

Pennsylvania TROUT



Fall 2021

Publication of the Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited

www.patroul.org

Register now for Keystone Coldwater Conference

Mark Your Calendar! The 2022 Keystone Coldwater Conference will be held February 25-26, 2022 at the Ramada Inn & Conference Center in State College.

This year we are pleased to announce that we are partnering with the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Fisheries Society to host the event. This year's theme is "Learning from the Past, Adapting for the Future." We are excited to see what has been happening in the world of

fisheries and coldwater conservation over the past two years since the last conference. With the addition of PA-AFS, we anticipate even more great presentations and networking opportunities.



Registration is now open at www.coldwaterconference.org.

The planning committee is now accept-

ing proposals for workshops, presentations and posters.

We are also seeking sponsors to help us offset the costs of the conference. For \$100, chapters can enable two students to attend at a reduced student rate. To learn about other sponsorship levels, view the tentative schedule, or submit a presentation idea, please visit the conference website.

Contact Rachel Kester with questions at c-rkester@pa.gov or 814-359-5233.

Penn's Woods West TU shines

By Judi Sittler

TU Board of Trustees member

PATU Youth Education Chair

Spring Creek TU Youth Education Chair

The Penn's Woods West chapter has a lot to brag about. Chuck Buffington is president of the chapter. Bryan Mathie is the chapter's Conservation Chair and is also PATU's Southwest Regional Vice President. He holds monthly Zoom meetings with all the chapter leaders of the Southwest Region.

The PWWTU chapter also has Jodie Minor and Nora Cline, leaders of the Women's Fly-Fishing Group that is *setting the standard* for how to form and maintain a women's group within a chapter.

"I am an ardent supporter and volunteer with the PWWTU Women's Group and support their amazing efforts," Mathie said.



Contributed Photo

The Penn's Woods West TU Women's Group met the Spring Creek TU Women Anglers for an outing on Spring Creek on Oct. 16.

The Women's Group has been building momentum since 2016 when Jodi and Nora decided to establish a women's group within the chapter. They started simple and small, attending all chapter functions being sure there was female representation. They now have a very well-established group that organizes activities each month.

One recent event had them spending a weekend on Spring Creek fishing and socializing with the women of the Spring Creek chapter.

If you want to know how to incorporate more women into your chapter's activities, just ask one of these leaders from the Penn's Woods West TU chapter.

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Pennsylvania TROUT

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Awards presented at PATU's 2021 Annual Meeting

Due to ongoing concerns about the pandemic, the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited elected to conduct its 2021 Annual Meeting via Zoom teleconference on Saturday, Sept. 18. Capping off the meeting was the virtual presentation of the 2021 Annual Awards to the following deserving chapters and individuals.

Edward Urbas Award for Best PA Chapter – Donegal Chapter

This award is given to the chapter that best exemplifies the work of TU, including involvement in conservation efforts, community activities, outreach, youth activities, etc.

Best Small Chapter Award – Fort Bedford Chapter

The same criteria as used in the Edward Urbas Award, but it is limited to chapters with 150 or fewer members.

Best Chapter Project – Muddy Creek Chapter

This award recognizes an exceptional initiative, project, or effort on the part of a TU chapter which demonstrates efficient use of resources and which utilizes effective partnerships with other organizations such as government agencies, other non-profits, schools, etc., and which had a notable impact on the community and/or environment.

Doc Fritchey Award for Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist, TU Member – Russ Collins

This award recognizes a TU member with a history of exemplifying PATU's core values and mission- conserving, protecting, and restoring PA's coldwater fisheries and watersheds – and who demonstrates a commitment to volunteerism.

Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist, Professional – Kathleen Lavelle

This award recognizes an individual, either from a governmental agency, private enterprise, or non-profit organization, who has made an exceptional effort to help fulfill the TU mission of conserving, protecting, restoring, and sustaining PA's coldwater fisheries and watersheds.

Outstanding Volunteer – Fred Wilt

This award recognizes a person who, while not necessarily a member of TU or a conservationist professional, was particularly helpful and who contributed time and effort to supporting a TU chapter or project.

Best Chapter Website – Doc Fritchey Chapter

Chapter's website particularly attractive, clear, up-to-date and easy to navigate.

Samuel Slaymaker Award for Best Chapter Newsletter – Muddy Creek Chapter

Chapter's newsletter includes information about the chapter's activities that is current, well-presented and clear, and is visually attractive.

Dr. Jack Beck Award for Outstanding Youth Outreach – No nominations submitted

This award recognizes an individual who has shown exceptional leadership and commitment to youth outreach, programs, and activities.

Ken Sink Award for Outstanding Service to PATU – Mike Romanowski (posthumous)

This award is given to a person who contributes to PATU's mission in a notable way. It is intended to recognize a person who has been involved for a significant period of time and who has demonstrated steadfast dedication to coldwater conservation, protection, restoration, as well as volunteerism and leadership. It is not necessarily presented every year.

Inky Moore Award for Outstanding Service to State Council – Rachel Kester

This award recognizes a person who through his or her recent efforts shows promise as a future leader of the organization.

Diversity Award – No nominations submitted

This award recognizes a chapter that demonstrates diversity among the members in the chapter.

PATU officers elected for 2021-22

The following officers were elected to serve one-year terms at PATU's Annual Meeting, conducted via Zoom teleconference on Sept. 18. Their terms run from Oct. 1, 2021 through Sept. 30, 2022.

President – Greg Malaska
Executive Vice President, Eastern PA – Bobby Hughes
Executive Vice President, Western PA – Len Lichvar
Treasurer – Russell Thrall
Secretary – Erick Lewis
National Leadership Council Representa-

tative – Russ Collins
Regional Vice President, Northeast Region – Todd Burns
Regional Vice President, Southeast Region – Rick Nyles
Regional Vice President, South Central Region – Jimmy O'Connor
Regional Vice President, Northwest Region – Kelly Williams
Regional Vice President, Southwest Region – Bryan Mathie
Regional Vice President, North Central Region – Gary Parzanese

PFBC seeks Freeman Run comments

PATU is asking for your assistance in communicating support for Council's position against the stocking of Freeman Run in Potter County.

This stream has approximately 12 miles currently classified as Class A Wild Trout, with the uppermost section qualifying for brook trout and the lower three sections qualifying for brown trout. Historically, it had been stocked by a local cooperative hatchery.

PATU's position against continuing to stock this Class A wild trout stream is outlined and explained in the Council letter sent to the PFBC on Dec. 1. The letter is available to view in the News & Notes section at patrout.org.

Many of you may be aware that cur-

rently there are 12 stream sections within the nine Class A streams in Pennsylvania where stocking is permitted. There would appear to be a trend toward providing more exceptions. Should Freeman Run be added to the exception list, the total will continue to increase, and pressure will mount for continued rollbacks.

Council is requesting that your comments be forwarded to the PFBC in support of PATU's position no later than Jan. 4, 2022.

Comments can be sent via email to Ms. Yvonne Grier (PFBC Executive Secretary) at yvgrier@pa.gov or mailed to: Commissioners of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, c/o Ms. Yvonne Grier, P.O. Box 67000, Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000.

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OPEN

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Headwaters

A message from PATU President
Greg Malaska

(The comments below are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the position of the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited.)

By now, you probably have read certain online articles regarding the impact of catch-and-release, fishing during drought, and access to streams during this crazy 2021. The common theme is that the recent uptick in fishing participation has caused overcrowding and bad behavior on many western rivers, which may have a detrimental impact on trout populations and the fisheries in general.

I generally don't like to use this space as a soapbox, but I feel a response is warranted.

I'll preface my comments by stating what I believe is truth: Myself, and many other TU members, came to conservation through angling, not the other way around. From Snoopy rods and bobbers, to spinning gear, lures, and flies, as we get older, our angling tactics and perspectives change. The more we fish, the more we understand the fishery and its challenges.

Let's also recognize our unique situation here in Pennsylvania. We have about 13 million people and close to a million anglers, the vast majority of which purchase trout stamps. All of these anglers have a right to enjoy our lakes, rivers, and streams. If we factor in Pennsylvania's rather small land area, we have one of the highest angler densities in America.

Pennsylvania has the most diverse trout fishery in America. We also have more stream miles than any state other than Alaska. Let's just say it – we have the best trout fishing resource in America.

Focus on what I just said. We have the best trout fishing resource. A resource is something that is used, something we derive value from, whether it be professional, for example, a fishing guide or lodge owner, or for some other reason, primarily recreation.

Many Keystone State residents recreate on public lands. For the vast majority of Pennsylvanians, our State Game Lands,

state parks, state forests, national forests and county parks are the only game in town.

The last two years, perhaps more than at any other period in my lifetime, have proven how much we need and value our trout fisheries and public land resources.

Another finite resource we haven't really incorporated into this discussion is perhaps our most important...time.

Me, personally, I have a professional job, an hour commute (each way), a healthy marriage, two wonderful daughters (who each have their own things going on), I serve on a trade group board, and am president of PATU. I get up every day at 4 a.m. just to make everything fit. Our free time spent on-stream is invaluable in keeping a balance in our lives.

Against this backdrop, I struggle with drawing lines in the sand on how we spend that precious time.

So, what do I believe is our role here at PATU?

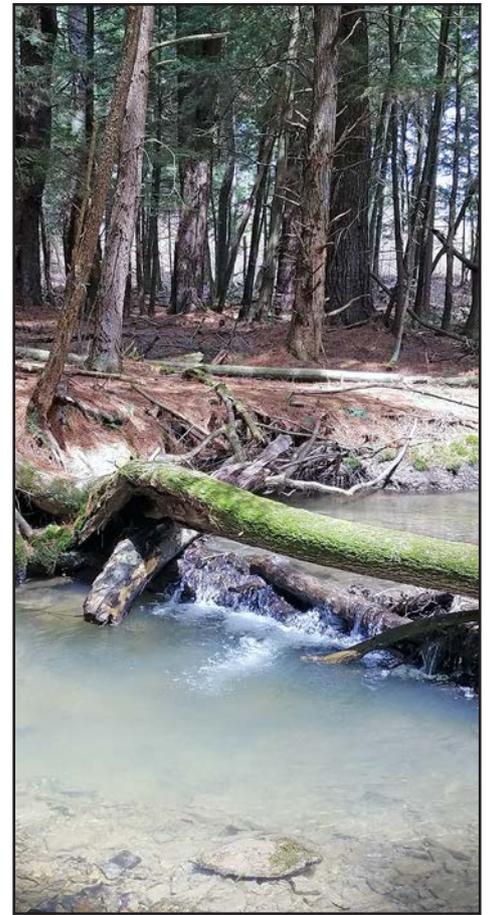
First, we are not the Thought Police. It's important for an organization to have a free flow of new and evolving viewpoints. Thus, while I may disagree with the positions taken in some pieces, I respect every person's right to express them.

Second, I think our role as conservationists is to educate our members and the public of the importance of the resource and rely upon them to use their best judgment in managing it.

After three years as president of PATU, I really do *trust* you, our members. I *trust* you to use your best judgment regarding fishing in marginal water temperature. I *trust* you to use your best judgment in keeping fish out of water for photographs. I *trust* you to use your best judgment about when, how, and how many fish you catch. I have really never met a TU member who desired to harm the resource. Let's *trust* each other to exercise some prudence to protect the coldwater fisheries we love so much.

We don't need to dictate what we should already know. Don't be a slob. Don't exploit the resource. Know that your actions have consequences.

Let's also have some faith in the guide industry. Most guides I know are some of our best coldwater conservationists. If the



Brad Isles Photo

From guides to conservationists, as PATU members, it's often necessary to trust each other and exercise some prudence when protecting the coldwater fisheries we love so much – especially when it comes to those hard-to-reach places deep into PA's public lands.

fishery suffers, it directly impacts their ability to put food on tables, clothes on backs, and roofs over heads. Let's *trust* them to continue to be the stewards they have always been.

The father of modern forestry, and a fellow Pennsylvanian, Gifford Pinchot, once wrote: "Where conflicting interests must be reconciled, the question shall always be answered from the standpoint of the greatest good of the greatest number in the long run."

Our public lands and coldwater fisheries are for the public. We don't live in a nature preserve.

Instead, we live in a world where every year we see more anglers from more diverse backgrounds enjoying our public resources. Let's quit trying to put this new energy in a box. That is the One TU that I envision. Thanks for listening.

Treasurer's Report

by PATU Treasurer
Russell Thrall

As I sit down to write this report on Thanksgiving weekend, I'm looking out the window at the first snowfall of the year here in the Poconos. During this time spent with friends and family we give thanks for all we have been blessed with this tumultuous year.

The coming of the holiday season also means it's the time year for PATU's Annual Appeal for support. The Annual Appeal went to the printer the week before Thanksgiving and should hit your mailbox in December. (Fingers crossed that the weather and USPS cooperate this year!)

I'd be remiss if I didn't give thanks for the generosity of the PATU members and other supporters who donated over \$23,000 in response to last year's appeal.

The Annual Appeal is a key source of the funding that Council uses to support coldwater conservation across Pennsylvania including our education and advocacy work as well as provide funding for grants.

Through the increased support we have received, we've been able to afford the match required to secure additional government reimbursement grants to promote programs such as STREAM Girls, Trout in the Classroom and our Women and Diversity Initiatives.

We also provided grants to PATU Chapters to support their local efforts through our Forever Wild Grant program. In ad-



dition, we are working on a social media and outreach campaign to promote the great work our volunteers do all across the Commonwealth and the importance of coldwater conservation.

If you are reading this before December 31, taxpayers can again receive a special benefit in 2021 due to an extension of the special deduction passed as part of the Federal coronavirus relief spending package last year.

According to the Internal Revenue Service this special tax provision will allow more Americans to easily deduct up to \$600 in donations to qualifying charities, like PATU, on their 2021 federal income tax return.

Ordinarily, people who choose to take the standard deduction cannot claim a deduction for their charitable contributions. But the temporary law change now permits them to claim a limited deduction on their 2021 federal income tax returns for cash contributions made to qualifying charitable organizations.

Chapter Donations

Thank you to all chapters that donated to State Council in support of the Trout Unlimited mission over the past six months.

Exceptional Value \$1,000 or more

- Cumberland Valley
- Valley Forge

High Quality \$500 to \$999

- Allegheny Mountain
- Neshannock

Brook Trout \$250 to \$499

- Adam's County
- Donegal
- Oil Creek

Wild Trout \$100 to \$249

- Hokendauqua

Under this provision, individual tax filers, including married individuals filing separate returns, can claim a deduction of up to \$300 for cash contributions made to qualifying charities during 2021. The maximum deduction is increased to \$600 for married individuals filing joint returns.

If you haven't donated to the Appeal yet, please visit the PATU website (www.patroul.org) at any time and click on DONATE to help support the work of all the great TU volunteers throughout the Commonwealth.

The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited has more than 15,000 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 12-16.

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



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EBTJV accepting proposals for brook trout habitat projects

Funding for brook trout habitat projects through the National Fish Habitat Partnership is now open and accepting applications, with a deadline of Jan. 21, 2022 for uploading application materials to the EBJTV website at www.easternbrooktrout.org.

Please see the website for the complete RFP announcement. Full project funding guidelines and application materials are also available.

The Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture (EBTJV) is requesting project proposals that are focused on Brook Trout conservation actions. Federal funding is available through the National Fish Habitat Partnership as outlined under the America's Conservation Enhancement Act of 2020. You can find the full Act here. EBTJV will score and rank proposals for consideration by the NFHAP board and the Department of the Interior.

Funding for FY2023 projects will likely not be appropriated by Congress until after January 2023 and will likely not be available to project leaders until March 2023 or later. Actual project start date will be the date grant agreement funding documents are signed. Project objectives must be met

within the program timeline once the grant agreement is executed.

The maximum award amount for an individual project is \$50,000. These funds can only be used for on-the-ground brook trout habitat conservation and restoration projects in the native eastern range, and related design and monitoring activities.

To ensure available funding is being directed most effectively, proposed projects must be geared toward meeting the EBTJV's range-wide habitat goals and objectives, as well as its key conservation actions. Projects must also fall under at least one of the NFHAP National Conservation Priorities.

EBTJV prioritizes projects that are most likely to be fully implemented in the two-year EBTJV/NFHAP project performance period. Additionally, the ACE Act places an emphasis on projects that increase recreational fishing opportunities through habitat improvements, that benefit the local economy, and that have a public educational component. EBTJV projects have historically incorporated each of these elements. New requirements under the ACE act include a 1:1 nonfederal match and an evaluation plan for assessing the results of

the project and for measuring the associated improvements to fish populations, recreational fishing opportunities, and the local economy.

Please contact the EBTJV Coordinator if you have a project on Tribal land or if you have a project request that includes real property acquisition, as we are awaiting more guidance on these.

Applicants will be notified of their project's ranking and funding status as that information becomes available. Successful applicants will be required to complete a separate series of documents to receive the funds, in coordination with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact their state EBTJV representative early in the process (EBTJV State Contact List).

Thank you for your interest in partnering with EBTJV to help us fulfill our mission to secure resilient populations of wild Brook Trout by protecting, enhancing, and restoring aquatic habitat and increasing human connections to, and stewardship of, our natural environment.

For questions, please contact: Lori Maloney, EBTJV coordinator, lori.maloney@canaanvi.org.

In Brief

DEP invites comments on stream evaluations for 85 Trout Waters

The Department of Environmental Protection published notice in the Dec. 11 *PA Bulletin* inviting comments on a draft stream evaluation report covering 85 streams and stream segments in 31 counties classified by the Fish and Boat Commission as Class A Wild Trout Waters.

The counties include Berks, Blair, Cambria, Cameron, Carbon, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Columbia, Crawford, Dauphin, Elk, Erie, Forest, Franklin, Indiana, Jefferson, Lehigh, Luzerne, Lycoming, McKean, Mifflin, Monroe, Northampton, Perry, Potter, Schuylkill, Snyder, Tioga, Venango and York.

A copy of the report is available to view in the News & Notes section at patrout.org.

Read the entire PA Bulletin notice for

information on how to comment. At www.pacodeandbulletin.gov. Questions should be directed to Mark Brickner, Water Quality Division, mbrickner@pa.gov or 717-787-9637.

Mahn appointed to PFBC's Board of Commissioners

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) is pleased to announce the appointment of John Mahn, Jr., to its Board of Commissioners. Governor Wolf's appointment of Mahn was confirmed by the state Senate on December 15.

Mahn of Charleroi, Washington County was confirmed as District 2 commissioner, and will serve a four-year term representing Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Washington, and Westmoreland counties.

"This is a once in a lifetime opportunity



Mahn

and I'm very grateful to the Governor and everyone else who has helped me reach this position where I hope to make a real difference," Mahn said. "Boating safety is one of my greatest concerns, and I'm hopeful

that we can work to reduce the number of boating fatalities in Pennsylvania."

Mahn becomes the first African American appointed to the Board of Commissioners.

A life-long outdoor enthusiast, Mahn has served on the PFBC's Boating Advisory Board since August 2017. He holds a bachelor's degree from Franklin and Marshall College and is retired from a career in steel industry management.



Contributed Photo

PATU's WDI Committee is offering three free trainings for chapters to share what others are doing, ideas on how chapters can get started and more.

Women, Diversity, Inclusion Committee offers free training for PATU chapters

PA TU Women, Diversity, Inclusion Committee is offering three free trainings for interested Trout Unlimited chapters.

PRESENTERS

Amidea Daniel (PA Fish and Boat Commission; PATU Women, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee Co-Chair) and Kelly Williams (Clearfield County Conservation District; PATU Regional VP; and PATU Women, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee Co-Chair).

DESCRIPTION

Through their presentation, Amidea and Kelly will introduce you to PATU's Women, Diversity and Inclusion work that has been occurring in PA. They will share what other organizations/chapters are doing, ideas on how to get started, and suggestions on how to sustain what is started.

Diversity covers many avenues, from

age, gender, social, and economic backgrounds, to ethnic, and family backgrounds, and much more. Just as diversity is important for healthy stream ecosystems, so too is its importance for organizations like TU in order to sustain the hard work, and dedication of protecting, conserving, and enhancing the waters – and trout – we love and enjoy.

REGISTER

January 12, 2022 (6-8 p.m.) – <https://tu.myeventscenter.com/event/Patu-Women-Diversity-And-Inclusion-Virtual-57979>

February 16, 2022 (6-8p.m.) – <https://tu.myeventscenter.com/event/Patu-Women-Diversity-And-Inclusion-Virtual-57981>

March 16, 2022 (6-8 p.m.) – <https://tu.myeventscenter.com/event/Patu-Women-Diversity-And-Inclusion-Virtual-57982>

Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp accepting apps

The Cumberland Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited is holding the 27th annual Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp June 19-24, 2022. The camp will be at Messiah University in Grantham, PA. It begins on Sunday and ends the following Friday. Admission is limited to 24 selected qualified students from 14 to 17 years of age.

The camp began accepting early applications for the 2022 camp on Nov. 1. Applying via the camp website is preferred. The deadline for early acceptance is Dec. 31. Students selected for the early acceptance will be notified in early January 2022. Applicants who apply during the regular application period of Jan. 1-Feb. 28 will be notified in early March 2022.

The camp tuition is \$550 per student. There is no cost to apply, and no money is required until a student is accepted. Financial aid may be available to qualified students. All meals and accommodations are included for the residence camp.

The highly structured curriculum is based on college level classes. Students are instructed in ecology, aquatic biology, geology, hydrogeology, erosion and sediment 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, casting, and fishing instruction and fly-tying classes. Over 25 instructors, all experts in their field, teach the various classes. 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.

For more information, a camp brochure, or to apply, visit the camp website at www.riverscamp.com. Be sure to watch the camp video there or join us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/49190088991/about>. Questions may be submitted at the website or via email to riverscamp@gmail.com.

Calendar of Events

- Jan. 16:** WDI Committee Training
- Jan. 23:** Winter EXCOM Meeting
- Feb. 16:** WDI Committee Training
- Feb. 25-26:** Keystone Coldwater Conference
- March 16:** WDI Committee Training
- April 24:** Spring EXCOM Meeting
- July 17:** Summer EXCOM Meeting
- Oct. 16:** Fall EXCOM Meeting

Fly Patterns of Pennsylvania

by Nick Cobler

CDC LOOPED WING BWO EMERGER

A deadly pattern that works year round, but especially well in the fall!

Fly Design / Highlights

- Utilizes an interesting mix of readily available materials
- Sits low in the water surface film
- Easily adaptable for a variety of mayfly emerger types

Background

If you've been following along, you know I lean toward tying patterns that aren't very complicated, utilize easily found materials and have proven their effectiveness on the water. This is another fly that fits that bill. In those cool, cloudy fall days, it can save the day. It rides lower in the surface film and will provoke those feeding trout that are interested in easier meals. Tie up some loop wings in various sizes and hit the water now before it gets too darn cold.

About the Fly Pattern Designer

Please don't credit me for this fly design in any way. I really have no idea how this style of pattern came into being – but I'm certainly glad it did. And I really hope you find success tying and fishing it. Be sure to try tailing it behind a larger dry fly that might be more visible to you on the water. Or try fishing it by itself and try picking off those sipping trout as they fatten up for the winter season. Experiment by substituting materials and learn the sequence of tying this great fly. Maybe you'll come up with your own version that will fool those finicky fall fish!



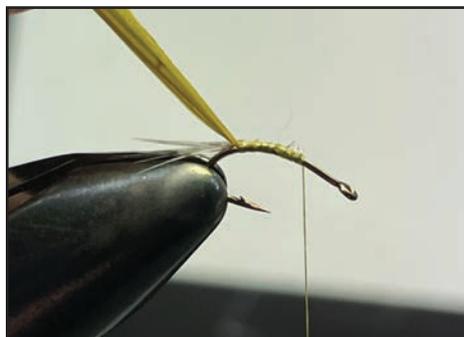
Materials

- **Thread:** Olive 6/0 or 8/0
- **Tail:** Partridge Fibers
- **Body:** Olive Turkey Biot
- **Wing:** Gray/Dun CDC
- **Thorax:** Olive Dubbing
- **Legs:** Partridge Fibers
- **Hook:** Curved / Tiers Choice

Note: Try substituting materials, hook sizes and shapes, and even colors to make your own versions of this loop wing. That is what makes this great craft so rewarding and fun!



Start and secure the thread, wrapping back to into the hook bend. Tie in a few strands of partridge for the tail.



Catch a biot with the thread and wrap back towards the eye of the hook. Stop around the halfway point of the shank.



Grab the biot with hackle pliers and wrap up the bend of the hook to where the thread is, and tie off with a few tight wraps.



Stack some CDC fibers and tie in on top of the hook shank by their tips. They can be stubborn, but the buggier the better in my opinion. Trim any excess to your liking.



Form a loop with the CDC and tie down securely. Then trim any stray fibers as you see fit. Be sure to leave plenty of room near the hook eye for the next step.



Dub a stout thorax and tie in some more partridge fibers for the legs. Finish with neat finish to complete the pattern.

PA Council of Trout Unlimited

Minutes of the Oct. 10, 2021
Executive Committee Meeting

Attendees: Rachel Kester, Kelly Williams, Russell Thrall, Rick Nyles, Bryan Mathie, Russ Collins, Erick Lewis Greg Malaska, Judi Sittler, Brian Wagner, Jimmy O'Connor, Lenny Lichvar.

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by President Malaska. Minutes of the April 11, 2021 EXCOM meeting were approved as submitted.

President's Report: – Submitted by G. Malaska. Reports are to be received 10 days before EXCOM meeting.

Appointment of Committee Chairs:

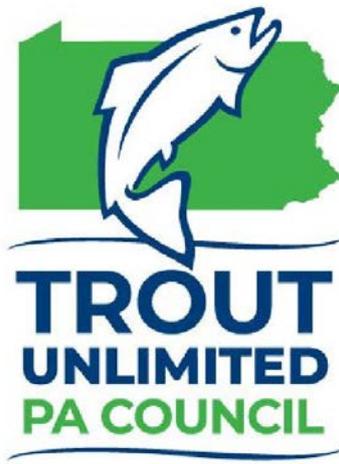
- Awards – Beth Boyd
- Treasurer – Russ Thrall
- 5Rivers – Charlie Charlesworth
- Youth – Judi Sittler
- Communication – Brad Isles
- Conservation – Brian Wagner
- Delaware River – Jeff Skelding
- Diversity – Amidea Daniels, Kelly Williams
- Membership – Open – Job Description on patrout.org website
- NLC – Russ Collins
- TIC – Rachel Kester
- Trout Policy – Len Lichvar, Dave Rothrock
- Youth Education – Judi Sittler

Treasurer's Report: Submitted by R. Thrall. Tax reports sent for review. Financial report received. Report approved.

List of Actions Taken: Actions taken via email – advocacy – letters – etc.

Program Director's Report: Submitted by R. Kester. CHP report received, TIC report received, KCC report received.

RVP Job Description: Reach out to chapters and identify needs / accomplishments / challenges. Communicate Council needs to chapters. Communicate actions items / needs to Council. Know your chapters – meet them – plan it – see good speakers – get some fishing in – build relationships – call chapter leaders – email them. Connect the chapters together – host a roundtable – build a community. R. Thrall to send manual to E. Lewis for



distribution.

Communications and Outreach Report: Seeking chapter content for social media. Americorps worker had to resign from Americorps – they will open it back up once process completed. Use Event Group so that chapter events show up on the PATU calendar – Jeff Yates – B. Wagner to provide link. Chapters have all been assigned an account and password. R. Kester to provide link to training webinar.

NLC Report: Submitted by B. Wagner. Monthly chapter leadership My PATU – now to all members – submission email is sent out to collect regional and state info. R. Thrall is the owner of the Constant Contact account – B. Wagner and R. Kester are the admins. Mail Chimp is free. R. Kester, R. Thrall and B. Isles to get together to put together a communication game plan. Let B. Wagner know if you'd like to be a Facebook contributor. Send pictures to R. Kester for inclusion.

Advocacy Report: – Submitted by J. Orr-Greene and E. Baldauf. G. Malaska - Looking for connection to get in front of chapter flashpoint issues. Need to get things out of the gates and happening faster – G. Malaska to put together a working group to brainstorm on how to get this working.

Financial Reviewer Report: John Leonard is stepping back. Three people are interested. – G. Malaska and R. Thrall to interview candidates via Zoom and send out to EXCOM for a vote.

Regional VP Reports: Introduction of new RVPs – G. Parzanese, R. Nyles, T. Burns, J. O'Connor.

Action Items:

- Ken Sink chapter: B. Mathie – Letter

to G. Malaska and PATU RE: pesticide concerns (PFA, neonicotinoids). Conservation Committee to investigate and respond to chapter.

- Allegheny chapter – Concerns about stocking over Class A streams – need assurances that PFBC is hearing them / us on this issue.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trout Policy Committee Report:

Submitted by L. Lichvar. Red Run Stocking – Emails received from activists on this issue RE: stocking of Class A streams – Issue: Wildcat stocking. Spruce Creek Access – Ted Hildebrand – Rothrock State Forest area has additional posted areas along private lands – some was allegedly posted along State Forest land – Wills Creek Access – N.E. Jarris – only access via D&L RR right of way. G. Malaska – Do we need an access committee? Motion to create / update an access protocol / policy to deal with these requests – B. Wagner to send link to 2014 policy. PFBC – discussion of Class A catch and release is tabled – PFBC Zoom meeting topics: Compromise e.g. artificial lures, two trout limit, Spring Creek slot limit, Stocking over Class As – recently designated stream traditionally stocked by a local cooperative nursery – PFBC staff are opposed – local group is pressuring PFBC Commissioners. G. Malaska to pull together an advocacy team to explore mechanism for activating the grass roots.

Development Committee Report: No committee at this time.

Investments Committee Report: No committee at this time.

Awards Committee Report: Status of online submissions.

Delaware River Report: Submitted by J. Skelding.

Conservation Committee Report: Submitted by B. Wagner. Two Forever Wild grants have been requested and are being reviewed by B. Wagner and R. Kester. Mountain Laurel chapter – stream improvement project – Yellow Creek – project recommended for 2022 – \$2,500 of total project \$11,500. Stanley Cooper chapter – FCAMR 10-minute video – funding needed for post-production processes – ISL matching request for \$2,500 – re-

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viewed by B. Wagner and R. Kester who are recommending. Motion to approve both requests accepted.

Diversity Committee Report: Submitted by K. Williams. Completed five different diversity presentations. Winter plans – offer PA presentation multiple times via Zoom – Stanley Cooper chapter requested presentation – will occur next week – offering to other chapters going forward. Next year would like to reboot the Leadership Meeting May 13, 14 and 15 at Godspeed Hostel.

Youth Committee Report: Submitted by J. Sittler. Ask to EXCOM Leaders – go back to your chapters and encourage them to involve more female leaders in their chapters. Invite and welcome them to participate – 30% of women fish but only 6% are TU members. R3 grant money is close to being spent. Get Outdoors PA grant is being spent on tackle.

Membership Committee Report: Submitted by E. Lewis. Membership is below 17K. Seems like it may correspond to the expiration of the first responder/front line healthcare free memberships. Reach out to National to find out retention rate. Gender is missing from roster.

Communications Committee Report: Nothing to report.

VSP Committee Report: Open at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

Future of Western Pocono Chapter: Outreach to members for reorganization. Via snail-mail – growth rate is very good – G. Malaska motion to pay for postage and letter, envelope stamps not to exceed \$400 in next six months. Motion approved.

Strategic Plan Adoption: RVPs to digest plan by end of month. G. Malaska to call for vote at end of the month

EITC Promotion:

NEW BUSINESS

Oct. 25 PFBC Meeting: Monitor the agenda to see if we need to activate chapters

DCNR ATV Trail Expansion: PA Environmental Defense Fund is working to stop the expansion. Monitoring of pilot is ongoing to inform if expansion should

move forward. G. Parzanese to keep Council in the loop.

Chapter Rechartering: Chapters get rechartered every three to four years.

Regional Trainings: Virtual preferred at two hours each. Two in January or one in January and one in March.

Set EXCOM Meeting Dates: Quarterly meetings, Jan. 23, April 24, July 17, Oct. 16, 2022.

TU Priority Waters Working Group: Is still being formulated. Jake Tomlinson is on point in PA and is looking for additional members for a committee to help formulate plans. K. Williams, R. Collins, L. Lichvar, B. Mathie.

SW Advocacy Workgroup: B. Mathie.

Appoint Financial Reviewer: R. Thrall and G. Malaska to interview candidates and recommend candidate to EXCOM for a vote.

Embrace A Stream: Awarded grants to all four PA projects. Looking for candidates to take on the grant review/award process.

Potential Stream Classification Downgrades: Valley Forge and Donegal chapters – reach out to see if engaged and how Council can assist.

Perkiomen Valley: R. Nyles to email that chapter president – resolving it and expect it to work out fine.

Pike Wayne Chapter: Communicated to National TU its displeasure with reference to Indigenous People’s Day vs. Columbus Day. National responded to chapter.

Mapping of Chapter Boundaries: G. Parzanese. Mallory.Gay@tu.org can reassign members to the preferred chapter, in a different state if desired. Nick.Halle@tu.org is the day to day contact.

Russ Collins Awarded Doc Fritchey Award: Photo

January Meeting Virtual: Will wait to see if weather mandates.

Retreat: Looking to schedule. Meeting adjourned at 1:24 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Erick Lewis –Secretary*

EXCOM actions taken by email votes since April 11, 2021

May 25: Approved Council letter in support of Moshannon Creek Watershed proposal to construct a passive treatment system in the headwaters of Moshannon Creek to treat AMD from three sources.

June 23: Approved Council sending letter re: commentary on the PA Science, Environment and Ecology Standards. Emphasis on enabling Trout In the Classroom to continue to be tied to these standards so that this program can contain to exist in PA high schools.

July 30: Approved hiring AmeriCorps candidate Carolyn Heckman as Communications and Outreach Coordinator. Carolyn is working from the Clearwater Conservancy’s office in State College. She will initially focus on PATU’s online and social media presence.

August 2: Officer nominations closed for elections at Fall Meeting.

October 13: Reviewed and approved IRS Form 990

November 11: Approved PATU Strategic Plan

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1	New "Back the Brookie" License Plate	\$25.00		
	Brook Trout Dog Collar – LG/XL	\$10.00		
	Official PATU Tote Bag	\$17.50		
	Ballcap w/logo (circle) Khaki Olive Camo	\$17.50		
2	Official PATU T-shirt (circle size) S M L XL	\$20.00		
	Official PATU T-shirt (circle size) 2XL	\$23.00		
	Official PATU T-shirt (circle size) 3XL	\$26.00		
3	Medium Waterproof Fly Box (5.5"x3.75"x5/8")	\$14.00		
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	Dry Fly – 4X Tippet	\$6.00		
	Dry Fly – 5X Tippet	\$6.00		
	Dry Fly – 6X Tippet	\$6.00		
	Wet Fly – 4X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers	\$6.00		
	Wet Fly – 5X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers	\$6.00		
	"The Delaware River Story" Book	\$25.00		
	"History of Trout Unlimited in PA" Book	\$15.00		
	"Fly Fishing PA's Spring Creek" Book	\$15.00		
	"Keystone Fly Fishing" Book	\$30.00		
	"Favorite Flies of PA" Book	\$25.00		
	"Fly Tying for Everyone" Book	\$25.00		
4	Traveler Fly Rod – 9'0, 5-wt., 7-piece	\$130.00		
	PATU Sticker	\$1.50		
	PATU Travel Mug	\$14.00		
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Note: The following chapter reports are those received prior to the fourth-quarter EXCOM meeting. Some are missing.

Additionally, any upcoming events listed should be considered *tentative*. Please check the individual chapter's website or newsletter for updated status.

NORTHEAST CHAPTERS

Brodhead 289
Forks of the Delaware 482
Hokendauqua 535
Lackawanna Valley 414
Monocacy 491
Pike-Wayne 462
Schuylkill County 537
Shehawken 81
Stan Cooper Sr. 251
Western Pocono 203

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Todd Burns

1657 Harrisville Rd.

Stoneboro, PA 16153

Email: burns-60@hotmail.com

Phone: 814-786-9750

Brodhead Chapter #289

Eric Baird

570-396-4647, ericrobertbaird@gmail.com

www.brodheadtu.org

The chapter is pursuing the opportunity to hold an in-person banquet in the spring. We raised \$3,000 through an on-line auction using the tools supplied by National TU. We have continued planning for restoration projects on McMichael Creek on the Pomeroy Preserve and projects on the Paradise Creek headwaters. The tree planting committee met with Polk Township Park Commission to discuss a restoration project in one of their parks, and had a site visit with the commission in November at the Josey Porter Farm site. The chapter provided intro to fly fishing programs to campers at the Monroe County Conservation Camp and for volunteer teen participants at the Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge. We provided a fishing day for the STREAM Girls participants. The chapter had an informational booth at the Quiet Valley Harvest Festival Oct. 9-10. And the chapter held an Introduction to Fly Fishing class at the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center on Oct. 24. We are working teachers at the East Stroudsburg South High School to set up an additional TIC program.

The chapter incorporated a diversity column into its newsletter, which features important women in the chapter and TU at large. We are actively searching for additional opportunities to provide outreach to a more diverse population. We applied for an Embrace A Stream grant for our project on McMichael Creek and we currently looking into additional grant opportunities for that project and other initiatives we are pursuing.

Forks of the Delaware Chapter #482

Joe Baylog

610-751-9116, baylogj@gmail.com

https://forksofthedelaware.tu.org/

Chapter leadership provided oral and written testimony for a DEP hearing on June 2 regarding expansion of the Hercules quarry in Stockertown and is waiting on a response from DEP. Our members' concerns revolve around the dewatering of Bushkill Creek and intense sinkhole activity in the area. Chapter leadership attended a planning commission meeting regarding a proposed warehouse along Spring Brook and the Bushkill Creek near the 13th Street interchange in Wilson Borough. The chapter is also pursuing a permanent access agreement along part of the Bushkill Creek. We held our Annual Pig & Corn Roast on Sept. 18 at Riverside Barr & Grill. In-stream construction on the Bushkill Creek restoration project is complete. Riparian buffer work and educational signage is next. The project restored a 1.25 mile stretch along the Class A stream to improve riparian and in-stream wild trout habitat. The project goes through existing public parks and open space in three different municipalities. Project scope included 25 individual PFBC approved rock structures and over 100 large in stream boulder placements. The chapter participated in a riparian buffer planting on Oct. 16 along with the Bushkill Stream Conservancy and the Wildlands Conservancy.



Help protect and improve the Little J

Join the

Little Juniata River Association

Free River Tour

www.littlejuniata.org or email

bjuniata@verizon.net

Hokendauqua Chapter #535

Art Williams

610-266-1788, awilliams1947@hotmail.com

http://hokendauqua.tu.org

The chapter completed a macroinvertebrate survey on Coplay Creek upstream of Coplay Park. We sponsor three TIC programs at local middle schools.

Pike-Wayne Chapter #462

Paul Ranello

973-452-9301

www.pwtu.org

Summer and early fall monthly meetings were held on the Lackawaxen. Meetings from October through April are at Cora's 1850 Bistro, second floor in Hawley. Members attended the annual PATU meeting via Zoom. We are making plans

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Erick Lewis

70 Brentwood Circle

Bloomsburg, PA 17815

In return, you'll receive an application form to complete and send with your \$27 payment to PennDOT.

Columbia County Fix-up...



Contributed Photo

Columbia County TU repaired the Orangeville access steps area in late July.

...Continued from previous page

for our annual banquet at Lukans Farm and Resort in Hawley on April 9. Members participated in the Lackawaxen River and Trails Community Day cleanup event. Members also volunteered to assist PFBC with the fall trout stocking of the Lackawaxen River. Members participated in the Dirt and Gravel Low Volume Road QACQ review. Pike County exceeded all expectations. Members attended Pike County Conservation District monthly Zoom meetings and participated in its legislature breakfast. We have a TIC program at

Western Wayne School District. Members volunteered as river helpers at the Casting for Recovery Fly Fishing Retreat at Skytop Lodge.

Stanley Cooper, Sr. Chapter #251

Scott Brady

570-479-6106, jsbrady@bradygrabowski.com

www.sctu.org

We applied for a grant with EPCAMR to make a video for children. PFBC's Amidea Daniel spoke at our October meeting.

Western Pocono Chapter #203

George Hludzik

570-788-2121, grhlaw@ptd.net

www.tu.org/connect/groups/203-western-pocono

WPTU is planning a reorganization meeting and will discuss future plans for the chapter.

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

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

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...Continued from page 14

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Kelly Williams

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Reynoldsville, PA 15851

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Phone: 814-591-1299

Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036

Codey Schlemmer

814-953-5295, schlemmerservices@gmail.com

www.amctu.org

Our end of summer board meeting was held at the Tannery Dam due to continued COVID-19 restrictions on our usual meeting sites. The chapter had a station at the Clearfield County Youth Field Day in June. Chapter members helped the kids collect and ID macroinvertebrates. The field day in Jefferson County was canceled due to COVID. The DuBois Middle School will be back open, and we will be hosting the Fly Fishing Club after missing last year. Our Environmental Day that has been a chapter project for over 15 years is returning and we look forward to having the field trip again this year.

Caldwell Creek Chapter #437

Tom Savko

814-664-2124, tksavko2@verizon.net

www.facebook.com/CaldwellCreekTU437

We have increased our weekly water testing after observing accelerated injection activity. We have resumed our monthly meetings and will continue through the winter, weather permitting.

Cornplanter Chapter #526

Troy McDunn

814-723-3759, hdpartsman@verizon.net

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

We held a sporting clays benefit shoot at Kalbfus Rod and Gun Club in October. Proceeds will be disbursed for conservation projects in the Morrison Run and/or Farnsworth watersheds. A collaboration involving the Allegheny National Forest, Warren County Conservation District and Cornplanter TU has improved fish habitat and erosion conditions in the Farnsworth Branch stream in Cherry Grove Township. Some of the work is on ANF land. The effort has the permission of the private landowners for the remainder. A private foundation was involved in the funding. In key areas along the banks of the stream, the team installed modified mud sills and log cross vanes. Members of National TU provided expertise, including dropping select trees for large woody debris into the water. Our Morrison Run stream enhancement workday was Sept. 25. We will not have any TIC classrooms this year due to

COVID. Trout Unlimited, Chapman State Park, and the Northern Allegheny Outdoor Women's Association worked together on the STREAM Girls program to introduce some local youth to the science and fun that can be found in their local waters. The program was held Sept. 11-12 at Chapman, utilizing the lake, Penny Run, grassy spaces and pavilions. With the help of the Warren County Conservation District, Trout Unlimited, and DCNR, the girls conducted kick netting and a macroinvertebrate study. They concluded that Penny Run was a good quality stream. TU's Gary Kell took the discussion of macroinvertebrates and turned it to fishing. The girls learned about tying flies and the basics of casting them.

Iron Furnace Chapter #288

Mark Hanes

724-464-7320, m_d_hanes@yahoo.com

www.ironfurnacetu.net

In June we held a Pint Night event to recruit new members at Lost in the Wilds Brewery. We added about 25 new members to that night and had a great turnout. We were able to bring in some fundraising money through raffles as well. We are planning another Pint Night event in Clarion in January 2022. In August, work was completed on the Clear Creek habitat project that was part of our EAS Grant from 2019. We would like to thank the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy and their staff as well and Clear Creek State Park and PAFBC staff for all their hard work to make this project happen. The chapter submitted the final report just before the deadline at the end of September. Plans are to continue with additional habitat work on Clear Creek in the coming years. The chapter was able to finally repair the stream deflector at the North Fork fly area at Walter Dick Park on Aug. 10. The chapter participated in an ecology class field trip day put on by Keystone Jr./Sr. High School at Cook Forest State Park on Sept. 24. On Oct. 1, the chapter assisted North Clarion High school students with their fishing portion of their field trip to Clear Creek State Park. Plans are in place to hold in-person fly tying classes in February 2022. With a long break forced by COVID we have had a lot of interest in resuming the classes. We are working with DCNR and the Clear Creek State Park staff to post signage to help educate anglers and visitors to the stream about the presence of native brook trout. We hope to get this done first on Clear Creek then move to Callen Run. Plans are in the early stages for holding a veterans fly fishing day on Leatherwood Creek. We were approached by a landowner with a few miles of stream frontage that wants to host such an event. We are hoping to have it held in May or June of 2022.

Neshannock Creek #216

Matt Ceremuga

724-301-0482, matt.ceremuga@gmail.com

www.neshannock-tu.org

The 2022 fundraising banquet is scheduled for March 19. We have started the planning process and are brainstorming different fundraising activities to have at this year's banquet. We held a workday at the Coolspring DHALO area on Sept. 25. The landowner completed brush hogging the trail. TU volunteers cut back the overhanging brush and other areas. The trail is now opened all the way to the top of the DHALO area. We have received pricing to grade the upper parking lot and add a tri-axle load of limestone. We plan to hold another workday to complete this project. A stream improvement project was completed Aug. 21 on Deer Creek. Volunteers worked with the state to complete 80 feet of stream bank improvements. A local schoolteacher reached out to us about starting a TIC program in his school. They have applied for grants to purchase equipment. We will help sponsor the program and purchase the equipment needed to start-up the new TIC program. We are currently working with the Mercer County Conservation District on a Growing Greener grant for Phase II of the Plantation Park Project on Neshannock Creek.

Northwest PA Chapter #41

Bill Eckert

814-392-2696, bill@eckertappraisals.com

<http://nwpachaptertu.blogspot.com>

Since our last report, our two new TIC programs are coming to fruition. Tanks have been set up in the Parker Middle School and Erie Day School, the teachers have done their work and we are waiting for the chillers to come in and then the eggs after Christmas break. We had a board meeting in September and it decided to schedule a regular, in person meeting for Oct. 20 with Adam Cotchen of the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy updating us on the Trout Run stream project. This will likely mean a bank stabilization project for our chapter in late February or March. We also plan to view another small wild trout stream in State Game Lands 109 for a potential woody debris project.

Oil Creek Chapter #424

Jennifer Lyons

814-671-1292, lyonssj3876@gmail.com

www.oilcreektu.org

Our annual banquet was held on Aug. 21. It was very successful, in spite of reduced attendance due to the pandemic concerns. We continue to work with the Venango Conservation District, completing electroshocking on Benninghoff Run. The Growing Greener project on Sugar Creek near State Game Lands 96 on Tuloga Road has been postponed. The well plugging project on Oil Creek is nearing its end. Members attended a meeting of the Venango Dirt & Gravel Road Committee this summer. Changes have been made to the stream crossing scoring process. Oil Creek TU has six TIC classrooms, two at Titusville, two at Meadville and the addition of one at Victory

Elementary and another at Sugar Creek. We paid for part of a student's expenses to a fishing guide school in Montana. He subsequently worked this year as a fishing guide in Pennsylvania. He gave a presentation at our October meeting.

Seneca Chapter #272

Chase Howard

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

The chapter has resumed meetings after taking the summer off. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m.

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

Rick Nyles

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Fleetwood, PA 19522

Email: rick@skyblueoutfitters.com

Phone: 610-987-0073

Delco Manning Chapter #320

Fred DeWees

610-547-9403, fredde4@gmail.com
www.dmtu.org

Nothing to report.

Perkiomen Valley #332

Thomas W. Smith

215-513-9709, twsmith623@comcast.net
www.pvtu332.org

We completed stream habitat restoration on West Branch. The chapter received approval for an E&S Plan for Perkiomen Creek and Camelot Park. We've begun evaluation of additional work on West Branch for 2022. We held a tree planting along Perkiomen Creek below Green Lane Dam. We maintain eight TIC programs in the Perkiomen watershed.

Tulpehocken Chapter #150

Brenda Bittinger

610-704-4676, b.bittinger@gmail.com
www.tullytu.org

www.patrou.org

Our timber deflector project with the Army Corps is ongoing. We assisted PFBC in stocking the Tulpehocken in October. We added Governor Mifflin school to our TIC program. We are building out meeting speakers for the winter months.

Valley Forge Chapter #290

Pete Hughes

610-827-9239, phtrot@comcast.net
www.valleyforgetu.org

Contracts have been signed for installation of large scale infiltration beds in the Crabby Creek watershed. We expect 16 schools to participate in TIC programs this year. The chapter participated in the STREAM Girls program in partnership with Stroud Labs.

SOUTHCENTRAL CHAPTERS

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

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Jimmy O'Connor

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Marietta, PA 17547

Email: tightlinejimmyo@gmail.com

Phone: 717-451-5200

Adams County Chapter #323

Hank Rajotte

717-408-8747, hank.rajotte@gmail.com
www.adamscountytu.org

Officers, board members and chairs will continue in office until March of 2022, at which time the chapter will hold nominations and voting for 2022-2023. Fund-raising has been very limited due to COVID. As part of our annual picnic on Sept. 21, we held a 50/50 raffle, a silent auction and a live auction. We held a stream restoration day on July 31 and we were joined by Northern Virginia TU and PFBC personnel to make repairs to the Conewago. Well over 330 hours were put into the work day which included prep work prior to the 31st and follow-up after. Stream banks were improved, knotweed destroyed and a mudsill repaired. Heavy equipment was donated by Adams County Bobcat Services for use throughout

the day. Our annual picnic was Sept. 21. A minor fund raiser was included which consisted of a 50/50 raffle, and a silent and live auction. Richard Lewis updated our group on current activities at PFBC and the Knouse property acquisition. Six members of ACTU and a local student planted 120 trees along the Conewago as part of the Keystone 10 Million Tree Partnership. Trees were provided by the Adams County Conservation District. Regular membership meetings will resume in February 2022.

Codorus Chapter #558

Tom Feninez

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www.codorustu.org

Our chapter was represented at the PATU annual meeting when it was held virtually during September. We are currently seeking a new meeting location for our indoor meeting season (October thru April). We may need to resort to on-line meetings via Zoom for a month or two, but we have a lead or two so we're confident we can find a location to meet our needs. We're continuing to work with a local environmental engineering firm on a large potential project in the Codorus watershed. A feasibility study has now been developed which will serve as the foundation for future discussions with the property owner. This would be a substantial project with significant benefits, so we're really hoping it comes to fruition. One of our recently-completed projects sustained some minor damage during the remnants of Hurricane Ida. We'll be working on getting a solution in place as soon as we were able. Despite this minor damage, the project performed very well during a pretty extreme weather event.

Cumberland Valley Chapter #052

John Leonard

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www.pacvtu.org

The Limestone Fundraiser and Conservation Banquet was postponed again. The tentative new date is March 19, 2022. Our LeTort restoration plan is finished, and a copy of the plan has been sent to the Coldwater Heritage Partnership. We now must begin planning the stream work and begin fundraising. Phases III and IV of our Wittingler projects on the Yellow Breeches were completed in August and under budget. We are working with PFBC on a project to restore the mouth of the LeTort in 2022. We are also planning on a 300-plus-yard restoration with 11 structures on the Yellow Breeches (the Barnitz Mill area), hopefully in 2022. We are planning eight-week beginners and advanced fly-tying classes beginning in January 2022. We returned to "live" meetings in September. We also had meetings on Oct. 20 and Nov. 17. Membership meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month (except August

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& December) at Appalachian Brewing Company, 6264 Carlisle Pike, Mechanicsburg.

Doc Fritchey Chapter #108

Rich DiStanislaio

724-664-3122, rdistaqni@comcast.net

www.dftu.org

Weekly work on our Diversion Well at Rausch Creek continues. We received a grant and began work on our Snitz Creek project's design and permitting phase. Our Barry Farm project along Hammer Creek is the largest and most complex project thus far. The project calls for the restoration of 8,400-plus linear feet of the stream, including a natural stream design to create a new stream channel where wetland areas exist, backfilling the old channel and merging two tributaries. It will also include a spring channel for the propagation of native brook trout. The chapter sponsored three youths to attend the PATU Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp. We sponsored an information booth at Lebanon County Fair in July, and we conducted casting lessons at our chapter picnic on Aug. 29. The chapter had a booth for National Hunting and Fishing Day at Middle Creek State Park and Wildlife Preserve on Sept. 25. We sponsored a Ladies Day Learn to Fly Fish program at Limestone Springs Trout

Preserve on Oct. 2. The chapter had an exhibit and offered fishing demos at the Palmyra Sportsmen's Association Field Day on Oct. 10.

Falling Spring Chapter #234

Took Coder

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We are seeking volunteers to help ID newly planted trees which did not survive and we will schedule a re-plant. These trees are of the 2,600 planted along Falling Spring to improve the riparian buffer. We are waiting to hear back from a local Scout troop for conservation hours.

Muddy Creek Chapter #575

Jimmy O'Connor

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www.muddycreektu.org

We had a table at the local Red Lion Street Fair on Aug. 18. On Oct. 16, we hosted a One-Fly Tournament and Fall Fest. We partnered with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay to do a large pollinator-friendly riparian buffer zone planting along Leib's Creek in October. The creek is a Class A wild trout tributary to the South Branch of Muddy Creek. Last year we kicked off a very successful project with a three-acre planting, and this year we planned to plant an additional five acres. Our six

local TIC classrooms took a break last year due to the pandemic. We partner closely with each of these classrooms to provide guidance, matching funds for equipment, and the hosting of a release day for the students which includes a number of conservation-focused activities. We hosted children and their families of VisionCorps-York on Oct. 9 to provide vision-impaired children with the opportunity to catch a few trout from the newly reconstructed handicapped area along Tom's Run, a tributary of Muddy Creek. We partnered with PFBC to host a Women's Introduction to Fly-Fishing clinic on Sept. 18.

**SOUTHWEST
CHAPTERS**

Arrowhead 214

Chestnut Ridge 670

Forbes Trail 206

Fort Bedford 291

John Kennedy 045

Ken Sink 053

Mountain Laurel 040

Penn's Woods West 042