

Pennsylvania TROUT



Summer 2012

Publication of the Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited

www.patrou.org

Make plans to attend PATU's fall meeting

Why should you attend Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited's annual fall membership meeting this Sept. 28-30?

Well first off, it's a lot of fun, and an excellent opportunity to establish relationships with other TU members from all corners of the Commonwealth.

Information & registration form available on page 9

The camaraderie is always outstanding, and the pig roast on Saturday evening is

without equal. Fishing on Spring Creek, whether at Fisherman's Paradise or some other section of this famous central PA limestone, is always challenging, and often times rewarding. And don't forget about the opportunity to win some great

See **MEETING**, page 2

Reconnecting with the past

By Don Kelly
Special to PA Trout

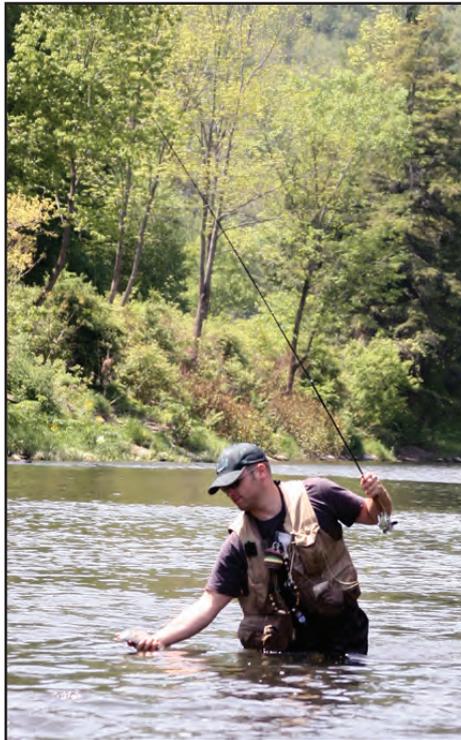
Within their flowing waters and rock laden bottoms, rivers hold the truths of many days gone by. Staring into the depths reminiscing of old times has been as much of a part of fishing as the fish itself. Searching for answers to questions that have never been asked, the river always listens though words need not be spoken.

It's a sort of mental euphoria and a state of enlightenment. Each stone, each drop of water, holds a verse or chapter from a book never written and a story never told.

In space, the stories are very much still alive. It's time that which the stories have long since vanished.

I've thought of this many days on the water. Especially the many days and nights I spent fly fishing Central Pennsylvania

See **PAST**, page 6



Todd Puleo Photo

Catching fish, like this rainbow from Tioga County's Pine Creek, gives anglers a way to connect with contemporaries who have waded the same waters.

Council seeks nominations for officer positions

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited is seeking nominations for officers to serve on Council for fiscal year 2013.

Positions include: President, two Vice Presidents, seven Regional Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer. Please see the job descriptions below for each position. If you would like to be nominated or would like to nominate someone for one or more of these positions, please email your nomination to Samantha Kutskel at c-skutskel@pa.gov no later than Aug. 20.

All nominations will be posted on www.patrou.org prior to Aug. 29, and an announcement will be sent to all chapter presidents. Election of officers will take place at the annual fall membership meeting on Sept. 29. Nominations for officers will also be accepted from the floor at the annual meeting.

See **OFFICERS**, page 3

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Pennsylvania TROUT

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



PRESIDENT -- Ken Undercoffer
1510 Village Road
Clearfield, PA 16830
Phone: 814-765-1035
E-mail: kcoffer@atlanticbb.net

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

VICE PRESIDENT -- Brian Wagner
137 South New Street
Nazareth, PA 18064
Phone: 484-894-8289
E-mail: fish4brian@aol.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 --
Contact George Kutskel, Treasurer

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

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Council introduces 'Brookie' grant program

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited is introducing a "Back the Brookie" mini grant program to help conserve, protect and restore native brook trout in Pennsylvania.

Funding for this grant is made possible through the sale of Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited's "Back the Brookie" license plates.

All proceeds from the license plates will be used to benefit brook trout restoration in Pennsylvania. PATU has been selling the plates for three years and has established a small fund to begin accepting applications to help with projects and programs that directly relate to native brook trout.

Grants will provide PATU chapters funding assistance for on-the-ground projects that have already been established but may need additional financial support. Applications should focus on brook trout and their habitat. Chapters can apply for up to \$1,000 each fiscal year.

The "Back the Brookie" mini grant program will be introduced at the fall meeting on Sept. 29. The first grant round will open on Oct. 14.

For more information about the grant please contact Samantha Kutskel at 814-359-5233 or c-skutskel@pa.gov. The grant application will be posted on the PATU website following the fall meeting.

PATU launches new website

By the time you receive this issue of *PA Trout*, our new Council website should be up and running.

Although the content format of the new www.patrou.org site remains pretty much the same, we think you will find that the new graphics format developed for us by Steve Fabian of Quarter Note Systems puts a fresh new face on Council's primary communications tool.

We also wish to thank Paul Raubertas, who volunteered his time and skills in developing our previous website, as well

as all the additional work he contributed behind the scenes on an ongoing basis. Paul is an information technology professional who has recently been elected president of the Western Pocono Chapter.

We hope you will visit our website often to find out what's new with Council activities, in addition to checking out a variety of information about our organization and its programs, and even the opportunity to purchase a variety of special PATU merchandise.

MEETING

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prizes in our annual raffle on Saturday evening!

Of course, the business portion of the meeting is critical to understanding what TU is all about, and this year you will receive information on such topics as website development and applying for the newly revised Small Games of Chance licenses. You will also hear about Coldwater Heritage Partnership updates, PATU's new Brook Trout Grant and College Outreach programs, the TU Veterans Service Program and the PFBC

Unassessed Trout Waters initiative. And National TU and PATU personnel will be there to tell you what's new and answer any questions you might have.

So, whether you're a current chapter officer, or an active member interested in moving up to a leadership role, this once-a-year meeting is for you! And please keep in mind that in order to maintain your active chapter status, our Council bylaws mandate that every chapter is required to send at least one representative to the annual meeting to elect your Council officers for the forthcoming fiscal year.

We're looking forward to seeing lots of new faces on Sept. 29!

OFFICERS

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Contact Samantha at the above email address or 814-359-5233 with questions.

Term of Office: All Officers of the Council shall serve for a term of one year commencing on Oct. 1 of the year elected and ending on Sept. 30 of the following year. The President and the VPs are limited to four consecutive terms of office.

President: Chief Executive Officer of the Council

Responsibilities are:

- Attend all meetings of the Council and the Executive Committee.
- Coordinate the activities of the Council and act as the official spokesperson for the Council within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- Appoint the chairpersons of all Standing and Special Committees and serve as Chairperson of the Executive Committee.

Vice Presidents (2)

Responsibilities are:

- Be responsible for and coordinate with half of the Standing Committees.
- Make sure that their committees meet in a timely manner, and that committee quarterly reports are submitted to the Secretary on a timely basis.
- Facilitate communication between committees and chapters needing advice and aid.
- Assist the President in filling open positions on their committees, especially those requiring expert counsel.

The Council President has the exclusive right to assign each Vice President the committees he or she is responsible for, immediately following the Annual Membership Meeting elections.

Regional Vice Presidents (7)

Responsibilities are:

- Serve a designated geographic region of the Commonwealth.
- The Regional Vice President of each designated region shall be a resident thereof.
- Provide support and coordinate the activities of chapters within the designated region.
- Responsible for filing quarterly

activity reports for their respective chapters at least one week prior to Executive Committee meetings.

- Report to and are accountable to the President.
- Hold at least one (1) regional meeting per year, preferably at least six (6) weeks prior to the Annual Membership Meeting, for the purpose of selecting a nominee or nominees for the position of Regional Vice President to serve for the ensuing fiscal year.
- Additional regional meetings may be scheduled at the discretion of the Regional Vice Presidents as required to adequately address other matters pertinent to their respective Regions.

Secretary

Responsibilities are:

- Record minutes of all Executive Committee and Council meetings and file a copy of the same with the National Trout Unlimited office within thirty (30) days after all meetings.
- Maintain accurate records of Council policies, Council directories, and Council activities, including the determination and maintenance of an official list of Chapter Delegates to Council.
- Register Chapter delegates at Council meetings, determine majority, and record votes taken.

Treasurer

Responsibilities are:

- Responsible for all funds, and records of such funds, belonging to the Council.
- Report financial condition of the Council at each Executive Committee and Council meeting.
- A status report shall be furnished in the form of a balance sheet showing all income and expenditures for the prescribed period of time.
- Prepare in detailed form an annual financial statement for submission to the Executive Committee and National Trout Unlimited.
- Oversee all accounting and book-keeping as required by grant contracts.
- Responsible for payroll and appropriate tax filing. The Treasurer will be audited annually.

PA COUNCIL OF TROUT UNLIMITED 2012 COMMITTEES



Awards -- Gerry Miller

306 Baumgardner Drive

Harrisburg, PA 17112

717-583-2087 / fourquartets@verizon.net

Coldwater Heritage Partnership Admin.

PATU, POB 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823

814-359-5233

Coldwater Heritage Partnership TU Delegate

Ken Undercoffer

1510 Village Rd., Clearfield, PA 16830

814-765-1035 / kcoffer@atlanticbb.net

Communications -- Bob Pennell

2319 Valley Road, Harrisburg, PA 17104

717-236-1360 / rpennell37@comcast.net

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

Education -- Contact VP Charlie Charlesworth

Environmental -- Greg Grabowicz

1517 McCormick Dr.

Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

717-697-8897 / ggrabow2@msn.com

Legislative Liaison -- Fred Bohls

3519 Ada Dr., Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

717-732-5050 / fcfp@ix.netcom.com

Membership -- Greg Malaska

218 W. 13th St., Jim Thorpe, PA 18229

570-657-7169

gregmalaska@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 -- Samantha Kutskel

450 Robinson Lane, Bellefonte, PA 16823

814-359-5114 / c-skutskel@pa.gov

Trout Management -- Richard Soderberg

Mansfield University, Mansfield, PA 16933

570-662-4539 / rsoderbe@mansfield.edu

Youth -- Gerald Potocnak

153 Doyle Rd., Sarver, PA 16055

724-295-2718 / potatoes@consolidated.net

Headwaters

A message from PATU President Ken Undercoffer

I attended the East Coast Trout Management Workshop and Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture review meetings held consecutively at Frostburg University from June 11-14.

The PFBC gave a status report on Pennsylvania's Brook Trout Enhancement Program: no-kill for brook trout and general regulations (5 trout /day, 7-inch minimum size limit for brown and rainbow trout) and no tackle restrictions. Nineteen stream sections were put in the program for evaluation in 2004 compared to nine control streams managed under general regulations.

The PFBC concluded: "*Results of the evaluation suggest that catch and release regulations were not effective at improving brook trout size structure in Pennsylvania headwater streams.*" No explanation was given for the lack of improvement in the size structure of the brook trout in the experimental program. I came away with the impression that the Brook Trout Enhancement Program is likely to be terminated.

I find this to be more than a bit puzzling as I have been getting glowing reports from those who are fishing the Kettle Creek Brook Trout Enhancement section. We need to assemble the Trout Management Committee in order to come up with a response to this very negative report. I want to see PFBC data on at least the Kettle Creek section and hopefully some of the others to try to get some idea why the program does not appear to have increased the numbers of larger brook trout whenever they are not subjected to harvesting. This just doesn't make sense!

But more importantly, what does this mean for the future of brook trout management in Pennsylvania? Hopefully we are not going to just go back to the old (general) regulations. After all, Kettle Creek once produced a lot of brook trout in the 9- to 12-inch range, with occasional fish reaching 20 inches. Brookies of this size are also described in old angling literature about the Loyalsock and Sinnemahoning systems.

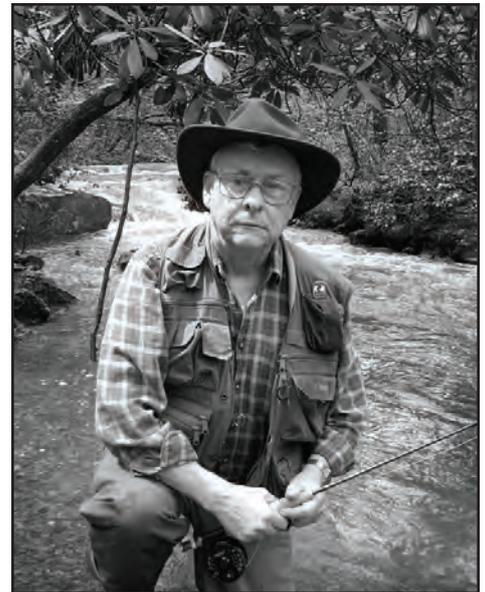
The loss of these once great brook trout fisheries has always been attributed to the

massive and uncontrolled logging that took place in these big freestone watersheds at the end of the 19th and early 20th centuries. Uncontrolled logging certainly was a very significant factor in the decline of Pennsylvania's brook trout fishery.

But old angling literature and at least one technical document by Watts, Trembley and Harvey, published in 1942, describe another aspect of brook trout life history that has either been forgotten or ignored here in Pennsylvania. The conclusion of these early authors was that in the past, brook trout in large freestone streams often made seasonal upstream and downstream movements. As the larger downstream waters warmed in the summer sun, they moved upstream into cooler tributaries and headwaters. These movements were often massive and after they occurred, no brookies were found in the warmer downstream waters. They kept on moving upstream and by the fall spawn were well into the headwaters and ready to spawn where their eggs were safe from freezing out during the winter months and from 'blow-out' during the spring melt. When November rains raised water levels and cooled the big mainstem waters, they dropped back downstream and wintered over in the big downstream pools. Here they were safe from anchor ice and other perils of winter common in smaller upstream waters.

But more importantly, they were able to feed up on the far more plentiful insect life, minnows and crayfish in the bigger waters in the spring, the most productive part of the year. This expanded their forage base and allowed them to lead long lives and reach sizes and numbers we can only imagine today. All this seems to have been forgotten here in Pennsylvania.

Maryland is doing some very intensive telemetry studies on the upper Savage River watershed to determine the extent of brook trout movements and how these movements affect the life history of Maryland's native brook trout populations. This study was described at the Frostburg Conference. Extensive movements of brook trout were observed, according to the authors of this paper. They documented



large seasonal movement patterns within streams and between management areas.

Once brook trout in small freestone streams approach 10 inches, they reach a point where it takes as much energy to capture the meager food available as the food provides. Growth slows to the point where they can barely accumulate enough fat resources to spawn and get thru the winter. By spring the larger brookies often look like pencils with fins. And it is likely that many simply starve because they do not have the fat resources to survive the winter.

So the ability to move around in stream systems is very important in the life history of brook trout. They move in order to continue to grow and increase their chances of survival. And larger brook trout are those most inclined to make such movements. That's how they get large. The expanded forage base in larger downstream waters promotes faster growth and larger average size. These movements have been well described in old angling literature. And they still do occur, although to a much lesser extent than in the past. I have witnessed them myself on several occasions.

Is this what PFBC is not recognizing? Once brook trout move out of protected sections into open waters they are subject to harvesting, especially if these waters are stocked and heavily harvested every spring. The PFBC did a study of hatchery trout movements, but, as far as I know, has never done a study of wild brook trout movements. At least not since the 1942

Continued on next page...

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Watts, Trembly and Harvey study. And yes, that is the late George Harvey we all know as one of the fly fishing giants here in Pennsylvania.

We also saw a presentation on the movements of brook trout between fresh water and salt water in New England. These brookies are known as salters and have a life history similar to coaster brook trout. They move back and forth between freshwater streams and brackish estuaries and sometimes out into the ocean itself. One of the brookies in this study more than doubled its weight after a few months of residence in the estuary.

Over the years, many studies have been conducted that indicate brook trout move within fresh water systems in order to meet their requirements for food and suitable water temperatures, as do other salmonids. Are the larger brookies in the upper section of Kettle Creek and other Brook Trout Enhancement Waters moving out of the protected waters and being harvested in the early months of the trout season? What about the plentitude of larger brookies being reported by anglers in the Kettle Creek section? Why did they not show up in the electrofishing surveys? Are the electrofishing surveys simply missing them?

Sadly, we just don't know. And we need to find out. Other partners in the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture are conducting studies to find the answers to these questions. We seem to just keep doing the same thing over and over again and keep getting the same results.

Treasurer's Report

by PATU Treasurer George Kutskel

I would like to start off by saying hello to everyone. I know that some of our members have been reading PA Trout online or getting a free copy from one of the fly shops distributing them around the state.

How do I know this? Easy. I get cut out order forms each time the newsletter goes out. Also, our web order form is being used more, again when the newsletter is posted to www.patrou.org. In each issue I have something of interest related to the treasurer or president. This issue is no different, except now I am targeting the chapters' banquet chairmen and the person in charge of fundraising.

The state's Small Games of Chance laws have changed. That may be the biggest understatement I've ever made! Highlights are:

- Requirement of PSP background check.
- New reporting to the PA Department of Revenue.
- W-2 G reporting to the IRS.
- Separate bank account for "proceeds" from events you have sponsored.
- Sharing of licensed premises for events.
- New prize limits.

If you're like me you just threw your hands up and said forget it! After you come down, you realize that this is the way it is and wonder, "How do I work with it?"

We need to make sure all of our chapters are up to speed to take on new challenges

Chapter Donations

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

Oil Creek	Adams County
Spring Creek	Allegheny
Mountain Laurel	Mountain
Valley Forge	Lackawana
Brodhead	Bucks County
Hokendauqua	Penns Creek
Arrowhead	Neshannock
Chestnut Ridge	

coming our way. Please make sure that someone from your chapter attends the fall meeting. We will have someone from the state on hand to help walk all of you through this.

This is not something you can say, "Well, we don't have a big fundraiser so I don't need to follow the rules." When the original rule went into effect, a small group of older ladies were selling tickets for a quilt to benefit a senior center and were caught without a license. They received a fine and lost their fundraiser. If that can happen in a small town of 2,400, by a non-affiliated group, I wouldn't bet that a TU chapter will fly under the radar. Also, the new law is clear that no proceeds can be used to pay fines levied against the organization.

If you have not yet made your arrangements to go to the fall meeting, this should get you there.

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 14-23. For TU membership information, see page 23.

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



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Support Trout in the Classroom by purchasing TIC raffle tickets!

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited is conducting a raffle for four great prizes, proceeds from which will be used to support Trout in the Classroom and other PATU youth education programs and outreach events in 2013.

Through your past financial support of our previous raffles, the TIC program has grown to include nearly 200 participating schools over the last couple of years. Your support for this year's raffle will help ensure continued growth for this popular

PAST

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streams and our own Pine Creek.

Each river, each lake, holds its own stories and memories of fishermen who have stood on the same water many years ago. While the stream might be empty on any particular day, it was not too long ago that legends of the sport and our own relatives stood on the very same waters.

I've often thought of my great grandfather, a man I never really got to know, but whose stories I've heard time and time again, wading the same streams fishing for the same fish. In all likelihood, the fish we chase today are descendants of the fish from their times.

In time, they were people we'd never had a chance to know. In space though, we stand on the very same waters that fishermen before us prized so deeply as well.

Celebrities, former presidents, and famed fishermen stood these waters as did thousands of great anglers whose stories lie buried in the river bottom and engraved only in the memories of their relatives and friends. It's thoughts like this that have given me a deeper appreciation for both history and fishing, particularly the history of fishing.

Though, the tactics have changed, the technologies have improved, and the waterways themselves have been altered, the stories and memories created from fishing these waters stays the same. Perhaps that's what defines us as fishermen.

Fish stories, as many call them, are

Name: _____		Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited	
Address: _____		Trout in the Classroom Coordinator Raffle	
City: _____		PATU 2012 PRIZE LIST S.G.O.C.#3504	
State: _____ Zip: _____		1st Prize Wyatt Dietrich Custom 7'2" 5wt 2pc Bamboo Rod w/2 tips & leather case	
Phone: _____		2nd Prize .. Old Town "Vapor" Kayak Dunham's Sports	
Number of Tickets Purchased: _____		3rd Prize ... Ned Smith "Flushing Pheasant"	
Chapter: _____		4th Prize ... \$200.00 Cash Card	
		Donation: \$5.00 or 5 tickets for \$20.00	
		Drawing Date: September 29, 2012 Location: Fall Meeting Bellefonte	

educational program and support new initiatives.

The raffle tickets sell for \$5 each, or five for \$20, and can be ordered by sending a check to PA Council of TU along with the form above to "PA Council of TU" P.O. Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823. Prizes

will be awarded in the order of the tickets drawn at Council's annual Membership Meeting on Sept. 29.

Please do your part to ensure PATU's successful future for Trout in the Classroom and purchase your tickets before Sept. 29. Thank you for your support!

much a part of fishing as the rod and reel themselves.

Memories and the stories told transgress the movement of time despite never being penned on paper.

Each day on the water is but one more

chance to relive old times and stand shoulder to shoulder of anglers long since passed.

Don Kelly is owner of Tackle Shack in Wellsboro, PA.

BACK THE BROOKIE PLATE

ORDER FORM FOR INDIVIDUAL ORDERS ONLY



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

Name: _____

Mail Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

	Quantity	Amount
Price per plate: \$20.00		\$
Tax per plate: \$1.20		\$
S/H per plate: \$2.30		\$
TOTAL ENCLOSED		\$

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

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

PA COUNCIL OF TROUT UNLIMITED

*Minutes of the June 23, 2012
Executive Committee Meeting
PFBC Stackhouse Training Center
Bellefonte, PA*

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

Others Attending: Greg Grabowicz, Samantha Kutskel, Katy Dunlap, Mitch Blake

President Undercoffer called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. and reviewed his activities since the last EXCOM meeting. A motion by G. Kutskel/seconded by Hanes was approved to accept the minutes of the March 24, 2012 EXCOM meeting as previously distributed. Undercoffer announced that he will ask Jack Williams to chair the Nominating Committee for the fall elections.

Proposal for PA Council to Host 2014 TU Annual Meeting in Scranton: Charlesworth showed a PowerPoint presentation prepared in conjunction with the Lackawanna Valley Visitors Bureau to highlight Scranton area attractions. After further discussion on available lodging, transportation facilities and nearby trout waters, a motion by Gender/seconded by Bohls was approved for Pennell to submit a preliminary proposal to Bryan Moore at National TU. Although State College had been proposed previously, it was decided that conflicts with football schedules and other Penn State activities during September were limiting factors in consideration of pinning down a date acceptable to National.

Proposal for PA Council to Host 2013 TU Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting: S. Kutskel will first poll the other state council leaders in the Mid-Atlantic Region to determine their interest in hosting this meeting, and if there are no objections, will act on a motion by Bohls/seconded by Charlesworth to contact the Spring Creek Chapter as the preferred host for this meeting to be held in July or August

of 2013.

Northeastern PA Power Line Issues: After discussion of the potential environmental concerns created by a proposed PPL power line to cross 10 Exceptional Value streams in the Lehigh Valley, a motion by Malaska/seconded by Wagner was approved for S. Kutskel to draft a letter for Undercoffer to submit to PPL.

Hammer Creek (Lancaster County) Issues: Undercoffer discussed concerns registered on the PA Fly Fishing website about the Donegal Chapter's reported lack of interest in supporting work to preserve the wild brook trout population in Hammer Creek. Bohls agreed to contact the chapter to get more details on what is involved with this issue.

Development of a Speakers Bureau for PA Chapters: As a starting point to develop a list of program presenters for chapter functions, Albert will poll his chapters for their top recommendations, to be supplemented with input from other chapters across the state through the regional VPs.

Consideration of PA Chapters for Re-Chartering and De-Chartering: Murty confirmed that all PA chapters except one are scheduled for re-chartering by National at the annual meeting this fall. After considerable discussion, a motion by Malaska/seconded by Gender was approved to proceed with identifying those chapters considered for de-chartering, as well as developing a list to be submitted to Pennell by July 14 of additional chapters considered to be deficient. An article outlining the minimum requirements for re-chartering and listing the chapters deemed to be deficient will be prepared by Pennell for publication in the summer issue of *PA Trout*.

Those chapters proposed for de-chartering are Kettle Creek, Little Lehigh and Art Bradford-Northern Tier, and all three will be sent letters in July specifying meeting dates with their regional VPs for further discussion of their re-organization potential. A final determination will be made prior to National's annual meeting.

Approval of Job Description for PA Council Executive Director: Malaska



presented the job description which was finalized by the Governance Committee the previous evening, and after some discussion was approved on a motion by Bohls/seconded by Malaska.

There was some concern over whether this individual should receive compensation in addition to a base salary for successful fundraising efforts. G. Kutskel will check with National on this issue before finalizing the proposed compensation package and the actual job title. The goal is to hire someone for this position prior to the fall membership meeting.

Treasurer's Report: On a motion by Gender/seconded by Bohls, approval was given to receive and file the Treasurer's Report for the period ending 5/31/12.

Awards Committee: Wagner reminded the regional VPs that all chapters are expected to submit award nominations and need to get this done by July 31.

Environmental Committee: Grabowicz reviewed the correspondence signed by 22 retired DEP professionals and sent to Secretary Krancer requesting action on listing the Susquehanna River as impaired, and the secretary's response which dismissed their claims as anecdotal, and without scientific basis. Grabowicz also talked about an 18-page report prepared by PFBC Executive Director John Arway which went into great detail to justify a Section 303(d) listing for both the Susquehanna and Juniata rivers. Grabowicz deferred to Mitch Blake for an updated status report on the PATU Coldwater Conservation Corps efforts.

Legislative Committee: HB2359 (the stream clearing bill) has passed the PA House, but Bohls reported that PA Senator Yaw is planning to introduce his own version of the bill with input from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Katy Dunlap is working with CBF on the language, and has also prepared an Action Alert which was approved on a motion by Pennell/seconded by Gender. Bohls again stated the need for regional VPs to emphasize with their chapters the importance of developing "legislative trees" with their

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respective legislators.

Trout Management Committee: Undercoffer will request that Dick Soderberg set up a committee meeting in the near future to review the effectiveness of PFBC's Brook Trout Enhancement Program, as well as to discuss the proposed changes to special regulations on Penns Creek. It was also agreed that a letter needs to be written to PFBC commending their decision to terminate stocking of a number of Class B trout waters.

Communications Committee: Pennell reported that progress is being made in migrating content from our existing website to the new site built for us by Steve Fabian, and that we hope to be up and running in about 30 days. Pennell also reminded everyone that the summer issue of *PA Trout* will be printed and mailed to all members to create interest in attending the Annual Membership Meeting. This issue will also include articles intended to educate our members on what PA Council does for them, and in turn what level of performance Council expects from our chapters.

Development Committee: G. Kutskel reported that PATU-logoed hats and polo shirts will be added to our merchandise offering prior to the fall meeting. Hats will be inventoried, but shirts will be batch-ordered based on the number of individual orders received.

Membership Committee: Malaska will be doing a presentation on his college outreach program at the fall meeting, and is still looking for help from the other regional VPs to enlist members for his committee.

Youth Committee: S. Kutskel is developing a PowerPoint program for educating youth on conservation issues. Charlesworth suggested developing longer term programs to keep youth engaged and interested over the long haul.

National Leadership Council: Murty reminded the group that nominations for National TU awards are due by August 6, and asked that any issues or concerns for National be brought to his attention prior to the annual meeting in mid-September. National is still looking for chapters who haven't already done so to report on any

access agreements they hold.

Marcellus Shale Issues: Mitch Blake presented two maps of PA showing where PATU CCC efforts have resulted in establishing baseline information and long-term monitoring in Marcellus Shale areas. Three more CCC training sessions are tentatively being planned for this fall. Information on pipeline issues will be added to the training manual. Katy Dunlap is applying for a DCNR grant for monitoring in state parks. Another Sportsmen Alliance Summit is planned for the fall, the theme for which will be "10 Special Places" to key in on sportsmen's issues.

Coldwater Heritage Partnership/Trout in the Classroom: S. Kutskel announced that funds from the sale of Brookie plates and other merchandise will be used to establish annual grants of up to \$1,000 each for four chapter on-the-ground brook trout protection and restoration projects. On a motion by Murty/seconded by Charlesworth, approval was granted to purchase food for a National TU Teen Summit cookout on August 4. National TU is proposing an ABC (Acid mine drainage, Brook trout, Conservation) camp for youth to be held at the Lock Haven University Sieg Center during the summer of 2013.

Regional Vice President Reports: In addition to what is contained in the Regional Reports submitted to EXCOM, the following comments were registered:

- Central Region – Albert reported that the most prevalent concerns registered by his chapters are how to engage

more active members and get youth involved in chapter activities.

- North Central Region – Lowther expressed concern over the lack of a PFBC WCO in his region which, unfortunately, Council really can't do anything about.
- Northeast Region – Malaska reported that the Stanley Cooper Chapter has criticized Council for scheduling our annual meeting on dates which always seem to coincide with the opening day of archery season.
- Southwest Region – Winters reported that the Chestnut Ridge Chapter is concerned over the discovery of didymo in the lower Youghiogheny River.
- South Central Region – Bohls reported that the Codorus Chapter would like to see Council push for a ban on felt soles for wading shoes. A regional meeting is being planned for a Saturday in July.
- Southeast Region – Gender registered concern over National TU's rejection of the Valley Forge Chapter's contract language in an easement agreement designed to preserve the water quality of Valley Creek. Murty agreed to work with National in an attempt to resolve this issue.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m. on a motion by Malaska/seconded by Gender. The next EXCOM meeting is scheduled for September 30, 2012 at the PFBC Stackhouse Training Center.

-- Bob Pennell, PATU Secretary



Purchase a Quality PATU Fly Rod for 100 Bucks!

State Council is offering for sale custom-built fly rods in two sizes; 9-foot, 5-weight, 4-piece and 6½-foot, 3-weight, 3-piece configurations for just \$100 each + tax and S&H, which includes a nylon-covered hard tube case. These rods are built on medium-fast olive green blanks with gold wraps over smoked chrome guides. The reel seat fitted to the half wells style cork grip is of graphite construction with double locking rings. Each rod carries the inscription "PA Council of Trout Unlimited" and the PATU logo is embroidered on the case. Order today to guarantee your delivery, or if you're planning to order as a gift, a gift certificate can be furnished upon request. Council reserves the right to limit quantities on individual sales. Send your order specifying rod size to: George Kutskel, 107 Simmons Street, DuBois, PA 15801, and include a check payable to "PATU" for \$116 (\$100 + \$6 sales tax + \$10 shipping & handling).

2012 PATU FALL MEETING & TRAINING

TENTATIVE AGENDA

Friday, September 28

5 p.m. & on – **Welcome. Stackhouse open**, fishing, dinner on your own
7 p.m. – **Presentation: TBA**

Saturday, September 29

7:30 a.m. – **Breakfast**
8:30 a.m. – **Welcome and Introductions**, Ken Undercoffer, PATU President
8:45 a.m. – **Leader Updates / Q & A with National TU**
✓ What's new with National TU- Bryan Moore
✓ Amy Wolfe
✓ Q & A with National TU
10 a.m. – **Break**
10:15 a.m. – **Council Updates / Q&A with PA Council of TU**
✓ Small Games of Chance License changes
✓ PATU Brook Trout Grant
✓ Coldwater Heritage Partnership and education update
✓ Q & A with PA Council of TU
12 p.m. – **Lunch**
1 p.m. – **Marcellus**
1 p.m. – **Creating a chapter website**
1:30 p.m. – **Break**
1:45 p.m. – **College Program**
2:15 p.m. – **Unassessed Waters Initiative**, Bob Weber, PFBC
3:30 p.m. – **Veterans Service Program**
6:30 p.m. – **Dinner – 7th Annual Pig Roast**. You don't want to miss this!
7:30 p.m. – **TU Membership Meeting**
✓ Elections of Officers, Awards (Bob Pennell) and Raffle

Sunday, September 30

PA Executive Committee Meeting

7:30 a.m. – **Breakfast**
9 a.m. – **Executive Committee Business Meeting** (all members are invited)
• Regional Reports
• Committee Reports
• Action Items and Business

DETAILS

Location: The H.R. Stackhouse School is located at Fisherman's Paradise along Spring Creek, just outside of State College.

Lodging: The Stackhouse has 8 bedrooms, which can accommodate 3 people each. These

rooms are available on a first come, first served basis. If you have a preference of whom you'll share a room with, please list them on the registration form. We will try to accommodate you the best we can. Please bring your own toiletries.

You may also reserve a room at the EconoLodge at a rate of \$69 per night. This price will only be valid until Sept. 14. Please call (814) 355-5561; please ask to speak with "Miku" to make your reservation, and mention that you are with PA Trout Unlimited to get the reduced rate. The hotel is located on the Benner Pike (Route 150), approx. 1.2 miles north of Fisherman's Paradise.

Cost: The cost for the weekend is \$35 per person, and includes all meals, programs, and handouts.

Directions to PFBC's H.R. Stackhouse Facility

From Southeast: Following US Route 322 West to State College, take Exit 73 onto US

Route 220 N. Get off on Exit 7B (Bellefonte). Take PA Route 150 North for approximately ¼ mile to the first traffic light (Paradise Road). Turn left (west) & travel to bottom of hill to stop sign. Turn left (south) & travel to terminus of road & drive straight thru gate to Stackhouse.

From Southwest: Route 26, 45, 220 or I-99, go to US Route 322/220 intersection (Exit 73) adjacent to Penn State University and exit onto US Route 220 North to Exit 7B (Bellefonte). Take PA Route 150 North for approximately ¼ mile to the first traffic light (Paradise Road). Turn left (west) & travel to bottom of hill to stop sign. Turn left (south) & travel to terminus of road & drive straight thru gate to Stackhouse.

From Interstate 80: Take Exit 161 (Bellefonte-old exit 24) to US Route 220 South toward State College. Take Exit 7B / PA Route 150 North for approximately ¼ mile to the first intersection which is Paradise Road. Turn left (west) & travel to bottom of hill to stop sign. Turn left (south) & travel to terminus of road & drive straight thru gate to Stackhouse.

REGISTRATION

Please check the appropriate boxes:

Friday night lodging at the Stackhouse
– If you have a preference of whom you would like to room with, please list their names below:

- Leadership Training (Saturday, September 29)
 Saturday evening pig roast, raffle, and awards ceremony
 Saturday night lodging at the Stackhouse
 I've included my \$35 registration fee (*Please make checks payable to PA Trout*)
 I will bring a raffle item for Saturday evening

Name: _____

Chapter: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Are you an officer and/or board member? If yes, what is your position?

Registration deadline is September 14

(Please make checks payable to PA Trout)

Please mail your registration and \$35/per person to:

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

What does Council do for you?

What does State Council do for our members? This is a question Council officers often hear from chapter members across the state.

The following highlights various actions taken by the Executive Committee and the Standing Committees since the beginning of the current fiscal year on Oct. 1, 2011.

Please bear in mind that there are many additional issues that find their way onto the agendas of our quarterly Executive Committee meetings and into our ongoing email communications, but the following should provide at least some insight into “what Council does for our members.”

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

October

- Signed on to PennFuture’s campaign to stop additional gas drilling in PA state parks.
- Signed on to letter to U.S. Senators Casey and Toomey requesting their support for proper allocation of the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

November

- Signed on to National TU letter to PADEP commenting on using Marcellus brine waste on roads.
- Voted NO to sign petition to Gov. Corbett and the PA Legislature opposing HB1950 and SB1100.

December

- Signed on to petition to PADEP to upgrade middle and upper sections of the Delaware River to Exceptional Value (EV) status.
- Signed on to letter to PFBC for support of Programmatic Environmental Assessment to obtain \$500K in federal funding for Fishing Access Improvement and Cooperative Habitat Improvement Program.
- Voted YES to join the Choose Clean Water Coalition.
- Signed on to Sportsmen Alliance letter to oppose passage of federal HB1904 which would negatively

affect streams in the Allegheny National Forest.

- Signed on to letter supporting USGS Water Data and Science Program.

January

- Signed on to Sportsmen Alliance letter comments on NY DSGEIS plan to regulate frack water.
- Approved final draft of PATU Stream Access brochure.
- Approved de-chartering of Wood Duck Chapter. Council is working with other chapters that are currently inactive to try to reorganize them.
- Approved final draft of updated PATU bylaws.
- Signed on to Sportsmen Alliance letter to Gov. Corbett to uphold moratorium on leasing additional state forest land.
- Signed on to letters to Pres. Obama and the EPA supporting the Clean Water Act.
- Approved formation of a new Central Region from the former North Central Region to improve coverage by Regional VPs.
- Held a quarterly Executive Committee meeting.

February

- Hosted the 10th Keystone Coldwater Conference. The title for this year’s conference was Responsible Land Use: Protecting Habitat and Native Species.

March

- Signed on to letter to PADEP commenting on revisions to erosion & sedimentation permitting for gas drilling and pipeline construction.
- Conducted a Southwest regional meeting.
- Conducted a combined regional meeting with the Northwest, North Central and Central regions.
- Held a quarterly Executive Committee meeting.

April

- Signed on to National TU petition to restore PA’s Keystone Fund.
- Sent letters to the PA General Assembly to encourage them to save the Keystone Fund. The letter was signed by Council and 42 chapters.
- Signed on as sponsor of the Susque-

hanna Heartland Coalition efforts to educate public on the dangers of stream dredging and channelization.

- Signed on to support Sportsmen for Bristol Bay efforts to halt proposed Alaska gold mine.
- Signed on to letter to US Congress to preserve federal conservation funding
- Awarded \$62,000 in grants for the Coldwater Heritage Partnership program.
- Awarded \$18,000 in grants for the Trout in the Classroom program.
- Conducted a Southeast regional meeting
- Conducted a Northeast regional meeting.

May

- Wrote letter to PADEP requesting Susquehanna River be placed on the Impaired Waters list.
- Wrote a joint letter with TU to voice concerns on HB2359, and discussed concerns with state representatives and senators.

June

- Wrote position letter to voice PATU’s concerns with the proposed route of the PPL power line in the northern Poconos.
- Wrote letter to PADEP requesting an emergency water release for the Delaware River.
- Held a quarterly Executive Committee meeting.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Communications

- Started sending newsletters to fly shops to create awareness of TU and recruit new members.
- Developed a new PATU website.

Development

- Year-end appeal brought in approximately \$10,000 to help with the development of programs and projects.
- Created a part-time position to assist CHP coordinator with programs and projects.

Youth

- Helped organize Wayne’s Coldwater Kids youth event in conjunction with Penn State Fly Fishing and Wayne Harpster.

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Delaware River

- Represented PATU at the Water, Water Everywhere meeting, attended by conservation organizations involved in the issues dealing with the Delaware River.

Environmental

- Received acknowledgement from PADEP's Oil & Gas Bureau chief that PATU's efforts were a valid and important factor in monitoring drilling activities as a result of our Coldwater Conservation Corps training program.
- Committee Chair Greg Grabowicz was chosen for the Governor's Advisory Council for Hunting, Fishing and Conservation.

Trout Management

- Sent letter to PFBC requesting consideration for creating a Blue Ribbon Waters designation.
- Developing a position paper for PATU's mission on protecting native trout.

Awards

- Added a "Special Recognition Award" for an individual who has made significant contributions in meeting PATU's mission, but is neither a TU member nor conservation professional.

Legislative

- Sent letters to the General Assembly to support the Keystone Fund, which

subsequently was fully restored in the final budget.

Membership

- Formed a College Outreach program to encourage more participation from the 18-30 age class. Pilot programs have been introduced to Clarion Uni-

versity, the University of Scranton and St. Vincent College.

Stream Access

- Created a stream access brochure to serve as a guide for landowners and others interested in stream access issues.

PATU Polo Shirts Now Available!

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited will now be selling polo shirts and baseball caps.

The polo shirts come in navy blue with the PATU logo on the left. Cost of a shirt without a pocket is \$25, a shirt with a pocket is \$30. This price includes shipping and handling. There will also be a \$3.00 charge for 2XL and 3XL shirts. All individual orders for polo shirts will be batched and placed at one time. Please place your order by Sept. 1 to ensure you receive your shirt in the first shipment. All orders placed by Sept. 1 will be delivered in November. Please check the "Merchandise" page periodically at www.patrou.org for information on future ordering deadlines.



Baseball caps will be available starting in August. All hats will display the PATU logo in the front. Please check the website to see available colors and pricing, and to order a hat or any other PATU merchandise.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____

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

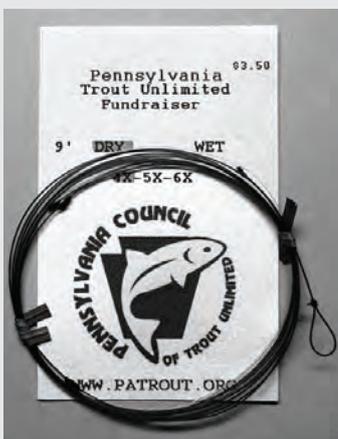
No pocket _____ \$25.00 *\$3.00 additional for 2XL and 3XL

With pocket _____ \$30.00

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

Make check payable to PA Trout

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



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

DRY FLY LEADERS

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

WET FLY LEADERS

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

HOW TO ORDER

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

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

PATU chapters face de-chartering

The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited is the largest TU council in the U.S. Currently there are 50 active chapters and nearly 13,000 members. PATU is divided into seven regions, each of which is assigned to a regional vice president. These regional vice presidents are elected members of the Executive Committee and administer from five to nine chapters each.

Since 2005, TU and PA Council have been using the Chapter Effectiveness Index (CEI) to rate chapter performance and provide guidance to those chapters who are not operating in accordance with TU guidelines.

Regional vice presidents are responsible for reviewing each chapter's CEI performance on an annual basis to determine those categories where improvement is necessary.

National TU requires that chapters be evaluated for re-chartering every four years, with the understanding that PA Council will establish the minimum criteria to consider in recommending that chapters be either re-chartered or de-chartered. The following criteria are used for these evaluations.

Minimum Criteria for Re-chartering Chapters:

In order to be recommended for re-

chartering, a chapter must meet the following minimum criteria that indicate the chapter is active and functioning in accordance with TU guidelines.

1. Participate regularly in restoration/enhancement/conservation activities that focus on coldwater fisheries conservation; specifically:

- a) Chapter projects
- b) Cooperative ventures with other conservation groups and/or TU chapters.

2. Advocate for coldwater conservation.

3. Have a system (newsletter/website/telephone/email network, etc.) for communicating with members on a regular basis.

4. Conduct at least four meetings each year, one an annual meeting with elections.

5. Hold a yearly fundraising event.

6. Actively solicit new memberships.

7. File yearly financial reports with National TU within the required time frame.

a) A chapter shall be on probation the first time it fails to file a financial report. Probation means that a chapter is ineligible to apply for any grant which PA Council provides or signs off on during that fiscal year (Embrace-a-Stream, Trout in the Classroom, Coldwater Heritage Partnership, etc.)

b) A chapter shall be de-chartered after a second consecutive failure to file.

8. File annual Form 990 postcard with the IRS, which is due by February 15 each

year.

9. File quarterly progress reports for publication in *PA Trout* (PA Council newsletter).

10. Have a slate of officers consisting of at minimum a president, secretary and treasurer.

11. Have at least one officer attend at least one regional meeting per year.

12. Have at least one representative attend the PATU Fall Annual Meeting each year.

a) A chapter shall be placed on a one year provisional status the first time it fails to attend.

b) A chapter shall be considered for de-chartering after a second consecutive failure to attend.

*Probation means that a chapter is ineligible to apply for any grant which PA Council provides or signs off on during that fiscal year (Embrace-a-Stream, Trout in the Classroom, Coldwater Heritage Partnership, etc.).

PA Chapters Currently Considered for De-chartering:

Based on the above evaluations and repeated efforts by the respective regional vice presidents to improve chapter organization and performance, the following chapters are currently being considered for de-chartering due to lack of compliance. If acceptable reorganization plans are not developed within 90 days

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2011 Little Juniata Collectible Patch



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

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

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

Name: _____ Chapter (if applicable) _____

Mailing address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

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after receiving written notification, these chapters will be recommended for de-chartering. Any chapter considered for de-chartering has the right of appeal through the regional vice president and, if necessary, can request an opportunity to present its case to the entire Executive Committee.

- Little Lehigh #070
- Kettle Creek #151
- Art Bradford-Northern Tier #357

When a chapter has been de-chartered, a notice is sent to each chapter member asking if he or she has a preference in being re-assigned to a specific active chapter. If no preference is stated, a determination is made based on zip codes that will place the member in the chapter nearest to his or her mailing address. Any funds remaining in a de-chartered chapter's treasury will be transferred on a pro rata basis to those chapters receiving the re-assigned members.

-- Bob Pennell, PATU Secretary

Happy Anniversary...



Contributed Photo

The Stanley Cooper Sr. Chapter recently celebrated its 25th anniversary with refreshments and guest speaker Joe Humphreys, who shared his expertise on nymph fishing techniques on Pennsylvania streams and western waters.

How to subscribe to PA Trout newsletters

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

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

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

2. If you are a current PA TU chapter member, you will automatically receive a notice by email when each new issue of *PA Trout* is posted at www.patrou.org, provided that your email address on file with National TU is current. If not, then you should log on to www.tu.org and update your email address as follows: Click the "Member Login" box

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

3. If you do not have access to the Internet and/or you would prefer to receive a printed copy by mail, you can subscribe at a cost of \$5.00 per year (4 issues). **Please note that this is a reduction in the previously announced cost of \$10.00 per year. Those who have previously paid**

\$10.00 will automatically receive a one-year extension on their subscriptions. Just send your check payable to "PA Trout" to George Kutskel, 107 Simmons Street, DuBois, PA 15801.

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

Subscribe to PA Trout

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

Name _____

Street or P.O. _____

City, State & Zip _____

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

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

SOUTHEAST CHAPTERS

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

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Fred Gender

E-mail: afgender@hotmail.com

Phone: 570-704-8764

Bucks County Chapter #254

Ed Harrington

215-260-6640, edlickflyfish@comcast.net

Website: www.buckstu.org

Our TIC projects all had good years. We had three successful releases. Two were in Neshaminy Creek, in Tyler State Park by Council Rock High and E.A. McDonald Elementary students. The third was by William Tennent High School students in Tohickon Creek at Ralph Stover State Park. The Council Rock and William Tennant groups each released about 80 trout, and E.A. McDonald Elementary released about 236 trout.

DelCo Manning Chapter #320

David W. Wharton

610-583-2920, davidwharton@verizon.net

Website: www.dmtu.org

We held our end-of-year picnic on June 5. The event was well-attended and produced some new members. We also assisted The Sporting Gentleman store with their Fly Fishing 201 classes. Our members provided instruction on learning fly fishing. We participated in an annual stream cleanup with Chester Ridley Crum (CRC) Watersheds Association.

SE Montgomery County Chapter #462

Richard Terry

215-675-1536, rtroadrash@msn.com

Website: www.tu468.org

The annual fishing derby for kids in Lorimer Park was in April. Fish caught in the morning were in the 12- to 15-inch range. During the afternoon, the state brought in a stocking truck so the kids were able to receive an education on trout and helped stock. Also in April, our two schools in the TIC program released their trout in the Pennypack that runs thru the Pennypack Farm. The annual chapter trip to Penns Creek was the third weekend

in May. The creek was up and dirty due to spring rains so the fishing was not easy. We did get to experience the Green Drake hatch for the first time. During the summer we will perform maintenance to the plantings previously made on the Natural Land Trust in Horsham.

Tulpehocken Chapter #462

Bill Eggleston

610-404-7278, info@tullytu.org

Website: www.tullytu.org

Our board appointed Nathan Schaeffer to an open position. In a joint effort with the Opportunity House of Reading, we taught underprivileged kids to fish at French Creek State Park in July. We are organizing a pig roast fundraiser for mid to late summer. We have three schools in the TIC program and they released a combined total of 80 brook trout fingerlings into Berks County streams. We have a new school enrolled in the program for the 2012-13 school year, a second school in line for the 2013-14 and third interested in joining. We funded two youths for week-long summer conservation programs. One attended the Pennsylvania Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp and the second enrolled in the Don Hartman Conservation Leadership School. With support of Samantha Kutskel, we are back on track for two stream projects in the Tulpehocken and Quittapahilla Creek Watershed. The projects are working with farmers on stream bank restoration. Five chapter members went to Coldwater Conservation Corps Marcellus Shale training in April. We now have a team of 15 stream monitoring volunteers. This effort is being coordinated by TCTU members Pier and Dan Shaffer. Though we don't expect any drilling in Berks County, we are concerned about pipelines being installed.

Valley Forge Chapter #290

Pete Goodman

610-827-7619, peteg@bee.net

Website: www.valleyforgetu.org

The chapter is discussing initiatives such as veterans' programs and more youth outreach. Our Trout Show was March 29. Featured speaker was Dave Hughes. We will discuss how to continue sales of "Trout Tales and Watershed Heroes" in upcoming strategy meetings. Books are available through the "Contact the Chapter" section of our website, board members, local fishing shops and Amazon.com. Our annual Fly Fishing School was May 20. We ended up with 22 enthusiastic adult students. Though it's not a fundraising activity, we did net over \$1,165 from raffles and fly, book, and cap sales. A meeting with the Valley Creek Trustee Council (a granting authority) on further work on Crabby Creek resulted in the Chester County Conservation District preparing a grant application for an expanded project. The new project would include the former restoration area up to Walnut Lane. This expanded project includes created wetlands and erosion ditch restoration for stormwater management as well as stream channel stabilization and habitat improvements. The chapter has found that working with Tredyffrin Township on reconstruction of the Crabby Creek sanitary sewer line to be frustrating. We don't seem to be able to insert ourselves into the decision-making process. Though we have been consulted and made recommendations, we are clearly not a driving force in directing any kind of meaningful restoration in this project. The PA Turnpike Commission

(PTC) submitted its NPDES application in November for the Widening Project (MP320 to MP326) that occurs in the Valley Creek watershed. An additional submission was made recently and DEP has now judged the application administratively complete. The chapter has done an extensive review and discussed the application with a number of involved parties. We met with our environmental consultant to finalize comments on the plan for submission to DEP. We still believe that the current design does not meet the anti-degradation laws of the Pennsylvania code for an Exceptional Value stream. The chapter continues to participate in the Chester County Marcellus Shale Coalition. It picked up a proposed natural gas pipeline crossing of the East Branch of the Brandywine Creek and two crossings of Ludwig's Run. Williams/Transco has reapplied to DEP to allow its preferred method of crossing, a dry cut. DEP turned down this method in 2009. Very little has changed in their application since then. We are working on a Keeper of the Stream partnership with Valley Forge National Historical Park. This program puts volunteers throughout the Valley Creek watershed by signing up for certain stream sections to monitor at least four times per year. The program's initial training was Feb. 16. The chapter is still working to obtain landowner permissions so we can get volunteers out there. Several chapter members went through the Coldwater Conservation Corps training on April 14. One member who went through the training locally wants to apply what he learned at his camp upstate and is trying to engage other members with camps or land in Marcellus areas to do the same. Our annual stream cleanup on Valley Creek was April 21. We partnered with the Tredyffrin Township EAC and the TidyUp Tredyffrin Campaign, National TU River Cleanup Day and the Schuylkill Scrub. We got some press coverage and managed to remove several hundred pounds of trash from multiple locations in Valley Creek. On May 21, we had the opportunity to have an AmeriCorps volunteer group from Valley Forge National Historical Park. We performed needed invasive removal and maintenance on a detention basin that we retrofitted six years ago.

SOUTHCENTRAL CHAPTERS

Adams County 323

Codorus 558

Cumberland Valley 052

Doc Fritchey 108

Donegal 037

Falling Spring 234

Muddy Creek 575

Penns Creek 119

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Fred Bohls

3519 Ada Drive

Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

E-mail: fcfp@ix.netcom.com

Phone: 717-732-5050

Adams County Chapter #323

Dave Swope

717-624-8134,

swopeda624@embarqmail.com

www.adamscountytu.org

Our 31st annual banquet was March 24 with 162 attending. ACTU is designing a laminated color map of approved trout waters in Adams County as a fundraiser. Our board discussed easements and public access and its importance in the future of fishing in the state. The chapter helped PFBC stock the regulated section of Conewago Creek on March 10. Our new WCO, Dan Neitupski, was introduced to the chapter. We sponsored two students from Adams County at the Rivers Conservation Camp in June. An Adams County nominee for the Robert J. Behnke Award was completed. A committee is designing a memorial concrete bench honoring the passing of members from ACTU and our NVTU partnership with over three decades of restoration work in the special regulation section of Conewago Creek. The bench will be installed in Gladys Meadows, Adams County. We held a fishing derby with the Yellow Beeches Co-op May 5 at the Latimore Fairgrounds. Over 100 kids attended. It was held in the kid's section of Latimore Creek. Trout were supplied by the Yellow Breeches Cooperative Nursery. Lunch and prizes were provided. A stream survey presentation involving the chapter stream restoration work followed the derby. On June 4, the chapter, in partnership with the Adams County Watershed Alliance, hosted a release outing at the Strawberry Nature Center for schools participating in the TIC program. Stations featured fly tying, fly casting, vernal pools, macros, water chemistry and releasing of the trout. Another Adams County school received approval for a CHP grant. The chapter is partnering with two new schools applying for a TIC grant, and another school is interested in applying. We hosted a fly tying station for Southcentral Outdoors for Youths on June 9 at Adams County Fish and Game. In July, we performed a stream restoration project installing five log deflectors in the special regulations section of Gladys Meadows with Karl Lutz, habitat director for PFBC.

Codorus Chapter # 558

Tom Feninez

717-817-8446, tom@codorustu.org

Website: www.codorustu.org

A long, arduous preservation effort by our chapter and many other participants finally came to fruition. Approximately 130 acres of woodlands in Heidelberg Township, including about one-third of a mile of Codorus Creek's special regulations area, will be preserved indefinitely. The township will own the property and it will be available to the public for a variety of outdoor pursuits. Among those we'd like to thank are key participants: Heidelberg Township supervisors and staff, PA DCNR (C2P2 Program), Kevin Anderson (National TU), The Conservation Fund, PFBC and the P.H. Glatfelter Company. Due to our close proximity to Maryland's Gunpowder River and Big Hunting Creek, both contaminated with didymo, our chapter has decided to install wader wash stations along the Codorus. We often see vehicles with Maryland license plates on the creek, and we're concerned about the potential for an outbreak in the Codorus' tailwater environment. We hope this preemptive measure will both educate the public and prevent an outbreak in our home stream. We recently

held our first Family Fishing Fun Day at Codorus State Park. We hope to refine what we offered and grow the program into an important annual public outreach event. Kids from our TIC project did a great presentation on their project and a wide variety of related topics they studied over the past school year. Our thanks go out to everyone that participated, including our friends across the county in the Muddy Creek Chapter. It was our first TIC project and it came to a successful conclusion with the release of brook trout in May. Plans are to add a second classroom next year. We'd like to thank the kids and their outstanding teacher, Mrs. Markle, for a great job. In response to the new sewage treatment plant in the upper Codorus watershed, we distributed a letter to landowners living just downstream. The letter included emergency contact numbers to call if they spot any anomalies, sewage spills, etc.

Cumberland Valley Chapter #052

Justin Pittman

717- 360-8823, flyfishing80@gmail.com

Website: www.homestead.com/cvtu

We received an \$11,000 grant from DEP to address knothead issues along Yellow Breeches Creek. We are still waiting for DEP approval to complete the sinkhole project on the Letort. We are working on finalizing a grant with DEP to pave the Run parking lot located in Boiling Springs. Our annual picnic is Aug. 10 and our Last Supper event is held in September every year. April and May were spent putting together the final plan for the Letort Sinkhole and completing that project. In June, we had a stand at Kings Gap Education Center for "Get Outdoors Days." We did fly casting and fly tying demonstrations, along with promoting the positive aspects of TU. Then we hosted "Reel for Recovery" at Allenberry Playhouse where 15 men participated in a great two days on the water. Our third event in June was one of the biggest - the River Conservation Camp which ran June 17-22. This was the camp's 18th year. We finished off the month with the Cumberland County Street to Streams program, where we partner with county agencies that work with troubled youths in our community.

Doc Fritchey Chapter #108

Ed O'Gorman

717-921-2212, edogorman@comcast.net

Website: www.dftu.org

Our annual conservation banquet was March 24. We netted a near-record amount in funds that will primarily be used for conservation and education activities. Our new venue at Wildwood Conference Center at Harrisburg Area Community College worked out well and we look forward to utilizing this location for future events. This spring, with the help of the PA Game Commission, chapter members participated in a tree planting in the Clarks Creek watershed. This watershed is at risk to a loss of the hemlock tree cover resulting from woolly adelgid infestation. Over 1,000 white pine seedlings were planted. We performed regular maintenance on diversion wells at the headwaters of Stony Creek, including repair work on the dam. The chapter is working with the Twin Valley Conservation group on their project to rehab the children's and handicap area on Powells Creek. This project is still in the permitting phase. In June, the chapter held two education/outreach events. For

the fourth year in a row we held a fly fishing event for veterans. It was attended by 20 vets from the Lebanon VA Hospital and the Harrisburg VA outreach who were treated to lunch, dinner, an introduction to casting and a few hours of guided fishing on Clarks Creek. The chapter also hosted a ladies fishing day where we offered about 12 women an introduction to fly casting and fishing. This year we had the added bonus of a macro survey demonstration by Kim Patton from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Earlier in the spring the kids participating in our TIC project released their fish. Releases were at the Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art property on Manada Creek.

Donegal Chapter #037

Wayne Boggs

717-733-2365, troutwispeerr@gmail.com

Website: www.donegaltu.org

Our banquet on March 30 at the Host Resort in Lancaster was supported very well. We cleared over \$25,000. Highlights of the auction included two guided tuna trips and a week's guided fishing trip on the Big Horn River in Montana. Approximately 40 chapter members helped make the evening a success. On June 20, we sponsored, in conjunction with Fox Chase Golf Resort, a fishing/golf fundraiser. Participants were able to deduct .5 strokes from their golf score for each bass caught to be eligible for various prizes. Fishing began at 5:30 a.m., followed by 18 holes of golf. Our Ladies Conservation and Fishing Breakfast at the Millport Conservancy on Litz Run was a resounding success. We hoped for 10 and hosted 31 ladies. Lancaster Career & Tech Center provided a continental breakfast. The morning was organized into five sessions: breakfast, purpose and mission of DTU, tour of the work we have done on Litz Run on the Millport Conservancy property, hands-on casting and fly tying demo. We may run a follow-up workshop on fly fishing. Three of the ladies joined TU. We hosted the local Big Brothers Big Sisters organization at one of our member's pond. Fourteen participants were assisted by DTU members who served as guides. On June 2, DTU volunteers ran a casting station at the Lancaster County Sportsman Youth Field Day. There were 188 youths participated and advanced through 14 stations. In mid-April, college and high school students assisted our nursery program by potting 900 bare root seedlings. Some of these trees and shrubs will be planted on the banks of streams where we are doing restoration work this fall. The rest are earmarked, at no charge, for other conservation groups in the county. All permitting is done for work on three Conowingo Creek projects and work was scheduled to begin in late June or early July. We received approximately \$360,000 in grant money for the completion of these three projects. This brings the total grant money for seven completed projects to approximately \$1,100,000. There are still 120 impaired sites identified. Seven specific sites that were created by last year's fall flooding on Fishing Creek were completed in June with the help of the US Fish & Wildlife Service. DTU provided volunteers and paid for materials. We were pleased that all our previous devices installed last summer held through the flooding and worked as designed. DTU will be repairing a small stretch on Charles Run, a tributary of Donegal Springs Creek near Mt. Joy. We will provide volunteers and materials and PFBC will provide equipment and operators. Also, we will be restoring approximately 1,800 linear feet of stream on Fishing Creek, just below last

Continued on next page...

summer's projects, beginning in mid-summer. DTU will provide volunteers and materials and PFBC will provide operators and equipment.

Falling Spring Chapter #234

Tio Paci

717-597-7587, pachiro@gmail.com

FSTU's 38th annual banquet is Sept. 15. For members in our chapter, update your email address on TU's website so you can receive details about our chapter and banquet. FSTU hosted its 5th Falling Spring Fly Fishing Outing for Wounded Warriors May 11-12. This year's outing welcomed nine Warriors, including two females, for an evening reception and a day of fly fishing on Conococheague and Falling Spring creeks in Chambersburg. They were treated to a BBQ lunch and souvenir gift bags. Fish were stocked in both streams by the Chambersburg Rod and Gun Club. The chapter received approved plans for a stream habitat improvement project from the PFBC that will include a 100-yard stretch of the stream from the bridge on Falling Spring Road downstream to the bridge on Springview Drive. The property is owned by Curtis Frey and Carl Helman and has public access. The project includes stone deflectors and log deflectors that will increase the velocity of the stream to purge siltation buildup above an old waterwheel. Work will be performed Aug. 6-7. We taught 150 youths fly tying and fly casting basics at the Franklin County Youth Day on June 9.

Muddy Creek Chapter #575

Fred Hess

717-650-6556, muddycreektu@comcast.net

Website: www.muddycreektu.org

We were present in the watershed on the opening day of trout season with two food stands selling hot sandwiches, chili, snacks and chapter merchandise. Chapter T-shirts are selling well. Chapter members are currently producing a PowerPoint presentation on the history of Muddy Creek TU to be used at community outreach events. One officer participated in a National TU training webinar this spring. We held our first ever "Spring Fling" event on the nursery grounds in May. The day proved to be very successful with a good turnout of landowners, chapter members and prospective members. Several attendees also signed up as new members. Raffles were held and chapter merchandise was sold as a fundraiser. We have committed to participate in the Red Lion Street Fair in August. The chapter's Conservation Committee acquired bare root seedlings from the York County Conservation District. A workday was held to pot over 500 of these native plants. Our plant nursery was expanded to twice its original size to accommodate the new additions. We now have in excess of 432 square feet for native plants to reside. The Growing Greener 2 Pine Run Project continues to be in its final approval stage. PFBC permitted and made designs for future chapter stream improvement projects along Owad Road and Tom's Run. We participated in the Family Fishing Fun Day at Codorus State Park on Memorial Day along with the Codorus Chapter. We held a fishing day for visually impaired children and adults from "For Sight Vision" in early May. Bill Rhinesmith, president of For Sight Vision, commented in a thank you letter that it was also special that two blind parents were able to take their sighted daughter fishing. His comments also

included how well chapter members interacted with the group and that "it was even more than a day of fishing, it was a day of fun and fellowship."

Penns Creek Chapter #119

Gary Parzanese

717-242-3451, gparzanese@firstenergycorp.com

This year's spring banquet was attended by 240 people. Our speaker was John Arway, executive director of PFBC, who spoke about issues concerning the commission and Marcellus Shale. The presentation was appreciated by the people attending, since our chapter's area is not within the "Drill Zone." Many in attendance had little idea of the magnitude of the drilling and the major concerns to sportsmen. The chapter joined with other TU chapters in signing on to the PATU petition opposing the elimination of the Keystone Fund proposed by Gov. Tom Corbett. We also signed on to numerous letters concerning the Marcellus Shale issues within the state. On April 21, six chapter members did a cleanup along Licking Creek in Mifflin and Juniata counties. The bulk of the debris picked up was found along the road and not along the creek. It appears that local fishermen are policing the stream banks; if only the rest of the community would police the road sides. The chapter is still planning to work with the Mifflin County Conservation District on the Hungry Run project this fall. The chapter's TIC programs came to a conclusion with trout releases on Delaware Creek in Thompsettown and on Licking Creek at the Karl Guss Picnic area. Larry Winey, education coordinator, conducted fly tying classes for all of the TIC programs. There are two additional schools in Juniata county which were not selected for 2013 the TIC program. They are looking for funding from other sources, local PTA, or other service organizations, in order to participate. The chapter will split expenses if the schools find other funds. The NWF Shade Mountain Chapter is holding its youth field day on Aug. 11. The chapter will be assisting.

SOUTHWEST CHAPTERS

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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

Jerry Potocnak

724-295-2718, potatoes@consolidated.net

Arrowhead's primary fundraising activity is its annual banquet held in mid-March of each year at the C.U. Club in Ford City. The banquet was a huge success with revenues surpassing that of all prior years. A special thanks to all members who assisted with this year's event. The 2012 stocking of the chapter's DHALO section on Buffalo Creek was completed with both trout provided by the PFBC as well as our own nursery fish. The chapter sent four area youths to Wayne's Cold Water Kids event on Spruce Creek April 29. The three boys and one girl thoroughly enjoyed the day. Arrowhead's involvement in Project Healing Waters is currently in the preliminary stages. Chapter officers and members are anxiously awaiting this endeavor with the Butler VA hospital. The chapter's annual youth fishing and environmental awareness outing was in June. Arrowhead recently completed its 2011-12 involvement in its two TIC initiatives. Special thanks to both officers and members who assisted with these schools throughout the year.

Chestnut Ridge Chapter #670

Scott Hoffman

412-596-5436, smh_1959@yahoo.com

Didymo was confirmed in the Lower Youghiogheny below Ohiopyle. Please pass the word to as many fishermen and boating circles that you can. It is extremely important to wash all of your shoes, gear, boats, with a bleach/salt solution after getting out of a stream or river. We want to contain the infestation as much as possible. Instead of our regular monthly meeting in July, the chapter held a picnic at the Youghiogheny Outflow Pavilion. Recall that DEP refused to meet to discuss the status of Jonathan Run citing its investigating of Purco's financial condition and mine sites, and the DEP is not at liberty share its legal strategy. The DEP also failed to provide any response on the status of its investigation of the illicit discharge on Glade Run. Based on DEP's response and lack of progress, the chapter filed a complaint with the Office of Surface Mining (OSM). Also, Penn Future has been trying to convince OSM that Purco did not obtain a lawful release of its bonds at Jonathan Run since DEP determined that Purco fraudulently concealed the discharge. If DEP had known about the piped discharges they would not have granted the bond release. According to Penn Future, because Purco never obtained a lawful bond release, and because the site never was converted to the current conventional/full cost bonding system, the site is still covered by the ABS. As such it is an "ABS Legacy Site" and any discharges emanating from it, or hydrologically connected to it, are covered by the Reclamation Fee O&M Trust Account. We hope that the discharges to Glade Run and Jonathan Run get remediated so that brook trout may return to the upper reaches of these streams. A steering committee meeting occurred in mid-June for the Laurel Hill Creek Critical Area Resource Plan. We discussed realistic scenarios for water demand for 2015 and 2025. We also talked about possible recommendations for alternative water supplies. USGS will rerun the water model to figure out which scenario will relieve stress on the creek. The next meeting is in August. The Sediment Fingerprinting Study draft report is under review by the steering committee. Interesting results are that

during the winter and early spring months the sediment comes from farms. During the summer/fall months the sediment comes from the stream banks. Projects will be developed from these results. All documents have been submitted to DEP so the stream bank and habitat project project may be started. This will be the first of many projects to improve habitat in the upper portion of Laurel Hill Creek and reduce sediment. The PFBC will be designing the improvements. For the better part of a year, TU volunteers from several TU chapters have been monitoring stream conditions in an effort to protect them from risks posed by Marcellus Shale drilling. Our chapter volunteers recently began testing Beaver Creek and Ramcat Run in Fayette County. They were chosen for monitoring during a chapter planning session due to their proximity to drilling fields and their importance to the watershed. Stream selection also considered waters currently monitored by other organizations in order to avoid duplication of effort. Quebec Run and Mill Run were also identified as streams to be monitored by chapter volunteers. Plans call for monitoring Beaver Creek and Ramcat Run every two weeks. Quebec and Mill Runs will be monitored monthly. Initial readings taken at Beaver Creek and Ramcat Run did not show evidence of contamination related to natural gas drilling and the pH levels of both streams hovered around 6, which is within the range tolerated by trout. For the 2012-2013 school year, the chapter anticipates sponsoring TIC programs in 13 schools.

Forbes Trail Chapter #206

Monty Murty

724-238-7860, mmurty@verizon.net

Website: www.forbestrailtu.org

The chapter's board of directors met June 20. At our April meeting, attendees had the opportunity to view maps of Loyalhanna Creek tributaries using a computerized geographic information system (GIS) and participated in prioritizing sites for starting the chapter's Coldwater Conservation Corps baseline stream testing and data recording. Our annual picnic and Brown Trout Derby was in May at Linn Run State Park. In error, PFBC stocked brown trout over brook trout in this wild brook trout stream. At the request of the park manager, the chapter is catching and killing these invasive species. We reviewed CCC water sampling protocol and how to calibrate the test equipment in preparation for this summer's CCC activities at our June meeting. We completed annual limestone dousing of Rock Run in Linn Run State Park on May 22. Other activities we participated in recently were a women's fly fishing course, a First Cast youth program and a "Trout Bugs" macroinvertebrate kids program at Winnie Palmer Nature Reserve. Four TIC projects reaching more than 500 7th graders were completed with release field trips to Linn Run State Park. The chapter is primary sponsor of a tourism and economic development initiative called the Laurel Highlands Trout Trail which features our outstanding wild and native trout waters and special regulation fly fishing streams. Based on TU studies of fly fishing tourism in the west, the Trail was designed to attract the kind of tourist trout anglers that spend money at hotels, restaurants and local businesses, and are pro-conservation as well. Chapter members participated in more than a dozen activities from April through May, including sponsorship of the Laurel Highlands Trout Trail Rendezvous fundraiser on May 19. Response has been overwhelming, and media coverage of TU has been outstanding.

Fort Bedford Chapter #291

Derrick Miller

814-276-3606, patrouchaser@yahoo.com

FBTU members demonstrated and taught fly tying to nearly 175 youths at the 2012 Bedford County Field Day on June 2. On June 30, FBTU members conducted an outdoor event at Blue Knob State Park where stream samplings were taken and fly tying and casting were demonstrated.

Ken Sink Chapter #053

Eli Long

724-422-9884, eli.long@gmail.com

The chapter completed its annual stream survey in early May, per the protocol defined by the Pennsylvania Senior Environment Corps. Despite high flows in the main stem of Little Mahoning Creek, we were successful in sampling nearby Cessna Run. Several species of mayflies were identified, a sign of good stream quality even with the early hatches we have experienced this spring. On the first weekend of June we held our 2nd annual Youth Conservation Field Day. With assistance from the Indiana County Conservation District, Evergreen Conservancy, Pennsylvania Senior Environment Corps and Indiana County Parks and Trails, we had a fine day with excellent weather. There will be no monthly meetings held until the end of summer.

Mountain Laurel Chapter #040

Randy Buchanan

814-467-4034, prbfish4fun@aol.com

Website: www.mltu.org

The chapter participated in the Stonycreek River of the Year Celebration on June 16. The Yellow Creek Coalition Pig Roast fundraiser was also June 16. The chapter is conducting stream monitoring as part of the Coldwater Conservation Corps training. Monitoring has taken place on parts of Clearshade Creek with others to follow. The chapter will have stream improvement workdays on Ben's Creek and Potter Creek (permit pending). The chapter conducted stream cleanups on Clearshade Creek, Yellow Creek and Little Paint Creek throughout the spring. Seven schools participating in TIC released trout during the spring months.

Penns Woods West Chapter #042

Walter Reineman

412-999-8292, walterr28@hotmail.com

Website: www.pwwtu.org

Our mid-winter Cabin Fever show was a success due to a great volunteer effort. Money raised this year is being directed to stream monitoring for Marcellus drilling impacts and for our youth program. We are currently monitoring four creeks in Allegheny County, using six trained volunteers. As we become more comfortable with the methods and logistics we hope to expand our coverage. We are in the process of studying our youth program, with the goal of making this a greater chapter priority that could dovetail with TIC. Under the lead-

ership of Christian Shane (also editor of our Hatches and Rises newsletter) TIC is in two schools, with the potential for three in the fall. This spring, we had two of our annual chapter events. The bus trip to Fisherman's Paradise was a successful sellout, but our fly fishing clinic allowed for very individualized instruction due to low turnout. This was a surprise compared to previous years and we are evaluating what might need to be modified. Under Tom Walsh's leadership, we are done with our larger grant projects on urban Pine Creek. We will be doing a project day in September with the goal of putting in two or three habitat improvement devices.

NORTHEAST CHAPTERS

Brodhead 289

Forks of the Delaware 482

Hokendauqua 535

Lackawanna Valley 414

Monocacy 491

Pike-Wayne 462

Schuylkill County 537

Stan Cooper Sr. 251

Western Pocono 203

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Greg Malaska

218 West 13th Street

Jim Thorpe, PA 18229

E-mail: gregmalaska@yahoo.com

Phone: 570-657-7169

Brodhead Chapter #289

Tom Battista

610-681-6307, mooseowl51@ptd.net

Website: www.brodheadstu.org

The chapter had its first trip to fish in May. We formed a committee to develop affordable trips outside of our area. We realized that many other chapters run trips to fish in famous streams to take advantage of famous hatches or trophy waters. We decided to fish in the Roscoe area of the Catskill Mountains of New York state. The streams we concentrated on were the Willowemoc, the Beaverkill and the East Branch of the Delaware. We carpooled in pairs so roommates traveled and fished together. We planned the trip around several major hatches. Unfortunately, the weather was very poor for several days before we arrived and the flow rates and influx of cold water threw off the predicted hatches, which resulted in our fishing nymphs most of the trip instead of the dry fly action we had planned. The trip was successful, however, and most anglers caught large fish despite the unexpected stream conditions with heavy flows. Logistics and trip preparation were handled by Will Daskal, who had fished the area for many years. He put together an excellent guide on a CD for each member to introduce them to the pools, history and access for the trip. The committee will meet to arrange other trips in the future. Our annual picnic on the Brodhead was June

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9. During the picnic, we held a drawing for the general membership for a complete rod and reel package. When a member attended a meeting or participated in an event during the past year they received a free ticket for the drawing. The purpose of the drawing was to stimulate membership to attend more meetings and events. We awarded an Orvis Trident TLS 6-foot, 6-inch rod, with an LL Bean 456 reel and 4-weight line to Sheree McCollum at the picnic. We hosted the spring conference and training for the northeast region in April. All nine chapters were represented. We received training from Erin Mooney on interactions with the media. Katy Dunlap gave a presentation on Marcellus Shale and explained National TU's mission statement. One of the Delaware National Recreation Area superintendents, Bill Leonard, contacted us in early May to participate in a media event to inform the public about didymo. Don Baylor attended as a representative of TU. Erin Mooney provided talking points for Don to use during the event, which was about the spread of this invasive species in the Delaware, and how to clean equipment to prevent its spread. We will finally finish the McMichael's Creek project. The project had stalled because of high water flows. With the guidance of Eric Baird, our chapter treasurer, we will place the last large rocks upstream of the parking area that Stroud Township developed as part of their greenway along the stream. We have had large rocks in place below the parking area, which improved habitat. This is the final phase of the project. PFBC established the area as DHALO. During our banquet, we talked about projects we develop and mentioned the McMichael Creek project. We were asked to speak to one of our county commissioners, John Moyer, about where we are working. We routinely invite all local officials to our banquet, offering them complimentary tickets. Almost all attend, learning what we do as an organization, our mission and successes. They usually get into the spirit of the evening's activities and participate in fundraising, so the tickets are an investment in good will. Many times when we need help, we find their knowledge of our mission helps in our endeavors. This year we were fortunate to have all three county commissioners attend our banquet. Commissioner Moyer had been fly fishing the McMichael Creek and gaining access down a steep slope covered in poison ivy for years. He was very happy to learn about access points through the park. I recently guided him to the easy access points and spent a nice morning on the creek fishing with him. We found we share similar interests in both stream conservation and youth development. Many times we deal with members of the press and elected officials looking to get positive results from these interactions, forgetting that they are often interested in similar things. Try to get them on the stream and share your sport and the fun. Getting out on a "fact-finding mission" with a rod in hand may make you a friend for future trips and chapter projects.

Forks of the Delaware Chapter #482

Ryan Rush

610-217-8326, flyfishryan@yahoo.com

Website: www.forkstu.org

The chapter signed on in support of the Keystone Fund, signed onto TU's comments on the DEP's draft erosion and sedimentation control permit and signed on to a letter to Congress to preserve conservation funding. Our 2012 conservation raffle was held June 6. The chapter held a cleanup on Martins Creek on April 11 concentrating on "high use" areas. The chapter also held a cleanup on Bushkill Creek on April 21 in the catch and

release area along with our Adopt-A-Highway section on Bushkill Drive below Tatamy. We sent four youths to the Wayne's Coldwater Kids fishing day on Spruce Creek on April 29. The chapter held TIC release days with Easton Academy on April 26, Nazareth Middle School on April 27, Bangor Middle School on May 4, Wind Gap Middle School on May 17 and Easton High School on June 4. In all, about 370 students participated in a release day. Several members assisted Stockertown Rod & Gun Club with its special needs kids fishing day. The chapter participated in Northampton County Youth Day on June 2. About 160 kids rotated through our fly fishing station. We assisted in casting, macroinvertebrates and a tying demo topped off with our coldwater conservation message. As a follow-up, several youths attended our June 6 meeting "fishing night" on the Bushkill Creek and received some on-stream instruction by our members.

Hokendauqua Chapter #535

Dale Steventon

610-767-1213, adms@enter.net

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

On June 25, the chapter received the annual "Friend of the Lehigh River" award presented by the Wildlands Conservancy. It's given to an organization that has made a dedicated effort to preserve, protect, restore and enhance the Lehigh River and its watershed. We sponsored two students at the Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp June 17-22. On April 21, we gave insight on fly fishing and the Little Lehigh River to a group of 15 at Trout Creek as part of the Allentown Parks System. We discussed kinds of trout and their habitat requirements, hatches of the Little Lehigh throughout the year, macroinvertebrates with live demonstration and identification as a food source, types of impressionistic flies we tie and use of lures, lines, leaders fly rods, and reels and ended with fly casting instruction with attendant participation. On April 27, we held our first-ever banquet to celebrate our 25 years as a chapter. Approximately 143 members and guests attended. Art Williams represented our chapter at a regional training program held in Stroudsburg on April 28. Janet Reichelderfer, teacher at Catasauqua High School, again taught a select group of students about raising and caring for trout in the classroom. The trout were released into the Hokendauqua Creek at Kreidersville Covered Bridge on April 12. The First Cast program was conducted at the school and six of us helped students with fly tying and casting on May 17-18. The Kreidersville Covered Bridge Festival was June 2-3, and several of our chapter members helped children fish at the event. A Women in the Outdoors event was June 9 at Ontelaunee Rod and Gun Club with 264 women participating. Of this number, our chapter members helped instruct 37 women in the fly casting and fishing elective at the club's pond. It is a very successful event and again several of the women expressed interesting taking our fly tying course and also in joining TU. A Youth Fishing Education Day sponsored by the Delaware Shad Fishing Association was held at Blue Mountain Fish and Game, Walnutport, on June 16. There were 100 youths registered. Our chapter members have been helping teach at this event for several years. We instruct fishing, macroinvertebrate identification as a food source for fish, bait knowledge, lure selection, casting and fishing ethics. A Casting for Recovery program will be held at Sky Top Lodge in September. Our members have tied a few hundred flies

and donated them for the event. Several chapter members will again act as stream guides for a day.

Lackawanna Valley Chapter #414

Charlie Charlesworth

570-586-3363, ffnepa@epix.net

Website: www.lackawannavalleytu.org

During the second quarter, chapter representatives attended the monthly meetings of the Lackawanna River Alliance of River Groups, an organization started by the Lackawanna TU, the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority, the Lackawanna Federation of Sportsmen Clubs and the Northeast Pennsylvania Conservation Alliance. We also supported the Pike Wayne Chapter by attending their yearly banquet. Chapter representatives attended the retirement banquet for State Rep. Ed Staback, former chairman of the House Committee for PGC and PFBC, along with PFBC Executive Director John Arway. We had a display table and gave demonstrations at the Lackawanna County Federation of Sportsmens Clubs, the Lackawanna River Corridors Association's Riverfest, and at the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority's Bike Tour and Festival on the Lackawanna River Trail.



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Our affiliates (Stream Explorers, Fly Fishing Club-University of Scranton and chapter members) took part in a cleanup of the Lackawanna River. The chapter had a graduation ceremony and family picnic for our Stream Explorer grads. Representatives attended the dedication for the Lackawanna Heritage Trail extension with the secretary of DCNR and members of the Lackawanna River Alliance of Groups. We attended the northeast regional PATU training, along with calls and meeting with Katy Dunlap for the Marcellus Shale water quality monitoring. We gave demonstrations and set up a table at the Pennsylvania State Envirothon at Keystone College. We met with the Abington Heights School district to discuss problems they have had with their TIC project. We led an email campaign for approval of the PFBC's change of status to section 07 of the Lackawanna River to Class A Wild Trout, also asking them to make it a special regulations area like the other 14 miles of Trophy Trout. We met with partners Lackawanna River Corridor and the PATU Coldwater Heritage Partnership director to discuss and tour a proposed project on the Lackawanna River. We invited Samantha Kutskel, TIC director, to talk to the chapter about the program at a board meeting.

Monocacy Chapter #491

Steve Vanya

610-691-1371, van0087@ptd.net

Website: www.monocacytu.org

The Monocacy Creek Watershed Association recently reorganized and once again our chapter is well represented on their board and advisory committee. Board members include Phil Burtner, treasurer, and Viorel Dragan, chair of environmental stewardship. Their advisory board includes Dr. Ted Burger, Eric Broesicke and Steve Vanya. After years of recent inactivity, it is refreshing to see the MCWA reorganize. We're a firm believer that a strong TU chapter and an equally influential watershed association can provide a powerful partnership in addressing the various issues confronting a stream and its watershed in these modern times. The Lehigh Valley

chapters (Forks of the Delaware, Hokendauqua and Monocacy) celebrated another successful spring event in March. This was its 10th anniversary. Loren Williams, Fly Fishing Team USA member, teacher and guide, was guest speaker. We want to thank our neighboring chapters for a decade of consistent dedication in making this event possible. Our annual stream cleanup was in April. Chapter members, community service workers and other volunteers helped clean up several miles of stream. The City of Bethlehem aided in the removal of the trash collected. Chapter member Viorel Dragan, in addition to his leadership role with the MCWA, is heading a water quality monitoring program on the Monocacy. He recently attended Coldwater Conservation Corps training session in Valley Forge. Multiple sites are being sampled. Initial results are coming in and we look forward to this gathering of data over time. Results are posted on our website.

Pike Wayne Chapter #462

Matt Wishneski

570-685-5420, mattwishneski@gmail.com

Website: www.pwtu.org

Katy Dunlap was guest speaker at our April meeting to address coldwater quality. Several members supported the Stanley Cooper Chapter by attending its 25th anniversary meeting, where the guest speaker was Joe Humphreys. May was our first meeting at the Picnic Pool on the Lackawaxen River. President Wishneski gave a talk on stream entomology. Refreshments were provided by the Fontinalis Fly Fisherman's Club. Our annual conservation banquet was at Lukan's Farm Resort on April 14. Over 100 supporters attended and was a huge success. The annual "Evening Hatch Conservation Award" was presented to longtime member and local fly shop owner-operator Charlie Bright for his continued contribution to local stream conservation. Our chapter patch made its debut and is available for purchase. Our annual cleanup of Lackawaxen River was April 1. The Fontinalis Fly-Fisherman's Club assisted. A sizeable pile of garbage including tires and lumber as well as the usual cans and bottles was collected for proper disposal. President Wishneski is in the planning stage, along with the Stanley Cooper and Charles Hazzard chapters, to conduct a major cleanup project on the West Branch of the Delaware River at the Monument Pool, otherwise known as "The Garbage Pool." Members assisted PFBC with stocking the Lackawaxen River and Shohola and Masthope Creeks. Members are continuing stream monitoring efforts regarding the Marcellus Shale situation. Monitoring of temperatures on the Lackawaxen River is continuing. A mean high temp of 75 degrees was reached at the Rowlands USGS monitoring station over Memorial Day weekend. An automatic release of water from Lake Wallenpaupack brought the temperature down as designed, however the chapter is concerned that the releases should begin earlier.

Schuylkill County Chapter #537

John Bondura

570-640-5300, jgbond@verizon.net

Chapter members participated in a weekend fishing seminar at Cabelas in Hamburg. A seminar on fish identification, fishing and conservation was also held at the Gillingham Charter School in Pottsville. The chapter participated in a mentored youth event with Big Brothers

Big Sisters at S&A Trout Ponds. SCTU purchased fish and provided equipment for the event. On May 6, the chapter participated in the Make a Wish Trout Rodeo. On May 19, SCTU participated in the Youth Field Day at Friedensburg Fish and Game Club. On May 20, chapter members participated in the Bear Creek Festival, helping young anglers learn fishing techniques. On June 14, members also participated in the Norm Thornburg Youth Day. The chapter sold tickets for a drawing at the June 26 membership meeting. Chapter members are also soliciting prizes for the Aug. 18 pig roast fundraiser at the Schuylkill County Fairgrounds. On April 24, 15 SCTU volunteers helped clean up a three-mile stretch of Route 895 along Bear Creek, a DHALO fishery.

Stanley Cooper, Sr. Chapter #251

Heide Marie Cebrick

570-288-1431, heide@baut.com

Website: www.sctu.org

Guest speakers this year included Ben and Cindy Rinker from East Branch Outfitters of Hancock, NY in January. Ben shared information on fishing the East Branch of the Delaware River. The trout stocking barrel that the chapter funded was presented at the February meeting. We then gave it to the WCO for Wyoming County, whose region includes Bowman's Creek. The March meeting featured Mike Heck, fly fishing guide and author. Mike shared his expertise about south central spring creeks, and also some Letort and Yellow Breeches stories. Scott Belisle of the Lehigh Fishing Company brought some of his graphite rods for chapter members to cast prior to the meeting. He designs and makes his own graphite blanks. The process is patent pending. Our April meeting featured a good friend of our chapter, Jim "Coz" Costolnick, whose presentations are always informative and witty. The chapter celebrated its 25th anniversary in May with refreshments and guest speaker, Joe Humphreys. Joe was the very first guest speaker at our chapter many years ago. Joe shared his knowledge of nymph fishing techniques on PA streams and western waters. Joe stayed long after the meeting to talk with members and share stories. Chapter members, and members from other chapters, continue with the monthly Project Healing Waters program. Veterans tied flies over the winter months with the hopes of catching a fish on their own fly. In January, Ben Rinker was a guest tyer. The veterans were very excited to have a new face and enjoyed his company. More veterans are taking an interest in tying. Vises and materials are now being stored at the VA for use whenever the vets are in the recreation department. Skill development was held in February, March and April at the VAMC. The first fishing outing for Project Healing Waters was in May at the Indian Mt. Rod & Gun Club. We had two fishing outings in June. The group was invited to Arrowhead Lake on June 13. The Arrowhead Lake Fishing Committee has made this an annual event, and is a very gracious host. Also, PHW participants were guests on June 22 at the Paradise Rod & Gun Club. Heide Marie Cebrick, who leads the program, was honored to be selected as the Volunteer of the Year for the Mid-Atlantic Region by Project Healing Waters. Heide was given a BVK fly rod inscribed with her name at the Somerset Fly Fishing Show in January. The program continues to thrive and brings members from various chapters together to enjoy the satisfaction of working with the veterans in this worthwhile project. Rich Grencavich has organized the Wyoming Valley Fly Tyers' monthly meetings. Our

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chapter is very proud to have some very accomplished tyers as members. Stan Cooper Jr., Joe Ackourey and Mike Romanowski have been featured tyers at the Fly Fishing Museum in the Catskills and share their gift with others. Chapter webmaster Philip Mancini continues to keep the site updated and Kim Mancini sends out the press releases announcing chapter events. Jay Downs and Dave Cebrick conducted an Adult Fly Fishing Camp on May 20 at the American Legion Grove in Mountaintop. Chapter members attended for free, and nonmembers were charged \$25, which included a TU membership. The chapter welcomed six new members from the camp. Joe Ackourey, chairman of the annual youth camp, reported this year's event was June 9 and 16 kids attended. The camp is free and includes lunch and snacks. The camp begins with a casting lesson. Attendees progress through five stations, which include knot tying, fly tying, stream entomology, life cycle of a trout and fly fishing. Because the chapter is well-recognized for its banquets, President Cebrick was asked to give a presentation on "Tips for a Successful Banquet" at the regional training seminar in April. Her husband, Dave, a chapter board member, also attended. Our 22nd annual banquet was held March 31 at the East Mountain Inn, Wilkes-Barre. Various rods were featured auction items including cane, fiberglass, graphite and Tenkara. Every place setting had a fly box with flies tied by Stan Cooper Jr. He also filled fly boxes for the auction. Chapter members led by John Stegura have been doing testing on Bowman's Creek, and now have a baseline. They continue to monitor the stream and stay aware of various environmental issues. The Natural Land Trust approached SCTU to assist with its Bear Creek Preserve property. This 3,412-acre parcel has three Class A streams on it. Dr. Brian Jameson is the chapter liaison with the preserve for this project. Joe Gruszkiewicz Jr. is the chapter representative with the Conservation Coalition. This group is involved with conservation and water quality issues. Other member organizations include DU, QDMA, NWF and the Luzerne Conservation District.

Western Pocono Chapter #203

Paul Raubertas

570-768-8409, praubert@ptd.net

We are starting to gain an excellent reputation among the Cub and Boy Scouts in the greater Pocono region. The program director at Camp Minsi, where the scouts will hold a five-day minicamp in August, requested our assistance with this program to teach fly fishing. In early spring we assisted a Hazleton-based Scout den, providing demonstrations on fly tying. In April, we assisted with their annual fishing derby. The den has since joined on as partner with the chapter to aid us with future conservation projects and it appears we'll be adding even more Scout dens to our list. On May 28, we held our first fundraiser and membership drive since our startup in November 2011. We hosted a Memorial Day picnic at the White Haven Sportsman's Club. The picnic was a great success on many levels, from the sprawling property and proximity to the Lehigh, to a balanced program that included on-stream demonstrations by George Daniel, to hands-on casting of some new fly rod models developed by the Lehigh Rod Company and a program by Mitch Blake on Marcellus Shale. For our first significant event, and as a somewhat "new kid on the block," we raised a total of \$1,225 and picked up a handful of new members, including our first business membership. Much of the credit for our success can be directly tied to excellent planning and coordination, timely com-

munication, and exceptional efforts and commitment by our small group of leaders and board, and a long list of donors. On the conservation front, we are currently involved with a couple of developing environmental matters. The first is PPL's proposed Northeast-Pocono Reliability Project, which will involve installation of new power lines along the upper Lehigh River, above Francis E. Walter Dam, which is a highly sensitive area given the number of high quality native brook and wild trout streams along the proposed route. The second is just developing. It is a proposed electric generation facility along the Pohopoco (Big) Creek. Our leadership has been successful in prompting PFBC to schedule stream surveys for both Hickory Run and Black (Hayes) Creek. According to records we obtained, both streams hadn't been surveyed in over a decade. It's the general feeling among leadership that fish populations are significantly lower than they were several years ago, and that Hickory Run may no longer deserve a Class A rating. The Northeast Habitat Division has scheduled surveys for both in early 2013. It has been noted that recent surveys by our leadership that some habitat work on Hickory Run may be required as part of our overall conservation plan for 2013. In the meantime, the chapter will resume its normal membership meeting schedule starting on Sept. 18. We are also currently working with Mitch Blake to host CCC training on a Saturday in either October or early November. It's our goal from this training to start getting baseline data on streams in our region.

NORTHCENTRAL CHAPTERS

A. Bradford - No. Tier 357
God's Country 327
Jim Zwald 314
Kettle Creek 151
Seneca 272
Tiadaghton 688

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

B.J. Lowther

108 Pine St.

Galeton, PA 16922

E-mail: bjlowther@verizon.net

Phone: 814-203-6155

God's Country Chapter #327

Dr. Peter Ryan

814-274-8718, drflyfish@yahoo.com

Our 5th annual Project Healing Waters event was May 22-25 and was a huge success. Named in honor of Medal of Honor recipient Marine Cpl. Jason Dunham, the disabled veterans received a hero's welcome as they traveled through Potter County. A 40-mile parade from Shinglehouse to Costello was led by Cpl. Dunham's parents and escorted by 64 motorcycle riders from the American Eagles and Patriot Guard Riders. Citizens,

business people, children and school students lined the streets and highways waving flags, holding signs and cheering the veterans as they passed through the county. The disabled veterans, chapter member guides and volunteers had a great three days in God's Country. Ray Markowicz, northeast regional PWH fly fishing director, attended this year's event and praised our chapter for having one of the premier PHW events in the nation! Other notable activities included Ted Bear wrapping up another year of TIC activities and signing up two more classrooms for next year. Also, member Loren Fitzgerald was elected president of the Upper First Fork Watershed Association and is the president of the Potter County Waterdog citizen water monitoring group. Bob Volkmar continues his assistance in training sessions with the Coldwater Conservation Corps throughout the state and also helped with the ALLARM training of the waterdog group in Potter County. Eight TU members and 22 waterdogs are now monitoring 70 sites in Potter County. Chapter President Dr. Pete Ryan was caught up in a "media frenzy" in April. He was the "cover boy" and subject of the feature article titled "Trout Guard" in the April issue of *Mountain Home Magazine*, and received the Howie Gustafson Conservation Award presented by Howie at the Seneca TU banquet in April. Representing the Triple Divide Headwaters area, Pete did a video interview with Mitch Blake to be used at the Sportsmen Alliance for Marcellus Conservation in June. At the request of Tennessee Gas Pipeline, Dave Saulter and Pete Ryan met with the project manager/engineer for a proposed pipeline through northern Potter County known as the MPP Project. Not wanting to deal with all the issues and fines from last fall's erosion problems, they came to us to explain the route and what is being done to prevent a repeat of last year. It all looked great and they know we are watching. We also received word from Katy Dunlap that Rep. Causer's HB 2359 had been approved at the committee level and she asked for help in defeating this bill. The bill involves streamlining the process to allow for removal of gravel bars and other stream obstructions from streams that may cause flooding. We informed and got letters sent from several watershed associations and Seneca TU, but the bill was passed. Hopefully, we can help stop passage in the senate.

James Zwald Chapter #314

Rick Leviski

814-335-2348, releviski@gmail.com

We received a \$2,000 grant for TIC. We added four new units this year. We are sending letters out to local businesses for donations to assist with needed maintenance on our current units and the new units we will be putting into classrooms. Murray Neepner and his wife drove three students to the Harper's Cold Water Kids event. We try and send three kids to this every year. Stanley Hastings continues to test approximately 50 streams in Elk and Cameron Counties.

Tiadaghton Chapter #688

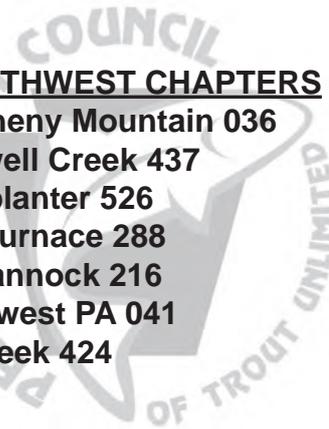
Bill Paulmier

814-367-2636, spalmier@verizon.net

We had monthly sessions of "Flies and Lies" in January, February and March. This is a social on Saturday mornings open to the public where members and non-members alike can connect with our programs through

our program chairmen and learn about our plans for the year. Free fly tying lessons are offered and equipment is available for anyone wanting to learn or to improve their techniques, and favorite flies are swapped. On March 10-11, chapter volunteers attended the Morris Gun Show and sold tickets for our largest raffle, Blast 'N Cast, an annual fundraiser. The drawing is held at our banquet. Our membership chairperson and president attended the North Central PATU meeting in Bellefonte and discussed fundraising, effective use of the media and membership recruitment. The banquet at the Penn Wells Hotel in Wellsboro on March 31 was well-attended. Our speaker was George Douglas, outdoor writer and author of "The Complete Guide to the Salmon River," publisher of *Kype Magazine* and a well-known steelhead guide in the Great Lakes region. The many donated raffle items, including great special raffle prizes and our Blast 'N Cast Raffle, proceeds met our annual budget goal for next year. We greatly appreciate the generous donation made by Arnot Sportsmen Inc. presented to us at the banquet. Our chapter was exceptionally active in April. We started off with our annual road cleanup, followed a few days later by a walking inspection of our prior Asaph Run conservation projects. Mark Sausser of PFBC met with Larry Harris, DCNR representatives and TU members to evaluate the area for possible continued projects. Also in April, we were researching and ordering stream monitoring kit components and registering trainees for the PATU Coldwater Conservation Corps training. Mitch Blake, Marcellus Shale field organizer, and Bob Volkmar, from God's Country Chapter of TU, conducted the training of 28 volunteers, 11 of whom are new chapter members. Kelly O. Maloney, ecologist with the USGS Northern Appalachian Research Laboratory, presented a brief summary of his research on local stream quality begun last year. Jim Weaver, Tioga County planner, stopped in to give words of encouragement to the trainees. According to Mitch, this was the largest training session so far in the state. Mitch then returned for a follow-up session in early May with the newly-trained volunteers to help with identification and assignment of appropriate monitoring sites throughout Tioga County and begin monitoring kit distribution. Lori Davias, Tioga County water specialist, along with one of our new members developed comprehensive maps showing terrain, roads (for identifying access points) and sites associated with drilling or other potentially detrimental activity. The Arnot Sportsmen Inc. donation allowed us to purchase an additional 11 new kits to add to our inventory. Within five weeks of this follow-up session, 19 monitors had identified 39 sites. On May 5, we held the first of two Women on the Water classes offered to women in the area interested in learning fly fishing. The class is offered to women at no cost and fishing equipment is provided. The class was great in enthusiasm as they learned about beginning casting techniques, equipment, stream safety, reading water for fish feeding lanes and the different aquatic insects or "fish food" in order to "match the hatch." Sheila and Larry Harris were instructors and have conducted this event for several years. Students learned basic casting on an open lawn, then traveled to a small stream to fish for trout. Following lunch, the group fished larger water on Pine Creek. June 9 was the second class for Women on the Water. If there is enough interest we may add a September class. On May 19, we held our annual First Cast event at the Stony Brook Campgrounds. Children ages 8 to 18 from Tioga County are invited to this free day where they learned how to tie flies, cast using a fly rod and identify insects that spend at least part of their lives in the water. Several chapter members are biology teachers and led the way into a stream on the site

to net its inhabitants and the kids were able to examine their finds under loaned microscopes. All attendees and parents accompanying the younger children are treated to a lunch and each child "wins" a door prize and takes home a T-shirt and PFBC bag of information and fun materials. After lunch, the kids had the opportunity to fish in a stocked pond. Work was done on Asaph Run in early July. This stream improvement project is part of the larger project the chapter has been working on since 2009. Last year an old jack dam was removed. This year log deflectors and rock will be installed to finish this section. TU volunteers are helping DCNR and PFBC complete the job. Plans are in the works to improve the section of water below the bridge at the Asaph Campgrounds next year. Plans for our annual event to honor local military veterans, "Stand Down on the Water," are well underway. Scheduled for Sept. 14-16, the chapter hosts referred or interested veterans to a Friday night introduction dinner then settle into a cabin near Pine Creek for the rest of the weekend. Fly tying and casting lessons and the opportunity to fish on local streams or ponds fill out the day on Saturday. Relaxed conversation and camaraderie over a cookout complete the evening. Meals are provided on the weekend by chapter volunteers. After a good breakfast Sunday morning, small gifts and mementos are distributed to the guests.



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

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Mark Hanes
P.O. Box 324
Clarion, PA 16214
E-mail: m_d_hanes@yahoo.com
Phone: 724-464-7320

Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036

George Kutskel
814-371-9290, maksak@comcast.net
Website: www.amctu.org

John Stahl started the chapter's monitoring for Marcellus activity in our area. We held our banquet at the DuBois VFW and it was a success. Chapter member Terry Malloy was this year's recipient of the Golden Reel Award for his work and support of our chapter. Mitch Blake met with several chapter members to map out a monitoring plan and give a list of trained TU'ers who could be called on to help monitor. Kelly Williams is still working on a project to lime the headwaters of Trout Run. The chapter's Coldwater Heritage grant is

in the home stretch. Dave Steele is working on having PFBC do a benthic study on Irish Run. The chapter has ongoing environmental programs with schools in TIC - Brockway Elementary, DuBois Central Catholic and DuBois Middle School. Each school takes its students to a park and spends the day going to various stations to learn about trout, mammals, habitat and water quality. For the Brockway and DuBois Central Catholic program, members give a hands-on presentation on how to collect bugs and identify them. DuBois Middle School has more stations. Presenters cover trout habitat, macro collection, reptiles, making chalk from AMD and water testing for Marcellus. The chapter would like to thank Rachel Kessler and Mitch Blake for their help and support in this year's program and to the PFBC for their great presentation on reptiles. And also Brockway Area Schools for sending six student volunteers to help us fill in where needed to make the presentation as good as they were. We had approximately 300 students this year and we find this is a great way to at least introduce these young people about the natural world around them. We had our outing with Big Brothers Big Sisters on June 16 at the Tannery Dam.

Caldwell Creek Chapter #437

Tom Savko
814-664-2124, tksavko2@verizon.net

Our May meeting was our last until September. We did a casting and knot tying clinic for members and our fly tying class. In conjunction with the Brokenstraw Watershed Council and ALLARM from Dickson College, we are going through another round of CCC training and coordinating water testing for the entire Brokenstraw watershed to establish baseline data before the injection of the Marcellus frack fluids in the first two old wells in this area in the state. Our TIC programs had a very successful year with the release of approximately 800 trout in area streams from the four classes.

Cornplanter Chapter #526

Troy McDunn
814-723-3759, hdpartsman@verizon.net

Our 5th annual Trout and Clean Streams Expo was March 31 at the Sheffield Lion's Den on the banks of the West Branch of Tionesta Creek. At our April meeting we went over how the Expo did, and we had a discussion on chapter members' top 10 flies and how they did on opening day of trout season. May was our last meeting before summer break. We had a cookout and fished the Tionesta. Most everyone caught trout at the outing. Our TIC projects had another successful year with all fish being stocked in local streams. We had one classroom tank at our Expo. At the end of the day we stocked these fish in the West Branch of the Tionesta.

Iron Furnace Chapter #288

Mark Hanes
724-464-7320, m_d_hanes@yahoo.com
Website: www.ironfurnacetu.org

Our banquet was March 31 at St. Joseph Church in Lucinda. It was a successful banquet once again as the chapter grossed over \$15,000. Special thanks

Continued on next page...

go out to banquet chairman Evan Say for all his hard work to make this year's event a great success. Stream cleanup along the Piney Creek property, in conjunction with Clarion University's Bios Club, on April 21 was a great success. Fifteen Clarion students came out to assist the chapter and we removed two big loads of scrap and garbage from the property and our Adopt a Highway section. This project is part of our University Pilot Program and TU's national cleanup day. Due to not being able to obtain any trees that were suited for the property, only the cleanup was done. Plans are to have a similar event next spring. The public meeting for our coldwater conservation grant assessment of Cathers Run Watershed was held at the Mill Creek Township meeting. Work on the project will happen throughout the summer. Hopes are that this will give us future project ideas on how to improve the stream's native brook trout population. Marcellus monitor station work is beginning. Many of the proposed stations should be up and running in coming months. We still have data loggers in place throughout the Clarion and Tionesta watersheds within the Allegheny National Forest area. We have found that our original data loggers are not as accurate as we had hoped when it comes to the low conductivity readings that are common in our streams. Plans are to replace the original mobile loggers with ones that are more accurate at lower readings. Since the original units are not effective in our area, we decided to have them available for loan to other PATU chapters or groups that may have areas where the data loggers would still work for their application. On June 9, we again participated in the Jefferson County Youth Field Day. Five chapter members demonstrated fly tying, fly casting and stressed the importance of clean coldwater to over 150 local youths. Our yearly fly fishing clinic was held at Fitzgerald's pond in Brookville on June 9 with 15 participants of all ages in attendance. Special thanks go to Bill Kodrich for his hard work to make this event possible again this year. Our Project Healing Waters "Day on the Water" was June 16 at Walter Dick Park in Brookville with 15 disabled veterans from Buffalo, Erie and Pittsburgh areas participating. Support from the town of Brookville and local business and community members was nothing short of spectacular. Special thanks to the Ohnhadagon Society for the use of their camp to house veterans. Thanks to Brookville Municipal Authority and Brookville Council for their support and allowing us to use their facilities. Plans are to make this a yearly event. Thanks to Mark Orlic for his work as committee chairman for the event. All TIC trout have been released into area streams, marking yet another successful year of TIC for the chapter and the local participating schools. We added two new schools to the program this year: Union High School in Rimersburg and Clarion Limestone in Strattanville. Our next chapter meeting is Sept. 17.

Neshannock Chapter #216

Jeff Kremis

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

Website: www.neshannock-tu.org

Our annual banquet was March 24 at the Park Inn by Radisson in West Middlesex. A nice crowd of 165 supporters were on hand to enjoy a great evening of food, fun and fishing stories and nice prizes. Next year's banquet is March 9, 2013 at the same location. The second phase of the Coolspring restoration project was completed on June 9. A group of 23 hard-working volunteers completed the six multi-log deflectors by

early afternoon. Thanks to Mark Sausser, from the PFBC stream habitat section, and Hoffman Excavating, of Mercer, the workday went off without a hitch. There will be another small workday to put finishing touches on the deflectors. Watch our website for dates and times. The Deer Creek group will be having a workday on Oct. 6 at the Boy Scout camp to continue improvements of that stream. They are working to create fish habitat for a handicap fishing pier to be built at a later date. Watch our website for more information on this project. We are still looking for volunteer monitors for the CCC program. If you are interested in helping please contact Jim Kearney at mayfly1278@aol.com for more information. The Wolf Creek Fishing Derby was held in April and a little rain didn't stop those in attendance from having a great time. The Deer Creek group also sponsored a youth fishing area on Deer Creek that was also enjoyed by many area children. The two schools that were involved in the TIC program, Delahunty Middle School and Mercer High School, released their fish successfully. Students from both schools reported how much they enjoyed the program and we look forward to working with both schools again. Also, thanks to a donation from the Joy Cone Company, we will be starting two new TIC programs in the Farrell School District.

Northwest PA Chapter #041

Lee Bloom

814-474-2495, leeflyfisher@velocity.net

Waterford Elementary released their TIC fingerlings into a tributary of Elk Creek, marking another successful year of the TIC program. Board members met to discuss possible future reorganization strategies the chapter may take in response to dwindling member participation of chapter events.

Oil Creek Chapter #424

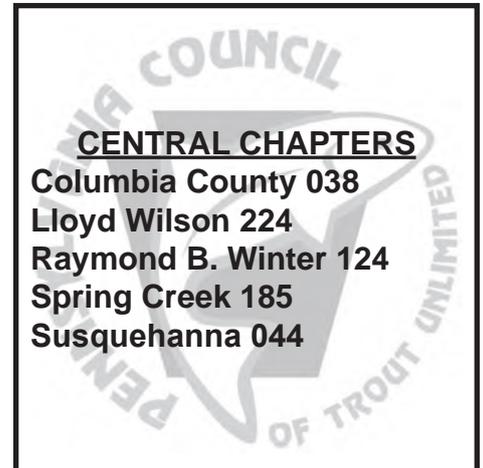
Gary Ross

814-337-6931, info@oilcreektu.org

Website: www.oilcreektu.org

President Gary Ross attended the northwest regional meeting of PATU on March 25 at Fisherman's Paradise. We have a new display on the history of the Oil Creek Chapter at the Venango County Court House. Chapter members created the display in March. Dan Weaver and Joe Hulsizer, employees of Drake Well Park in Titusville, gave a program on past drilling practices, current drilling methods and equipment in both gas and oil drilling, and brought some drill bits and other equipment during our March 21 meeting. The park will have a new museum exhibit which should be ready in August. Our 29th annual banquet was a huge success, with a sellout crowd. We did very well on our special rod raffle. We sent out a 2012 spring newsletter. The chapter, in conjunction with the Conservation District and PFBC are planning for possible further improvements on Little Sandy Creek. There is a need for habitat improvement upstream from the trestle pool. We had an OCTU display at Earth Day at Polk Center on April 19. Youth Field Day was June 16 at the Oil City Izaak Walton League. We provided a donation again this year and hosted a fly tying station. We had two youths attend Wayne Harpster's Fly Fishing Day. Four teachers and a middle school principal involved in TIC attended our March meeting to brainstorm improvements to the program. Goals for the meeting were to network with

TIC teachers and OCTU, create a critical list of spare equipment to have on hand to deploy for emergencies, and to better support classrooms' release days and get local newspaper coverage. It was agreed that we needed to look at having some spare equipment such as chillers and filters in order to deal with emergencies. Some schools needed to list their program partner on the forms. Deadline dates for applications and training were discussed. We will have two new TIC classrooms in the fall: Mark Ferringer, Sugar Creek (Rocky Grove) and Simoan Ray, Cochran. We also discussed planning a new category for TIC on our website. One of the teachers noted that PATU is very helpful with aid. The teachers agreed they all like the TIC program. Also, we are continuing to support the Clarion conservation scholarship grant this year, along with the Allegheny Mountain and Iron Furnace chapters.



REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Sherwin Albert

161 Ryan Lane

Milton, PA 17847

E-mail: sherwina@dejazzd.com

Phone: 570-524-7645

Columbia County Chapter #038

Wayne Michael

570-759-0022, kodiakcoho0506@yahoo.com

Due to health reasons our president had to resign, and per chapter bylaws, VP Wayne Michael assumed the presidency. We are currently looking to fill the vice president position. At our April 19 meeting, Mitch Blake, Marcellus Shale field organizer, presented a program on TU's efforts to network with other conservation and sportsmen's group in monitoring drilling activity. Our June meeting was held at Kocher Park in Lightstreet. A picnic meal was at 6 p.m., followed by a meeting. All then went fishing with vintage fishing equipment. William Whitebread, a master fly casting instructor, conducted a fly casting clinic on June 30 at Briar Creek Lake. Our annual trash collection project was conducted. Trash barrels were placed prior to opening day at seven public access areas along Fishing Creek in Columbia County. The barrels are checked once a week and the trash is disposed of properly. On May 4, we taught a fly tying class at the Bloomsburg Middle School's Kids Conference. On May 1, we presented a fly tying class for the Danville Area High School's TIC program. On

May 10, we conducted a fly casting class for the Danville Area TIC program. At our May meeting we restrung 16 spinning reels for the Columbia County Conservation District. These rods and reels were for use at its annual Fish4Fun Day, a local program for special needs individuals, held on June 2. We purchased 10 spinning rods and reels for the CCCD to use at this event and in Smart Angler programs. On June 7, chapter members participated in an Outdoor Adventure Camp sponsored by the Central Columbia Area School District and the CCCD. On June 9, our chapter presented fly tying and fly casting instruction at the North Montour Sportsmen's Club.

Lloyd Wilson Chapter #224

Bill Bailey

570-748-6120 or 570-295-1934

wbailey@kcnet.org

Website: www.lwtu.org

Our annual family picnic was June 6 at the Sieg Conference Center. We were pleased to have our new regional VP, Sherwin Albert, there. On May 9-10, several members instructed Jersey Shore Middle School students in fly casting, fly tying and entomology. The students also released the trout they had raised as part of the TIC program. This is an annual event held at Ravensburg State Park and is part of their science curriculum. Chapter members participated in the Jersey Shore High School Environmental Club's Pine Creek float trip on May 17 and the Middle School's bike ride on the Pine Creek Rails to Trails. Members participated in the release of trout that were raised by the TIC programs at the Central Mountain Middle School and the high school. Several chapter members assisted children, special needs students from area schools and residents of Susque View Nursing Home in three fishing events that were held at the NE Fishery Center in Lamar. Several more of these events are scheduled throughout the summer.

R.B. Winter Chapter #127

Robert Laubach

570-966-3379, oldfrstr@dejazzd.com

Our April meeting featured guide Lance Wilt, who spoke on the high value cold water streams in Central PA. Our annual "fish out" and picnic was held along Penns Creek on May 23. As is usual for this event, the creek was high and muddy. Several members did catch some trout on Green Drakes, which were hatching along the banks. May marked the end of our regular monthly meetings until September. Chapter members helped with a Wounded Warriors program on April 28. Guiding on Penns Creek was provided for those participating. Our banquet was March 23 with John Shaner from Hardy Bros. as the guest speaker. A granite bench was installed along Penns Creek in memory of Robert "Doc" Leipold. Chapter and family members participated in a dedication ceremony along the creek on June 23. A litter cleanup along Penns was conducted on June 21. Chapter members participated in the annual Summerfest held at R.B. Winter Park on June 10. Fly casting and fly tying were taught to visitors. Chapter members taught fly tying to Envirothon winners July 23 at the park. A successful TIC program conducted by the Mifflinburg Middle School ended on April 21 with the stocking of over 250 brook trout fingerlings in the lower end of Laurel Run.

Spring Creek Chapter #185

Judi Sittler

814-861-3277, jlsittler@comcast.net

Website: www.springcreektu.org

Our chapter continues to attract excellent presentations under the leadership of Al Phillips. Noted presentations included Bob Bachman with his classic reel to reel film on the grad student research he did on the George Harvey section of Spruce Creek. Others were Mike Gogal of Gogal Publishing with his GPS software for finding fishing spots, George Douglas taught us how to "fish like a guide" and Tracey Stroup helped us "Enhance our cast through proper body mechanics." Our chapter is assisting PATU host the inaugural "Teen Summit" being organized by National TU. It will be held at the Stackhouse Center at Fisherman's Paradise. Our chapter collaborated with a group of Penn State students who were doing a project for a communications class. They gave a presentation and survey to the PSU students in fly fishing classes, then proposed the organizing of a Penn State student affiliate group and gave details of how the group would be structured. They also evaluated our website and Facebook page through the eyes of college-age individuals. Our annual banquet was March 24 at the Ramada Inn in State College. Jim Purtell is a fine organizer of the event. We are exploring various fundraising options that would augment the banquet. The Centre County Community Foundation is one option where an organization sets up an endowment fund for long-term benefits. We are also going to be a part of a CCCF "Centre Gives" funding event. Our board is considering other fundraising events which have yet to be solidified. We recently applied for three

grants to accomplish work on a badly eroded stretch of Spring Creek in the Milesburg area. To date, we did not get one of the grants and are waiting news on two other sources of funding for this project. We had four TIC projects. Judi Sittler attended all of the release days. All four teachers are unique and imaginative in how they conduct their field trip to release the fingerlings. It is a big commitment to maintain a coldwater tank in a classroom. Our praise and appreciation goes out to all the teachers who make such a commitment. We are trying a new schedule this year for our Trout Camp. It will be one week long and full days. We rely heavily on volunteers and are never disappointed.

Susquehanna Chapter #044

David Craig, secretary

570-326-1002, davsalc@comcast.net

We co-hosted a PFBC meeting in May on a non-developmental gas lease at Rose Valley Lake, smallmouth bass concerns and gravel bar removal issues. There was also a US Fish & Wildlife presentation. In April, we discussed water quality monitoring of local streams in advance of and during gas development activities with watershed groups and county planning commission. The auction of classic fishing books and fly tying material served as fundraisers. We continue to assist Lycoming Creek Watershed Association on FGM projects. We assisted in a Loyalsock Creek cleanup with Clinton County Cleanscapes. And we're working with Lycoming County on a water quality baseline monitoring program. We conducted an eight-week fly tying course and over 30 new participants attended.

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Grants available for chapters, conservation groups

The Coldwater Heritage Partnership has been administered by the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited since 2002. Over 80 conservation grants have been awarded since that time.

To date, only a few TU chapters have taken advantage of this great opportunity. We urge all watershed

groups, conservation districts, municipalities and local TU chapters to apply.

This opportunity is a great way to evaluate local streams, bring awareness of potential threats and impacts that may affect the stream to the community, and to complete projects that will protect and conserve the stream for future generations.

The purpose of the Coldwater Heritage Partnership is to provide leadership, coordination, technical assistance, and funding support for the evaluation, conservation and protection of Pennsylvania's



coldwater streams. The CHP program provides funding opportunities to organizations to evaluate coldwater streams and create a conservation plan to protect and conserve the stream from potential impacts and threats. The program also provides funding for implementa-

tion projects that are listed in completed plans.

The program provides two grant opportunities that help to protect and conserve the health of PA's coldwater ecosystems.

Planning grants help to develop a conservation plan that identifies the values and threats that impact the health of coldwater ecosystems that have naturally reproducing trout. The collected information can be used as a catalyst for more comprehensive planning or for development of watershed improvement projects. Planning grants

average around \$6,000.

Implementation grants provide funding to projects identified in a completed conservation or action plan. Potential projects must enhance, conserve or protect the coldwater stream for which the coldwater conservation plan was originally completed. If any conservation plan or report containing recommendations has been completed on a stream, implementation funding is available. Any organization can use a completed conservation plan to receive funding for implementation projects. Implementation grants average around \$9,000.

The grant round will open Sept. 17. If you would like to discuss a potential project or would like to hear more about the program please contact Samantha Kutskel at 814-359-5233 or skutskel@coldwater-heritage.org

To view completed plans, projects or an application please visit www.coldwaterheritage.org.



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OF TROUT UNLIMITED**
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