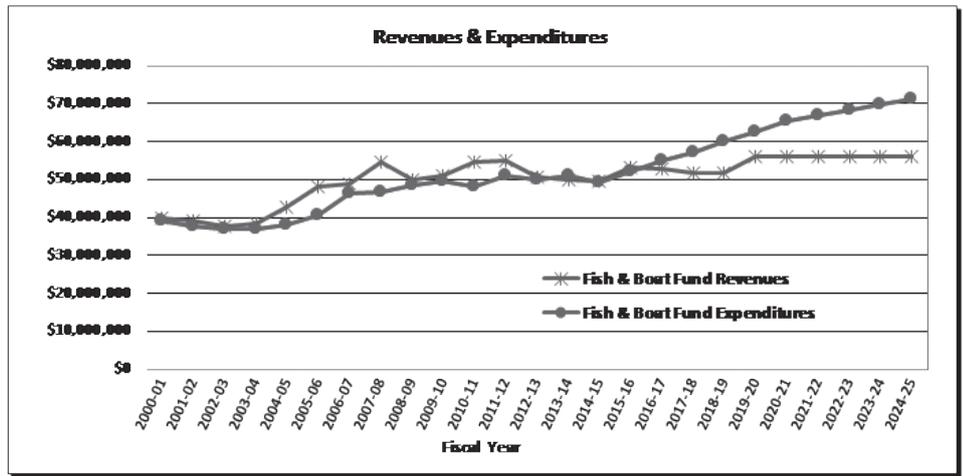
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In an effort to remind Pennsylvania legislators once again about the reasoning for this decision, I sent messages to all House and Senate members on Sept. 29 and Oct. 10.

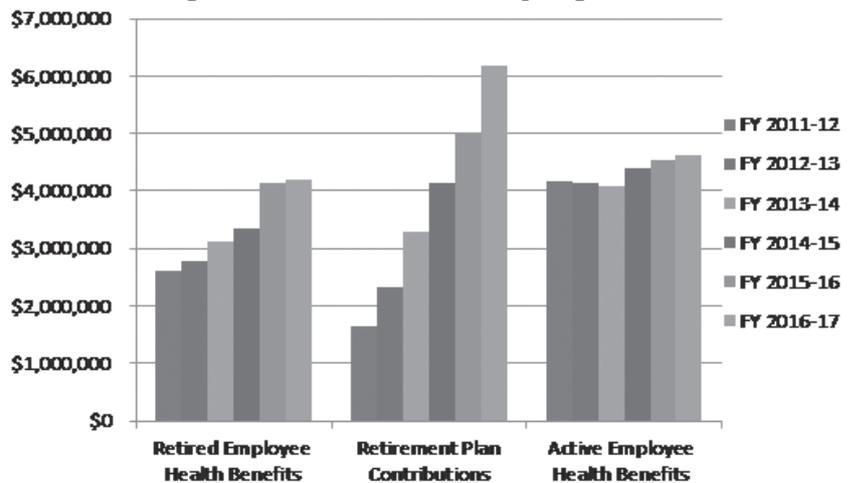
The first message included a paper entitled *Fiscal Responsibility*. I define fiscal responsibility to mean maintaining a disciplined, balanced budget and not spending more than we earn. Although perhaps novel for state government, our plan is similar to how a non-profit TU chapter operates when it raises the money it needs to support local conservation projects. The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission is a government business funded primarily by sales of fishing licenses and boat registrations. The agency's spending and earning model is really a mix of business and government principles.

We are mindful of the responsibility of wisely managing angler and boater customers' hard-earned dollars. Until this year, the PFBC has been able to balance our budget and not spend more than we earned. This fiscal management approach has allowed us to build a rainy day fund of uncommitted reserves to prepare for and meet foreseen pension costs. The agency proudly leads the nation in how efficiently we operate. The Legislative Budget and Finance Committee found in 2014 that "of the states for which we have expenditure information, Pennsylvania's PFBC has the *lowest expenditures per license* (emphasis added)."

Additional annual personnel and operating costs of \$6.2 million have caused expenditures to now exceed annual revenues. Without a revenue increase, the PFBC will begin using an uncommitted reserve fund balance of about \$60 million to cover essential health care and pension obligations, which will deplete the reserve fund within five years if revenues don't increase. Currently fishing license sales are down 5% compared to sales in 2016, which equates to an additional \$1 million in lost revenue. This compounds the problem and reduces the life of the reserve even more if the legislature doesn't act. General operations and services will continue to be funded



Major Cost Drivers - Employee Benefits



by revenues generated through the sale of fishing licenses, boat registrations, and income received from federal aid.

In an analysis of the PFBC, Penn State's Smeal College of Business and College of Agricultural Sciences found "the agency's reserve fund should be seen as a 'strategic strength' and should be maintained as a type of rainy day fund for unforeseen needs. It would weaken the agency if the reserve fund were depleted to zero."

In the wake of the September decision, several Representatives and Senators asked what we would do with our unrestricted reserve funds if we received an increase this legislative session. This question led me to outline those plans in an e-mail entitled *A Commonwealth Plan for Fishing and Boating in Pennsylvania*.

I explained that my first action would be to continue to operate all of our hatcheries at current production levels, which would mean no reductions in trout, warmwater, or coolwater fish stockings. We could also continue to offer the full range of important

services to cooperative nurseries across Pennsylvania. I also noted that the decision about which streams and lakes will or not will not be stocked in the absence of a fee increase will not need to be made until July 1, 2018. I will reserve any such decisions until that time.

The next thing we would do would be to implement a plan to restore law enforcement services with a school of 20 new Waterways Conservation Officers. State-wide, we currently have 15 vacancies in the Bureau of Law Enforcement and 10 open WCO field districts. With approximately 30 of our officers eligible to retire now, and nearly as many more in the next three years, that number will continue to grow. As we continue to lose field officers, we provide less customer service, public safety, and aquatic resource protection.

The next move would be to spend unrestricted reserves on prioritized lists of deferred critical needs. These critical needs include emergency repairs and improve-

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TU hosts Teen Summit

By Judi Sittler
Spring Creek TU

The 2017 TU Teen Summit was held in Roscommon, Mich., birthplace of Trout Unlimited, in June. Twenty-nine teens from across the country participated in leadership building, fished the Au Sable River, did an in-stream service project and visited the memorial for Arthur C. Neumann, father of Trout Unlimited. This was the 6th year for the Summit. The first was in State College. Since then, TU has moved the location around from the west to the mid-west, and in 2018 it should be somewhere in the east.

The Mason Griffith Founders chapter was with us in Michigan all week, helping us with fishing, tours, the service project and providing information about the area. TU's Franklin Tate and Tara Granke were in charge, with Rob Shane assisting. Volunteers who were there all week were myself, Scott Novotny, Casper, Wyo. chapter, and



Judi Sittler Photo

Top, the entire group in front of the Arthur C. Neumann memorial which was dedicated this year. Above, the teens doing an in-stream service project building trout habitat structures.

Dakus Geeslin, Guadalupe, Texas chapter.

I have been a volunteer for all six years of the Teen Summit program and witnessed first-hand the teens' enthusiasm for carrying the mission of Trout Unlimited back to their home bases. Some of the teens have developed good fishing skills and others are just learning. All of them are motivated to help increase youth participation in Trout Unlimited. I encourage chapters to identify a teen in your area who would benefit from attending the TU Teen Summit.

...Continued from previous page

ments to fishing and boating infrastructure statewide. This would include the expansion of work on lake and stream habitats, which is critical to continuing the progress we have made, with PACTU's help, to improve and restore the Commonwealth's 86,000 miles of streams and rivers and nearly 4,000 lakes.

Senate Bill 30, which delegates authority to set license fees to the PFBC, has passed the Senate twice but continues to be stalled in the House. It is imperative for

the legislature to act now on some form of fee increase for the PFBC in order for the agency to continue to meet the expectations of anglers and boaters and be fiscally responsible by maintaining a balanced budget and a solvent reserve.

Pennsylvania anglers contribute \$1.2 billion to the \$46 billion in national fishing expenditures. Successful businesses require funding to sustain operations and to invest in new ideas to grow sales and participation. The same applies to successful government businesses like the PFBC,

which reinvests license revenue locally. Local communities understand the importance of fishing to their rural economies. Just ask them!

It is time the legislature recognizes that the Commission is fiscally responsible and provide the necessary funds to meet the expectations of current and future generations of Pennsylvania anglers and boaters. Please take a few minutes to share your opinions with your local legislators. Our fish can't speak out, but you can. Thanks from the fish!

- In-stream wild trout habitat improvement
- Riparian buffer restoration along wild trout streams
- Streambank stabilization of wild trout waters
- Education and outreach programs and materials focused on coldwater resource conservation, restoration, and conservation, created for and presented to a non-TU audience, in addition to chapter members
- Sampling equipment for specific stream monitoring and survey projects
- Assessment/research projects
- Innovative trainings and leadership development initiatives that increase the internal capacity of the chapter to directly benefit coldwater resources

Who Can Apply

All TU chapters in good standing are eligible to apply. The deadline for application submission is Dec. 15, 2017.

Additional information is available in the application form found at www.patroul.org and questions can be addressed to Program Director Tali MacArthur at c-tmacarth@pa.gov, 841-359-5233.





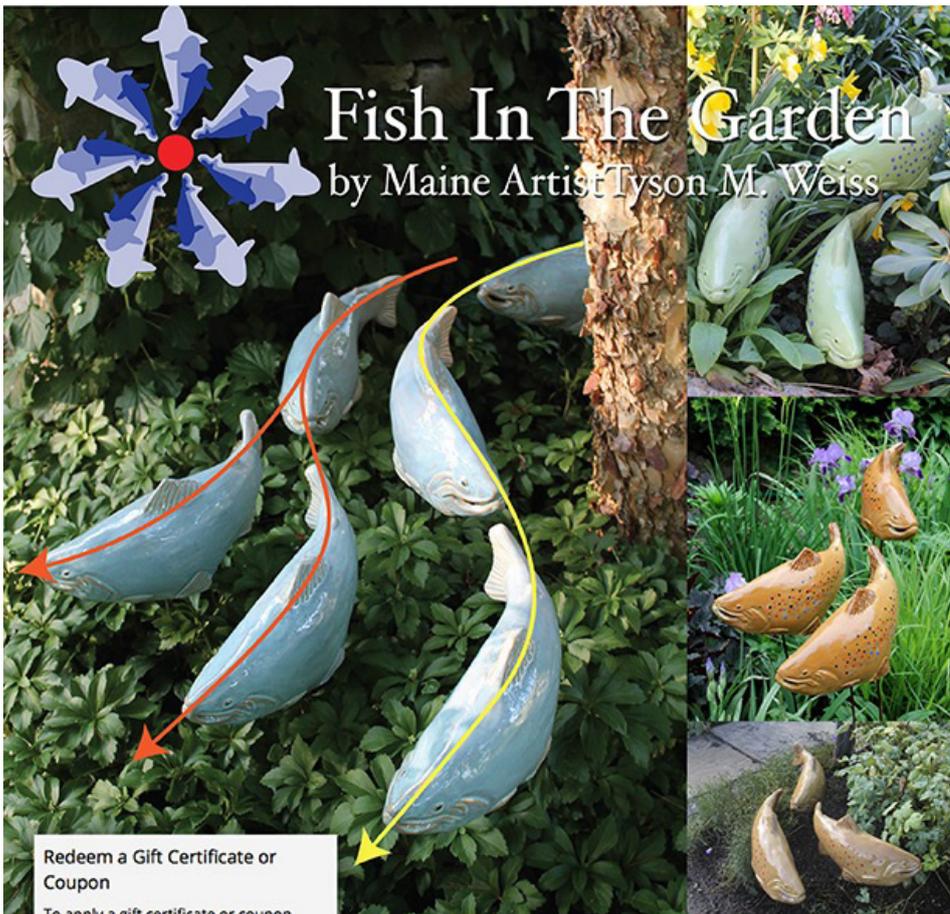
Contributed Photo

God's Country Chapter of TU instructed a group of ladies from Sisters on the Fly about the fundamentals of fly fishing. They learned about equipment, techniques, and how to tie flies during the event held at the Allegheny River Campground.

God's Country TU teaches ladies fly fishing essentials

On Saturday, Aug. 19 a dozen members of God's Country Chapter of Trout Unlimited gathered at the Allegheny River Campground to instruct a group of ladies in the fundamentals of fly fishing. Fourteen members of Sisters on the Fly learned about equipment, techniques, and how to tie flies. Judging from the laughter, everyone had a good time.

Sisters on the Fly is a national organization whose focus is travel and camping. Local member and Allegheny River Campground owner Caroline Wise hosted the group and invited the God's Country Chapter of TU to present a fly fishing program. The ladies learned about stream life and the flies that imitate them, fly rods and other equipment, and how to properly cast a fly rod.



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NORTHEAST CHAPTERS

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

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Robert Hughes
 394 E. Washington St.
 Nanticoke, PA 18634
 Email: rhughes@epcamr.org
 Phone: 570-239-3909

Brodhead Chapter #289

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

No report.

Forks of the Delaware Chapter #482

Joe Baylog
 610-751-9116, baylogj@gmail.com
<http://forksofthedelaware.tu.org>

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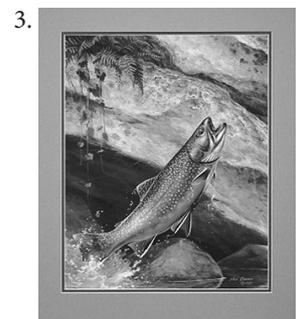
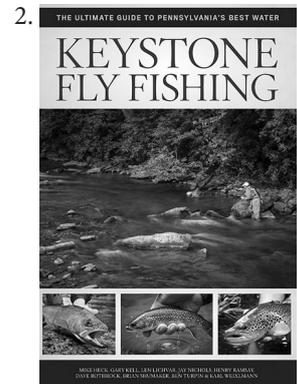
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Merchandise Order Form

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



	Item Description	Price	Qty.	Total
	"Back the Brookie" License Plate	\$25.00		
1	Ball cap w/logo (circle) Khaki Navy Camo	\$15.00		
	Large Waterproof Fly Box (6"x4"x1")	\$25.00		
	Custom Fly Leaders			
	Dry Fly – 4X Tippet			
	Dry Fly – 5X Tippet			
	Dry Fly – 6X Tippet			
	Wet Fly – 4X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers			
	Wet Fly – 5X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers			
	Subtotal – Leader Quantity (1 to 9)	\$5.00		
	Subtotal – Leader Quantity (10 or more)	\$4.50		
	Dan Shields' <i>Fly Fishing PA's Spring Creek</i> Book	\$20.00		
	"More of CVTU's Favorite Flies" Book	\$22.00		
2	"Keystone Fly Fishing" Book	\$30.00		
3	Ned Smith "Sting of the Hook" Print – Unframed	\$148.40		
	Ned Smith "Sting of the Hook" Print – Framed	\$259.70		
4	Little Juniata Patch 2011 – 4"	\$6.00		
	Little Juniata Patch 2011 – 6"	\$10.00		
5	Kinzua Creek Patch 2010 – 4"	\$6.00		
	Kinzua Creek Patch 2010 – 6"	\$10.00		
	PATU Decals – 3"	\$3.00		
	PATU Travel Rod Case	\$50.00		
	Fly Fishing Practice Casting Game	\$25.00		
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	Adult TIC T-shirt (circle size) S M L XL	\$17.00		Limited sizes, colors and quantities. Call Tali MacArthur at 814-359-5114 for availability.
	Adult TIC T-shirt (circle size) 2XL 3XL	\$20.00		
	Youth TIC T-shirt (circle size) M L	\$17.00		
	Official PATU T-shirt (circle size) S M L XL	\$20.00		
	Official PATU T-shirt (circle size) 2XL 3XL	\$23.00		
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PO Box 5148
Bellefonte, PA 16823**

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The chapter hosted PFBC Executive Director John Arway and District 8 Commissioner Richard Kauffman at its Oct. 4 membership meeting for a discussion on protecting the state's wild trout. Our annual Pig & Corn Roast at Riverside Barr & Grille was Sept. 16. The chapter is awaiting word on an Embrace-A-Stream grant for design work for a stream restoration project on Bushkill Creek. We provided fly casting, a tying demo and a conservation talk at the Roseto Rod & Gun Club's youth day on Sept. 9. Our TIC schools are Nazareth, Wind Gap and Bangor middle schools and Easton High School. We sponsored a PFBC Family Fly Fishing program at Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center on Oct. 14.

Hokendauqua Chapter #535

Art Williams

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

No report.

Lackawanna Valley Chapter #414

Adam Nidoh

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

No report.

Monocacy Chapter #491

Erik Broesicke

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

No report.

Pike-Wayne Chapter #462

Tony Capitano

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

In July, members met with David Kinney, TU's Mid-Atlantic policy director. One of our main concerns centered on our inability to locate the original PP&L Wallenpaupack relicensing settlement agreement signed in 2004. In August, Kinney obtained the original copy of the agreement through the Freedom of Information Act.



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Chapter members along with Aquatic Resource Consulting, Pike County Planning Commission and Pike County Conservation District completed a fish survey of eight streams in Pike County in August. In September, chapter leadership met with PATU President Charlie Charlesworth, NE RVP Fred Gender, Jeff Skelding of Shehawken TU and Adam Nidoh, president of Lackawanna Valley TU in order to formalize the zip code territory for the newly-formed Shehawken TU chapter. In September, five members volunteered to assist women participating in Casting for Recovery.

Schuylkill County Chapter #537

John Bondura

570-640-5300; jgbond@verizon.net
www.schuylkillcountytu.org

Our board meetings are held at Solar Innovations in Pine Grove the Sunday before our regular meetings, which are the fourth Tuesday of every month. Three schools totaling over 300 kids participated in our spin casting, fishing and knot tying classes. Two schools are participating in TIC. We have been working with Cabela's fishing in the pond behind the store, and we also helped with their National Baptist Convention, where intercity kids and parents from Philadelphia and New Jersey were introduced to fishing, archery, camping and various other outdoor skills at Blue Marsh Lake. We decided against applying for an Embrace-A-Stream grant. We received grant money from other sources and we also have a new member who is a trained grant writer. Valley View Gun Club honored Bruce Schneck at its Field Day event. Our fly tying committee is hosting fly tying classes in January, February and March.

Stanley Cooper, Sr. Chapter #251

Scott Brady

570-479-6016, jsbrady@scottbradylaw.com
www.sctu.org

No report.

Western Pocono Chapter #203

George Hludzik

570-788-2121, grhlaw@ptd.net

No report.

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

Jim Lanning

905 Saxton Drive

State College, PA 16801

Email: jlanningvsp@gmail.com

Phone: 814-238-2086

Columbia County Chapter #38

Erick Lewis

607-621-8126, ealewis@geisinger.edu

We are awaiting an Adopt-A-Highway assignment for a section of Route 487 in Orangeville adjacent to Fishing Creek and the TU access site. Two chapter members are engaged through Susquehanna Riverkeepers to monitor natural gas pipeline construction in the Fishing Creek and Susquehanna watersheds in the Columbia County area. Upcoming meetings are Nov. 14, Dec. 12 and Jan. 9 at 7 p.m. at the Columbia County District Conservation Office, Bloomsburg.

God's Country Chapter #327

Dr. Peter Ryan

814-274-8718, drflyfish@yahoo.com

GCTU members attended the Potter County Conservation District monthly meetings in July, August and September. Pete Ryan and Bob Volkmar attended the August and September JKLM Energy Stakeholders meetings in which the details of Epiphany Environmental's cellular water treatment technology was explained as well as the many new "permitting processes" that are now involved in unconventional natural gas well development. They also attended the Coudersport Area Municipal Authority special public meeting to give GCTU's support of Epiphany's proposal to build a small waste water treatment facility, using Epiphany's state-of-the-art technology to treat residual waste water resulting from unconventional gas well production processes, adjacent to the sewage treatment plant in Coudersport. David Saulter, attended a meeting with Sen. Casey at the Oswayo Valley Senior Center at which several

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conservation issues were discussed, as was our Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing program. The chapter received a letter from county commissioners requesting nominations for directors of the Potter County Conservation District. Existing directors Earl Brown and Jon Blass were nominated. Ryan attended the 20th anniversary Center of Dirt & Gravel Road Studies Workshop Sept. 26-28 in Sayre. He participated in a "Pioneers Roundtable" discussion concerning the early work and history of the D&G Road program, which was conceived and initiated in Potter County. Chapter members continued Japanese knotweed eradication efforts along Mill Creek in Sweden Township with more cutting and spraying. Letters of support were sent to PFBC on proposed recommendations of Class A and Wild Trout water listings in Potter County. Volkmar continues stream monitoring of several Allegheny River tributaries as part of the 3 Rivers Quest program, and found disturbing results in tributaries of Oswayo Creek, which will lead to further evaluation and investigation. We investigated a complaint of a stream disturbance and erosion problem in Peet Brook and reported findings to both the Conservation District and a waterways patrolman for further investigation and enforcement. GCTU members provided fly casting instruction to students participating in the Black Forest Conservation School at Sinnamoning State Park on Aug. 9. On Aug. 12, Volkmar had a booth at the Community Science Fair in Wellsboro and presented "Trout Grow on Trees" that was developed by the Stroud Research Center.

Lloyd Wilson Chapter #224

Bill Bailey

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

Our annual family banquet/raffle is Nov. 3 at the Southern Clinton County Lion's/Sportsman's Club in Loganton. Speaker is Scott Koser from the Clinton County Conservation District. The chapter wrote letters of support to PFBC for the addition of proposed streams to the list of Class A and Wild Trout streams. We also wrote letters to legislators urging support for legislation allowing PFBC to set their own fees. In partnership with the NE Fish Center in Lamar, chapter members assisted with 10 events. Participants included visually challenged, elderly from area assisted living and nursing homes, special needs students and two classes of Camp Cadet students. Members also instructed fly tying at the Brookies Camp and the Clinton County Conservation District day camp.

Penns Creek Chapter #119

Joe Dunmire

717-899-6085, jhjazbo@hotmail.com

On Aug. 13, members manned fly tying and fishing stations at the NWTF youth field day. Also in August, members participated in an assessment

of bank stabilization needs on Kish Creek, at Kish Park, along with personnel from PFBC and Mifflin County Conservation District. Members also attended an electroshocking on Kish Creek by the SRBC and MCCD near Belleville. Monthly meetings resumed Sept. 13 at the Mifflin County Library. They are the second Wednesday of each month. We have new TIC projects at Sacred Heart School and at the Juniata Valley YMCA. We now have nine TIC projects. Our fall Day on the Stream was Oct. 1 at Poe Paddy State Park. Our next meeting is Nov. 8 with a program by Don Douple. Dec. 13 is our Winter Social.

R.B. Winter Chapter #124

Bob Laubach

570-966-3379, oldfrstr@dejazzd.com

No report.

Spring Creek Chapter #185

Bob Vierck

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

Our Veterans Service Program leader, Jim Laning, received the National Distinguished Service Award – Veterans Service. We partnered with the ClearWater Conservancy to sponsor a Get Outdoors Day Family Fishing Picnic. We represented TU at the Spring Creek Watershed Association and at the Spring Creek Watershed Commission. We conducted a specialized mentoring day training for the VSP, including video creation so that it can be used by other chapters. We received a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant for \$160,700 for habitat improvement and riparian planting at three locations. The required match will be \$100,640 for a total of \$261,340. The grant includes two major sites on Spring Creek and a significant riparian planting and rain garden on Slab Cabin Run. We partnered with Penn State to re-establish and revitalize a dike that separates Thompson Run from a stormwater holding pond called the "Duck Pond." Stewardship work days were held at riparian planting sites including: Commercial Street Bridge/Milesburg, McCoy Dam, Rock Road, Oak Hall and Deer Creek Lane. We reached an agreement with Nature's Cover to assist mowing at Fisherman's Paradise. We also reviewed a possible project on Bald Eagle Creek and proposed a grant to cover the design. "Patriots Day" with the VSP featured 97-year-old World War II veteran "Woody" Breon. The event was attended by over 50 volunteers and veterans, including Joe Humphreys. A video recap is available on our website. In addition to the twice monthly events, the VSP assisted with two others on Penns Creek with "Total Outdoors," another veterans service program. The Spring Creek Women's Group held fishing events at Fisherman's Paradise, Benner Springs and "The Distillery." Our next meeting features Bill Anderson of the Little Juniata River Association on Nov. 2 at the Benner Hatchery. We'll

have a redd count on Nov. 17 at Spring Creek Park, Houserville. Our holiday party is Dec. 16. Our State of the Chapter and Annual Meeting is Jan. 4 at the Comfort Suites State College.

Susquehanna Chapter #044

Walt Nicholson

570-447-3600; waltnicholson10@gmail.com
<http://susquehannatu.wordpress.com>

No report.

Tiadaghton Chapter #688

Jere White

570-662-2167, whitesgordonsetters@gmail.com

No report.

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 Road

Clearfield, PA 16830

Email: kcoffer@atlanticbb.net

Phone: 814-765-1035

Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036

George Kutskel

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

We held a workday on Aug. 25 to remove logs on Potts Run that are causing a problem for the landowner. On Aug. 1 we attended groundbreaking for the re-mining of the Fran Contracting Site on Camp and Rock Run. Our chapter has been working on this since 2002 and we are glad to see it finally moving forward. The public meeting for our CHP grant was held and work will soon be planned for tree planting in the Montgomery Run watershed. We attended a meeting hosted by the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy to plan the best way to remove the dam on Callen Run in Jefferson County. Iron Furnace TU and our chapter have been talking with the various parties on the removal of all three dams in the watershed. Several members attended the Wild Trout Summit. We currently have six TIC tanks

in four school districts. The chapter will be hosting the fly tying roundtable again this winter. The chapter hosted a veterans fishing outing in July at the Tannery Dam in DuBois. We are waiting to hear about a Growing Greener grant that we applied for on Sandy Lick Creek.

Caldwell Creek Chapter #437

Tom Savko

814-664-2124, tksavko2@verizon.net

Members assisted a stream cleanup on lower Brokenstraw Creek along with Brokenstraw Watershed Group and Allegheny River Association. We have four TIC programs scheduled for this school year.

Cornplanter Chapter #526

Troy McDunn

814-723-3759, hdpartsman@verizon.net

www.facebook.com/pages/Cornplanter-Chapter-Of-Trout-Unlimited

Our 2nd annual Dice Run on the Allegheny River was July 30. Our 2nd annual Sporting Clays Shoot at the Kalbfus Rod and Gun was October 15. Our annual stream enhancement project was Sept. 23 on Morrison Run. We are also working to schedule a Brown Run Habitat Improvement and Erosion Control project this fall, for which we received a \$10,000 grant. Ross Fadale constructed his Eagle Scout project, a memorial kiosk on Morrison Run, on Oct. 7. The kiosk displays the industrial history of the Morrison Run watershed and restoration projects completed on Morrison Run by a partnership with U.S. Forest Service, PFBC, oil and gas operators in the watershed, private landowners, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, PATU and Cornplanter TU. We have TIC projects at Eisenhower and Sheffield high schools. Due to reconstruction, we had a few classrooms hold off until next year.

Iron Furnace Chapter #288

Mark Hanes

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

Planning is underway for next year's banquet on April 7. We are still working on a time to get the deflector fixed in the fly fishing only section of the North Fork of Redbank Creek at Walter Dick Park. Work on the John's Run fish passage project is in a holding pattern. There was a meeting held with interested parties at the National Fuels Heath Pump Station. Things are moving forward with the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy looking for funding to remove the dam at the pump station. One concern is making sure Heath Sportsmen's Club is still able to get water from Callen Run for its cooperative fish hatchery. Our hopes are that by working with all parties, and partnering with Allegheny Mountain TU, we can move forward with the John's Run portion of the project and remove the small dam within the coming year. We are working on partnering with the Brookville

YMCA to get family fishing events started locally. Chapter meetings are the third Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at Sigel Sportsmen's Club.

James Zwald Chapter #314

Murray Neeper

814-834-3472, mneeper@zitomedia.net

Members conducted several informal stream surveys of the Bendigo Park habitat project. The area is much improved and being heavily utilized. The chapter intends to request a follow up survey in the summer of 2018 to formally document any changes. We continue to monitor the West Creek tributary to the Driftwood Branch of the Sinnemahoning and will recommend any remediation projects to be developed. The chapter assisted Ridgway Area MS/HS in transitioning a new TIC teacher into the program. Meetings are the last Tuesday of the month at St. Marys Area Middle School Library.

Neshannock Creek #216

Jeff Kremis

724-588-4378; jkkremis@gmail.com

www.neshannock-tu.org

A stream improvement project was completed on North Deer Creek in June. Streambank stabilization devices were installed in the youth fishing area of the stream with the help of volunteers and under the guidance of Mark Sausser of PFBC. We are currently working on a pavilion to be constructed at the site to help with opening day festivities held each spring. We plan to do stream restoration work on Neshannock Creek in late 2018 or the summer of 2019, and hope to partner with other groups to do this project. Mercer School District has moved its TIC classroom from the high school to the grade school. Upcoming meetings are Nov. 20 and Dec. 18 at Penn State Shenango at 6:30 p.m. Our annual banquet is March 24 at the Park Inn by Radisson in West Middlesex.

Northwest Chapter #41

Erik Cronk

814-490-4632, ecronk@cronkinsuranceinc.com

http://nwpachaptertu.blogspot.com

No report.

Oil Creek Chapter #424

Gary Ross

814-337-6931, info@oilcreektu.org

www.oilcreektu.org

One of Oil Creek Chapter's long-time members, Linda Wilson, passed away on June 5. She was a former treasurer and current board member of the chapter; a member of the Rainbow Bowmen Archery Club; and The Friends of Drake Well. She also volunteered for the Oil Creek and Titusville Railroad. Linda's husband Don is our vice president. She was very active in the chapter and did

a lot of work for our annual banquet. Guest our Oct. 18 meeting was Jim Lanning, Central RVP and the VSP Advisory Board. We contributed to the Freshwater Conservation Scholarship at Clarion University again this year, as did two other chapters. Our 35th annual banquet is April 7. Our three-year habitat improvement project on Little Sandy Creek was completed last year. For several years, we have had survey sheets in boxes on Little Sandy Creek for fishermen to make comments and suggestions on their fishing experience. This year many respondents were impressed with the improvements we have done. We may do a streambank stabilization project on a property on Two Mile Run. The landowner wants to keep the property open for public recreation. This is just a possibility and no details have been worked out yet. Upcoming meetings are Nov. 15 and Dec. 20 at King's Restaurant, Franklin at 6:30 p.m.

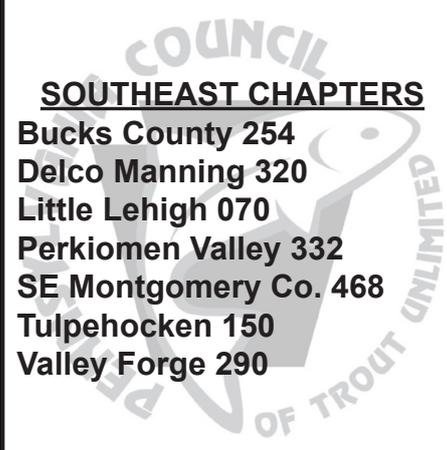
Seneca Chapter #272

Chase Howard

814-598-3449, chaserhoward@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/SenecaTroutUnlimited

Regular meetings resumed on Oct. 4 at St. Joseph's Episcopal Church in Port Allegany. Our annual member guest dinner and business meeting was Oct. 19 at the Westline Inn. A Water Quality Snapshot Day was Oct. 24 in the Allegheny National Forest to collect baseline data. A brook trout redd survey for ANF streams is also in the works and is tentatively planned for November.



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 Open

Bucks County Chapter #254

Dan Weaver

215-219-8574, dweaver@ransome.com

www.buckstu.org

Our annual banquet is in March at the Spring Mill Country Club. Monthly chapter meetings are the first Thursday of each month at Buckingham Township Building, 4613 Hughesian Drive, Buckingham, PA. In September, Sean Crocker

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presented "Progressive Fly Fishing Tactics." Upcoming is Ron/Flora Soto presenting "Trout in Chile/Argentina" on Dec. 7.

Delco Manning Chapter #320

David Wharton

**610-583-2920, davidwharton@verizon.net
www.dmtu.org**

Mark Friedrichs has taken the position of Financial Reviewer for the chapter. Our annual barbecue fundraiser was in June.

Little Lehigh Chapter #070

Scott Alderfer

**610-390-6219, salderfer@gmail.com
www.lltu.org**

We are planning for the chapter's 40th anniversary next year. Our friends at Wildlands Conservancy removed a dam on the Little Lehigh Creek in September. We assisted with riparian buffer plantings to stabilize the streambanks where the dam was. We added a fourth TIC program, Hillside School's 8th grade class. We plan to partner with Wildlands Conservancy to apply for a 2018 Coldwater Conservation Implementation Grant that will be used for additional riparian buffer restoration on the Little Lehigh Creek. This work would be conducted in spring 2018. Our fall raffle drawing and chapter meeting is Nov. 1 at Wildlands Conservancy, Emmaus.

Perkiomen Valley #332

Tom Smith

215-513-9709; twsmith623@comcast.net

No report.

SE Montgomery County Chapter #468

Richard Terry

**215-675-1536, rtroadrash@msn.com
www.tu468.org**

Stream maintenance has been performed on Pennypack Creek, in Lorimer Park, and the Pennypack Trust with a planting of willow trees and rock deflectors. A fall planting is also planned.

Tulpehocken Chapter #150

Mark Beard

**610-349-6727, meb5746@yahoo.com
www.tullytu.org**

We toured our deflectors project on the Tulpehocken with State Rep. Jozwiak in June. Bill Eggleston is the chapter's new treasurer. We are working with Berks County Conservation District to support up to 18 new TIC programs, one in each school district in Berks County. Our annual social was at Oak Brook Brewery in Reading in July.

Valley Forge Chapter #290

Pete Hughes

**610-827-9239; phtrout@comcast.net
www.valleyforgetu.org**

The legal action VFTU and the National Parks Conservation Association has taken against the PA Turnpike Commission is going through a deposition phase. The action stems from the Commission's insufficient handling of storm water in its plans to widen the turnpike in the Valley Creek watershed. Separately, the NPCA sought a negotiated settlement with the Commission that would require spray/drip irrigation handling of storm water, no holding ponds or other collection schemes. The case should be before a hearing judge this fall. Due to the efforts of a community association, the Delaware Riverkeepers and VFTU, a local township switched its position and is now against a development grant for a large project on a Superfund site. The project would be a serious detriment to the headwaters of Valley Creek. Six of last year's schools have signed up for TIC again. The PHWFF volunteer team has put together a laminated poster explaining our three VFTU programs, complete with contact info. It is being placed at the VA, fly shops, and gun shops. Several volunteers have been tying at the VA cafeteria on Tuesdays. We talk to vets and practice the patterns that we tie during our regular Coatesville VA meetings on Wednesdays. The PHWFF team has been working to get our outgoing patient contact info to hook them up with a program in their area, such as vets from the West Bradford and Royersford programs going on regional trips. We allow vets at the VA to check out vises and tools to practice on their own time. Our monthly meetings are the second Thursday of each month from September through May at Chester Valley Grange, Malvern. Board meetings are the first Thursday of each month at the East Bradford Township Building, West Chester. Jim Clark is taking the lead on our VSP program. Board and officer elections were held in September. VFTU had a table at the Valley Forge National Historic Park - Public Lands Day on Sept. 30.

SOUTHCENTRAL CHAPTERS

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

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT Open

Adams County Chapter #323

April Swope

**717-778-1876; hey3hallelujah@gmail.com
www.adamscountytu.org**

Our board met in August to discuss upcoming events and review and discussed our policy on stream restoration work. We had a streamside cookout in July recognizing landowner appreciation. We were appreciative to be working with the very first president (1977) of the Adams County Chapter this year. During many workdays with our partner northern Virginia chapter, we repaired numerous habitat devices installed back in the '80s thanks to Tyler Neimond's expertise. Structures were set in place to repair one of the first mudsills installed on Conewago Creek. The chapter installed a channel block while logging more trees to assist in the project. Two wing logs were added to an older device. A total of 55 tons of shotrock was used in this fly fishing only section. Members attended the Wild Trout Summit and presented on the Conococheague restoration project, which included four TU chapters and 10 other partners. This restoration project received the Governor's Environmental Award. Chapter members are partnering with the Adams County Conservation District and PFBC to restore and rehabilitate 2,100 feet at the Strawberry Hill Facility on Middle Creek in 2018. Numerous habitat devices will be installed to be used as an educational tool for instructions when TIC schools release fingerlings.

Codus Chapter #558

Tom Feninez

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

Three members represented our chapter at the PATU annual meeting. We also had two members represent the chapter at the PFBC Wild Trout Summit. We were contacted by a teacher at Central York High School who expressed an interest in TIC and will be bringing them into the program this year. It's our fourth TIC classroom. We are currently preparing and assisting with two applications for the Exelon Habitat Improvement grant program. Both of these applications involve stream restoration projects in the Codorus Creek watershed. We are following up on a 5 Rivers chapter at York College. Upcoming meetings are Nov. 8 and Dec. 13 at Spring Grove Rec Center.

Cumberland Valley Chapter #052

Tom Miller

**717-258-8265; tomimcmillar@comcast.net
www.pacvtu.org**

The chapter has continued stream monitoring efforts in the Tuscarora State Forest as construc-

tion of the Mariner East II pipeline has moved forward. These efforts will keep an eye on a few native brook trout streams that will be affected by the pipeline. Our Emeritus Committee has also started taking water samples from the Letort in coordination with ALLARM. Our membership meeting on Aug. 25 was our annual family picnic, held at South Middleton Park on the banks of the Yellow Breeches. Our membership meeting on Sept 20 with a roundtable discussion with new PFBC Commissioners B.J. Small and Richard Lewis as well as Executive Director John Arway. In April, we launched a special year-long raffle selling a limited number (250) of \$50 tickets for a chance at a single \$5,000 cash prize drawing at our annual Limestoner Banquet on March 16, 2018. We completed remediation of the breached streambank in the Letort Spring Run in July. The reestablished streambank has remained stable and is preventing further out flow of the stream into a nearby sinkhole. We have also been working to remediate the effects of previous attempts at habitat improvements in the Letort through the recent removal of additional legacy barrels that have outlived their purpose. The barrels were originally intended to provide extra overhead cover but have become sediment traps and their removal has allowed the stream to flush itself of built up silt. We have also begun the annual raking and preparation of the gravel spawning beds for this year's breeding season. We will have an outreach table at this year's International Fly Tying Symposium in Lancaster in November. We submitted an application for an Embrace-A-Stream grant for a substantial project on the Yellow Breeches. CVTU is working with TU National to secure a \$5,000 matching grant for the Central Pennsylvania Conservancy's purchase of the Cress Farm properties at the headwaters of the Letort. Our next membership meeting is Nov. 15 at Monroe Township Fire Hall, Churchtown.

Doc Fritchey Chapter #108

Russ Collins

717-580-3958; rwarrencollins@gmail.com
www.dftu.org

For the past year-plus, the chapter has been working to finalize a grant from PFBC, which has now gone for final review. The project will be streambank restoration and in-stream structure over a 1,200-linear-foot distance on lower Snitz Creek at its confluence with Quittapahilla Creek. The chapter is participating with other organizations in upper Dauphin County on Powell's Creek. The discussion is focusing on restoration of a children's and handicapped stream access area closed by the property owner some years ago. Discussions have begun to open access to the area again. President Russ Collins has been working with local legislators to highlight the connection between fund sources such as Growing Greener and the projects they enable. He has made a point of showing them the "before" and "after" results

of the work that the chapter has done. He believes that if we don't make an effort to develop relationships with those who control the money and to tell our story, it will continue to disappear.

Donegal Chapter #037

Joy McMaster

717-781-9783; joy.a.mcmaster@gmail.com
www.donegaltu.org

Our Fundraising Committee has started the registration process to participate in the Lancaster County Community Foundation's Day of Extra Ordinary Giving. A location and date has been secured for our spring fundraiser in 2018. In June, representatives of the Army Corps of Engineers, Lancaster Conservation District, DEP and DTU members toured two finished projects on Conowingo Creek. In July, the board visited North Muddy Run Fishing Club. This private club paid for stream restoration on the creek. All logs and rock used for the project came from the property. Representatives of Aquatic Resources Restoration Company led a tour of the stream and discussed the work completed. Work was scheduled to begin on Peters Creek and the Metzler property on Fishing Creek in September. DTU joined Lancaster County Conservancy to begin the removal of invasive burning bush on North Fishing Creek. The chapter purchased equipment for three new classrooms starting TIC programs this year. We are still waiting to hear from DEP concerning two pending projects on Conowingo Creek. VSP fishing events were held Sept. 2 at Lititz Run, Sept. 16 at Yellow Breeches, Sept. 30 at Tulpehocken Creek and Oct. 15 at Donegal Creek. Recent chapter meetings were Sept. 20 and Oct. 18.

Falling Spring Chapter #234

Warren Christman

717-860-6414; lchristman@innernet.net

No report.

John Kennedy Chapter #045

George Baker

814-942-5623; george@myfiorebuickgmc.com
www.tu.org/connect/groups/045-john-kennedy

Three board members attended the PATU annual meeting in September. Our annual banquet was Aug. 26. We are waiting for the permitting of two stream projects. We have free fly tying classes scheduled for January through March 2018 at the United Way office in Altoona. The chapter lost a dedicated, TU life member, Lynn Hildebrand.

Muddy Creek Chapter #575

Beth Boyd

717-404-7642; ycpnurse@gmail.com
www.muddycreektu.org

We have been working with a new webmaster on creating and designing a new look for our web-

site. We held elections for our chapter the middle of September with all of our officer positions and two board positions up for election. We continue to work with the Bonham Reservation project. The signs we designed have been installed and a few groups of students have been through the Bonham since we completed this project. Both MCTU and Bonham are pleased with the partnership. We are slated to do restoration work and potentially place a bridge later this fall or spring. Our third grade TIC classroom that was reassigned to Dalls-town's Intermediate Building has been approved to operate in the building. We also have a junior high teacher in Red Lion School District we have made a donation to assist with initial set up cost. He has applied for grants to help offset the setup fee. Chapter meetings are the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Felton Pizza Shop. Our Fall Fling was Oct. 14 at Bonham Reservation.

SOUTHWEST CHAPTERS

Arrowhead 214

Chestnut Ridge 670

Forbes Trail 206

Fort Bedford 291

Ken Sink 053

Mountain Laurel 040

Penn's Woods West 042

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Chuck Winters

1898 Old Route 22

Duncansville, PA 16635

Email: wintershs27@gmail.com

Phone: 814-943-4061(w); 814-

932-8841(c)

Arrowhead Chapter #214

Jeff Wasson

724-664-0216; jeffreywasson@gmail.com

www.arrowhead214tu.org

Our Hulings Run restoration project is going well. The next chapter meeting will be at Mantini Auxiliary.

Chestnut Ridge Chapter #670

Dale Kotowski

724-747-1513,

pheasantfarmflycasters@hughes.net

www.chestnutridgetu.org

The chapter held its fishing retreat at Beaver Creek Anglers on June 2. The club makes its facili-

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ties available to us on an annual basis. Our annual meeting was in September and election of officers was completed. A tour of our stream restoration projects was held June 9. State Sen. Pat Stefano and his staff visited the passive Morgan Run Abandoned Mine Remediation AMD facility and the Glade Run Anoxic Alkaline Treatment System and alkaline sand sites in the Glade Run drainage. Stefano chairs the Senate Committee on Game & Fisheries. Our thanks to the Wharton Township officials for the use of their facilities where the day began with a presentation of the chapter's works by Ben Moyer and Scott Hoffman. We thank Dave Kinney, TU's Mid-Atlantic policy director, for his help in making the day possible.

Forbes Trail Chapter #206

Monty Murty

724-238-7860; mmurty@verizon.net
www.forbestrailtu.org

We met with local veterans organizations to plan outreach programs for FY 2018. Chapter members helped the family of a deceased member dispose of a significant collection of fly fishing art, memorabilia, fly tying and fly fishing equipment in return for a significant donation to the chapter. We updated the chapter's scientific equipment used in rapid bioassessment. We conducted mac-

roinvertebrate and fish shocking in main stem of Linn Run in Linn Run State Park, and confirmed errors in latest PFBC stream assessment report on Linn Run. We are exploring a Water Trails mini-grant for the Laurel Highlands Trout Trail.

Fort Bedford Chapter #291

Guy Stottlemeyer

814-207-1930, gmstottlemeyer817@gmail.com
www.fortbedfordtu.org

FBTU held its 2017 Coldwater Conservation Picnic on June 17 at Egolf Park near Bedford. Fly tying demonstrations were presented by Jack Fields and Anthony Mace. Blue Knob State Park naturalist Jessie Kohan displayed and discussed aquatic animals found streamside in Pennsylvania. On May 27, FBTU partnered with Blue Knob State Park to present a program on stream ecology and fly fishing to Park campers and visitors.

Ken Sink Chapter #053

Roger Phillips

724-639-9715, rphillips32@yahoo.com
<http://kensink.blogspot.com>

Members assisted the Indiana County Conservation District with its Envirothon. Members, along with the Evergreen Conservancy looked at Tom's Run and offered suggested ways to improve it. NRG did its annual stream cleanup

and stocking. Our annual banquet was Sept. 12 at the Indiana VFW.

Mountain Laurel Chapter #040

Randy Buchanan

814-467-4034, prbfish4fun@aol.com
www.mltu.org

Monthly chapter meetings are the second Tuesday of each month. We conducted litter cleanups along Paint, Bens, Clear Shade and Yellow creeks. We also removed approximately 1,000 old tires from along the Ghost Town Trail in Ebensburg. The chapter supports TIC programs in nine different schools.

Penn's Woods West Chapter #042

Dale Fogg

724-759-1002; dalefogg@comcast.net
www.pwwtu.org

We held a work day on local Pine Creek on Aug. 26. Six rock and log deflectors were planned for a stream section just downstream from North Park. Jodie Minor and Nora Kline are coordinating our Woman's Initiative. Our next meeting is Nov. 13 at Grazie Meeting & Events Center.