

WINNER OF NATIONAL TU BEST STATE COUNCIL NEWSLETTER AWARD 2007

Contributors and advertisers:
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Pennsylvania TROUT

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IN THIS ISSUE

Rothrock: "Change" ... 2

Winter PATU EXCOM meeting minutes and State Council actions ... 4

Great prizes offered in this year's Trout in the Classroom raffle ... 6

Mercer County's North Deer Creek Project ... 7

Teamwork muscles pipes from Morrison Run ... 8

Part 2: How Marcellus Shale drilling affects our trout waters -- and our lives ... 9

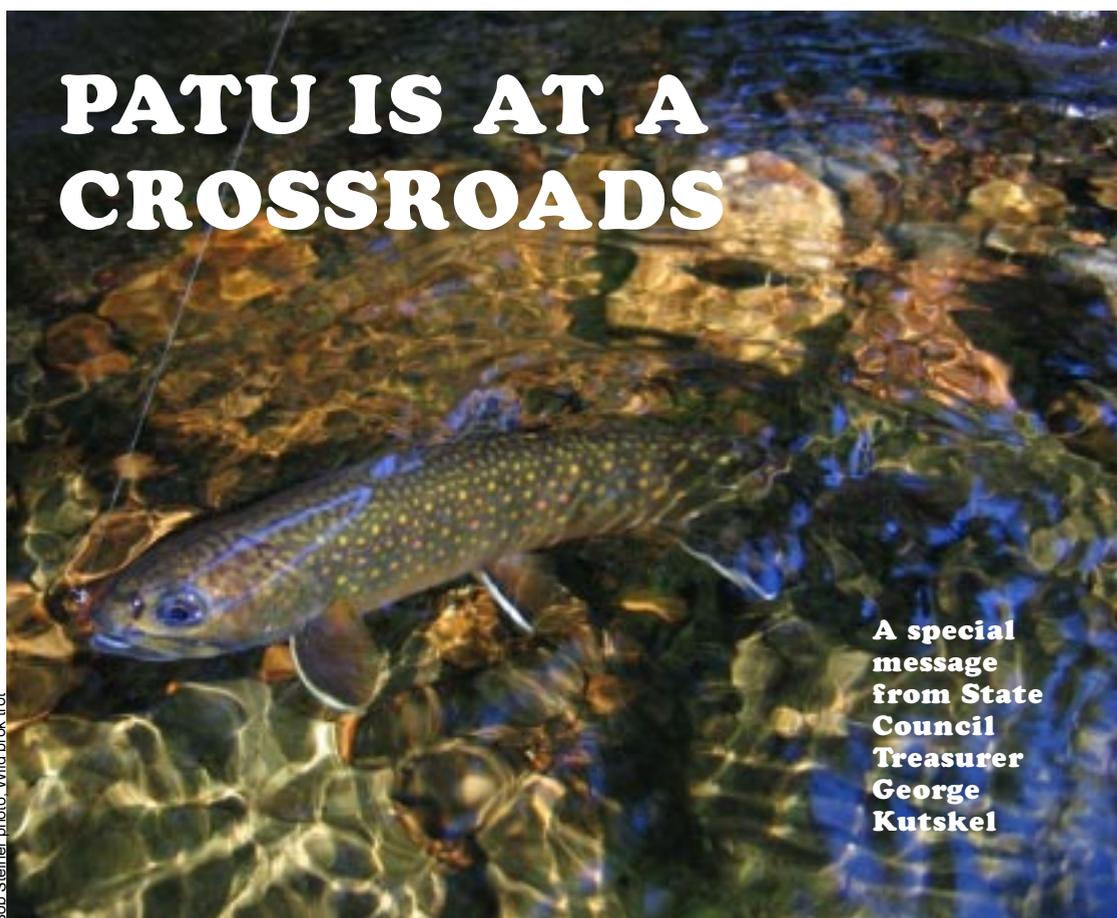
CREP funds stream buffers for better trout habitat ... 10

Pennsylvania Landscape Initiatives could benefit chapter planning ... 11

Reports from the Chapters ... 12

Treasury Notes and Donations to PATU ... 14

PATU Policy: Trout Management ... 20



PATU IS AT A CROSSROADS

A special message from State Council Treasurer George Kutschel

At a crossroads, that's where we are. Pennsylvania State Council has reached a point where we need to make some hard choices.

We just completed our strategic plan, and most of the chapters responded that we needed more programs to engage both youth and women,

along with the need for full-time staff. Further, they felt that we are a conservation group that likes to fish for trout, not a fishing group. We face some major issues: Marcellus Shale development, Trout in the Classroom and Youth programs, as well as our flagship program, the Coldwater Heritage Partnership. All are demanding more and more of our time and income. In addition, we have this newsletter and our popular Keystone Coldwater Conference. Now throw in the downturn in the economy, and we've reached a point where hard choices need to be made.

revenue would be about half of what it was last year. As I write this, it looks more like it will be about 25 percent of what it was last year, which was already down \$5,000 from years prior.

(continued on page 3)

I was in Harrisburg last month to meet with DCNR and see what the future may hold in their continued funding to the Coldwater Heritage Partnership. It is up in the air as to what extent they will continue to fund this program. We were told that there most likely would be some changes in the future.

At the fall PATU meeting, I stated that it looked like our ad

The Pennsylvania TROUT newsletter will be switching to online publication soon, with paper-copy subscriptions available for a fee. For more on this change, please see page 3.

Pennsylvania TROUT



**SPRING
2010**

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Change. It's something with which we're confronted in every facet of our lives. Change can occur subtly over a prolonged period of time or dramatically in the twinkling of an eye.

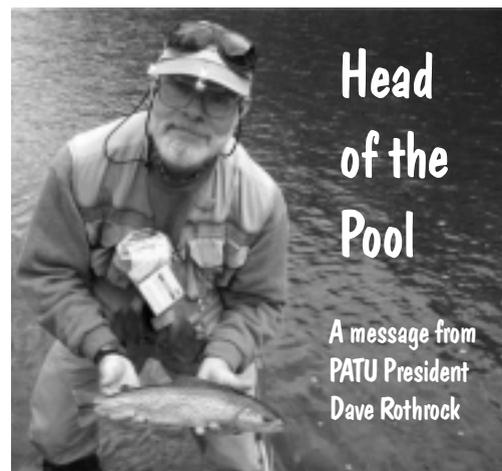
Most important is when and how we react to change. Most of the time change necessitates change. Some folks act almost immediately when they recognize that change is coming. By accepting and adapting, they make the best of the situation. Other folks do their best to ignore even the most obvious signs that change is upon them. In the end, many of these folks become victims of change because of their unwillingness to act.

It isn't any different for organizations. When confronted with change, the organization's leadership must do what it can to adapt to it. If action isn't taken in a timely manner, the organization can suffer.

With the economic downturn, we see things changing all around us. Our state's budget is not in good shape. Funding is harder to access because there's just not as much money available as in the past. PATU may be affected by the state's budget woes, as well. Our Coldwater Heritage Program has relied on significant funding from DCNR to operate. We've been informed that we may not receive the amount of funding we had received in the past. As a result, we are considering possible additional sources to make up whatever shortfall we may realize as a result of a reduction in funding from DCNR. We can only wait to see what DCNR will provide.

One of the largest financial burdens on State Council has been this newsletter, *Pennsylvania TROUT*. Over the past few years advertising revenue has helped significantly to offset the cost of editing, publishing and mailing of this valuable form of communication with our members. Unfortunately, advertising revenue is expected to be only about 25% of what we received last year.

We have had to confront the rising costs of providing a paper newsletter and the drop in advertising revenue. The decision has been made to provide an electronic copy of the newsletter to all members with a current email address. We have made provision for those



CHANGE

easy and the changes are viewed by our membership as a bit radical. In the end, we try to do what we determine is best for the organization and its members.

Lackawaxen is Pennsylvania's "River of the Year"

Steeped in a wealth of natural bounties and historical significance shaping northeast Pennsylvania's ecology and communities for centuries, the Lackawaxen River has been named the Commonwealth's River of the Year for 2010 by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR).

"A recreational treasure renowned for its fly-fishing and canoeing, the Lackawaxen harbors a wealth of bird and animal species," said DCNR Secretary John Quigley. "The waterway also drains the forests of the Pocono Plateau, a largely rural and conservation-minded landscape where communities live closely connected to their environment."

Trout fishermen are drawn to the clean, cold waters of the Lackawaxen River, which flows nearly 25 miles through three counties before joining the Delaware River at Lackawaxen, Pike County. It is where the late American author Zane Grey lived with his family in the early 1900s, honing a love of fly fishing and other outdoor pursuits. The historic farmhouse, now the Zane Grey Museum, is maintained by the National Park Service.

River of the Year designations have been presented annually since 1983.



PA. TROUT ADVERTISING RATES

Pennsylvania TROUT offers a unique market niche. Each quarter, the newsletter is read by nearly 12,000 trout anglers and conservationists. Our members share a passion for trout fishing and enjoy many outdoor pursuits. They are dedicated to keeping streams healthy and boosting angling for all. Many travel in pursuit of their sport, accompanied by friends and families. Advertising in this newsletter is a GREAT way to reach them. Each issue you have direct contact with the people who are looking for the goods and services you offer. Advertise with us and get more sales!

Ad Size:	Per issue	Full year (prepaid)
Full back page (color)	\$1100	\$4000
Full inside page (color)	\$850	\$3100
1/2 page (color)	\$475	\$1700
1/4 page (color)	\$250	\$900
Full inside page (b&w)	\$720	\$2600
1/2 page (b&w)	\$370	\$1350
1/4 page (b&w)	\$190	\$685
1/8 page (b&w)	\$100	\$360

For additional info or to place an ad, contact Bob Mitchell
Phone - 814-692-5232 / E-mail - advertising@patrout.org

CROSSROADS, from page 1

Along with PATU President Dave Rothrock, I have been asking members and chapters at all the regional meetings that we have attended as to their feelings of making this newsletter electronic. All have given the same answer: "Go for it." Some members did express the fact that not everyone has a computer and some still use dial-up Internet connection. As a chapter president, I have used this newsletter at many of our meetings and programs as a way to get the word out about what PA Trout Unlimited is all about.

The first quarter is usually our best quarter for ad revenue. This year it was less than \$1,500, with the prospect of our receiving an additional \$1,000 at best for the balance of the year. This would put us in a very bad position, since the newsletter cost is over \$27,000 per year.

We held a meeting on February 13 to see what we can or should do. One idea was to ask chapters to cover the cost of postage, which is the biggest expense. While chapters have donated to council, many do so to promote some of the other projects that council is doing. Also, it was felt that all this would do is shift the cost, not fix the problem of rising cost and declining revenue.

* * *

Beginning with the Fall Issue of *PA Trout*, the newsletter will continue to be printed, but in greatly-reduced quantities. Future issues of the newsletter will continue to be available for anyone to view online at www.patrou.org. Other options are as follows:

* * *

To receive a printed copy by mail – The cost will be \$10.00 per year (4 issues) to cover printing and postage. You will need to send a check for \$10.00 payable to "PATU" to George Kutskel, 107 Simmons Street, Dubois, PA 15801.

To receive a copy electronically by email – Be sure your email address is current with National TU and you will automatically receive your copy when it is published.

For chapters requesting printed copies for distribution – Printed copies for distribution to other organizations, etc., will be available to chapters at no cost by sending your requests to Deb Nardone, P.O. Box 5148, Pleasant Gap, PA 16823, or by email to dnardone@coldwaterheritage.org.

The next issue (Summer) will be the last printed and mailed to all members, so please remember to follow the instructions above depending on your preferences.

Join a committee and do your part for PATU!

For those of you who have been looking for a way to get involved with State Council, may I suggest that you share your particular interest by joining one of our committees? Every chairperson could use some additional help, so here are some brief descriptions of our committee functions for you to consider.

* * *

Development – Responsible for identifying and implementing resources to raise funds for PATU.

* * *

Education & Communications – Responsible for coordination of council's print publications and developing media programs to promote the work of PATU.

* * *

Electronic Media – Responsible for design and production of electronic publications as well as the development, coordination and implementation of the website.

* * *

Environmental – Responsible for development and coordination of statewide policies relative to council's conservation and environmental concerns.

* * *

Legislative – Responsible for developing relationships with state legislators to stay current on proposed environmental-related legislation of concern to council.

* * *

Membership – Responsible for monitoring membership status and chapter activities and development of programs to retain and attract new TU members.

* * *

Stream Access – Responsible for working with landowners and state agencies to develop and implement stream access programs at the chapter level.

* * *

Trout Management – Responsible for working with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission to foster and perpetuate guidelines for wild trout management.

* * *

Youth – Responsible for aiding chapters in establishing and maintaining youth programs with schools, scouts and other conservation organizations.

Feel free to contact any of the committee chairs listed to the right to find out more about what you can do to help. And if you have already been participating in a committee, please contact your respective chair and verify that you wish to continue as an active participant in that committee.

--Bob Pennell, PATU Secretary

PA COUNCIL OF TROUT UNLIMITED 2010 COMMITTEES



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The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited has nearly 12,000 members in more than 50 chapters statewide, with one common goal: The conservation and enhancement of Pennsylvania's coldwater streams and fisheries, specifically our wild trout resources. Trout Unlimited is an IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, functioning for charitable, educational and scientific purposes. Donations are deductible to the extent provided by law. For information on advertising in Pennsylvania Trout, see page 2, call 814-692-5232, or e-mail advertising@patrou.org. See pages 2-3 for Council contact information, officers and committees. For listings of Regional VPs and Pennsylvania TU chapters, and their contact information, see pages 12-19. For TU membership information, see page 8.

Pennsylvania
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supporting
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STATE COUNCIL NEWS & NOTES

Minutes of the PATU Winter Executive Committee Meeting

January 9, 2010

PFBC Visitor Center, Pleasant Gap, PA

Officers Present: Dave Rothrock, George Kutskel, Bob Pennell, Ken Undercoffer, Jack Williams, Brian Wagner, Chuck Winters, Wayne Michael, Fred Gender, Fred Bohls. Others Present: Deb Nardone, Emily Gates, Greg Grabowicz, Ed Bellis, Greg Malaska.

Meeting was convened at 10:05 a.m. by President Rothrock. Revised minutes of the 10/4/09 EXCOM meeting, previously distributed to EXCOM members, were approved on motion by Kutskel/seconded by Michael.

President's Report: Further input was requested to eliminate duplication of tasks and define leaders and time frames in council's strategic planning process. Rothrock, Nardone, Bohls and Winters will meet sometime after January 24 to finalize the plan.

Treasurer's Report & Fund-raising: Kutskel reviewed details of the latest treasurer's report and elaborated on the difficulty of getting some PA chapters to file financial reports with National TU (Chestnut Ridge was the only chapter not filing this year). A motion by Bohls/seconded by Wagner to receive and file the 4th Quarter, 2009, Treasurer's Report was approved.

Kutskel announced that Rothrock has appointed

him chair of the Development Committee and discussed the overall success to date of the various fund-raising items offered for sale by council. Cost to individuals for purchasing 10 or more leaders will increase to \$3.00 each. Pennell suggested approaching a rod maker to build 50 or so commemorative rods to sell to PA chapters. This and other fund-raising ideas will be explored further in a Development Committee meeting scheduled January 30.

Discussion/Action Items:

1. Support for passage of the Safe Drinking Water (Frack) Act was approved on a motion by Undercoffer/seconded by Bohls.

2. Bohls, and possibly Rick Carlson, will attend the PFBC Fisheries Committee meeting on January 27 to support Dean Druckenmiller's request for help on the Lehigh River flow issues.

3. Rothrock and Kutskel voiced their concerns over the disconnect between National TU and PA Council.

Although there are four National TU paid staff members in Pennsylvania, they are not allowed to get involved with Marcellus gas issues. Kutskel emphasized the need for a full-time Marcellus specialist to supplement the considerable amount of work Nardone is already doing on this critical issue. Kutskel feels that member rebates to council need to be increased, having stayed the same for about 20 years. Bohls suggested polling other major state councils about similar issues. Rothrock will request a sit-down meeting with Charles Gauvin and Liz Maclin after further discussion of the issues with a core group consisting of Undercoffer, Wagner, Kutskel, Pennell, Bohls, Nardone and Grabowicz.

4. Consideration of hosting the 2012 TU Annual Meeting in Pennsylvania was discussed, and on a motion by Bohls/seconded by Kutskel it was decided that there are too many other issues on our plate for the foreseeable future that take precedence over getting involved with the logistics of a national meeting. Pennell will advise Bryan Moore at National TU accordingly.

5. The proposed bylaws addendum outlining procedural changes for regional VP elections was approved on a motion by Kutskel/seconded by Williams. Kutskel also suggested we change the term limit for the president from 2 years to 4 years, with annual re-elections as currently stated. Pennell will circulate a draft of this proposed bylaws revision for a vote of EXCOM.

6. A proposal from Pella Windows & Doors to rebate 2% of sales to PATU members to help fund the Coldwater Heritage Partnership was approved on a motion by Undercoffer/seconded by Wagner. Pella will pay for advertising in *PA Trout*, but will not be soliciting members for business by direct mail.

7. Pennell expressed several ideas about improving communications within PATU, the most important of which is specifying actual due dates when information/action is required, rather than vague terms such as ASAP.

8. Nardone will attend the PennFuture Marcellus Shale Muster on January 30 on behalf of council.

9. Rothrock and Pennell will evaluate the current bylaws provisions to determine if procedural revisions are needed for EXCOM approval of committee actions.

Coldwater Heritage Partnership Report: Nardone reported that approx.. \$40,000 is available this year, which should support funding of 6 or 7 CHP grants. PATU will conduct a raffle at this year's Keystone Coldwater Conference. Bohls suggested that council members might want to attend the PFBC meetings on January 27-28 to learn more about the volunteer stream monitoring program under the jurisdiction of Tom Kameron.

Trout in the Classroom Report: Rothrock reported that Emily Gates' employment contract is up in August this year and that we need to find \$9,200 in funding to hire an AmeriCorps replacement for FY2011. A motion by Bohls/seconded by Michael was approved to continue the TIC program and pursue funding sources to support an AmeriCorps volunteer. Rothrock requested Gates to prepare a funding appeal for regional VPs to take to their chap-



2010 Kinzua Creek Collectible Patch

The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited is offering a special set of collectible patches, to individuals as well as to TU chapters. By George LaVanish of Wilderness Editions, this is the fourth in a series to be created over the next five years. The 2010 patch features Kinzua Creek. The set includes one 6-inch and one 4-inch patch. Sales are first-come / first-served, as PATU's quantities are limited. Additional patches are available from Wilderness Editions, 800-355-7645, www.wildernesseditions.com.

Mail this form or send same info to: Bob Mitchell, 41 Bethel Court, Port Matilda, PA 16870; 814-692-5232; e-mail advertising@patrout.org. Make checks payable to Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited. Include tax-exempt certificate, if chapter is eligible.

Send me _____ sets	
@ \$26.00/set:	\$ _____
+ Shipping	
@ \$1.25/set:	\$ _____
+ Pa. Sales Tax	
@ \$1.64/set:	\$ _____
Total enclosed:	\$ _____

Name: _____ Chapter (if applicable) _____

Mailing address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

ters for fund-raising.

National Leadership Council Report: Williams reported that National TU is seeking additional funding to hire a full-time Marcellus gas specialist to work exclusively in Pennsylvania. Williams also emphasized with the regional VPs that feedback from chapters on land trust collaborations is due to Paul Doscher by Jan. 22.

Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Report: Undercoffer presented a draft of his *Eastern Brook Trout* promotional flyer, and received approval to have 100 copies printed at a cost not to exceed \$150.

Environmental Committee Report: Grabowicz requested that comments be submitted to him by January 22 on the draft *TU Coldwater Conservation Corps Field Manual*. A committee meeting is set for January 31.

Stream Access Committee Report: Winters reported that a draft copy of the stream access brochure will be sent out for EXCOM approval.

Trout Management Committee Report: Bellis proposed that creation of a Native Coldwater Fish Committee be considered, and it was suggested that this be added to the agenda of the Trout Management Committee meeting scheduled for January 30.

Delaware River Committee Report: It was reported that PADEP announced on January 8 that they are supporting the flow regime as proposed by PFBC.

Development Committee Report: A committee meeting has been scheduled for January 30. Rothrock is investigating availability/cost to rent a cabin near Waterville to allow scheduling this with other committee meetings and provide overnight accommodations for those who would also be attending committee meetings on January 31.

Education & Communications Committee Report: Rothrock will contact Todd Bowersox with a request to schedule a committee meeting for January 31.

Electronic Media Committee Report: Development of the new TIC Website is proceeding on schedule with Pemcor. A new committee chair is needed to succeed Paul Raubertas, who has officially resigned but will continue to be involved during the transition process.

Youth Committee Report: Regional VPs need to con-

tact their chapters with reminders that flies are needed for the TU Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp in June.

Membership Committee Report: New committee chair Greg Malaska has prepared a survey that will be sent to members during the first half of 2010 to help identify problem areas and generate ideas for retaining and growing membership.

Northwest Region Report: New regional VP Tom Buser will hold his first regional meeting on January 16.

North Central Region Report: Pete Ryan of the God's Country Chapter had expressed concern that National TU needs to get more involved with Marcellus issues. This issue is to be addressed when PATU meets with National.

Northeast Region Report: We are still awaiting resolution of the membership transfer of former Endless Mountain Chapter members into the Lackawanna Valley and Stanley Cooper chapters.

Southwest Region Report: Members are very skeptical of the Marcellus Shale gas extraction in the region and the rapid pace of development. Without capacity to treat water, and local treatment facilities incapable of treating the water properly without destroying their equipment, the Mountain Laurel Chapter is looking into various outlets to better educate themselves and local utilities and governments officials.

South Central Region Report: No major.

Southeast Region Report: Fred Gender of the Valley Forge Chapter has been elected SE Region VP.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m. on a motion by Gender/seconded by Michael. The next EXCOM meeting is currently scheduled for March 28.

-- Bob Pennell, PATU Council Secretary

Pennsylvania Council of
TROUT UNLIMITED
2010 Calendar of Events



MARCH 28: Spring EXCOM meeting, PFBC Pleasant Gap facility.

Note: This is a change from the previously announced date of 3/27.

APRIL 3: Opening day of trout season, 18 southeastern counties.

APRIL 17: Regular opening day for trout statewide

JUNE 26: Summer EXCOM meeting, PFBC Pleasant Gap facility.

**JOIN THE
LITTLE JUNIATA RIVER
ASSOCIATION**



If you fish this wonderful central Pennsylvania river ... or would like to ... help the LJRA in our mission to:

**"MONITOR, PROTECT AND IMPROVE THE
LITTLE JUNIATA RIVER AND ITS TRIBUTARIES
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bjuniata@verizon.net

IMPORTANT: SPECIAL NOTICE ON NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION

Following a meeting of the Education & Communications Committee on February 13, the following actions were approved by the PATU Executive Committee regarding the future publication of council's newsletter, *Pa. TROUT*:

1. Beginning with the Fall 2010 issue, printing will be limited to approximately 2,000 copies per issue.
2. All members who still wish to receive printed copies by U.S. Mail will be asked to pay a fee for this service (\$10.00 per year has been suggested).
3. *Pennsylvania TROUT* will continue to be available online at www.patrou.org. It is also planned at some future time to establish a listserv mailing to those members who would prefer to receive electronic copies at their email addresses.

These actions have become necessary due to dramatically reduced income from advertising revenue and increased mailing costs (*see story, page 1*). This is also in keeping with the current trend toward electronic communications already practiced by many of our chapters, as well as other conservation organizations such as ours. This change will allow state council to re-allocate funds to other programs of benefit to council and the chapters. The projected savings from adopting these measures should amount to something in excess of \$15,000 per year.

An update will be provided in the Summer issue of the newsletter, but in the meantime we wanted to give you sufficient advance notice of this change that will take place effective with the Fall 2010 issue.

-- Bob Pennell, PATU Secretary

PA Trout Advertising Rep Needed

Pennsylvania Council needs a part-time advertising sales representative to solicit ads for our quarterly publication, Pennsylvania TROUT.

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 George Kutskel at maksak@comcast.net or by phone at 814-371-9290 for more details on the job responsibilities and compensation.

TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM RAFFLE HAS GREAT PRIZES

One program that has helped bring some chapters back from the edge of existence and turned many formerly inactive members into active leaders within their chapters has been Trout in the Classroom. It takes a lot of time and energy to make this program work as smoothly as it does. It has grown from just grants to now working with over 190 schools across Pennsylvania. It is way larger than what any volunteer could ever hope to do! That is why we hired Emily Gates for the past two years. Even though she is "paid" by AmeriCorps, we still have some financial obligations -- to have our intern costs State Council about \$10,000 per year. So with that we are again having our 2nd Annual Trout in the Classroom Raffle. This year we waited until most chapters held their annual fund-raisers and made the drawing six months in the future, so that everyone gets a chance to purchase a ticket. Tickets will be sent to every chapter to sell or purchase themselves, just like last year. But if you don't regularly attend your chapter's meeting and feel that it's important to support this great educational program have no fear, you can get your tickets directly from me. Send your check payable to PA TROUT and mail it to: George Kutskel, 107 Simmons St., DuBois, PA 15801. We hope that everyone takes the opportunity to help keep this program growing. We really need to make sure the funding is in place so we can at least keep our intern on top of this program. Just look at the great prizes that are available!

Ticket donation: \$5 each or 5 tickets for \$20 / Drawing: October 2, 2010, at the PATU fall meeting in Bellefonte, Pa.



1st Prize: Orvis graphite fly rod of your choice



2nd Prize: Brook trout wall plaque (60" x 16") carved by Tom Buser

3rd Prize: Guided day trip for two on Pennsylvania stream, with Dave Rothrock.

4th Prize: Framed Ned Smith print, "Unfinished Business."



5th Prize: Two-night stay at Kettle Creek Adventures B&B in Cross-fork (available dates).

6th Prize: \$100 cash card to store of your choice.

-- ATTENTION ANGLERS --

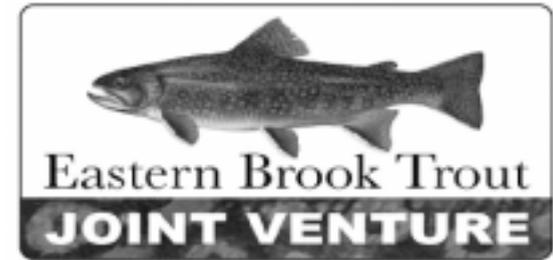
If you or anyone you know had at any time in the past an experience fishing or trying to fish the Little Juniata River in the approximately 1.3 miles downstream from its confluence with Spruce Creek, or if you made a decision not to fish that section of the Little Juniata River because you believed it was not open to the public or because you were not sure whether it was open to the public, I'd like to hear from you.

I would also like to receive from you a copy of any document of any kind which you may have kept, whether e-mail, newspaper story, magazine article, internet blog, or any other document concerning in any way that section of the Little Juniata.

Please send the information to Stan Stein, 428 Blvd of the Allies, Pittsburgh, PA 15219, or to sms@fgsmlaw.com.

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428 Blvd of the Allies
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
(412) 263 6111 / sms@fgsmlaw.com**

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by Ken Undercoffer, EBTJV Representative

The Ken Sink Chapter has been working on Cessna Run and Gillhouser Run. They plan to apply limestone sand to Straight Run, the largest tributary to Cessna Run and Keal Run, a tributary to the South Branch of Bear Run. Cessna Run is Little Mahoning Creek's largest tributary. Two major tributaries have native brook trout. The mainstem of Cessna Run was mostly fishless, due to acid mine drainage (AMD). The largest AMD source was treated in 2005. Recently, the Western Pa. Conservancy captured 12 species on the mainstem. The chapter extended the project by installing log vanes and completed a gas well dirt and gravel road diversion project that has worked well at reducing sediment. Gillhouser Run is a tributary to Little Yellow Creek. The native brook trout population there was greatly reduced due to acid deposition. The chapter began limestone sanding in 1994 and continued to 1999. Natives from Shannon Run were transported to Gillhouser at that time. The trout population is much better than it was pre-sanding. The chapter is also working on removing a large sawdust pile from the headwaters and would like to once again sand this stream.

The Susquehanna River Basin Commission is working to clean up AMD and acid precipitation in several tributaries to the West Branch Susquehanna. AMD remediation projects are underway in the Bear Run watershed to restore an upstream wild brook trout population to the lower reaches. Two of eight projects are completed, with the next nearing startup. All eight phases have been funded by the first DEP Watershed Renaissance Grant. Drury Run and Birch Island Run assessments are in the early planning stages. Both have native brook trout and AMD and acid deposition problems. Sampling to be done in 2010 will be used to initiate remediation projects.

The National Park Service (NPS) announced recently that it is undertaking a program in the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area (DEWA) to study: "Factors limiting or threatening the distribution, abundance, and genetic 'purity' of brook trout populations in DEWA (which) include past or continued stocking of non-native brown trout and hatchery raised brook trout, excessive harvest, increased water temperatures and sedimentation associated with agricultural fields in the park, impoundments, and decline of eastern hemlock forests."

The Allegheny National Forest-WINs Coalition is made up of three Pennsylvania TU chapters (Jim Zwald, Iron Furnace and Cornplanter), watershed associations and other conservation groups working in partnership with the National Forest Service in the Allegheny National Forest. Last summer there were 13 ongoing watershed restoration projects in 10 streams to preserve, protect and restore brook trout populations in the national forest.

7 more streams get EV status

Pennsylvania has gained additional protection for 265 miles of streams. In late 2009, DEP announced that seven streams have been designated as "exceptional value" (EV) waterways by the Environmental Quality Board.

Streams that are designated as exceptional value receive the highest level of protection against pollution from point and non-point sources that could affect the quality and aquatic health of the watershed.

The waterways getting EV status include Young Womans Creek in Clinton, Lycoming and Potter counties; Muncy Creek in Sullivan County; an unnamed tributary to Tunkhannock Creek in Susquehanna County; Spruce Creek in Union County; Blue Eye Run and East Hickory Creek in Warren County; and East Branch Dyberry Creek in Wayne County.

emphasis on the fostering and restoration of wild trout populations wherever feasible.

June 19 is 8th Annual Pennsylvania Fly Fishing Heritage Day

The Pennsylvania Fly Fishing Museum Association announces the 8th Annual Pennsylvania Fly Fishing Heritage Day will be held Saturday, June 19, at the Allenberry Resort Inn & Playhouse, on the banks of the Yellow Breeches Creek in Boiling Springs. Heritage Day is a gathering of fly-fishing enthusiasts of all ages, interests and skill levels to celebrate and participate in the art and sport of fly fishing. There will be presentations on various fly fishing subjects and all-day casting instruction. Learn about fly fishing from fly tiers, vendors, exhibitors, bamboo rod makers and other artisans. There will also be raffles, including a free youth raffle, and the ever-popular Rubber Fish Swim. All activities will occur in and around the Picnic Pavilion and Meadow at the Allenberry Resort. A lunch buffet is available for all who preregister. Visit www.paflyfishing.org for more details.



Photos courtesy of the author

The North Deer Creek Project

by Eric Armbrurger, NE Mercer County Subcommittee, Neshannock Chapter TU

The North Deer Creek Project formally began in 2007 when a group of local fishermen, outdoorsmen and landowners joined forces to help protect, restore and conserve North Deer Creek and its watershed. Now in our third year, we are slowly and steadily growing in scope and influence.

In the spring of 2009, our group was recognized and adopted by the Neshannock Chapter of Trout Unlimited in reward for our efforts. Now we are organized under their banner as the Northeast Mercer County Subcom-

mittee of the chapter.

Our mission is to embrace, promote and preserve the conservation, restoration and natural beauty of North Deer Creek and its watershed. Our group is a small but dedicated bunch with wide and diverse backgrounds; we are not just fishermen. We welcome any and all newcomers with a genuine interest in the outdoors and some time and de-



and stream stabilization project on a stretch of North Deer Creek, on the Brad Stallsmith property. In each stage, two new habitat improvement devices were constructed in the creek. Two vane deflectors were installed in 2008,

sire to help make a difference.

In 2009 we finished stage 2 of three planned stages in a small habitat

and a vane deflector and a mudsill deflector were installed in 2009. In 2010 we plan on finishing stage 3, which will be constructing two more vane deflectors. We will also be opening a small children's trout fishing area this spring.

Our project area is located on the left side of Creek Road, between Jacobs Road and Donation Road, about two miles south from PA 173, near Milledgeville.

Our meetings are the second Saturday of each month, March through October, at 9:30 a.m. They are held the French Creek Township Municipal Building. Stop in some time.








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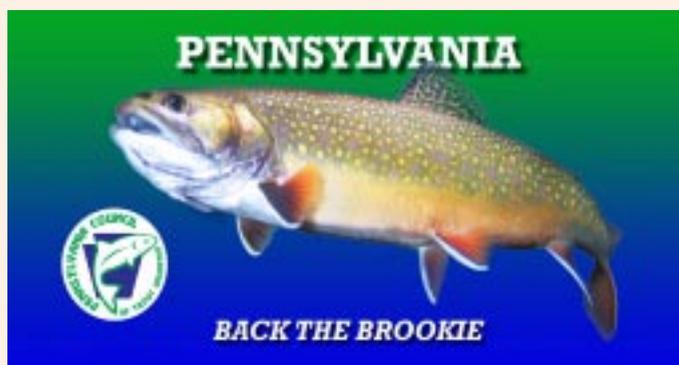
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Photo courtesy of the author

TU teamwork muscles pipes from Morrison Run valley

by Tom Buser, Cornplanter Chapter TU

It takes a great act of faith to schedule a workday on the Allegheny National Forest in the middle of November, but that is exactly what happened last November 14, as 20 people gathered to collect old oil and gas pipes along Morrison Run valley and carry them from the stream bed up to the road.

The group consisted of five members of the local Cornplanter Chapter of TU, three of their kids, Jennie Gomory of the Warren County Conservation District, and about 15 volunteers from adult probation, doing work

qualifying as community service.

This was not a job for the faint of heart -- some of the pipes were almost 40 feet long and weighed more than 200 pounds. It was estimated that by the end of the day, between three and four tons of materials were lugged uphill, sometimes as far as a couple hundred yards.

Mike Fadale, TU's coordinator of the event, had nothing but praise for the probation volunteers: "Their attitude and willingness to pitch in was remarkable. This was not an easy task, but we got done in four hours what I thought would take two days or more. These folks were just great! I felt guilty giving them sandwiches for lunch; it should have been steak."

This was the third project completed by the Cornplanter Chapter on Morrison Run last year. In June, a decommissioned OGM road was bulldozed to make it impassable to

ATVs and other off-road vehicles, and grass seed and cover was laid down to prevent erosion into other stream beds. In September, TU volunteers, along with personnel from the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, did instream habitat modification, including the installation of log deflectors to prevent erosion of stream banks and to provide cover and shelter for native brook trout in periods of high water.

Plans are underway for more work to be done on Morrison Run in the spring and summer of 2010. When Morrison Run was originally selected as Cornplanter Chapter's "home stream," it was estimated the work we saw before us would take a minimum of five or six years to complete. It appears we are still pretty much on that timetable, but 2009 was a year in which we got off to a great start.



FISH & BOAT COMMISSION NAMES JOHN ARWAY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

John Arway, a 30-year veteran of the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) has been chosen by the Board of Commissioners as the agency's next executive director, during a special public meeting held in early March.

"John brings a wealth of professional experience and institutional knowledge to the executive director post," said Commission President Thomas Shetterly. "He is an avid angler, boater and hunter with a passion for the outdoors. He embraces the Resource First management philosophy and understands that only by protecting aquatic resources can we accomplish the other part of our mission, which is to also provide fishing and boating opportunities."

Arway, a member of the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited, had served as chief of the Environmental Services Division within the Bureau of Fisheries.

"I am grateful to the board for providing me the opportunity to lead the agency where I have devoted most of my professional life," said Arway. "Our agency has a tremendous responsibility to the resource and to the anglers and boaters who enjoy and benefit from the resource. We have a very dedicated staff that I am looking forward to working with on the many challenges ahead of us -- including the protection of water quality from future pollution events, the threat of aquatic invasive species, the increasing loss of habitat and the restoration of American shad to the Susquehanna River. I am also looking forward to working with our staff and the anglers and boaters on improving recreational fishing and boating opportunities throughout the Commonwealth."

Arway has been the environmental advisor to the executive director and other agency staff for more than 20 years. In addition to leading the Environmental Services Division, he represents the PFBC on many committees and boards, including the Director's alternate on the Environmental Quality Board; the Pennsylvania Biological Survey's Steering Committee; PA Council of Trout Unlimited's Environmental Committee and Rivers Conservation Camp and Fly Fishing School's Board of Directors; Governor's Pesticide Advisory Board; Governor's Green Government Council; Coldwater Heritage Partnership Program; and the Susquehanna River Smallmouth Bass Water Quality Workgroup.

Arway holds a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Pittsburgh and a master's degree in biology from Tennessee Technological University. He is a member of numerous professional, sportsmen and conservation organizations.

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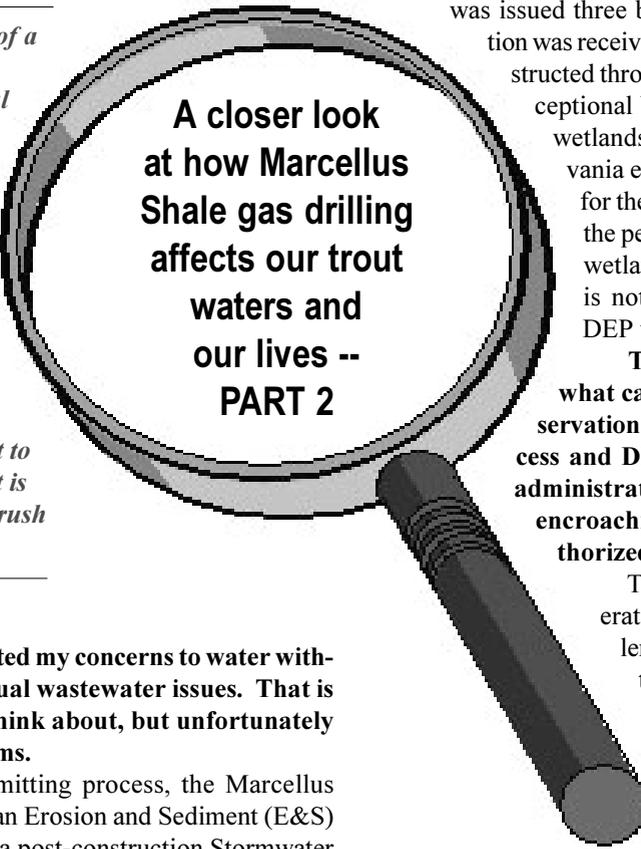
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Currently all levels have a rebate to the designated chapter joined. See PA chapter listings on pages 12-19 or visit www.tu.org or www.patrou.org for more info.

* For special rate, must note chapter you want to join. Regular individual membership is \$35. Members renew at full price. Members receive chapter newsletter, PA Trout newsletter and Trout magazine. Form may be photocopied, or send same information on separate sheet to TU.

This is the second part of a commentary on the Marcellus Shale natural gas development in Pennsylvania, written by Dr. Pete Ryan, President of God's Country Chapter of TU. Although Dr. Ryan penned the article with eye an toward his home area, his observations are pertinent and important to all of Pennsylvania that is involved in the current rush of drilling.



A closer look at how Marcellus Shale gas drilling affects our trout waters and our lives -- PART 2

I have thus far limited my concerns to water withdrawals and frac residual wastewater issues. That is more than enough to think about, but unfortunately there are other problems.

As part of the permitting process, the Marcellus Shale well sites require an Erosion and Sediment (E&S) Control Plan, as well as a post-construction Stormwater Management Plan. Initially these permit applications and plan reviews were conducted by the highly trained technicians of the Potter County Conservation District. Last May, this process was abruptly taken out of the hands of locals, who have firsthand knowledge of the sites, and placed under the review of DEP employees at the Northcentral Regional office in Williamsport. **This new "expedited permit review process" has been placed in the hands of already overworked DEP state employees with neither the time nor local knowledge to properly review these applications and plans.**

In August 2009, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation filed appeals to two permit approvals of local interest. The first is a permit issued to Ultra Resources, Inc. for earth disturbance activities in a 558-square-mile project area known as the "Marshlands Play" in Tioga and Potter counties. The permit was issued two days after the application was received, without any technical review of the plans. It contains no stormwater calculations to analyze runoff rates or volume and fails to address post construction stormwater entirely. The E&S Control Plan and the application were prepared by a land surveyor, not an engineer. Phase II, which authorizes earth disturbance activity to construct a gas pipeline, was issued seven business days after the application was received and again without technical review. It contemplates at least two stream crossings of High Quality trout streams.

The second is a permit issued to Fortuna Energy, Inc., for earth disturbance activities associated with building a gas pipeline in a 40-square-mile area in Tioga County. Like the Ultra permit, this permit did not undergo technical review, does not address post construction stormwater and was prepared by the same land surveyor. The Phase II authorization for this permit, which

was issued three business days after the application was received, allows the pipeline to be constructed through wetlands that qualify as Exceptional Value wetlands. Impacts to EV wetlands cannot, as a matter of Pennsylvania environmental law, be permitted for these types of projects. Nothing in the permit application identifies these wetlands as EV wetlands, and there is nothing in the file that indicates DEP treated them as EV wetlands.

This permit issuance shows what can happen when the local conservation districts are cut out of the process and DEP staff are conducting only administrative review of plans -- illegal encroachment into EV wetlands is authorized.

The Marcellus Shale drilling operations present several other challenges. The heavy traffic of trucks transporting millions of gallons of water and huge heavy drilling rigs to and from well sites negatively impacts our road infrastructure. The construction of drilling pads and

roads disturbs the land and can cause increased erosion and sediment loads to reach the streams.

Another very large issue that has not been properly addressed is the fragmentation of wildlife habitat caused by all the roads and pipelines. It is scary to think that what has already happened in the Allegheny National Forest will happen to the State Forests and Game Lands in Potter County!

Emergency Management Services, local volunteer fire departments and ambulance services must be trained and ready to respond to accidents at well sites or spills of toxic materials. More DEP employees must be hired and trained to properly regulate these drilling operations. **Where will the money come from for repairing damaged infrastructure, hiring and training DEP, EMS, fire and ambulance personnel? Possibly the proposed Gas Severance Tax,** which has been vehemently opposed by the industry or some other mechanism that places the responsibility on those using these extra services to pay for them.

What to do? I wish I had the answers! I attended a public meeting in Wellsboro and received training to be a "Pine Creek Waterdog." Over 60 citizens concerned with the potential negative impacts that Marcellus Shale drilling could have on the Pine Creek watershed were in attendance. Most were over the age of 50 and included hikers, birders, mountain bikers, fishermen, canoeists, interested landowners and concerned outdoor recreation business owners. We were trained on how to document possible improper activities and who and where to call with this information. It was a great program and hopefully we can get a similar citizen "watchdog" program initiated in Potter County.

In conclusion, I must say that I certainly did not write

this in an attempt to stop Marcellus Shale gas exploration and development in Potter County. This "play" is way too big and supported by too many international energy companies and government agencies that view this as an enormous economic opportunity to be stopped now. **I do feel it is important for the citizens of Potter County (and all of Pennsylvania) to be aware not only of the economic opportunities involved, but also the many risks.**

In my many meetings and roundtable discussions, I have found the people representing the Marcellus Shale gas industry to have genuine concerns on how to do their work with the least environmental impact on Potter County and its residents. I fully expect the industry to be responsible and accountable for all their activities involved in the "Marcellus Play." Unfortunately, accidents and mistakes happen even by the most responsible workers.

More than eighteen months ago, the State of New York suspended any further Marcellus Shale gas well drilling until their Department of Environmental Conservation could develop new rules and regulations and a proper "game plan" to deal with all the new issues presented by the "Marcellus Play." **Maybe Pennsylvania's government needs to do the same; step back and evaluate how to properly regulate this "new" industry with its new challenges on how to protect the health and welfare of its citizens.**

I do know one thing for sure ... we as human beings can live without natural gas, but we cannot survive without clean water. The negative environmental impacts of unregulated coal mining in the early 1900s in Pennsylvania persist even today. Let us all hope that the legacy of the "Marcellus Play" does not leave a similar legacy for our children and grandchildren.



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With CREP stream buffers, landowners can help improve fish and wildlife habitat while earning cash

by Frank Rohrer
Stream Buffer Specialist
Chesapeake Bay Foundation

Pennsylvania's legendary trout streams face the threat of becoming too warm, too polluted or too degraded to support fish populations. Sadly, high nutrient and sediment levels, lack of a tree canopy and other factors lead to streams that cannot boast pristine ecosystems and clean water. The good news: a conservation program helps local landowners improve these poor stream conditions.

The USDA Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) in Pennsylvania provides cost-share and yearly payments to landowners to establish conservation practices that improve water quality and provide wildlife habitat. CREP's forested stream buffer (called CP 22) is a highly popular conservation practice. To date, more than 5,000 Pennsylvania farmers and other landowners have installed forested buffers with CREP because of its high financial payoff, pasture management gains (for landowners with livestock), and conservation benefits.

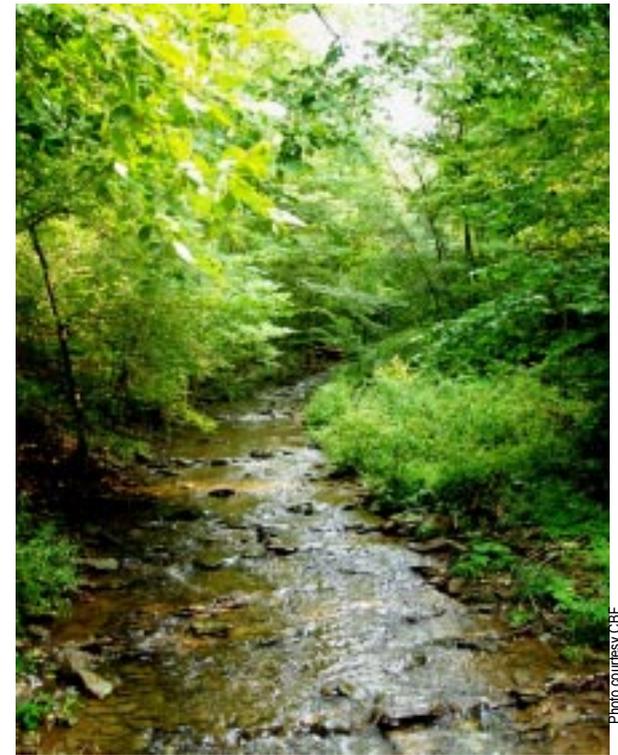
To qualify for a CREP forested buffer, the land along the stream must be primarily non-forested. It does not need to be actively farmed; non-farming lands are eligible, too. CREP is one of the best economic incentive packages for practicing conservation in Pennsylvania. Not only is it a great program for landowners who want to benefit wildlife habitats or improve water quality, but participants are also generously compensated for their good deeds.

Forested buffers provide a tool for improving fish habitat in streams. Buffers increase the shade over a stream, which in turn makes the water cooler. Temperature is more constant throughout the year. Fish that require cold water, particularly native brook trout, benefit through higher survival and improved spawning success. The buffers filter sediment and other pollutants from runoff, which ensures clean water and prevents destruction of gravel spawning beds. Forested buffers also create woody debris, which provide habitat and food for stream insects, which in turn establishes a food source for fish. Overall, stream life in "Penn's Woods" is highly adapted to forested conditions, and restoring streamside forests is central to restoring and protecting stream health.

Buffers are also a great way to provide long-term bank stability and improve habitat conditions in streams. Many Trout Unlimited chapters undertake valuable in-stream habitat and bank stabilization projects. CREP buffers (at a profit for the landowner and with professional help to stretch chapters' manpower) can add another layer of habitat benefits to most restoration projects. Even well-designed, well-built bank protection structures can eventually fail. Wood structures often provide bank protection for 10-30 years. This is a great window for trees to reach sufficient size to provide even longer protection, while adding woody debris and crucial food inputs for stream insects.

Streamside buffers or "riparian zones" provide critical habitat for a variety of wildlife. The key component in the buffers is the establishment of native trees and shrubs. Examples of trees and shrubs typically planted include white oak, red oak, sycamore, serviceberry, chokeberry and dogwood. These plants provide seeds, acorns, berries, nesting habitat and shelter for gamebirds such as wild turkey and ruffed grouse, as well as animals such as squirrels and deer. Other wildlife that benefit from these plantings include songbirds such as goldfinches, cardinals, and orioles.

The minimum CREP buffer width from top of the bank is 35 feet per side of stream. For buffers 35-50 feet wide, roughly 90% of the cost of planting trees and shrubs, fencing, crossings and watering system is covered. Buffers 50-180 feet typically earn 110% to 130% reimbursement, plus



Forested stream buffers hold banks and keep water temperatures low, a boon to trout. The CREP program has funds for projects.

an additional incentive bonus payment (meaning there can be a substantial profit on the installation). There is also an annual rental payment for the acreage placed in the program for 10 or 15 years. The wider the buffer, the greater the payment. Typical projects yield profits of \$2,000 to \$4,000 per acre over the 15-year contract.

There is now cost-share available for one of the most important aspects of establishing a CREP buffer -- maintenance. Landowners who enroll in the program now receive funding for the first three to four years to pay a licensed professional to apply herbicide around each sheltered tree. This carefully applied herbicide greatly increases the survival of the newly planted trees by controlling competing vegetation and discouraging rodents from gnawing and killing the young trees. It may seem odd that the very buffer that serves to protect the stream from pesticides must be nurtured with some of these chemicals. However, limited applications are made only in beginning of the buffer project. When the herbicide is applied properly, the risk to the stream is extremely small. The risk to the stream of failing to restore streamside forests is much greater and very long lasting.

For livestock producers, improved options for pasture management are a major benefit. CREP provides quality fencing, stabilized crossings and alternative water sources as part of buffer projects. Farmers with no grazing livestock are also eligible to enroll streamside areas. Finances are attractive, paying 90% to 140% of project costs, and adding annual rental payments on top.

Signing up is no obligation to enroll in the program, but starts the conversation and holds a place in line. More information is available by calling 1-800-941-CREP or visiting www.cbf.org/CREP. Interested TU groups can also call CBF at 717-234-5550 to discuss options.



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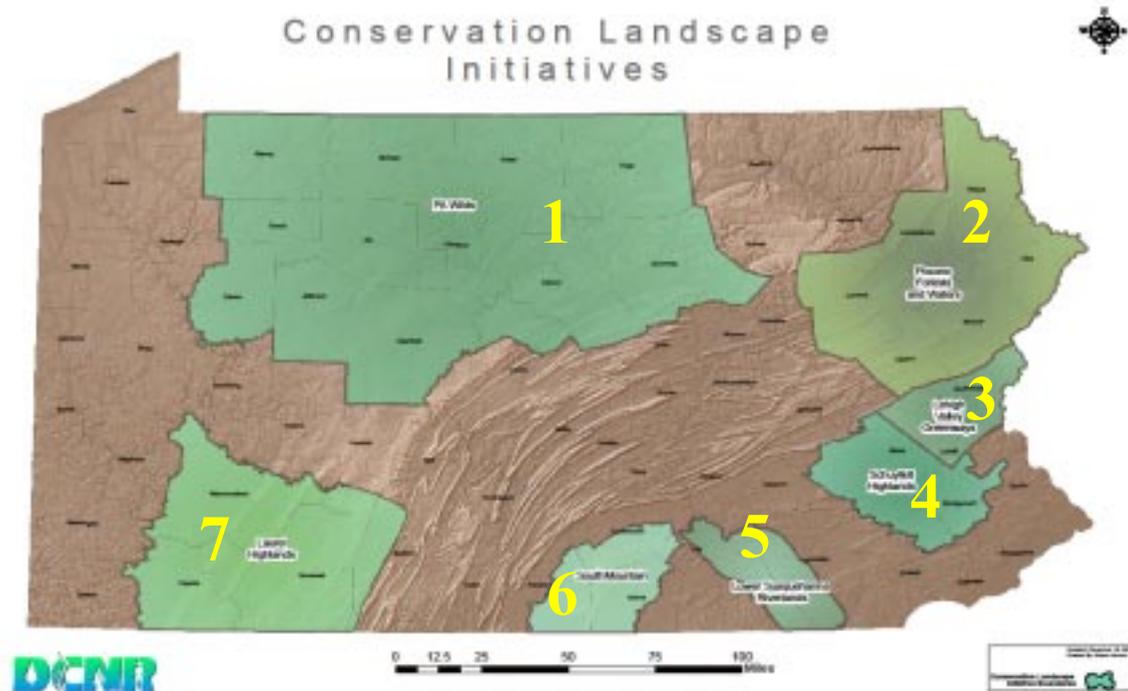
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...ity of whom are fly fishers, who believe primarily in catch and release angling.



A New Strategy for Pennsylvania Conservation: Landscape Initiatives

by Monty Murty, President
Forbes Trail Chapter TU

The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) is working collaboratively in seven areas of the Commonwealth to help plan local conservation and economic initiatives more strategically. Known as Conservation Landscape Initiatives, they seek to balance the goals of conservation, sustainability, recreation and tourism with economic development.

The areas were selected at a landscape scale where large blocks of DCNR-owned land, state parks and forests achieve the critical mass necessary to force a conservation focus. These areas have name-brand identity based on their natural landscape, as well as political boundaries. Their residents share a strong sense of place and tradition of volunteering with conservation organizations like Trout Unlimited.

Forbes Trail Chapter is located in the Laurel Highlands. We are participating in prioritizing initiatives of our local plan, the Laurel Ridge Comprehensive Interpretive Plan. We find our Conservation Landscape Initiative, Pennsylvania's new strategy for conservation, a valuable reference for developing our chapter strategic plan, a requirement for all chapters in 2010. Perhaps other chapters will as well.

TU has expressed the goal for 2010 of achieving nationally a one-TU strategy down to chapter level. DCNR Conservation Landscape Initiatives can be valuable resources for Pennsylvania Council chapters in developing their strategic plans.

For more information on Conservation Landscape Initiatives please visit www.dcnr.state.pa.us/cli.

Map key to Conservation Landscapes:

- 1) Pennsylvania Wilds
- 2) Pocono Forest and Waters
- 3) Lehigh Valley Greenways
- 4) Schuylkill Highlands
- 5) Lower Susquehanna
- 6) South Mountain
- 7) Laurel Highlands



Photo courtesy Bill Voigt

Maybe you can't roller skate in a buffalo herd, but you can fish there!

Once again, Bill Voigt is inviting PATUers to join him for a summer of "fly fishing for science" in Yellowstone National Park. Each July for the past four years, Bill and his wife, Joann, have coordinated the Yellowstone Park Foundation's Fly Fishing Volunteers Program. The program uses volunteer anglers to gather important scientific data in the park. The waters involved in the volunteer research have been Goose Lake, the Gibbon River, Trout Lake and Blacktail Deer, Little Blacktail Deer, Slough, Soda Butte, Specimen and Grayling creeks. Volunteers get a free pass into Yellowstone Park and either a free campsite or a free bed in the fisheries dorm. The Voigts transport the anglers to and from the streams. The fishing is good, with anglers often catching and releasing 50 or more trout a day. The program is supported by the Yellowstone Park Foundation and no National Park Service monies are used. The program is funded through 2009 and more volunteers are needed. Interested? Contact Voigt at wfv100@psu.edu.

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Brodheads Chapter #289

Tom Battista, 610-681-6307, mooseowl@ptd.net

Website: www.brodheadstu.org

R.R. 5, Box 5520, Kunkletown, PA 18058

In September, several board members participated in the Monroe County Youth Field Day. Each year we help subsidize the shirts and hats given to all youth participants in this event. Will Daskal was at the fishing station and I was retrieving with my Golden Retrievers. The board also approved the purchase of several First Cast fly-fishing outfits from L.L. Bean, to use when doing demonstrations and for use by participants we send to the TU Rivers Conservation School each year. We have since received the outfits and are anxious to see them used this spring. In October, Tyler Neiman and Keith Beamer from the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission gave a very informative presentation on "Stream Improvement Devices." It is a program that I would suggest any chapter request before planning work on a stream. They also looked at what we have done in the past on the Brodhead, Martins Creek and our current project on McMichael Creek. I was thrilled to see Keith, a former Boy Scout from my son's troop. He is living proof that Scouting leads young men into outdoor and conservation careers. In November, the chapter offered an introduction to fly tying, a free program open to the general public, to generate interest for our course in January. Saturday, March 27, we will have our Annual Banquet at the Pocono Inne Towne, Stroudsburg.

Forks of the Delaware Chapter #482

Ryan Rush, 610-217-8326, Ryan.Rush@dot.state.nj.us

Chapter: P.O. Box 467, Stockertown, PA 18083

The chapter submitted a letter of support in regards to the City of Easton dam removal proposal and submitted input to the 2010 Lehigh River Flow plan. The fall raffle drawing was held at our December meeting. Fly tying

PA Trout Unlimited's Guiding Principles, 5: We are not a bunch of fly fishing elitists. We believe that lure and

classes began in January. The chapter is providing support to Trout in the Classroom programs at Bangor Middle School, Nazareth Middle School, Wind Gap Middle School and Easton High School. We have applied for several grants to fund small coldwater conservation libraries for each classroom. We conducted our second annual trout redd survey in late November on two sections of the Bushkill Creek and submitted a report to the community to raise awareness about wild trout. The chapter is currently working on stream signage. Upcoming projects include a riparian project with the Bushkill Stream Conservancy and additional habitat projects on Martins Creek with the Martins Jacoby Watershed Association.

Hokendauqua Chapter #535

Dale Steventon, 610-767-1213, adms@enter.net

Website: [http://mysite.verizon.net/vze26x43/](http://mysite.verizon.net/vze26x43/hokendauquachaptertroutunlimited)

[hokendauquachaptertroutunlimited](http://mysite.verizon.net/vze26x43/hokendauquachaptertroutunlimited)

3917 Shirley Dr., Schnecksville, PA 18078

We published our first newsletter in November, which is available on our website. At our December general meeting we had Jim Wilson of the Northampton County Conservation District, a watershed specialist/agricultural technician, give a presentation and discussion on the Bertsch-Hokendauqua-Catasauqua Watershed Association, with whom we agreed to partner on stream restoration projects. Some of our chapter members are already members of that association, including Bud Cole, who is vice president. We printed a new booklet for the fly-tying course, which began January 9 at Northampton Area Middle School. After planting 10 forsythia bushes in November, we are reviewing what native plants, shrubs and trees are available to complete a stream bank restoration project on Hokendauqua Creek. Hopefully, they will be planted in the spring. A stream bank cleanup was conducted in mid-November, along with a temporary dam removal of large rocks placed there by neighborhood youth who were attempting to make a swimming hole opposite the area of the stream bank restoration project, near the bridge at Lerchenmiller Drive, Northampton. We are conducting Trout in the Classroom again this year, under the guidance of Janet Reichelderfer at Catasauqua High School. I wrote a letter as president from the chapter in support of the grant application filed by the Northampton County Conservation District with the Cold Water Heritage Partnership, to develop a Coldwater Conservation Plan for the Hokendauqua Creek watershed.

Lackawanna Valley Chapter #414

Gerard Petras, 570-562-3383, chaps2000@comcast.net

Website: www.lackawannavalleytu.org

Chapter: P.O. Box 4351, Scranton, PA 18505

After one year of re-organization, we elected two new trustees to stagger the terms of the board members. We are also working on a new, more vibrant website. We have set the date of March 27 for our first fundraising banquet and are in the process of organizing a banquet committee. The chapter continues to monitor progress of Marcellus Shale drilling activities as this

project continues to advance into Susquehanna, Lackawanna and Wayne counties. We are still awaiting resolution of the membership transfer of former Endless Mountain Chapter members into the Lackawanna Valley and Stanley Cooper chapters.

Little Lehigh Chapter #070

Stacy Reed, 610-703-9447, st.reed@rcn.com

Website: www.littlelehightu.org

Chapter: P.O. Box 3295, Allentown, PA 18106

No report submitted, but Stacy Reed has advised PATU that the chapter is in difficulty and cannot find volunteers for support of the existing board. She suggested a possible merger with another chapter. Regional VP John Morris will follow up.

Stanley Cooper, Sr. Chapter #251

Phil Mancini

570-451-0248, lovethearts@verizon.net

Website: www.sctu.org

Chapter: P.O. Box 1135, Kingstone, PA 18704

The chapter continues to reach the public and members through timely website and E-Bulletin updates. Philip Mancini is our webmaster and John Morris is our E-Bulletin editor. The chapter's website address is www.SCTU.org, and those interested in receiving the E-Bulletin can sign up by sending an e-mail to Philip Mancini (address above). We began 2010 with the presentation "Prospecting for Trout: A Guide's Perspective," by Tom Brtalik, on January 12. The chapter's much anticipated 20th Annual Conservation Banquet will be held on April 10. The chapter took an active role in bringing information about Marcellus Shale drilling in northeast Pennsylvania to the public, through a presentation in November given by Deborah Nardone, Coldwater Resource Specialist from the Coldwater Heritage Partnership and the Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited. Additionally, the chapter signed on with Columbia University in a letter opposing the proposed discharge from RWRC into Meshoppen Creek. Two important projects were completed last year. A parking improvement project at Bowman's Creek was completed under the supervision of Joe Ackourey. The project improves the parking areas and provides a general beautification of the area. Photos of the project in process and the completed project can be seen at the chapter website. Project Healing Waters, under the direction of Heide Cebrick, was a great success and will continue in 2010. Vets were given the opportunity to learn the art of fly fishing through casting and tying classes held at the VA Medical Center in Wilkes-Barre. The participants of Project Healing Waters presented Heide and the chapter with certificates of appreciation.

Western Pocono Chapter #203

Alan Gregory, 570-401-3116, alanclarkg@gmail.com

P.O. Box 571, Conynham, PA 18219

An organizational meeting was scheduled for January 12. New officers were to be elected and an agenda set for 2010 to define leadership roles and discuss communications and fund-raising ideas.

bait users can also have an appreciation of our coldwater resources and the policies as set forth by TU.

NORTHCENTRAL CHAPTERS

A. Bradford - No. Tier 357
Columbia County 038
God's Country 327
Jim Zwald 314
Kettle Creek 151
Lloyd Wilson 224
Raymond B. Winter 124
Spring Creek 185
Susquehanna 044
Tiadaghton 688
Wood Duck 235

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Wayne Michael
901 E. Second St.
Nescopeck, PA 18635
E-mail: kodiakcoho0506@yahoo.com
Phone: 570-759-0022

Art Bradford-Northern Tier Chapter #357

Rich Neiley, 570-928-7820, neiley.rj@pg.com
R.R. 1, Box 82, Sugar Run, PA 18846

Last fall was non-eventful; our members were hunting. Several members enjoyed trips to Spring Creek and steelheading in the Erie area. The two Trout in the Classroom programs are doing great. Members taught the third grade class about life cycles and food webs.

Columbia County Chapter #038

Reg Wright, 570-784-6839, regw41@ptd.net
P.O. Box 364, Berwick, PA 18603

At our December meeting, Emily Gates presented a PowerPoint program explaining the goals of Trout in the Classroom. We are planning to start our first in 2010 with the Central Columbia Middle School. Our chapter had a booth at the Early Bird Sports Expo January 28-31 at the Bloomsburg Fairgrounds. We had fly-tying dem-

onstrations, raffles and other activities at the Expo. Monies raised from the raffles will go toward our Trout in the Classroom project. Ed Wytovich provided an update on the Catawissa Creek acid mine drainage remediation project. All three tunnels were to have their remediation systems up and running by the first of the year.

God's Country Chapter #327

Dr. Peter Ryan
814-274-8718, drflyfish@yahoo.com
820 Rt. 49, Coudersport, PA 16915

We have been real busy attending meetings and writing letters of comment and grant applications during this past quarter. Four of our chapter members regularly attend and participate on committees of the Potter County Marcellus Gas Task Force. We also commented as a chapter and helped write comments for the Water Quality Committee of the Potter County Conservation District to the Environmental Quality Board, concerning the proposed revisions to Chapter 102. We also commented as a chapter to the EQB on Chapter 95, DEP's new proposed regulations on wastewater. Chapter member Bob Volkmar worked with Deb Nardone in preparing grant applications to the Headwaters RC&D and to the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission to fund equipment and training for citizen volunteer water monitoring in the Sinnamahoning Creek watershed. We hope to help expand this into the Allegheny River and Pine Creek watersheds, as well. Every bit of our energy and efforts have been directed toward Marcellus gas and its potential to devastate Pennsylvania's clean, cold water.

Jim Zwald Chapter #314

Gary Pauline
814-781-7750, jgpauline@windstream.net
P.O. Box 695, St. Marys, PA 15857

The chapter partnered with the Bucktail Watershed Association to obtain funds to purchase monitoring equipment to monitor water quality in the Sinnamahoning Creek watershed and to provide volunteers to help.

Lloyd Wilson Chapter #224

Bill Bailey, 570-748-6120, wbailey@kcnet.org
Website: www.lwtu.org
14 Valley View Rd., Lock Haven, PA 17745

The chapter had a successful family banquet in November. We were honored to have PATU President Dave Rothrock in attendance. Bill Fletcher of the Northeast Fishery Center in Lamar presented a fine program on the many activities and projects that they're involved with. Dick Rogers was the recipient of our "in-chapter award" for his many

years of coordinating our fly-tying classes and his willingness to participate in any activity, project or meeting. The "out-of-chapter" award was presented to Tracy Silvis, for her involvement in the Jersey Shore Middle School Trout in the Classroom program. We are planning for our annual five-week fly-tying class, which will start in March. Our two Trout in the Classroom projects have had their eggs hatch, and the fry are doing well. We will again offer a partial scholarship to an area young person who is interested in attending the week-long TU environmental camp this summer. We had a litter pickup in our "adopted highway section" in the Narrows section along Big Fishing Creek.

Raymond B. Winter Chapter #124

Robert Laubach, 570-748-6120, oldfrstr@dejazzd.com
1535 Green Ridge Rd., Mifflinburg, PA 17844

The October meeting featured Pa. Game Commission Wildlife Conservation Officer Dirk Remensnyder, who updated us on the latest PGC issues and policy changes. November's meeting featured a member of the local Sierra Club, who detailed items of interest they were working on, including the Marcellus Shale exploration. The December meeting featured Bucknell University Geochemist Karl Kirby, who discussed the Marcellus Shale formation and possible hydrologic problems associated with the gas extraction. Trout in the Classroom at Mifflinburg High School is coming along fine.

Spring Creek Chapter #185

Judy Sittler, 814-861-3277, jlsittler@comcast.net
Website: www.springcreektu.org
108 Gas Light Circle, State College, PA 16801

September 2009 began another season of membership meetings. Allen Phillips has again put together a great schedule of speakers. In partnership with the Centre Region Department of Parks and Recreation, the chapter sponsors a First Cast Fly Fishing Camp, which will be held July 12-16 and July 19-23. Our primary fundraising event is our spring banquet, which will be held in March. We're planning for the 2010 season on our grants.

Susquehanna Chapter #044

Bob Spencer, 570-547-2094, bes12@alltel.net
Website: www.sqtu.org
235 W. Houston Ave., Montgomery, PA 17752

Local watershed organizations attended our January meeting and updated us on their 2009 projects. They also reported on their projects for 2010. Members of the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission attended the February meeting, and our March meeting was to be at the Montoursville High School. The students were to report on their Trout in the Classroom Program project. Our annual Trout Kickoff will be March 13-14 at the Williamsport YMCA's Pickelner Arena. We'll have plenty of activities for the kids and exhibitors. A member of the Waterdogs will present a program on their stream monitoring. Additionally, we will be setting a date to train members of the various watershed organizations, so they can help with the stream monitoring.

(Northcentral Reports continued on page 14)

CONSERVATION SERVICES, INC.

Rick Marquardt
Petroleum Engineer

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Clarks Summit, PA 18411
Email: rickmarquardt@att.net

Work: 570-586-0490
Cell: 570-335-7525
Fax: 570-586-0318

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Treasury Notes

by George Kutskel,
PATU Treasurer

We held the first meeting of State Council's new Development Committee, and we are going to be looking at a capital needs campaign, along with bringing in some sponsorships to some of our programs. It is very apparent that the kind of money needed to make these programs and others effective cannot and will not be funded with the sale of plates, leaders or any other items. It will take much larger amounts of money than any of the fund-raisers of the past.

We have needs for a youth coordinator, along with someone to stay on top of and work with our chapters on the Marcellus Shale development. Even the day-to-day running of TU in Pennsylvania is becoming a full-time position. In other words, as was told to us in our planning process, we have a growing need for staff.

Emily Gates is finishing up her second year of being our Trout in the Classroom coordinator. Unfortunately, she cannot serve a third, and for us to be able to continue this program we need to at least have an intern. We funded the program for last two years with a donation and a raffle. We are going to have another raffle to help offset the cost going into year three. This not the method we want to use to fund our major needs, but without someone running the Trout in the Classroom program, we would need to shut it down, and that is unacceptable at this time.

So how can you help? Simple. If you have a background in fund-raising or know of companies that may want to sponsor one of our programs, call or email me. Or, better yet, join the Development Committee. Make a gift to State Council; earmark where you would like it to go. Like I said, we are going to be having a capital campaign later this year, so why not beat the rush? Finally support the current efforts of council -- buy the plates, leader or patches and, yes, the raffle tickets.



Donations to Pa. Council for Calendar Year 2010

Tiadaghton Chapter
Your chapter name not here? Make a donation today!

* * *

Donations to Pa. Council for calendar year 2009

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Doc Fritchey Chapter
Iron Furnace Chapter
Oil Creek Chapter
Hokendaqua Chapter
Spring Creek Chapter
Forks of the Delaware Chapter
Muddy Creek Chapter
Penns Creek
Bucks County
Valley Forge Chapter
Neshannock Chapter
Seneca Chapter
Stan Cooper Chapter
Cumberland Valley Chapter
John Kennedy Chapter
Mountain Laurel Chapter

* * *

Donations by Individuals for Calendar Year 2009

Richard Budihias; Charles Jones
In Memory of James Guggie -- Kelly Binkley
In Memory of John Huston -- Eileen Quinn; Thomas and Karen Moxie; Carol Croll; R.L Croll; C.S. and Mona Fossee; Rhoda Lesh; David and Kimberly Riley.

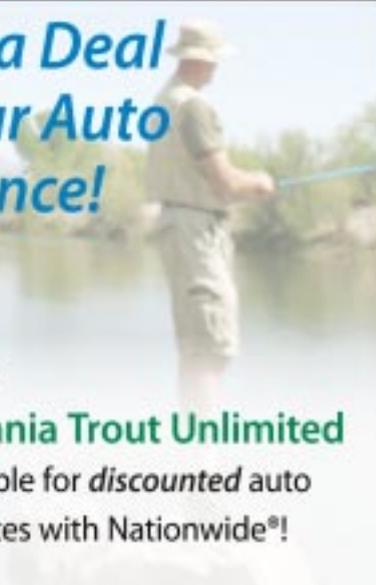
* * *

The Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited would like to thank the above people for their generosity and to let them know that all funds will be used to further our conservation message. Please note that all donations received "In Memory Of" go into a special account for habitat projects throughout Pennsylvania, unless we are told differently.

-- George Kutskel, PATU Treasurer



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Send your order, along with a check payable to "PATU" to George Kutskel, 107 Simmons Street, Dubois, PA 15801. Please be sure to add 6% sales tax and specify type and size required.

Northcentral Reports, from page 13

Tiadaghton Chapter #688

Larry Harris, 814-628-2123
wildbrookies@verizon.net
316 Jemison Rd., Westfield, PA 16950

Several of our members have expressed interest in doing a "Project Healing Waters" program, so we have formed a committee to initiate this program in the coming year. At our annual Christmas Social and meeting on Dec. 7, at the Wellsboro House restaurant, several members were acknowledged personally for their past year's contribution of volunteer hours, overall participation and willingness to lead. They were George Schuler - Outstanding Volunteer of the Year, Bill Paulmier, Keven Hoferer, Ed Vandergrift, Jim Horton and Mark Bixby.

We held our January membership meeting in the classroom of our Trout in the Classroom teacher, Melanie Berndstom, at Wellsboro High School. We have started to sell tickets for our annual "Blast N Cast" raffle, with the drawing to be held at our Spring Banquet on March 20, at the Penn Wells Hotel in Wellsboro. Jonas Price of the Feathered Hook will be our guest speaker at the banquet. The chapter is conducting three free fly-tying workshops this winter at the Wellsboro Community Center. We are calling the events "Flies and Lies," where members and non-members can come together and share fly-tying info, techniques and patterns, tell "lies" of their fishing exploits and triumphs, and swap materials and gently used equipment.

We are planning to continue work on Asaph Run in Tioga State Forest next summer, with the reconstruction of a new jack dam, with the aid of the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission and DCNR-Forestry personnel. Next summer we will be doing a habitat improvement project on Marsh Creek near Ansonia, which was made possible by a grant we received in 2009 from the North Central PA Conservancy. We will also apply for a grant to do additional work on another local stream through the conservancy. Our chapter received an award plaque and \$200 check from the Tioga County Conservation District in November, recognizing Tiadaghton TU as Conservation Organization of the Year.

We had several members comment at the recent DEP meeting in Williamsport in support of tougher standards for Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) in water and water treatment of frac water related to the Marcellus Shale gas well drilling. Our members are alarmed by the amount of gas well activity in our region and are intent on limiting the amount of damage caused by the drilling activity. We have seen a recent plan from the DCNR/DEP as to where they will be drilling in Tioga State Forest and Susquehannock State Forest. Gas well drilling will be conducted in the headwaters of several tributaries to Pine Creek and some of the best wild trout streams in our area. The Babb Creek Watershed Association has offered to help us fund another Trout in the Classroom Project, with a donation of \$500. Babb Creek member, Bill Beacom, contacted us and is asking us to apply for a grant from State Council to initiate a Trout in the Classroom program with teacher Jennifer McCarthy of Southern Tioga School District.

NORTHWEST CHAPTERS
Allegheny Mountain 036
Caldwell Creek 437
Cornplanter 526
Iron Furnace 288
Neshannock 216
Northwest PA 041
Oil Creek 424
Seneca 272

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Tom Buser
12029 Route 62
Tidioute, PA 16351
E-mail: tttrout@zoominternet.net
Phone: 814-484-3856

Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036

George Kutskel, 814-371-9290, maksak@comcast.net
Website: www.amctu.org
107 Simmons St., Dubois, PA 15801

We started our fly-tying classes on January 6, and they ran through February. Our January meeting was an update on Marcellus Shale gas production in our area. In February, we had Dave Rothrock as our speaker, and March will feature our fly-tying roundtable. We plan to have our 2nd annual fly-tying expo and casting clinic, to be held at the DuBois Mall in late March. Our 44th annual banquet will be held April 10, at the DuBois Country Club. Youth Chairman Eric Wilson contacted all the schools in the Trout in the Classroom program in late September to make sure that everything was good to go for the new school year. Eric and Sam Sleigh traveled to Benner Springs to help Emily Gates and Ameidea Daniels package the fish food for all the schools involved in Trout in the Classroom. The chapter now has six classrooms in five school districts. Board member Matt Marusiak suggested we look into having the "Water Dog" training so that members who are concerned with Marcellus gas production would have the proper training to know if there were problems, and it was agreed to have him look into having the chapter host this training. Ken Undercoffer gave a report of a possible issue that occurred on private land adjacent to the Moshannon State Forest, in the Trout Run watershed. According to reports, operators drilling several Marcellus wells in the area have impacted one stream and a spring. DCNR and the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission have told us that it's under investigation. President George Kutskel, Ken Undercoffer and Eric Wilson attended a meeting updating the chapter on work that the Bureau of Abandoned Mines was doing to determine how much water was coming from the Fran Contracting site in Clinton County, affecting Cooks Run. We have been working for the last six years to restore the

Camp and Rock Run watersheds to reclaim almost 5 miles of Cooks Run. After spending over \$350,000.00, it now looks like the only way to solve the problem is to re-mine the site and add alkaline material to neutralize the acid drainage. We are waiting to hear from the Bureau of Abandoned Mines on how the test drilling turned out and when the project will move forward. Lee Simpson Engineering completed the drawings of the settling pond for our acid mine drainage treatment at the DuBois Mall, on Sandy Lick Creek. George gave a PowerPoint presentation at the October meeting on the various treatments that we looked at and how they would work. Last year several members toured the different sites to look at how they worked and what some of the issues were. Dr. Colson Blakeslee continued to get the application to the Office of Surface Mining and the landowners' agreement together, so we can get DEP to release the Growing Greener grant that we have for this project.

Caldwell Creek Chapter #437

Thomas Savko, 814-664-2124; tksavko2@verizon.net
Website: www.caldwellcreektu.com
P.O. Box 16, 10 Erie St., Columbus, PA 16405

We have three Trout in the Classroom programs this year, two in the Corry Area School District and one at the Union City School. All indications are this will grow again next year. Our annual fly-tying classes will be held at the Corry Higher Education Building starting early March and ending mid-April. It was a quiet fall for chapter activities, but the fishing was great!

Cornplanter Chapter #526

Gary Kell, 814-723-4689, garyffc1@verizon.net
100 Biddle St., Warren, PA 16365

Planning has started on the Trout and Clean Streams Expo, scheduled for April 10. This is our major fundraiser and community educational event. Not only do we collect more funds to help support our environmental work, but we also provide an opportunity for the community to attend field trips to learn about the projects and issues that TU addresses in the local area. After a successful 2009 completing four projects on Morrison Run, our priority watershed, the chapter is looking forward to more in 2010. Two grants were completed and submitted to deal with a culvert crossing on Morrison Run that is a barrier to migration of fish and aquatic life. Plans are to replace it with a bridge. This project was identified under the WINs Coalition watershed review. Several partners are coming together to support this project. Our goal is to complete it in 2010. We plan to continue the Morrison Run habitat improvement started in 2009 with the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission and build another two to four in-stream structures. Trout in the Classroom is going strong in four schools. TU grants are being completed to help these teachers and the chapter continue this great youth education project.

(continued on page 16)

Northwest Reports, from page 15

**Iron Furnace
Chapter #288**

Mark Orlic, 814-226-4493, clarionfish73@verizon.net
Website: www.ironfurnacetu.org
P.O. Box 324, Clarion, PA 16214

We held our annual fly-tying clinic February 20, February 27 and March 6, at the Brookville Borough building. Bill Kodrich and Mark Hanes coordinated the event. At our December meeting/Christmas party, Deb Nardone gave a very interesting presentation on the consequences of Marcellus Shale drilling in Pennsylvania. Thanks, Deb, for doing a great job and for spending some time with us during this busy season. The chapter banquet will be held at St Joseph's Church in Lucinda, on April 10. Chapter members participated in the semi-annual cleanup of Piney Creek and the adjacent two-mile stretch of road in Limestone, in early October. A local scrap dealer removed several loads of metal and other debris from between Piney Creek and the highway, so the land is now looking much better. Next spring we plan to continue restoring the area between the creek and highway by planting trees and other vegetation down to the riparian zone.

Neshannock Chapter #216

Jeff Kremis, 724-588-4378
bentley48@neo.rr.com
Website: www.neshannock-tu.org
48 Bentley Ave., Greenville, PA 16125

Our annual fundraising banquet will be March 20 at the Radisson Hotel in West Middlesex. We are selling raffle tickets for a 40-inch Sony HDTV; tickets are \$5 each and are available from any board member, and at the Neshannock Creek Fly Shop. The silt problem on Wolf Creek has been addressed, which will permit us to hold a youth fishing derby this spring after a one-year hiatus. We held a winter workday for January 30 on Big Run, in New Castle, to finish a mud sill that had been started by another group, but needs to be completed before spring. The annual spring cleanup on the Coolspring Creek Delayed Harvest Artificial Lures Only area will be held in early April, and the third and final stage of stream improvement on Deer Creek will be completed with the construction of two vane deflectors on a workday to be held August 28. We are currently planning to start our first Trout in the Classroom program in the Hermitage School District. We are going to restart our stream quality monitoring program with macroinvertebrate testing training to be held in the May/June time frame.

Perkiomen Valley Chapter #332

Barry Edwards, 215-820-5373, bredwards1@aol.com
Website: www.pvtu.net
P.O. Box 730, Green Lane, PA 18054

The chapter sold raffle tickets to raise money for its Trout in the Classroom program and other conservation activities. The 1st prize (mahogany fly-tying desk) was donated by chapter member Ken Tiejens, a master cabinetmaker. Other prizes included Orvis rods/reels and flies. In November we planted trees along Hosensack Creek. The Hosensack is one of the two main focus areas for the chapter at this time. The other area of focus is the West Branch of Perkiomen Creek. We have completed two of three sites for a three-year habitat improvement project that is partially funded by the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission. The chapter has been active in Trout in the Classroom with Perkiomen Valley and Spring-Ford school districts. The program has been well received with great enthusiasm in the schools.

Tulpehocken Chapter #150

Gene Markle, 610-621-2548, 69pony@comcast.net
Website: www.tullytu.org
323 St. Charles St., Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

Our chapter sponsored students again this year in the Don Hartman School. We also provided sponsorship for the Tom Snyder scholarship, which was awarded to James How, Jr. Chapter members helped with the fall stocking in the Delayed Harvest section of Tulpehocken Creek, by providing manpower and float boxes. The Nolde Forest project scheduled for last fall has been re-scheduled for the spring of 2010. Money has been approved for an upper Tulpehocken project, but the project will not be completed until the chapter has money in hand.

SOUTHEAST CHAPTERS

Bucks County 254
Delco Manning 320
Perkiomen Valley 332
Schuylkill County 537
SE Montgomery Co. 468
Tulpehocken 150
Valley Forge 290

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

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Phone: 570-704-8764

Bucks County Chapter

Ed Harrington, 215-260-6640, edlickflyfish@comcast.net
Web site: www.buckstu.org
781 Philadelphia Ave., Warrington, PA 18976

The chapter added another school, MacDonald Elementary in Warminster, to our growing list of Trout in the Classroom projects. In January, we held our annual Conservation Auction, in which members donate items to raise money specifically for stream restoration projects.

The chapter will be holding its 18th annual Conservation/ Fund-raiser Banquet on March 20 at "Chefs on the Run," in Chalfont. This past summer we finished up another project on Cook's Creek, with 100 feet of stream bank stabilization and the planting of 250-plus trees and shrubs. On Watson Creek in Buckingham Township, we finished up a project on November 21 with the planting of more than a thousand native trees and shrubs as riparian buffer. This planting marked the culmination of a grant received from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The project included the removal of a dam to increase fish passage, stabilization of 450 feet of eroding stream bank to reduce siltation, and establishment of 1,500 feet of forested riparian buffer to reduce water temperature and enhance trout habitat.

**Delco-Manning Chapter
#320**

David Wharton, 610-583-2920,
davidwharton@verizon.net
Website: www.dmtu.org
Chapter: P.O. Box 183,
Media, PA 19063

The chapter held its annual trout stocking on November 7, in which the club stocked over 300 brown, rainbow and brook trout throughout the fly-fishing-only section of Ridley Creek.

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primarily for consumption. We do believe, however, that creel and size limits need to be tailored more closely to the preservation and enhancement of wild trout populations.

Valley Forge Chapter #290

Jim Nelson, 610-458-5065, jwnelson39@verizon.net
Website: www.valleyforgetu.org
424 Vineyard Lane, Downingtown, PA 19335

Members of the board, in conjunction with our local watershed group, updated our plan for the Valley Creek watershed. The priority projects for 2010 were defined and the next major tributary project outlined. Fred Gender, a member of our board, was elected to the position of SE regional VP for the state council. John Johnson, a board member, was recognized for his ongoing support for environmental issues in Chester County and had a new nature center named in his honor. We held our annual Clean Streams Raffle and netted over \$2,000 for the chapter. A Growing Greener grant was applied for to reduce storm water runoff from the top of the Valley Creek watershed. A proposed bioretention basin will be installed to mitigate runoff from a 4-acre high school practice field. We completed a planting project to restore shrubs and trees to improve the ripar-

ian zone in the Crabby Creek watershed. The plant community was inventoried, canopy gaps were identified, and a plan was developed that called for planting more than 320 trees and shrubs, plus the installation of over 20 separate deer exclosures. A total of 39 volunteers from our chapter, Cabrini College students and professors, interns from Valley Forge National Historic Park and others participated in six work days to complete the plan. We attended the Lehigh Valley forum on discharge standards proposed by the DEP. The testimony by various individuals and Brian Wagner from PATU State Council was impressive and highlighted the many risks and concerns over the current and proposed gas drilling operations. Clearly, this is a disaster that is happening now and will only get worse without intervention. We have set up a meeting with our state senator to discuss our views and gain his support to stop issuing permits until standards are reviewed and implemented. Hopefully we can expand this conversation to our state representatives and the members of our community.

the shoreline improvements along the Yellow Breeches. We are again offered fly-tying classes, which began January 21, and our annual bus trip to Somerset, New Jersey, for the January 23 fly-fishing show. We're discussing finding a suitable method of removing invasive weeds from the Letort. Our "feet in the stream gang," along with students from Cumberland Valley High School, chaired by Gene Giza and supervised by Jim Hutcheson, planted 94 trees at the site of the removed Spangler Mill Dam on the Yellow Breeches as an initial step in providing a riparian buffer. The same group performed remediation work in the run below the dam at Children's Lake in Boiling Springs, raked gravel, along with cleanup on the Letort to aid spawning, performed maintenance at our Vince's and Trego's Meadows properties, and placed "no fishing" signs in spawning sections of the Letort. The construction of a dam with an adjustable weir to control the flow in the run mentioned previously was completed and is performing as desired.

SOUTHCENTRAL CHAPTERS

Adams County 323

Codorus 558

Cumberland Valley 052

Doc Fritchey 108

Donegal 037

Falling Spring 234

Muddy Creek 575

Penns Creek 119

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

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Phone: 717-732-5050

Adams County Chapter #323

Mike Hossler, 717-578-5716, mah34530@hotmail.com
8665 Presidents Dr., Hummelstown, PA 17036

After coming off a year of lots of stream restoration, the chapter is shifting gears for its biggest fundraiser. This fund-raiser funds the chapter's stream restoration work throughout the entire county, Trout in the Classroom and youth education. This year's banquet will be held March 20, at the Irishtown Fire Hall. It will include a meal, live and silent auctions (with 75% of merchandise donated from local donors in the county), and bucket raffles. Last summer, the chapter partnered with the Adams County Conservation District and Gettysburg High School for Trout in the Classroom, and in November their eggs successfully hatched into fry.

Codorus Chapter #558

Tom Feninez, 717-817-8446, tom@codorustu.org
Website: www.codorustu.org
Chapter: P.O. Box 194, Spring Grove, PA 17362

Our December meeting focused on planning for 2010. Key tasks were assigned to each of the chapter's core members. Among the key focus areas are items such as chapter-wide communication; access and landowner relations; current stream biology, stream and bank cleaning and improvement; and threats from a sewer plant and indiscriminate railroad maintenance. The chapter will approach the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission to request an electroshocking survey this season. The goal is to have a snapshot of the trout population prior to the construction of the Jefferson/Codorus sewage treatment plant. We are also looking into having a comprehensive water quality and invertebrate study done for the same reason. Due to the presence of Didymo in the nearby Gunpowder River in Maryland, we are posting informational signs and considering wader wash stations at several popular parking areas along the Codorus. A local watershed restoration company has been scheduled to walk the stream with us to identify potential project areas for 2010 and beyond. We will be contacting two potential candidates for this year's TU Rivers Conservation Camp.

Cumberland Valley Chapter #052

Chet Hagenbarth, 717-218-0283, kcjk@embarqmail.com
Website: www.homestead.com/cvtu
Chapter: P.O. Box 520, Carlisle, PA 17013

Our chapter has been busy addressing a number of issues, including monitoring the progress of plans to upgrade the Letort Nature Trail, the five Trout in the Classroom projects, and the proposed widening of the I-81 bridge over the Letort. We met with PADot to review the plans and convinced them to remove the scuppers that allowed contaminated roadway drainage to fall directly into the Letort. We also had discussions with South Middleton Township to begin the process of planning

Doc Fritchey Chapter #108

Frank Viozzi, 717-566-7920, frvioz@comcast.net
Website: www.dftu.org
Chapter: P.O. Box 6592, Harrisburg, PA 17112

The major portions of two meetings were spent updating our strategic plan. We made significant changes with regard to expectations of leaders, from officers and board members to committee chairs and stream stewards. We will require each officer to sit on a committee. Committee chairs are expected to report on a monthly basis. Stream stewards are expected to be part of the budget process and to champion at least one project on their stream on an annual basis. We set goals for committees and activities. Several persons are being overwhelmed with responsibility and we discussed reorganization of certain activities/positions. The vice president will maintain the metrics resulting from reports/activities. Much thought went into strategies to recruit members into a more active posture. We elected officers and board members at the September Annual Meeting. Our Banquet/Fundraising Committee has begun work for our annual conservation banquet, to be held March 27 at the Linglestown Fire Company facility. Work continues on a new, passive treatment system on Rausch Creek, and we have had meetings with the Pennsylvania National Guard, who seem willing to transport limestone sand into remote locations by helicopter. Delivery of the material to the more remote sites will improve our acid remediation efficiency. We will do restoration work on Manada Creek and hope to partner with our Conservation District on a monitoring program on Clark's Creek.

Donegal Chapter #037

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Chapter: P.O. Box 8001, Lancaster, PA 17604

On October 9, 1,500 four to five-inch brown trout were delivered to a section of the Lititz Run, by Cedar Springs Trout Hatchery. About 20 volunteers fin-clipped the fish, supervised by Dr. Bob Bachman, and they were
(continued on page 18)



Southcentral Reports, from page 17

stocked in a section of the stream closed to fishing. This section of Lititz Run had been relocated in 2004, and this experiment will see if a wild population of trout can become established in the run. This new "stream bed" has matured, with undercut banks, deep holes and aquatic vegetation, which should give these fish a better chance for survival. The stream will be shocked in 2010 to see the results of the experiment. A class of 15 Elizabethtown College students attended a session on the environment at Millport Conservancy, in November. This was the third field trip in 2009 for that program. Trout Unlimited and the Millport Conservancy jointly conduct this event for that college course. Our Octoberfest banquet was held at the Four Seasons facility on October 21. The meeting was also our yearly awards banquet for outstanding service to the chapter. Awards were presented to Tim Suloff, Chuck Elmer, Mark McMaster, Bob Albright and Dee Lehman. Exelon Power has presented a \$10,000 donation to fund the Fishing Creek (Valley Lea) project, scheduled for completion in June, 2010. This stream restoration has been designed by the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission and will be implemented by their team and a local excavator. As requested by DEP, the chapter has formally adopted the 2006 Conowingo Creek TMDL Implementation Plan for guiding the installation of BMPs (best management practices) to improve water quality in Conowingo Creek. The final plan for the Weaver property on Conowingo Creek by Rettew Associates should be completed shortly, and we have applied for a \$383,000 grant for that section of stream. The final Climbers Run restoration plan for two Amish farms near Marticville will be completed in December by the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This extensive project is planned for 2010 completion, and we are seeking funding for this ambitious undertaking, which requires the stream to be relocated in two areas.

Muddy Creek Chapter #575

Maurice Chioda, 717-747-5613, muddycreektu@comcast.net
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771 St. Johns Place, Dallastown, PA 17313

Chapter elections were held, but with no interest from the membership, the same people have to do it again. We designed and ordered our new collector's patch. The chapter worked with the Watershed Alliance of York to select a contractor for the Pine Run Growing Greener II project grant, which was awarded last summer.

Penns Creek Chapter #119

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The chapter's two Trout in the Classroom programs are proceeding very well. In October we had Deb Nardone from Coldwater Heritage present a PowerPoint program on "Water Quality and Pennsylvania Stream Designations." She also updated the chapter on Trout in the Classroom programs around the state. In November, John Varner, District Mining Manager from the Ebensburg office of DEP, gave a presentation on the work DEP has done with two quarry operations in Mifflin County, which are suspected of causing water quality

SOUTHWEST CHAPTERS

Arrowhead 214
Chestnut Ridge 670
Forbes Trail 206
Fort Bedford 291
John Kennedy 045
Ken Sink 053
Mountain Laurel 040
Penn's Woods West 042

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Chuck Winters
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Arrowhead Chapter #214

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Arrowhead's sole fund-raising activity is its annual banquet held in mid-March of each year at the C.U. Club, in Ford City. Chapter members are actively soliciting prizes for the banquet. The chapter has decided to pursue a Delayed Harvest Artificial Lures Only project on Plum Creek, in Armstrong County, dependent on final approval from various local landowners. The chapter anticipates partnering with a local school district, relative to its application for a Trout in the Classroom grant for the coming year. If approved by PATU, this school will be the chapter's third such initiative. The November election resulted in retention of the four chapter officers. The chapter is applying for the \$5,000 Pa. Fish and Boat Commission grant to introduce our youth to the outdoors, and especially to fishing. The chapter anticipates sponsorship of a local youth to the TU Rivers Conservation Camp, pending approval of his application.

issues on Honey Creek. The presentation included photos of the remediation projects the quarries have completed, along with handouts for the members. We are hoping to do a fly-tying class again in 2010. The chapter's banquet is March 27, at the Belleville Mennonite School. This year's speaker will be Ed Nicholson, founder of Project Healing Waters. The chapter has asked Ed to invite a few of the veterans along to attend the banquet. The chapter is still working to get some action on the needed cleanup on Poe Creek, due to the siltation issue. Dan Dunmire from the Mifflin County Conservation District informed the chapter of three fencing projects in the district. We are hoping to become more involved with the activities of the Conservation District in the future.

Chestnut Ridge Chapter #670

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85 Valley View Dr., Washington, PA 15301

The chapter is sponsoring three Trout in the Classroom Projects, in the Geibel, Uniontown and Turkeyfoot school districts. We look forward to hearing the adventures that will be forthcoming from these schools regarding their Trout in the Classroom projects. The chapter's annual fund-raising banquet will be held Saturday, March 20, at the Holiday Inn in Uniontown. The litter pickup along Dunbar Creek is tentatively scheduled for early April. Although the amount of litter along Dunbar Creek seems to decrease each year, there is always litter that needs to be picked up. We spend the morning picking up litter and then go fishing in the afternoon. Remember, many hands make light work. Jonathan Run – The chapter has requested a public meeting because we have serious concerns that the proposed NPDES permit limits from the permanent treatment facility are not stringent enough to restore Jonathan Run to its Exceptional Value (EV) designated use, which included a native brook trout population. According to the DEP, the public meeting will be held in early 2010. Morgan Run – The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy is preparing a grant application to fund an assessment of the fish and macroinvertebrate populations in Morgan Run. This could be the first step in reestablishing a native brook trout population in Morgan Run. However, all of our past work and future plans could be for naught if Amerikohl's appeal to reverse the Fayette County Zoning Hearing Board's denial of Amerikohl's request for a special exception for a strip mine is granted. Laurel Hill Creek Water Resources Management Plan – Work is continuing on the Water Resource Management Plan and the Land Use Component. Meetings took place with seven townships/boroughs. Some of the municipalities are interested in hearing more about zoning; some are not. All of them are concerned about the water and the lack thereof, overdevelopment pressures and gas wells. The new gauge was installed at Laurel Hill State Park. In Kooser State Park, 8 feet of quarry sediment were removed from the lake, and the quarry has submitted a permit to the DEP to expand its operations. The public hearings for nomination of a Critical Water Planning area have been concluded. Eight groups testified on behalf

Southwest Reports, from page 18

of Laurel Hill Creek. **Dunbar Creek Corridor Assessment Project** – Unfortunately, the chapter's application to the Richard King Mellon Foundation for funding of Potential Project Site 14 to improve fish habitat was denied. The chapter is trying to identify another source of funding. **Glade Run** – The chapter is cautiously optimistic that its Grower Greener Grant application for future alkaline sand additions and monitoring will be funded. **Nursery** – The chapter received a \$2,500 grant from the Fayette County Tourism Board to defray the costs of operating the nursery. Additionally, a \$5,000 grant application was submitted to the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission to reimburse the chapter for recent upgrades to the trout nursery.

Forbes Trail Chapter #206

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Chapter: P.O. Box 370, Youngstown, PA 15696

The chapter is hard at work informing citizens groups and concerned individuals about the water-related issues of Marcellus Shale drilling. Using information from the annual State Council meeting, we've developed a PowerPoint presentation, presented it at our October meeting and have begun outreach. We are finally noticing local interest after the first well site suddenly appeared in our area. Chapter Director Russ Mason, a 35-year TU member listed in PA Council's history as a "Lion; People Who Made the PA Council What It Is Today," is setting the example of backbone and conscience for younger members new to the conservation fight. We are also working with the Chestnut Ridge Chapter to provide leadership input to the new DCNR Laurel Ridge Comprehensive Interpretive Plan that will prioritize the resources and programs of our local state parks and forests. This plan gives us a structure to better influence DCNR funding priority decisions, a major concern after our closest state park, Linn Run, was listed for possible closure during the last state budget debate. We concluded our 2009 Youth Group program with a fun weekend steelhead fishing trip to Elk Creek, in Erie County. This is always the highlight of the program, but requires an enormous amount of planning and logistics by Drew Banas, a chapter director and executive director of our close chapter partner, the Loyalhanna Watershed Association. Planning is underway for our annual banquet, Saturday, March 6, at the Latrobe American Legion.

Fort Bedford Chapter #291

Derrick Miller, 814-276-3606, patroutchaser@yahoo.com
110 Mock Cemetery Rd., Osterburg, PA 16667

At our "Member Fly Tying Gathering," two things were accomplished. We tied flies for this year's TU Rivers Conservation Camp and prepared our chapter tying materials and equipment for our 14th annual fly-tying classes, which started January 16. The free classes are open to the public. They are held at the Bedford County Conservation District office, through March. We are selling Back the Brookie license plates and 50th Anniversary TU pins, from Lansing, Michigan, TU.

John Kennedy Chapter #045

Jerry Green, 814-934-7046, jgreen51@embarqmail.net
605 Walnut St., Roaring Spring, PA 16673

Trout in the Classroom at Saint Benedict and Altoona junior high schools is progressing. Normal mortality rates are taking place. The chapter's winter fly-tying classes are January 9 and 23, February 6 and 20, March 6 and 20, and April 3. A fly-tying roundtable took place at the Methodist Church in Roaring Spring, on January 14 and 21. Ed Thompson and Randy Buchanan taught the sessions. The chapter will attend the Jaffa Sport Show. Fly sales and a rod raffle for a bamboo rod will be used to raise money for chapter activities. We plan stream work this summer on Mary Anns Creek and Popular Run.

Ken Sink Chapter #053

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Website: www.kensinktu.org
750 E. Pike Rd., Indiana, PA 15701

The chapter has a new website/blog, and it can be viewed at <http://kensick.blogspot.com/>. One of the major goals this year is to improve communications between the chapter and its members. To accomplish this, an e-mail listserv was created, as well as the website. Next year's slate of membership activities are set. On January 12, Mike Heck visited to talk about fishing spring creeks. February 9 was our annual Fly Tying Roundtable event. May 11 is our annual macroinvertebrate survey on Little Mahoning Creek and Cessna Run. Last October, about 700 brown trout fingerlings were released into Two Lick Creek from efforts of the Two Lick Anglers, in partnership with the chapter. We have committed a \$500 donation per year that will go toward this stocking. Thanks to Dan Cardellino for setting up this effort to improve the fishing on Two Lick Creek. March 27 is our annual fundraising banquet. In the fall, members completed maintenance on the dirt and gravel road mine belt diversions located in the Cessna Run watershed. The Phase II project on Bear Run started in January with removal of onsite mine refuse. After removal, a large flow discharge will be treated, 20 acres of abandoned mine lands will be reclaimed, and about 1,000 feet of stream bank will be restored. The chapter is a partner in this effort with the Indiana County Conservation District and the Susquehanna River Basin Commission.

Mountain Laurel Chapter #040

Randy Buchanan, 814-467-4034, prbfish4fun@aol.com
Website: www.mltu.org
1745 Regal Dr., Johnstown, PA 15904

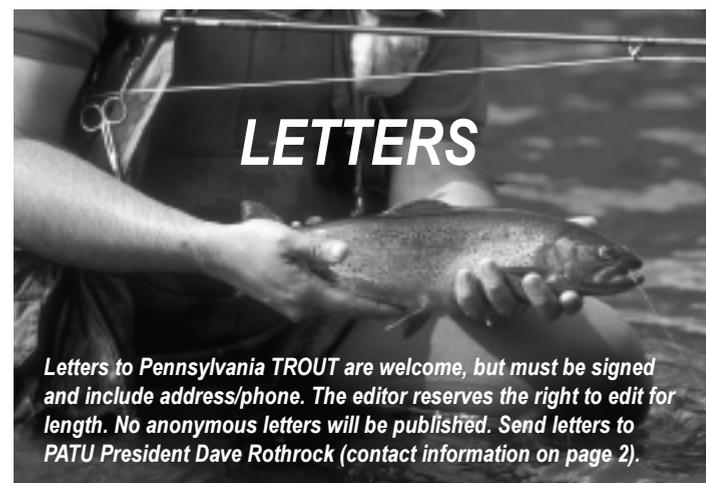
Our website, www.mltu.org, has been completely re-done and is up and running in its new format. Updates will be up on it quarterly, and the chapter is hoping to have fly photos and more user information upcoming in the spring. The chapter will be hosting Ed Engle at Rizzo's Restaurant, featuring his presentation on "Catching Difficult Trout." If you want to spend an evening with a national author and fly fisherman and enjoy some great food, call Randy for tickets and details. The chapter banquet will be

held at the Holiday Inn Johnstown, on March 20. The chapter, in partnership with the Yellow Creek Coalition, will offer a 1-in-250 chance for a day of fishing with Charlie Meck, as a fund-raiser for the Yellow Creek Coalition. For chances on a signed book and a day with Charlie, call Randy for tickets and details. After years of bank stabilization projects, the chapter is awaiting permits to finish up work on the Benscreek project. Check the website for workdays and updates on this project. The bridge and parking lot are ready to go on Yellow Creek. The Yellow Creek Coalition has built the new bridge and access area, and it is now open and ready for the upcoming fishing season. Trout in the Classroom has been a huge success locally. The chapter has assisted Missy Reckner of the Kiski-Conemaugh Stream Team, as she has moved the program into six schools. Missy's efforts have been second to none in spearheading this wonderful program, and the board is indebted to her for her efforts. Students in North Star, Berlin-Brothers Valley, Forest Hills, Shade-Central City, Conemaugh Township and Penn Cambria school districts have learned the needs of trout and how habitat is critical to survival. Missy, chapter members and the teachers are teaching our region's children the natural cycle of a trout stream.

Penns Woods West Chapter #042

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Website: www.pwwtu.org
1615 Powers Run Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15238

Our monthly meetings have been well attended. In November, John Hayes, Outdoor Editor of the Pittsburgh Post Gazette, gave a presentation on the direction and challenges facing the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission. Our annual chapter trip to Spring Creek is scheduled for the second Saturday in June. Prior to the trip, our fly-fishing seminar for new anglers will be held in mid-March, at St. Bedes in Pittsburgh. Both are organized by Bob Buk. Our winter fly sale and bamboo rod raffle were a success. All items were donated by chapter members. Our Cabin Fever Show was Sunday, March 7, at the Sheraton Four Points in Cranberry. George Daniel, Jeff Turner and Dwight Landis were the featured speakers. We continue to work on the local Pine Creek, with a major workday scheduled for next fall.



Letters to Pennsylvania TROUT are welcome, but must be signed and include address/phone. The editor reserves the right to edit for length. No anonymous letters will be published. Send letters to PATU President Dave Rothrock (contact information on page 2).

REVISED ENVIRONMENTAL, TROUT MANAGEMENT POLICIES

To guide and determine future decisions of its council and its chapters, PATU committees have authored, over several years, 13 policies covering environmental and trout management concerns. Each policy simply expresses how we should go about things, as well as our recommendations to state and federal agencies for managing and preserving our coldwater fisheries and their environments. All 13 policies will be published in Pennsylvania TROUT (below is the list of published policies and the issue in which they appeared). These are more than guidelines; they are the policies we expect chapters to go by. At the same time, we welcome any suggestions for change. Our charge is to review, and update if warranted, each policy every three years. But there's lots more to it than that. I hope you will read the policies as they come down the pike, with the idea of learning something about aquatic resources and how to conserve and enhance them. I know we all learned a lot in putting them together, and we hope you will too. -- Ed Bellis, TU Environmental Committee

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited POLICY ON TROUT MANAGEMENT

Pennsylvania's 10,000-plus Trout Unlimited members regard trout, salmon, and their habitats as their badge of identification. Their interests are broad enough to embrace all aspects of aquatic ecosystems: water quality, water quantity, acid precipitation, influences of forestry and agricultural practices, point and non-point sources of pollution, wetlands, riparian corridors, land use and management practices, stocking policy, regulations to restore wild trout populations and all other related factors which affect salmonid populations and the waters they inhabit.

For these reasons, the long-term goal of PA Trout -- A State Council of Trout Unlimited -- is the following:

Preserve and enhance wild trout populations, coldwater habitat and diverse recreational angling opportunity for wild Pennsylvania salmonids.

This goal establishes a broad foundation for developing future policies, actions, and recommendations by PA Trout. In order to achieve this goal, PA Trout has adopted the following, which more explicitly sets forth the policies of this organization regarding trout fisheries throughout Pennsylvania.

Policy #1 - Wild Trout Protect, restore and enhance wild trout stocks and promote self-sustaining populations wherever possible.

Policy #2 - Native Brook Trout Brook trout are Pennsylvania's only native stream-dwelling salmonid. Protecting existing native populations requires special considerations and management policies to assure healthy and sustainable populations of this species.

Policy #3 - Coldwater Habitat Habitats currently providing healthy, wild trout populations should be protected from degradation. They should be restored and improved in those situations where they have been degraded. The aquatic biota of coldwater ecosystems should be conserved, adequate water quantity and quality assured, and environmentally sound land use fostered on a watershed basis.

Policy #4 - Hatchery Trout Hatchery-reared trout provide valuable recreational fishing for Pennsylvania anglers. Adult-sized hatchery trout should be stocked only in those waters in which such stocking will have no detrimental effect on existing wild trout populations or the ability to restore wild trout populations. Streams should be stocked with hatchery trout only if it has been determined that such streams are unable to support self-sustaining wild trout populations.

These guidelines should apply to all stocking programs including cooperative nurseries and private stockings within the Commonwealth. Fingerling stocking is preferable to 'put-

and-take' stocking in situations where natural reproduction cannot be sustained because of limited or non-existing spawning habitat but where conditions are otherwise suitable for sustaining year-round trout populations.

Policy #5 - Overharvest Notwithstanding the inherent natural annual variability of wild trout populations resulting from climatic fluctuations and other environmental insults, Pennsylvania trout considers overharvest an impediment to increasing the size and numbers of wild trout in Pennsylvania. Accordingly, trout management programs should be instituted to reduce harvest of wild trout and minimize hooking mortality.

Policy #6 - Stream Assessment Scientific management of Pennsylvania's trout waters should be based on the individual assessment and evaluation of each waterway. Knowledge of the resource and its potential is essential to a scientifically justified management program. Every stream should be evaluated, classified, and periodically reviewed to determine measures appropriate for improving the standing stocks of wild trout. This assessment should also measure the overall health of coldwater habitat and the condition of the ecosystem throughout the watershed. Staff and equipment should be enhanced to insure that these assessments can fully and adequately be conducted.

Policy #7 - Stream Access Access to trout waters

on both public and private property is necessary for the public to enjoy trout fishing and central to the management of trout water throughout Pennsylvania. Trout management, watershed improvements, and land conservation policies should encourage both acquiring public lands and fostering partnerships with landowners, local governments, conservation organizations and others to promote increased public access to designated trout waters. -- Approved 9/07

TU Policy Name

Issue

Surface Mining and Mine Reclamation	Spring 2008
Oil and Gas Activities*	Spring 2008
Stream Channelization	Summer 2008
Hazardous Waste	Summer 2008
Acid and Mercury Deposition	Summer 2008
Forest Practices	Autumn 2008
Riparian Habitats	Autumn 2008
Wind Power Generation	Winter 2009
Coop Nurseries Operated by Chapters	Spring 2009
Stream Access	Autumn 2009
Water Withdrawal & Inter-basin Transfer	Winter 2010

* Please note correction to Oil and Gas Policy - Item 4 should read: "Full-cost bonding should be required to ensure that all permitted wells, when production is suspended or terminated, are closed using the most current Best Management Practices (BMPs) in accordance with Commonwealth rules and regulations."

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