

# Pennsylvania TROUT



Summer 2015

Publication of the Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited

www.patrou.org

## Trout Unlimited's National Meeting nears

By Charlie Charlesworth

*National Meeting Chair*

Those of us who have been involved in the planning of bringing Trout Unlimited's National Meeting to Scranton, PA from Sept. 16-20 are quite proud of the effort we have put forth.

We pledged to make this the biggest

and best meeting National has ever had. We do know, however, that in order to do that, we must have the support of each and every member of Trout Unlimited in Pennsylvania.

We have asked each chapter to send at least one member of your board of directors, if not more, for the entire four days.

See **MEETING**, page 9

See page 10 for information and a registration form for the PATU Fall Meeting at the Shaver's Creek Community Building on October 3.

Deadline to register is Sept. 25.

## Sportsmen unite in support of clean water

By Katy Dunlap

*TU Eastern Water Project Director*

On a hot, steamy evening in mid-July, more than 60 hunters and anglers gathered at the Snitz Creek Brewery in Lebanon to show support for clean water in Pennsylvania. Some traveled more than three hours to be there. Trout Unlimited organized the event to share news about the recently-released Clean Water Rule and its benefit to Pennsylvania's waterways.

Kicking off the night, Steve Moyer, vice-president of government affairs for Trout Unlimited, provided an update from Washington, D.C. Steve explained the status of the Clean Water Rule and recent attempts by Congress to block the

See **WATER**, page 2

## Wayne's Coldwater Kids



Contributed Photo

The 2015 Wayne's Coldwater Kids event was held on April 26 at Wayne Harpster's farm along the banks of Spruce Creek in central Pennsylvania. More than 30 students participated in the 5th annual event hosted by Mr. Harpster and family. The students were introduced to macroinvertebrates by Greg Hoover, PSU professor and fly fishing instructor, and learned fly fishing tips and techniques from Joe Humphreys. Following these presentations, students had the opportunity to fish the famous creek. Pennsylvania TU and PSU Fly Fishing assisted in organizing the event.

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Mark Taylor Photo

**Steve Moyer, TU's VP for Government Affairs, speaks during a gathering of sportsmen and women at Snitz Creek Brewery in Lebanon to show support for clean water in Pennsylvania.**

## WATER

from page 1

rule.

The EPA and Army Corps of Engineers released the Clean Water Rule on May 27, more than a year after the draft rule was proposed. The draft drew more than a million comments, with more than 800,000 supportive of the proposal to restore a degree of protections to certain headwaters and wetlands included in the original Clean Water Act in 1972 but removed after a pair of controversial Supreme Court decisions in the 2000s. The rule allows reasonable leeway when it comes to water use by agriculture and industry.

The EPA and Corps were charged in the wake of those court decisions with proving a scientific nexus between headwaters streams, including some that flow only at certain times of the year, and larger downstream waters. Indisputable scientific evidence making that connection was summarized in a report that looked at 1,200 peer-reviewed publications during the rule making process.

Despite the clear connection established between headwaters and larger rivers, the Clean Water Rule continues to face threats in Congress, where some elected officials are willing to put politics ahead of science and common sense. Legislation, as well as riders on appropriation bills in both the House and Senate, has been introduced to

defund and derail the rule.

What happens up stream affects downstream users. That's why business owners are stepping up and supporting the Clean Water Rule. Snitz Creek Brewery co-owner Patrick Freer offered brief comments on why protecting headwaters streams is so important for his brewery, where the beverage lineup includes Brown Trout Stout, Hipwader Hefeweizen, Woolly Bugger Black IPA and Opening Day IPA. As Patrick pointed out, Lebanon's water supply comes from surface waters including the Siegrist Dam, located in Schuylkill County, and Swatara Creek, a narrow river that flows through Lebanon County. Both sources are fed by headwater streams that would receive restored protections under the Clean Water Act by the rule.

Rick Nyles of Sky Blue Outfitters shared a story about how anglers and community members fought to protect streams in his backyard, urging the audience to take action on the Clean Water Rule now. That's where sportsmen come into the picture. As hunters and anglers, we spend significant amounts of time and resources enjoying the lands and waters that rely upon headwater streams. We all know how important these streams are for healthy fish and wildlife habitat.

John Kline of Kline Associates is the director of government affairs for the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's

**Continued on next page...**

## Subscribe to PA Trout

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

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Upon its completion, the newsletter is uploaded to [www.patrou.org](http://www.patrou.org). If you are a current PATU chapter member, you will receive a notice by email when *PA Trout* is available. Be sure you have a current email address on file with National TU. Log on to [www.tu.org](http://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.

If you would prefer to receive a printed copy by U.S. mail, you can subscribe at a cost of \$5 per year (4 issues). Fill out the form above and send your check payable to "PA Trout" to PA Trout, PO Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823.

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

Clubs. John reminded us that sportsmen have always been at the center of the conservation movement and that PFSC was initially formed out of concern for how strip mining was impacting streams and other waterways.

Robbi Freisem, president of the Valley Forge Chapter of TU, described her recent trip to D.C. to meet with members of Congress about the Clean Water Rule. She pointed out that more hunters and anglers need to weigh in now and let their members of Congress know how important this rule is for Pennsylvania's

sportsmen and women, healthy fish and wildlife habitat and drinking water supplies.

Thank you to the many TU members that have taken action over the past year to support the Clean Water Rule. Our work is far from done.

Tell your member of Congress today to stand with Pennsylvania's sportsmen and women and support the Clean Water Rule and oppose attempts by Congress to defund or derail the rule. Go to [www.tu.org/wotus](http://www.tu.org/wotus) to learn more and take action.

## **PATU Calendar**

**Sept. 16-20** – National TU Meeting, Scranton, PA; More information can be found at [www.tu.org/nationalmeeting](http://www.tu.org/nationalmeeting)

**Oct. 3** – PATU Annual Meeting

**Feb. 26-27, 2016** – Keystone Coldwater Conference

More information about all the above programs and activities can be found on [www.patrou.org](http://www.patrou.org)

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# Headwaters

A message from PATU President Brian Wagner

Good communication and the “one TU concept” are themes I have often written about, and I still they believe are cornerstones to success in Pennsylvania and throughout our organization.

With that said, I am really excited about two upcoming meetings. The first is the National Trout Unlimited meeting to be held in Scranton from Sept. 16-19. Wednesday will be a hosted fishing day primarily for out-of-area anglers who would like to try local waters near the national meeting site. They’ll be paired up with anglers from the local chapters who will act as hosts. Thursday is the conservation tour that will highlight local projects on the Lackawanna River, impacts of acid mine drainage, Susquehanna River impairment and Marcellus gas play. Friday and Saturday will be filled with informational meetings, with Chris Wood giving the State of TU address Saturday morning. Friday evening will feature an awards barbecue, and Saturday evening is the banquet with silent auctions and a live auctioneer offering some tremendous items. Proceeds benefit Council programs and the host chapters.

I want to personally thank all chapters that have donated an item to make the auction a success. The entire affair is a great opportunity to network with national staff and TU leaders from across the nation, and to showcase Trout Unlimited in Pennsylvania. Registration information for part of or for the entire National TU meeting can be found at [www.tu.org](http://www.tu.org). I would like to thank Charlie Charlesworth for his vision in bringing the national meeting to Pennsylvania and for his leadership as our organizer for it.

The second meeting that I am excited about is our PATU annual meeting that will again be held at the Shavers Creek Community Center on Oct. 3. Each chapter should register an attendee for this important meeting. The agenda is posted on the PATU website. It will include a year in review, presentations by Rob Shane from TU Volunteer Operations, Amy Wolfe, the director of the Eastern Abandoned Mine Program, several important trainings, elec-

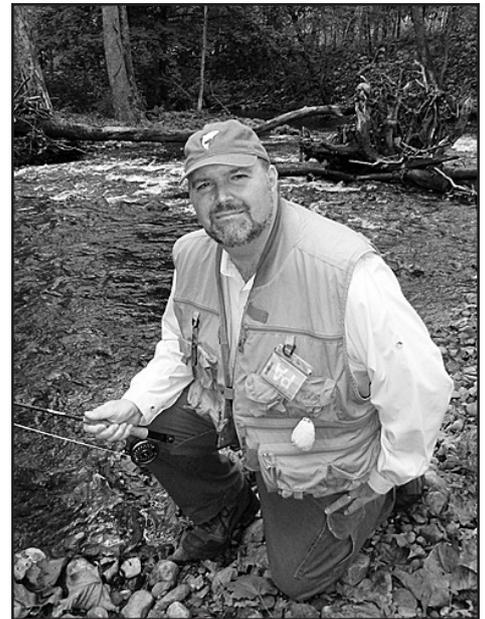
tions and awards. There will also be some fun with a casting competition and the pig roast, of course. This is a great opportunity for up and coming leaders. Please find someone from your chapter to attend. This is how I got started in PATU. I showed up at our annual meeting.

On May 27, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers released the rule restoring protections for many of the wetlands and headwaters streams that had been covered by the Clean Water Act for over 30 years, but lost because of a pair of controversial Supreme Court rulings in the 2000s. More than a million Americans provided comments to the proposed clean water rule after its proposal in 2014, and more than 80 percent of the comments supported restoring the common sense protections to our nation’s important headwaters and wetlands.

During the process, the EPA released a 400-page, peer-reviewed report summarizing the extensive science supporting the clear connection between America’s small headwaters and its larger rivers. While the release of this rule is encouraging, the fight to protect our nation’s waters isn’t over. There have been attempts to derail the rule in Congress before it was even announced. I’m sure some of you were asked to make calls. Meanwhile, we will have to be vigilant and let our decision makers know why clean water is important to us as sportsmen.

I was able to attend the “Sportsmen’s Rally for Clean Water” hosted by Trout Unlimited at the Snitz Creek Brewery on July 13. For me locally, the Clean Water Act and the conservation movement that spawned its bipartisan support in 1972 had much to do with the cleanup and revival of the Delaware and Lehigh rivers where sportsmen like me can again fish for American shad in the Delaware and trout in the Lehigh. I’m sure everyone has similar stories to share.

Speaking of the Delaware, with winter seeming to hold on through April, would anyone have thought that May would be so summer like? Very hot and dry? These conditions led to warm water temperatures



on the upper Delaware River and a voluntary shutdown of the trout fishery by the local guides and anglers. Several requests for thermal relief releases from the Cannonsville reservoir went unanswered by the decree parties. A formal thermal relief plan is needed to protect this outstanding tailwater trout fishery and the economic benefit it provides. This goal is listed in the Fair Share 2015 document that Council supported.

Again, there is more advocacy work for us to do. We recently signed onto a Trout Unlimited letter addressed to the governors of the decree party states requesting more water for the downriver states and greater transparency in the decision making process.

Hopefully, everyone has had a chance to peruse the “State of the Trout” report recently published by the TU science team. The abridged report was published in the summer 2015 *Trout* magazine. The full report can be found at [www.tu.org/stateofthetrout](http://www.tu.org/stateofthetrout).

The report looks at native trout throughout the nation and identifies the risk associated with four factors, climate change, energy, non-native species and water demand. For Pennsylvania, we are located in the mid-Atlantic region and our native is the brook trout. Energy development and non-native species pose the highest risk to our brook trout. Climate change and water demand pose a moderate risk. Each

**Continued on next page...**

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of these risk factors are further highlighted in the section "The Path Forward" and I encourage everyone to read it. Over half of the remaining brook trout populations occur in watersheds with at least 80 percent forested lands.

Here are some of my personal thoughts moving forward:

We need to continue to preserve our forested land, limit fragmentation and maintain and enhance our riparian buffers and floodplains.

Identifying stream barriers and reconnecting our natives to thermal refuges will be important.

Non-natives, of course, refer to competing non-native salmonids like brown trout, but also to invasive species like the hemlock woolly adelgid which is affecting the hemlocks which cool are brook trout streams and can buffer them against some of the impact of climate change.

We know stocking over natives isn't helping. My recommendation is to identify these streams holding native brook trout and advocate to have the hatchery resource stocked elsewhere.

Climate change is the "elephant in the room" that scares me the most. At the least a lot of the work that we are currently doing and advocating for can help mitigate some of the effects of climate change.

I also encourage everyone to read Chris Wood's "Afterword." It's time to double down. We are up to these challenges. There's always more work to be done, but that's what makes the fishing so much more rewarding.

## Treasurer's Report by PATU Treasurer George Kutskel

Below you will find a list of donations received in memory of Dr. David Lynn.

Though it's a topic that makes some uncomfortable, many people are asking to donate to a particular group or cause in lieu of flowers when a loved one passes. We voted years ago that all donations and bequests be used for habitat projects

around the state, and they have, along with the Back the Brookie license plate.

Please consider making PA Trout a cause to donate to in lieu of flowers.

If particular programs like Trout in the Classroom or habitat are important to you, just list that cause and the funding received will be used for that purpose.

### Donations in Memory of Dr. David Lynn

- American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology Inc.
- Ann Tilton
- John and Donna Bodensteiner
- William Hughes
- Gabriel Heiber
- Nancy and Warren W. Furey III
- Maureen Dorgan Clemens

### Chapter Donations

It should be noted that all money we receive from chapter and individuals is used to fund Council programs or projects, including this newsletter, unlike grant money which can only be used for the purpose of the grant.

We know how hard it is to raise funds and wish to recognize your efforts.

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

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

- Muddy Creek
- RB Winter
- Spring Creek

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

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

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



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# Native trout still grace our mountains, but need care to thrive

*Editor's Note: Each year at its spring banquet, the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association – of which Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited is a supporting member – presents its Excellence in Craft Awards. These awards recognize POWA members for their outstanding work in 25 different categories during the previous calendar year. PATU has been a long-time sponsor of the “Trout and the Coldwater Resource Award.” The following article authored by outdoor writer Ben Moyer, and published in The Herald-Standard on April 13, 2014, was selected as this year's winner.*

Saturday marked the much-anticipated opening of trout season on area lakes and streams. Unfortunately, Friday's rains rendered most creeks muddy and high, not favorable conditions, so there should be plenty of trout left for fishing later through the spring.

Most of those trout, of course, were stocked for our enjoyment by the Fish and Boat Commission. But it's important for anglers to remember that not all trout began life in a hatchery. Our mountain streams, especially the more remote ones, still harbor wild brook trout, as native to their home water as the hemlocks and laurel that grace its banks.

I like to think about native brook trout this way: as Alaska has its salmon and Florida its bonefish and tarpon, Pennsylvania has



Ben Moyer Photo

**The brook trout pictured above was carved by Ben Moyer from basswood for auction at a Trout Unlimited fundraiser.**

its brook trout. Proclaimed as the most beautiful of freshwater fish, the brook trout is also Pennsylvania's official state fish.

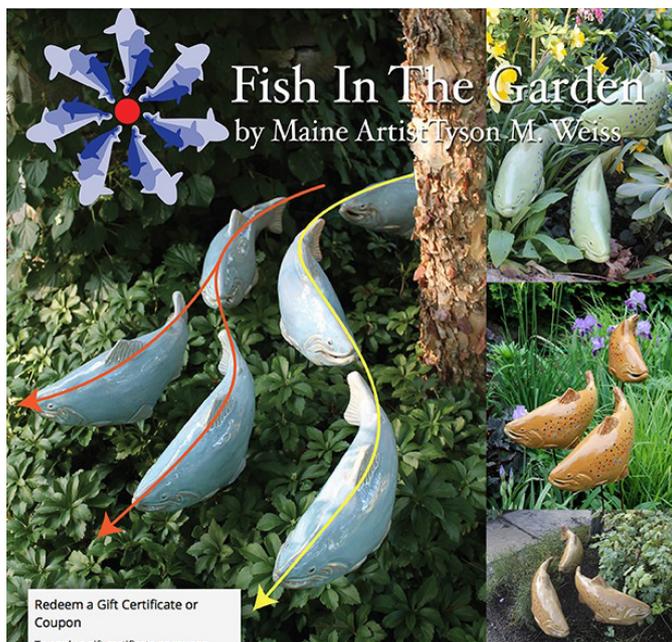
When I was a kid, my dad, my sister and I sometimes hiked a steep overgrown logging road deep in local mountains to fish for wild brook trout in a small, but beautiful stream that tumbled over big boulders and rested in deep green pools before its next downstream plunge. If we were stealthy, wore drab clothing and hunkered low along the stream bank, then lobbed a worm or wet fly into a pool, we'd soon feel a brookie's insistent tug.

Those trout were not big; a 9-incher was uncommonly large, but they were breathtaking. Their dark green backs were the color of shadows under the hemlocks, graced by wavy olive-green arcs. Their sides were ivory-white, speckled with red, blue, black and gold. But, it was their undersides that were most captivating, flaming orange blending to blood red at the base of the fins. These were fish to marvel at, and we released every one we caught. We sensed that these little wild trout belonged in their mountain home more than in our skillet.

Brook trout are the only salmonid species native to inland rivers and streams of the eastern United States. Their original range extended from Newfoundland, west and south across eastern Canada, New England and the Great Lakes Basin, with a narrow prong probing south for a thousand miles along the Appalachians from Pennsylvania to Georgia.

Throughout their range, brook trout live in cold, clean headwater streams, smaller rivers and remote cold lakes. Once abundant throughout that vast expanse, brook trout have declined or even disappeared in many watersheds due to poor water quality resulting from man's activities. The Chestnut Ridge Chapter of Trout Unlimited, headquartered in Uniontown, operates several stream restoration projects that are helping wild brook trout to return to the region's streams. Visit [www.chestnutridgetu.org](http://www.chestnutridgetu.org) for more information.

Brook trout spawn in the fall. Like other salmonid species, the  
See **THRIVE**, page 9



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# Annual Trout in the Classroom Raffle tickets now available

Trout in the Classroom is an interdisciplinary program that teaches students about coldwater conservation while raising brook trout from eggs to fingerlings in a classroom aquarium.

Teachers tailor their program to fit individual needs, so each is unique. With the assistance of this annual raffle, PATU provides a mini-grant program to support classroom needs and help to educate the next generation of coldwater stewards.

The grants assist teachers in replacing outdated or nonfunctioning equipment, books, field and sampling equipment, and helps cover field trip costs in order to engage students in coldwater conservation activities.

Many classrooms partner with organizations such as Trout Unlimited chapters, watershed associations and conservation districts, which provide a community connection and link to local watersheds. These partners provide technical and financial support, programs and presentations to engage students in coldwater conservation.

By offering these grants, PATU can relieve some of the financial burden on these partners by allowing them to provide funding for other important projects, while also providing support to classrooms that must rely solely on these grants to continue their programs.

Thank you to all who have supported and continue to support TIC, especially the partners and teachers who participate in the program and educate the next generation of coldwater conservationists. All proceeds from the annual raffle go to the TIC grant program.

Over the last several years, funding to support the grant program has been reduced due to state agency budget cuts. Through your support we hope to continue our mini-grant program. The goal for this year's raffle is to raise \$10,000.

Donations should be made to PA Trout

## Pennsylvania Trout in the Classroom Raffle

20 Chances to Win!

Prizes 1-4: \$50	Prizes 11-14: \$50
Prize 5: \$250	Prize 15: \$250
Prizes 6-9: \$50	Prize 16-19: \$50
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**Students in participating Trout in the Classroom programs raise brook trout from eggs to fingerlings and then have the opportunity to release them in Pennsylvania streams while learning about ecology, coldwater conservation and more. (Contributed photos)**



and mailed to P.O. Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823.

This state-wide program is made possible through a partnership between PATU

and PA Fish and Boat Commission. The partnership provides curriculum resources, workshops, technical support brook trout eggs and food, and grant opportunities.

## MEETING

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We also hope you consider coming for the entire four days. If you can't do that, then come for a day or two. You do not have to register for the entire meeting. Rather, you can just sign up for one or two of the dinners. Friday is the barbecue and awards presentation and Saturday is the annual banquet and auction.

Other highlights of the meeting include sessions and presentations on Friday. Saturday morning is TU Executive Director Chris Wood's "State of Trout Unlimited Address" – which is not to be missed. That is followed by a presentation by John Arway, executive director of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. The afternoon will include more meetings and sessions of interest.

We need to make this the biggest banquet TU has ever had. If you can only make it for one day, it should be Saturday just to hear Chris Wood and attend the banquet.

There are also events earlier in the week. Wednesday is the hosted fishing day, but if you want to arrive early and would like to

## Tentative Agenda

*This agenda has not been finalized and is subject to change, please check back for updates. Note: ALL posted meetings are open to everyone.*

### Wednesday, Sept. 16

7:30 a.m. - ? - All-Day Hosted Fishing Trip (incurs add'l cost)

### Thursday, Sept. 17

7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. - Watershed Conservation Tour (incurs add'l cost)

8 p.m. - 10 p.m. - Welcome Reception

10 p.m. - Hospitality Suite

### Friday, Sept. 18

7:30 a.m. - 8:15 a.m. - Breakfast

Buffet

8:30 a.m. - 10 a.m. - NLC Work

groups - Conservation

10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. - NLC Work

groups - Organizational

12 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. - Grassroots

Luncheon

1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. - NLC Business Meeting

3:45 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Insurance

Talk with Doug Adams

3:45 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Conservation

Specific Discussion

6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Cocktail Hour

(no host)

7:30 p.m. - 10 p.m. - BBQ and

Volunteer Awards Presentation

10 p.m. - Hospitality Suite

### Saturday, Sept. 19

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. - Breakfast

Buffet

8:45 a.m. - 11 a.m. - Annual Members Meeting:

- State of TU (Chris Wood)
  - Financial Update (Hillary Coley)
  - NLC - State of the Grassroots (Mick McCorcle)
  - Board Business (Jim Asselstine)
- 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. - Free Time  
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. - Speaker Lunch (Speaker TBD)  
1:15 p.m. - 4 p.m. - Workshops  
4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Council Chair Meeting  
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Cocktails, Hors d'oeuvres & Silent Auction  
7:30 p.m. - 10 p.m. - Banquet, Mortensen Award Presentation and Live Auction  
10 p.m. - Hospitality Suite
- Sunday, Sept. 20**  
8 a.m. - 12 p.m. - Board of Trustees Meeting.

fish, call me at 570-954-5042 and I'll set you up with a fishing buddy. If you would like to hire a guide we can set that up also. If you want to fish Wednesday you will have to register with National and pay for the hosted day fishing. Thursday includes a great conservation tour featuring local projects, lunch and then a tour of gas fields where you can get a firsthand look at the effects of drilling in the region.

To get more information or to register, visit [www.tu.org](http://www.tu.org) or [www.patROUT.org](http://www.patROUT.org).

There is so much information to be shared during the meeting such as youth programs, veterans programs, women's

initiatives, leadership training, using the website and personal interactions with other chapters and other state councils. It is the best way to find out how Trout Unlimited runs and what it does to conserve and protect coldwater fisheries.

If your spouse is planning to attend, there are special tours and social programs just for them.

For those who want to stay near the host hotel but not at the Hilton itself, the Microtel nearby is offering reduced rates of \$89.95 per night and it is right on the Lackawanna River. Contact Microtel at 570-307-1200 and request TU rates.

## THRIVE

from page 7

female excavates a shallow depression in the gravelly stream bottom with her body. Her eggs (anywhere from 100 to 5,000) lodge in crevices within the gravel, where they are fertilized by a male trout's sperm and hatch from 60-100 days later. Brook trout take on their most brilliant fiery red and orange colors during the autumn spawn.

Brook trout are not difficult to catch – if they don't see you. In their small stream habitats, they are constantly vulnerable to mink, otters, raccoons, bears, and birds of many kinds. As a result, any movement along the stream, or shadow over the water, sends them streaking for cover beneath rocks or logs. In brook trout fishing, a stealthy approach is just as important as the right bait and tackle.

Consider pinching down the barb on hooks when fishing streams holding wild brook trout, so the fish can be released unharmed. It's also best to wet your hand before holding and unhooking a trout. A dry hand can wipe away the trout's protective slime, leaving it susceptible to infection by harmful fungus.

The best approach is to conceal yourself among the streamside rocks or vegetation, and drift the fly or bait through a fast run that enters a deep pool. If a brookie is stationed there, and hasn't seen you, it will often strike on the first cast.

Thank You  
PA Trout Unlimited Members  
For All Your Good Work!  
**PA Environment Digest**

David E. Hess  
Former Secretary of DEP, Editor

[www.PAEnvironmentDigest.com](http://www.PAEnvironmentDigest.com)

Crisci Associates  
[www.CrisciAssociates.com](http://www.CrisciAssociates.com)

717-234-1716

# 2015 PATU Annual Fall Meeting

Shaver's Creek Community Building  
October 3

Pennsylvania Council's annual Fall Meeting is our way of saying thank you to each chapter for their dedication in protecting, conserving and restoring Pennsylvania's coldwater streams.

This year's event includes training sessions that will provide ideas and strategies for building membership and protecting our coldwater resources. We are also encouraging members and those interested in learning more about Trout Unlimited to attend.

## TENTATIVE AGENDA

*Saturday, October 3*

**8:30 a.m.** – Registration

**9:30 a.m.** – Welcome

**9:45 a.m.** – A Year in Review; An Overview of PATU

**10:45 a.m.** – Break

**11 a.m.** – Rob Shane, TU Volunteer Operations Coordinator

**11:15 a.m.** – Amy Wolfe, Director of Eastern Abandoned Mine Program/ Brook Trout Habitat Initiative

**11:45 a.m.** – Election of officers

**12 p.m.** – Lunch

**1 p.m.** – Trainings

- Advocacy Training, Katy Dunlap, TU Eastern Project Director

- Tips and tools (review of website tools and reporting information)

- TU Youth Camps

**3 p.m.** – Fly swap and casting competition

**3 p.m.** – Executive Committee meeting

**4 p.m.** – Awards, raffle and wrap-up

**5:30 p.m.** – Annual pig roast

## DETAILS

**Location:** The Shavers Creek Firemen's Park and Community Building is located at 8707 Fireman's Park Lane, Petersburg, PA.

**Cost:** The cost for the weekend is \$35

## FALL MEETING REGISTRATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ I plan to bring an item for the raffle.

\_\_\_\_ I would like to participate in the Fly Swap (need to bring a dozen flies to swap with other participants)?

I am interested in assisting with: \_\_\_\_ meal prep \_\_\_\_ clean-up \_\_\_\_ facility clean-up

*We need your help to make this event a success.*

**Registration deadline is September 25**

*(Please make checks payable to PA Trout)*

**The cost to attend is \$35/ person and includes all events and meals (excluding raffle).**

MAIL TO:

PA Trout

PO Box 5148

Bellefonte, PA 16823

*More information on Fall Meeting activities can be found at [www.patROUT.org](http://www.patROUT.org).*

per person, and includes the annual pig roast, programs and handouts.

## DIRECTIONS

To the Shavers Creek Firemen's Park and Community Building:

**From State College:** Take Rt. 26 South at the bottom of Pine Grove Mountain.

Turn right onto SR 1029, Charter Oak Road. Go 7 miles to Shavers Creek Fireman's Park. Look for sign on left.

**From Huntingdon:** Take 22 west to Rt. 305 East through Petersburg. Go 8 miles to Shavers Creek Fireman's Park. Look for sign on right.



**KEYSTONE  
COLDWATER  
CONFERENCE**

## Save the Date

The 2016 Keystone Coldwater Conference will be held Feb. 26-27, 2016 at the Ramada Inn Conference Center in State College, PA.

This year's theme is:  
*Coldwater Resources: Connecting Conservation, Protection, Restoration and Stewardship.*

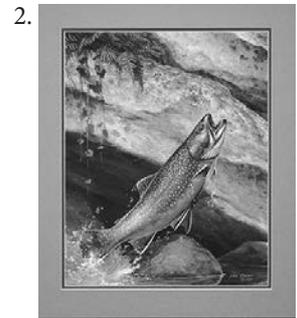
More information can be found at [www.coldwaterconference.com](http://www.coldwaterconference.com).

# Merchandise Order Form

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



	Item Description	Price	Qty.	Total
	"Back the Brookie" License Plate	\$25.00		
1	Ball cap w/logo (circle) Khaki Navy Camo	\$15.00		
	Large Waterproof Fly Box (6"x4"x1")	\$25.00		
	Custom Fly Leaders			
	Dry Fly – 4X Tippet			
	Dry Fly – 5X Tippet			
	Dry Fly – 6X Tippet			
	Wet Fly – 4X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers			
	Wet Fly – 5X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers			
	Subtotal – Leader Quantity (1 to 9)	\$4.00		
	Subtotal – Leader Quantity (10 or more)	\$3.50		
	Dan Shields' <i>Fly Fishing PA's Spring Creek</i> Book	\$20.00		
	"More of CVTU's Favorite Flies" Book	\$22.00		
2	Ned Smith "Sting of the Hook" Print – Unframed	\$148.40		
3	Little Juniata Patch 2011 – 4"	\$6.00		
	Little Juniata Patch 2011 – 6"	\$10.00		
4	Kinzua Creek Patch 2010 – 4"	\$6.00		
	Kinzua Creek Patch 2010 – 6"	\$10.00		
5	Delaware River Patch 2009 – 4"	\$6.00		
	Delaware River Patch 2009 – 6"	\$10.00		
	PATU Decals – 3"	\$3.00		
	PATU Travel Rod Case	\$50.00		
	Fly Fishing Practice Casting Game	\$25.00		
	Custom 9'0, 5-wt., 3-piece Fly Rod	\$175.00		
	Adult TIC T-shirt (circle size) S M L XL	\$17.00		
	Adult TIC T-shirt (circle size) 2XL 3XL	\$20.00		
	Youth TIC T-shirt (circle size) M L	\$17.00		
	Official PATU T-shirt (circle size) S M L XL	\$20.00		
	Official PATU T-shirt (circle size) 2XL 3XL	\$23.00		
<b>Note:</b>	6% sales tax (where applicable), shipping and handling costs included in unit prices.	<b>Total \$</b>		



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

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

**Ship to:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

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



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



**GET A CUSTOM TROUT UNLIMITED PENNSYLVANIA LICENSE PLATE!**

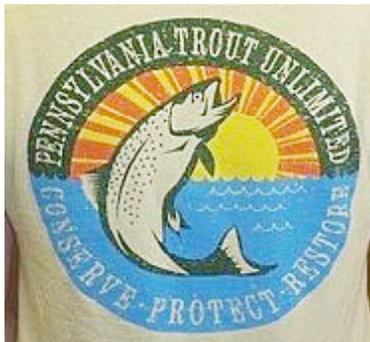
Want to show others that you're a proud member of PATU and support the mission of Trout Unlimited? Well, you can, and it will only cost you a onetime charge of \$25 for a specialty PA license plate. The custom plate fee is in addition to your annual registration fee, and the plate is available for passenger cars and trucks 14,000 lbs. or less, motor homes and trailers.

To order your Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited PA state license plate, send your name, TU membership number and current PA license plate number by email to [rpennell37@comcast.net](mailto:rpennell37@comcast.net) or mail to:

Bob Pennell  
2319 Valley Road  
Harrisburg, PA 17104

In return, you'll receive an application form to complete and send with your \$25 payment to PennDOT.

Back



Front (left pocket)



**PA COUNCIL OF TROUT UNLIMITED T-SHIRTS**

The official PATU T-shirt is now for sale! Shirts are \$18.00, plus \$2.00 per shirt for shipping. **\*Please note that shirts in size 2X & 3X cost \$3.00 more.** All proceeds from T-shirt sales go directly toward implementing state-wide conservation and education projects.

Small   
  Medium   
  Large   
  X-Large  
 2XL\*   
  3XL\*   
 \*Additional \$3.00 charge for adult 2XL and 3XL shirts.

Quantity (sizes S-XL @ \$18.00 each)                      Total Cost: \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity (sizes 2X & 3X @ \$21.00 each)                      Total Cost: \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping cost @ \$2.00 each shirt                      Total Shipping: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail order form and check/money order payable to PA Trout to:

PA Trout | PO Box 5148 | Bellefonte, PA 16823

*Thank you for supporting PATU and coldwater conservation!*



Follow us on Twitter at [twitter.com/PennsylvaniaTU](http://twitter.com/PennsylvaniaTU) and Facebook at [facebook.com/PennsylvaniaTU](http://facebook.com/PennsylvaniaTU)

Lackawanna County



# IT'S ALL ABOUT CATCHING A BREAK

*Northeast PA*



[VISITNEPA.org](http://VISITNEPA.org)

# PA COUNCIL OF TROUT UNLIMITED

*Minutes of the June 27, 2015  
Executive Committee Meeting  
PFBC Facility, Pleasant Gap, PA*

**Officers Attending:** Brian Wagner, Ken Undercoffer, Charlie Charlesworth, George Kutskel, Greg Malaska, Bob Pennell, Chuck Winters, Fred Gender, John Leonard, Mark Hanes, Monty Murty.

**Others Attending:** Samantha Ferguson, Tim Schaeffer (PFBC).

**President's Report:** The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by President Wagner. Wagner referenced his report in discussing the confusion created by the passage of PA Act 153 (volunteer background checks) and the progress of HB 1276 that is intended to clarify to whom and under what conditions Act 153 applies. A motion by Kutskel/seconded by Malaska was approved to accept the minutes of the April 11, 2015 EXCOM meeting, as previously distributed to EXCOM.

**Treasurer's Report:** Kutskel reported that the PA Bureau of Charitable Organizations Form BCO-10 had been received. He also announced that Council will pay for the Saturday night banquet and a shared hotel room that night for any officer attending the National TU Annual Meeting in September. The Treasurer's Report dated June, 2015 was approved on a motion by Pennell/seconded by Charlesworth.

**Awards Committee:** Report submitted. Ferguson reminded the regional VPs that every region is expected to nominate at least one candidate for a PATU annual chapter award. She also mentioned that she is seeking digital images to be used as the background for new chapter award banners.

**Delaware River Committee:** Report submitted. The recent temperature crisis on the Upper Delaware pointed out why a thermal stress release program is necessary for the life of the river. It is imperative that Council continues to support the PFBC's efforts to get a viable thermal stress release program on the Delaware River.

**Development Committee:** Report submitted. Kutskel reported that the Fish

in the Garden promotion which will provide PATU with 15% of each sale has now been posted on [patrout.org](http://patrout.org). He also stated that we will be kicking off our 2015/2016 Trout in the Classroom Raffle in the summer issue of *PA Trout*. An article on the importance of memorial donations in support of habitat work funding will also be included.

**Stream Access Committee:** Report submitted. Winters reported that the PFBC has changed the requirements for easements on stream habitat improvement work, making it easier to do an easement and receive financial help for stream improvement work. The easement will now be an attachment to the deed.

**Trout Management Committee:** Report submitted. Undercoffer reported that PFBC will announce the discontinuance of their Brook Trout Enhancement Program at their July quarterly meeting. The committee will meet on July 19 to discuss the future of brook trout and other wild trout management issues.

**Women's Initiative:** No Report submitted. A chairperson is needed.

**Communications Committee:** Report submitted. A special insert is planned for the summer issue of *PA Trout*, with 400 copies to be printed for distribution to the attendees at National TU's Annual Meeting in September. Isles and Charlesworth are seeking advertisers to defray the added cost of this insert.

**Environmental Committee:** Report submitted. A conference call is planned for sometime this summer with the goal being to get more active participation by the committee members. Work is proceeding on updating the Forestry and Stream Channelization policies. Monitoring of pending legislative bills affecting various environmental issues is ongoing.

**Legislative Committee:** No report submitted, but Katy Dunlap continues to schedule meetings with PA legislators as needed on various legislative issues.

**Membership Committee:** No report submitted, but Hanes reported that, effec-



tive July 1, TU will be offering free upgrades for family members to be included on the TU roster. He also stated that chapter members need to access their rosters to update incorrect contact information.

**Youth Education Committee:** Report submitted by new chairperson, Judi

Sittler. Her report contained a recap of the various teen summer camps for 2015. She will be developing a survey to be sent to the chapters to find out what programs they are currently involved with, as well as any assistance they might need.

**National Leadership Council:** Report submitted. Murty stressed the importance at the upcoming National TU Annual Meeting of promoting with National TU and other state councils the many capabilities and successful programs that PATU has in place. He also reported that TU's online membership renewal system needs to be fixed to correct mis-assignment of zip codes along state borders.

**Program Director:** Report submitted. Ferguson reported that the 2016 Keystone Coldwater Conference will take place on Feb. 26-27 at the Ramada Inn in State College. Donations of \$100 are being solicited to support the students' poster contest. The conference theme will focus on the history of coldwater conservation efforts in PA. She is requesting input from EXCOM members to put together a "State of PA" report for the PATU fall meeting.

**Support for PFBC Trout Permit Increase:** Tim Schaeffer, PFBC's director of policy & communications, presented the basics of legislation proposed by PA Sen. James Brewster to increase the cost of an annual trout permit from \$8 to \$16 in 2017. After considerable discussion and exchange of ideas about how these funds would be allocated, it was suggested by several people that smaller increases over several years would likely be more acceptable to fishermen and result in a smaller initial decline in trout permit sales.

## **Regional Reports**

- ***North Central*** – Seven out of eight chapter reports were filed. Susque-

*Continued on next page...*

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hanna did not report.

- **Northeast** – Eight out of nine chapter reports were filed. Western Pocono did not report.
- **Northwest** – Seven out of nine chapter reports were filed. Caldwell Creek and Northwest PA did not report.
- **South Central** – All eight chapter reports were filed. Leonard will hold a regional meeting on July 11.
- **Southeast** – No reports received.
- **Southwest** – All seven chapter reports were filed.

#### **Additional Discussion Items**

- **Trout in the Classroom Raffle** – The 2015/2016 TIC Raffle prizes will be the same as last year; 20 cash prizes with a grand prize of \$500. There was discussion of a “sweepstakes” mailing to chapters, and possibly using PayPal for online sales.

- **Preparations for National TU Annual Meeting** – Charlesworth brought us up to date on the schedule of social activities, as follows:
  - Wednesday, Sept. 16 – Guided fishing with eight guides each provided by four chapters.
  - Thursday, Sept. 17 – Conservation tour with lunch (possibly at Lackawanna State Park) and hospitality suite on Thursday evening.
  - Friday, Sept. 18 – Awards dinner and hospitality suite.
  - Saturday, Sept. 19 – Annual banquet and auctions.

Charlesworth also mentioned that alternative lodging is available for \$89 per night at the Dickson City Microtel motel.

- **Proposal for “Affinity” Insurance Program for PATU Members** – Pennell presented an incentive program offered by the Strickler Insurance Agency representing Donegal Mu-

tual Insurance. Kutskel reminded us that we are forbidden to share our TU roster as we had done previously with the Nationwide Insurance Affinity Program. Based on Strickler’s willingness to promote their program through advertising in *PA Trout*, online at [www.patrou.org](http://www.patrou.org), on PATU social media and at the PATU fall meeting, EXCOM agreed to move ahead with the program. Other benefits will include financial support to Council as the PATU customer base increases over time.

- **Planning for PATU Annual Fall Meeting** – Ferguson outlined the tentative agenda for the fall meeting to be held at the Shaver’s Creek Community Center near Edinburg, PA on Oct. 3.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m. on a motion by Hanes/seconded by Gender.

– Bob Pennell, Council Secretary

## **Trout Management Committee Report**

By Ken Undercoffer  
and Dick Soderberg  
*Committee Co-Chairs*

Readers probably know by now that the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission has decided to eliminate the Brook Trout Enhancement program. Under the regulations, there were no tackle limitations, no brook trout could be killed and all other species could be harvested under general regulations.

According to a study conducted by the PFBC there was no change in average size or number of brook trout in stream sections managed while the BTE program was in effect.

Even before it was instituted, most stream sections managed under the BTE program were remote and seldom fished by anglers intent on harvesting brook trout, so perhaps the results are not that surprising. It would be interesting to try this approach

on streams that are more readily accessible to anglers.

Many streams with brook trout populations are adjacent to or near roads over much of their length and still hold an abundance of brookies, but few over seven inches. This is especially the case if they are stocked. Is this the result of cropping of the larger – legal size and over – individuals?

There are many stocked and unstocked brook trout streams adjacent to the road that could be considered for a brook trout enhancement program that would demonstrate whether stocking and harvesting is a factor limiting the ability of these streams to grow larger brookies.

They would certainly get fished if a healthy population of native brookies were available, even if they couldn’t be harvested. That approach has worked for brown trout in many of our better limestone waters.

Brookies in these streams could not be expected to reach the sizes that browns do in the far more fertile limestone waters. Stream resources are just not adequate. But a plentiful supply of readily accessible eight- to 10-inch brookies, with occasional individuals to 12 inches would certainly attract a following.

This is the kind of brook trout fishing that still exists in our better freestones protected from excessive harvesting by their inaccessibility or because they are unknown to most anglers. Those who do fish these streams are quite aware that they hold plenty of larger brookies, but are unwilling to reveal their location for obvious reasons.

Hopefully, the PFBC has an alternative plan to preserve, protect and enhance the only salmonid native to our streams and Pennsylvania’s state fish? Maybe such a program will come out of the next PFBC trout planning meeting.

### **Attention Fly Shop Owners**

Are you interested in reaching thousands of visitors to the digital edition of *PA Trout*? Become a sponsor for just \$25 per issue, or \$100 per year. Join a handful of shops already taking advantage of this great opportunity with a 3.5-inch by 3-inch ad. Visit [www.patrou.org](http://www.patrou.org) and click on the current newsletter to learn more. Contact Charlie Charlesworth, Brad Isles or Samantha Ferguson to participate. Contact information is available on pages 2-3.

## **NORTHEAST CHAPTERS**

**Brodhead 289**

**Forks of the Delaware 482**

**Hokendauqua 535**

**Lackawanna Valley 414**

**Monocacy 491**

**Pike-Wayne 462**

**Schuykill County 537**

**Stan Cooper Sr. 251**

**Western Pocono 203**

## **REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT**

**Fred Gender**

**Email: [afgender@hotmail.com](mailto:afgender@hotmail.com)**

**Phone: 570-704-8764**

### **Brodhead Chapter #289**

**Todd Burns**

**610-704-4549, [tgburns@rcn.com](mailto:tgburns@rcn.com)**

**[www.brodheadtu.org](http://www.brodheadtu.org)**

The chapter held a final planning session for the Pocono Creek restoration project in May. The plans will be implemented this summer and structure will be created in and along the creek to improve habitat. On April 18, members assisted with the Knights of Columbus/Stroud Township Fishing Derby. On April 26, members conducted a workshop at the Pocono Environmental Education Center. On the same date, members assisted with the ForEvergreen Nature Preserve's Earth Day program and 5K. On May 24, members joined with the National Park Service to conduct a kid's fishing clinic in the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. Members also assisted with a clinic in Brodheadsville. The chapter worked the Elements of Fly Fishing Workshop at ForEvergreen Preserve on June 28 along the Brodhead. Members provided instruction at the Monroe County Conservation District's Conservation Camp at Stony Acres on July 23. We'll assist with Project Healing Waters at the Indian Mt. Rod and Gun Club on Aug. 12.

### **Forks of the Delaware Chapter #482**

**Joe Baylog**

**610-751-9116, [baylogj@gmail.com](mailto:baylogj@gmail.com)**

**[www.forksttu.org](http://www.forksttu.org)**

The chapter signed on to the Clean Water Counts campaign being organized by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and the Growing Greener Coalition. A steering committee consisting of Forks of the Delaware TU, Bushkill Stream Conservancy and Northampton County Conservation District has been meeting to oversee a restoration project on Bushkill Creek. Meetings are ongoing

with landowners and municipalities. Stream cleanup was held along Martins Creek on April 13 with volunteers collecting trash in high use areas. On April 25, we held our annual Earth Week cleanup along Bushkill Creek and our Adopt-A-Highway. We covered much of the public access from Tatamy to Easton and we sent a crew back to Martins Creek in Bangor for additional cleanup. We had a display at the Palmer Park Mall with several members tying flies at the Adventures in Agriculture Show April 10-12. We participated in two TIC release days at Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center. Wind Gap Middle School held its release day May 15 and Nazareth Middle School's was May 27. Members assisted with macroinvertebrate identification, fly casting and a tying demo and talked about Trout Unlimited and coldwater conservation. Members participated in the inaugural Step Outdoors Lehigh Valley at ArtsQuest May 30-31, providing a program featuring casting, tying and a gear talk. Our June 3 meeting featured fishing on the Bushkill Creek. On June 6, volunteers rolled out our "Forks TU Fly Fishing Experience" for youths at Northampton County Youth Field Day at Stockertown Rod & Gun Club. Our 3rd annual Corn & Pig Roast is Sept. 12 at Riverside Barr & Grille.

### **Hokendauqua Chapter #535**

**Dave Abraham**

**610-844-3459, [nymphingguy@gmail.com](mailto:nymphingguy@gmail.com)**

**[www.hokendauqua.tu.org](http://www.hokendauqua.tu.org)**

On April 25, we had 14 chapter members, three members of the Bertsch-Hokendauqua-Catasauqua Watershed Association, the president of the Lehigh University Fly Fishing Club and an Eagle Scout do a cleanup on the Hokey. We planted trees on the Atlas Dam removal project on May 2, and a week later members did a cleanup on Copley Creek. Members taught fly casting and fishing knots to scouts at Minsi Trails Council's Jambo at Kutztown University in May. Our Project Healing Waters event was May 23 at Bob Saks' pond. Vets learned how to tie a woolly bugger and caught trout from the pond. On May 30, Dave Abraham did a tying demonstration for Artsquest's Step Outdoors Lehigh Valley held at Steel Stacks. He and Art Williams ran a tying class. Williams and Will Kline were on hand in the morning to assist Brian Wagner in teaching fly casting. On June 13, members taught fly fishing at the NWTF's Women in the Outdoors event at Ontelaunee Rod and Gun Club. We held a fly fishing clinic for women on June 17.

### **Lackawanna Valley Chapter #414**

**Charlie Charlesworth**

**[ffnepa@epix.net](mailto:ffnepa@epix.net), 570-586-3363**

**[www.lackawannavalleytu.org](http://www.lackawannavalleytu.org)**

Board members attended meetings of the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority, the Lackawanna River Corridor Association, the

Lackawanna County Conservation District and the NEPA Conservation Alliance. Chapter representatives met with the Dickson City Redevelopment Authority and discussed what could be done with city-owned river frontage and a planned river festival in 2016. For the first time ever we were able to sell out our banquet. Work began on the Sweeney Beach Environmental Center, which will be the showcase for the National TU meeting. We completed three river cleanups on Earth Day, with our TU Teens cleaning the park surrounding Leggets Creek, adult members cleaning up Leggets Creek in Scranton, and our 5 Rivers Club from Keystone College cleaning up a section of the South Branch Tunkhannock Creek. Chapter members appeared on TV three times in June to promote LVTU. We concluded a 10-week fly fishing school for our TU Teens at the end of May and held their graduation ceremony during our chapter's pasta dinner and social. On June 20, we completed the first-ever Keystone/TU Teens Fly Fishing and Conservation Summer Camp at Keystone College with 20 TU Teens attending, including a camper from Roanoke, Va., two from Maryland and one from Sweden. The chapter had a station at the NEPA Regional High School Envirothon at Keystone College and put on a casting clinic. Chapter members manned a tent and booth space at the Lackawanna River, Riverfest and the Lackawanna River Trail Bike Tour. They also put on casting demonstrations.

### **Monocacy Chapter #491**

**Erik Broesicke**

**610-909-2652, [monocacytu@gmail.com](mailto:monocacytu@gmail.com)**

**[www.monocacytu.org](http://www.monocacytu.org)**

President Erik Broesicke, VP Mike Recine and Forks of the Delaware TU VP Thom Beverly were filmed as part of a fly fishing segment on PBS39 Focus. The piece was filmed on location at the Monocacy Creek. The chapter entered into negotiations to bring the Fly Fishing Film Festival back to the Lehigh Valley in 2016. The tentative date is March 30. On May 16, member Bob Signorello along with Hokendauqua TU member Dr. Bob Saks conducted a multi-day casting clinic for TU members. The chapter has been awarded a grant from the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor to help fund the removal of a small dam.

### **Pike/Wayne Chapter #462**

**Matt Wishneski**

**570-226-8725**

**[www.pwtu.org](http://www.pwtu.org)**

The chapter is currently in the planning stages of cooperating with the Wallenpaupack watershed to perform stream bank stabilization on the west bank of Wallenpaupack Creek. We donated \$1,500 to area high schools for students pursuing an environmental or conservation course of study. Upcoming meetings are a barbecue on the Lackawanna River at 6 p.m. on Aug. 10 and a

barbecue at Lukan's Resort at 6 p.m. on Sept. 21.

## Schuylkill County Chapter #537

Tony Mione

717-979-0235, t.mione@icloud.com

www.schuylkillcountytu.org

A chapter meeting was held April 28 along Bear Creek near Auburn for a cleanup with the help of Auburn's scout troop. On May 8, we attended a meeting of New Philadelphia Borough Council to see if they have any concerns about the project we are doing in the area. Our board and regular meetings were May 26. On April 11-12, we attended the Scott Shade Youth Fishing Derby in Schuylkill Haven where we sold stickers, used equipment and promoted TU. On April 18, we went to Sweet Arrow Lake for the Miracle Network to Benefit Geisinger Hospital and spent the second half of the day at Christ Evangelical Free Church for the Beast Feast. On May 30, members attended the Lehigh Valley Luncheon Feast. In the past year, we had two stream cleanup projects in Tamaqua along Boyer's Market. Wind coming across the parking lot blows litter down into the Little Schuylkill River. On April 16, we did a program for our TIC school, Tri-Valley High School. We talked about trout identification and brook trout, and the life cycle of mayflies in Pennsylvania. On April 25, Solar Innovations of Pine Grove invited SCTU to come to their plant and do fly tying and casting demonstrations for employees. On May 2, we did a Big Brother/Big Sisters event at S/A Trout Ponds. We then participated in Solar Innovations' Family Fishing Derby. On May 3, we ran a Make-a-Wish event at S/A Trout Ponds and then another at Sweet Arrow Lake's Family Fun Fishing Day. In Frackville on May 16, we partnered with Wip-perwill Dam at South End Field & Stream to run a youth fishing derby. May 17 was the Bear Creek Festival at Schuylkill County Fair Grounds. On June 3, we were back at Sweet Arrow Lake where we hosted fourth graders from Blue Mountain School District who enjoyed H2O Olympics. Our radio show has been a huge success. "Step up to the Mike" airs on WPPA-AM 1360 in Pottsville on the third Tuesday of every month from 10-11 a.m. One of our younger members was accepted to the 2015 Keystone Trout Unlimited Teens Conservation Summer Camp. We will be at the Schuylkill County Fair from July 26-Aug. 1.

## Stanley Cooper, Sr. Chapter #251

Joseph J. Gruskiewicz, Jr.

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www.sctu.org

Project Healing Waters continues activities on streams now that warmer weather has arrived. Heide Cebrick, coordinator, has taken out vets from the Wilkes-Barre VA Hospital to various venues since April 2015. Indian Mountain Springs Rod and Gun Club hosted recently, not only providing lunch but a private stream to fish. There

are additional outings planned for the remainder of the summer, including one evening venture that will include in-patient veterans. We held our annual banquet in late April at the Holiday Inn East, Wilkes-Barre. Board members Joe Simons III and Joe Ackourey, member John Levistky and volunteers from the community held two conservation work sessions on Bowmans Creek in late April and late May. An Embrace-A-Stream grant and additional funds supplied by the chapter resulted in repairing or placing riparian buffer zones, planting grasses, trees and other efforts to stabilize the upper reaches of Bowmans Creek. Lime has been introduced into the adjacent areas to help increase the pH of the water and soil. The 15th Annual Youth Fly Fishing Camp was held on Bowmans Creek May 30. Students practiced knot tying, casting, stream entomology and fished the creek.

## NORTHCENTRAL CHAPTERS

**Columbia County 038**

**God's Country 327**

**Lloyd Wilson 224**

**Penns Creek 119**

**Raymond B. Winter 124**

**Spring Creek 185**

**Susquehanna 044**

**Tiadaghton 688**

## REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

**Ben Hayes**

**119 Vista Drive**

**Mifflinburg, PA 17844**

**Email: brh010@bucknell.edu**

**Phone: 570-939-0730**

## Columbia County Chapter #38

Erick Lewis

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Chapter members have volunteered to gather stream temperature monitoring gauge information at several locations along Fishing Creek in Columbia County. Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania's biology and geology departments are leading an effort to identify long-term temperature trends with a goal to determine cold water capacity and the ability to hold healthy trout. At present, PFBC maintains that Fishing Creek is too warm during summer months to hold trout, resulting in a put-and-take management strategy. We have engaged with the Bloomsburg University Fly Fishing Club to teach fly casting, reading trout streams and fly tying. The club's members are very enthusiastic about our support and have attended several of our

monthly meetings. We have encouraged the club to become involved in TU's 5 Rivers program. On June 6, five members of the chapter participated in the Kocher Park Fish-n-Fun Day in Lightstreet. Chapter "guides" shared the finer points of trout fishing, handling, the catch and release ethic, macroinvertebrate identification, face painting, T-shirt making and a barbecue. Upcoming meetings are Sept. 8 at The Lightstreet Hotel and Oct. 13 at the Columbia County Conservation District Office in Bloomsburg.

## God's Country Chapter #327

Dr. Peter Ryan

814-274-8718, drflyfish@yahoo.com

Thanks to members Kathy Mitchell and Ted Bear our TIC programs were completed with elementary school classes from Coudersport and Galeton successfully releasing brook trout fingerlings into Potter County streams. We had a booth at the Potter-Tioga County Maple Festival in Coudersport on May 2. We showed our Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing DVDs, sold raffle tickets and handed out information about TU and clean streams. Thanks to Bob Volkmar for distributing "bulletpoints" to chapter members to comment on the new DHALO proposal which was subsequently withdrawn by PFBC. Pete Ryan, who serves as the Potter County Quality Assurance Board chairman, attended the Dirt, Gravel and Low Volume Road Administrative workshop May 5 in State College. Our "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans" Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing event from May 19-22 was tremendously successful. Special guest was Medal of Honor recipient Gary Beikirch. We sent donations to the Potter County Conservation District in support of the Potter County Envirothon and also to the Upper Allegheny Watershed Association to support its "No Littering" signs project. Chapter members took part in the UAWA Route 6 road cleanup on April 25. God's Country sponsored John Fitzgerald to attend the Fly Fishing Conservation School in June. Dave Saulter and Pete Ryan gave several PHWFF presentations at area American Legions and VFWs, and did a special presentation June 26 at the annual Allegany Mountain Chapter of the Nam Knights 2015 "Rich Valley Rumble" at the Cameron County Fairgrounds. Bob Volkmar, Pete Ryan and Frank Weeks attended the June 15 Potter County Water Quality meeting at which JKLM Energy committed to donating \$25,000 to the Potter County Conservation District for equipment purchases for continued water quality monitoring of Potter County streams.

## Lloyd Wilson Chapter #224

Bill Bailey

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www.lwtu.org

Our annual family picnic at the Sieg Confer-  
**Continued on next page...**

### ...Continued from previous page

ence Center in Lamar was June 3. We are selling raffle tickets for an Orvis Access fly fishing outfit, an LL Bean Angler fly fishing outfit and a spinning outfit. The drawing is at our annual banquet on Nov. 6. On May 12-13, we instructed fly tying and fly casting to middle school students from Jersey Shore at Little Pine State Park. On May 30, we assisted with a fishing event at the NE Fishery Center in Lamar. On June 4, we helped with a fishing event at the center involving special needs students. On June 6, several members assisted at the PFBC family fishing event at Sayers Dam. Members assisted with a fishing event at the NE Fishery Center on June 12 for guests from Haven Skilled Nursing and Rehab Center. Chapter members will be assisting with several more events at the center during the summer, the Brookies Camp at Sieg Conference Center and Clinton County Conservation District's Day Camps.

### Penns Creek Chapter #119

Gary Parzanese

717-677-7171, 6sneezes@comcast.net

The tunnel repair on Penns Creek was discussed at the April meeting. A presentation on Lyme disease was held at the May meeting. Dates for Fly Fishing Heritage Day and the National TU meeting in Scranton were discussed. Also in May, Don Dopple presented a video program on late spring and summer hatches showing close up and underwater photos of the hatches. Our summer social was June 9 near Poe Paddy State Park. We are waiting for the conservation district to start a project on the Little Kish Creek in Belleville. The chapter will try to assist in the stream rehab and planting of the buffers. We assisted in four TIC releases between April 2 and May 16 by doing a bug study station and fly fishing and casting stations. The chapter will assist the Shade Mountain Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation at the Youth Field Day in August by running fly tying and fishing stations.

### R.B. Winter Chapter #124

Robert Laubach

570-966-3379, oldfrstr@dejazzd.com

We conducted water quality, stream macroinvertebrate identification and fly tying seminars for Mifflinburg Middle School Environmental Education Day in April. We also held a cleanup along Penns Creek from the tunnel to Weikert. We participated in a Project Healing Waters program in conjunction with Union County Sportsman's Club. We conducted fly tying and stream insect identification seminar at Middleburg library for Snyder County home-schooled students. Middleburg Elementary School and Mifflinburg High School students ended their TIC programs by stocking brook trout fingerlings in Middle Creek and Laurel Run. Our annual "Fishout" and picnic

along Penns Creek was in May with chapter and fly tying class members. In June, chapter members presented fly tying and casting instruction at Summerfest held at R.B. Winter State Park. Chapter members were saddened in May by the untimely death of member Jim Wagner, who served as our vice chairman and conducted our fly tying classes.

### Spring Creek Chapter #185

Bob Vierck

814-360-3702, pres@springcreektu.org

www.springcreektu.org

The chapter participated in Centre Gives, a 36-hour online non-profit fundraiser in the Centre County area. We raised \$4,071 during this event, including a \$1,000 prize for the most donors in a specified time period. We also received a \$500 grant from Patagonia via Appalachian Outdoors and a \$100 donation from Field and Stream. A three-panel kiosk was designed for Fisherman's Paradise. Riparian planting at Fisherman's Paradise covered 3,000 linear feet of stream, incorporated 17 varieties of native plants and included a number of mature trees. The planting at Rock Road was completed with the cooperation of PFBC. We planted 248 plants covering 14 varieties at this location. We completed two 200-foot mudsills just below the confluence of Cedar Run and Spring Creek in Oak Hall. Partners were the US Fish and Wildlife Service and Habitat Forever. The site had been impacted in the past by farming and mowing that led to sloughing, unstable stream banks, a widened stream channel and increased silt downstream. Crews planted native wildflowers and trees, and shrubs including silky dogwood, black gum, basswood and serviceberry. A stewardship agreement on PFBC property is being negotiated to allow us to perform maintenance on the property such as herbicide treatment, watering, tree-tube maintenance and trimming. We purchased EnvironScape – a demonstration system that is used to explain the effects of stormwater on a watershed. We participated in the PFBC Family Fishing Day with a demonstration table and on-site instruction. Jeff Skelding, executive director of Friends of the Upper Delaware River was our May speaker. Henry Ramsay, author of *Matching Major Eastern Hatches* was our June speaker. President Robert Vierck spoke to the Penn State student chapter of the National Wildlife Society. We sponsored a rain garden workshop with the Penn State Agriculture and Environment Center. Our Fishing with the Veterans Service Program dates are July 23, Aug. 13, Aug. 27, Sept. 10 and Sept. 24 at Fisherman's Paradise. Our next meeting is Sept. 3 with George Daniel, who will present his new book on streamer fishing.

### Tiadaghton Chapter #688

Jere White

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We recently received a \$250 grant from the

Sweet Foundation to help support our TIC projects. We also replaced broken chillers this year at two of our schools. The Embrace-A-Stream grant committee met in June and decided on locations for data loggers on five headwater tributaries of Little Pine Creek. The chapter donated \$1,000 to the TCCC group to help with costs associated with an AMD restoration project on Fallbrook Creek, a tributary of Upper Tioga River. The project will cost over \$2 million, funded primarily by Southwest Energy Co. Members recently attended a groundbreaking ceremony and toured the treatment sites. This project should have a profound impact on restoring the severely impaired upper Tioga River. The chapter will be involved in removal of a fish barrier on the right branch of Asaph Run. The chapter offered fly tying and fly casting lessons during Springfest 2015 at Hills Creek State Park. Members also helped with a catch and release project held in conjunction with the Ole Bull Kids Fishing Derby on Kettle Creek. We assisted with TIC releases and associated classroom projects including a macroinvertebrate identification class and a fish dissection class with fifth graders in a local elementary school. Our general membership meeting is at 7 p.m. Aug. 31 at Wellsboro Community Center. Our board meeting is at 6 p.m. the same evening.

### NORTHWEST CHAPTERS

Allegheny Mountain 036

Caldwell Creek 437

Cornplanter 526

Iron Furnace 288

Jim Zwald 314

Neshannock 216

Northwest PA 041

Oil Creek 424

Seneca 272

### REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

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Phone: 724-464-7320

### Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036

George Kutskel

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www.amctu.org

The chapter held a joint picnic with Iron Furnace at the Walter Dick Memorial Park in Brookville. We have seen an increase in members

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## ...Continued from page 18

coming out to help with our educational events this year, and we would like to see this trend continue. The chapter celebrates its 50th anniversary next year with a banquet on April 2 at the Falls Creek Eagles. We looked at two streams that are in need habitat work. Kelly Williams toured the sites along with a TU habitat biologist, and plans are being drawn up to do the work on both streams. Both streams are on the natural reproduction list – Irish Run and Wilson Run. We should have plans completed and the permits ready for next year. DuBois Middle School's environmental day was May 15 at Camp Mountain Run. We met with students on topics like habitat, fishing, AMD, macroinvertebrates and fish populations. On May 1, we took 15 special need students fishing at the Tannery Dam. May 2 was our 3rd annual Girl Scout fishing event at Camp Curry Creek and attendees caught bullheads, bass and bluegills. On May 16 we held a family fishing event at the Tannery Dam in DuBois. We also had the DuBois Central Catholic Robotics Team on hand with a bake sale and serving hot dogs and chips. This was a big hit with the attendees and something we may do again next year. We had a macroinvertebrates station at the Brockway sixth grade environmental day at Clear Creek State Park. We also had a macro station at the Clearfield County Youth Field Day at Camp Mountain Run Boy Scout Camp. We showed fly tying and casting at the Jefferson County Youth Field Day at Renlow Park in Reynoldsville.

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### Cornplanter Chapter #526

Troy McDunn

814-723-3759, [hdpartsman@verizon.net](mailto:hdpartsman@verizon.net)  
[www.facebook.com/pages/Cornplanter-Chapter-Of-Trout-Unlimited](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Cornplanter-Chapter-Of-Trout-Unlimited)

The chapter had its annual Spring Fishing Show fundraiser on March 28 at Kalbfus Rod & Gun Club. We had fly casting demos and seminars by local outdoor writer Mike Bleech. We have a workday on Morrison Run in September. We donated money to transport two busses of students to a field day at Wildcat Park where they had the chance to learn fly casting and stock trout from the TIC program.

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### Iron Furnace Chapter #288

Mark Hanes

724-464-7320, [m\\_d\\_hanes@yahoo.com](mailto:m_d_hanes@yahoo.com)  
[www.ironfurnacetu.net](http://www.ironfurnacetu.net)

The chapter's banquet went well and brought in over \$15,000 in profit. Special thanks to Evan Say and Terry Morrow for going the extra mile to make the banquet a success. Porcupine culvert replacements are at or near completion. These six culvert replacements now make the Porcupine watershed free of fish barriers. Special thanks to chapter member Bruce Dickson for his hard work

on the project. Plans are in the works to fix the deflector at the fly area on North Fork Creek with the Boy Scouts. Finances are taken care of and a date will be set late this summer or in early fall to get this done. Work will be starting on the pavilion at Kellettsville Campground that we are partnering with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. We hope it is up and usable by fall.

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### James Zwald Chapter #314

Murray Neeper

814-834-3472, [mneeper@zitomedia.net](mailto:mneeper@zitomedia.net)

The chapter held regular meetings in April and May. We provided controllers and participations for the Headwaters Foundation Fly Fishing Tournament fundraiser on the Pitt Bradford Campus on May 29. Members also attended a casting demonstration by Joe Humphreys at the event. The chapter refined conceptual plans for the habitat project on the East Branch of the Clarion River inside Bendigo Park near the former dam site. In addition, a local contractor agreed to collect and store approximately 50 trees with root ball structures intact for the habitat. We also discussed with both Elk and Cameron County Conservation District personnel the need for further studies on the West Creek tributary of the Driftwood Branch of Sinnemahoning. There appear to be several abandoned mine sites which are discharging into the stream during high water incidents. In addition, there are several areas where sedimentation seems to be a problem. This area is currently being developed as a "rails to trails" extension from Cameron to Elk County. The chapter submitted letters of support and appreciation to PFBC for their consideration for wild trout status for Little Dents Run and Cherry Run. We were notified that the four un-named tributaries of Wykoff Run were added to the classification list at the last PFBC meeting. The chapter sent four students to Wayne's Coldwater Kids events on Spruce Creek in April under the supervision of Russ Micale. We supported TIC release days for St. Marys Area Senior High School and Elk County Catholic Middle School. Members conducted lessons on fishing, entomology, matching fly patterns to entomology and the interrelationship of habitat to headwaters.

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### Neshannock Creek #216

Jeff Kremis

724-588-4378; [Bentley48@neo.rr.com](mailto:Bentley48@neo.rr.com)  
[www.neshannock-tu.org](http://www.neshannock-tu.org)

Our annual spring cleanup workday on Cool-spring's DHALO area was attended by 16 members and trail maintenance and general cleanup of the area was completed. A temporary bridge was constructed to replace the one damaged by logging activity. A permanent replacement will be constructed this fall once we are sure all logging is completed. This summer the chapter will be working with Billy Reig, who will be doing an Eagle Scout project on the stream. His plan is to

do trail maintenance, repair existing stream bank deflectors and add stone to the parking areas. All participating schools in TIC had a successful year and plan to continue the program. We participated in the release of trout from by West Middlesex schools and had a nice article in the Sunday edition of *The Herald* about the program. We plan to add Sharon School District to the program next year with funding provided by the Shenango Riverwatchers. Kids enjoyed opening day activities on Deer Creek and its month-long special regulation area. We held the Wolf Creek Fishing Derby in conjunction with the Grove City Sportsmen Club. Several groups toured our trout nursery while attending educational programs at Munnell Run Farm. The nursery is always open during Munnell Run Farm Day which is Sept. 20 this year. Our next board meeting is Aug. 24 at Neshannock Creek Fly Shop, followed by one Sept. 28 at Penn State Shenango.

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### Oil Creek Chapter #424

Gary Ross

814-337-6931, [info@oilcreektu.org](mailto:info@oilcreektu.org)  
[www.oilcreektu.org](http://www.oilcreektu.org)

Our May meeting was our annual budget meeting. Treasurer Dan Rockwell did a great job doing the preliminary budget review. We are in good shape financially to accomplish our goals for this coming year, although we do have to do some more planning for further habitat improvement projects on Little Sandy Creek. We now have a Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Oil-Creek-Chapter-424-Of-Trout-Unlimited/1621057351445797>. Our banquet was April 11. Our support, both with financial donations for sponsor items, and actual items donated was terrific. Our income will allow us to complete our anticipated projects again this year. Next year's banquet is April 2. We sold tickets for a special raffle in honor of Ron DeWoody, a founding member who has fought with Parkinson's disease for 20 plus years. We raised \$715 that was matched and sent to the Parkinson's Disease Foundation. We are planning further habitat improvement projects on Little Sandy Creek, to be scheduled in September. Venango County Youth Field Day was scheduled for June 20. We made a cash donation, donated a youth fly rod outfit and fly tying instruction. We had seven classrooms enrolled in TIC. President Gary Ross attended trout releases for Meadville classrooms on May 7 and May 15. He and Vaughn MacGregor attended Cochranon High School's trout release on May 29 and taught fly tying to approximately 40 students. We again manned our chapter picture display at Polk Center Earth Day on April 23. Gary Ross demonstrated fly tying. We had four students attend Wayne's Cold Water Kids on April 26. Upcoming chapter meetings are Sept. 16, Oct. 21 and Nov. 18 at King's Restaurant in Franklin.

## Seneca Chapter #272

Chase Howard

814-598-3449, [chaserhoward@gmail.com](mailto:chaserhoward@gmail.com)  
[www.facebook.com/SenecaTroutUnlimited](http://www.facebook.com/SenecaTroutUnlimited)

The chapter's banquet was April 25 in Port Allegany. Funds raised will support habitat projects and fly fishing education in the upcoming year. Heather McKean received the Howie Gustafson Award for Environmental Conservation for her work with the McKean County Conservation District. We are considering offering beginner fly fishing classes and we're looking for feedback to determine if there is interest in the class. Contact Chase Howard at [chaserhoward@gmail.com](mailto:chaserhoward@gmail.com).

### 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

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Phone: 620-235-7299

## Delco Manning Chapter #320

David Wharton

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

Our chapter held its first barbeque fund raiser. The event was well attended and financially successful for our chapter.

## Little Lehigh Chapter #070

Nick Watters

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[www.littlelehigh.new.tu.org](http://www.littlelehigh.new.tu.org)

In May, following officers were appointed by the board: Nick Watters, president; Scott Alderfer, VP; Joe Schuler, treasurer; and Eric Wilby, secretary. There are positions open for directors and volunteers are always needed for chapter projects. If anyone is interested in lending a hand please attend the September meeting at the Wildlands Conservancy.

## SE Montgomery County Chapter #468

Richard Terry

215-675-1536, [rtroadrash@msn.com](mailto:rtroadrash@msn.com)  
[www.tu468.org](http://www.tu468.org)

Our fishing derby for kids in Lorimer Park was in April. The chapter's annual trip to Penns Creek was also in April this year.

## Valley Forge Chapter #290

Robbi Freisem

610-662-9333, [rfreisem@verizon.net](mailto:rfreisem@verizon.net)  
[www.valleyforgetu.org](http://www.valleyforgetu.org)

VFTU is a member of Valley Creek Restoration Partnership, and Pete Goodman and Chuck Marshall met with the Tredyffrin Township engineer and the environmental consulting firm hired by the township for completing infiltration berm projects funded by Valley Creek Trustee Council, a Growing Greener grant and the Schuylkill River Heritage Area. Chapter and Open Lands Conservancy members, with the help of interns from Valley Forge National Historical Park, worked on berms and planting in rain gardens built in Wilson Farm Park. Frank Donohoe and Pete Goodman continue to keep in touch with multiple developers planning or working on developments within the Valley Creek watershed. Discharges from Atwater Lake are supplying more cold water to Cedar Hollow Run than last year but there may still be some blockage. Pete Goodman coordinated a Valley Creek cleanup with Green Valleys Association, Open Lands Conservancy and East Whiteland Township in April. A storage unit was recently acquired to house meeting posters and donations of equipment, books and fly tying materials. Sporting Gentleman moved locations so members Pete Goodman, John Dettrey and Robbi Freisem worked with friends and employees to assist in the move. The VFTU Fly Fishing School was May 17. Board member Dave Macaleer kept tabs on eight TIC schools: Radnor Middle School, Tredyffrin Middle School, Valley Forge Middle School, Montgomery School, Pocopson Elementary, and new this past year: Oxford High School, Pickering Valley Elementary and Downingtown East High School. All schools released their trout. Members assisted Green Valleys Association in introducing fly fishing to the Environmental Awareness Club of Phoenixville Middle School on May 21. Two PHWFF programs meet twice monthly at West Bradford Fire Company and weekly for the inpatient program at the Coatesville VAMC. For part of the summer, the Coatesville VA program meets at Paradise Farm Camp on Wednesday evenings. We have heard that the program at the VA is one of the most popular programs available there. The Vets' Picnic was held at Hibernia Park on May 27. Robbi Freisem participated in the Sportsmen and Conservation Clean Water Fly-In in Washington, D.C. on May 12-13. The event was organized by Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, Izaak Walton League of America,

National Wildlife Federation and Trout Unlimited. Participants met at TU headquarters for training and then met with senators, representatives or their staff to encourage support of the Clean Water Act (CWA) clarification rule. The group also met with Office of Management and Budget and EPA personnel who have been working on the clarification, which has since been published. Pete Goodman participated in a video released by Penn Environment encouraging support of CWA. The video posted to Facebook at [www.facebook.com/PennEnvironment](http://www.facebook.com/PennEnvironment). Ed Penry has coordinated our participation in the Orvis Downingtown Fly Fishing 101 and 201 classes. April's meeting included a presentation by Frank Donohoe on the history of Atwater quarry and Cedar Hollow Run that are now a major source of the cold water to Valley Creek. The May meeting was held at Stroud Water Research Center. Willy Eldridge presented on "Healthy Streams" and how useful stream studies can be in developing public interest.

### SOUTHCENTRAL CHAPTERS

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

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John Leonard

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Phone: 717-697-6188

## Adams County Chapter #323

Dave Swope

717-253-6680, [swopeda@hotmail.com](mailto:swopeda@hotmail.com)  
[www.adamscountytu.org](http://www.adamscountytu.org)

We partnered with state Sen. Rich Alloway and Secretary of Corrections John Wetzel for a fishing event in Adams County on May 16. Regional VP John Leonard attended our May chapter meeting. Our annual fishing derby was held at the Latimore Fairgrounds May 2. Members planted trees and shrubs along Latimore Creek. We participated in TIC with middle and high schools, instructing fly casting, spin fishing, tying knots and educating youths in the SMART Program. We will have 10

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

TIC schools in 2015-16. Restoration plans for 2015 will be repairing older devices in the catch and release-only section of Conewago Creek. Our website, newsletter and Facebook page received facelifts. One youth member attended the Teen Summit in North Carolina in June. Our chapter financially supported one attendee for the Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp. Our secretary and trustee will represent the chapter at the National TU meeting in Scranton. The chapter was pleased to have PFBC Director John Arway attend the Governor's Environmental Award ceremonies April 28 at the Hilton in Harrisburg along with representation from Cumberland Valley Board member Don Albright and Falling Springs President Rod Cross.

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### **Codorus Chapter #558**

**Tom Fenninez**

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

**www.codorustu.org**

The chapter was represented at the recent TU Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting in Frederick, MD. We also sponsored a local student for this year's Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp. Our annual family fishing day was June 13 at Codorus State Park. This year's event featured topics such as fishing instruction, Codorus TU and our work, healthy streams and stream banks, local turtle species, raptor watching, fish preparation and cooking, and more. We had a successful TIC release day on May 7. We conducted a stream sampling session to show the kids a wide variety of stream life. Prior to release day, the school held an event called PA Day, and we presented to nine different groups explaining the history of the Codorus fishery. We anticipate that our recently-awarded Growing Greener grant project will be under contract soon, and we will be able to proceed with the design phase and possibly some early invasive species control measures.

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

**Justin Pittman**

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**www.pacvtu.org**

Guide and photographer Bill Kosmer gave a presentation on his trip to Tierra Del Fuego, Chile during our April meeting. We also had fishing trips to Clarks Creek and to West Virginia. Guest speaker at our May meeting was Bob Bachman, former member of PFBC, who discussed the importance of fly fishing in restoring and enhancing wild trout in Pa. We also had a CVTU fishing trip to the South Holston in Tennessee. Guest speaker for our June meeting was John Shaner who presented his thoughts and theories on wet flies. Also in June, we hosted the Angler's Club from NY on June 5-7 and provided ghillies for Reel Recovery on June 9-10. We had members

helping with the fly casting and fly tying at the Perry County Youth Day on June 13. We had our booth set up at the Heritage Day and hosted the Pa. Casting Competition on June 20 along with the Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp. We finished off the month with the Cumberland County Street to Streams program. We had a booth at the Heritage Day event and raffled off a bamboo rod, sold flies kits, hats and CVTU merchandise. We put together the final plans for a project on Trindle Springs and also two projects on the Yellow Breeches. We had 10 TIC programs. Upcoming events include our CVTU picnic on Aug. 21 at Allenberry Resort, and the Last Supper on Sept. 5 on the Letort.

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

**Edward O'Gorman**

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We are in the process of implementing a contact management system for the chapter. We look forward to using this tool to better communicate with members and stakeholders. Officers are working on implementation of an approach to maintain compliance with new regulations requiring volunteers to have background checks when working with youths. Our 2016 banquet is April 9. Weekly work continues at our diversion wells in the headwaters of Stony Creek. Volunteers meet every Monday evening during summer to maintain wells. The Quittapahilla Watershed Association continues to move forward on a substantial restoration and improvement project in the Quittapahilla Nature Park. Members recently assisted with planting along the creek in the area recently restored in Phase 1 of the project. The chapter has identified a site on Stony Creek to install a permanent monitor and data logger. This project will allow continuous monitoring of various water quality parameters. Finally, the chapter has approved and is moving forward with a project to improve stream banks and habitat in the children and handicap only fishing area on Clarks Creek. Work was scheduled to begin on June 16 and be completed over three days. The chapter supported six TIC programs in Dauphin and Lebanon County schools. Spring is typically the busy season for educational opportunities and this year the chapter was active at events around our community. We participated in the Earth Day at E. Hanover Township Park, the Wetlands Festival at Wildwood Park, the Garden Faire at Ft. Hunter Park and the youth fishing event at the Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art.

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### **Donegal Chapter #037**

**Jim Wellendorf**

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**www.donegaltu.org**

Garry Longenecker and volunteers organized the nursery and potted 2,427 trees to be used by

the chapter and other conservation organizations. They potted 23 different species of trees including red oak, sycamore, silky dogwood and white spruce. Garry also coordinated the activities of 300 fifth graders while they planted 420 trees at Lititz Watershed Day at the Millport Conservancy. He received a donation of 1,400 plants from Stroud Water research facility. Faye Haering held our fourth annual Ladies Coldwater Breakfast at the Millport Conservancy and taught conservation, dry and wet fly casting, fly tying and fishing gear. The ladies also toured the conservancy and Lititz Run to see results of the partnership between the Millport Conservancy and the chapter. Joy McMaster, Clay Pankewicz and Bill Nolan held our initial veterans event with several chapter members and taught veterans the basics of fly fishing and fly casting. Member Derek Eberly coordinated the Fly on the Run contest sponsored by the Lancaster County Career and Technology Foundation to raise money for scholarships for deserving students. We volunteer to stock Lititz Run and act as stream guides during the event. Volunteers worked a total of 459 hours in April and May, and 65% of those hours were by non-board members. At our June Board meeting, Glen Nephin led an initial review of our five-year plan, which we committed to have in place by the December board meeting. We received grants totaling \$581,501 from The Conservation Fund for the following projects: \$509,301 for the Lapp Farm on Black Barron Road; \$40,000 for the Metzler Property located on Fishing Creek; and \$32,000 for Camp Snyder. Greg Wilson and other volunteers have worked with partners to restore Climbers Run and remove invasive plants at the Lancaster County Conservancy's Climber Run Nature Preserve. They seeded the native riparian buffer mix and have planted some trees and native understory wildflowers along the disturbed area. Two schools released their TIC trout at the preserve. Visit our website to see the results of this conservation project. The Climbers Run project completed installing all planned stream improvement devices. Adam Smith, of the US Fish & Wildlife Service, estimates the devices will save 10,432 cubic feet of soil from eroding into the Susquehanna River. That's equivalent to 32 to 38 tri-axle dump truck loads. Bob Kutz wrote a grant application to the DCNR Riverlands grant initiative. He was successful in receiving a \$10,000 grant that will be awarded to Drumore Township for work on the Township's park section of Fishing Creek. It was designed by USFS and the total cost was estimated to be approximately \$69,000. The USFW offered a \$30,000 in-kind contribution. We are still searching for \$29,000. Warwick's two TIC classes released trout in Moors Run, a tributary to Lititz Run. Lancaster Country Day released their trout in Kurtz Run. Garden Spot, Manheim Central, Manheim Township, Warwick Middle School and the School District of Lancaster have signed up as new TIC schools beginning in the fall. Warwick, Lancaster Country Day, Ephrata,

Penn Manor, Conestoga Valley and Pequea Valley will continue. Mark Ebner held our initial Youth Fly Tying clinic. He also enrolled four youths in the Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp and one for the National TU Teen Summit. Paul Zegley taught kids how to cast at Kinsey's Kid Day. The chapter submitted an application for a mini grant from the Williams Gas Company for the Metzger sisters property on Fishing Creek. The US Fish and Wildlife Service has developed a design and created a budget. We will also look for additional funds for this project. Our membership picnic is Aug. 19 at Millport Conservancy. We have a women's fly fishing clinic set for Aug. 19 and a youth fly fishing clinic planned for Sept. 12.

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

**Rod Cross**

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Chapter member and Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp alumnus Phil Bietsch received the Dr. Robert J. Behnke Award at this year's camp picnic. He has gone on to work as the Michaux State Forest fire forester. He spearheaded the Birch Run Project that united the Falling Spring, Cumberland Valley and Adams County chapters of Trout Unlimited in the effort to improve habitat of a native brook trout stream in the state forest. The chapter voted to make a monetary donation to a group that is contesting the installation of a hog breeding farm in Fulton County. The Bivouac Hog Farm is proposed to be built in the watershed area of Big Cove Creek and would house over 8,000 pigs and produce 11 million gallons of manure. The money is to be used for legal expenses. We held our 8th annual "Falling Spring Invitational" co-hosted by the Gabler Family of Chambersburg. Wounded Warriors from Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Ft. Belvoir and the Martinsburg, WV VA Center attended. Vets fished beats on Falling Spring and the Conococheague creeks. The chapter participated in the Franklin County Sportsmen for Youth Day.

### **John Kennedy Chapter #045**

**Dan Beck**

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**www.tu.org/connect/groups/045-john-kennedy**

Norman Beck attended the Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting in Frederick, Md. June 5-7. Carl Reed and Jerry Green are making contacts to develop a website for the chapter. Our banquet is Aug. 22 at the Duncansville VFW. On May 18-19, the chapter worked on a conservation project with PFBC on Clover Creek between Roaring Spring and Martinsburg in the southern end of Blair County. Twenty-three devices were installed on 700 feet of stream bank. Members taught casting and fishing techniques at a women's field day sponsored by Riggles Gap Sportsmen's Club on May 16. We held TIC release days on May 21 with St. Benedict's, May 22 with Cambria

Heights and May 28 with Altoona Area Junior High. All releases included education about fly tying, macroinvertebrates and river labs (erosion and sediment). We attended a Youth Field Day sponsored by Riggles Gap Sportsmen's Club on June 6, and taught fly tying. Mark Jackson presented a program entitled "Bait Fishing Mortality Facts" at the chapter meeting on May 5.

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

**Fred Hess**

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The chapter manned two food stands trout season's opening day. Members held a workday at the St. James Church Riparian Buffer Project for much-needed maintenance. The chapter sponsored a fishing day for visually impaired children, adults and families from Forsight Vision of York.

### **SOUTHWEST CHAPTERS**

**Arrowhead 214**

**Chestnut Ridge 670**

**Forbes Trail 206**

**Fort Bedford 291**

**Ken Sink 053**

**Mountain Laurel 040**

**Penn's Woods West 042**

### **REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT**

**Chuck Winters**

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### **Arrowhead Chapter #214**

**Chad Hough**

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Arrowhead TU is currently in the engineering phase of the Hulings Run revitalization project. Located in the northern region of Armstrong County, it is a wild trout stream that has been damaged by AMD for many decades. Our TIC programs in Divine Redeemer, Lenape Elementary, West Hills Intermediate, South Buffalo Elementary and Buffalo Elementary had successful release days. We conducted macro studies in conjunction with the local conservation district and some releases had casting demonstrations. We

sent two attendees to the Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp. A casting demonstration was given by Scott Loughner at Crooked Creek Lake during our May meeting.

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

**Dale Kotowski**

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**pheasantfarmflycasters@hughes.net**

**www.chestnutridgetu.org**

The Youghiogheny River Symposium was rescheduled to June 2016 at the Penn State Fayette campus. The chapter hosted a group from the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association in May. Float trips and a guided wade trip on the Youghiogheny River showcased CRTU's home waters. A number of writers fished the Yough for the first time, and they fished as well as they write. Plans are being finalized for the proposed relocation of a portion of the gravel road adjacent to Dunbar Creek's fly fishing only project. The road's proximity to the stream causes sedimentation associated with storm water runoff. An effort by CRTU, the Fayette County Conservation District, the Pa. Game Commission and Dunbar Township proposes to use funds available through the Dirt and Gravel Roads Program to alleviate this problem on an important Yough tributary. TIC releases were completed by a number of schools in May. Approximately 400 students from local schools participated in activities that included the study of stream biology, chemistry and hydrology, along with fly casting instruction and fishing.

### **Forbes Trail Chapter #206**

**Leo Vensel**

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**www.forbestrailltu.org**

The chapter teamed with the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art in Ligonier for a fundraiser, "Hooked on Art" on May 30. The museum is located in a restored log home along the banks of the Loyalhanna Creek, which is Forbes Trail's home water. Guests enjoyed the museum's extensive wildflower and native plant gardens, appreciated the museum's special trout themed art exhibit, and during the cocktail hour were saw demonstrations of fly casting, fly tying and an exhibit of antique bamboo fly rods and fly fishing memorabilia. We completed maintenance of our limestone dousing project site on the headwaters of Rock Run, the largest year-round coldwater tributary of Linn Run. It involves planning, acquiring and placing 25 tons of high-grade limestone sand at a remote forest site in the Forbes State Forest, Westmoreland County. We are collecting metrics on visitors to our "Top Ten Trout Streams" as part of the Laurel Highlands Trout Trail with a "Selfie on the Stream" photo contest. Spring meetings included a trout season tune-up in April, a fly fishing outing at our local delayed harvest stream section,

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and a fly casting instruction and demonstration in conjunction with the Lincoln Highway Heritage Corridor's Supper Market event at the historic Johnson House, a restored 1810 stagecoach stop on Loyahanna Creek in Latrobe.

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**Fort Bedford Chapter #291**

**Gary Stottlemeyer**  
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www.fortbedfordtu.org

The chapter is holding a raffle during the summer to support the fundraising picnic at Egolf Park on Aug. 22. Raffle prizes include a rod/reel/line package (Winston Access 9-foot, 4-wt./Albright reel/Orvis Hydros line) for first, a Weber gas tailgating grill for second and a \$100 gift certificate for the Twisted Trout Restaurant for third. We presented a program for campers and visitors to Blue Knob State Park on June 27 and includes a stream sampling to identify aquatic insects, fly tying demonstrations and instruction, and casting demonstrations and instruction. FBTU will assist in the installation of habitat devices on Little Wills Creek in Londonderry Township in August. This project will not only provide benefit to trout and other coldwater species but will stabilize an eroding stream bank that threatens a township road. Partners include the Londonderry Town-

ship Supervisors, the Western Pa. Conservancy, the Bedford County Conservation District and the Dirt, Gravel and Low Volume Road Program.

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**Ken Sink Chapter #053**

**Dick Farabaugh**  
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kensink.blogspot.com

We presented testimony at the hearing on the DEP permit application of PEG to convert a gas well in Grant Township in Indiana County from a production well to an injection well for the disposal of fracking material. The well is at the headwaters of Little Mahoning Creek. We conducted macroinvertebrate studies on Little Mahoning and Cessna Run. Both streams continue to show steady improvement in biomass. Chapter members participated in TIC release events at three area schools.

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**Mountain Laurel Chapter #040**

**Randy Buchanan**  
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www.mltu.org

Our banquet was held in March. We participated in these conservation activities: South Fork of Ben's Creek cleanup, Paint Creek cleanup, Quemahoning Creek and Ben's Creek stocking, Yellow Creek cleanup, Shade Creek cleanup and

TIC releases with four area school districts.

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**Penns Woods West Chapter #042**

**Walter Reineman**  
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www.pwwtu.org

After an eight-year run, our award-winning newsletter editor, Christian Shane, is stepping down to become our program director. During Christian's tenure, *Hatches and Rises* was recognized by both PATU and National TU as best newsletter. Ken Crawford is the new editor. Spearheaded by Leah Eggers, we had a very successful women's outing on Beaver Creek on May 9. On May 22, we helped fund the Dan Wagner Memorial Fishing Day at North Park. Plans are underway for 2016 Cabin Fever. Aug. 22 is our Pine Creek workday. A collaborative effort between the chapter and Allison Park Sportsman's Club, this year's work will focus on habitat improvement and stream bank stabilization near the Hampton water treatment plant. The Allegheny Conservation District is funding the purchase of logs and material, PFBC is providing stone and Hampton Township is donating operating time with heavy equipment. In addition, a fly rod built by member Bill Hayes will be raffled off to the participants. We held a TIC trout release day on March 28 at North Park. Our fall meeting is Sept. 14 and the Bar Flies tying group meets Sept. 28.