

Pennsylvania TROUT



Spring 2014

Publication of the Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited

www.patrou.org

Sportsmen rally for threatened species

By Katy Dunlap
TU Eastern Water Project Director

Early this year, PATU and TU partnered with the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Pennsylvania Trappers Association, United Bowhunters, the Pennsylvania Chapters of the Quality Deer Management Association, the National Wild Turkey Federation, Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever to stave off legislative attacks on the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat and Game Commissions' ability to protect sensitive trout streams and wildlife.

At issue is House Bill 1576 and Senate Bill 1047 – legislation that would subject
See RALLY, page 2

TIC brings trout to the city

By Dennis Holderbaum
TIC Teacher

As I introduced my students to the brook trout eggs that were delivered in mid-November, it struck me that many of them had no idea what I was talking about. Many of them asked "What's a trout?" Even more asked "Why are these
See PROGRAM, page 3

Fall Meeting reminder on page 9



Todd Puleo Photo

This fine wild brook trout was brought to hand from a hard-to-reach freestone stream in the Allegheny National Forest.

The forgotten fishery

By Ken Undercoffer
PATU Past President

Last summer while driving to one of my favorite wild trout streams, I came up to a PFBC hatchery truck on its way to a nearby stream. On the back was a large sign with the statement: *Another Truckload of Family Fishing Fun*. It was followed by the usual procession of eager anglers anxious to catch freshly stocked trout raised by the state for their angling pleasure.

This made me wonder why the PFBC

does not promote, in any meaningful way, one of the greatest angling resources we have in Pennsylvania – namely our mountain freestone streams and their once magnificent and still pretty fair brook trout fishery.

The stocking program has been massively promoted. Starting in early spring, stocking lists come out and articles appear like spring flowers showing both adults and children holding up recently-taken hatchery trout. Stocking lists are passed from

See FORGOTTEN, page 6

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Pennsylvania
TROUT

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



PRESIDENT -- Brian Wagner
137 South New Street
Nazareth, PA 18064
Phone: 484-894-8289
E-mail: bewagner482@gmail.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Award entries due July 31

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited will present its annual awards at the fall meeting held at the Shaver's Creek Environmental Center from Sept. 12-14, 2014.

There is a huge amount of extraordinary work being accomplished by PATU chapters, as well as many individuals, and that work should be recognized. The awards will be presented on Sept. 13.

If you have a group, chapter or individual you feel is worthy of a nomination, **please consider filling out a nomination form.** Nominations are due by July 31.

Forms may be emailed to Samantha Kutskel at skutskel@coldwaterheritage.org or mailed to her at P.O. Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823. Please include a brief written justification for the nomination, clearly stated award for which the person or group is being nominated, and the nominator's name and contact information (email, phone number and mailing address). For certain awards, there are specific people as indicated below who should receive the nomination form.

Following is a list of awards with a brief description of criteria for each:

- **Chapter with greatest membership increase** – Determined from National TU data.

- **Chapter with greatest percentage increase in membership** – Determined from National TU data.
- **Edward Urbas Award for Best PA Chapter** – This award is given to the chapter that best exemplifies the work of TU, including involvement in conservation efforts, community activities, outreach, youth activities, etc.
- **Best Small Chapter Award** – We will use the same criteria as used in the Edward Urbas Award, but this classification is limited to chapters with 150 or fewer members.
- **Best Chapter Project** – We are looking for work that is either unusual, demonstrates efficient use of resources, involves other organizations, or is notable for other reasons.
- **Doc Fritchey Award for Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist, TU Member** – Who do you know that has a history of exemplifying the TU mission? Who is your “go-to guy” for projects, problems or advice?
- **Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist, Professional** – Who have you worked with, either from a governmental agency or private enterprise, **See AWARDS, page 13**

RALLY

from page 1

.....
the commissions' listing of wild trout streams and threatened and endangered species to review by the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (IRRC) and legislative committees – allowing politics, not science, to determine the fate of sensitive streams and wildlife. Most importantly, these proposed bills fail to address the real concerns raised by proponents – the permitting process.

As of April 1, House Bill 1576 is still on the legislative calendar for a vote by the full House, where it has been since November 2013.

Partnering with other state-based sportsmen groups has proven effective to protecting the fish and wildlife resources

that we all care so much about. Together, hunters and anglers played a critical role in delaying the vote of this bill, by raising their concerns to their individual representatives and offering reasonable alternatives to address the concerns raised by bill supporters. However, as long both bills remain on the legislative calendar for consideration, our work is not done.

TU urges all members to work with local hunting and fishing clubs on these bills, and other similar threats to Pennsylvania's fish and wildlife, to make sure that the sportsmen voice is heard in Harrisburg and in your region.

For more information about how you can join TU's legislative efforts, contact Katy Dunlap, eastern water project director for TU, at kdunlap@tu.org or 607-703-0256.



Contributed Photo

The Trout in the Classroom program gives students who may not have a chance to experience the outdoors an up-close appreciation of the natural world.

PROGRAM

from page 1

.....
fish important to me?"

I used that as a teachable moment to enlighten them to the importance of brook trout to our natural environments in the area, how the Pennsylvania ecosystem would be affected if there were no brookies and that we were contributing to the population of the only native trout found in PA rivers and streams.

I teach at a charter school whose enrollment consists mostly of inner-city high school students who have never had the opportunity to leave their small neighborhoods in order to have any real nature experiences. They rarely think of how their actions affect the environment, let alone how a fish in a stream could affect them.

Through the Trout in the Classroom program, they have become very interested in the fish and sign up to feed them, remove the ones that don't make it and check the

conditions of the tank, as we do every Tuesday and Friday in my class. They have learned that under natural conditions, the brook trout have about a 1 percent chance of survival, which for us means that come release date there will be between 30 and 40 fingerlings to release into Montour Run.

This program has given my students a hands-on chance to see part of a life cycle that many didn't know existed and a little appreciation for the "survival of the fittest" aspect of nature. I enjoy seeing them learn and the excitement that many of them show when it comes to the brook trout.

I look forward to another successful TIC year and bringing brookies and their contributions to our environment into the lives and minds of my students.

.....
Dennis Holderbaum is a high school science teacher at Academy Charter School in Pittsburgh. This is his third year in the Trout in the Classroom program, and he plans to involve his students again next year.

PA COUNCIL OF TROUT UNLIMITED 2014 COMMITTEES



Awards -- Ed O'Gorman
1220 Peters Mountain Rd., Dauphin, PA
17018
717-580-3186 / edogorman@comcast.net

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Legislative Liaison -- OPEN

Membership -- Mark Hanes
254B S. Main St., Brookville, PA 15825
724-464-7320 /
m_d_hanes@yahoo.com

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

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

Trout in the Classroom -- Sandy Sausser
P.O. Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823
814-359-5114 / outreach@patrout.org

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

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

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



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Contact information is available on pages 2-3.

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Headwaters

A message from PATU President Brian Wagner

On a late March evening, as I came down Bugzie's Mountain from the Carbon County Environmental Education Center, the large gibbous moon hanging over the horizon shown like a beacon guiding me home.

For me, driving home from meetings offers a quiet time and allows me to reflect on where I've been and where I'm going personally, as well as for Trout Unlimited as an organization.

It occurred to me as a sportsman hunting, fishing and hiking, I have spent a large amount of time recreating on the Pocono Plateau, a special place for many, and especially so to Mike Gondell, George Hludzik, president, and the rest of the members of the Western Pocono chapter. Mike and George had organized the meeting I just attended, which featured panelists from five different national and regional land conservancies, including the Nature Conservancy, the Pocono Heritage Land Trust, Wildlands Conservancy, the North Branch Lands Trust and the Natural Lands Trust.

Their purpose was not only to highlight the outstanding work these organizations do in preserving our land and water, but to shine the spotlight on nature itself and the national significance and unique geologic and natural diversity of the area, a result of at least three glaciations in the past million years. The meeting was well attended and it made my heart glad to see such a diverse group of people with the same realization that this special place is worth saving. Next time I am in the field recreating on the Plateau, I'm sure I will reflect on this meeting and appreciate the beauty of this special place even more.

Protecting our home water and special places of regional or national significance exemplifies what TU is all about.

A conservation ethic and a realization that my home water was worth saving enabled me to start a life-altering journey that began with the quest for knowledge about our coldwater resources. An ideal source for this information has been the Keystone Coldwater Conference, and I owe a debt of gratitude over the years to everyone involved with this conference.

It has been a tremendous learning tool for me and continues to be so today.

It gave me great pleasure to be able to offer the opening remarks for the most recent conference held in February. With Chris Wood batting cleanup with the keynote address, I was just hoping to "hit a single" with my remarks. For those in attendance, remember his baseball analogy?

I was also honored to be one of the judges for the college student poster contest. All of the students did an excellent job presenting their research, making the judging very difficult. There were also younger students in attendance from this past summer's Pennsylvania Brookies Camp hosted by the Wildlife Leadership Academy. It was very encouraging to see these young leaders take such an interest in our coldwater resources. For those unable to attend, presentations for the breakout sessions, including Friday's workshop "After the Storm," can be found at www.coldwaterheritage.com. Congratulations on a job well done by Samantha Kutskel and the rest of the organizing committee on another great educational conference.

Advocating for trout and trout habitat is another keystone of what we do. So, I want to thank everyone who has contacted their legislators and has spoken out against HB1576. Although we need to remain vigilant, it made a difference.

In my last column, I wrote about the Clean Water Act. The 2006 Rapanos lawsuit had blurred exactly what waters of the United States are covered by the act. A recent proposed rule by the EPA adds clarification and will result in protection of our smaller headwater streams and wetlands if approved. The comment period on the rule is open and the EPA wants to hear from you. Visit www.epa.gov/uswaters for more information. When we mobilize as one TU, we are most effective and succeed at making fishing better.

Thanks for allowing me to reflect on the past, but what's in store for the future? As a council, we want to provide as much value to our chapters as we possibly can. Upon review of our strategic plan, we have either completed or are making significant



progress on about 75 percent of our action items.

Across Trout Unlimited, effective communication is critical to our success as an organization. That's why we created the *My PATU Monthly* one-pager is emailed to our chapter leaders at the beginning of each month. It provides valuable information in a concise manner to our chapter leaders without jamming up their inboxes with multiple emails. The intent is for this information to be shared with members at chapter meetings.

We are also making progress to increase our social media presence. At least 16 chapters have their own Facebook page or group. I have "liked" all of them. Please let your "friends" know about our page, www.facebook.com/PennsylvaniaTU so they can "like" us. As of this writing we have 267 likes. I know we can do better. I find it to be an effective communication tool. Council's website, www.patrou.org, continues to be clean, functional and routinely updated. Please be sure to check the Announcements, News and Notes regularly on the home page.

Of course, communication works both ways and we need to hear from our members. Membership chair Mark Hanes, along with input from staff and council members, has put together a membership survey that will be distributed to a sample of our membership. If you receive one, please take a few minutes to fill it out. It is very

Continued on next page...

Lemon named TU shale coordinator

Together, Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited and National TU have developed and implemented one of Pennsylvania's most effective state-wide volunteer monitoring programs, designed to collect baseline data in streams most at risk from shale gas development. Today, more than 100 Pennsylvania TU volunteers known as the Coldwater Conservation Corps – are actively monitoring about 225 sites on coldwater streams throughout the commonwealth for impacts related to shale gas development.

TU recently hired Jake Lemon as the new Eastern Shale Gas Monitoring Coordinator, and he will be coordinating



Lemon

Virginia and Virginia.

Jake and his wife Kate recently moved to Howard, PA. Hailing from southern Indiana, Jake's love for rivers developed from bass fishing and kayaking on Laughery Creek, a tributary to the Ohio River. In 2010, Jake graduated from Indiana University-Indianapolis with a degree in Environmental Science with a concentration in Water Resources. Both in school and post-graduation, Jake worked for the

and supporting PATU's Coldwater Conservation Corps, as well as implementing a similar volunteer shale gas monitoring program in West

Center for Earth and Environmental Science as a field scientist overseeing and supporting field operations for various water quality monitoring projects.

After a brief stint as a geologist for an environmental consulting company, Jake decided to head west and accepted an AmeriCorps VISTA position with the Colorado Council of TU. Eventually transitioning to staff, he spent over two and a half years developing and expanding their youth education programs, including a volunteer water quality monitoring program called Colorado River Watch.

Jake is in the process of scheduling basic shale gas monitoring training sessions, as well as benthic macroinvertebrate training sessions. To learn more about the CCC and how you can get involved, contact Jake at jlemon@tu.org or 814-779-3965.

...Continued from previous page

important for us to hear from you.

We are currently in the planning stages for the 2014 Mid-Atlantic Regional TU meeting to be held at the Ramada Conference Center in State College on May 30 through June 1. This will be the inaugural regional meeting for the recently revived Mid-Atlantic region. We are anticipating members from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Ohio, West Virginia, Virginia and New York in attendance.

Friday afternoon will feature a women's workshop open to all members. Saturday will feature numerous breakout sessions with an evening barbeque along Spring Creek. Sunday will feature morning breakout sessions. The sessions will include

both conservation and organizational topics. To register, please use the link at www.patrou.org under Announcements or go directly to www.tu.org/get-involved/national-events/2014-mid-atlantic-regional-meeting. There will be ample time for fishing on Friday and Sunday afternoon and evening.

By the time you read this, winter will be a fading memory and we will be in the midst of "prime time" trout fishing in our state. Trout in the Classroom release days will be happening and many family fishing programs will be underway along with the rescheduled Mentored Youth Days on May 10. Please take some time to introduce a young person to the outdoors. Our future depends on it. I want to thank everyone

who was able to participate in our Trout in the Classroom raffle.

As I write this, the first signs of spring are only grudgingly appearing. I will be heading to the Susquehanna Chapter's 50th anniversary banquet Saturday night. It's a tribute to the founders of these early chapters to have recognized that with a conservation ethic fishing can be made better, and then to have done something about it and sustained it throughout the years. The following Friday, I will be attending the West Branch Susquehanna Restoration Symposium and in early May, the 15th year Kettle Creek Watershed celebration event.

I'm looking forward to all of these events but also the quiet reflection time on the drive home too. And also the fishing!

The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited has nearly 12,000 members in more than 50 chapters statewide, with one common goal: The conservation and enhancement of Pennsylvania's coldwater streams and fisheries, specifically our wild trout resources. Trout Unlimited is an IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, functioning for charitable, educational and scientific purposes. Donations are deductible to the extent provided by law. For information on advertising in PA Trout, call 814-692-5232, or e-mail advertising@patrou.org. See pages 2-3 for Council contact information, officers and committees. For listings of Regional VPs and Pennsylvania TU chapters, and their contact information, see pages 16-24.

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



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one individual to another as if they were treasure maps and handed out at meetings and sporting goods stores. This mania has been going on since I was a kid, and that was a long time ago.

Most trout anglers now think that trout are a renewable resource, put into streams each spring solely for their pleasure. They have long since lost their connection to wild trout and the streams that once defined trout fishing. Now the average angler sees trout fishing as a short-term sport and 'limiting out' as the goal; interest ends after the last visitation of the hatchery truck. To these anglers trout fishing has become nothing more than an Easter egg hunt.

And the cost of raising trout in hatcheries, like everything else, just keeps going up. When fishing license prices increase to cover these costs, fishing license sales decline and other pursuits capture the attention of the 'casual' angler.

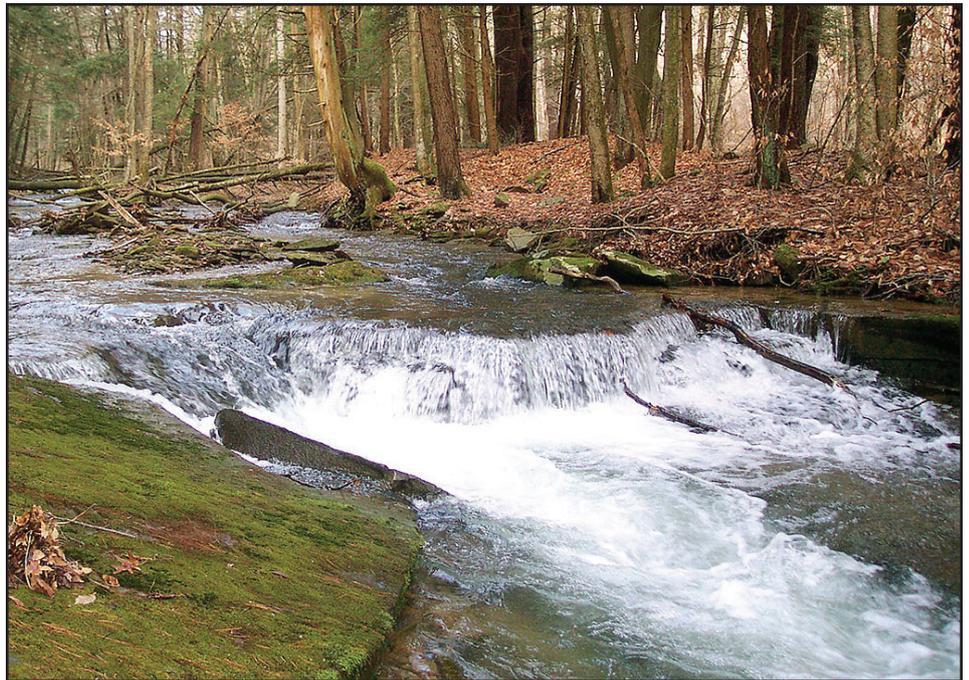
Trout fishing, at least to me, is about more than just catching trout.

Trout fishing is a chance to get out into the wilderness and escape the civilized world for a few hours. It is a chance to experience trout fishing the way our ancestors did when they had to depend on hunting and fishing in order to provide food for the table. Now, more and more trout anglers release most or all of their catch because they feel that wild trout are just too precious to eat.

Maybe it's about time we started promoting our wild trout resource.

Yes, the PFBC has a wild trout program, and it's a good one, especially the most recent version. But, the PFBC's wild trout program has been little-promoted and is barely on the radar of the general angling public.

Anglers from all over the country, and even from around the world, flock to Montana every year in order to catch wild trout. Montana quit stocking streams with natural reproduction some 30 years ago. Wisconsin and many states to the west are re-evaluating their stocking policies and finding that trout fishing flourishes whenever Mother Nature is allowed to provide the fish.



Todd Puleo Photo

Is it time for Pennsylvania's remote mountain freestone streams to be promoted as a wild trout resource?

Pennsylvania started in that direction over 30 years ago when Ralph Abele initiated Operation Future. Some really significant gains were made initially, but pressure from anglers and sportsmen's clubs killed the program.

But the effects of Operation Future, even though it was halted in its infancy, have been very positive. Many streams that were taken out of the stocking program are now fine trout fisheries, especially some of our limestone waters, which have been well-promoted in angling publications. They provide a satisfying angling experience to those who have discovered the joy of fishing for trout born and raised in the wild. And from scanning trout fishing sites on the Internet, it is apparent that the number of wild trout anglers is growing. This appears to be the only segment of the angling public that is increasing.

About the same time that Operation Future was being introduced, many freestone streams had become seriously degraded by the effects of acid deposition. These were taken off the stocking list because freshly-stocked hatchery trout died when stocked into streams degraded by acid rain. They were simply unable to adjust to the acidified water now common in many of our upland streams.

However, since the termination of stock-

ing, native brook trout in many of these streams have recovered rather well. And, as the effects of the Clean Air Act take hold, these streams once again offer fine brook trout angling opportunities. But they cannot now, nor could they ever, support the kind of harvesting that some anglers demand. That's why hatcheries were built in the first place.

As local sportsmen's groups and anglers discover that these streams can again support trout, there is a demand to return them to the stocking program. Trout (typically native brookies) in these low-fertility waters are already living on the edge of survival. The added competition for food and living space, and especially the added harvesting pressure that stocking encourages, take a terrible toll on the native brook trout that have occupied these streams since long before the last Ice Age.

Stocked streams are invariably degraded as wild trout fisheries. This is especially true of our native brook trout streams. And, unfortunately, the PFBC is still stocking many good brook trout streams. It's as if we are on the same path Pennsylvania took a century ago when it was thought that hatcheries were the answer to environmental degradation and overharvesting.

One of the things that first set me on the path to fishing wild trout waters almost

exclusively, was a series of articles by PFBC biologist Bob Hesser in the 1971 *Pennsylvania Angler*. It described the extent of natural reproduction of wild trout in Pennsylvania.

I had already experienced some of this while growing up in Clearfield. My first trout ever was a barely legal, six-inch native brookie. Several good brook trout streams were reachable by bicycle, and I fished them with a passion. As I became more skilled at trout fishing and obtained a driver's license, limestone streams like Spring Creek and the magnificent wild brown trout living there became accessible. As the years wore on, I fished stocked streams less and less.

The cost of raising trout in hatcheries continues to rise as the willingness of people to pay ever-increasing license fees declines. We have some really fine limestone waters. Many are being managed to preserve them as wild brown trout fisheries, and I applaud these efforts by

the PFBC. But our freestone brook trout streams seem to have been pretty much forgotten. Anglers complain that brookies aren't worth fishing for because they never get much over the legal length of seven inches. That simply isn't true.

Because freestone streams are infertile, the typical growth rate of trout is about one-and-a-half inches per year ... two inches at most. That means it takes upwards of four years to produce a legal-size trout in these waters and another couple of years to achieve ultimate size before the law of averages and nature take them out of the gene pool. To me, they are just too precious to kill. Fortunately, unlike hunters, anglers have the privilege of being able to have all the fun of pursuing and capturing their prey, without killing them.

Actually, both brookies and brown trout frequently reach eight to 10 inches in freestone streams that are not being stocked and regularly harvested. Brookies occasionally reach 11 inches, according to my angling records. And stories of larger wild brookies abound. Some of the more fertile freestones hold browns as well as brookies. Most are about the same size as the brookies. However, I have caught a

fair number of 14- to 17-inch wild brown trout in some small freestones over the years. No doubt they grow large by feeding on the smaller brookies also living there. Freestones with larger fish are typically distant from the road and not stocked. Yet still, if one is willing and able to walk a ways, mountain freestones can provide a really satisfying angling experience.

Why is the PFBC not promoting Pennsylvania's once magnificent and still very fine freestone trout fishery?

Many, because they are near roads and therefore accessible, are still being stocked, even though they could provide excellent wild trout fishing, cost free, if not stocked. These mountain streams cannot take much harvesting pressure, but if managed conservatively, they could provide an excellent resource and would attract dedicated anglers. Hatchery trout could then be used to provide expanded stocked trout fishing opportunities in marginal trout streams, lakes and ponds in the spring when most casual trout anglers fish.

Pennsylvania is, and has been for many years, missing out on the potential of its mountain freestone trout fishery.



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PA COUNCIL OF TROUT UNLIMITED

Minutes of the March 22, 2014
Executive Committee Meeting
PFBC Stackhouse Center
Bellefonte, PA

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

Others Attending: Samantha Kutskel, Sandy Sausser, Ed Perry, Michele Kittel

The meeting was called to order at 10:13 a.m. by Secretary Pennell. A motion by Hanes/seconded by Malaska was approved to accept the minutes of the January 18, 2014 EXCOM meeting, as previously distributed to EXCOM.

Treasurer's Report: The Operating Budget Report for the period ending 2/28/14 was approved on a motion to receive and file by Malaska/seconded by Hanes. Treasurer G. Kutskel noted that Council received \$5K more than was budgeted for rebates from National TU.

President's Report: President Wagner reported on his activities for the 1st quarter of 2014, noting that considerable time was spent on various efforts to defeat passage of the HB1576 Endangered Species Act. Wagner extended his thanks to S. Kutskel for her successful efforts on the 2014 Keystone Coldwater Conference.

Discussion/Action Items:

- **Add password-protected page to PA Trout Website** – Approval was granted on a motion by Malaska/seconded by Hanes to spend \$200 to add a website page accessible for leaders only.
- **Council support for Wildlife Leadership Academy** – After discussion of last year's participation, approval was granted on a motion by G. Kutskel/seconded by Pennell to provide TU memberships to students participating in the 2014 Brookies Camp.
- **Support for Delaware Watershed Conservation Coalition "Fair Share" letter** – Approval was granted on

a motion by G. Kutskel/seconded by Charlesworth to sign-on to the coalition letter outlining five points to be considered in controlling streamflows for the upper Delaware River.

- **Support for PFBC proposal on crayfish regulations** – Approval was granted on a motion by Hayes/
- seconded by Undercoffer to send a letter to PFBC supporting the proposed rulemaking limiting the sale and transportation of invasive crayfish species.
- **Review and updating of PATU Operating Policies** – Wagner will contact Environmental Chair Bob Volkmar to request that his committee review existing policies with the goal of updating as required by the end of 2014.
- **PA candidate for National TU Grassroots Trustee position** – Wagner reported that EXCOM has until this summer to identify and nominate a PA candidate for this trustee position.
- **PA candidate for National TU Great Lakes Workgroup position** – Hanes volunteered to investigate possible candidates to fill this position.
- **Approval to rent storage unit** – Approval was granted on a motion by Charlesworth/seconded by Albert for G. Kutskel to spend \$300 for a rental unit to house PATU merchandise.

Awards Committee: No report submitted.

Delaware River Committee: No report submitted. Main focus continues to be on the elimination of the "yo-yo" effect of the water releases by the dams in the upper Delaware watershed.

Environmental Committee: Report submitted. The proposed HB1576 Endangered Species Act was tabled until the end of the year due to lack of support for passage of this legislation. Bob Volkmar has given notice that he will not be continuing as chair of this committee after September of this year.

Stream Access Committee: Report submitted.



Trout Management Committee: Report submitted. Undercoffer reported that the committee will meet on May 10 to review and update the PATU Policy on Trout Management, and will also explore the

possibility of conducting a seminar on wild trout in conjunction with the PFBC.

Women's Committee: Report submitted. Sandy Sausser is transitioning into assuming more of the responsibilities for this committee. The free TU membership for new and renewed women members campaign has been extended for 2014.

Communications Committee: Report submitted. It was suggested that more use of social media might draw increased readership for our digital newsletter. Charlesworth reported that three full page color ads and four fly shop ads have been solicited and will appear in the next issue of PA Trout.

Development Committee: Report submitted. G. Kutskel reported that Education & Outreach Raffle ticket sales continue to be disappointing, with only about 50% of the \$10K goal reached to date. Our yearend appeal donations are running slightly ahead of last year, but are nonetheless short of our projected goal. Pennell will add the TIC T-shirts to the Merchandise page on www.patrou.org.

Legislative Committee: Since the chair is still vacant, no report was submitted, but visits to legislators' offices have been ongoing, with progress reported in combating the passage of HB1576.

Membership Committee: Report submitted. Hanes reported that the TU membership roster shows a recent increase of 8-10% in PA members, but believes some portion of that is due to TU "catching up" with their data input. Hanes will put together a survey with assistance from Malaska and Sausser in an attempt to gauge what attracts and retains members.

Youth Education Committee: Report submitted. S. Kutskel reported that more chapter representation is needed for the committee meeting in Pleasant Gap on April 13. Signups for the Wayne's Coldwater Kids event have been somewhat

slow, with space remaining for 17 more youth and an even greater number of adult mentors. Hanes has suggested that National TU needs to broaden its youth-related program communications beyond just those members listed on the chapter rosters as youth committee chairs.

Climate Change Presentation: Following a presentation by Ed Perry of the National Wildlife Federation, approval was granted on a motion by Albert/seconded by Undercoffer for Council to sign on to NWF's Sportsmen's Letter on Climate Change to President Obama.

Wildlife Leadership Academy Presentation: Michele Kittel thanked Council for personnel and financial support for their Brookies Field School last year and announced that the application deadline might be extended beyond April 1 this year if their quota is not reached by that date.

National Leadership Council: Report submitted. Murty reported that National TU has suggested that councils/chapters utilize bulk email services such as Constant Contact since it could take up to a year for National to upgrade their service.

Program Director: Report submitted. Approval was granted on a motion by Malaska/seconded by Pennell to issue \$1,000 in Back the Brookie grants to the God's Country and Adams County chapters. ** S. Kutskel reported that this year's Embrace-A-Stream grant will be used to establish 3 workshops on aquatic invasive species (AIS). S. Kutskel will work with Pennell to update last year's "What Does PA Council Do for the Chapters" newsletter article. It was also announced that 13 chapters will be participating this year in PFBC's Unassessed Waters Initiative. **Donegal Chapter also added 3/28/14.

Outreach Coordinator: Report submitted. Sausser reported that statistics for opening the monthly "My TU" email reports has been disappointing, with just 146 openings for the 344 sent out to chapter leaders this month. She will prepare an email greeting to be sent out to new members advising them of their chapters' meeting dates and locations. A decision was made to reduce the number from 25 to 20 copies for those fly shops that receive free

copies of *PA Trout*.

Regional Reports:

- **North Central** – Seven out of eight chapter reports were filed. Columbia County did not file a report, but S. Kutskel reported that the chapter will participate in the Fishermen's Expo in Benton on June 14-15.
- **Northeast** – All nine chapter reports were filed. Malaska reported that the Schuylkill County Chapter has been particularly successful in adding new members lately.
- **Northwest** – Six out of seven chapter reports were filed. Northwest PA did not report, and Hanes has suggested that EXCOM representatives need to meet with the chapter's board members to help determine the chapter's future direction. The James Zwald Chapter is still in need of a president.
- **South Central** – All seven chapter reports were filed.
- **Southeast** – All seven chapter reports were filed.
- **Southwest** – All eight chapter reports were filed.

New Business:

- **Wildlife Leadership Academy request for funding** – Approval was granted on a motion by G. Kutskel/ seconded by Hanes to donate \$500 to support a college scholarship for a WLA student

The meeting was adjourned at 2:32 p.m. on a motion by Hanes/seconded by G. Kutskel.

– Bob Pennell, Council Secretary

PATU Fall Meeting and Festival set for Sept. 12-14

The 2014 PATU Fall Meeting and Festival will be held Sept. 12-14 at Shaver's Creek Community Building, Petersburg, PA.

PATU will once again be hosting an annual meeting this September, but we'll also be planning activities that will be fun for the whole family.

There will still be an annual leadership meeting and breakout sessions for chapter leaders, so please plan for someone from your chapter to attend. There will also be a pig roast, fun fall activities, and family events.

If you are interested in helping plan the event or volunteering the weekend of the event, please contact Samantha Kutskel at skutskel@coldwaterheritage.org or 814-359-5233.



Little Juniata River Association

**"Monitor, Preserve and
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bjuniata@verizon.net

www.littlejuniata.org

Treasurer's Report

by PATU Treasurer George Kutskel

Why are we always looking for money? I often get asked this question, along with: "What does state council do with all its money?" In this issue, I would like to take a look at where the money goes as it may surprise you.

Very little of our money goes to anything other than programs that benefit our members.

Let's start with the Coldwater Heritage Partnership. While I have talked about this many times in the past, I think a little refresher is in order. The CHP is made up of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, The Foundation for Watersheds and us. Each of these partners – including PATU – provides funding, while we administer the program.

The CHP, which is just a little over 11 years old, provides leadership, coordination, technical assistance and funding support for the conservation and protection of Pennsylvania's coldwater streams. We do this by providing two grant opportunities.

Our chapters and other nonprofit organizations work to create conservation plans for the protection of Pennsylvania's best coldwater streams. To date, 89 conservation plans have been completed. Since 2011, the program has expanded to fund projects that were listed as recommendations in completed plans.

Prior to the CHP, Council really had no program that could have a direct impact on our chapters. Since 2002, the CHP program has given more than \$400,000 in grants, which when leveraged, have provided more than \$1 million in benefits

Because outreach is a major component, Samantha Kutskel and her predecessor, Deb Nardone, have had the chance to work with many of our chapters in protecting our coldwater resources.

To expand on our education efforts, Council began implementing a state-wide Trout in the Classroom program. Council has been providing funding opportunities to chapters and schools to help implement this program since 2006.

Chapter Donations

The following chapters have donated to further council's mission, in addition to supporting fundraisers, in 2014.

God's Country	Donegal
Allegheny	Mountain Laurel
Mountain	R.B. Winter
Oil Creek	Chestnut Ridge

Though TIC has been a partnership with PFBC and later the Pennsylvania Department of Education, PATU has been providing additional funding so chapters and schools can continue their programs. The growth of TIC led us to hire an intern to help our chapters and other program partners in their efforts to provide conservation education to approximately 247 classrooms. We soon found out that we needed a permanent position, so we hired a part-time outreach coordinator.

So far, the TIC program has granted more than \$130,000, not including staff, with less than half of that coming from grants and the balance from Council funds.

As many of our chapter leaders have found out, this is not Trout Unlimited from the early '70s. Today, chapters are in need of many skills that were not necessary or thought about in years past. Samantha, our program director, and to a lesser

extent Sandy, our outreach coordinator, have traveled extensively around the state to provide guidance and workshops that benefit our chapters. The travel budget for just PATU staff is \$4,200 this year, which does not include travel by members of EXCOM or CHP.

In fact, the biggest bargain in Trout Unlimited are the volunteer leaders. From the president to the chairman of each committee, they all serve with no pay or reimbursement. (That's something to think about next time your regional VP shows up for a banquet or meeting).

Another big expense for Council is our quarterly newsletter. We were able to cut the cost by only sending one hard copy to our members each year and having the others online, but this is still a huge expense. Each issue costs Council \$2,913, or \$8,739 per year, with another \$7,300 for the summer issue we all receive in the mail.

Finally, PATU has begun to offer the Back the Brookie grants, which have given \$5,000 to chapters. (Only TU chapters can receive these). This grant has been funded by purchases of the "Back the Brookie" license plate.

Council's funding comes from a variety of grants and donations from you – the members. As you can see, we use our funding to benefit Pennsylvania chapters, members and our coldwater resources. I hope you can see that donating or buying merchandise goes very far in promoting PATU.

2014 PATU Calendar

- May 10:** Mentored Youth Trout Days (rescheduled from March 22 & April 5)
- May 30-June 1:** Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting at the Ramada Inn, State College (www.tu.org)
- June 15-20:** 20th Annual Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp
- June 21:** Summer EXCOM Meeting
- June 22-28:** 2nd Annual River Researchers Teen Camp
- July 8-12:** Brookies Field School
- July 13-18:** DCNR Eco Camp
- Sept. 12-14:** PATU Fall Meeting

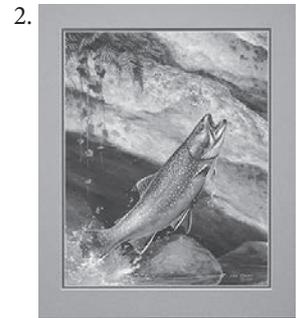
To stay up to date with the latest news from PA Council, please visit www.patrou.org.

Merchandise Order Form

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



	Item Description	Price	Qty.	Total
	"Back the Brookie" License Plate	\$25.00		
1	Ball cap w/logo (circle) Khaki Navy Camo	\$15.00		
	Small Waterproof Fly Box (5"x4"x1")	\$20.00		
	Large Waterproof Fly Box (6"x4"x1")	\$25.00		
	Custom Fly Leaders			
	Dry Fly - 4X Tippet			
	Dry Fly - 5X Tippet			
	Dry Fly - 6X Tippet			
	Wet Fly - 4X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers			
	Wet Fly - 5X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers			
	Subtotal - Leader Quantity (1 to 9)	\$4.00		
	Subtotal - Leader Quantity (10 or more)	\$3.50		
	Dan Shields' <i>Fly Fishing PA's Spring Creek</i> Book	\$20.00		
	<i>More of CVTU's Favorite Flies</i> Book	\$22.00		
2	Ned Smith "Sting of the Hook" Print - Unframed	\$148.40		
3	Little Juniata Patch 2011 - 4"	\$6.00		
	Little Juniata Patch 2011 - 6"	\$10.00		
4	Kinzua Creek Patch 2010 - 4"	\$6.00		
	Kinzua Creek Patch 2010 - 6"	\$10.00		
5	Delaware River Patch 2009 - 4"	\$6.00		
	Delaware River Patch 2009 - 6"	\$10.00		
	Pine Creek Patch 2008 - 4"	\$6.00		
	Pine Creek Patch 2008 - 6"	\$10.00		
	PATU Decals - 3"	\$3.00		
	PATU Travel Rod Case	\$50.00		
	Practice Casting Game	\$25.00		
	Custom 9'0, 5-wt., 3-piece Fly Rod	\$175.00		
	Adult TIC T-Shirt (circle size) S M L XL	\$20.00		
	Adult TIC T-Shirt (circle size) 2XL 3XL	\$22.00		
	Youth TIC T-Shirt (circle size) M L	\$20.00		
Note:	6% sales tax (where applicable), shipping and handling costs included in unit prices.			
		Total \$		



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

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PA Council of Trout Unlimited
PO Box 5148
Bellefonte, PA 16823

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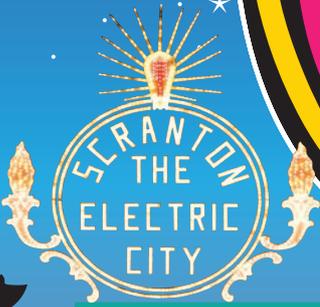
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*** Phone and email are needed should PATU have questions regarding your order.*

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AWARDS

from page 2

that was particularly helpful in helping you fulfill the TU mission?

- **Outstanding Volunteer** – Who do you know, or have worked with, that particularly contributed time and effort to helping a TU chapter or project, either one-time or ongoing, and was not necessarily a member of TU or a conservationist professional.
- **Best Chapter Website** – Is your website particularly attractive, clear, up-to-date and easy to navigate? If so, send nominations to Brad Isles at bisles@live.com.

- **Samuel Slaymaker Award for Best Chapter Newsletter** – If your newsletter has information about your chapter’s activities that is current, is well-presented and clear, and is visually attractive, you may very well win this award. Send nominations, with a few copies of the newsletter, to Brad Isles at PO Box 23, Grove City, PA 16127.
- **Dr. Jack Beck Award for Outstanding Youth Outreach** – Do you have a particularly active program for youngsters, or are you involved in a number of programs or unusual programs? If so, submit your choice and reasons to Eric Wilson at ericwilson1947@hotmail.com.

- **Ken Sink Award for Outstanding Service to PATU** – This award is given to a person who contributes to PATU’s mission in a notable way. It is intended to be given to people who have been involved for significant periods of time, and who have demonstrated unusual dedication. It is not necessarily presented every year.
- **Inky Moore Award for Outstanding Service to State Council** – This award is meant to recognize a person who would be considered an “up-and-comer” in PATU and demonstrates dedication to its mission and shows promise as a future major leader of the organization.

PATU Awards 2014 Nomination Form

Fill out, clip and except where otherwise indicated mail this nomination form to: Samantha Kutskel, P.O. Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823. You may also download it from www.patrou.org and mail to the same address. Scanned submissions can be emailed to skutskel@coldwaterheritage.org. Call 814-359-5233 with questions. **The deadline for nominations is July 31.**

Your Name: _____ Email: _____

Telephone Number(s): _____

Name of Chapter/Person You Wish To Nominate: _____

Check one:

- | | |
|---|--|
| _____ Edward Urbas Best Chapter | _____ Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist, TU Member (Doctor John A. Fritchey Jr. Award) |
| _____ Best Chapter Project | _____ Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist, Professional |
| _____ Best Small Chapter (150 or fewer members) | _____ Outstanding Volunteer (Person who contributed time or effort in helping a TU chapter or project, either one time or ongoing; doesn’t need to be a member or conservation professional) |
| _____ Dr. Jack Beck Award for Outstanding Youth Outreach (Send to Eric Wilson at ericwilson1947@hotmail.com) | _____ Samuel Slaymaker For Best Newsletter (Send copies of at least 3 recent issues or email to Brad Isles at bisles@live.com) |
| _____ Ken Sink Memorial (not presented every year) For an individual who has made long-term significant contributions through their work with state council | _____ Best Chapter Website (Contact Brad Isles at bisles@live.com) |

What particular characteristics, accomplishments or attributes merit consideration of this individual or chapter for this award?

(Continue on a separate page if necessary.)

2014 Keystone Coldwater Conference a success

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited held the 11th Keystone Coldwater Conference Feb. 21-22 at the Ramada Conference Center in State College.

This year's conference, "Coldwater Resources: Current Practices in Conservation, Protection and Restoration," focused on providing attendees with current information and techniques that protect, conserve and restore our coldwater streams. Sessions focused on building partnerships, current research and best management practices to ensure our coldwater ecosystems are protected well into the future.

The conference was attended by over 200 individuals from conservation organizations, conservation districts, watershed associations, TU chapters, state agencies and universities.

On Friday, Feb. 21, a workshop, "After the Storm: Protecting and Restoring Stream Habitat," discussed the stream hydraulics and the connection between the stream and adjacent property.

Saturday's conference featured keynote presentations by Chris Wood, CEO and president of Trout Unlimited, and Zack Cockrum, manager of Government Affairs with Trout Unlimited. Eighteen breakout sessions rounded out the morning and afternoon.

A student poster contest was conducted on Saturday, and we congratulate all the students for their effort. Winners were: 1st – Tyrell DeWeber, Penn State University; 2nd – Brandi Hake, Clarion University; and 3rd – Sam Silknetter, Susquehanna University.

We would also like to thank this year's sponsors for their support:

Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Chesapeake Bay Foundation

Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds

Ecotone, Inc

PA Environment Digest

Crisci Associates

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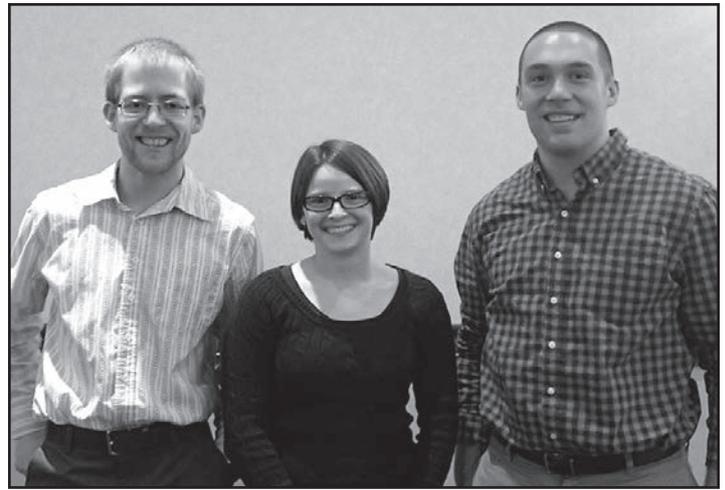
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Contributed Photo

Winners in this year's student poster contest were, from left: 1st – Tyrell DeWeber, Penn State University; 2nd – Brandi Hake, Clarion University; and 3rd – Sam Silknetter, Susquehanna University.

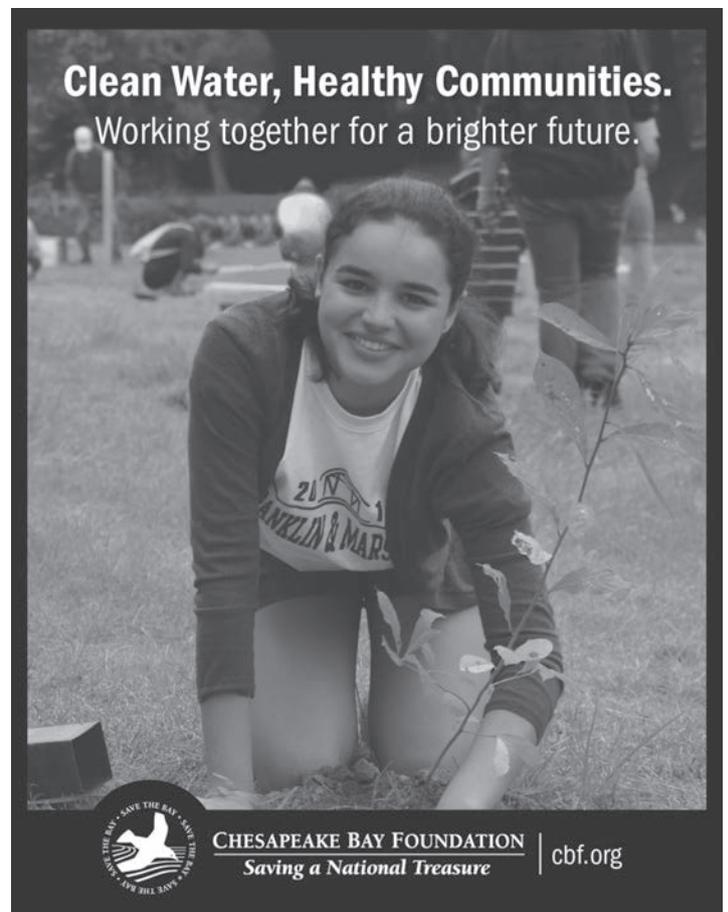
Gleim Environmental Group

PA Wildlife Federation

Hanover Engineering Associates

National Trout Unlimited

A special thanks goes to the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission for its support and assistance in planning this year's event. Also, a special thanks goes to the Tackle Shack in Wellsboro and Cabelas for providing prizes for the event.



TU Mid-Atlantic Meeting in State College

Join fellow anglers and TU volunteer leaders from across the Mid-Atlantic from May 30-June 1 in State College, PA for the 2014 Trout Unlimited Mid-Atlantic Region meeting. This will be a great weekend full of opportunities to meet and network with other TU members and to learn many valuable skills to take back to your chapter.

Friday will be a session on "Involving Women in TU." Both men and women are encouraged to attend. This session is designed to give chapters ways to grow and maintain women's membership and urge women to take on leadership roles within their chapter. There will also be an optional half day of fishing either in the morning or later in the evening after the session.

Saturday will feature breakout sessions on various topics focused on conservation and leadership. There will be about nine sessions participants can choose from.

An outdoor barbecue along Spring Creek will end the day and is a great chance to meet with other TU members. Bring your fishing gear!

Sunday's sessions will follow the same format as Saturday, however, we will end after lunch to allow attendees to fish. There are a number of fantastic streams around the State College area. More information will be provided to those that indicate on the registration their interest in the Sunday fishing option.

The total cost for all three days is \$100 and includes:

- Participation in all seminars and workshops on Friday, Saturday and Sunday
- Lunch Friday, Saturday and Sunday
- Barbecue dinner Saturday night

Attendees may register for any one day individually as well:

- Just the Friday "Getting Women Involved in TU" seminar (\$30)
- Just Saturday's workshops and seminars (\$30)
- Just Sunday morning's workshops and seminars (\$20)
- Or just the Saturday barbecue (\$20)

Accommodations are at the Ramada Conference & Golf Hotel and Mountain View Country Club; 1450 South Atherton St.; State College, PA 16801. Rates are \$82 per night. Reservations can be made by calling 814-238-3001 ask for the Trout Unlimited Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting Room Block before April 30, 2014.

You can find more information and the registration form at: <http://www.tu.org/get-involved/national-events/2014-mid-atlantic-regional-meeting> or go to www.tu.org and go to the National Events page.

PATU thanks supporters of 2013 campaign

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited would like to thank all members who contributed to help protect, conserve and restore Pennsylvania's coldwater streams as part of the year-end campaign in 2013. We could not do this without your support. We wish we could recognize everyone who contributed, but do to limited space we can only list those who contributed at the Exceptional, High Quality and Class A values.

Exceptional Value (\$500-\$999)

W.E. Pete & Judy Goodman
Theodore Roosevelt Post 167
Robert & Margot Keith

High Quality (\$300-\$499)

Walter Reineman III
Flyway Excavating
Jacob Pultorak

Class A (\$100-\$299)

David Blair
Michael Blehar
Edward Bosley
Joseph Brunner
Greg Case

Mike Chiodo
Charles Clement III
Dr. Christopher Daly
Thomas Drayer
Jack Egley
Ricky Fetzer
B. Scott Fiegel
Brian Wagner
Col. John Martin
Paul Harmon
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Hutchins
Christopher Larson
Mark Ledger
Robert Murdoch
Nicola Nicoloff
Owen Owens
John Pivetta
B.F. Rittenhouse
Peter Ryan
John Schlechter, Jr.
Malcolm Seaholm
Scott Thompson
Bob Teufel
Paul Turtzer
John Wanamaker
Earnst Conservation Seeds
Jim Frazier
Paul Brooks

Henry Spire
David Hess
Gene O'Sullivan
Bob Volkmar
East Folk Media
William Prauchnic
Nicolas Selch
Matt Shade
Thomas Lanyi
Scott McMahon
Jefferson Strider
Brad Isles
Thomas Gehrt
John & Betti Leonard
Edward O'Gorman
Thomas Waggoner
Richard Umek
Raymond Morris
John Burks
Charles Mogish
Jack Williams
Walter Woytek
Kettle Creek Watershed Association
Rudy Meier
Archibald Fenton
Jacob Pultorak
Mark Collier
Michael Artim

NORTHEAST CHAPTERS

Brodhead 289

Forks of the Delaware 482

Hokendauqua 535

Lackawanna Valley 414

Monocacy 491

Pike-Wayne 462

Schuykill County 537

Stan Cooper Sr. 251

Western Pocono 203

January and February. We participated in the Adventures in Agriculture weekend event at Palmer Park Mall in February, featuring our educational display and fly tying demonstration. Several members also participated in St. John's UCC Sportsmen's Dinner and Expo on March 1. TIC release days for Nazareth Middle School and Wind Gap Middle School are April 25 and May 16, respectively, at Jacobsburg State Park.

Hokendauqua Chapter #535

Dave Abraham

610-844-3459, dabraham@rcn.com

mysite.verizon.net/vze26x43/hokendauquachaptertroutunlimited

March 1 was the last of our eight-week fly tying course. We had 43 participants – 29 adults (13 PHW vets) and 14 youths. We partnered with Martins Jacoby Watershed, which received a Growing Greener Grant, to help fund the removal of the Atlas Dam on Hokendauqua Creek in Northampton Borough. There is enough funding to breach 200 feet of the 600-foot-long dam. Constructed by the former Atlas Cement Co. in the early 1900s, the dam is no longer used. All permits are in place and bids will be open for contractors by the end of spring. There are several springs above the dam that feed the Hokey with cold water. We are hoping that with the dam's removal and its liability, the property owner will again offer the land for public use. This tract of land was a buffer zone between the local businesses and the Hokey. The intention was to make a nature trail along the stream from Route 329 to the confluence of the Lehigh River. The project was started about 25 years ago by John Mauser, who at the time was chapter president. He worked with local contractors to restore the pump house, install railings around the dam area for safety and footbridges crossing some of the springs. A teacher, John involved some of his students in projects and several local Boy Scouts did their Eagle Scout projects on this section. We held a cleanup on the Hokey on April 12. Train the Trainer for PHW volunteers is April 26 at Bob Sak's. Learn to Fly Fish, a six- to eight-hour free course for new TU members will be held at Sak's pond on May 4. A Project Healing Waters event is May 17 at the pond. Fly fishing instruction for Women in the Outdoors is June 14 at Ontelaunee Rod and Gun Club.

Lackawanna Valley Chapter #414

Gary Smith

570-718-0686, afltytyer@comcast.net

www.lackawannavalleytu.org

Chapter leaders are on the following committees and/or agencies representing LVTU: NLC Youth Committee work group, Lackawanna County Conservation Board, LCCD River Cleanup Committee, NEPA Conservation Alliance, Lackawanna River Corridor Association, Legislative Action Committee, Lackawanna and Susquehanna County Federation of Sportsmens Clubs. We are in the process of constructing a booth for trade

shows and college events. Our summer barbecue is Aug. 17, and we will dedicate our boulder and trout habitat project. We will be working on a button or decal campaign with proceeds going to youth education and environmental projects. We will be selling merchandise at the Scranton Half Marathon, the Lackawanna Heritage Trail Bike Tour and the Lackawanna River Corridor Association RiverFest. We have completed an activities calendar that is posted on our website, Facebook and blog pages. Four river cleanup projects – our \$98,000 Sweeney Beach River Restoration project and a boulder habitat placement in the Lackawanna River are scheduled. Our fourth TU Teens Fly Fishing School, a five-month program that covers all phases of fly fishing and conservation has started. The chapter has a TU Teens Fly Tying Club up and running. We are taking our booth to events at Keystone College, the University of Scranton and Marywood University to start their own 5 Rivers College Initiative. Keystone is starting a phys ed class for fly fishing and elected one of our members to be its first instructor. We are meeting with them to start a one-week fly fishing and youth conservation camp in early August.

Monocacy Chapter #491

Erik Broesicke

610-909-2652, monocacytu491@gmail.com

www.monocacytu.org

Erik Broesicke attended the capital campaign kickoff for the Lekonby property, which included local and state representatives along with Boy Scouts and environmental groups, in an effort to raise \$2 million to purchase land in a sensitive area of the Monocacy Creek and place it in conservancy. We participated at the Lehigh Valley Sportsman's Expo in Allentown. We volunteered for the Unassessed Waters Initiative. We wrote a letter of concern to East Allen Township concerning a change to zoning that would allow two 1½-million-square-foot warehouses to be built along the Monocacy. The zoning change was ultimately not approved. We started planning a middle school field trip program in which TU volunteers would help 300-plus students learn about stream inhabitants through on-stream sampling.

Pike Wayne Chapter #462

Matt Wishneski

570-685-5420, mattwishneski@gmail.com

www.pwtu.org

Our annual conservation banquet was April 5. A culvert replacement project being planned for the Masthope Creek within State Game Lands 316 is moving forward. A situation at the confluence of Shehawken Creek with the Delaware River is being looked into. Our annual cleanup of the north bank of the Lackawanna River covering Route 590 and Towpath Road was April 6. Paula Piatt, TU's Marcellus Shale Sportsmen's Organizer, gave a presentation at our January meeting. The January and February meetings saw our usual "Cabin

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Greg Malaska

218 W. 13th St.

Jim Thorpe, PA 18229

E-mail: gregmalaska@gmail.com

Phone: 570-657-7169

Brodhead Chapter #289

Todd Burns

610-704-4549, tgburns@rcn.com

www.brodheadtu.org

We will be installing educational signs in the Cranberry Creek and Devil's Hole watersheds. Similar signs will be installed in the canyon area of the Brodhead downstream from Interstate 80. We will also be working on McMichael Creek with BWA. Contact Don Baylor if you can help. On May 14, Marsha Benovengo from Casting for Recovery will present a program for women breast cancer patients at the Hughes Cancer Center at Pocono Medical Center. Project Healing Waters will fish at Indian Mountain Rod & Gun Club May 14. We stock at 8 a.m. and the veterans arrive to fish at 10. On April 9, John Arway, director of PFBC, was guest speaker. He informed us about changes in the commission, streams, stocking, etc. Our annual banquet was March 28 at Stroudsmoor. We are looking for candidates for the Rivers Conservation School. On April 12, opening day, was the annual Kids Fishing Contest run by the Knights of Columbus and TU at Brodhead Park.

Forks of the Delaware Chapter #482

Joe Baylog

610-751-9116, baylogj@gmail.com

www.forkstu.org

The chapter actively advocated in opposition of HB1576. We purchased voluntary youth licenses to distribute at Northampton County Youth Field Day. The 12th annual Spring Event, a joint effort between the Lehigh Valley chapters, was March 22 at East Bath Rod & Gun Club. President Joe Baylog was the featured speaker with his program, "Do it yourself Alaska." Our 3rd annual Pig & Corn Roast is at Riverside Barr & Grill on Sept. 20. Stream cleanup for Martins Creek was April 9 and Bushkill Creek on April 19. We held an eight-week fly tying course for beginner and intermediate tyers in

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Fever" fly tying sessions. A guest speaker from PFBC was scheduled to speak in March. Plans are in the works for training in macroinvertebrate collection and identification on the banks of the Lackawaxen River.

Schuylkill County Chapter #537

Tony Mione

717-979-0235, janandtonymione@comcast.net
www.schuylkillcountytu.org

The first of our two cleanup projects was March 23 on the Little Schuylkill River above Tamaqua, assisted by Boy Scouts. Our chapter purchased hats, towels, stickers, fly trees, plus other items so we can keep people interested in our chapter and get our name out there. March 9 and 23 were set aside for a used equipment sale at Renningers in Orwigsburg.

Stanley Cooper, Sr. Chapter #251

Joseph J. Gruskiewicz, Jr.

570-430-2300, blast.castjgg@frontier.net
Website: www.sctu.org

In January, Joe Gruskiewicz, Jr. and board members Cindy and Rich Grecavich attended PATU's leadership training in State College. Joe Gruskiewicz, Jr., along with representatives from other TU chapters and Council, went to Harrisburg in January to visit state legislators to voice their opposition to HB 1576 and SB 1047. Tom Gilmore presented "Shad on the Fly" in January and Gary Edwards presented on steelhead fishing in New York state in March. In February, the chapter held a public demonstration on fly tying at the general meeting. Michael Romanowski, Joe Ackoury and Rich Grecavich, were the featured tyers. Our 23rd annual banquet was April 5 at the Best Western Mountain Inn. Several years ago, as a result of flooding our adopted stream, Bowmans Creek, sustained significant damage to its banks and the surrounding land – especially in and near the fly fishing zone. The chapter is planning a spring project to repair damage to its parking area. Further consideration is being given to do additional improvements on Bowmans Creek in the future. Board member Rob Graitier has been in contact with several colleges and universities in the Wilkes-Barre area by speaking to their conservation organizations. He gave a program at Kings College and is pursuing other opportunities. Board member Heide Cebrick coordinates Project Healing Waters with the local veterans hospital. In January, February and March vets practice their fly tying and casting at the VA. When weather permits, usually in April, the program moves outside and vets put their skills to use. In March, Justin Evanick, a student at Crestwood High School in Mountaintop, gave a presentation at the general meeting on his experience at last year's youth camp. Waveco, a hazardous waste treatment company, is seeking a permit to treat fracking water in Lake Township. They are looking for a number of zoning variances to put the treatment facility on approximately 630 acres. Residents and the township oppose the facility and the requested variances, and have asked the Luzerne County Zoning Board not to approve the application. Waveco also must answer approximately 50 discrepancies in their DEP application. Residents are seeking organizations to join in fighting this application. Upcoming events include our adult fly fishing camp on May 4 and a youth fly fishing camp on June 6.

Western Pocono Chapter #203

George Hludzik

570-233-0099, grhlaw@ptd.net

The chapter signed on to assist with the Unassessed Waters Initiative after hearing from Renae Hodorowicz from the Western Pa. Conservancy at our February meeting. Our March meeting included representatives from five different conservancies that have been responsible for protecting and preserving thousands of acres in northeastern Pennsylvania, and have provided for access to trout streams. Our April speaker was Rick Nyles, who gave a slide presentation of central and eastern Pennsylvania trout streams, and in May we will again host Karl Lutz of the stream restoration division of PFBC. We had a table and offered a door prize at the Carbon County Sportsmen's Expo in Lehighon on March 15. Our Summer Outing is June 15 at the White Haven Sportsmen's Club, along the Lehigh River. We will be doing a restoration project on the Nescopeck Creek, but the project will be smaller in scope than originally planned. We are planning our annual fly tying/casting instruction class with the Cub and Boy Scouts, and will again assist the scouts with their fishing derby at Camp Kresge.

NORTHCENTRAL CHAPTERS

Columbia County 038

God's Country 327

Lloyd Wilson 224

Penns Creek 119

Raymond B. Winter 124

Spring Creek 185

Susquehanna 044

Tiadaghton 688

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Ben Hayes

119 Vista Drive

Mifflinburg, PA 17844

E-mail: brh010@bucknell.edu

Phone: 570-939-0730

Columbia County Chapter #38

814-359-5233

info@coldwaterheritage.org

The chapter is still looking for individuals interested in coordinating chapter events, projects and other activities. To take a leadership role or learn about volunteer opportunities within the community please contact Samantha at skutskel@coldwaterheritage.org or 814-359-5233. The chapter will have a booth at the Fisherman's Expo on June 14-15 at the Northern Columbia Community & Cultural Center. Anyone interested in participating in this event should contact Samantha.

God's Country Chapter #327

Dr. Peter Ryan

814-274-8718, drflyfish@yahoo.com

In early January, four members traveled to Angola, NY to attend a benefit dinner for Ray Markiewicz, the mid-Atlantic regional coordinator for Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing. Ray is battling cancer. The most recent report is that he has had successful bone marrow transplant surgery and is recovering quite well at Roswell Cancer Center in Buffalo. In January, Dave Saulter and Pete Ryan made PHW presentations to the Galeton Rotary Club and the McKean County Disabled Veterans Association. On Feb. 21-22, Bob Volkmar and Pete Ryan attended the Keystone Coldwater Conference. Renae Hodorowicz, fisheries biologist for the Western Pa. Conservancy, presented information on the Unassessed Waters Initiative at our February meeting. We agreed to participate in the program by surveying waters in upper Pine Creek, upper Kettle Creek, First Fork of the Sinnamahoning and upper Allegheny rivers. Three members attended the macroinvertebrate identification workshop in Wellsboro. It was a very informative workshop presented by Katy Dunlap and chapter member Bob Volkmar. It is hoped that those participating in the CCC stream monitoring program will incorporate macro identification as part of their monitoring effort. Our TIC program is doing well as over 200 trout hatched. Ted Bear, our TIC coordinator, hopes to have Galeton and Northern Potter schools involved next year. Ted and Kathy Mitchell attended an invasive plants presentation by Kim Lott, education specialist at the Sinnamahoning State Park. Plans for our 7th annual Project Healing Waters event from May 20-23 are coming together. We are honoring Korean War veterans. The fund-raising raffle for the event is a one-day chartered fishing trip for four on Lake Erie between June and September, donated by Capt. Fred Forsythe. Several chapter members attended the aquatic invasive species workshop March 18 in Wellsboro. Two chapter members are using gauges to measure precipitation and pH as part of the Upper Allegheny Watershed's Coldwater Heritage Grant. Bob Volkmar and Pete Ryan attended a dirt and gravel road program dinner/workshop for Potter and Cameron counties. From the new transportation bill, funding for the dirt and gravel road program will increase five-fold, which means five times more work can be funded each year in every county – all because 21 years ago the PATU environmental committee agreed to listen and act upon the concerns of a few God's Country members.

Lloyd Wilson Chapter #224

Bill Bailey

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

Our chapter sent a letter to PFBC Director John Arway expressing our appreciation to him for defending TU against less than flattering comments and accusations made by some Pa. legislators. Our chapter signed on to a letter, circulated online by Ed Perry, supporting new federal carbon emission regulations. Bob Weber and Jason Detar of PFBC were speakers at our February meeting and discussed the Unassessed Waters Initiative. Jim Smith, chapter VP, will be coordinator for our participation in this project. Our annual five-session fly tying class started on Feb. 27 with 30 students in attendance. WCO Anthony Beers was a guest speaker before the tying started. Chapter member Bill

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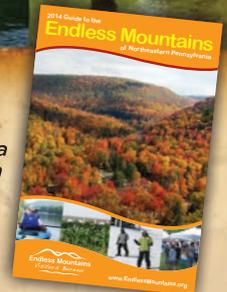
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Ferguson will mentor two young people at Harpster's annual youth fishing event. Our TIC program at Central Mountain High School lost their trout to an infection. All attempts at solving the problem using treatment as directed by TIC guidelines were unsuccessful. Despite the loss, there were valuable lessons learned. Our TIC program at the Jersey Shore Alternative School had 171 fish survive and water quality has been excellent. They plan to release 75 on Arbor Day and the remainder later in May. The program at Renovo Elementary School has over 100 fish left. They have a webcam set up to watch the fish, which they plan to release in April.

Penns Creek Chapter #119

Gary Parzanese

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

At the February meeting, chapter members were notified of our status change to the North Central Region. They have expressed approval of the realignment, which better ties us to the chapters our local streams border. During the same meeting, WCOs Rich Morder from Juniata County and Corey Girt from Mifflin County discussed issues and changes at PFBC. They discussed Mentored Youth Fishing Days, and discussed how to purchase the commission's new license buttons and what the program's intent is. Our annual banquet was March 22 at the Belleville Mennonite School. Speaker was chapter member and guide Andy Wagner. Chapter member Ben Crago is working with Rich Morder of PFBC and the Bureau of Forestry to increase access to sections of Licking Creek in Juniata and Mifflin counties. The work is being done to allow the commission to spread the stocked trout out over a larger area in the DHALO section of Licking Creek. Dan Dunmire of the Mifflin County Conservation District reported on the hiring of Trevor Weaver as the new outreach specialist. Trevor will be working on stream improvement proposals with local farmers and property owners primarily in the Upper Kish Watershed. The district has received two grants for Upper Kish Creek and Hungry Run, which the chapter hopes will lead to project partnerships in the future. Our five TIC programs are having great success this year. Larry Winey, our education coordinator, reported all the schools have over 100 fish surviving. Only Lach Tuscarora has set a release date, which is May 15.

R.B. Winter Chapter #124

Robert Laubach

570-966-3379, oldfrstr@dejazzd.com

Our January meeting featured Tom Gilmore speaking on stream access points in the northeast; February featured Julie Devers, USFWS, speaking on the reintroduction of eels into area streams to help propagate the sediment filtering mussels; March featured Charles Swartz from the Central Pa. Conservancy talking about acquisitions and easements the CPC has in our area. On Feb. 9, chapter members conducted fly tying lessons at the Winter Snofest at R.B. Winter State Park. A successful 10-week beginner and advanced fly tying class ended March 17 with 32 students enrolled. Chapter members participated in the annual fly tying pool held at the Union County Sportsman Club on March 22. Our annual banquet was March 28. Guest speaker was Joe Humphreys. Prize drawings and raffles were held and funds benefit chapter activities such as stream habitat enhancements, youth fishing, environmental programs

and more. Upcoming events include an Earth Day cleanup along Penns Creek on April 19 and our annual Fish Out and picnic along Penns Creek May 28.

Spring Creek Chapter #185

Bob Vierck

814-360-3702, pres@springcreektu.org

www.springcreektu.org

Jason Detar, PFBC fisheries manager for the north-east region spoke about opportunities and threats to the fishery in the Spring Creek during our April 3 meeting. Watershed. Bob Morgan also spoke regarding the New Zealand Mussels signage project and status. Other projects include riparian planting on the west side of McCoy Dam April 22-23; Spring Creek cleanup day with the Clearwater Conservancy on April 26; Wayne's Coldwater Kids on April 27; May 1 membership meeting with Penn State University engineer Larry Fennessey, who will be presenting the results of an extensive water flow and temperature study of the "Duck Pond" complete with recommendations; Centre Gives online fundraising campaign on May 6-7; June 5 membership meeting with speaker Corey Miller, general manager University Area Joint Authority, and a tour of the UAJA wastewater treatment plant off Shilo Road. We will have a tour of the plant and hear how the UAJA plant is treating the wastewater to the highest standards in the industry. We played an integral part in the development of this plant and for the standards to which it performs. Our annual family picnic is June 7. Five members attended the Keystone Coldwater Conference. We had a display that highlighted our conservation efforts including our "Return the roots, runoff pollutes" program. This program included the distribution of over 200 *My Healthy Stream; A Handbook for Streamside Owners* books. Robert Vierck was elected president and Paula Sowers was elected vice president in January. Robert has been managing the major conservation projects of the chapter over the past several years and wrote and maintains the chapter website. Paula is relatively new to the chapter and board, and brings a wealth of marketing and conservation capability. She is the primary author of *Tertiary Treatment* - our newsletter. We will be participating in TU's Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting May 30-June 1 in State College. Our 41st annual dinner was March 29 at the Mountain View Country Club in Boalsburg. Conservation activities include a small planting and interpretive sign installation at Milesburg, Fisherman's Paradise parking lot improvements, in-stream stabilization and planting, and Rock Road parking lot improvements and planting. We are on a newly-created fast track coordinated effort for permits. The Army Corps of Engineers is reviewing the Rock Road site to determine if there are wetlands in the area. A local supplier has committed to provide the rock at a substantial discount for the project. Our Oak Hall project is still in the planning and permits stage. Our "Return the roots, runoff pollutes" campaign is proceeding. We mailed out 200 *My Healthy Stream* books to property owners along Spring Creek and tributary Slab Cabin Run from Pine Grove Mills through Boalsburg and downstream to Houserville. This project is funded in part by a WREN grant. We also developed a brochure that informs streamside property owners why and how to return or maintain a healthy buffer zone. We will be doing a "backyard makeover" in the spring to call attention to how a streamside property owner can enjoy the stream while being a good steward. We had nine responses to our request for participants in the makeover. A property has been tentatively selected and we will be developing a specific landscaping plan. Dave

Truesdale, our new contact for TIC, is mentoring a new teacher, Nick Rietz, at Park Forest Elementary School.

Susquehanna Chapter #044

David Craig

570-971-4744, davsalc@comcast.net

susquehannatu.wordpress.com

Five groups participated in our the chapter's January watershed meeting. Annual reports of activities were presented along with plans for 2014. The Lycoming County Conservation District also presented a report. Our February meeting featured Emmet Kyler of PFBC, who gave us an update on regulations for 2014 and the mentored youth program at Little Pine Park. Several members volunteered to be mentors. We had a booth at the Penn College Sport Show. We did sell a few items, obtained a few prizes for our April banquet, signed up one new member and handed out several applications. Tying lessons began Feb. 18 with over 20 students and five instructors. Our March meeting featured Bob Weber of PFBC and Carey Entz of the Lycoming County Conservation District, who discussed the Unassessed Waters Initiative. Our 50th anniversary banquet was April 5 in Williamsport. Featured speaker was Ken Hunter, noted wildlife artist. We obtained a supply of chapter hats, embroidered with a brook trout and "50 Years Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited" that were available at the event along with new chapter patches. Slate Run Tackle Shop is sponsoring a youth fishing day on Pine Creek on May 17 from noon-5 p.m. in cooperation with PFBC. Slate Run will provide 200 free youth licenses and fly and spinning tackle for the event. Adults may participate, but must have a license. Some chapter members will assist by providing casting and fishing instruction. The development of a river conservation plan for Loyalsock Creek has been revived after a delay due to the terrible flooding in the watershed. Member Jerry Walls is representing our chapter.

Tiadaghton Chapter #688

Jere White

570-662-2167,

whitesgordonsetters@gmail.com

Lori Maloney and Barb St. John White attended the Keystone Coldwater Conference with Jim Weaver and Jake Tomlinson, presented a poster, and talked with others doing monitoring and biological stream surveys in the region. We conducted two water monitoring trainings over the winter. One was general water chemistry training and the second was training for macroinvertebrate sampling and assessment. On March 14, six board members attended a development workshop on producing effective leadership in non-profits. We conducted free fly tying events once per month in January, February and March. Several members attended a workshop sponsored by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation on the importance of wooded riparian buffers on trout streams. A water monitoring follow-up meeting with Katy Dunlap was April 9. We discussed updates and changes to sampling protocols, and discuss data-keeping practices, data analysis and ideas for how our data can be used and shared with others. Members met with Mark Sauser of PFBC on April 3 to discuss this year's habitat improvement project on Asaph Run. Our annual roadside cleanup effort on Route 6 was April 5. Our banquet was March

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29 at the Penn Wells Hotel in Wellsboro. Featured guest was Van Wagner, who presented "Stories and Songs about Northern Pennsylvania: You Must Get Lost in the Mountains to Find Your Way."

NORTHWEST CHAPTERS

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

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Mark Hanes

254B S. Main St.

Brookville, PA 15825

E-mail: m_d_hanes@yahoo.com

Phone: 724-464-7320

Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036

George Kutskel

814-371-9290, maksak@comcast.net

www.amctu.org

All officers were re-elected to another term. We will have a board member in attendance at the Mid-Atlantic regional meeting. Our 48th annual banquet was April 5 at Falls Creek Eagles. TIC raffle tickets have been and continue to be sold at all chapter functions. Due to the death of a chapter founder we have renamed the Golden Reel Award to the Al Gretz Golden Reel Award. Kelly Williams, Eric Wilson and Joe Fieo continue to work on our Coldwater Heritage Grant for Sandy Lick Creek. Our data loggers were frozen in the creeks. We are still waiting for the City of DuBois to provide the Army Corps of Engineers the hydraulic study so we can start habitat work. We are writing a letter to DEP concerning the re-mining of the Fran Coal site on Camp Run in Clinton County. The upper outcrop was recently re-mined and the results on Rock Run have been positive. With the non-point sources of AMD, the passive treatment system we had designed and built as a pilot would not have desired results. We feel this is the only viable option to clean up Camp and Rock Run and five miles of Cooks Run. We have fly fishing after-school programs in two TIC schools. Students are tying flies with the help of Eric Wilson, John Stahl and others. Our environmental day with DuBois Middle School is May 16 at Camp Mountain Run. Our weekly fly tying roundtable and rod building class at DuBois High School ran on Tuesdays until early April. The annual Big Brother Big Sisters fishing outing is June 14 at the Tannery Dam in DuBois.

Caldwell Creek Chapter #437

Tom Savko

814-664-2124, tksavko2@verizon.net

We are planning an outdoor day in conjunction with Glen Mead Park in Corry that will include fishing, tying demos and instruction, raffles and refreshments in August. We are meeting with Mark Sausser on April 24 at Bob Slagter's house on Caldwell Creek to tour the fly only area, review the work done several years ago, and what it would take to remediate that. The property is now owned by the Foundation for Sustainable Forests, and is included in the permanent access program by PFBC. Fly tying classes were held for five weeks on Wednesdays in March and April at Corry Higher Ed in Corry. Our four TIC programs are doing very well.

Cornplanter Chapter #526

Troy McDunn

814-723-3759, hdpartsman@verizon.net

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

We hosted our 7th annual Spring Fishing Show on April 5 at the Brokenstraw Fish & Game Club in Youngsville. Due to extreme winter conditions we were unable to access our data monitors in local streams. We hope to complete our next big project on Morrison Run this year, which includes removing three large sluice pipes that are fish barriers and replacing them with a bridge. Our six TIC projects are doing great.

Iron Furnace Chapter #288

Mark Hanes

724-464-7320, m_d_hanes@yahoo.com

www.ironfurnacetu.net

Matt Baker was elected vice president at our January meeting. Our banquet was April 5. We received a Growing Greener Grant for \$132,227 to replace six culverts in the Porcupine Creek Watershed in Venango County. We transferred the administrative side of the project to Venango County Conservation District. This should have a huge impact on wild trout the watershed. The stream contains Class A populations of wild trout and is a high-quality coldwater trout stream. Special thanks go to Bruce Dickson for his hard work getting this and other grants for coldwater conservation in our area. Our grant with 3Rivers Quest was extended into this year. Additional data analysis workshop training will be one of the uses for the remaining funds. Our spring Adopt-A-Highway cleanup along Piney Creek in Limestone is April 26 at 9 a.m. We will sponsor a fifth grade class for TIC at West Forest Elementary during the 2014-15 school year. Fly tying classes were a success this year with 20 to 25 students attending each session. Mark Hanes is donating his time each Wednesday in April for a short fishing instruction and outing at Walter Dick Park in Brookville. Each week features a different topic subject to change due to current water conditions and bug activity. Mark is an assistant coach for U.S. Youth Fly Fishing Team so the classes promise to be informative.

James Zwald Chapter #314

Murray Neeper

814-834-3472, mneeper@zitomedia.net

This quarter, the chapter arranged for fly tying classes and a number of guest speakers. We are meeting with a grant writer during the April meeting. Grants are being sought to enhance our stream monitoring activities, seek additional habitat development in the Bendigo Park section of the East Branch of the Clarion and several other projects. In March, Alan Woomer from PFBC spoke on stream studies conducted on the East Branch of the Clarion and East Branch Dam. We continue to monitor tributaries of the East Branch of the Clarion with equipment from the Iron Furnace Chapter. The units were inaccessible from December through the winter due to severe snow and ice conditions. We conducted six tying classes during January and February. A special thank you goes out to guest instructors Craig Hudson, Don Perry, Murray Neeper and Terry Surra. In addition, Jim's Sport Shop and Terry Malloy in Clearfield made equipment and materials available to students at discounted prices. During the February meeting Steve Putt conducted a seminar on using kayaks for fishing. Steve and his wife brought a number of different models and discussed their features in relation to stream or lake fishing. Steve and Miranda own Country Squirrel Outfitters in Ridgway.

Neshannock Chapter #216

Jeff Kremis

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

www.neshannock-tu.org

Our annual banquet was March 15 at the Park Inn by Radisson in West Middlesex. The annual spring cleanup of Coolspring's DHALO area was March 29. At our winter meeting, we had a presentation from Renae Hodorowicz from the Western Pa. Conservancy on the Unassessed Waters Initiative. We were given streams in the Slippery Rock Creek and Sandy Creek watersheds to work on. More information on the program can be found at www.fishandboat.com/unassessedwaters.htm. If you would like to get involved contact Jeff Kremis at bentley48@neo.rr.com for more details. Our five local schools involved in TIC are all reporting that their trout are doing fine with no serious problems. Release dates are being set. We are also working with the Mercer School District TIC to start an introduction to fly fishing program for interested students. It will involve five classes to teach the basics of fly fishing and fly tying followed with a fishing trip to a local pond to practice what was learned. The annual Wolf Creek Fishing Derby is 9 a.m. April 26 in Grove City. Children 12 and under can attend, and lunch is provided by the Grove City Sportsmen's Club. Check our website for more information. We will again be sponsoring the Youth and Handicap Special Regulation Area on Deer Creek for the first month of trout season. Upcoming board meetings are April 28, May 19 and June 30 at Penn State Shenango.

Oil Creek Chapter #424

Gary Ross

814-337-6931, info@oilcreektu.org

www.oilcreektu.org

We provided assistance and support to the Foundation for Sustainable Forests, which is in the process of acquiring a parcel of land on Caldwell Creek in order to protect the area from development and exploitation. We also provided assistance to the Evangelistic Tabernacle Ministries, which hosted a Tabernacle Rod & Gun Fellowship on Feb. 22 at the Cooperstown VFD. Our

31st annual banquet was April 5. New ball caps with the chapter logo are being sold. We recently decided to change the placement of our two data loggers. There is another organization monitoring Little Sandy Creek. Sandy Creek, a larger stream that Little Sandy flows into, may be more susceptible to activities harmful to water quality. We decided to move one data logger from Little Sandy to Sugar Creek and keep the other in Sandy Creek. The Little Sandy project permit was approved and received, with plans to do it Sept. 15-17. One of our TIC classes plans to help. Waterways Conservation Officer Mark Kerr continues to attend chapter meetings when possible, and provides information regarding conservation, landowner relations and law enforcement. We may be able to start an additional TIC class at Meadville Middle School this year. We have purchased a couple of additional chillers. We are also planning to send students to Wayne's Coldwater Kids on April 27.

Seneca Chapter #272

Chase Howard

814-598-3449, chaserhoward@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/SenecaTroutUnlimited

The chapter named Chase Howard president in January. We held a four-week fly tying class in Port Allegany and had a giveaway for a 6-weight rod/reel/line setup open to kids under 18 and they each got a chance to win at every class they attended. We also gave youth memberships to kids that regularly attended the class. Chapter members attended the TIC release day at Wildcat Park in Ludlow.

SOUTHEAST CHAPTERS

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

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Fred Gender

E-mail: afgender@hotmail.com

Phone: 570-704-8764

Bucks County Chapter #254

Dan Weaver

215-219-8574, dweaver@ransome.com
www.buckstu.org

We applied for a grant for a potential project on Aquetong Creek. We have four schools in the TIC program and will have release events this spring. We assisted with the Doylestown Borough Youth Fishing Derby on March 29. A Delaware River fish migration day event is May 24 at Delaware Canal State Park.

www.patROUT.org

DelCo Manning Chapter #320

David W. Wharton

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

Our annual banquet was Feb. 22 and featured a presentation by the TIC program our chapter is sponsoring. We assisted with PFBC's spring stocking on the fly fishing only catch and release section of Ridley Creek. Our annual winter fly tying classes were well attended. Attendees learned various new and existing patterns and tying techniques. We are currently involved in a TIC program with Strath Haven Middle School.

Little Lehigh Chapter #070

John Tunney

610-360-1956, littlelehighchaptertu@gmail.com
www.littlelehigh.new.tu.org

We held a 50/50 raffle at the March membership meeting as well as a raffle of a handmade fishing net donated by Art Weiler, a print of a bass from Susan Yoder and a two-day stay at West Branch Resort, which was donated by the resort. These prizes were raffled off at the Allentown Sportsman's Show. We participated with the other three Lehigh Valley chapters at the spring joint event on March 22 at the East Bath Rod and Gun Club. The January board meeting was attended by Fran Gough, who will help the chapter conduct a youth camp June 14 at Camp Olympic. Lower Macungie Township is providing the site. The program gives young people an opportunity to learn about fly fishing and conservation. At the January membership meeting, Bob Signorello gave a presentation on subsurface fishing. Topics included situational fishing descriptions, equipment, reading the water, fly selection, approach and presentation techniques and specialty casts. Bob is a member of the Monocacy Chapter and we appreciate his willingness to provide his time and expertise to our group. There was no February meeting due to weather. Our March meeting featured snorkeling in local creeks. "A View Below" was presented by underwater naturalist Keith Williams. His video presentation gave us a view seldom seen and emphasized the amount of life occurring in our own streams. These ecosystems deserve as much attention and protection as the larger more nationally known rivers. Our thanks go out to our conservation chairman, Scott Alderfer, for his work in acquiring a Coldwater Heritage Program grant for \$5,000 on behalf of the chapter. The funds will be used for tree plantings along several sections of the Little Lehigh where there is a lack of tree canopy to help cool the stream. Scott worked closely with a private landowner and Lower Macungie Township to gain access and permission for the project.

Perkiomen Valley Chapter #332

Chaz Macdonald

6107304956; Chazmac1949@rcn.com
www.pvtu.org

Our annual raffle drawing was April 15. Chaz Macdonald attended an EQB meeting on March 18 for water quality upgrades in the Upper Perkiomen Watershed. We added TIC programs in Upper Providence and Perkiomen Valley high schools.

SE Montgomery County

Chapter #468

Richard Terry

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

The chapter held its annual "polar bear" outing on the second Saturday in January. We fished the Pennypack stream that flows through the Pennypack Trust. The weather was cold but the fish cooperated.

Tulpehocken Chapter #150

Daniel Shaffer

610-334-2615, info@tullytu.org
Website: www.tullytu.org

The chapter has been working toward re-establishing our banquet. Last year was the first time in five years that we held one. Due to its success we decided to improve on what we accomplished. This year we focused our attention on our youth outreach programs. We have raised a significant amount of sponsorship money for TIC and will expand the number of schools we serve by two, giving us a total of nine. We also received sponsorship money for conservation camps and hope to send at least two kids from the area to camps. We have raised a substantial amount of money to sustain our youth programs. During the banquet we had four guest speakers talking about camps, TIC and teaching kids to fish. In February, we asked membership what they wanted the chapter to do and how we can make it better. First, all agreed that most people join TU to find the "good" spots to fish so we need to buddy up with the new members and take them fishing. In May, we will have a membership meeting where our older members will "fish with a buddy" who wants to learn Tulpehocken Creek. We are also giving coupons to new members for a free "Breakfast on the Tully." Second, we want to continue and expand our youth outreach so we will try and grow our TIC program. And we are going to work more closely with other local conservation groups by providing education assistance and funding when possible. For example, we recently sent a donation to the local parks department so they could buy rubber boots for their kids stream project program. We are also working with the conservancy toward stream programs along Angelica Creek. Finally, we want to fill the restoration/improvement pipeline with good projects to involve members. Following through with the third item on our agenda, four board members attended the Keystone Coldwater Conference. We made significant in-roads and contacts for our proposed projects. This year we have three projects. Two are on the Upper Tully and one is along Hay Creek by Johanna Furnace.

Valley Forge Chapter #290

Robbi Freisem

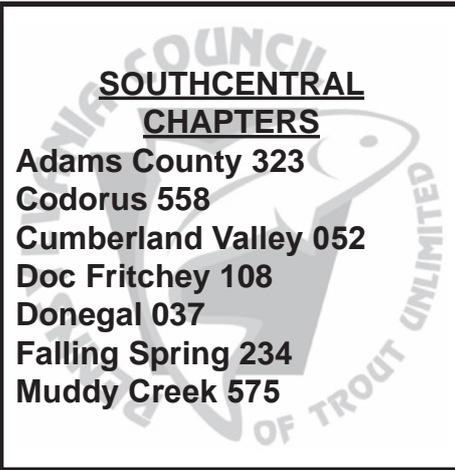
610-466-0341, rfreisem@verizon.net
www.valleyforgetu.org

Frank Donohoe is working with National TU's Bryan Moore on a document of restrictive covenant to finalize a long-sought agreement with a Trammell Crowe/Atwater land developer to continue protecting Cedar Hollow Run, a major coldwater tributary to Valley Creek. Our Trout Show was March 27 at Valley Forge

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Middle School. Speaker was Ozzie Ozevovich with a discussion of "Underwater Oz." On March 15, Watershed Congress on the Schuylkill was presented by the Delaware Riverkeeper Network and sponsored by the chapter. We received a Growing Greener Grant to continue work in Crabby Creek watershed. Board member Dave Macaleer is keeping tabs on five TIC programs with board member Jim Leonard, who is the contact with a sixth. Pocopson Elementary School released its trout on March 28. Our veterans services program partnership with Project Healing Waters continues to grow. Fly fishing and tying instruction at the Coatesville VAMC has grown to a weekly event. Coordinator Chuck Cutshall has been working out the details of this year's off-campus outings. Fly tyer Tom Herr donated a beautiful full dressed salmon fly wonderfully mounted and framed that is being raffled to support the program. On March 9, Kris Heister provided several hours of information on history, heritage, watershed issues of Valley Creek watershed and Valley Forge National Historical Park to seven members of the Delaware Valley Women's Fly Fishing Association, after which Fred Gender provided the fishing aspects of VFTU's home waters. LL Bean at King of Prussia is holding its fishing weekend again this year. Chapter volunteers will have a table and poster with information on VFTU, conservation work on Valley Creek and Crabby Creek, the upcoming Trout Show and May's fly fishing school.



**SOUTH CENTRAL
CHAPTERS**

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

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

John Leonard

222 Brindle Road

Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

E-mail: johnleonard@gmail.com

Phone: 717-697-6188

Adams County Chapter #323

Dave Swope

717-624-8134, swopeda624@embarqmail.com

www.adamscountytu.org

Chapter members attended the Keystone Coldwater Conference. We were an advocate in establishing a youth mentoring day in Adams County on March 22, through a partnership between Knouse Foods and PFBC. Phase 2 of the Birch Run Brook Trout Partnership Alliance continued to provide direction through the winter. The partnership between three TU chapters will begin this

summer. Grant money has been approved for the project through the South Mountain Partnership and a Back the Brookie grant. Signage to list all partners in the restoration project is being designed. Lime dosing continues on Mountain Creek in partnership with CVTU. A research study is being conducted by a Shippensburg University student. Trout in the Classroom release events are April 22 and May 5 at Strawberry Hill Preserve Complex.

Codorus Chapter #558

Tom Fenninez

717-817-8446, tom@codorustu.org

www.codorustu.org

We are installing several permanent, quality No Parking signs for a local landowner who has been bothered by vehicles blocking access to his farm fields. We'd like to help him solve that issue. We are monitoring and maintaining our streamside wader wash stations as a preventive measure against didymo, present in the nearby Gunpowder River in Maryland. We are deciding on a date for our annual spring stream cleanup. For the past several years, we've successfully paired this event with our TIC release day. Upcoming chapter meetings are May 14 and June 11 at Laughman's Sawmill Pavilion.

Cumberland Valley Chapter #052

Justin Pittman

717- 360-8823, flyfishing80@gmail.com

www.pacvtu.org

We had a board meeting on Jan. 8 and members meeting on Jan. 15 with Matt Supinski as our guest speaker. We held our beginners and advanced fly tying classes from Jan. 16 through March 6. We had another board meeting on Feb. 12 and Feb. 19 was our members meeting. Guest speaker was Don Baylor, a well-known fly tyer, artist, author, conservationist and expert on Pocono region fly fishing. We had a booth at the NRA Sports and Outdoor show in Harrisburg Pa. from Feb. 1-9. This was a great PR opportunity and fundraiser for us. In March, we had our board meeting on the 12th and our members meeting on the 19th. Guest speaker was Bob Bachman, our region representative on the board of PFBC commissioners. We wrapped up our fly tying classes and prepared for our Limestoner banquet on March 14. Two board members attended the Keystone Coldwater Conference. We met with Kevin Anderson on April 8 to review an upcoming stream improvement project on Yellow Breeches Creek. We have been working closely with our chair to focus on our TIC program. Upcoming events include a Ladies Fly Fishing Clinic on May 17 at Allenberry Playhouse in Boiling Springs; the Penn's Creek chapter trip on May 27; TU Night at the Senators baseball game on June 5; the East Licking Creek chapter fishing trip on June 7; Reel Recovery on June 9 at Allenberry; the Rivers Youth and Conservation Camp from June 15-20 at Allenberry; and the Street to Streams program on June 24-25, also at Allenberry.

Doc Fritchey Chapter #108

Edward O'Gorman

717-580-3186, edogorman@comcast.net

www.dftu.org

We are exploring alternative meeting schedules to accommodate separate business and membership meet-

ings. We are considering the change to attract members who may not be interested in business matters but are seeking educational and social activities. At our January board meeting, we appointed Russ Collins vice president. Our annual banquet was March 15 at the Holiday Inn of Grantville. We are looking forward to spring projects that include another round of tree planting along Clarks Creek and Adopt-A-Highway cleanup on SR 325 in the delayed harvest section of Clarks Valley. Our ongoing weekly work continues at our diversion wells in the head waters of Stony Creek. The chapter will work with the Quittapahilla Watershed Association on a substantial restoration and improvement project in the Quittapahilla Nature Park. We are continuing to explore the feasibility of installing water monitoring devices in local waterways and we are currently discussing a possible partnership with local agencies capable of providing technical assistance with such a project. We support six TIC programs in Dauphin and Lebanon County schools. Our eight-week beginner fly tying classes began March 20.

Donegal Chapter #037

Tom Hall

717-898-8664, phallcat@comcast.net

www.donegaltu.org

Our annual banquet was March 29 at the Lancaster Host Resort. Lancaster County Conservancy has decided to try to establish a viable wild brook trout fishery on a section of Climbers Run in southern Lancaster County. The property, formerly known as Camp Snyder, is about 85 acres and already has a wild brook trout population. We are assisting with the stream restoration part of the project through grants and work to be done by U.S. Fish & Wildlife. In early May, Marticville Middle School will release its first TIC brookies to the stream. We are encouraging other schools to do the same. The goal is to develop an educational center for adults as well as students for coldwater conservation, stream entomology and related environmental themes. It will be an educational park open to the public and once established, the conservancy is planning fly fishing, catch and release regulations. We are very excited to be a part of what could become a real gem. We are holding our membership picnic there on June 18 and extend an open invitation. We are also participating in a fundraiser for the Lancaster County Career and Technology School from May 14-15 on Lititz Run. It's called "Fly on The Run" and involves about a hundred local anglers and corporate sponsors who compete in the contest.

Falling Spring Chapter #234

Rod Cross

717-264-2747, rcross@mathesongas.com

The chapter received a generous donation of \$500 from Volvo. We are working with Eagle Scout candidate Jordan Bender, who will be working with PFBC, getting quotes from fencing companies and planning the removal of old fencing on two PFBC parking lots along the Falling Spring, Briar Lane and Spring View Drive. Old fencing will be replaced with new longer-lasting synthetic materials. Ken Hartman, Terry Ward and Rod Cross attended the Keystone Coldwater Conference. Members are looking forward to our annual "Falling Spring Invitational" at Izaak Walton Park, Chambersburg on May 16-17. This is our opportunity to spend a couple days with our wounded warriors.

Muddy Creek Chapter #575

Fred Hess

717-650-6556, muddycreektu@comcast.net

www.muddycreektu.org

We operated two food stands on the opening day of trout season, selling hot dishes, snacks and drinks to anglers. Chapter merchandise was also available for purchase, including 25th anniversary patches and T-shirts. Plans are being made to restock our native plant nursery. With the past year's multiple stream projects the nursery is quite low on stock. Live stakes and stock from pruning will take place soon, as will possible purchases from the Conservation District. On May 3, the chapter will again sponsor a day of fishing, food and friendship for the children and families from ForSight Vision. The event for these visually impaired will be held at the handicap area on Tom's Run. One chapter officer participated in the Feb. 11 National TU webinar. Committee members are in the planning stages for a 25th anniversary event in the fall that will be open to the public and will include educational information about protecting and preserving the watershed.

SOUTHWEST CHAPTERS

Arrowhead 214

Chestnut Ridge 670

Forbes Trail 206

Fort Bedford 291

John Kennedy 045

Ken Sink 053

Mountain Laurel 040

Penn's Woods West 042

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Chuck Winters

1898 Old Route 22

Duncansville, PA 16635

E-mail: wintershs@aol.com

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

932-8841(c)

Arrowhead Chapter #214

Chad Hough

724-422-8471, chadough@verizon.net

www.arrowhead214tu.org

February's meeting featured Eric Null from Kiski-Conemaugh Stream Team, who gave a presentation on "Hatches and Their Connection to Water Quality." March's meeting featured Renae Hodorowicz, fisheries biologist from the Western Pa. Conservancy, who gave a presentation/training on the Unassessed Waters Initiative. We will be getting involved with the program this summer. On March 13, we held our annual "March Madness" event, which showcased nine fly tyers, two

Cabin Fever 2014



Contributed Photo

The Penns Woods West Chapter of Trout Unlimited held its annual Cabin Fever event on Feb. 23 with hundreds of attendees making their way through 60 exhibitors and hearing from featured speakers Jeff Blood, Eric Stroup and Scott Loughner.

rod builders and a trout spinner maker. We participated in two float stockings of the Buffalo Creek DHALO section with both state and co-op nursery trout. Our banquet was March 22. Arrowhead officers met with Amy Wolfe from National TU about an AMD discharge project on Hulings Run in Armstrong County. With Amy's assistance, National TU will be helping Armstrong County Conservation District with a design of the cleanup project and any other needs during grant and completion stages. Winter fly tying classes went very well with nine students participating. On March 8, we participated in the East Brady Sportsmen Show, donating trout from our co-op nursery for a pond that kids attending the event could fish for. The trout were then stocked in a local waterway after the event.

Chestnut Ridge Chapter #670

Dale Kotowski

724-747-1513,

pheasantfarmflycasters@hughes.net

www.chestnutridgetu.org

The chapter has implemented a five-year strategic plan addressing five general categories: programs, organization, funding, education & outreach and membership. Our 19th annual banquet was March 22 at the Uniontown Holiday Inn. Our chapter's Coldwater Conservation Corps continues to routinely monitor Beaver Creek, Ramcat Run, Quebec Run and Mill Run. Data has been entered into TU's database since April 2013. Our Research Management & Protection Committee continues its remediation efforts on Jonathan, Morgan and Glade runs. We are also monitoring activity on the Curry Mine coal-stripping project above the Youghiogheny River and the Great Allegheny Passage Rails-to-Trails. In April, we will host TU's southwest PA media tour where media from around the state will examine the fisheries in the Youghiogheny watershed and the potential impact of Marcellus drilling activity on those fisheries. Chestnut Ridge supports TIC projects in

13 schools. In May, students will release their trout. In April and May, we will instruct students in entomology, stream flow, water chemistry and casting.

Forbes Trail Chapter #206

Corey Brown

814-356-9915, thebigsteellie@gmail.com

www.forbestrailtu.org

Thanks to all who attended our banquet on March 1, our volunteer staff and all those who made contributions, we gave out over 100 prizes in raffles – including Orvis and Winston fly rods, a Yeti cooler, framed wildlife art and a \$500 cash prize. We raised enough money to continue funding our programs in 2014. We give awards to honor those who have given of their time and efforts to help FTTU each year. Lyle Farr received the Russ Mowry Memorial Silver Trout for service to the chapter. Lyle served two terms as treasurer and has helped at Rock Run and other chapter projects. The Ed Bordas Memorial Award honoring contributions by a business or organization was given to Olga Hebert of the Lincoln Highway Heritage Corridor. Olga has been instrumental in the creation of the Laurel Highlands Trout Trail and has worked hard to plan events and promote tourism in our area. Drew Banas is actively engaged with our youth program and expanding its boundaries by inviting parents and senior adults to join in. We are working with local officials and the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette to potentially hold a one-day event for handicapped fishermen. Members joined us for "Movie Night" in Pittsburgh for the 2014 Fly Fishing Film Tour.

Fort Bedford Chapter #291

www.fortbedfordtu.org

The chapter extended fly tying classes through the last Saturday in March because of classes that were

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canceled due to weather. We will participate in an Earth Day celebration on April 26 at Shawnee State Park. We are planning for our picnic in August, conducted in partnership with John Kennedy TU.

John Kennedy Chapter #045

Dan Beck
814-356-9915, normandyb@aol.com

The chapter participated in the Alleghenies Adventure Outdoor Show and the Jaffa Sports Show. Fly tying classes finished. We will take part in TIC release days, Wayne's Coldwater Kids and youth field days.

Ken Sink Chapter #053

Dick Farabaugh
724-349-8088, rjfara@comcast.net
kensink.blogspot.com

Our annual banquet was April 5. Release days are scheduled for our three TIC schools. We had an excellent fly tying class this year, consisting of eight adults and seven youths. A fishing skills class with on-stream instruction was planned for April. Chapter members attended leadership training in January and the Keystone Coldwater Conference in February, as well as the southwest regional meeting. We are sending two youths and one mentor to Wayne's Coldwater Kids. We contacted our state representatives expressing our opposition to HB1576. Eric Stroup presented a program on "Nymphing Tactics and Techniques" at our March 11 meeting.

Mountain Laurel Chapter #040

Randy Buchanan
814-467-4034, prbfish4fun@aol.com
Website: www.mltu.org

Our annual banquet was March 22. The chapter will do a stream restoration project on Ben's Creek. Trout in the Classroom releases will take place in May. The chapter sponsors 11 schools.

Penns Woods West Chapter #042

Walter Reineman
412-999-8292, walterr28@hotmail.com
www.pwwtu.org

Our March meeting speaker was board member Briget Shields, who presented Casting for Recovery and their retreat Aug. 15-17 in central PA. Our April 14 meeting featured prominent local tyers demonstrating their craft. From Feb. 12-16, in exchange for presentations by Ron Milavec and Briget, we manned a booth at the Allegheny Sport and Travel Outdoor Show. In addition to promoting the chapter and the TU message to a constituency not necessarily aware of it, we also raised money by selling flies tied during the show. A very effective tool in getting attendees engaged was giving passing youths a quick tutorial and a chance to tie a basic fly to take home. While there was a good bit of time involved, this is a fertile venue in that there were very few conservation groups represented. Our newsletter and

website continue to be instrumental in communicating to our members. While we do provide printed newsletters to those that ask, we are now mostly electronic. This has likely impaired communication with some of our older members but our meeting attendance remains consistent and we are seeing a tremendous savings in printing and postage. Our Cabin Fever show on Feb. 23 was a success due to the efforts of event organizer Dale Fogg and a dedicated group of volunteers. Flies sold at various chapter functions continue to be a steady source of income. In addition to flies tied by members, we also had a generous donation by local shop International Anglers that bolstered our inventory. We continue our involvement with our local suburban stream, Pine Creek, in Allison Park. Our expenses have diminished recently due to our relationship with the local municipality, fostered by long-term coordinator Tom Walsh. Hampton Township has generously provided materials and heavy equipment time for recent projects. In addition, the Allison Park Sportsman's Club coordinates a stream stocking, stream cleanup and youth fishing derby that we contribute to. Another offshoot of our work with Pine Creek is a one-day exclusive stretch of water on tributary Little Pine Creek for young fishermen under 12, stocked for opening day. Under the leadership of Christian Shane, we have two strong TIC participants. There are at least three, possibly four, new applicants for the next school year. Our free fly fishing seminar was March 29, organized by Rob Reeder and Scott Loughner, had over 30 registered participants. Recent seminars have seen very strong attendance with recruitment of new members. In an effort keep participants engaged, we are trying a new mentoring program to pair up new fishermen with experienced members.