

Pennsylvania TROUT



Winter 2017

Publication of the Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited

www.patrou.org

Schuylkill River project ready for trout...



Contributed Photo

Following the completion of a habitat restoration project in the fall, which was assisted by environmental groups including Schuylkill County Trout Unlimited and the Schuylkill Headwaters Association, a stretch of the Schuylkill River near New Philadelphia is ready to support trout. See more on page 6.

Monitoring program training set for March 18

Trout Unlimited will host a pipeline construction monitoring training from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. March 18 in Palmerton, PA.

The program trains volunteers to monitor water resources that may be impacted by natural gas pipeline development. Focusing on potential erosion and sedimentation impacts, the goal of this workshop is to train volunteers to effectively monitor water quality on high priority streams along the proposed Penn East Pipeline route before, during, and after pipeline construction in Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton and Bucks counties.

Please register for the training by contacting Jake Lemon at 814-779- 3965

See **MONITORING**, page 4

Small fry: It's feeding time for TIC programs

By Christian A. Shane
Penn's Woods West Program Director

In Trout in the Classroom projects all across schools in Pennsylvania, brook trout have begun the delicate task of learning to feed. By mid-January, our brook trout eggs have gone through many phases of development. From hatching to absorbing their yolk sacs (buttoning-up) to navigating the tank, they now must begin the feeding process to survive. At this stage, not only

do we begin feeding them, but we also observe their fins developing and the vertical parr marks emerging along their bodies.

Using the feed/food provided by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, students and teachers will sprinkle this pepper-like substance to their brook trout, mixing the size 0 food with the size 1 food as 50/50 mix. This is due the fry's larger size and appetite. As our wonderful Trout in the Classroom coordinators Amidea

See **FRY**, page 7



Christian Shane Photo

Though this brook trout fry has developed into two heads, it rarely survives to the fry stage due to survival of the fittest.

IN THIS ISSUE

TU Hires Mid-Atlantic Organizer	3	Treasurer's Report.....	9
Headwaters	4	Merchandise.....	11
Minutes.....	8	Chapter Reports	12

Pennsylvania TROUT

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



PRESIDENT – Charlie Charlesworth
200 Camins Parkway
Clarks Summit, PA 18411
Phone: 570-954-5042
Email: fnepa@epix.net

VICE PRESIDENT – John Leonard
222 Brindle Road
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
Phone: 717-512-4620
Email: johnleonard222@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT – Greg Malaska
218 W. 13th St.
Jim Thorpe, PA 16229
Phone: 570-657-7169
Email: gregmalaska@gmail.com

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

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

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

PA TROUT ADVERTISING – Brad Isles
P.O. Box 23
Grove City, PA 16127
Phone: 724-967-2832
Email: bisles@live.com

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

COPYRIGHT 2017

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited
No portion may be reproduced
without permission.



Mike Klimkos Photo

The 23rd annual Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp runs from June 18-23 at Messiah College, a new location.

Applications now being accepted for 2017 Youth Camp

The Cumberland Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited is holding the 23rd annual Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp from June 18-23. This year, the camp will be at a new venue, Messiah College, Grantham, PA.

The highly structured curriculum is based on college level classes. Students are instructed in ecology, aquatic biology, geology, hydrogeology, erosion and sedimentation control, ichthyology, riparian corridor protection, watershed management, entomology, and much more. Students also participate in a hands-on stream habitat improvement project.

But it's not all work. There are 10 fishing sessions and fly tying instruction. Over 25 instructors, all experts in their field, teach the various classes.

Admission is limited to 32 selected qualified students, ages 14 to 17. Applicants must have been born between June 23, 1999 and June 18, 2003. The 32 students will be selected through an application process where they must state why they want to attend camp.

Camp tuition is \$400 per student. All meals and accommodations are included for the residence camp. A student doesn't have to be an accomplished fly fisher or a

budding aquatic biologist to attend. The student only needs to be highly motivated and willing to learn.

The Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp was founded in 1995 through the efforts of the late Dr. John R. "Jack" Beck and the late Enoch S. "Inky" Moore, Jr., Pennsylvania Fish Commissioner. Their goal was to select 32 teenagers each year who were the leaders in their class.

The thought is that today's leaders in high school become the leader of tomorrow's communities. In a few short years, they will be the bankers, lawyers, realtors, municipal officials and the leaders in their communities. If the camp can implant a kernel of knowledge in today's students about the importance of clean water, when those students become the decision makers in their communities, it may have a positive impact on how water resources are used.

All applications for early acceptance must be received no later than March 31. Applying via our website is preferred. For more information, or to apply, visit the camp website at www.riverscamp.com. Questions may be submitted at the website or via email to riverscamp@gmail.com.

Chad Chorney hired as TU's Mid-Atlantic Organizer

Chad Chorney assumed his new position as TU's Mid-Atlantic Organizer on Jan. 9, working under the direction of Mid-Atlantic Policy Director Dave Kinney.

Originally from Elmira, NY, Chad attended college at Mansfield State University where he graduated with a B.S. degree in Fisheries Management. He then moved to Idaho about 12 years ago to experience the incredible trout fishing found throughout the western U.S. During his time in Idaho, he fulfilled a lifelong dream of becoming a fishing guide, and was hired by Trout Unlimited in 2011 to work on river restoration projects within the Big Wood

River watershed near Ketchum, Idaho.

Although Chad loved his time spent in Idaho, he always knew that he wanted to eventually return home and work on protecting the landscapes where he grew up hunting and fishing.

Chad is passionate about fly fishing, bird hunting, travel, and outdoor photography, and he knows that his English Setter and Springer Spaniel are looking forward to exploring the grouse woods of Pennsylvania. He plans to relocate to the State College area in the near future. He can be reached on his cell phone at 208-420-4096 or by email at cchorney@tu.org.

PFBC launches youth, women programs Facebook page

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission recently launched the "FISH PA – Youth and Women's Programs" Facebook page.

The page is being utilized to share fishing experiences, photos/video clips, tips, tools and programs for youth, families and women.

If you have a youth/family/women's program coming up or know of one in your area, please feel free to share it in a message on the Facebook page.

As long as it is received well in advance of your program/event, we will do our best to promote the great programs being offered!

Give the new page a "like" and "share" it with your Facebook friends. Thank you in advance for your continued efforts and support to help connect communities to PA's waterways.

Visit facebook.com/fishpa.youthandwomen or search "fishpa youth" or "fishpa women."

PFBC sets class for fishing skills instructors

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission is offering a class for current PFBC fishing skills instructors interested in providing fly fishing programs.

The class is from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 17 at the Commission's Centre Region Office, 595 East Rolling Ridge Drive, Bellefonte.

PFBC understands that there are many ways to teach fly fishing skills. This class is being provided to either supplement your current programs or to help you plan/implement new fly fishing programs.

The class will focus on walking through program agendas and lessons imple-

mented by PFBC. It will also focus on basic teaching tips utilized for PFBC fly fishing program implementation. FSIs in attendance will also share their success and lessons learned when providing fly fishing programs. Those who attend the class will be invited to help at a PFBC "Intro to Fly Fishing" program(s); network with other FSIs implementing fly fishing programs; and leave with the PFBC fly fishing lesson plan as a resource.

To register for the class send your contact information to PFBC's Youth and Women's Program Coordinator Amidea Daniel at adaniel@pa.gov.

PA COUNCIL OF TROUT UNLIMITED 2017 COMMITTEES



Awards – Ed O’Gorman

1220 Peters Mountain Rd., Dauphin, PA 17018

717-580-3186 / edogorman@comcast.net

Coldwater Heritage Partnership Admin.

450 Robinson Lane, Bellefonte, PA 16823

814-359-5233 /

tmacarthur@coldwaterheritage.org

Coldwater Heritage Partnership TU Delegate

Ken Undercoffer

1510 Village Rd., Clearfield, PA 16830

814-765-1035 / kcoffer@atlanticbb.net

Communications – Brad Isles

PO Box 23, Grove City, PA 16127

724-967-2832 / bisles@live.com

Delaware River – Lee Hartman

4978 Hancock Hwy., Equinunk, PA 18417

570-224-6371 / leehartman1@verizon.net

Development – George Kutskel

107 Simmons St., DuBois, PA 15801

814-371-9290 / maksak@comcast.net

Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture –

Ken Undercoffer

1510 Village Rd., Clearfield, PA 16830

814-765-1035 / kcoffer@atlanticbb.net

Environmental – Jeff Ripple

206 Vanyo Rd.

Berlin, PA 15530

814-267-4086 / jripple@jripple.com

Legislative Liaison – OPEN

Membership – OPEN

National Leadership Council Rep. –

Brian Wagner

137 S. New St., Nazareth, PA 18064

484-894-8289 / bewagner482@gmail.com

Trout in the Classroom – Tali MacArthur

P.O. Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823

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

Trout Management – Richard Soderberg

Mansfield University, Mansfield, PA 16933

570-662-4539 / rsoderbe@mansfield.edu

Veterans Service Program Initiative –

Jim Lanning

905 Saxton Dr., State College, PA 16801

814-238-2086 / jlanningvsp@gmail.com

Youth Education – Judi Sittler

108 Gaslight Circle, State College, PA

16801

814-861-3288 / jlsittler@comcast.net

Women's Initiative – OPEN



Digital Edition Sponsors

The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited would like to thank the businesses on the next page for sponsoring the digital edition of *PA Trout*.

For information on how to become a sponsor of the digital edition or to advertise in the printed newsletter, please contact Charlie Charlesworth, Samantha Kutschel or Brad Isles.

Contact information is available on pages 2-3.

Digital edition sponsorship is \$25 per issue for an approximately 3.5-inch by 3-inch ad that runs online only.

Print ad costs vary by size.



26 North Second Street
Clearfield, PA 16830
814-765-3582 | dan@jimssports.com
www.jimssports.com

*Archery, Bicycling, Fly Fishing,
Printed and Embroidered Clothing*



Jeffrey Ripple
206 Vanyo Road
Berlin, PA 15530
814-701-9703 | sales@ripplesotwater.com

*Casting, Fly Tying and Fly Fishing Lessons
Guided Fishing Trips in the Laurel Highlands*

Headwaters

A message from PATU President Charlie Charlesworth

Where do you stand?

Let's not talk politics. Let's not talk political parties. Our mission is to talk about the environment and conservation.

It will never be possible to accommodate everyone's environmental philosophies. Some of us will be adamant in the philosophy that the environment is the only issue that counts. Some will feel that the environment gets in the way of economic progress and stifles the economy.

Then there are others like myself who are what I refer to as "conservative tree huggers." I believe that there has to be an equal balance between economic interests and protecting the environment. I'm a quasi-product of the Anthracite Coal Region (born in Georgia, raised in PA). I have lived the devastation of unwise plundering of our environment by less than scrupulous economic development. However, considering the time, where would we be without coal? Where would we be without steel mills? Where would we have been without electricity powered by coal-fired power plants?

Well, the environment would not have suffered as much, but would we be the great nation that we are today without these earlier industrial achievements? Granted, we would be living in a cleaner environment today if we had had more conservative tree huggers back then.

The obdurate meaning of these statements is that we have to pick and choose our battles.

Battles on too many fronts make us weak. Battles that create division in our

own ranks is also dangerous. In the early days of the Marcellus push when Trout Unlimited had yet to issue a position statement, there were a number of members in my local chapter who stated that they would quit if National TU came out opposed to drilling. And to make matters worse, others stated they would quit if the opposite happened. Even though National's position was a reasoned response of accepting a well-regulated and accountable gas industry, we still lost members... even a member of our board.

Ours is a never-ending battle to protect the environment. Just when it seems that we have won one battle, others pop up to take its place. Currently, one of the old issues is again threatening another assault on the environment.

Legislation is being pushed to once again attack the protection of riparian buffers. Legislators are organizing to try to stop the designating of dozens of streams as Class A Wild Trout Fisheries. And battle lines have been drawn in the sand to fight against the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission being given the authority to set licensing fees.

As one of your representatives on the PATU Legislative Committee I am asking for your help.

First and foremost, we need to have your responses indicating the direction you'd like to see these issues take. When TU sends out an Action Alert, it is a serious matter. We need you to contact your elected representatives and voice a united opinion.

I have been fortunate enough to have



seen the voting records of some of our legislators when it comes to votes on environmental issues. I have been very pleased with the voting records of some from my chapter area, but very displeased with others within our coverage area, including my adopted hometown. Some of these legislators have voted *against* the environment 87% of the time. That is why I say we need your help and your input.

We (the Legislative Committee) are about to reconstitute our monthly meetings in Harrisburg with key House and Senate representatives. We are joining forces with two of National TU's recent hires, Mid-Atlantic Policy Director Dave Kinney and Mid-Atlantic Organizer Chad Chorney, to make our monthly appointments with legislators. Please be assured that we will be there representing you, PATU, and National TU, as well as our coldwater environment that we all appreciate so much.

One last thing before I go... Please take me fishing. I'd like to take the time to get know more of you on a personal basis.



Fly Fishing Guide Service

Walk and Wade
Drift Boat Trips
Destination Trips
Casting/Nymphing Instructions

Since 1999



skyblueoutfitters.com
610.987.0073

Monitoring

from page 1

or jlemon@tu.org. Please provide your name, email address, phone number and mailing address. Registration will close on March 15. Directions to the training session and an agenda will be provided the week of the training.

This program is an objective data collection effort and does not engage in advocacy-related activities. The TU Pennsylvania Construction Pipeline Monitoring Program is a partnership between Trout Unlimited and the PA Council of Trout Unlimited. Funding is provided by the Cedar Tree Foundation.

New book a PA fishing resource

Pennsylvania has 86,000 miles of rivers and streams, including freestone streams, tailwaters and spring creeks, flowing through 46,000 square miles of diverse country ranging from mountainous terrain to farm land.

The waters run as small step-over brook trout streams choked with rhododendron to large rivers best fished from a drift boat.

A new resource published by Headwater Books – “Keystone Fly Fishing” – is a comprehensive, 608-page, up-to-date guide detailing these waters.

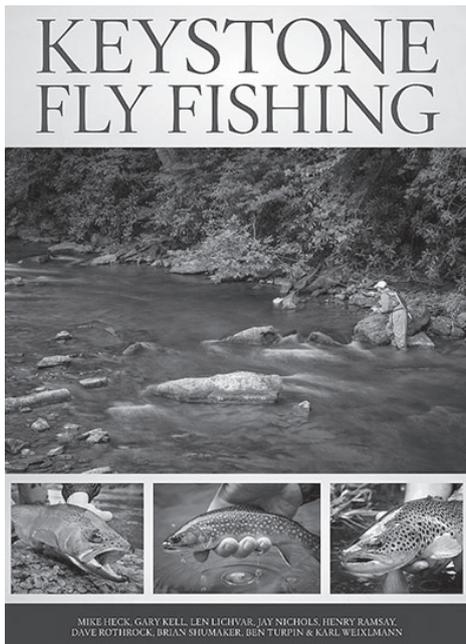
It includes over 240 rivers and streams across the state as well as information on where to fish for trout, smallmouth bass and other game fish species such as musky and carp. The book features stunning color photographs, 40 detailed maps and more than 200 local fly patterns.

In the book, a team of nine regional experts share their insights, tips and favorite fly patterns for their local waters and bring readers the most complete and in-depth information on the best fishing opportunities in the Keystone State.

“Keystone Fly Fishing” is \$30 and is distributed by National Book Network. The book is available on at www.patROUT.org or through the merchandise form on page 11 of this newsletter.

The contributors are:

Mike Heck grew up fishing the spring creeks of southcentral Pennsylvania. He is the author of “Spring Creek Strategies:



Hatches, Patterns, and Techniques” (Headwater Books), which is based primarily on his experiences fishing Cumberland Valley spring creeks, but also contains lessons for all challenging waters. He is an Orvis-endorsed guide, fly designer, and contributor to *Fly Fisherman*, *American Angler* and other publications. He lives in Dry Run, Pa.

Gary Kell worked for the USDA Forest Service for over 32 years. Since retiring in 2003, he has taught fly fishing to hundreds of students, and for five years taught fly fishing for L.L. Bean at the Outdoor Discovery School in Front Royal, VA. He

is a FFF Master Certified Instructor and registered PA Licensed Fishing Guide. He currently operates Gary Kell: The Fly Fishing Coach and provides a variety of fly fishing instructional services (www.thefly-fishingcoach.com). His articles have appeared in the *Warren Times Observer* and *Fly Fisherman*. He lives in Warren, PA.

Len Lichvar is the district manager of the Somerset Conservation District, PFBC District 4 Commissioner, professional freelance outdoor writer/photographer published in local, state and national publications, and the outdoors correspondent for the *Somerset Daily American*. A longtime member of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association, he is also an active member of many local and state sportsmen’s groups, as well as conservation and civic improvement organizations. Len resides in Boswell, PA.

Jay Nichols is a publisher, editor and photographer specializing in fly fishing and fly tying. He is the northeast field editor for *Fly Fisherman* magazine, fly fishing editor for Stackpole Books, and publisher of Headwater Books. He has authored or coauthored numerous books including the best-selling “1001 Fly Fishing Tips,” “Tying Dry Flies,” “Fly Fishing for Smallmouth” (with Bob Clouser), and “Fleye Design” (with Bob Popovics). He was the primary photographer for “Casting with Lefty Kreh” and “Fly Casting
See BOOK, page 10

The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited has more than 14,000 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 12-20.

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



PENNSYLVANIA TROUT is published quarterly by the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited. Information in this publication is provided “as is” and without warranties of any kind, whether express or implied. The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited makes no guarantees as to accuracy, currency, quality or fitness of any information presented in this publication. The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited assumes no legal liability or responsibility for any incorrect, misleading, outdated or missing information.

The views and opinions expressed in PENNSYLVANIA TROUT are those of the writers, who are responsible for the accuracy of content. They do not necessarily reflect the views of the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited. The acceptance of advertising by the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited does not constitute an endorsement of the products or services advertised. The publisher assumes no responsibility or liability for the publication of copy submitted by advertisers.

The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited reserves the right to cancel or reject articles or advertising deemed inappropriate or unsuitable for PENNSYLVANIA TROUT. Anyone using any information from this publication does so at his own risk and shall be deemed to indemnify the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited. The publisher shall not be responsible or liable for any damage or injury resulting from such use. Letters to the editor are welcome; they must be signed and contain the writer’s contact information. PATU reserves the right to edit letters for length.

Habitat project aids Schuylkill River

By Steve Pytak

Pottsville Republican Herald

Editor's Note: This story originally ran in the Pottsville Republican Herald on Sept. 15, 2016.

For years, the stretch of the Schuylkill River near New Philadelphia has been nearly devoid of life, according to Lane R. McMullin, Kaska.

But an initiative by environmental groups including Schuylkill County Trout Unlimited and the Schuylkill Headwaters Association will hopefully bring change to a 500-foot stretch.

“What we’re doing is creating habitat for the fish, so when we put them in they’ll be able to survive. And if we get heavy rains, they won’t be washed down river,” Cliff Hutton, Minersville, a member of the board of Schuylkill County Trout Unlimited, said.

It’s the section of the Schuylkill River behind the James S. Clark Field. Representatives of those organizations worked with backhoes, rocks and logs to build trout habitat.

“The rocks are sandstone and the logs are larch trees. They’re as straight as telephone poles,” Hutton said.

“This is fantastic! When I was a kid – I’m 68 now – this part of the Schuylkill was orange from the mine water. Then they put three plants up stream, cleaning areas. So that’s taken a lot of this metallic stuff out of the water downstream. Now it just needs something more,” McMullin, one of the volunteers who came out to help, said.

Schuylkill County Trout Unlimited contributed \$5,000 to the project and other local organizations matched it by providing supplies, equipment and manpower, Hutton said.

Those organizations included the Township of Blythe Municipal Authority, which provided manpower and equipment, including a front-end loader. And Phil Thomas, a habitat project coordinator with National Trout Unlimited, Lock Haven, was also there.

“At Trout Unlimited, we’re trying to do



Contributed Photos

Above, a new cross vein in the river slows water to create a deep hole to provide a holding area for fish. Below, workers bring logs to the riverbank for deflectors.

as much as we can to clean up our streams and maintain coldwater tributaries in the state,” Hutton said.

“We’ve been here all week. We started on Sept. 1, which was my birthday,” Hutton said.

The stretch of the Schuylkill River behind the ball field was no more than one foot deep, Hutton said.

“And it was flat. It was completely flat,” Hutton said.

It didn’t have contours where trout could thrive, he said.

So the workers made some sections deeper. And they used logs and sandstone to build structures to change the flow of the water.

“This is a cross vane,” Hutton said, pointing to a V-shaped structure that slowed the flow of water in one section.

At the tip of that V-shaped structure is a section the group dug more than three feet deep.

“That will be a deep hole for the fish to survive in. It will give them shelter from heavy rains, so they won’t get washed downstream,” Hutton said.

“Without something deep for the trout to hide in, the raccoons will come up and just pick them out of the water. A raccoon won’t go deeper than its legs will go,” McMullin said.



“And once we establish good aquatic life in here, that’s where the fish are going to lay, back in those areas there,” Hutton said.

The group also put logs along the riverbank to deflect water away from the bank. “They’re called deflectors,” Hutton said.

Also there was Alexa R. Kramer, education and outreach coordinator with the Schuylkill Headwaters Association, based in Pottsville.

She was spreading grass seed along the riverbank.

Schuylkill County Trout Unlimited is making arrangements to stock the area with fish sometime in 2017, Hutton said.

“Probably next year we’ll be able to stock it. We’ll have to see how this develops too. After we have some rain storms, we’ll see how it holds up,” Hutton said.

Daniel (from PFBC) and Tali MacAurthur (from PATU) have reminded us at the start of 2017, we must monitor three water characteristics to help keep our aquariums and fish healthy: water quality, water temperature and water changes.

Students and teachers must regulate the food as it enters the tank. The tank must maintain a balance, much like a stream in the wild. Since trout tend to feed opportunistically, they will overeat and indulge, causing their bellies to swell and ultimately can be fatal; therefore, the students must choose food amounts carefully. Usually, underfeeding is most helpful since they are wild creatures and don't need to be fed daily. TIC participants must also be aware of the higher ammonia, nitrites and nitrates content which spikes when the food is entered into the aquarium ecosystem. To also benefit the aquarium, we also decreased our tank temperature to 52 degrees Fahrenheit which then decreases the stress on the trout.

Lastly, the students make routine water changes from 5 to 10 gallons a week and remove any wastes. Allowing the fish to



Christian Shane Photo

In January, fry remain in hatching baskets so they learn to feed and navigate the tank. In February, the baskets are lowered to allow the young trout to swim freely in the entire tank.

have fresh, unchlorinated water oxygenates the water and eliminates poisonous ammonia or nitrates which build within the tank.

At this point in the project, the yearly "oddities" of fish growth also occur. Currently, some TIC projects have trout with two heads, curved spines, and L-shaped fry. Though they are interesting and popu-

lar with the students, unfortunately, most of these unusual cases will not survive long due to lack of feeding. They demonstrate that only the fittest and most adaptable will survive!

In addition, the TIC coordinators have started a PA TIC Facebook group to provide an opportunity for teachers to network, share photos, and lessons.

Save our Susquehanna project launched...



Contributed Photo

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission showcased its first "S.O.S. – Save our Susquehanna!" project on Oct. 7 by releasing approximately 150 wild brook trout into Limestone Run.

The S.O.S. project includes a series of habitat improvements on Limestone Run in Montour and Northumberland counties. The improvements are designed to aid the Susquehanna River and small-mouth bass by reducing erosion and sediment in its tributaries. In all, the project will make improvements to five farm properties, and include placing in-stream stabilization structures in the two stream sections and creating a cattle crossing in one.

The released brook trout are expected to establish a reproducing population brookies in a stream where habitat degradation resulted in unsuitable conditions for trout.

PA COUNCIL OF TROUT UNLIMITED

*Minutes of the January 7, 2017
Executive Committee Meeting
PFBC Facility, Pleasant Gap, PA*

Officers Attending: Charlie Charlesworth, George Kutskel, Bob Pennell, John Leonard, Brian Wagner, Greg Malaska, Fred Gender, Jim Lanning.

Others Attending: Ken Undercoffer, Tali MacArthur, Judi Sittler, Bob Vierck.

President's Report: The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by President Charlesworth who announced that PFBC has approved the addition of a Fly Fishing Skills Instructors program to supplement their Basic Fishing Skills program. The first session will be conducted for TU members on March 18, and then expanded to include others who have received Basic Fishing Skills training in all regions of the state. Approval was granted on a motion by Kutskel/seconded by Wagner to accept the minutes of the Nov. 13, 2016 EXCOM meeting, as previously distributed to EXCOM.

Treasurer's Report: Kutskel reported that he is working on getting Council's annual Form 990 filed with the IRS. Wagner will include a reminder to chapters about filing their 990 reports in his next My TU Monthly email to chapter leaders. Kutskel reported that revenue from Council's Year-end Appeal was running slightly ahead of last year, with a total of \$14,600 received as of Jan. 5. The Treasurer's Report was approved on a motion by Leonard/seconded by Wagner.

Discussion/Action Items

- **Succession Planning:** Charlesworth emphasized the need for Council officers and committee chairs to develop "how to" manuals and have backup programs available on their computers in order to implement seamless transitions when leaving their positions on Council.
- **5 Rivers Program:** A PATU 5 Rivers Rendezvous is being planned for the third week of April in State College, to be hosted by the Spring Creek Chapter and Penn State Univer-

sity. The day-long event will emphasize "fun" and include conservation, entertainment and fishing venues. Colleges that have fishing clubs which are not 5 Rivers-affiliated will be welcome along with those with 5 Rivers clubs currently established. On a motion by Lanning/seconded by Leonard, approval was given to spend \$1,000 in matching PATU funds to support this event.

- **PATU Regional Trainings:** Two regional trainings are planned; Feb. 25 for the eastern chapters in Pine Grove, and March 5 for the western chapters in Dubois. MacArthur is developing the agenda for these meetings which will run from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day. National TU employees Jeff Yates will be on the agenda for the eastern training, and Rob Shane will participate in the western training.
- **Website Additions:** Pennell will check with our website developer to determine what is involved in adding a "search" function to the patrout.org website.
- **Speakers Bureau:** Leonard presented a first draft of the spreadsheet he is developing for identifying program speakers for chapter functions. The list will include the speakers' contact info, program content and fees charged, if any.
- **Bylaws Changes:** Pennell pointed out that Council Bylaws must be updated to include changes to the descriptions of the duties and responsibilities of various committees; e.g. the former Stream Access Committee has been folded into the Environmental Committee, the Women's Initiative has been broadened to include diversity, a new initiative has been created to serve the Veterans Service Program, and consideration is being given to



eliminate the Legislative Committee.

On a motion by Malaska/seconded by Wagner, approval was granted to establish a four-year term limit for Regional Vice Presidents. Also, the "Duties and Responsibilities of PATU Regional Vice Presidents" document

prepared by Leonard was adopted as amended on a motion by Malaska/seconded by Wagner, with one change from the wording "membership and/or Board meeting" to "chapter function" in item 2.

National Leadership Council: Report submitted. Wagner reminded us that National TU is pushing for all chapters to have in place a financial reviewer in addition to their treasurer. Kutskel stated that Council already has this in place. Wagner also requested that we should be looking for candidates from PA as potential nominees for upcoming Grassroots Trustee positions.

Program Director: Report submitted. MacArthur reported that a grant application has been submitted to the Foundation for PA Watersheds for \$35K to help fund the CHP program. Twenty two grant applications have been received for this year's CHP program, three more than last year. The Shaver's Creek facility was approved as the venue for this year's annual meeting on September 23, with the focus this year being a "Celebration of Our Chapters."

Communications Committee: Report submitted. Malaska reported that the number of visitors and other usage factors for the patrout.org website has declined over the past year. Pennell suggested that we should consider printing and mailing all four issues of *PA Trout*, with the goal being to reach those members who can't, or simply don't want to, access the newsletter on our website. Kutskel agreed to consider this pending further investigation into increasing our advertising revenue to help cover the cost.

Delaware River Committee: Report submitted. Lee Hartman reported that

the Delaware River Basin Conservation Act (DRBCA) has recently passed the house and senate and signed by President Obama. This is great news for the river, Trout Unlimited, and all of our partners in the Coalition who worked hard to get this bill passed.

Development Committee: Report submitted. Kutskel reported that no plans have been made yet for a Trout in the Classroom Raffle, but we do plan to hold another one this coming year with the idea of the drawing being held at the fall meeting. TIC T-shirt sales have been coming in at a good rate again, on par with the past years.

Membership Committee: No report submitted. Mark Hanes submitted his resignation as chair effective with this meeting.

Trout Management Committee: Report submitted. Undercoffer reported that there is an incongruity in the PFBC stream classification system. Streams and stream sections are designated for stocking because they don't hold a "fishable" population of wild trout. But they can be so degraded by the effects of stocking that they can never achieve a high enough biomass to justify halting stocking – a classic "Catch 22" situation.

Environmental Committee: Report submitted. Jeff Ripple reported that in a recent conference call with committee members it was agreed that many of Council's environmental policies were out of date, and priorities were established to bring them up to date using more documented data to give more credence and weight to our policies. It was also decided that Ripple should be granted time for a brief presentation at our upcoming regional trainings to recruit members for his committee.

Youth Education Committee: Report submitted. Judi Sittler reported that she is putting together her first "Activity in a Box." This will be a "how to" for conducting a community event which invites families to an introduction to fishing and TU. She is also working with the NLC Youth Education Workgroup to determine ways to get chapters to put more emphasis on youth, including establishing a Youth Education Coordinator for each chapter.

Women's & Diversity Initiative: No report submitted. A replacement needs to

be found for Kandy Weader who recently resigned as chair.

Veterans Service Program Initiative: Report submitted. Lanning outlined the Spring Creek Chapter's VSP program as an example of how the addition of veterans' family members can enhance the overall experience by increasing membership and adding additional conservation resources for the chapter.

Regional Reports

- *Northcentral Region* – Seven of 8 chapters submitted reports; R.B. Winter did not report.
- *Northeast Region* – Six of 9 chapters submitted reports; Stanley Cooper, Lackawanna Valley and Western Pocono did not report.
- *Northwest Region* – All 9 chapters submitted reports.
- *Southcentral Region* – All 8 chapters submitted reports.
- *Southeast Region* – All 7 chapters submitted reports.
- *Southwest Region* – Six of 7 chapters submitted reports.

Other New Business

- ***Funding for Chapter Projects:*** On a motion by Malaska/seconded by Lanning, an ad hoc committee consisting of Kutskel, Wagner, Lanning, MacArthur and Ripple was created to develop recommendations for a pilot program to provide perpetual funding from Council for chapter projects, to be presented at the June EXCOM meeting.
- ***Board Retreat:*** MacArthur requested that EXCOM consider using the Bayer Institute's "Board Works" program as a third party independent survey format that can be tailored to meet EXCOM's goals and objectives for a future board retreat. On a motion by Malaska/seconded by Leonard, approval was granted to spend \$250.00 to proceed with this plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m. on a motion by Leonard/seconded by Kutskel.

– Bob Pennell, Council Secretary

Treasurer's Report **by PATU Treasurer George Kutskel**

Thank you.

We would like to thank each and every person who helped make the 2016 annual appeal a success.

While the tax year of 2016 has ended, we are still accepting donations. You can make your contribution at any time of the year by clicking the donate button on patrout.org, or send a check to our P.O. Box.

All funds raised through this appeal stay right here in PA to benefit of all our members.

Stay tuned on how you can help keep the funding stream going to Trout in the Classroom grant program.

* * * * *

Chapter Donations

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.

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

Exceptional Value \$1,000 or more

- Cumberland Valley
- Mountain Laurel
- Valley Forge

High Quality \$500 to \$999

- Allegheny Mountain
- Doc Fritchey
- Neshannock

Brook Trout \$250 to \$499

- Adams County
- Donegal
- Schuylkill County

Wild Trout \$100 to \$249

- Chestnut Ridge
- God's Country
- Hokendauqua
- Spring Creek
- Tiadaghton

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

PATU asks chapters to adopt wild trout streams

The overriding goal of TU's founding fathers was conservation of wild trout wherever possible as opposed to the random stocking of "cookie-cutter" hatchery trout.

The objective of PATU's Trout Management Committee has been to reduce or eliminate the stocking of wild trout streams, especially those with viable populations of brook trout and Class A trout streams in urban areas that for "political reasons" are stocked in violation of Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission policy.

A wealth of scientific literature supports the conclusion that wild trout populations expand following cessation of stocking. The TMC believes that many stocked wild trout streams in Pennsylvania would significantly improve, possibly to Class A biomass standards, if competition from the hatchery product was eliminated.

Up to this point, our efforts to divert stocked trout from wild trout populations have been directed to the PFBC, but our success has been disappointing. Successful efforts of the Monocacy Chapter, led by Erik Broesicke, who opposed proposed management changes to Saucon Creek, a Class A Wild Trout stream, have led us to suspect that our efforts to conserve wild trout might be better directed to our PATU chapters.

In this light, we are suggesting that each PATU chapter adopt a stream to be removed from the stocking list and try to convince local authorities to approve their request. If you choose to adopt a wild brook trout stream or a stocked Class A stream, so much the better, but many Class C and B streams would also be worthy candidates for this initiative.

If you have further questions about how to proceed with this initiative, please direct them to either or both of the following co-chairs of the PATU Trout Management Committee: Ken Undercoffer at kcoffer@atlanticbb.net or Dick Soderberg at rsoderbe@mansfield.edu.

Book

from page 5

.....
Fundamentals," both with Lefty Kreh. He lives in Boiling Springs, PA.

Henry Ramsay is a part-time guide, instructor, writer and photographer. He is author of "Matching Major Eastern Hatches: New Patterns for Selective Trout" (Stackpole/Headwater) and has written for *Eastern Fly Fishing* and *Fly Fisherman* magazines. His flies have appeared in a number of magazines and books, and he presents at many shows, clubs and Trout Unlimited chapters in the eastern U.S. He is a pro staff member for Daiichi Hooks and Regal Vises, and is a contract fly designer for Umpqua Feather Merchants. He lives in Birdsboro, PA.

Dave Rothrock is a part-time guide and fly fishing and casting instructor (Salmo Trutta Enterprises). His articles have appeared in *Fly Fisherman*, *American Angler* and *Pennsylvania Angler* magazines as well as other publications. His fly patterns have graced the pages of various publications, books and calendars. He has presented programs on fly fishing-related topics to groups throughout the eastern U.S. and Canada and was previously an instructor in the L.L. Bean fly fishing schools. He lives in Jersey Shore, PA.

Brian Shumaker is the owner of Susquehanna River Guides, which specializes in fly fishing for smallmouth bass and other warmwater species. He has guided for over 20 years. He has written articles

for the *Mid-Atlantic Fly Fishing Guide*, has been featured in *Fly Fish America*, and was a contributor to the Susquehanna River Guide. He is a popular speaker at many local and regional clubs and organizations, as well as many fishing and outdoor shows. He is on the pro staff for TFO Rods and Cortland Line Company. He lives in Mount Holly, PA.

Ben Turpin has been fishing Pocono area streams since 1996. He owns and operates Ben Turpin Custom Rod Building and Guide Service (benturpin.com). He has written for *Mid-Atlantic Fly Fishing Guide* and is a popular lecturer and exhibitor at local TU meetings and fishing clubs as well as fly fishing shows. He is currently the stream manager for a private fishing club in the Poconos on McMichael Creek. He lives in Saylorsburg, PA.

Karl Weixlmann started fly fishing in western New York as a teenager and caught his first steelhead in 1983 from Fourmile Creek in Erie, PA, where he has been a fly fishing guide for the last 20 years. A previous contributing writer for the *Erie Times News*, Weixlmann has also written feature articles for *Fly Fisherman* magazine and is the author of "Great Lakes Steelhead, Salmon and Trout: Essential Techniques for Fly

Fishing the Tributaries." He has served as past president of the Pennsylvania Steelhead Association and also the PSA Board of Directors. He lives in Erie, PA.

Contact jnichols@headwaterbooks.com for more information.

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.

Name _____

Street or P.O. _____

City, State & Zip _____

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

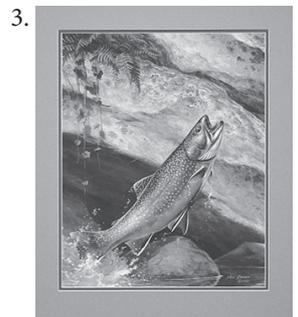
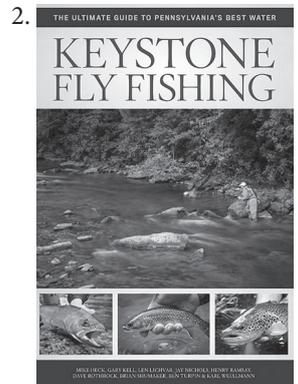
Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ for _____ year(s)

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)	\$5.00		
	Subtotal – Leader Quantity (10 or more)	\$4.50		
	Dan Shields' <i>Fly Fishing PA's Spring Creek</i> Book	\$20.00		
	"More of CVTU's Favorite Flies" Book	\$22.00		
2	"Keystone Fly Fishing" Book	\$30.00		
3	Ned Smith "Sting of the Hook" Print – Unframed	\$148.40		
	Ned Smith "Sting of the Hook" Print – Framed	\$259.70		
4	Little Juniata Patch 2011 – 4"	\$6.00		
	Little Juniata Patch 2011 – 6"	\$10.00		
5	Kinzua Creek Patch 2010 – 4"	\$6.00		
	Kinzua Creek Patch 2010 – 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		
Note:	6% sales tax (where applicable), shipping and handling costs included in unit prices.			
		Total \$		



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

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

and/or summer. Upcoming membership meetings on March 8 and April 12 at 7 p.m. at Monroe County Conservation District, Bartonsville. Our banquet is March 24 at Stroudsmoor Country Inn, Ridgecrest, beginning at 5:30.

Forks of the Delaware Chapter #482

Joe Baylog

610-751-9116, baylogj@gmail.com

www.forkstu.org

The chapter sent a letter to PFBC in support of Class A and wild trout additions up for consideration at the January PFBC meeting, including two unnamed tributaries to Waltz Creek within our chapter's region of Northampton County. We signed on to a TU National letter to congress in support of the Delaware River Basin Restoration Program. We participated with other Lehigh Valley chapters for a presentation on fishing the Lehigh on Dec. 13. We conducted our fall Adopt-

A-Highway cleanup in early November and our annual redd count on three sections of Bushkill Creek around Thanksgiving. The chapter has four TIC programs up and running. The chapter's four-week fly tying course for beginners and intermediate tiers started in January.

Hokendauqua Chapter #535

Dave Abraham

610-844-3459, nymphingguy@gmail.com

<http://hokendauqua.tu.org>

The chapter's fly tying classes began Jan. 7 and runs for eight weeks at Northampton Middle School. Participants tie two different patterns each week for a total of 32 flies by the conclusion. It is free to students in 12th grade and younger plus disabled veterans. For the first time, we had a display at Whitehall's Fall Festival held on the Whitehall-Coply School District campus on Oct. *Continued on page 14 ...*

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Fred Gender

Email: afgender@hotmail.com

Phone: 570-704-8764

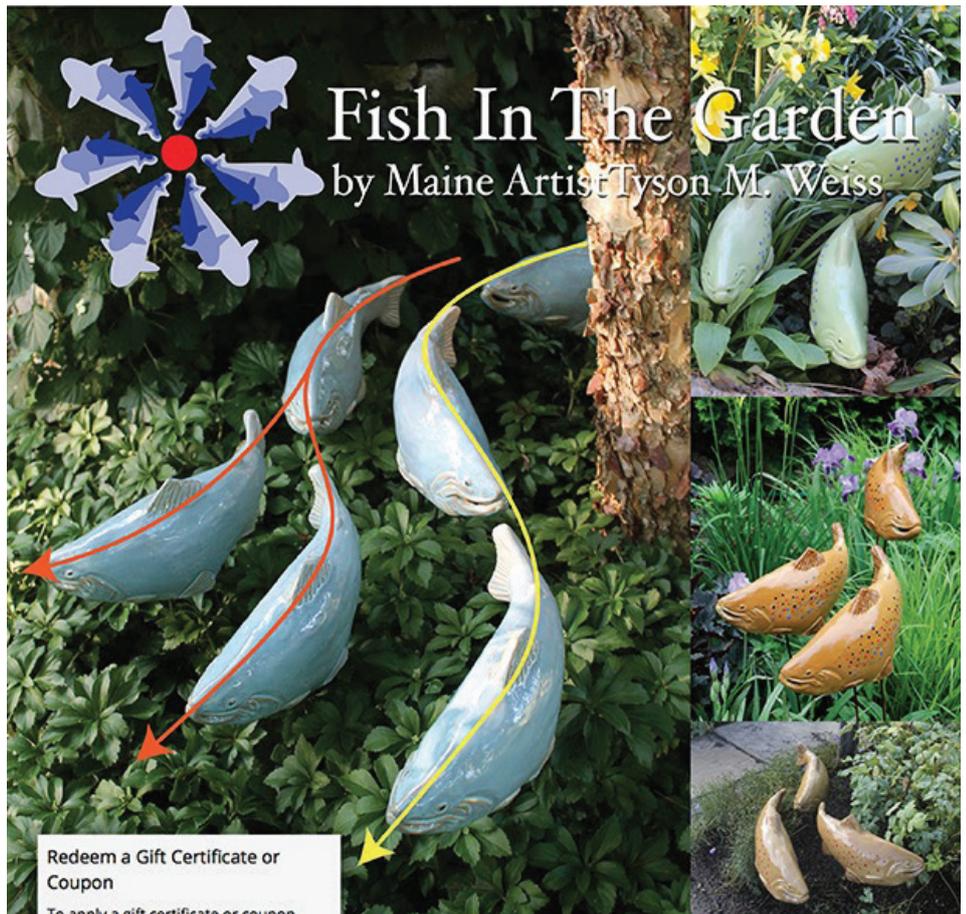
Brodhead Chapter #289

Todd Burns

610-704-4549, tgburns@rcn.com

www.brodheadtu.org

Secretary Eric Baird created a graphical representation of the Chapter Effectiveness Index that will be reviewed, analyzed and discussed by the Board as we begin the process of reviewing the existing our strategic plan. The Pocono Creek: Phase I project in Tannersville is complete. It included diverters, boulder placement and cross-veins. We have turned our attention to planning Phases II and III, which are immediately downstream of the initial phase. Mapping of boulder placements and cross-veins was undertaken and plans are being made to present the project to Pocono Township prior to moving forward in 2017. Due to water line construction upstream of the Phase I site, the chapter was offered boulders for placement in this additional stretch and now a Phase IV is being developed. The chapter is working cooperatively with the Pocono Heritage Land Trust, Pocono Township, Brodhead Watershed Association, Northampton Community College-Monroe and others in seeing this multi-phase project move forward with parking, access and trails. TIC eggs at Swiftwater Intermediate School hatched on schedule and the fry are doing well. Brodhead members took turns leading a multi-session intermediate fly tying course in the fall. We are exploring opportunities for women's events in the upcoming year, preferably in spring



Fish In The Garden by Maine Artist Tyson M. Weiss

Redeem a Gift Certificate or Coupon

To apply a gift certificate or coupon code to this order, please enter the code below and click 'Apply'.

Code:

Coupon Code:
PATU

5% Off And 15% of every purchase benefits the PA Trout Unlimited conservation, education and advocacy programs for Pennsylvania's trout and eco-systems.

5&15 For PA Trout Unlimited
Member Special 5% off online purchase
See more at www.fishinthegarden.net



Follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/PennsylvaniaTU
and Facebook at facebook.com/PennsylvaniaTU

...Continued from page 12

15. On the 16th we displayed at the Walnutport Canal Festival. Ideas for a Women's Initiative for 2017 are coming together. With a new FedEx super hub and associated work there could be issues with sediment washing into the Catasauqua Creek. Northampton County WCO Zach Rudd has been keeping his eyes on the area. He attended our December membership meeting to introduce himself and gave us a brief report on the area streams.

Lackawanna Valley Chapter #414

Adam Nidoh
570-489-1650, info@agoutfitters.com
www.lackawannavalleytu.org

No report.

Monocacy Chapter #491

Erik Broesicke
610-909-2652, monocacytu491@gmail.com
www.monocacytu.org

The four Lehigh Valley chapters hosted their 4th annual Fall Event, which featured SkyBlue Outfitters presenting on the Lehigh River. Our next membership meeting is Feb. 28 at the DAR Log Cabin. Our 15th annual Spring Event is March 4 at East Bath Rod and Gun Club. We host the Fly Fishing Film Tour March 28-29 at Banko Alehouse Cinema at SteelStacks in Bethlehem.

Pike-Wayne Chapter #462

Tony Capitano
570-676-9994, tcapit2@verizon.net
www.pwtu.org

Our annual banquet is April 8 at Lucan's Farm Resort in Hawley. Chapter member Paul Ranello was appointed an associate director by the Pike County Conservation District board. We are exploring habitat restoration work on the Lackawaxen River. Chapter member Fred Donatelli presented about barbless fly fishing on the Connetquot River in Long Island at our last meeting. In January, member John Fedorka presented on fishing the Delaware River. PWTU recently lost two longtime leaders and friends – Charlie Bright and Johnny "Times" Clerci.

Schuylkill County Chapter #537

John Bondura
570-640-5300; jgbond@verizon.net
www.schuylkillcountytu.org

We have partnered with Schuylkill Headwaters Association on a new project in a tributary of Little Schuylkill River. To start, we will be putting in gravel and sand when the weather breaks and further study will be needed to see what else we can do to clean up this waterway. We will continue to finish our New Philadelphia project. In addition, Middleport Township has asked for our help on a stretch of stream going through its borough. Our radio program on WPPA-AM 1360

out of Pottsville is becoming very popular in its second year. The show is from 10-11 a.m. on the third Tuesday of each month. In October, we were at Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation where our members helped over 800 Cub Scouts, parents and siblings fish. They call this Cub Adventure Days, and it is held two different Saturdays every October. Our new TIC project in the Tamaqua area, West Penn Elementary School, asked if we could do a program and we did trout identification and talked about TIC with over 50 students and teachers. Our chapter received an Embrace-A-Stream grant and we also received a small grant from Schuylkill Conservation District.

Stanley Cooper, Sr. Chapter #251

Scott Brady
570-479-6106, jsbrady@bradygrabowski.com
www.sctu.org

No report.

Western Pocono Chapter #203

George Hludzik
570-788-2121, grhlaw@ptd.net

No report.

**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

Jim Lanning
905 Saxton Drive
State College, PA 16801
Email: jlanningvsp@gmail.com
Phone 814-238-2086

Columbia County Chapter #38

Erick Lewis
814-621-8126, ealewis@geisinger.edu

We applied to adopt a section of Route 487 for roadway cleanup adjacent to Fishing Creek and the TU access site. Jeff White and Bob Lewis from the Delaware River Club presented a seminar called "Delaware 101" to chapter members and guests on Nov. 8. The seminar included fishing tactics, casting principles, entomology and fly

selection. On Jan. 10, Ben Sheard from The West Branch Angler presented "Delaware Strategies and Tactics." The Early Bird Sports Expo – Chapter Membership Drive & Fundraiser was Jan. 26-29 at Bloomsburg Fairgrounds, Bloomsburg. We made a chapter trip to The Fly Fishing Show in Somerset on Jan. 28. We'll also be going to The Fly Fishing Show in Lancaster on March 4. Chapter meetings are Feb. 14 and March 14 at the Columbia County Conservation District, 720 Sawmill Road, Bloomsburg. We have a chapter fishing trip to Spring Creek planned for March 25.

God's Country Chapter #327

Dr. Peter Ryan
814-274-8718, drflyfish@yahoo.com

PATU Program Director Tali MacArthur visited Potter County to tour the Upper Allegheny watershed and attend our October chapter meeting. Pete Ryan and Bob Volkmar attended the October quarterly Potter County Water Quality meeting as well as the October and November JKLM Energy stakeholders meetings where Epiphany Environmental introduced its plans for a gas well residual waste water treatment facility in Coudersport. Six members represented GCTU at the Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers annual dinner. We had a booth at the Potter County Falling Leaf/Outdoor Festival Sept. 30-Oct. 1 at Potter County Courthouse Square in Coudersport. Captain Fred Forsythe of Cast Away Charters again agreed to provide a four-person, six-hour charter on Lake Erie as a raffle prize fundraiser for PHWFF. We sent letters of support for PFBC's latest proposal to add Class A wild trout streams. A letter of support was also sent to support the Upper Allegheny Watershed Association's Coldwater Heritage Partnership Implementation Grant proposal to remove Japanese knotweed from the Mill Creek basin. Chapter members helped package and send brook trout eggs and food to TIC classrooms across the state. Ted Bear and Kathy Mitchell set up and did some maintenance on the equipment at the Coudersport Elementary School TIC classroom. A donation of over \$1,600 worth of fly tying supplies was made to the Coudersport High School Fly Fishing Club by the widow of GCTU lifetime member Jon Cowburn.

Lloyd Wilson Chapter #224

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

Our annual banquet was Nov. 4. We are planning another raffle for later in 2017 that will include a Tikka over/under 12 gauge/.222 that was owned by Lloyd Wilson. The chapter sent a letter to PFBC supporting the addition of the proposed streams to the list of Class A wild trout streams. We have TIC programs at Renovo Elementary School and at Jersey Shore High School. Our annual five-session fly tying class begins Feb. 23.

Penns Creek Chapter #119

Joe Dunmire

717-899-6085, jhjazzbo@hotmail.com

Members manned a station at the Reed's Gap State Park Fall Foliage Festival on Oct. 8. TIC classes received eggs on Nov. 4. The Lost Creek project has about half of its structures completed. Work in winter is weather dependent. Our winter social was Dec. 13 at the home of Dottie and Denny Peiffer. Our annual spring banquet is March 4 at Belleville Mennonite School. Greg Hoover is the speaker. Members will assist the Mifflin County Envirothon by manning a fly fishing station on May 4 at Kish Park. We will also help a local youth to attend the Rivers Conservation Camp at Messiah College, and to assist the camp monetarily. We also discussed having a "Day on the Stream" event on April 29. Our next member meeting is Feb. 14 at Lewistown Community Center. Also upcoming are a stream cleanup on April 8 on Lost Creek in Juniata County and a regular monthly meeting on April 11.

R.B. Winter Chapter #124

Bob Laubach

570-966-3379, oldfrstr@dejazzd.com

No report.

Spring Creek Chapter #185

Bob Vierck

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

We visited "Sparrow Run" with US Fish and Wildlife to identify possible location for a project of a tributary to Bald Eagle Creek. The chapter completed a redd count of 22-mile Spring Creek plus portions of the Slab Cabin Run tributary. We completed the cleanup portion of the revitalization of Thompson Run and the dike separating it from the "Duck Pond." This doubled the Thompson Run flow from the spring. Refurbishing of the dike is planned for the spring of 2018. An emergency cleanup was conducted with the Water Resources Monitoring Project on an unnamed tributary of Buffalo Run as a result of a major flooding event. One thousand pounds of metal and 1,500 pounds of recyclable material were removed from the stream. Riparian planting stewardship programs were conducted at the McCoy Dam, Oak Hall, Milesburg and Fisherman's Paradise sites. We reported violation of erosion abatement requirements on Fisherman's Hill. We also organized efforts to require open hearings on a proposal to deepen a quarry below the level of Spring Creek. Dr. Robert F. Carline presented a talk on "Spawning Behavior of Trout in Streams and Lakes" at our November meeting. Our Veterans Services Program hosted a table at the Penn State Veterans Day Tailgate. This event was attended by nearly 10,000 veterans and their families. A teen fishing experience was conducted at the Tussey Mountain pond with the State College Area School

District's Delta Program. The Delta Program also started TIC. We participated with egg packing and shipping on two occasions at the Benner Springs Hatchery. We also set up four TIC programs and the Y Trout program at the YMCA of Centre County. We plan to submit a NFWF grant for two sites for bank stabilization, habitat improvement and erosion prevention on Spring Creek. We are working with four partners to create a grant for bank stabilization, habitat improvement and erosion control on Sparrow Run. Upcoming, our VSP meets Jan. 28, Feb. 12, 19 and 26 at Comfort Suites State College. Penn State's 5 Rivers Club meets Feb. 5 at Comfort Suites State College. Chapter board meetings are Feb. 6 and March 6 at Comfort Suites State College. We have a chapter meeting March 2 with Art Kempf presenting "Fly Fishing in Alaska" at Comfort Suites State College. And our 44th annual dinner and FUNraiser is March 25 at the Ramada State College Hotel & Conference Center.

Susquehanna Chapter #044

Walt Nicholson

**570-447-3600; waltnicholson10@gmail.com
http://susquehannatu.wordpress.com**

We adopted updated chapter bylaws and elected a new slate of officers and directors at the Nov. 9 general meeting. We held a director's meeting on Dec. 14. Directors authorized the treasurer to sell donated fly tying materials, rod making supplies and fishing tackle from an on-line "store," with an anticipated start date of Feb. 1. We donated \$1,000 to Lycoming Creek Anglers to assist with reconstruction of their cooperative fish nursery following damage from a recent flash flood. We wrapped up the Coldwater Heritage Partnership planning project on Rock Run. There was a presentation at the chapter-hosted Watershed Summit on Jan. 11. Fly tying sessions start Feb. 21 and run through April 4. Several local schools are participating in TIC. Shannon White of Penn State University gave a program about her studies in trout behavior at our October general meeting. Bill O'Connor, director emeritus, talked about the founding and history of the chapter at the November general meeting. Upcoming meetings are Feb. 8 and March 8 at 7 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, Williamsport.

Tiadaghton Chapter #688

Jere White

570-662-2167, whitesgordonsetters@gmail.com

Our annual banquet is March 25 at the Penn Wells Hotel in Wellsboro. Barb St. John White will present an update on our EAS project and related work from the USGS lab in Asaph. Several members have been out in the cold helping with culvert assessments in the Pine Creek watershed. We are also partnering with the Pine Creek Watershed Council on its Hemlock Headwaters project, which includes replacing hemlock trees in the riparian buffer that are dying off from an

infestation of the wooly adelgid. Our annual Flies and Lies events will be held from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Jan. 28, Feb. 18 and March 11 at the Wellsboro Community Center in Wellsboro. Galeton Borough is doing a feasibility study to remove or replace the dam in Galeton across Pine Creek. Chapter meetings are the first Monday of every month except July and August at 7 p.m. at the Wellsboro Community Center, Wellsboro.

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 Open

Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036

George Kutskel

**814-371-9290, maksak@comcast.net
www.amctu.org**

The chapter's banquet is April 1 at the Falls Creek Eagles. We are looking at a Coldwater Heritage Partnership grant to do riparian plantings on Montgomery Run to help shade the stream. Several chapter members attended the meeting of stakeholders for the reclamation of Two Mile Run. Also discussed was the Camp/Rock Run reclamation, which the chapter has been working on for 17 years. DEP's Bureau of Abandoned Mines said the "Fran Contracting" site will be re-mined in 2017, adding alkaline material to help stop acid currently leaving this 39-acre site. We are working with the Iron Furnace chapter on the removal of several dams in the Callen Run watershed. These dams have become large sediment holdings, and allow little water for fish along with not permitting the migration of trout in the watershed. We are supporting six TIC classrooms in four different school districts. Environmental Day with DuBois Middle School is May 19 at Camp Mountain Run. We are also working with the DuBois Middle School's fly fishing club and the new environmental science honors program to connect students with hands-on issues in the outdoors. Plans are in the works for holding a fly tying roundtable during the winter months.

Continued on next page...

...Continued from previous page

Caldwell Creek Chapter #437

Tom Savko

814-664-2124, tksavko2@verizon.net

The chapter assisted the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy on six stream projects on Big Brokenstraw Creek, with additional plantings scheduled for spring. We have ongoing water testing with ALLARM. We have four TIC projects up and running. Our annual fly tying classes are at 7 p.m. Wednesdays from March 8 to April 5 at Corry Higher Ed. A fly fishing workshop is April 8 at the Rotary Pavilion on Presque Isle in Erie.

Cornplanter Chapter #526

Troy McDunn

814-723-3759, hdpartsman@verizon.net

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

We attended the Warren Outdoor and Gun Show Jan. 14-15. We are planning a pre-movie presentation by John Norman Maclean – son of Norman Maclean – and showing of the film “A River Runs Through It” on April 7 at Struthers Library Theater, Warren. The chapter is planning to install stream improvement structures in Morrison Run. We are working on both Farnsworth and East Branch of Tionesta Creek with the WINs Coalition and Forest Service to identify specific projects for rehab or enhancement in 2017 and beyond. Habitat improvement or AMD remediation are being considered. Morrison Run activities have been completed except for one that is on private land. We are working with landowner but have not come to an agreement on how and when.

Iron Furnace Chapter #288

Mark Hanes

724-464-7320, m_d_hanes@yahoo.com

www.ironfurnacetu.net

We have made good headway in exchanging the Piney Creek property over to the Alliance for Wetlands and hope to finish the final approvals between the two groups in the coming weeks. Our annual banquet is April 1 at St Joseph's Church in Lucinda. We are in the information gathering stage of the John's Run Fish Passage Project. The hopes are to remove a small dam on the loser end of this quality native brook trout stream that blocks fish passage for any species to move upstream. We need to do a site visit and contact the land owners once we know exactly where the dam is located and whose property it is on. Fly tying classes are from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Feb. 25 and March 4 at the Brookville Masonic Lodge. Our next chapter meeting is Feb. 20 at Sigel Sportsmen's Club.

James Zwald Chapter #314

Murray Neepser

814-834-3472, mneepser@zitomedia.net

In October, the chapter met with shareholders to

thank them for their support of the in-stream habitat project on the East Branch of the Clarion River in Bendigo State Park. The chapter is looking for another project in Elk County as a follow-up to the Bendigo project. Among possibilities discussed is a study of Middle Fork of the East Branch of the Clarion River. We are continuing our year-long assessment of West Creek to determine possible remediation projects on that tributary of the Driftwood Branch of Sinnemahoning. There are 10 TIC programs in Elk and Cameron counties. We are holding six tying and instructional sessions during February and March. Upcoming meetings are the last Tuesday of February and March 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 18 at the Park Inn by Radisson in West Middlesex. A workday was held on Oct. 15 at the Coolspring DHALO area and we were able to accomplish some trail maintenance projects and cleanup of the area. We added a new TIC program this year at Hillview Elementary School in Grove City, but lost another as a teacher decided to take a year off. All other schools are reporting no problems so far this year. Our winter membership meeting is at 10 a.m. Feb. 4 at Munnell Run Farm in Mercer. So far we have Shannon White from Penn State doing a presentation on her study of brook trout migration. There will also be a fly tying demonstration and instruction.

Northwest Chapter #41

Erik Cronk

814-490-4632, ecronk@cronkinsuranceinc.com

<http://nwpachaptertu.blogspot.com>

We had a meeting in November where TU's Eastern Shale Gas Coordinator, Jake Lemon, gave a presentation on volunteer monitoring and citizen science initiatives and how they relate to the watersheds in northwest PA. We are planning another F3T movie night on Feb. 25 at Tom Ridge Environmental Center, Erie.

Oil Creek Chapter #424

Gary Ross

814-337-6931, info@oilcreektu.org

www.oilcreektu.org

One of our founding members, Ron DeWoody, passed away on Nov. 19. Ron was an avid fly fisherman and conservationist, was a longtime member of the chapter and served as treasurer for many years. Our annual Christmas dinner was Dec. 21. We are purchasing items and receiving donations for our annual banquet, scheduled for April 8 at the Quality Inn at Franklin. We have been monitoring the sites of our projects on Little Sandy Creek. Seeding and mulching areas are do-

ing well and the parking lot is in good shape. DEP has expressed interest in coming out to view the site and wants to do a macroinvertebrate study. Our TIC programs received their eggs and are up and running. Upcoming meetings are Feb. 15 and March 15 at King's Restaurant in Franklin.

Seneca Chapter #272

Chase Howard

814-598-3449, chaserhoward@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/SenecaTroutUnlimited

The chapter hosted the 2017 Fly Fishing Film Tour on Jan. 28 at the Coudersport Theater. A pre-show gathering was held at the Hotel Crittenden and featured fly tying demos. Our annual banquet is April 22 at Port Allegany Fire Hall. The chapter partnered with the McKean County Conservation District and received a grant from Shell to implement Agricultural BMP's. Projects will be implemented in the coming year. TIC projects are underway in McKean County schools. Fly tying classes will be held Feb. 21 and 28 and March 7 and 14 for beginner and intermediate tyers at St. Josephs Episcopal Church, Port Allegany. An additional advanced class will be offered March 21 and 28 featuring Dominic Petruzzi of Streamer King Flies, who will be instructing students how to tie predator flies. The chapter has applied for a Watershed Mini-Grant from the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy for water quality monitoring units to be deployed across the county.

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

Chris Burns

123 8th. St.

Oxford, PA 19363

Email: flytyer0406@gmail.com

Phone: 610-235-7299

Bucks County Chapter #254

Dan Weaver

215-219-8574, dweaver@ransome.com

www.buckstu.org

Our annual banquet is March 11 at Spring Mill Country Club. The chapter is working with four TIC schools. Release event will be planned for May or June. Chapter meetings are the first Thursday of each month at Bucks County Fish and Game, Doylestown. Bob Bachman was the speaker in January. Sean Crocker is the speaker in February, and Jerry Coviello will speak in March.

Delco Manning Chapter #320

David Wharton

610-583-2920, davidwharton@verizon.net

www.dmtu.org

We currently have a TIC program with Strath Haven Middle School. Our annual fly tying courses began Jan. 3 and run six sessions on Tuesdays through January and February at Delaware County Field & Stream Association's clubhouse. Monthly meetings are at 6:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month from September to June.

Little Lehigh Chapter #070

Scott Alderfer

610-390-6219, salderfer@gmail.com

www.lltu.org

Board of Directors meetings were held on Oct. 5 and Nov. 2. The drawing for our fall raffle took place on Oct. 5. We provided a commitment letter to Wildlands Conservancy in support of its \$50,000 DCNR grant application that would be used for riparian buffer restoration at 18 sites along nine Lehigh Valley streams. A significant amount of work would be done along the Little Lehigh Creek, and LLTU pledged to provide up to \$3,000 of labor in-kind through volunteer assistance in planting, project planning, and outreach. Eggs arrived for our three TIC schools. We are planning for our 2017 Youth Fly Fishing Camp to be held on the Little Lehigh Creek at Camp Olympic Park, Lower Macungie Twp. on June 3. Rain date is June 10. Wildlands Conservancy applied for a Coldwater Heritage Partnership grant for implementing erosion controls and installing fish habitat structures along a section of the Little Lehigh Creek bordering the Conservancy's Pool Wildlife Sanctuary property in Emmaus. LLTU would provide volunteer assistance with riparian buffer plantings following completion of the in-stream work. Lehigh County Conservation District applied for a CHP grant for a riparian buffer project in an unnamed tributary of the Little Lehigh Creek in Emmaus. We endorsed the project but did not commit to any volunteer hours. There are two local issues we are following: Lehigh County Authority and the City of Allentown, in order to relieve overflows from their sanitary sewers during storm events, has begun the process to apply to DEP for approval to "blend" untreated sewage from their treatment plant into Little Lehigh Creek near its confluence with the Lehigh River. While the impact to the Little Lehigh might be comparatively minor, the

Lehigh River is used for fishing and recreation. Therefore, we find this proposed band-aid solution to be unacceptable. Several LLTU members attended and publicly commented at the Allentown City Council meeting. In November, DEP raised the drought status in Lehigh County to a Drought Warning. The effect of the drought locally was that a section of the Little Lehigh Creek, roughly 0.8 miles long, was rendered dry. This stretch included about one-third of a mile of the upper reach of the upper Fly Fishing Only area. Chapter President Scott Alderfer, along with a handful of local environmental activists, attended Lehigh County Authority's Board Meeting on Nov. 28 to ask that they limit withdrawal from one of their production wells located within close proximity to the creek. They claimed that well showed no significant decrease in its water level elevation during the time that the creek went dry. By the beginning of December, flow had returned to the affected section of the creek. Precipitation at the end of the November was not very noteworthy, so it is unknown whether the baseflow returned to the creek naturally or due to LCA reducing withdrawal from their nearby well. LCA has said they will study the relationship of their groundwater withdrawal activities to the flow conditions in the creek. At our urging, LCA is looking into funding a new USGS stream gauge in the affected reach of the Little Lehigh, because the closest existing gauging station is over eight miles downstream.

Perkiomen Valley #332

Open

www.pvtu.org

A reorganizational meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Feb. 7 at the usual meeting location, the lower floor of the Upper Perkiomen Library in Red Hill. Both an email notice and a letter are being sent to all members. These notices will state for the chapter's members the situation their chapter is in and the ultimate consequences if we cannot fill vacant leadership positions and make the chapter functional again. If anyone is interested in filling one of the vacant positions, or would like more information, please contact Chris Burns, SE Region VP, at 610-235-7299 or flytyer0406@gmail.com with your nomination or questions. The chapter, through Tom Smith, is continuing to work with the schools they already have enrolled in the TIC program.

SE Montgomery County Chapter #468

Richard Terry

215-675-1536, rtroadrash@msn.com

www.tu468.org

Fencing around the trees that had been planted in prior years on the Natural Land Trust in Horsham was reapplied to those that required it. A fall stocking took place in the Pennypack that runs through the Pennypack Natural Land Trust. Due to low water levels, not as many trout were placed

into the stream. Our annual banquet is March 25 at the Pennypack Trust Nature Center.

Tulpehocken Chapter #150

Mark Beard

610-349-6727, meb5746@yahoo.com

www.tullytu.org

In December, we completed construction of our Embrace-A-Stream deflector project on the Tulpehocken. We added two new TIC schools for this year, Glenside School (a Reading inner-city school) and the Amity Elementary Center in the Daniel Boone School District.

Valley Forge Chapter #290

Pete Hughes

610-827-9239; phtrout@comcast.net

www.valleyforgetu.org

Members monitoring stream conditions found dirty water discharges from a construction site. The Chester County Conservation District was called and an inspection resulted in the tightening up of some erosion/sedimentation controls and found a failure due to a sink hole in a basin. Both have been or are in the process of being corrected. A Commonwealth Court panel refused to dismiss all of the petition of the chapter, which filed opposing a deal between the Turnpike Commission and Tredeffrin Township that the chapter claims could place two fine fishing streams at risk. The VFTU appeal of the PA Turnpike's DEP-issued NPDES Permit is moving through the discovery phase. The National Parks Conservation Association has also joined in the appeal and is working with VFTU. We are moving forward with long-designed infiltration projects in the upper Crabby Creek watershed. The three projects will be installed this year with Tredeffrin Township managing the bidding and building of the projects using funding obtained by VFTU from the Schuylkill River Heritage Area grant program, Growing Greener and the Valley Creek Trustee Council. West Valley Creek went dry in the summer of 2016 due to sink holes in the quarry section. Hanson Quarry was very responsive, and plugged the sink holes only to have more occur, which they also plugged and restored stream flow. VFTU is investigating how best to move forward. We are working with local WCO Bob Bonney, West Chester Fish, Game and Wildlife Association and the Paradise Farm Camp, all of who have a vested interest in the outcome. We are working with five TIC schools this year: Valley Forge Middle School, Tredeffrin/Easttown Middle School, Radnor Middle School, the Montgomery School and Pocopson Elementary. Programs for two additional schools are pending. We will be making an application for a Growing Greener grant to restore a section of stream bank and plant a treed riparian buffer on Wilson Run. We will have a table and raffle at the Lancaster

Continued on next page...

...Continued from previous page

Fly Fishing Show March 4-5. Bob Romano will be the guest speaker at our annual Trout Show fundraiser at Great Valley High School on March 18. Monthly meetings are the second Thursday at Chester Valley Grange, Phoenixville Pike, Malvern. The VFTU spring fishing trip is to the Little Juniata on April 28-30. The VFTU Fly Fishing School is May 21 at Paradise Farm Camp.

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

Richard Lewis

148 Crooked Creek Road

Gettysburg, PA 17325

Email: rlewis7575@aol.com

Phone: 301-452-4202

Adams County Chapter #323

Dean Stum

717-379-6270, lmorecast@comcast.net

www.adamscountytu.org

We are currently working with nine individual local schools and one college on TIC projects. Our most recent board meeting was Jan. 17 at the Adams County Ag Building.

Codorus Chapter #558

Tom Fenninez

717-817-8446, tom@codorustu.org

www.codorustu.org

We recently developed a document to help orient new, incoming chapter members. The document contains information about TU in general, as well as our chapter and our home stream. It includes contact information for our chapter leadership, links to our website and social media, and anything else we thought a new member could use. We plan to have both a hard copy and an electronic version available for easy delivery. We are still actively seeking a local youth candidate to sponsor at this year's Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp. We invite any inquiries from any young people in our area that might be

interested in attending. Our TIC projects got off to a great start. We held an open fly tying event at York County's Nixon Park on Jan. 28. We have been conducting a series of rod building classes at the end of our monthly chapter meetings. Upcoming chapter meetings are Feb. 8 and March 8 at Spring Grove Rec Center, Spring Grove.

Cumberland Valley Chapter #052

Tom Miller

717-258-8265; tomimcmillar@comcast.net

www.pacvtu.org

We had a board meeting on Nov. 9 and a members meeting on Nov. 16, a Family Night event with an educational presentation by Jack Hubley on "The Critters and Your Backdoor." Our final board meeting of 2016 was Dec. 14. No membership meeting was held due the holiday season. We are currently planning our annual Limestoner Awards & Fundraising Banquet set for March 17. With the recent transfer of the Allenberry Resort ownership, the chapter remains in communication with the new owners regarding conservation issues along Yellow Breeches Creek, along with discussions of continued public access to the special regulations stretch of the Yellow Breeches. The annual cleanup of the spawning areas of Letort Spring Run was Oct. 1. We are also organizing and launching several "Citizen Science" programs, beginning with completing a redd count survey along the Letort. We will also be coordinating with ALLARM to expand their water sampling database for the Letort by aiding in collection from additional headwater sites. In November, chapter President Tom Miller undertook training through PATU/Coldwater Conservation Corps for benthic macro invertebrate sampling and water quality monitoring. We will utilize the training to monitor the construction of the Mariner East II pipeline as it will affect many native brook trout streams in the Tuscarora State Forest along with crossings of the Letort and Yellow Breeches in their lower reaches. We are currently working with 14 TIC installations in our local schools and working to engage additional resources to further expand the program. Our annual fly tying course began on Jan. 10 and runs through Feb. 28 at Boiling Springs High School. Upcoming member meetings are Feb. 15 and March 15 at Monroe Twp. Fire Hall, Churchtown.

Doc Fritchey Chapter #108

Russ Collins

717-580-3958; rwarrencollins@gmail.com

www.dftu.org

Our annual fundraising banquet is April 1. Ongoing weekly work continues at our diversion wells in the head waters 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. Our permanent in-stream monitor installed in the Stony Creek continues

to provide valuable stream data. To expand the work being done on the Quittapahilla watershed, our chapter has applied to PFBC for a grant to fund a 2,000-foot-plus stream improvement on lower Snitz Creek, a major feeder tributary to the Quittie. We have gotten the recommendation of the PFBC grant review group that they recommend a grant of \$115,000, and now it will move through the next several levels for final approval. We have seven schools participating in the TIC program. Our November speaker was Rocky Powell, whose firm Clear Creeks Consulting outlined several streambank restoration designs and discussed the theory and practice of cold water stream improvement. Rocky has proven to be a valuable resource for the design of stream projects in our footprint, namely for our proposed project on the lower Snitz and the completed two phases of the Quittapahilla Nature Park Project. We intend to investigate and apply for a Growing Greener grant for a potential project on the Bachman Run, a tributary to Quittapahilla Creek. There is a need for livestock fencing and crossing on this important feeder to the watershed.

Donegal Chapter #037

Joy McMaster

717-781-9783; joy.a.mcmaster@gmail.com

www.donegaltu.org

The Lancaster County Community Foundation organizes an Extra Ordinary Day of Giving each November. This was our first time joining 426 other 501c3 organizations in this venture. We received over \$5,000 from 60 donors in 24 hours. Plans are progressing for our spring fundraiser on April 1 at Spooky Nook Sports Center, Manheim. Three projects were completed on Conowingo Creek. One was repairing of structures that moved during high water events. Work recently started on Fishing Creek at the Drumore Township Park. Trees will be planted here as weather permits. We recently received approval from the PA Historical & Museum Commission to replace a culvert on a farm on Climbers Run. This will be our first fish passage project. Our nursery at Millport Conservancy was put to bed for the winter. This year we provided trees for our own projects and for Lancaster City, Lancaster County Conservation District, Warwick Township, Chesapeake Bay Foundation and Stroud Water Research Center. A few chapter members and their friends have joined our water monitoring team and routinely sample Conowingo Creek and Fishing Creek. They are assisted by the Lancaster County Conservancy and their results are recorded with the County Conservation District. On Dec. 7, the PA Businesses for the Bay Forum visited Climbers Run Nature Preserve. Jenna Mitchell and Greg Wilson presented an overview of the restoration work that was done on this section of Climbers Run and the resulting impact for the Chesapeake Bay. Trout eggs were delivered to our 14 TIC classrooms. We are again having our winter fly tying gatherings

on the second Saturday of January, February and March. Millersville University is in the process of forming a fly fishing/conservation club. Their advisor has asked for our support as they work to become a recognized 5 Rivers Club. We have applied for two 319 grants for Conowingo Creek. The first is for the Woy project, which includes land on both sides of the creek owned by three families. Also included in the grant is two small projects on the Lloyd property. This request is for \$254,282. The second application, for \$58,000, is for design and permitting on the Phillips property. In November, KiKi Galvin, owner of Ms. Guided Fly Fishing in Virginia, spoke on "more time fishing, less time with equipment." She is a very knowledgeable and engaging speaker. Our next chapter meeting is at 7 p.m. Feb. 15 at Farm & Home Center, Lancaster. Skelly & Loy will present "Natural Stream Channel Restoration." On March 15, Shannon White will present "Brook Trout Research." Winter fly tying will be from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Feb. 11 and March 11 at Stauffers of Kissel Hill Grocery Store, Lititz.

Falling Spring Chapter #234

Rod Cross

717-264-2747, crcross@comcast.net

Planning has started for a cleanup on a section of Falling Spring with the help of Sen. Richard Alloway. The chapter is planning a Family Fishing Day in May on the Conococheaque Creek. On March 6, we are hosting author and conservationist Tom Gilmore, who will present "The Best of Pennsylvania Blue Ribbon Trout Streams" and have a book signing for his latest book "Flyfishers Guide to Pennsylvania." The event will be held at 6 p.m. at the Grove Family Library, Chambersburg. Our annual fly tying classes began Jan. 4 at Norlo Park Community Center. The Falling Spring Invitational with Veterans is May 13 at the Gabler property on Falling Spring and Waltonian Meadow along the Conococheaque.

John Kennedy Chapter #045

George Baker

814-942-5623; george@myfiorebuickgmc.com
www.tu.org/connect/groups/045-john-kennedy

The Halter Creek stream project was completed in November, and a log jam was removed. We have five area schools enrolled in the TIC program. On Nov. 30, Creg Strock and Fred Smith delivered 13 sets of fly-tying vices and tools to Spring Cove Middle School in Roaring Spring. At our November meeting, Jim Eckenrode, Blair County Conservation District water specialist, presented a program update on water quality monitoring in the Little Juniata River and Frankstown Branch. Bill Anderson from the Little Juniata River Association presented at our December meeting and highlighted the history of the river and the valuable habitat it provides to the wild brown trout. The river has proven resilient to various negative impacts over the years. In

2017 we will be focusing on increasing participation regarding stream projects and conservation. Dave Allbaugh spoke at our Jan. 3 meeting and presented on fishing with wet flies. The chapter's annual fly tying classes run Jan. 14 to March 4. Final preparations are being planned for the annual Jaffa Sports Show in February. We are currently working with Phil Thomas, TU National habitat coordinator on a brook trout habitat for Kelso Run Stream to create better stream conditions for the trout. Work on this project is currently being planned and slated for completion in August.

Muddy Creek Chapter #575

Beth Boyd

717-404-7642; yncurse@gmail.com
www.muddycreektu.org

Our annual co-op letter was mailed late in the fall and so far has had great return. We continue to work with the Bonham Reservation project. We completed the last Pine Run monitoring, which officially closes the project. Streamside incubators were repaired and eggs placed in November. Our third grade TIC classroom is having great success. Chapter meetings are the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Felton Pizza Shop.

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

1898 Old Route 22

Duncansville, PA 16635

Email: wintershs27@gmail.com

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

Arrowhead Chapter #214

Jeff Wasson

724-664-0216; jeffreyjwasson@gmail.com
www.arrowhead214tu.org

The chapter secured funding for our Hulings Run project. We started a new TIC program at South Butler Intermediate School. Fly tying

classes began Jan. 10 at Armstrong Jr.-Sr. High School. Our annual banquet is March 18 at the Ford City CU Club. The chapter's next meeting is Feb. 16 at Mantini's Auxiliary Building, and our March Madness fly tying event is March 16 at the Ford City CU Club.

Chestnut Ridge Chapter #670

Dale Kotowski

724-747-1513, pheasantfarmflycasters@hughes.net
www.chestnutridgetu.org

On Nov. 12, Chestnut Ridge hosted a benthic macroinvertebrate training session led by TU Eastern Shale Gas Coordinator Jake Lemon at Ohiopyle State Park. Approximately 20 attendees learned the protocol for collecting samples, calculating water quality, identification of macro-invertebrates and practiced techniques for collecting samples. The chapter's Christmas party was Dec. 14. Alkaline sand was placed in the headwaters of Glade Run this fall. Glade Run is a major tributary of Dunbar Creek and has a history of AMD damage. A treatment facility on Glade Run and sand deposition on Big and Little Piney has led to Glade's recovery and to 12 years of documented brook trout reproduction. An electro-shock survey completed in July 2016 found 4-5 year classes of brook trout along with numerous sculpin and dace. Our 23 TIC programs are doing well. Plans are being made to increase the number of full day outings for the students' trout release days. On April 21-23, the chapter will assist the Ohiopyle State Park DCNR staff in conducting a retreat for veterans. This fly fishing weekend will be held in partnership with Project Healing Waters. For information please contact Dale Kotowski at 724-747-1513.

Forbes Trail Chapter #206

Monty Murty

724-238-7860; mmurty@verizon.net
www.forbestrailltu.org

As the Forbes Trail Chapter approaches its 45th year in Westmoreland County, we are fortunate to have a new home for our chapter meetings and events. Our long-time partner organization, the Loyalhanna Watershed Association has recently completed renovating a farm with a house and barn it acquired through the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. The Watershed Farm remains a working farm leased for environmentally friendly beef cattle raising. The farmhouse was remodeled as watershed offices, and the barn was repurposed as an environmental education center. A grant from the estate of the former Thomas Nimick of Ligonier created the state-of-the-art Nimick Family Education Center located at 6 Old Lincoln Highway West, Ligonier. The chapter meets on the third Thursday of most months at 7:30 p.m. We are raising funds to outfit the

Continued on next page...



**PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL
OF TROUT UNLIMITED**
Post Office Box 5148
Bellevue, PA 16823

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Lancaster, PA
Permit No. 280

...Continued from previous page

education center with top-quality, American-made fly tying equipment, and web-based audio/visual technology to support TU Stream of Engagement life-long learning programs.

Fort Bedford Chapter #291

Guy Stottlemeyer

814-207-1930, gmstottlemeyer817@gmail.com
www.fortbedfordtu.org

No report.

Ken Sink Chapter #053

Roger Phillips

724-639-9715, rphillips32@yahoo.com
<http://kensink.blogspot.com>

We donated to the Kiski-Conemaugh Stream Team to offset expenses they occurred last year. Matthew Colians was introduced to the board as the new WCO in the area that serves our chapter. We had a meeting and are planning to the spring banquet, which will be held on April 8. We, in a partnership with the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, donated for stream restoration and tree planting. Fly tying classes are scheduled from the beginning of February to March. Undergraduate student Eli Beal presented his results of the electroshock survey of Two Lick Creek and graduate student Karli Rogers presented her results on

brook trout movements through culverts in Loy-alsock Creek watershed.

Mountain Laurel Chapter #040

Randy Buchanan

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

Our banquet is April 1 at the Holiday Inn, Johnstown. A permit application was submitted for stream habitat work on Potter Creek in cooperation with Bedford County Conservation District. Negotiations are underway with a landowner for habitat work on Yellow Creek in conjunction with PFBC. We will be assisting the Yellow Creek Coalition with a stream project in the fly fishing only section of Yellow Creek in conjunction with Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. Hopefully permits

will also be obtained for continued work on Bens Creek and Quemahoning Creek. All is going well with our TIC programs. We are in the process of setting up release dates with the schools. Fly tying classes began in January at Gander Mountain, Johnstown. They run each Monday and Saturday for six weeks.

Penn's Woods West Chapter #042

Dale Fogg

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

Our annual Cabin Fever event is Feb. 19 at the Marriott Pittsburgh North in Cranberry Township. On Jan. 23 we held a family rod building class at Grazie Events Center in Wexford. Our next chapter meeting is Feb. 13 at Grazie's.

Calendar of Events

Feb. 25 – PATU Eastern Regional Leaders Training, Pine Grove, PA

March 4 – PATU Western Regional Leaders Training, Dubois, PA

March 18 – PA Pipeline Construction Monitoring Training, Palmerton, PA

April 8 – Spring EXCOM Meeting, Pleasant Gap, PA

June 25 – Summer EXCOM Meeting, Pleasant Gap, PA

Sept. 23 – Fall Annual Membership Meeting, TBD

Sept. 24 – Fall EXCOM Meeting, TBD