

# Pennsylvania TROUT



Winter 2016

Publication of the Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited

www.patrou.org

## Stream protection remains priority

By Katy Dunlap

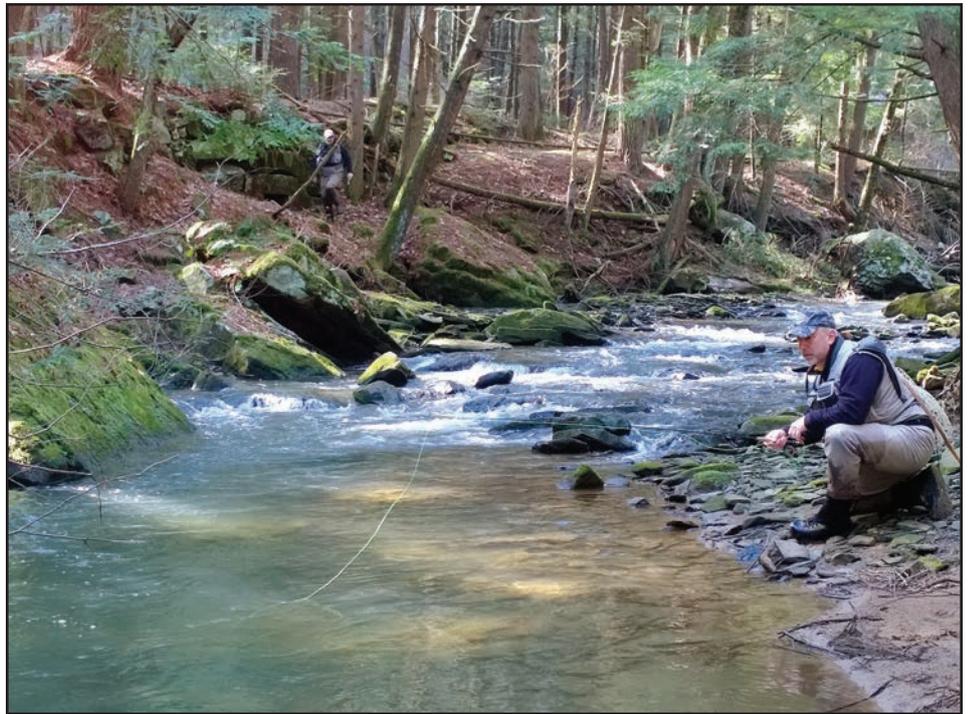
*TU Eastern Water Project Director*

Last year was an exceptional year for increasing protections for native and wild trout streams. TU members and other sportsmen raised their voices in support of formal designations for recently surveyed streams, sending hundreds of letters to the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission urging designations.

With your help, since May 2015, 300 streams have been added to the Wild Trout Stream list and 106 stream sections have been added to the Class A Trout Waters list.

Streams designated as a Wild Trout Stream or a Class A Trout Water qualify for additional protections under the state's water quality designations, making sure that as development is proposed for these watersheds that the appropriate conditions are included in permits to maintain the stream's water quality.

See **PRIORITY**, page 2



Brad Isles Photo

Stream designations to protect wild trout streams continue to grow thanks to the help of Trout Unlimited members.

## Trout not the only species to benefit from clean water

By Harry Campbell

*PA Executive Director*

*Chesapeake Bay Foundation*

A new season of the Commonwealth's most popular, high-flying reality show is back online.

Millions are expected to log-on to the Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC)

website and watch as live-streaming cameras show the drama of nature at several bald eagle nests in the Keystone State. The experiences open windows onto nature like never before.

People went online more than one-and-a-half million times last year to see a pair of bald eagles raise two eaglets in a nest near Codorus State Park in York County. They

saw the entire process, from "nestorations" in January, laying of the eggs in February, hatching in March, and the eaglets leaving the nest in June, as it happened. This is the 10th year for the nest and the second that cameras and microphones are there.

Another popular nest is in a Hackberry tree in the town of Hays, along the

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## Clearances needed to work with kids

There has been much written and shown on TV about protecting our youth from abuse. Pennsylvania Council has been working on a youth policy and should vote on it soon.

In the meantime, there is something our chapters and members need to do. That something is getting clearances for all members who will be, or may be, working with kids. This includes fly tying classes and youth field days.

Pennsylvania passed Act 153 that states that all adults who work with youths need to have clearances. The good news is that they, for most of our members, are free. There are more restrictions for people who have moved into Pennsylvania in the last 10 years as well as for chapters that may be hosting camps or other youth/member events, but we will cover those after our policy is approved.

The big item now is for any member who helps with youth in any capacity, you must apply and receive your clearances.

Here are the links to get your clearances:

- Child Abuse Clearance: <https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home>
- PA State Police Clearance: <https://epatch.state.pa.us>

Both of these are at no cost to volunteers.

There are many other issues that this Act covers and, due to some of these, Wayne's Coldwater Kids has been postponed for 2016. We hope to work out the details so we can bring this popular event back next year.

Please refer to the current "Youth Interaction Policy" on the Documents page at [www.patrou.org](http://www.patrou.org) for information.

## PRIORITY

from page 1

TU is very encouraged by the progress made in recent months, but our work is far from done. With more than 700 recently surveyed streams awaiting formal Wild Trout Stream listing, it is critical that the listing process continue at a steady rate and that PFBC hear from anglers who support adding streams to the Wild Trout Stream and Class A Trout Waters lists.

To find out which streams are being considered, check out "Streams Being Considered for Wild Trout Stream Designation" (<http://fishandboat.com/wild-trout-designations-step1.htm>) on the PFBC website.

You can also find out which streams are officially proposed for designation at the next PFBC quarterly meeting on the "Streams Officially Proposed for Wild Trout Designation" (<http://fishandboat.com/wild-trout-designations-step2.htm>) page of the PFBC website. Please make your voice heard.

### Fishing License Fees

As an independent agency, the PFBC does not receive revenue from the general fund and relies almost entirely on user fees to operate. Currently, fishing license

fees are set by legislation approved by the Pennsylvania General Assembly which can create a challenge in ensuring that fees keep up with inflation and that the agency is able to continue to provide services to Pennsylvania's anglers.

The last time the legislature approved a fishing license increase was in 2006.

In early January, Sen. Brewster introduced Senate Bill 1103 that would establish a structure, beginning in 2017, for increasing fishing license fees incrementally over a five-year period.

Since then, however, Sens. Eichelberger and Wozniak have issued a sponsorship memorandum, seeking co-sponsors for a bill that would allow the PFBC to set their own fees rather than going back to the General Assembly each time that fees need to be adjusted to accommodate inflation.

With all of the legislative checks and balances currently in place to ensure that the PFBC fulfills its mission, removing the General Assembly as the "middle man" in fee setting may allow the PFBC to seek smaller fee increases on a more regular basis to sustain its work.

Stay tuned to the PATU website, [www.patrou.org](http://www.patrou.org), for more information on pending legislation related to fishing license increases.

# Women's Initiative chair seeks to jump-start events across the state

By Kandy Weader  
*Women's Initiative Chair*

My goal as chair of the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited Women's Initiative Committee is to help all chapters initiate or improve their women's events. If your chapter is sponsoring an event, I would like to know about it. If you want to have an event, I can help you plan it. Reach me by email at [kweader@comcast.net](mailto:kweader@comcast.net).



## Upcoming events

Adams County Trout Unlimited Chapter is hosting a five-event series for women, "Wine, Women & Waders." Cost is \$10 per event or \$35 for all events.

Details are:

- **Series Introduction & Kick Off** – Sunday, March 20 from 2-4 p.m. at Adams County Winery, 251 Peach Tree Rd, Orrtanna, PA. The kick-off event will provide an overview of the series and general Trout Unlimited information.
- **Fishing Gear Introduction & Overview** – Sunday, April 10 from 2-4 p.m. at Adams County Winery, 251 Peach Tree Rd, Orrtanna, PA. Led by Jake Villwock of TCO Fly Shop, this session will de-mystify all the gear you will use when fly fishing.
- **Fishing Instruction & Casting Overview** – Sunday, April 17 from 2-4 p.m. at Adams County Winery, 251 Peach Tree Rd, Orrtanna, PA. Led by expert guide Tony Dranzo, this session will provide the basics needed to get you on the water.
- **Fly Tying Introduction** – Sunday, April 24 from 2-4 p.m. at TCO Fly Shop, 2 E. First St, Boiling Springs, PA. Led by Jake Villwock, this session will provide basic instructions and tying material information.
- **Fishing** – Sunday, May 1 from 2-4 p.m. on a variety of streams. In this session, you will be able to pair up

net or by phone at 814-574-5570.

I've been busy trying to get up to speed on all of TU's women's events. I have been on numerous conference calls, attended conferences, and talked with many chapter leaders about your chapter's activities for women.

Listed below are events some PATU chapters already have scheduled. Ladies, we look forward to you joining us.

with a buddy from previous sessions and put lessons into practice. Stream locations and group pairings will be determined by the group at the April 24 event.

Light refreshments will be served at events 1-4. Wine will be available for purchase at events 1-3.

Contact: Amy Stum at [amystum@comcast.net](mailto:amystum@comcast.net) or 717-343-1683; or Becky Plesic at [plesic321@aol.com](mailto:plesic321@aol.com) or 717-870-4543.

Other events include:

- **Penn's Woods West Cabin Fever** – 9 a.m. March 6 at the Marriott in Cranberry Township. In addition to more than 60 vendors the speaker lineup also features Jen Ripple from DUN magazine. Admission is \$10 and children under 12 are free. Visit [www.pwutu.org](http://www.pwutu.org) for more information.
- **Women's Fly Fishing 101 with Amidea Daniel** – 1 p.m. March 12 at International Angler, Pittsburgh. Contact Bob Phillips at [www.internationalangler.com](http://www.internationalangler.com) for more information.
- **Fly Fishing 101** – 9 a.m.-2 p.m. April 2 at Wilkins School in Regent Square, Pittsburgh. Contact Rob Reeder at [robreeder0827@gmail.com](mailto:robreeder0827@gmail.com) to register or for more information.
- **2nd Annual Ladies Spring Outing** – Time TBD on May 14. This year we will be fishing at Yellow Creek Trout Club with a day of fishing, lunch and instruction. Contact Leah Eggers at [flygirl\\_fish@yahoo.com](mailto:flygirl_fish@yahoo.com) for more information or to register.

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# Headwaters

A message from PATU President Charlie Charlesworth

Normally by this time each year, I may have taken five or six steelhead trips. However, this year that is not the case. High water, snowfall, rain, illness and a plethora of obstacles have put fishing outings on the back burner. Where then do I focus my interests?

I have elected to turn my attention to housekeeping. Not the housekeeping my wife was hoping for, but housekeeping for our strategic plan, or lack thereof. It began as a “honey do” list for my chapter and the list started with just the plan. For more than five years that I know of we have threatened to write a plan. There is an old song out there and the final line is, “let it begin with me.” Okay, so let it begin with me.

I took the first step in helping my chapter leaders develop our strategic plan. Before that, I challenged all the members of my chapter’s board to log on to that night’s National TU webinar on building a strategic plan. The webinar suggested a committee of three but not more than four members, and that fourth should not be a member of the board of directors. Ironically, only three members signed on for the call (and now I’ve got my committee).

The webinar suggested that the chair should be the vice president of the chapter because he or she is next in line of succession and he or she should be preparing new ideas for the chapter. Call it karma but guess who was on the call? Our vice president.

It was also suggested that it would be a great way for the immediate past president

to stay involved with the board. That’s me, immediate past president.

Another board member was on the call and now all we needed was to recruit a non-board member, maybe a new member, using it as a way to get him or her involved without a board responsibility. The webinar said to be diversified in the selection with a woman member, a professional, a non-fisher, or a member of a partner group.

I found out there is a lot more to housekeeping than I had first imagined. I began that honey do list and it started getting lengthy – How many grant submissions did we miss this year? Why are so few members actually getting emails? Why is our printed newsletter for October going out in January? Why is the chapter bank balance coming down? Weren’t we further ahead in our chapter social planning last year? Did or didn’t I submit our new TU Teens for a TU membership? Etc. Etc. Etc.

This is a great time of the year to start a honey do list. You don’t even need to be a chapter leader. Maybe your list would start with, “What can I do to help the chapter with housekeeping?” or “What is it that I would like to do if my chapter offered it?” My favorite is, “If I can’t devote the time, maybe I can help the chapter financially?”

Here are my suggestions for honey do list items that you can look into or work on: Youth programs within the chapter. Follow National’s lead. Follow the Stream of Engagement, Stream Explorer, TU Teens and college 5 Rivers outreach. Want to learn more about these programs? Contact our



own PATU Youth Education Committee chair, Judi Sittler (jlsittler@comcast.net), or contact the national director of youth programs Franklin Tate (ftate@tu.org).

It doesn’t matter if your chapter does a one day program, an ongoing school, Trout in the Classroom, or a one week summer camp, there is something there you can do.

One of the fastest growing sectors within TU is the Women’s Initiative. There are national, state and local Trout Unlimited programs in which you or a significant other can get involved. For information contact our own PATU Women’s Initiative chairperson Kandy Weader (kweader@comcast.net) or try National’s.

Last but not least I want to ask, is your chapter scheduling fishing events or group activities on the water? Not all of your members are interested in sitting in the local meeting hall listening to speakers, talking about what they want to be doing. Would you be gaining any new, active members if you tried organizing a group trip or a meeting on the river?

In closing, I want to say a sad goodbye to our long-time program director, Samantha Kutskel-Ferguson. To say Sam was an intricate part of PATU would be an understatement. In my six years of working with Sam, I have seen her as the heart and soul of PATU and she will be sorely missed. I can’t say she’s irreplaceable, because replace her we must, but that person is going to have to wear some big shoes.

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

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

Monongahela River, near Pittsburgh. The camera and sound are sponsored by the Western PA Audubon Society. This is the third season a camera has watched the nest that eagles first used in 2013. Sadly, neither of the two eggs in the Hays nest were viable last year. But the year before, three eaglets thrived and successfully left the nest.

Those who log on to the live cameras realize quickly that waterways play a key role in the lives of bald eagles and nesting sites are never far from water. Streams, lakes and rivers are key habitat for bald eagles. In the winter, they congregate in tall trees near open water, to spot prey and shelter at night.

Fish make up almost 90 percent of a bald eagle's diet. Is there a more majestic sight than an eagle soaring and scanning open water, swooping gracefully downward, and then with their talons, plucking prey through the water's surface?

The Codorus eagles feed fish from Lake Marburg, Codorus Creek and other York County waterways to their young ones. Bass from the Monongahela is often on the menu at the Hays nest.

So it's no secret that the survival and recovery of bald eagles in Pennsylvania are dependent on clean water, and the availability of healthy fish and other aquatic life. It is yet another reason we must make progress in restoring the 19,000 miles of waterways in Pennsylvania that are polluted.

The runoff of nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment is damaging our rivers and streams, and the Commonwealth is significantly behind in meeting its commitment to reduce polluted runoff.

Also, consider findings of the latest multi-year study of the causes behind the deaths of young smallmouth bass, and lesions and spots on older smallmouths in the Susquehanna River. Some of those fish are served up in bald eagle nests throughout central Pennsylvania.

Endocrine-disrupting compounds and herbicides, and pathogens and parasites, are the two most-likely causes of diseased and dying fish in the Susquehanna. They are part of a "perfect storm" of compounds such as cosmetics, detergents, pharmaceuticals,



Contributed Photo

**This is the second year that live-streaming cameras and microphones are providing a birds-eye view of a bald eagle nest near Codorus State Park, York County.**

and hormones in animal and human waste, that find their way into the diets of bald eagles and other wildlife.

On the bright side, the resurgence of bald eagles nationally and in Pennsylvania is an endangered species success story.

Habitat destruction, contaminated food sources, and illegal shooting took bald eagles to the brink of extinction. The road to recovery took major turns when the pesticide DDT was banned in 1972, and in 1978 when bald eagles were listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act.

In 1980, there were only three known pairs of bald eagles nesting in Pennsylvania. Re-introduction began in the 1980's when the Game Commission brought 88 eaglets to the Commonwealth from Canada, raised them on specially constructed towers, and released them into the wild. Bald eagles were removed from the federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife in the lower 48 states in 2007.

By 2008 the number of nesting pairs in Pennsylvania had grown to 150. In 2013 there were nests in all but a handful of Keystone State counties and more than 270 nesting pairs.

Clean water counts in Pennsylvania. It is a legacy worth leaving future generations of humans and bald eagles.

To access the Codorus cameras, go to the PGC website at [www.pgc.state.pa.us](http://www.pgc.state.pa.us). To access the Hays camera, visit [www.pixcontroller.com/eagles](http://www.pixcontroller.com/eagles).

**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](mailto: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 10-16.**

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



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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

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

### Exceptional Value \$1,000 or more

- Cumberland Valley
- Iron Furnace
- Mountain Laurel
- Valley Forge

### High Quality \$500 to \$999

- Adams County
- Allegheny Mountain
- Doc Fritchey

## 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
Prize 10: \$250	Prize 20: \$500



Donation: \$5.00 a ticket

SGOC #4141

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Number of Tickets Purchased: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

Drawing will be held on April 15, 2016 in Bellefonte, PA

*Fill out, clip and mail ticket above, plus donation to PA Trout, P.O. Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823.*

activities.

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.

All proceeds from the annual raffle go to the TIC grant program. 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 and mailed to P.O. Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823.

- Neshannock
- Oil Creek
- Penn's Woods West

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

- Donegal
- John Kennedy

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

- Chestnut Ridge
- God's Country
- Hokendauqua
- Muddy Creek
- Schuylkill County
- Spring Creek
- Tiadaghton

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

### Donation in Memory of:

Terry Guyer from Uncle Joe's Woodshed in Altoona

## VFTU turns 40

The Valley Forge Chapter of Trout Unlimited is celebrating the 40th anniversary of its founding. In 1976, VFTU formed to help clean up the coldwater fisheries of Chester County, PA. In the early days, pollution in the streams was from failing septic systems and illegal dumping in landfills. Now the most common threat is storm water runoff.

The chapter has worked tirelessly since its founding to stop sewage from entering streams and to stop other toxins at their source. The chapter has worked with municipalities to improve storm water regulations and reduce the amount of runoff reaching streams. VFTU has performed and supported projects that demonstrate how to effectively control runoff.

The chapter continues to work with developers and agencies to improve the quality of our regional streams and rivers. In the past decade alone, VFTU has participated in funding which enhanced the natural environment and improved our local streams in the amount of over \$3,000,000.

Visit [www.ValleyForgeTU.com](http://www.ValleyForgeTU.com) or follow us on Facebook.

## Attention Fly Shop Owners

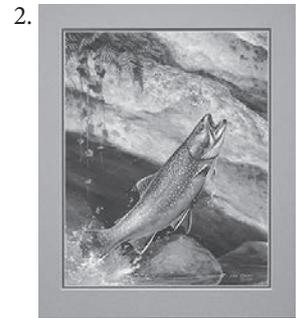
Are you interested in reaching thousands of visitors to the digital edition of *PA Trout*? Become a sponsor for just \$25 per issue, or \$100 per year. Join a handful of shops already taking advantage of this great opportunity with a 3.5-inch by 3-inch ad. Visit [www.patrou.org](http://www.patrou.org) 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.

# 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](http://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		
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# Forbes Trail honors Banas for youth leadership

Forbes Trail Trout Unlimited presented Ligonier native B. Drew Banas the chapter's highest award, the Russ Mowery Memorial Silver Trout for founding and leading its youth conservation and fly fishing program for more than a decade.

Many current and past students were on hand to help present the award at the chapter's November meeting held at the Loyalhanna Watershed Association.

Under Banas' leadership the program has won for Forbes Trail the Best Pennsylvania TU Chapter award and multiple best state youth education program awards.

The award is named for Russ Mowery, a founding member of the Forbes Trail chapter. For many years after his retirement from the Latrobe Steel Company, Russ owned and operated Mowry's Fly Box in Latrobe.

Russ was a legendary fly tyer specializing in the intricate and detailed Catskill-style dry flies. He was also a great fly fishing teacher and mentor. Ironically, he



Contributed Photo

**Drew Banas, second from left, accepts the Silver Trout Award from Monty Murty during a Forbes Trail Chapter meeting. Also pictured are 2015 youth group members Spencer Hudson, Saveria Weimer and Zach Sattiaux.**

is most remembered for the simple-to-tie Green Weenie he and fellow Forbes Trail member Ken Igo invented as a teaching tool for students new to the sport. It remains one of the most effective trout flies and can be found in almost every fly box.

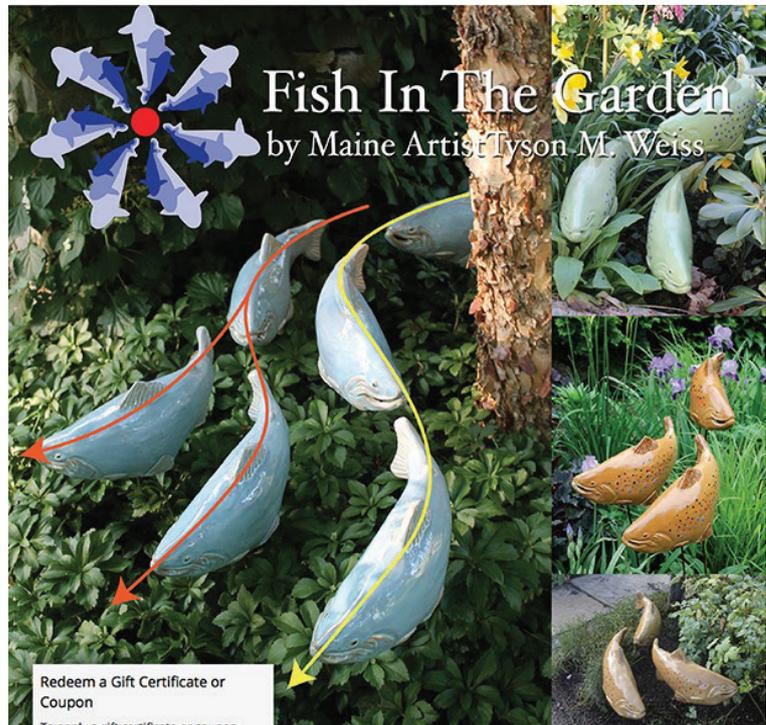
## Rivers Conservation Camp now accepting applications

The Cumberland Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited is holding the 22nd annual Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp June 19-24 at the Allenberry Resort in Boiling Springs.

Students are instructed in ecology, aquatic biology, geology, hydrogeology, erosion and sedimentation control, ichthyology, riparian corridor protection, watershed management, entomology and much more. They participate in a hands-on stream habitat improvement project. There are also 10 fishing sessions and fly tying instruction. Over 30 instructors, all experts in their field, teach the various classes.

Admission will be limited to 32 selected qualified students, ages 14 to 17. The applicants must have been born between June 24, 1998, and June 19, 2002. Camp tuition is \$400 per student for the entire week. All meals and accommodations are included for the residence camp. Applications for early acceptance must be postmarked no later than March 31, 2016.

Visit [www.riverscamp.com](http://www.riverscamp.com) for an application or more information.



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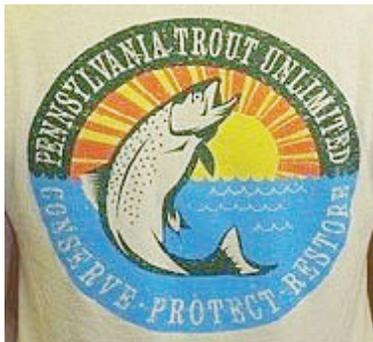
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Front (left pocket)



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 \*Additional \$3.00 charge for adult 2XL and 3XL shirts.

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## **NORTHEAST CHAPTERS**

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

## **REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT**

**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 completed streamside placement of over 200 boulders to be used in habitat enhancement in Pocono Creek. The chapter is working cooperatively with the Pocono Heritage Land Trust and Pocono Township and final placement of boulders in veins and patterns is scheduled for June. Fry have hatched and are doing well at Swiftwater Intermediate School. Our annual banquet is March 18 at Stroudsmoor Country Inn, Stroudsburg. We have a fly fishing workshop March 19 at the Monroe County Conservation District offices.

### **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)**

We made a \$100 contribution to the Keystone Coldwater Conference to sponsor a student for the poster contest. The chapter purchased \$100 worth of tickets for the TIC raffle. Lehigh Valley chapters held a joint meeting on Dec. 15 at the East Bath Rod & Gun Club with featured speaker George Daniel. Design work is in progress for a stream restoration project on Bushkill Creek between Tatamy and Newlins Mill. The chapter is also working with American Rivers and other partners on dam removal in Easton. An eight-week fly tying class began in January. Our annual redd survey on Bushkill Creek was Nov. 25-26. The chapter is sponsoring TIC at Nazareth Middle School, Wind Gap Middle School, Bangor Middle School and Easton High School.

### **Hokendauqua Chapter #535**

**Dave Abraham**

**610-844-3459, [nymphingguy@gmail.com](mailto:nymphingguy@gmail.com)  
[www.tu.org/connect/groups/535-hokendauqua](http://www.tu.org/connect/groups/535-hokendauqua)**

Our annual fly tying course started in January. At December's membership meeting, Charles Monko did a presentation on his week at the Rivers Conservation Camp held at Allenberry. On Dec. 15, 14 members attended the Lehigh Valley's TU chapters' joint fall meeting with guest speaker George Daniel. The chapter will be taking part in the Kreidersville Covered Bridge Festival June 4-5. Members will do fly tying demonstrations, fly casting and answer questions about TU. Members will also help with youth fishing on the Hokey. On June 11, the chapter will teach fly fishing to ladies participating in Women in the Outdoors held at Ontelaunee Rod & Gun Club. June 18 is Youth Field Day at Blue Mountain Rod & Gun Club. Our next meeting is Feb. 17 at Catty High School. Dave Hess will discuss what's new in fly fishing.

### **Monocacy Chapter #491**

**Erik Broesicke**

**610-909-2652, [monocacytu491@gmail.com](mailto:monocacytu491@gmail.com)  
[www.monocacytu.org](http://www.monocacytu.org)**

Chapter members assisted with a stream cleanup in the Archibald Johnston Conservation Area where several large downed trees that were blocking stream flow were moved, invasive plants were cut back, and a large load of trash was collected. Our November meeting was a fly tying roundtable. Upcoming meetings are Feb. 23 and March 22 at the DAR House. The Fly Fishing Film Tour comes to Banko Alehouse Cinema at Steel Stacks on March 30.

### **Pike-Wayne Chapter #462**

**Matt Wishneski**

**570-226-8725, [mannyvidal53@yahoo.com](mailto:mannyvidal53@yahoo.com)  
[www.pwtu.org](http://www.pwtu.org)**

We are currently planning our annual banquet/fundraiser event on April 4 at 5 p.m. at Lukan's Farm Resort, Long Ridge Road, Hawley. Contact me for further info. The chapter is working with the Pike County Conservation District to investigate the cause and effect of a summer turbidity condition on the Lackawaxen River. Cabin Fever Fly Tying will be our regular monthly meetings during February and March at Cora's Bistro, Church St., Hawley.

### **Schuylkill County Chapter #537**

**Greg Wood**

**[woodgregorycharles@gmail.com](mailto:woodgregorycharles@gmail.com)  
[www.schuylkillcountytu.org](http://www.schuylkillcountytu.org)**

We had stream cleanups on Oct. 26 and 27 along the park in Schuylkill Haven and the Little

Schuylkill River that runs about one mile at the park and ball field, then along Cressona Mall and the Little Schuylkill River. On Dec. 14 and 15, we did two cleanups with Wal-Mart along Gordon Creek and the ball field, then along the road going down the mountain to Gordon. Chapter members are working with students from the Penn State University Schuylkill ecology class on a survey looking for insects in our surrounding waters. Our "First Day on the Water" event went very well with 43 fishermen attending. Fishermen collected 50 pounds of litter along the stream-bank. Schuylkill Haven Recreation Commission contacted us about helping with a Lend-a-Rod program and asked if we would help with their rodeo in April. We agreed and are planning fly casting, spin casting, knot tying and fly tying. We have done fish ID and fly tying in our TIC schools. We received a \$3,000 grant from Schuylkill Conservation District to cover mapping and permitting costs for a project. We submitted an application for a \$10,000 Embrace-A-Stream Grant that should cover the rest of the New Philadelphia project. We completed our 12th radio program for the year on Dec. 15. Our Christmas party was the same day, where we elected a new president, vice president and secretary. Our first board meeting was Dec. 20. On Dec. 21, we visited Tamaqua area radio station Magic 105.5 WMGN-FM and Oldies 1410 WLSN, to accept an award. Doyle Dietz, a popular outdoors writer who does an award-winning program called "Experience the Outdoors" recognized our chapter as "Schuylkill County Outdoors Personality of the Year." Upcoming meetings are Feb. 21 at 4 p.m. at Schuylkill Haven Recreation Department, Schuylkill Haven, and at 4 p.m. March 20 and April 10 at Rivers Outdoor Adventures, New Ringgold.

## **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 OPEN**

### **Columbia County Chapter #38**

**Erick Lewis**

**814-621-8126, [ealewis@geisinger.edu](mailto:ealewis@geisinger.edu)**

Erick Lewis and Jeremy Devine attended the

Dec. 3 Succession Planning & Developing New Leaders training webinar. Chapter meetings changed to the second Tuesday of each month from 7-9 p.m. except during summer break in June, July and August. We attended the Early Bird Sports Expo at Bloomsburg Fairgrounds from Jan. 28-31. Chapter members offered free fly tying tips and conducted outreach for the chapter. Upcoming chapter meetings are March 8, April 12 and May 10 at the Columbia County Conservation District office, 720 Sawmill Road, Bloomsburg. Our Fish N' Fun Day is 9 a.m.-12 p.m. June 4 at Kocher Park, Route 487, Lightstreet. Our chapter picnic is at 6 p.m. June 14 at the park.

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### **God's Country Chapter #327**

**Dr. Peter Ryan**

**814-274-8718, drflyfish@yahoo.com**

The chapter sent comments supporting the PFBC proposed listing of Big Nelson Run and Card Hollow as wild trout water per a request from Katy Dunlap. We sent donations to support PATU and to purchase TIC raffle tickets. Bob Volkmar, Frank Weeks and Pete Ryan attended the Dec. 14 Potter County Water Quality Steering Committee meeting as well as the Dec. 17 JKLM Energy/DEP informational meeting concerning a spill during gas well drilling into the aquifer that supplies water to several private homes, Cole Memorial Hospital and the Borough of Coudersport. The chapter voted to become a partner organization with the Three Rivers Quest coalition. We received a request from the Pennsylvania Environmental Council to assist the cleanup of four illegal dump sites in Potter County in March or April and we plan to help. We continued distributing and selling raffle tickets for the "Cast Away" fundraiser – a six-hour chartered Lake Erie fishing trip this summer. Bob Volkmar assisted with the installation of 11 in-stream water quality data loggers into the Upper Allegheny watershed. Chapter members removed and winterized our bootwash stations on the First Fork and upper Allegheny River. Plans are being made to remove multi-floral rose along the DHALO project in cooperation with the Coudersport High School Fly Fishing club this spring as well as the removal of several beaver dams that have caused problems with flooding and stream flow throughout the project. Stream restoration work on the First Fork has been completed and remaining funds from a Back the Brookie grant will be used to purchase trees for the site. Ted Bear and Kathy Mitchell assisted in packing brook trout eggs and food distribution to the 284 classrooms participating in TIC throughout the state. We sent a chiller to be reconditioned and it was replaced with a spare. Contact with Northern Potter and Galeton schools has been made to initiate TIC programs. A TU information, fly fishing and fly tying night was scheduled with the Shinglehouse Boy Scout troop in February. Our 9th annual Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing Event is May 24-27.

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### **Lloyd Wilson Chapter #224**

**Bill Bailey**

**570-748-6120, wbailey@kcnnet.org**

**www.lwtu.org**

We had a successful banquet on Nov. 8. Phil Thomas from the National TU Office in Lock Haven was our speaker. He enlightened us on the various structures used in the rehabilitation of streams and the work being done locally by their office to remediate the effects of acid mine drainage. Tom Lucas was the recipient of our "in chapter" award for his many hours and years spent volunteering for TU. TCO Fly shop was the recipient of our "out of chapter" award for their continued support. Several chapter members helped in the packing of fish food for our TIC participants on Oct. 29. Then on Nov. 3, members helped pack the eggs for shipment to the schools. The TIC program in the Jersey Shore High School has about 320 fry remaining and apparently doing well. They had a two headed specimen, but it didn't survive Christmas break. Several chapter members demonstrated how to tie flies representing the various stages of a mayfly to the class. Our annual five-session fly tying classes begin Feb. 25 at the Citizen's Fire Co. in Lock Haven. Other dates are March 3, 10, 17 and 24.

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### **Penns Creek Chapter #119**

**Joe Dunmire**

**717-899-6085, jhazzbo@hotmail.com**

The chapter made donations to the Rivers Conservation Camp and the Keystone Coldwater Conference. The chapter and some members also purchased TIC raffle tickets. We submitted our 2015 financial report to National. We are working with the Juniata River Valley Visitors Bureau to produce a "Trout Trails" brochure. Our annual banquet is March 5. The speaker is Mike Klimkos from the Rivers Conservation Camp. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. with the meal at 6 at Belleville Mennonite School. Member Ben Crago is working with the Lost Creek Watershed Association and is keeping the chapter updated on activities we can assist with. Our TIC programs are progressing well, with only a few minor equipment problems. Three of four release dates are set. The chapter has contacted Mifflin County School District Conservation Club and we are making plans for activities for the 2016 school year. Our regular meetings are at 7:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at Lewistown Rec. Center.

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### **R.B. Winter Chapter #124**

**Bob Laubach**

**570-966-3379, oldfrstr@dejazzd.com**

Our November meeting featured chapter member and Merle Lynn Conservancy representative

Ryan Sabo explaining the proposed Conservation Union organization of conservation agencies in our area. Our December meeting featured Paula Piatt presenting an update on gas drilling activities in the northeast. Our annual banquet is April 1 at Sunbury Social Club with Lee Hartman speaking. Our three TIC programs are doing well with successful hatchings. Fly tying classes on Monday evenings at Christ Lutheran Church, Lewisburg, began Jan. 11. R.B. Winter State Park Snofest was Feb. 7. Upcoming meetings are Feb. 17 and March 16 at Lewisburg Hotel.

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### **Spring Creek Chapter #185**

**Bob Vierck**

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

**www.springcreektu.org**

Our strategic planning committee is meeting to develop a new plan for the new chapter, including the design of a survey for our membership. We made administrative changes needed to comply with TU's financial controls. Our veterans service program chairman Jim Lanning was appointed to the Trout Unlimited Veterans Service Partnership Advisory Committee. Bob Vierck was appointed to Spring Creek Watershed Association's Water Resources Monitoring Project Committee as the citizen volunteer. We completed a redd count on Spring Creek (Milesburg to Boalsburg) and sections of Slab Cabin Run. Forty-one volunteers participated. Data will be gathered yearly and will be used to evaluate how stream improvement projects affect the number of spawning sites. Site steward teams completed work at three riparian areas to prepare for early spring work. Work included cutting and removing invasives, selective pruning to give access to designated bank access areas, tube removal, prepping wildflower areas for spring seeding. We met a College Township council member to begin designing an interpretive panel that could be used in Spring Creek Park to teach children and parents the advantages to a healthy buffer zone. We attended the Sustainable Expo at Penn State. Two College of Agricultural Economics classes presented displays on their "Community, Environment and Development" projects with Spring Creek TU and the Spring Creek Watershed Association. Andrew Gutberlet, manager of engineering services at Penn State, presented on Penn State's water resources considering the entire water cycle from extraction, use, wastewater treatment and stormwater management. Dr. Uma Ramakrishnan (Juniata College) and her students presented a talk on the results of their study on monitoring brown trout movement using radio trackers. We applied for a watershed mini grant for organizational and promotional outreach to fund our Get Outdoors family fishing picnic. Greg Hoover, Penn State professor of entomology, spoke about "Bugs on Spring Creek" at our Jan. 24 veterans service program meeting.

**Continued on next page...**

### ...Continued from previous page

The Penn State Fly Fishing Club did fly tying demonstrations at our Feb. 4 general meeting. Our next veterans services program meeting is Feb. 28 with Ken Reinard of The Colonial Angler speaking at Comfort Suites, 132 Village Drive, State College. Our next general meeting is March 3 with Ann Donovan, watershed specialist for the Centre County Conservation District speaking from 7:30-9 p.m. at Comfort Suites.

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### Susquehanna Chapter #044

Walt Nicholson

570-447-3600; walt.nicholson10@gmail.com  
<http://susquehannatu.wordpress.com>

Chapter members began a detailed inventory of large quantity of fly tying material and fishing gear donated to the chapter by the former E. Hille owner for an upcoming fundraising effort. We continued work on a Coldwater Heritage Partnership planning grant to develop a conservation plan for Rock Run, a tributary to Lycoming Creek, to consolidate water quality data into a database and study AMD and other water quality problems in advance of potential development for natural gas. We conducted a field trip investigation of potential WQ monitoring sites. We took a group of veterans on a four-day fishing and teaching outing to Penns Creek in cooperation with Chuck Campbell at Penns Creek Cabin, which included demos by Joe Humphreys. Two directors worked with Rebecca Holler of TU Eastern AMD office, Lycoming College, Lycoming County Conservation District and Williamsport Municipal Water Authority to provide watershed education field days to local elementary schools and student teachers. We hosted CCC water quality monitoring training session led by Jake Lemon of National TU. We organized six teams of volunteers to do local stream monitoring. Fly tying lessons are from 7-8:30 p.m. on Tuesdays from Feb. 9-March 29 at First Presbyterian Church, Williamsport. Our next chapter meeting is 7:30 p.m. March 9 at the church.

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### Tiadaghton Chapter #688

Jere White

570-662-2167, whitesgordonsetters@gmail.com

Our annual banquet is April at the Penn Wells Hotel. Amy Wolfe, TU eastern abandoned mine program director, will be our guest speaker. There will be a TCCCC meeting with updates on the upper Tioga/Fallbrook AMD remediation projects at 7 p.m. Feb. 16. The meeting is located at the Hillside Rod & Gun Club. The upper Tioga River will receive fish stockings for the first time in many decades due to the cleanup efforts. The EAS project is on hold until the weather breaks in the spring and an Asaph culvert project is on hold until summer. Our "Flies and Lies" free fly tying events are Feb. 20 and March 19 from 9 a.m. to

12 p.m. at the Wellsboro Community Center. We applied for a Laurel Health Pro AM grant of \$250 to help support our TIC projects.

### NORTHWEST CHAPTERS

**Allegheny Mountain 036**

**Caldwell Creek 437**

**Cornplanter 526**

**Iron Furnace 288**

**Jim Zwald 314**

**Neshannock 216**

**Northwest PA 041**

**Oil Creek 424**

**Seneca 272**

---

### REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

**Mark Hanes**

**254B S. Main St.**

**Brookville, PA 15825**

**Email: m\_d\_hanes@yahoo.com**

**Phone: 724-464-7320**

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### Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036

George Kutskel

814-371-9290, maksak@comcast.net

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

Our 50th annual banquet is April 2 at the Falls Creek Eagles. Some work in the Sandy Lick delayed harvest section was completed by a contractor hired by the City of DuBois. A meeting between the chapter, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy and the city was held in January to plan the remaining areas of work and look at funding. Work is almost complete on the Dr. Colson Blakeslee parking area at Medix Run. The chapter committed \$1,000 to the project. Kelly Williams has continued our water monitoring using data loggers. Permits will be applied for the Wilson Run habitat project and bank stabilization. We would like to complete this sometime this summer. We are waiting for permission to do a tree planting on Montgomery Run in the old splash dam. It was shown by the data loggers that the lack of trees in this section warms the water over 30 degrees in the summer, limiting the native brook trout found downstream. The six classes involved in TIC are watching their trout grow and we will soon be working on our environmental day. We will also be hosting at least two family fishing days as well as meeting with Big Brothers Big Sisters to host the Joe Fieo memorial fishing event. We are applying for a grant from Headwaters to help with the Wilson Run project. Our next chapter meeting is March 9 at Martins Community Room.

### Caldwell Creek Chapter #437

Tom Savko

814-664-2124, tksavko2@verizon.net

We are holding fly tying classes from 7-9 p.m. on Wednesdays from March 9 through April 6 at Corry Higher Ed. We're hosting a fly fishing workshop from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 26 at Rotary Pavilion on Presque Isle in Erie.

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### Cornplanter Chapter #526

Vacant

[www.facebook.com/pages/Cornplanter-Chapter-Of-Trout-Unlimited](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Cornplanter-Chapter-Of-Trout-Unlimited)

In 2016, the Cornplanter board will share leadership duties and try to cultivate new officers for the vacant offices. The chapter plans to attend the Warren Outdoor Show and run a silent auction for fishing supplies. We also plan to hold our annual Spring Fishing Show in late March or April. On the calendar now for late September is the Morrison Run habitat improvement project. A letter of intent to provide volunteers specifically for treating invasive species along Dutchman Run also went out to the local conservation district for use in grant preparation. We continue to support and assist in three to five TIC projects.

---

### Iron Furnace Chapter #288

Mark Hanes

724-464-7320, m\_d\_hanes@yahoo.com

[www.ironfurnacetu.net](http://www.ironfurnacetu.net)

We held our quarterly board meeting at Clarion Library on Jan. 21 to discuss our banquet and the status of the Piney Creek property. Our annual banquet is April 2 at St. Joseph's Church Hall. Tickets are available by contacting the chapter and cost \$35. Plans are on hold for the Kelleville Campground Pavilion Project. We ran into an issue with getting the contractor to the site before the weather turned. We are hoping to get starting with the construction this spring. Our annual fly tying classes are the first two Saturdays of March from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Brookville Mason Lodge. The chapter holds a "Tie and Lie" event at Create Brookville on the first Thursday of every month from November through March. This is mostly an informal get-together for all ages. TIC is going well with the only issue being that Hickory Grove Elementary had their chiller go down and lost all their fish. They sent their chiller to be repaired and will get appropriate size fish when the fixed chiller is up and running. Our next membership meeting is 6 p.m. March 21 at Sigel Sportsmen's Club.

---

### James Zwald Chapter #314

Murray Neeper

814-834-3472, mneeper@zitomedia.net

The initial permit for habitat structures on the

East Branch of the Clarion at the Bendigo Dam removal site were submitted resulting in some modifications to in-stream structures to insure adequate lanes are available for kayakers and canoeists during low water discharge from the East Branch Dam. We hope to begin construction in the summer of 2016. Members participated in sampling and surveying portions of West Creek tributary to the Driftwood Branch of Sinnemahoning. The chapter, in conjunction with the Elk County Conservation District, Cameron County Conservation District and Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, received an ARIPPA grant for \$1,250 to do a preliminary survey. Because of that work, the chapter is in the process of applying to the Sinnemahoning Watershed Grant Committee and other sources for grants to conduct a yearlong study of the site. Landowner permission has been received to work on the area near the Rails to Trails southwest of Truman. We support TIC programs in Elk and Cameron counties. Weekly fly tying sessions during February and early March are held at St. Marys Area Middle School Library.

---

### **Neshannock Creek #216**

**Jeff Kremis**

**724-588-4378; jjkremis@gmail.com**  
**www.neshannock-tu.org**

Our annual banquet is March 19 at the Park Inn by Radisson in West Middlesex. Tickets are available from any board member or on our website. A winter cabin fever meeting was held on Jan. 30 at Munnell Run Farm in Mercer. Several speakers were scheduled and a fly tying demonstration was part of the program. Check our revamped website to get updates on all chapter programs and like us on Facebook. A fall workday was held Oct. 24 on the Coolspring DHALO area. General cleanup of the access trail from logging activity was the main focus of the day. Another workday will be held beginning at 9 a.m. on April 9 to reconstruct bridges and repair culverts on the project. All TIC programs are up and running and the chapter recently purchased a spare chiller for backup. Chapter members participated in Buhl Day in the fall and enjoyed demonstrating fly tying and casting to the kids. Planning is underway for our fishing derby this spring and opening day program for kids on Deer Creek. Upcoming board meetings are at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 22, March 7 and April 25 at Penn State Shenango.

---

### **Northwest Chapter #41**

**Erik Cronk**

**814-490-4632, ecronk@cronkinsuranceinc.com**  
**nwpachaptertu.blogspot.com**

Our second annual Fly Fishing Film Tour movie night at the Tom Ridge Environmental Center in Erie is Feb. 27. Information is available on our website.

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**www.patROUT.org**

### **Oil Creek Chapter #424**

**Gary Ross**

**814-337-6931, info@oilcreektu.org**  
**www.oilcreektu.org**

We had our annual Christmas dinner on Dec. 16, which included a gift exchange. Our annual banquet is April 2. We are planning on doing further habitat improvement work on Little Sandy Creek, downstream from last year's project. We continue to be represented in the Venango County Dirt and Gravel Roads Committee. We provided bus fare for students from Cochranon High School to complete a macroinvertebrate study at Camp Chickasaw. The ecology program was conducted on Sept. 29 and Oct. 21 and 45 students collected and studied macroinvertebrates and leaves from trees and shrubs from the stream. Upcoming meetings are Feb. 17 and March 16 at King's Restaurant, Franklin.

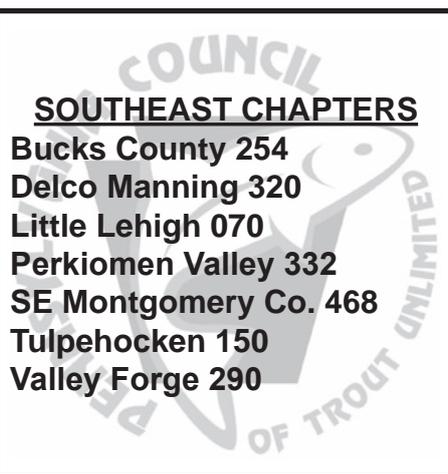
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### **Seneca Chapter #272**

**Chase Howard**

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

The chapter's annual banquet is Saturday April 23, at the Port Allegany Fire Hall. The evening features dinner, a live auction, silent auction and bucket raffle. Tickets are \$25 each and will be available soon. Fly Tying classes will be held on at 7 p.m. Tuesdays, Feb. 16, 23 and March 1, 8 at St. Josephs Episcopal Church in Port Allegany. The cost is \$25 and covers material, tools and instruction for all four classes. George Daniel will be presenting his streamer fishing techniques Sunday, March 20 at Port Allegany Elementary School.



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### **REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT**

**Chris Burns**

**123 8th. St.**  
**Oxford, PA 19363**

**Email: cmb0389@zoominternet.net**  
**Phone: 610-467-0142**

### **Delco Manning Chapter #320**

**David Wharton**

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

We stocked Ridley Creek's catch and release fly fishing only section with 200 trout on Nov. 21 and assisted PFBC with stocking the same location in October. We are currently involved in a TIC program with Strath Haven Middle School. Our annual fly tying courses began Jan. 5 and run six sessions on Tuesday evenings.

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### **Perkiomen Valley #332**

**Chaz Macdonald**

**chazmac1949@rcn.com**  
**www.pvtu.org**

We have five TIC programs. Upcoming meetings are Feb. 22 and March 21 at Upper Perkiomen Library.

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### **SE Montgomery County Chapter #468**

**Richard Terry**

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

The chapter took its fifth annual trip to the Salmon River in October. A fall stocking of 300 rainbows took place in the section of the Pennypack that flows thru the Pennypack Trust. The two Philadelphia schools that were participating in TIC did not receive funding to continue. Our annual banquet is March 12 at Willow Grove Moose Hall, Willow Grove.

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### **Valley Forge Chapter #290**

**Robbi Freisem**

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

Meetings are now being held at Chester Valley Grange #1496 at 3285 Phoenixville Pike, Malvern. Returns of the membership survey are coming in. Additional volunteers for our two Project Healing Waters programs are being scouted based on expressed interest. Volunteer hours, AFR and taxes were submitted on schedule. Charlie Griffen has organized a chapter fly fishing trip to the Little Juniata for the end of April. Our annual Trout Show is March 19 from 1-5 p.m. at Great Valley High School, 225 Phoenixville Pike, Malvern. The show features Dwight Landis, author of "Trout Streams of Pennsylvania, An Angler's Guide" who will present a program on fishing for native brook trout and wild brown trout on the forested freestone streams of the state, mostly on public lands such as state forests and game lands. He will discuss tackle, fishing techniques, flies, the best

**Continued on next page...**

### ...Continued from previous page

times to fish, and will bring along an assortment of maps and discuss how to use them to explore streams. Board member Charlie Griffen is selling leaders with tippet rings attached to assist with chapter fund raising. A work party rebuilt berms, performed maintenance weeding in Wilson Farm Park rain gardens, including replanting and seeding. Our annual Fly Fishing School will be held at Paradise Farm Camp near Downingtown on May 15, starting at 8:30 a.m. Applications are now being accepted. Contact John Dettrey at [jdet@comcast.net](mailto:jdet@comcast.net). Adults are \$75 each and children under 16 years old are \$30 each. The morning will include insects, knot tying and some stream strategy. Following a catered lunch, there is casting instruction on the pond and demonstration of stalking trout on the stream followed by a couple hours of guided fishing for each student on local water and dinner at 6:30 p.m. VFTU is partnering with five schools in the TIC program this year, all of which have been participating for the past few years. We are also working with five other schools: Collegium Charter, Beaver Creek Elementary, Avon Grove Charter, Kimberton Wilshire School and the Oxford School District to reestablish previous TIC programs or start new ones. There is a possibility that the Oxford School District may want more than one school to participate in TIC. All schools currently participating in the program were provided with a stipend, approved by the board, to cover their annual cost of supplies.

### **SOUTHCENTRAL CHAPTERS**

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

### **REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT**

**Alan Howe**

**528 N. Bedford St.**

**Carlisle, PA 17013**

**Email: [alan\\_howe@comcast.net](mailto:alan_howe@comcast.net)**

**Phone: 703-504-8964**

### **Adams County Chapter #323**

**Dean Stum**

**717-379-6270, [deanstum@comcast.net](mailto:deanstum@comcast.net)**

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

A stream coordinator was appointed by the board. A future stream walk/evaluation of devices will be conducted and permits submitted accordingly. Our youth committee is contacting local Boy Scout troops to see if they have interest in the chapter assisting the scouts in acquiring their fly fishing badge. We have 10 schools participating in TIC. Release events are tentatively scheduled for April/May timeframe. We're holding a new women's event series focused on fly fishing introduction, to include gear information, knot and fly tying, casting, and more during five events from March to May. The chapter will support the SOY (Southcentral Outdoor for Youth) Field Day by hosting a fly-tying station. Guest speaker Roy Rohrbach presented "Techniques for Tough Trout" on Jan. 19. We submitted a \$1,500 Sam's Club grant for TIC. We're hosting a fishing derby on Latimore Creek May 7. Our family picnic is June 11 at Pine Grove Furnace State Park.

### **Codorus Chapter #558**

**Tom Fenninez**

**717-817-8446, [tom@codorustu.org](mailto:tom@codorustu.org)**

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

Our January meeting was dedicated to 2016 planning. Our lengthy list of ongoing efforts and activities should allow a variety of opportunities for members. We continue to monitor the progress of a proposed, large scale egg production facility in the upper Codorus watershed. We'll also be keeping an eye on a pair of upcoming bridge replacement projects on our stream to make sure the construction is done responsibly. We've started a series of fly tying mini-clinics after our monthly chapter meetings. We plan to add some on-stream clinics this spring when our meetings move to Laughman's picnic pavilion, on the banks of our home stream. We're also currently seeking a local candidate to sponsor at this year's Rivers Conservation Camp at Allenberry in June. The design phase of our Growing Greener project will begin during the first quarter of 2016, and we anticipate that we'll be applying later this year for construction phase funding. We also recently applied for funding for a smaller project in conjunction with a young chapter member and Eagle Scout candidate. If approved, we would hope to complete that project within a late summer/early fall timetable. Upcoming meetings are March 9 and April 13 at Spring Grove Rec Center, Spring Grove.

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

**Tom Miller**

**717-258-8265; [tomimcmillar@comcast.net](mailto:tomimcmillar@comcast.net)**

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

We had a board meeting on Nov. 11 and members meeting on Nov. 18. The November meeting has become a traditional roundtable discussion to gather feedback from the chapter membership. Refreshments were provided by The Allenberry

Resort and the evening concluded with a special round of door prizes for all who attended. We also held a board meeting on Dec. 9. We completed two special months-long raffles at the November member's meeting. CVTU was the recipient of the IFFF 2015 Stanley Lloyd Award for conservation and preservation. These award monies will be used as matching funds to support the Central Pennsylvania Conservancy's acquisition of the "Cress Pond" property along the Letort. We are currently planning for the 2016 Limestoner banquet on March 20. We received final permitting for a project on the Yellow Breeches and will complete this project in the summer. We completed raking and clearing of the gravel spawning beds of the upper Letort in October. CVTU also commented on PFBC's "Draft" Trout Management Plan, 2016-17. Our TIC program continues to grow with 12 schools now participating. Our annual fly tying classes began on Jan. 19 and run until March 8, 2016. The classes are run in conjunction with South Middleton Township Parks & Recreation. In December, CVTU signed on with Project Healing Waters to be a host chapter serving south central Pennsylvania. Upcoming meetings are Feb. 17 and March 16 at Monroe Township Fire Hall.

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

**Russ Collins**

**717-580-3958; [rwarrencollins@gmail.com](mailto:rwarrencollins@gmail.com)**

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

The chapter renewed its investigation into Salesforce as a platform to enhance contact with our membership as well as strengthening our contacts with donors to our banquet efforts, and engaging local, state and national legislators in our conservation efforts. We are making special efforts to reach out to new members through personal letter contact and when possible by phone contact encouraging participation at the chapter level and beyond. We are also working to implement a program to reach out to lapsed members in an effort to maintain and grow our membership rolls. We have created a new membership position for communication and have a chapter member who has agreed to fill this effort. Our 2016 banquet is April 9. Ongoing weekly work continues at our diversion wells in the headwaters of Stony Creek. Volunteers meet every Sunday afternoon during the winter months to maintain the wells. Water flows during the summer months inhibited the maintenance efforts. The chapter has installed a permanent monitor and data logger to allow continuous monitoring of various water quality parameters at the Stony Creek location. The chapter is working closely with the Quittaphailla Watershed Association as it anticipates the second phase of major stream bank restoration scheduled this winter. We support seven TIC programs in Dauphin and Lebanon County schools. We anticipate participating in the Earth Day with Penn State

Middletown, the Wetlands Festival at Wildwood Park, the Garden Faire at Fort Hunter Park and the youth fishing event at the Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art. We are conducting beginner fly tying classes at the Wildwood Nature Center in Wildwood Park, Harrisburg. A Home Waters veterans event is scheduled for June 11 at the O'Gorman property on Clarks Creek.

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### **Donegal Chapter #037**

**Jim Wellendorf**

**717-399-8165, wellendorf@verizon.net**

**www.donegaltu.org**

Our Process and Procedures Committee decided our top priority was to develop an annual plan and budget. The committee also began the process of reviewing and amending where appropriate our mission statement, strategic plan and tactical plans. The mission statement and strategic plan are complete and will be reviewed by the board at our February meeting. We are extremely proud that our female membership increased to 52 out of 721. Faye Haering is our female initiatives coordinator. Our annual banquet is April 9 at the Nook Sports Complex just outside of Landisville. We have an aggressive schedule of conservation projects planned for 2016. Here are the highlights: Climbers Run along Pennsy Road, \$32,100, was scheduled to start in January; Metzler Sisters project on Fishing Creek, \$52,000, scheduled to start after June 15; Drumore Township Park, \$75,000, to start after June 15; Daniel Lapp Farm located on Black Barron Road, \$450,000, to start after June 15; Ben Stoltzfus Farm, \$80,000, to start after June 15. Trout in 12 of our 13 Trout in the Classroom made it through the Holidays intact. Ned Bushong our Educational Coordinator is aggressively talking to several other schools. We applied for the following grants: Drumore Township Park, \$75,000, Lancaster County Conservation District; Metzler Sisters, \$40,000, Atlantic Sunrise Foundation (Williams Gas Company) and \$12,000, US Fish and Wildlife; Daniel Lapp Farm, \$450,000, Atlantic Sunrise Foundation (Williams Gas Company); and Ben Stoltzfus Farm, \$80,000, 2015 DEP 319 Grant. Upcoming events include casual fly tying on Feb. 13 and March 12 at SKH office meeting room; The Lancaster Fly Fishing Show March 5-6 at Lancaster Convention Center; the recovery of the Lackawanna River in Scranton on March 16 at Farm and Home Center; Lititz Run cleanup on March 19 at Millport Conservancy office and Banta Farm.

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

**Rod Cross**

**717-264-2747, crcross@comcast.net**

The chapter is hosting its eight-week fly tying class at Norlo Park in Fayetteville. Chapter member Bill Bashor is the instructor for the course. The Falling Spring Invitational Wounded Warriors

**www.patrou.org**

outing is May 14 on the Gabler Family property along Falling Spring. The Franklin County Sportsmen for Youth Day is June 11 at Waynesboro Rod and Gun Club.

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

**George Baker**

**814-942-5623; george@fiorebuickgmc.com**

Our fly tying classes run Saturdays through March 5 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 at the United Way, Altoona. The Jaffa Sports Show is Feb. 25-28 at the Altoona Jaffa Mosque. We will be giving fly fishing instruction at Blair County Women Take Aim on May 21 at Riggles Gap Sportsman's. We will do the same for Youth Field Day at Riggles Gap on June 4.

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

**Beth Boyd**

**717-404-7642; ycnurse@gmail.com**

**www.muddycreektu.org**

This year's patches and buttons were ordered and are being sold. Shirts were reduced in pricing to reduce current stock as the chapter is exploring new merchandise ideas. Donation letters were sent to solicit for raffle items for a fundraising event in the fall. We continue to complete stream monitoring on the Pine Run project. Vibrant boxes were placed and had 85% survival rate. Nursery fish continue to have low mortality. A Little Juniata presentation is March 16 at Meadow Hill Restaurant. Our First Day of Fishing food stands are April 2 at the Muddy Creek watershed.

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### **SOUTHWEST CHAPTERS**

**Arrowhead 214**

**Chestnut Ridge 670**

**Forbes Trail 206**

**Fort Bedford 291**

**Ken Sink 053**

**Mountain Laurel 040**

**Penn's Woods West 042**

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### **REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT**

**Chuck Winters**

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**Duncansville, PA 16635**

**Email: wintershs@aol.com**

**Phone: 814-943-4061(w); 814-932-8841(c)**

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### **Arrowhead Chapter #214**

**Chad Hough**

**724-525-3033, grayco2014@gmail.com**

**www.arrowhead214tu.org**

We are gearing up for our annual banquet in March. The Hulings Run project will begin this spring. We stocked 600 trout in the Buffalo Creek DHALO in December. We started fly tying classes at Armstrong Jr./Sr. High School on Jan. 26. In November, we heard from guide John Stanton on steelhead fishing Lake Erie tributaries and in December we hosted Bill Anderson who discussed conservation efforts on the Little Juniata.

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

**Dale Kotowski**

**724-747-1513, pheasantfarmflycasters@**

**hughes.net**

**www.chestnutridgetu.org**

The Youghiogheny River Symposium is Friday, June 24 at the Penn State Fayette campus. The conference will examine threats to the Yough watershed ranging from coal and gas extraction and a permitted gas fired power plant to invasive species and climate change. The river's impact on tourism in Laurel Highlands as well as recreational uses other than fishing will also be addressed. A partial list of partners for the symposium include PFBC, DEP and DCNR, the US Corps of Engineers, Ohio State Park, Mountain Watershed Association, National TU, California University of Pa. and Penn State Fayette. Local TU chapters interested in participating may contact Dale Kotowski at 724-747-1513. Our 21st annual banquet will be held on March 12 at the Park Inn by Radisson in Uniontown. Plans continue on the proposed relocation of a portion of the gravel road adjacent to the Dunbar Creek fly fishing only project. A memorial bench for deceased chapter members was placed along this stretch of water in late 2015. The annual Dunbar Creek cleanup is April 9. Twenty schools participating in the TIC program reported the hatching of their brook trout eggs.

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

**Leo Vensel**

**724-875-5712, lvensel@gmail.com**

**www.forbestrailtu.org**

We held an advanced steelhead fly fishing and fly tying program as our November meeting. In lieu of a chapter meeting during the December holiday season we held a directors meeting. The chapter presented Ligonier native B. Drew Banas the chapter's highest award, the Russ Mowery Memorial Silver Trout for founding and leading its youth conservation and fly fishing program for more than a decade. Current and past students

**Continued on next page...**



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were on hand to help present the award at the chapter's November meeting at the Loyalhanna Watershed Association. This award is named for Russ Mowery, a founding member of the chapter. In December, the chapter applied for a coldwater conservation planning grant from the Coldwater Heritage Partnership. If the grant is approved Forbes Trail will develop a CCP for Linn Run, Westmoreland County. We will partner with Carnegie Museum of Natural History Powdermill Nature Reserve, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and PFBC and Loyalhanna Watershed Association, along with the community of Rector located in the Linn Run watershed. The chapter's Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Group completed its 2015 program with a trip to Elk Creek, Erie County to fish for steelhead. The youth program has been introducing local kids to fly fishing for 11 years. Unfortunately, the Pennsylvania Legislature Act 153 requirements for achieving a mandatory reporting level of child supervision is beyond chapter capability, and for 2016 all youth programs have been canceled. We have begun planning the 2016 program for the chapter's signature public outreach program, The Laurel Highlands Trout Trail. A new presentation "An Armchair Guide to The Laurel Highlands Trout Trail" is being developed in cooperation

with the Life Long Learning Center of the Bethlen Senior Community in Ligonier. Our treasurer attended a training session presented by the Laurel Highlands Visitors Bureau on how to apply for grants to support The Laurel Highlands Trout Trail outreach project.

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### **Fort Bedford Chapter #291**

**Guy Stottlemyer**

**814-207-1930, gmstottlemyer817@gmail.com  
www.fortbedfordtu.org**

Members planted over 200 trees, shrubs, warm-season grasses and perennial forbs at a stream habitat project site along Little Wills Creek in Londonderry Township in October. We are planning a picnic in June 2016 with a raffle. Fly tying classes began Jan. 9 and continue for 10 consecutive Saturdays at the Bedford County Conservation District.

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### **Ken Sink Chapter #053**

**Roger Phillips**

**724-639-9715, rphillips32@yahoo.com  
kensink.blogspot.com**

We assisted Dr. David Janetski's IUP biology class with electroshocking Two Lick Creek in October, and assisted Western Pennsylvania

Conservancy with planting trees along Bear Run. We sponsored an IUP student with Keystone Coldwater Conference student sponsorship on Nov. 10. We partnered with WPC for a grant for assessment and planning activities in the Bear Run watershed through the Coldwater Heritage Partnership. We will be assisting Saltsburg Elementary School with its TIC release on April 28. Our annual banquet is April 9 at the Indiana VFW.

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### **Mountain Laurel Chapter #040**

**Randy Buchanan**

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

Two beginners fly tying courses began in January at Gander Mountain Lodge. Our next meeting is March 13 at the same location.

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### **Penn's Woods West Chapter #042**

**Dale Fogg**

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

The Great Fly Sales was Jan.11. Our Cabin Fever show is March 6. We will do a Pine Creek cleanup. The chapter has a TIC conservation project at McKnight Elementary School. Bar Flies fly tying class is the fourth Monday of each month.