

Pennsylvania TROUT



Winter 2022

Publication of the Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited

www.patrou.org

Eggs Up for Trout in the Classroom...



Rachel Kester Photos

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission staffers and PATU volunteers helped package and prepare rainbow trout eggs for shipment to Trout in the Classroom participants on Feb. 7. Nearly 350 packages of eggs then made their way to schools across the state via UPS carriers.



Adams County TU aids in preserving access to Conewago Creek

By Richard Lewis
TU Life Member

In September 2019, I was invited to attend a meeting about the future of the fly fishing only catch and release section of Conewago Creek in Adams County. This section of the creek, owned by the Knouse Foods Cooperative, has been open to public fishing access for more than three decades.

In addition, the Adams County TU chapter, along with the Northern Virginia TU chapter, have been managing and im-

See **ACCESS**, page 7

Keystone Coldwater Conference Feb. 25-26

The 2022 Keystone Coldwater Conference/PA American Fisheries Society (PAAFS) Joint Meeting will be held on Feb. 25-26 at the Ramada Inn & Conference Center, State



College. This year's theme is "Learning from the Past, Adapting for the Future."

While participants can expect to see many coldwater conservation-related presentations and information as in past years, this year will feature an expanded

See **CONFERENCE**, page 10

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French Creek named River of the Year

By PA DCNR

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn and Janet Sweeney of the Pennsylvania Organization for Waterways and Rivers on Jan. 25 jointly announced that French Creek in northwestern Pennsylvania had been selected as the state's 2022 River of the Year.

French Creek is one of the most biologically diverse waterways of its size in the United States, meandering 117 miles from its headwaters in southern New York through four Pennsylvania counties to the Allegheny River. The creek is home to 27 species of freshwater mussels, more than 80 species of fish, and numerous waterfowl and songbird species, including bald eagles and four Audubon-designated Important Bird Areas. French Creek is also home to the Eastern Hellbender, the largest species of salamander in North America, which was recently named the official amphibian of Pennsylvania.

The public was invited to vote online, choosing from among four waterways nominated across the state. A total of 13,972 votes were cast, with French Creek receiving 6,604; the Monongahela River, 3,311, Catawissa Creek, 3,188, Connoquenessing Creek, 869.

"The River of the Year program is a great way to highlight the opportunities and challenges facing our waterways, raise awareness and connect Pennsylvanians to the water, as well as highlight the great work being done in Pennsylvania communities on these valuable resources," said POWR's Janet Sweeney.

The French Creek Valley Conservancy (FCVC) will receive a \$10,000 Leadership Grant to help fund a slate of year-long 2022 River of the Year activities. DCNR and POWR will work with FCVC to create a free, commemorative poster celebrating the French Creek River as the 2022 Pennsylvania River of the Year.

FCVC is an accredited land trust dedicated to protecting the French Creek Watershed. FCVC currently protects more than 3,000 acres of land throughout the watershed, helping to conserve French Creek, its tributaries, critical riparian areas, and providing recreational access. FCVC manages French Creek as an official Pennsylvania Water Trail and will be celebrating its 40th anniversary in 2022.

"Many thanks to DCNR and POWR for this program and this honor. French Creek has incredible biodiversity, flowing through beautiful natural landscapes, and it provides many wonderful recreational opportunities," said French Creek Valley Conservancy's Executive Director, Brenda Costa. "It is a common thread that joins so many small communities in northwest Pennsylvania with a sense of pride and passion."

In cooperation with DCNR, selection of public voting choices was overseen by the POWR, an affiliate of the Pennsylvania Environmental Council.

A commemorative River of the Year sojourn is among many paddling trips supported by DCNR and POWR each year. An independent program, the Pennsylvania Sojourn Program, is a unique series of a dozen such trips on the state's rivers.

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2 items added to merch collection

With spring just around the corner, now is the time to take stock of your fly fishing gear and replenish your inventory with PATU merchandise. We've just added a couple of new items to supplement our selection of T-shirts, hats, books, "Back the Brookie" license plates, custom-tied leaders and travel fly rods.

The first is an ultra-light (2.2 oz.) 7-foot, 3-weight, 4-piece IM10 graphite medium-fast action fly rod that features a grade AA cork grip and reel seat, hard chrome snake guides and ceramic insert strip-per guides. If you've been wanting to try a lighter weight rod, this could be just the one for you.



The second item is a durable black plas-



tic license plate frame that you can use to protect your "Back the Brookie" plate, PATU license plate, or standard registration plate, and help spread the message of "Catch and Release Wild Trout."

It's easy to order PATU merchandise, either online at www.patrou.org using PayPal, or by using the order form in this issue and mailing along with your check to the address shown. And remember, all profits from the sale of PATU merchandise are used to support Council's conservation programs.

The order form is located on the inside back cover of this newsletter. Page 19.

Actions taken by EXCOM email votes since Sept. 5, 2021

September 5: Support letter for SMCRA approved to PA & PA Federal Reps.

September 8: Moved Annual Meeting to virtual / Zoom meeting.

September 15: Support letter for protecting volunteers from lawsuits – PA Recreation and Park Society.

October 12: Approved IRS Form 990

filing.

November 2: Approved new PATU Strategic Plan.

November 29: Tout Policy Committee position statement on Freeman Run, Class A water in Potter County approved.

December 8: Approved Muddy Creek Forever Wild Grant for \$1,424.65.

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Headwaters

A message from PATU President
Greg Malaska

CHALLENGE – CHANGE – OPPORTUNITY

CHALLENGE

After a year in a cocoon, I hoped 2021 would be more like a butterfly (or at least an emerging caddis). I started to get into the groove after winter had left and vaccination (er, hatch) season started; yet in early summer, life took a turn.

On July 2, 2021, my world changed with the passing of my father. While not an avid fisherman or TU member, he was the greatest role model and supporter I could ever ask for. Coming from working class Anthracite Country, I think he always struggled with me investing so much time and effort toward something that did not generate a paycheck. Fortunately, he saw the positive impact it had on my life.

I often related to him that other than my marriage and birth of my children, my work at PATU was one of the most fulfilling experiences of my life. I think he got it. If he didn't, he never said so, never stopped buying raffle tickets to support TU, and certainly never went home hungry from a Schuylkill County TU picnic.

The night of dad's death, I posted the news on Facebook. I was immediately touched and humbled by the outpouring of support and condolences from PATU members. The next day, as I reviewed papers on the floor of my old bedroom, which was once covered with lost hooks from my first fly tying table, I received a call from TU President and CEO Chris Wood. We chatted for an hour as I looked through old boxes filled with news clippings about dad's time as a promising right-hander in the Phillies' farm system.

While his loss has had a profound impact, my discussions and thoughts of him now only bring laughter and good memories. He is in heaven with my mom, his best friend.

Like family, you were there during a very difficult period in my life. Thank you.

We're not related by blood, but we are tied to a shared passion about protecting



what we love, the greatest trout fishery in America.

CHANGE

Despite losing two years of operations, chapters are moving forward with their banquets, planning stream projects and, more importantly, cultivating new leaders. I'd like to transition this column by introducing you to our new EXCOM members.

Todd Burns – I've had the pleasure of working with Todd for the last 10 years on the Brodhead TU board. A retired teacher and administrator, he is tackling retirement with vigor; so much so that I am offended by how much he fishes. It's just wrong. All jokes aside, Todd has captained a TU Chapter of the Year, can get things done, and knows how to listen (rather than hear). He'll be a great Northeast Regional Vice President.

Rick Nyles – While many of you may know Rick from his efforts as owner of Sky Blue Outfitters, what you might not know is that he has been a longtime TU volunteer with the Perkiomen Valley and Tulpehocken chapters. Rick puts his time and money where his mouth is and has been a huge contributor to PATU's efforts. He will be a great asset as Southeast RVP.

Gary Parzanese – It's easy to cultivate volunteers around metro areas and world class trout streams. Gary has shown how to find success in much tougher environments. During his tenure as president of the Penns Creek chapter, this retired HR professional steered numerous conserva-

tion successes in VERY rural Juniata and Mifflin counties. He also put me on one of the larger wild brown trout of my life (on a stream you'd never expect). Gary is ready to share his experiences with our Northcentral chapters.

Jimmy O'Connor – The "youngin'" of the group is Jimmy O'Connor, former president of the Muddy Creek chapter. An investment professional by trade, this guy is not afraid to get his hands dirty. In his first few weeks on the job, Jimmy has already made a huge impact on fundraising efforts for the Keystone Coldwater Conference. His enthusiasm will be an asset to the Southcentral chapters. He strangely reminds me of the energy I saw in a slightly heavier, yet more handsome, volunteer from Schuylkill County about 15 years ago...

I'm thrilled to work with this team in my final lap as PATU president. Make a point to introduce yourself to these dedicated volunteers.

OPPORTUNITY

I want you to keep your eyes on three upcoming events:

1. *Keystone Coldwater Conference*. This year's KCC is a joint effort with the American Fisheries Society and is set for Feb. 25-26 in State College. For more info, check out the more detailed article in this issue.
2. *Statewide Virtual Training* – Saturday, March 12. We'll feature presentations on: a) Changes at the PFBC, b) How the federal infrastructure bill and state budget changes could help PATU chapters and c) How to forge stronger ties with your neighboring chapters. See the invite in this issue. Did I mention it was FREE!!!!
3. *Annual Meeting*. Saturday, Sept. 17. Since it will not be a Penn State weekend, we are focusing on the State College area. It will be a shorter event to minimize the need for overnight stays and keep costs down. And yes, it will be IN PERSON!!!!!!

Looking forward to finishing my last eight months as president of the strongest TU Council in America. Thanks for all you do.

Treasurer's Report

by PATU Treasurer
Russell Thrall

I want to thank all the members, volunteers and supporters who donated so far to PATU's Annual Appeal. Through mid-January we received \$24,350 in donations – a little bit ahead of last year. There were still donations arriving regularly in late January.

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

If you haven't donated to the Appeal

yet, please visit the PATU website at www.patrou.org at any time and click on "DONATE" to help support the work of all the great TU volunteers throughout the Commonwealth.

Chapter treasurers and officers should also keep in mind the end of the fiscal year on March 31 and the need to start the process to timely file your Annual Activity Report (AAR) with TU as well as the IRS filings.

Expect to see additional information over the next several weeks about this year's AAR process and deadlines.

Chapter Donations

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

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- Adam's County

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CHP Conservation Grant Program open through March 4

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited is pleased to announce that Round 27 of the Coldwater Heritage Partnership's Coldwater Conservation Grant Program is now open.

Trout Unlimited chapters, watershed associations, conservation districts, conservancies, and municipalities are among those eligible to apply. Proposals for planning grants up to \$7,500 and implementation grants up to \$10,000 will be accepted until March 4, 2022.

CHP grants are made possible with financial assistance from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (PA DCNR) through a Community Conservation Partnerships Program

(C2P2) grant administered by the Bureau of Recreation and Conservation, AND through funding from the Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds. The Coldwater Heritage Partnership is a collaboration between PATU, PA DCNR, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, and the Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds.

Additional information, along with the grant application form, can be found on the Coldwater Heritage Partnership website at www.coldwaterheritage.org.

Website users can view an interactive map and searchable list of plans and projects that will aid grantees in locating existing plans and projects and identifying potential new projects in their watershed

of interest.

Applicants are asked to contact CHP Program Director, Rachel Kester, to discuss potential projects prior to applying. She can be reached at 814-359-5233 or by email at c-rkester@pa.gov.

Calendar of Events

March 16: WDI Committee Training

April 24: Spring EXCOM Meeting

July 17: Summer EXCOM Meeting

Sept. 17: PATU Annual Meeting

Oct. 16: Fall EXCOM Meeting

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 12-18.

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



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Fly Patterns of Pennsylvania

by Nick Cobler

Para-Post Griffith's Gnat

An easy, highly visible pattern that can be very productive all season long.

Fly Design / Highlights

- Utilizes a few, readily available materials
- Para-Post color can be modified for varying light conditions
- Imitates a midge or a cluster of midges

Background

Simplicity and effectiveness are two words that I take into consideration when it comes to choosing fly patterns to tie and fill my fly boxes for the season. And the Griffith's Gnat fits the bill on both those fronts. The pattern uses grizzly hackle palmered over a peacock body. The one small modification I like to add to the original design is adding a para-post indicator to help visibility on the water. Sometimes a darker indicator helps in lower light conditions so feel free to experiment with different post materials and color combinations.

About the Fly Pattern Designer

It is believed the Griffith's Gnat was created by a man named George Griffith, one of the 16 founders of Trout Unlimited (founded July 18, 1959). However, it has been written that the pattern was actually shown to him around 1939 and quickly became his favorite pattern to use, and the name stuck. Whether Mr. Griffith created it or not is up for discussion. What isn't, is the pattern's effectiveness to represent a midge or cluster of midges. Tie some up and try them out this winter!



Materials

- **Thread:** 8/0 Black
- **Body:** Peacock Herl
- **Post:** Para-post Material
- **Hackle:** Grizzly
- **Hook:** #16-#24

Try other small tufts of high-vis, antron, or other material for the post and see what you like best. If you prefer to not use a post, simply omit. You can always trail the Griffith's Gnat behind a larger dry for visibility.



Start and secure the thread at about the 25% mark and attach a tuft of material to form a post. Be sure to do a few wraps diagonally from front to back to secure it vertically.



Strip the lower fibers and catch a grizzly hackle in on the near side of the hook. Wrap back toward the bend of the hook securing the feather in place.



Move the thread behind the post and tie in one or two stands of peacock herl. I like to twist the herl around the thread to reinforce the material before wrapping forward.



Grab both the herl and thread and wrap in touching turns forward to behind the eye of the hook. Build up a robust body by adding additional wraps if you like. Secure the herl.



Wrap the grizzly hackle forward to just behind the eye of the hook — palmer style — and secure with a few tight thread wraps.



Form a neat head with a few whip finish turns and treat with a dab of head cement for added durability. Trim the para-post to a height of your liking and add it to your box!

ACCESS

from page 1

proving this section of Conewago Creek for more than 40 years. This section of Conewago Creek is the only special regulation trout water in the county.

At the meeting, Charlie Bennett, Knouse Foods' manager of environmental affairs, announced that the Cooperative was planning to sell a tract of land that contained one half-mile of Conewago Creek's special regulation section. There was concern by the conservation organization representatives that a new owner might not allow catch and release fly fishing only, and might not even want to allow public access for fishing. Bennett explained that it was his personal goal, as well as the desire of the Knouse Foods Cooperative board, to see if the public fishing access could be maintained even though the property was going to change ownership.

There was consensus by Adams County TU, PFBC, the Adams County Office of Planning and Development, the Land Conservancy of Adams County and the Watershed Alliance of Adams County to establish a Conewago Creek Access Task Group to explore purchasing a permanent fishing access easement from Knouse Foods before the property sold.

Within a brief time, as a PFBC Commissioner, I reported back to the group that the Commission had appraised the value of the permanent fishing access easement, as well as the right of way for a small parking lot and access road at \$100,000. I also noted that PFBC was willing to fund \$84,000 of the easement purchase. Hank Rajotte and Dave Swope of the Adams County chapter pledged to raise the additional \$16,000 necessary to fund the total easement purchase.

This time there was strong interest from the other Task Group members in purchasing the entire 58-acre property to protect and preserve not only the fishing access but also the riparian zone and land surrounding this section of Conewago Creek. The Task Group members felt that there was opportunity to apply for grant funds from government agencies and organizations that would help with the purchase.

There was consensus that the first step



Contributed Photos

Adams County TU President Hank Rajotte presents a check to Sarah Kipp, director of the Land Conservancy of Adams County, with the following in attendance, from left: Richard Lewis, Dave Keller, Howard Hellyer, Gary Perry, Mark Clowney, Dave Swope, PFBC Southcentral Region VP B.J. Small, and Frank Kozak.

in the possible outright purchase of the property was to obtain a real estate appraisal. An appraisal was conducted by Knouse Foods that valued the property at approximately \$450,000.

It was at this point that I thought that the project had turned into a "dream" because I was not confident that the Task Group would be able to raise that amount of money. However, other talented members of the Task Group, including Sarah Kipp (LCAC) and Frank Kozak (ACTU) had grant writing experience and they started digging to find grants that might help with the cost of purchasing the entire property.

Primarily due to the efforts of Sarah Kipp, we able to obtain \$200,000-plus from the Bureau of Recreation and Conservation in the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources through a grant from Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund. Through the efforts of Frank Kozak, we were able to obtain a grant from the Warehime Foundation for \$40,000.

In the fall of 2020, we applied for another grant from the PA Department of Community and Economic Development but were denied. We revised and resubmitted the grant application, but we were not hopeful. When our acquisition efforts started to drag on into the second year, we started to think that the "dream" was slipping away.

In 2021, Task Group members thought we should contact the Adams County Commissioners Office to see whether any of the Federal COVID-19 funds that were slated for the county could be used for this project, or whether other county funding



might be available. In June 2021, I called Jim Martin, one of the County Commissioners I know, to obtain his counsel. He asked if we had contacted the Adams County Soil Conservation District about partnering on this project. He asked for

See **ACCESS**, page 10

Chris Wood
CEO TROUT UNLIMITED

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PA Council of Trout Unlimited

Minutes of the Jan. 23, 2022
Executive Committee Meeting



Attendees: Rachel Kester, Greg Malaska, Russ Thrall, Bryan Mathie, Erick Lewis, Jake Tomlinson, Bobby Hughes, Lenny Lichvar, Brian Wagner, Rick Nyles, Russ Collins, Charlie Charlesworth, Kelly Williams, Todd Burns, Jennifer Orr-Greene, Jim O'Connor, Bob Pennell, Dave Rothrock, Nate Cozzens.

The meeting was called to order at 9:52 a.m. Minutes of the Oct. 10, 2021 EXCOM meeting were approved as submitted.

President's Report: Submitted by G. Malaska.

National TU Strategic Plan: Submitted by J. Tomlinson. In 2020, 485K acres were protected, 605 miles of streams were protected and 378 stream miles were connected. The five-year TU strategic plan includes – Our Vision: Our vision is for communities across America to engage in the work of repairing and renewing our rivers, streams and other water bodies on which we all depend. Our Mission: To bring together diverse interests to care for and recover rivers and streams so that our children can experience the joy of wild and native trout and salmon. TU is identifying priority waters in Pennsylvania through: a brook trout portfolio, wild trout populations, climate resiliency, demonstrated mapping app both overall and with filters, incorporating partner interests, resonance, conservation opportunity and TU's ability to add value. The goal is to create and expand group working in these areas to have an impact. Prioritized waters will have reports, opportunities and project portfolio. Next steps include identifying policy goals, and developing a mission and plans for watersheds.

Treasurer's Report: Submitted by R. Thrall. Preliminary and 990, prepared financial statements distributed. \$420K in cash is down slightly from last year. CHP is up slightly. We have \$218K in revenue. The Annual Appeal is surpassing goal. \$6K for bookkeeping and \$3.6K to accountant. Report approved.

List of Actions Taken: Actions taken via email.

Program Director's Report: Submitted by R. Kester. CHP – 2019-2018 rounds are closing out. 2020 round extended into 2022. 2021 round recently awarded and are being implemented. 2022 round awarded by DCNR awarded nearly total request. Grant amounts increased \$5K to \$7.5 for exploratory and up to \$10K for implementation. 114 are registered for Coldwater Conference. TIC – Trout Lodge is our egg source; lost eggs due to power outage. Feb. 3 is expected egg delivery date. KCC – Outreach director update: Need additional person, maxed out. R. Kester proposes funding additional full-time person. G. Malaska will address with Budget Committee. Forever Wild still has a couple of thousand funding left if there are other needs. Recognized J. O'Connor for fundraising for the KCC conference.

NLC Report: Picked up chair of climate change workgroup with co-chair Jeff Holsum. Climate Change/Pollution – A Texas company wants to build a gasoline from natural gas plant on the upper Susquehanna River. There is a Climate Change Trout PowerPoint program, assembled by National TU staff. Distribute through RVPs to chapters for viewing.

Advocacy Report: Submitted by J. Orr-Greene and E. Baldauf. Federally, Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act funding is starting to be incorporated into spend plans by the federal agencies and into PA. There are opportunities to pass through funds to get to the ground, first through fish and wildlife, etc., some through states (expect many opportunities), prepare shovel-ready lists to help place funding, expect that on the ground results will be quick-hitters; will send qualification information. Think double benefits – maintenance needs plus habitat/environmental improvement. In Pennsylvania, Feb. 8 is the governor's budget address and income has been greater than expected. Rep. Metcalf is

not seeking reelection this year. Spill Reporting Bill – Bills 545 and 1842 – expect governor to veto if approved. Bill 545 is in appropriations – B. Mathie asked for an Action Alert on this in addition to the letter soon. K. Williams had asked for data re: Saltlick Run Clearfield County. If the stream stays as high quality water, more protections/treatment are in place. PATU should weigh in on this one as against downgrading streams for easier industrial operations. PFBC did survey and found trout everywhere. DEP is following up with data collection, we want to avoid this becoming precedent, it could be far reaching and PATU may want to weigh in. TRCP approached TU nationally and PATU for advocacy for environmental funding specific to the Delaware River. They would like \$2,500 to help with these efforts and attend meetings similar to last year. A motion made to enter into an agreement was approved. J. Orr-Greene will email to advise approval. Need to send meetings we participated in. R. Thrall will handle invoicing. G. Malaska: Congressman Thompson re: Farm Bill – he is the ranking member of the Agriculture Committee. A new Farm Bill will be issued late 2023 early 2024. Are there projects funded by Farm Bill that we could get him out to see such as CREP, RCPP, USDA-funded projects? Are there projects where we've worked with farmers or forest land-owners that we could present? J. Orr-Greene to send out map of GT districts. Growing Greener III is in Senate appropriations. Gordner's Bill 525 – additional money is expected to go into the governor's budget for this, there was talk of about \$50 million.

Financial Reviewer Report: Submitted by N. Cozzens. No financial irregularities found.

Regional VP Reports:

Action Items:

- Put membership expirations on mailings.
- Monitoring injection wells information is desired.
- Change of leadership for Fort Bedford and Ken Sink chapters. Focusing on outreach to PFBC Commissioners and working on new committees for advocacy.

- Five of seven chapters had leadership turnover in the Southcentral Region.
- Two chapters had leadership turnover in the Southeast Region. RVP attended Susquehanna River Symposium, the theme was river flooding. Towns and townships along the river are building flood walls levees etc. and expect additional flooding due to climate change. The flooding trend is going upward.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trout Policy Committee Report:

Submitted by L. Lichvar. Freeman Run recent activity – notified late last year of opportunity within Commissioners to offer stocking exemption. We mobilized with a plan and engaged. J. Orr-Greene: Response to proposal completed, precedent setting, contrary to stocking intent. Result was much correspondence to Commissioners. Tested our ability to do this. Yes. Native Fish Coalition working relationship built, they mobilized as well. Fisheries Committee meeting, it came up, motion was formally put on floor, motion did not receive a second. PFBC Harrisburg staff opposed this exemption. Thirteen Class A sections fisheries and social survey results data is starting to become available. Expect at the July PFBC Commissioners' meeting this will be brought up. Freeman Run can be looked at as a test. Can we get the word out to mobilize for this upcoming larger opportunity? We got 50-60 comments on this from the community. We need to do better. G. Malaska: We have six months to develop a message to get on top of this, statewide campaign to work on it. L. Lichvar: We need to get this to the top of TU and outside the boundaries of PA. J. Orr-Greene: A couple of tools available for members who have provided email and mail addresses, via National TU resources. We get a lot of input on PA issues from outside PA. C. Wood is on board. R. Thrall to engage with National TU staff. C. Charlesworth: Can we get Chris Wood to come to the PFBC Commissioners' meeting to make a presentation? Please CC any of this to J. Orr-Greene so she can stay on top of this. C. Charlesworth: We need to select an in-person meeting to attend.

Delaware River Report: Submitted by J. Skelding. NLRC is coming up. Lehigh

Coldwater Fisheries: A letter was sent to the Army Corps of Engineers, should we get involved. An Advisory Committee meeting is March 13.

Conservation Committee Report:

Submitted by B. Wagner. Ken Sink Chapter asked to look into forever chemicals. Looking for a person to compile information. Helen Nevel, TU senior scientist, has been contacted. Dumping of conventional oil and gas waste water to control dust – concerns about brine dumping over drinking water standards and effects on trout streams. Culvert assessments – engaging TU chapters in this. National can do a training, but do we have interest. Two-day training with class and in-field assessment is needed for certification. B. Mathie: Could we get regional trainers up to speed? B. Hughes: We need to get people identified for participation in training. Forever Wild – EXCOM approved for Muddy Creek Chapter. Seneca Chapter seeks funding for rehabilitating multiple structures on the Upper Allegheny River: feeders, rock features such as R6 & R4 stone, \$2,400, committee is recommending, matching funds bring total to \$5,280 – G. Malaska motioned to approve. R. Thrall seconded. Approved.

Diversity Committee Report:

Submitted by K. Williams. Completed R3 grant obligations. More loaner sites established. Virtual committee reports will be ongoing. Share Zoom information and schedule with chapters.

Youth Committee Report: The 5 Rivers program is busy at Lackawanna.

VSP Committee Report: Open at this time. Any candidates?

OLD BUSINESS

EITC Promotion: Looking for business that can take advantage of tax credits. Need a Development Committee.

Regional Trainings: Presentation from B. Mathie re: Regional Round Table. J. Orr-Greene and E. Baldauf package of information. Tim Shaffer can provide Commission updates. All three can get done in two hours, or do we split up into multiple shorter sessions? Single event of three separate: One event March 12 from 9-11 a.m. on a Saturday. G. Malaska to help with promotional materials. March

12 selected.

NEW BUSINESS

Merchandise Sales: It's a slow time of year until we publish PA Trout. Will have table at the KCC. There is a new ultralight 3-weight rod and a catch and release license plate frame.

Chris Wood Fundraiser: R. Nyles – the trip will happen in May and winner gets to fish with TU's Chris Woods. Current bid is \$500. Derek Eberly will join the group this year. Winner writes check to PATU. Need to determine where the money will go.

PFBC Access Group: PFBC is interested in creating an access group. J. Orr-Greene said PFBC is re-upping its access strategy, to be moved to a different section of the commission. On hold until PFBC gives a green light.

Class A Upgrades: Sent letter of support.

Budget Committee: R Thrall will chair, K. Williams is interested, G. Malaska will be participating. EVP is needed to support, B. Hughes will be on the committee, as will J. O'Connor. R. Thrall to schedule first meeting. G. Malaska: First priority is outreach resource. R. Thrall: Will distribute spreadsheets to committees.

National Awards at Annual Meeting: G. Malaska is putting together nomination for Council of the Year.

July EXCOM Meeting: Would we like to do a meeting somewhere else?

PATU Annual Meeting Date: Sept. 17 is an away game weekend for Penn State. Looking for location ideas.

Chatham University and Duquesne University TIC: Setting up a virtual TIC, livestreaming hatching, etc. Penn's Woods West Chapter is supporting. Will help disadvantaged schools. Live events, etc. at the end of February. RVPs to reach out to see if others are interested.

Attorney General's Office KCC: Asked about attending the KCC, do we want to put them in the schedule?

PFBC Meeting Jan. 24: The PFBC meeting starts at 10 a.m. and is being livestreamed.

U.S. Secretary of the Interior: Will be in NE Pennsylvania Jan. 24. TU will be represented in discussions.

Meeting adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Erick Lewis – Secretary*

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more detailed information on the project but did not make any commitments.

In July 2021, I wrote to all three county commissioners describing the project and asking whether any county funds might be available. Steve Nevada, the Adams County manager, replied for the three commissioners and explained that the county had been contacted by many individuals and organizations about tapping into the Federal COVID-19 funding that was committed to the county. He noted that we would be put on that list of those who had made a query about this funding.

In September 2021, I learned that Jim Martin had attended an Adams County Conservation District board meeting and encouraged the board members to consider allocating some funding for the project. ACTU Treasurer Dave Swope spoke about the importance and value of the acquisition project at this board meeting.

Ultimately, the County Soil Conservation District approved the expenditure of the final \$75,000 we needed to complete the purchase the property. After than two years of Task Group work the Conewago Creek Project went from “reaching for a dream” status to a reality.

A few more low hurdles were overcome and on Dec. 30, 2021, the property sale closing took place and Knouse Foods Cooperative transferred the property to the Land Conservancy of Adams County. LCAC then immediately transferred the property to the PFBC. Soon, Adams County TU will sign a 25-year, long-term management and protection agreement with the PFBC so the chapter can continue its work on stream improvement, trails, fencing, signage and the construction of an access road and anglers’ parking lot.

After the access road and parking lot construction is completed in the first quarter of 2022, ACTU is planning to host a dedication event.

Congratulations to an amazing group of Task Group members whose commitment, talent, knowledge, skill and perseverance moved this “dream” property acquisition and preservation of forever angler access to a successful conclusion.

Thank you to the 2022 Keystone Coldwater Conference sponsors

PATU, the Coldwater Heritage Partnership, and the PA American Fisheries Society would like to thank our generous sponsors, listed below. Please make sure you visit them online and at the conference to thank them for their generous support!

Keystone

PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

Brook Trout

Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds

Brown Trout

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

ARIPPA

Brookfield Renewable U.S.

Flyway Excavating, Inc.

Keller Engineers, Inc.
PA Environment Digest

Rainbow Trout

Aquatic Resource Restoration Company
Donegal Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Earth Conservancy
Keystone Ten Million Trees Partnership
North Muddy Fish & Game Association

Student Poster

Doc Fritchey Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Eastern Pennsylvania Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation
Jennifer Orr-Greene
Muddy Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Penns Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited



CONFERENCE

from page 1

menu of topics due to our partnership with PAAFS. This will make for an especially interesting and informative conference, so we hope you will join us!

The conference will feature four workshops on Friday afternoon, followed by dinner, the keynote address, a student poster session, and evening social. Sat-

urday will kick off with a plenary panel discussion followed by over 30 concurrent sessions to choose from throughout the day. There is sure to be something of interest for everyone.

If you haven’t registered, please do so by Friday, Feb. 18, at which time registration will close. Additional information along with a link to register can be found at www.coldwaterconference.org.

Questions can be directed to Rachel Kester at c-rkester@pa.gov or 814-359-5233.

Free training set for PATU chapters

PATU’s Women, Diversity, Inclusion Committee is offering free training for interested 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: March 16, 2022 (6-8 p.m.) – <https://tu.myeventscenter.com/event/Patu-Women-Diversity-And-Inclusion-Virtual-57982>

Keystone Coldwater Conference

“Learning from the Past, Adapting for the Future”

Friday, February 25, 2022

11a.m.-5 p.m. – Registration

11 a.m.-1 p.m. – Exhibitor Setup

11-4 p.m. – Concurrent Workshops

1-2:30 p.m. –

- Fish Community Responses to Changing Environments Using the Thermal Fish Index – *Wertz & Shank*
- PATU Women, Diversity, and Inclusion – Efforts in PA and How You Can Get Started! – *Daniel & Williams*

2:30-3 p.m. – Break and Networking

3-4:30 p.m. –

- Building Community Around Conservation – *Yates*
- Navigating the Waters of Youth Engagement – *Kester & Gee*

5-7 p.m. – Dinner, Welcome, and Keynote Address – *Tim Schaeffer (PFBC) & Greg Czarnecki (DCNR)*

7-9 p.m. – Student Poster Session & Evening Social (Desserts/ Cash Bar)

Saturday, February 26, 2022

7-8 a.m. – Registration

8-10 a.m. – Welcome & Plenary Session – Learning from the Past, Adapting for the Future – *Ben Hayes, moderator; Panelists – Eric Chapman, Sheila Eyler; Lisa Hollingsworth-Segedy, Jen Orr-Greene and Shawn Rummel*

10-10:30 a.m. – Break/Networking

10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. – Concurrent Presentations

10:30-10:50 a.m. –

- The Compleat Angler on Penns Creek – *Siewers, Foradora, & Jamison*
- Biological resistance by native Brown Trout impedes colonization by endangered European Eel – *Young*
- Power Analysis for Detecting the Effects of Best Management Practices on Reducing Nitrogen and Phosphorus Fluxes to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, USA – *McLaughlin*
- Development and validation of two environmental DNA assays for American Eel (*Anguilla rostrata*) – *Moyer, Grassi, Bartron, Rees, Galbraith*

11-11:20 a.m. –

- Trout Unlimited Priority Waters – *Tomlinson*
- Juvenile drift of round gobies (*Neogobius melanostomus*) in the French Creek watershed as a means of range expansion – *Hemmelgarn*
- Influence of abiotic variables on biological recovery from abandoned mine drainage in a western Pennsylvania watershed – *Hershberger*
- Assessing Western Pennsylvania Stream Readiness for Mussel Recovery and Restoration – *Walsh*

11:30 a.m.-12 p.m. –

- The Penn State Master Watershed Steward Volunteer Program Can Help You! – *Kunsmann*
- Using Environmental DNA in the Management of Two Invasive Fish Species in the Susquehanna River Basin – *Steffy*

- Quantifying the roles of biotic and abiotic factors structuring stream fish communities – *Custer*
- Wood turtles & stream restoration: opportunities for the conservation of non-target taxa – *Novak*

12-1 p.m. – Lunch

1-1:20 p.m. –

- Watershed Friendly Property Certification – *Mansberger*
- Population Ecology and Comparison of Methods for Sampling Invasive Round Goby (*Neogobius melanostomus*) in LeBoeuf Lake, Pennsylvania – *Byington*
- What scales are important for brook trout conservation? A look at the processes that shape brook trout diversity across space and time – *White, Hallerman and Kazyak*
- Taking the Long View: Temporal Attenuation of Abandoned Mine Drainage in the Mill Creek Watershed – *Turner*

1:30-1:50 p.m. –

- Using Live Stake Nurseries to Engage Communities – *Marioni*
- Preliminary diet analysis of the invasive Flathead Catfish in the Susquehanna River Basin, PA – *Stark*
- Brubaker Run Waste Coal Reclamation Project – *Panaro*
- Evaluation of downstream migration of silver American eel in the Susquehanna River basin – *Eyler*

2-2:20 p.m. –

- DCNR Funding and Riparian Buffers – *Edenbo & Graham*
- A century of stream restoration in Pennsylvania: What can we learn? – *Hayes & Gearhart*
- Evaluation of the Impacts of Land-Use on Stream Temperature and Water Quantity in a Karst Watershed of Central Pennsylvania – *Orr*
- Flooding the future for river chub? Predicted effects of climate change and urbanization on nesting activity – *Kemp*

2:30-2:50 p.m. –

- 3RQ Monitoring and WATERS – *Barreiro*
- Beaver and Trout: Don't Believe Everything You Think – Leveraging the Ecosystem Services of the North American Beaver as a Tool for Trout Stream Restoration – *McGill*
- Culverts are Associated with Disjunct Aquatic Assemblages – *Croteau & Haussmann*
- Plunketts Creek Berm Removal – *Carey & Mee*

3-3:20 p.m. –

- Harnessing the Power of Subbasin Analysis to Inform Impaired Stream Restoration and Watershed Management – *Glagola & Gish*
- Total Dissolved Solids Trends in the Monongahela River – *Kingsbury*
- Evaluating Current and Historic Fish Community Assessments in the Buffalo Creek Watershed – *Williams & Wilson*
- American Eel Restoration in the Susquehanna River Basin – *Henning*

3:30-4 p.m. – Awards and Closing Remarks

NORTHEAST CHAPTERS

Brodhead 289
Forks of the Delaware 482
Hokendauqua 535
Lackawanna Valley 414
Monocacy 491
Pike-Wayne 462
Schuykill 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

We have continued planning for restoration projects on McMichael Creek on the Pomeroy Preserve, Cherry Creek in partnership with US Fish and Wildlife Service, and projects on the Paradise Creek headwaters. We are expecting a fall tree planting/buffer restoration project to also move forward. We have five TIC programs. Our TIC Coordinator, Larry Ott, assisted the Pike/Wayne Chapter in setting up its TIC program at Western Wayne School District. We held an Intro to Fly Fishing class at the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center on Oct. 24. The chapter incorporated a diversity column into our newsletter featuring important women in the chapter and TU at large. We received an Embrace A Stream Grant from National TU and we are pursuing an Open Space Grant from the Monroe County Planning Commission for our Pomeroy Preserve McMichaels Creek Project. Brodhead Fly Tyers meet at 6 p.m. on Feb. 21 and March 21 at Brodhead Creek Heritage Center, 1539 Cherry Lane Road, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301. Tim Flagler is scheduled to present at our March 9 general meeting.

Forks of the Delaware Chapter #482

Joe Baylog

610-751-9116, baylogj@gmail.com

https://forksofthedelaware.tu.org/

The chapter signed on to a letter from the Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed regarding DEP spill guidance and opposition to SB 545 and HB 1842 which would weaken the Clean Streams Law as to when a spill or discharge would have to

be reported. We made comment to DEP concerning proposed development of wetlands feeding Nancy Run, a Class A, high-quality fishery in Bethlehem Township, Northampton County. We received correspondence regarding expansion of the Hercules quarry in Stockertown. Numerous deficiencies need to be addressed by the quarry. On Oct. 16, 175 trees and shrubs were planted by chapter volunteers, Bushkill Stream Conservancy and Wildlands Conservancy as part of the recent Bushkill Creek restoration project at Mill Race Park in Palmer Township and Braden Park in Tatamy. We picked up 26 bags of trash along Bushkill Drive on Nov. 14 as part of the Adopt-A-Highway program. The chapter is planning a four-session biweekly educational/fly tying course that started Feb. 2 in conjunction with Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center (JEEC), featuring mayflies, stoneflies, caddisflies and bait fish. We are sponsoring two TIC programs this year in Nazareth and Wind Gap middle schools.

Hokendauqua Chapter #535

Art Williams

610-266-1788, awilliams1947@hotmail.com

http://hokendauqua.tu.org

We continue to monitor the work on the Coplay Creek, which has been completed. We plan on doing a follow-up survey of the stream in the spring to see what effect the project has had on macroinvertebrates. We also contributed to the Broadhead Chapter to help with their improvement project on the McMichael's Creek. We sponsor three TIC programs at local middle schools. We are hosting our annual fly tying course in January and February at Northampton Middle School.

Lackawanna Valley Chapter #414

Jacob Bliss

570-833-2091, jacobbliss93@outlook.com

www.lackawannavalleytu.org

Our 5 Rivers Club, the Keystone Creekwalkers,



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Free River Tour

www.littlejuniata.org or email

bjuniata@verizon.net

is having its annual Outdoor Expo from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 20 at the Fleetville Firehall, 58 Firehouse Lane, Factoryville, PA. We are planning a tree planting work day for the upcoming spring as well as stream cleanups. Our LVTU/Keystone College TU Teens Summer Camp will be held either the week before or the week after Father's Day. Students will be housed at Keystone College where they will learn how to fly fish, tie flies, and read water, as well as learn fisheries biology, stream ecology, coldwater conservation and practices of TU. Membership meetings are held the third Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m.

Monocacy Chapter #491

Erik Broesicke

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www.monocacytu.org

No report.



GET A CUSTOM TROUT UNLIMITED PENNSYLVANIA LICENSE PLATE!

Want to show others that you're a proud member of PATU and support the mission of Trout Unlimited? Well, you can, and it will only cost you a onetime charge of \$27 for a specialty PA license plate. The custom plate fee is in addition to your annual registration fee, and the plate is available for passenger cars and trucks 14,000 lbs. or less, motor homes and trailers.

To order your Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited PA state license plate, send your name, TU membership number and current PA license plate number by email to ealewis@geisinger.edu or mail to:

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.

Pike-Wayne Chapter #462

Paul Ranello
973-452-9301
www.pwtu.org

The chapter's banquet/fundraiser is April 9 at Lukan's Farm and Resort. We donated a day of fly fishing with a guide to the Lackawaxen River & Trails online auction. We attend monthly Pike County Conservation District meetings on Zoom. Emily Baldauff, TU Mid-Atlantic Organizer, gave a presentation at our November meeting.

Schuylkill County Chapter #537

Brian Lengel
717-708-8846, brianlengel7@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/
SchuylkillCountyTroutUnlimited

The chapter placed vibrant boxes in approved trout waters with 3,000 brown trout eggs and had over 85 percent hatch. We also stocked 300 brook trout between 4-6 inches. We are hosting a kids' environmental day in June. We donated \$500 to Schuylkill County Headwaters for its Jan. 1 event.

Shehawken Chapter #81

Joe DeMalderis
914-475-6779, crosscurrent@optonline.net
https://www.facebook.com/Shehawken-
Trout-Unlimited-811023349070239/

Shehawken TU raised \$2,500 to study Knotweed issues. Field activities are completed for an underwater survey of Shehawken Creek. We are awaiting results of the survey.

Stanley Cooper, Sr. Chapter #251

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

Tim Flagler spoke about fishing Patagonia on Jan. 11. Our conservation banquet is March 26 at East Mountain Inn.

Western Pocono Chapter #203

George Hludzik
570-788-2121, grhlaw@ptd.net
www.tu.org/connect/groups/
203-western-pocono

WPTU chapter officials will meet with Council reps and Northeast Region officials to discuss reorganizing the chapter and inviting new officers to volunteer. Although the chapter has not held an official meeting since the beginning of COVID, membership has increased tremendously from its already very good numbers. Meeting attendance prior to the pandemic was excellent and the White Haven Library and Community Center still offers a wonderful meeting venue on the banks of the Lehigh River. WPTU officers have been involved with other TU members in realizing the new acquisition of 2,700 acres of land known as Penrose Swamp/Barrens. The large area located between Weatherly and Hazleton was recently turned over to the PA Bureau of Forestry, Weiser District for management. The remote area includes four Class A streams and is renowned as a haven for wildlife and rare plants. WPTU board member, Mike Gondell, began a campaign 30 years ago for protection of this special area when he notified land conservancy officials and botanists from the University of Pennsylvania of the 100 acres of rare Climbing Fern and possibly other unique plants that inhabit this site. Botanists Dr. Roger Latham, Dr. Tim Block and Dr. Ann Rhoads verified it as probably the largest colony of its kind in the world. Longtime WPTU chapter official Ray Youngblood and Brodhead TU officers Don Miller and Don Baylor also were instrumental in supporting acquisition efforts and Bobby Hughes, director of EPCAMR, did some stream analysis work a few years ago at headwaters farther upstream. Dr. Dawn Gorham of The Wildlands Conservancy provided outstanding work in acquiring funding for the project after she and TWC Director Chris Kocher visited the area four years

ago with Gondell and those previously mentioned from TU. Gondell and Youngblood recently met with BOF District Forester Tim Ladner, who will manage this area that will be open for traditional outdoor recreation including hunting, fishing, foraging, photography, birding, hiking and further scientific study.

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

Gary Parzanese

491 Walnut St.

Reedsville, PA 17084

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Phone: 717-437-0318

Columbia County Chapter #38

Erick Lewis
607-621-8126, ealewis@geisinger.edu

Tree planting at Roaring Creek and litter cleanup at Fishing Creek are planned for this spring. Fly tying classes are planned for January through March. Dave Rothrock is speaking at our chapter meeting on April 12 at the Columbia

Continued on next page...



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



...Continued from previous page

County Conservation District Office, 702 Sawmill Road, Bloomsburg, PA 17815.

God's Country Chapter #327

David Saulter

814-274-9763, saulterdg@yahoo.com

The chapter held a meeting on Oct. 28, our last meeting for the year. We donated \$250 to the local library fund. The chapter also received \$460 in donations in honor of Milton Freeman, a Korean War and Vietnam veteran who was an avid supporter of the chapter's Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing events and loved riding the bus for the 45-mile parade with other local veteran's for the welcoming part of our event through the county. The chapter also approved a \$2000 Embrace A Stream Grant for the Little Portage Creek fish passage project in southern Potter County, in conjunction with the Potter County Conservation District, PFBC and other grant programs. We were able to raise \$1,125 in an Embrace A Stream challenge, totaling \$4,625 for the chapter's contribution, plus \$500 for sweat labor for this project. Total estimated cost is approximately \$140,000 for the project, which will remove a fish passage barrier and open an additional eight miles of wild trout water on the Little Portage.

Lloyd Wilson Chapter #224

Bill Bailey

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www.lwtu.org

We had a successful banquet/raffle/annual meeting in November. Members did some stream improvement work on Antes Creek in the fall. The chapter supported the inclusion of the PFBC's list of waters proposed to be included in Wild Trout and Class A categories. The chapter supported Susquehanna TU in its opposition to the development of more ATV trails in the Pine Creek Watershed.

Penns Creek Chapter #119

Joe Dunmire

717-899-6085, jhjazzbo@hotmail.com

Our Winter Social was Dec. 7 at the Stonefly Cafe. Members attended an on-site showing, with representatives of the Pennsylvania Game Commission and the USFW, on a one mile section of Jacks Creek. This section is located on State Game Lands and is Class A Wild Trout. The project is to take place this year. Members assisted the Mifflin County Conservation District with a self-guided tour of the finished project on Kish Creek at Kish Park. The chapter donated money to sponsor student exhibitors at Keystone Coldwater Conference; gauged interest for a fly tying course at the YMCA; contacted local Girl Scout troops to find interest in Stream Girls; looked for local youth to sponsor at Rivers Conservation and Fly

Fishing Youth Camp. The chapter received info that DCNR has applied for permits to repair flood damaged in-stream structures at Karl Guss State Park on East Licking Creek. Four schools were indicated they will participate in TIC. Our next meeting is March 9. Our annual banquet is March 12 at Belleville Mennonite School.

R.B. Winter Chapter #124

Rod Jones

570-259-7205, flyrodjones@gmail.com

facebook.com/

RBWinterTroutUnlimitedChapter/

The chapter's annual banquet was held at the Watson Inn, Watsontown, on Sept. 17. Dave Rothrock, a guide with Sky Blue Outfitters, was the speaker. Middle Susquehanna Riverkeeper John Zaktansky spoke at our Oct. 20 chapter meeting. At our Nov. 17 meeting, Ben Hayes, program director, watershed sciences and engineering, gave a presentation on the geologic history of the Susquehanna River. Our Dec. 15 meeting featured speaker Eric Hussar, District 5 Commissioner for the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. He talked about protections for wild trout. Chapter members attended the Susquehanna River Consortium at Bucknell University on Nov. 5-6. Intermediate fly tying classes began Jan. 3 at the Lewisburg Hotel, Lewisburg, and beginner fly tying classes began Jan. 10 at Christ Lutheran Church, 100 S. 3rd Street, Lewisburg. Our next meeting is March 16 at the Lewisburg Hotel.

Spring Creek Chapter #185

Jamie SanFilippo

SanFilippo.Jamie@gmail.com

www.springcreekto.org

The chapter held our annual redd count on Nov. 21, and 1,981 redds were counted, an increase from the last five years. Our Sparrow Run project has been completed. Our Veteran Service Program held a fishing event on Nov. 7 at Fisherman's Paradise. Volunteers assisted with the Team USA Youth Reel Girls Clinic held in August. The Young Republican Clubs of Centre and Clinton Counties donated \$2,230 to our Veteran Service Program. Our Women Anglers Group continues to be active, meeting once per month. We are applying for Growing Greener Plus grants for several potential stream restoration projects in the Spring Creek Watershed. Matt Reilly gave a Zoom presentation on Oct. 7 about musky and smallmouth bass fishing. Dr. Bob Carline gave a Zoom presentation about climate change on Nov. 4. Our beginner and intermediate fly tying courses ran in January and February. Fly Fishing 101 is Feb. 19, 26 and March 5, 12 at South Hills Business School. Our annual banquet is March 19 at Mt. View Country Club.

Susquehanna Chapter #044

Walt Nicholson

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www.susquehannatu.com

The chapter presented a framed certificate of appreciation to founding member Bill O'Connor at the November chapter meeting for his long service and leadership to TU and the angling community, honoring him as a Susquehanna Chapter Director Emeritus. A salute to Bill from Tim Schaeffer, executive director of PFBC, was also read at the meeting. We received donations of fly fishing tackle and fly tying vices and tools. Our president delivered testimony regarding the extension of ATV trails in the Pine Creek area on Dec. 8 to the PA Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee. Our comments focused on concerns about erosion and sedimentation to Trout Run – a sensitive, high quality, cold water Class A Wild Trout stream – from opening up the adjacent forest road to ATV use. The chapter is reaching out to the fly fishing clubs at Montgomery and Williamsport high schools by providing them with fly fishing and fly tying equipment and purchasing TU memberships. Dr. Peter Petokas of the Lycoming College Clean Water Institute spoke at the November chapter meeting about the Natural History and Conservation of the Eastern Hellbender, a "canary in the coal mine" indicator species for local trout rivers. Our next meeting is March 9 at Covenant Central Presbyterian Church, 807 W 4th St., Williamsport, PA 17701.

Tiadaghton Chapter #688

Jere White

570-662-2167, whitesgordonsetters@gmail.com
www.tiadaghtontu.com

We are planning to conduct an IF4 Film Festival on March 26 at the Deane Center in Wellsboro. All permitting has been completed for our Coldwater Heritage grant chop and drop project on Blue Run in Tioga County. Blue Run is a tributary of Long Run that flows into Pine Creek at the town of Gaines. The project will start in February and will include large wood additions to 1.6 miles of Blue Run at 200 foot intervals. The chapter is looking at co-sponsoring a wild brook trout conference in May in conjunction with the Tioga County Conservation District.

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

Kelly Williams

152 Geno Lane

Reynoldsville, PA 15851

Email: kwilliamsccd@atlanticbbs.net

Phone: 814-591-1299

Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036

Codey Schlemmer

814-953-5295, schlemmerservices@gmail.com

www.amctu.org

Our banquet is April 9 at the Falls Creek Eagles. We have an agreement with the PA Game Commission to remove the remnants of the old Punxsutawney Reservoir. The Jefferson County Conservation District said that we are going to need a dam removal permit. We will investigate this along with the possibility of applying for a Coldwater Heritage Grant for either Clover Run or East Branch of the Mahoning. We will be holding a call with all interested parties in the watershed to assess interest. The chapter sent a letter to PFBC opposing any stocking on streams that are listed as Class A. We are hosting our fly tying roundtable each Monday through March at the Lakeside Methodist Church in DuBois. We are also back in the DuBois Middle School with the Fly Fishing Club and will once again host the Environmental Day at Camp Mountain Run in May.

Caldwell Creek Chapter #437

Tom Savko

814-664-2124, tksavko2@verizon.net

www.facebook.com/CaldwellCreekTU437

We are ramping up water testing frequency at our testing sites around the injection wells because we had high readings on a data logger that we have near the wells. We reported our findings to the EPA. They investigated and issued violations.

Cornplanter Chapter #526

Troy McDunn

814-723-3759, hdpartsman@verizon.net

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

No report.

Iron Furnace Chapter #288

Mark Hanes

724-464-7320, m_d_hanes@yahoo.com

www.ironfurnacetu.net

We have made some changes to our meeting dates to better serve our membership. Membership meetings have been moved to the third Wednesday of each month. We do not have a general meeting in January or February due to past weather issues and other events typically held in those months. Locations of the meetings are announced in mailings and emails as well as on social media. Board meetings are held the first

Wednesday of every other month. Our Pint Night and Jac Ford Book Signing Event was Jan. 21 at Clarion River Brewing Company in Clarion. Jac Ford is a nationally-known fly fishing guide for the past 50 years in Michigan and Montana. His new book "The View From the Middle Seat" is gaining some rave reviews in the fly fishing world and were excited to have him as a guest of the chapter. We are hoping to work with Western Pennsylvania Conservancy on possible planting at our Clear Creek habitat project site as well as with work that is set to be done at the mouth of Clear Creek and the Clarion River. We are working with DCNR to get native brook trout signage along Clear Creek and hopefully Callen Run. The poster will show that the streams are home to native brook trout and that they need to be protected. Fly tying classes are set for Feb. 12 and 19 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. We are in the early stages of planning a veteran's fly fishing outing on Leatherwood Creek in early June. We have been in contact with Project Healing Waters and have it on their calendar.

James Zwald Chapter #314

Murray Neep

814-834-3472, mneep@zitomedia.net

The Jim Zwald Chapter does not meet in November and December. We are continuing to meet at Elk County Conservation District to hold our meetings in their conference room and using their Zoom technology when required. The chapter concluded its fundraising raffle with prizes distributed to winners from Ridgway, St. Marys and Butler. Elk County Conservation District is taking the lead on pursuing grant funds for the AMD construction and implementation phase on the West Creek tributary to Driftwood. Additional habitat structures are scheduled to be added to the special regulation area of the West Branch of the Clarion River. The project is funded by the chapter's Stackpole Hall Foundation grant and with personnel from the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy and Seneca Resources on Landvest property. Habitat structures have been placed on Gallagher Run in Ridgway on St. Leo Elementary School's campus with riparian plantings scheduled for this spring. The chapter continues to support TIC in Elk and Cameron county schools. St. Leo's has identified a TIC teacher and has been provided equipment by the chapter. In addition, the chapter will be working with ECCD to pursue grants for the implementation phase of the West Creek AMD project (Phase III) and Sandy Beach access projects.

Neshannock Creek #216

Matt Ceremuga

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

www.neshannock-tu.org

The chapter's 2022 banquet is March 25 at Tiffany's Banquet Center. We purchased 2A limestone for the upper parking lot of Coolspring's

DHALO area. The limestone was spread by a TU volunteer with a front-end loader in October. This project is complete. A stream improvement project was completed Aug. 21 on Deer Creek. TU volunteers worked with the state to complete 80 feet of stream bank improvements. Grants for a new TIC program did not cover all of the equipment needed so we purchased miscellaneous equipment that was needed. We also discussed paying for the repair of a chiller to have on hand for a spare to cover any breakdowns. 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. Our next board meeting is Feb. 28 at Munnell Run Farm, Mercer.

Northwest PA Chapter #41

Bill Eckert

814-392-2696, bill@eckertappraisals.com

<http://nwpachaptertu.blogspot.com>

In October, our guest speaker Annie Maloney, director of the Federation for Sustainable Forests, outlined their organization's mission and to thank us for our earlier donation that helped them purchase 500 acres along Caldwell Creek. In November, Adam Cotchen, watershed specialist for the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, outlined what the Conservancy's plans were for its restoration work on Trout Run, one of the few Class A wild brown trout streams in Erie County. Chapter members participated in a virtual meeting to view the Conservancy's preliminary plan for Trout Run to reduce sedimentation and provided comments during the allotted period.

Oil Creek Chapter #424

Jennifer Lyons

814-671-1292, lyonssj3876@gmail.com

www.oilcreektu.org

The chapter's Christmas dinner was held Dec. 15 at Dawndi's Restaurant. Our annual banquet is Sept. 10 at The Inn at Franklin in Franklin, PA. We continue to work with the Venango Conservation District. A dirt & gravel road project, a box culvert, was completed in Canal Township. Electroshocking was done on Cherry Run. Water testing is ongoing at Justus Lake and Two Mile Run. We attended the Venango County Dirt & Gravel Roads Committee meeting on Nov. 3. There were seven projects submitted for the county and four were approved. We received a fly rod outfit for youth education from National TU. Members assisted with Titusville Middle School's Watershed Day on Oct. 15. Bradley Thompson gave a talk on his fishing guide training this past year. It included training in areas such as CPR, fly tying, guide routine, guide process, laws, conservation, techniques and diplomacy. He worked as a guide this past summer in Pennsylvania and is planning on possibly working in Alaska next year. Our

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next meeting is March 16 at King's Restaurant in Franklin.

Seneca Chapter #272

Chase Howard

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

Recent chapter meetings have been conducted via Zoom and will continue to be for the foreseeable future. The chapter's annual fly tying classes will be taught virtually via Zoom in March. The chapter has applied for a Western Pennsylvania Conservancy Watershed Mini Grant and a PATU Forever Wild Grant to implement two in-stream habitat projects on Sartwell Creek, a tributary to the Upper Allegheny River.

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

212 Deysher Rd.

Fleetwood, PA 19522

Email: rick@skyblueoutfitters.com

Phone: 610-987-0073

Bucks County Chapter #254

Daniel Weaver

215-219-8574, icedtman2@yahoo.com
www.buckstu.org

No report.

Delco Manning Chapter #320

Charles Lesky

charlesleskyjr@gmail.com
www.dmtu.org

No report.

Little Lehigh Chapter #070

Dan Dow

ddow23@gmail.com
www.lltu.org

No report.

Perkiomen Valley #332

Brian Fulop

610-564-9899, bryanfulop@yahoo.com
www.pvtu.org

We are currently working on stream restoration project phase I of the West Branch Perkiomen Creek at Longacre Farm, Berks County. We are projecting phase II and III stream restoration at the same location. Additionally, we are planning on a stream restoration project on Perkiomen Creek in Camelot Park, Montgomery County, and on the Main Branch and West Branch Perkiomen after AQUA PA dam removals. We completed a tree planting at Longacre Farm in October 2021. The chapter continues stream water quality monitoring of Hosensack Creek, and continues erosion monitoring on Perkiomen Creek at Camelot Park with the Montgomery County Master Watershed Stewards. We completed tree planting next to the Green Lane Reservoir Dam/Perkiomen Creek in conjunction with Upper Perkiomen High School students in October. We held a fly tying event Dec. 13. The chapter supports eight TIC schools and we'll be adding another in 2022. Six schools are participating this year, while two schools opted out due to COVID-19 concerns. Dean Druckenmiller is scheduled to speak about the Lehigh River at our Feb. 28 meeting, either on Zoom or in person. Ben Turpin will present on "Fishing Pocono Streams" during our March 21 meeting on Zoom or in person. Our PVTU Picnic and Fundraiser is June 18 at Longacer's Meadow, Bally. Guest speaker is George Daniel.

SE Montgomery County Chapter #468

Richard Terry

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

No report.

Tulpehocken Chapter #150

Brenda Bittinger

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

The chapter created the "Doc" Plucinsky Legacy Coldwater Ambassador Award in memoriam of a local lifetime TU member's passing. The award will be given out annually and will have to be a TU member that has shown dedication to coldwater conservation of local streams. Our Eco 5K race is back on for 2022 and will be held Sept. 18. Our tree deflector project is still in progress with the Army Corps of Engineers. We are also working with a local parks and rec department to secure areas, materials and volunteers for conservation-based public lending libraries. The chapter had great turnout at TCO fly tying opportunities. We are developing a children's art contest for around Opening Day. Rick Nyles spoke on "Fishing Penns Creek" at our January meeting. Ben John spoke on "Fishing for Steelhead" at our February meeting.

Valley Forge Chapter #290

James Leonard

610-793-1706, jamesleonard@hotmail.com
www.valleyforgetu.org

The chapter is exploring EAS matching funds through Give Gab. We planted brook trout eggs in headwaters of Pickering and West Valley creeks, and an electro-fishing study in Valley Creek at Ecology Park. The chapter supports 16 active TIC programs, which recently received eggs. Our VFTU Annual Trout Show is March 19.

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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Phone: 717-451-5200

Adams County Chapter #323

Hank Rajotte

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

A grant committee has been established with Frank Kozak as chairperson. He was responsible for the chapter obtaining a \$40,000 grant from the Warehiem Foundation toward the Conewago Creek/Knouse Foods Project. He has also set up a Critical Path flow chart to oversee the development of the Knouse Property during and after its transfer to PFBC. Once the property comes under the Commission, ACTU will be granted a 25-year maintenance and improvement contract for the Conewago that flows through the property. The final transfer was expected to take place in January. The Heidelsburg 6th Annual Fishing Show is Feb. 26-27. The annual ACTU Latimore Fishing Derby will be held in early May. The SOY fly tying event is June 4 as part of the South Central Outdoor Youth Program. Two major events this summer are still in the planning stage: Recognition of the 40-year-old partnership of ACTU and the Northern Virginia TU Chapter and their conservation work on the Conewago stream; and

the second event will be the dedication ceremony for transferring the 58-acre Knouse land to PFBC, which provides permanent access to a half-mile of the Conewago.

Codorus Chapter #558

Bob Daviau

717-817-6374, bob.daviau@gmail.com

www.codorustu.org

Monthly chapter meetings are being held at the Spring Grove VFW through April. November was low water setup and the New Zealand strike indictor. December was our first 'Field to Vise' presentation on pheasant, in what is expected to a series (not monthly). January's presentation was on midges and 'Field to Vise' covering rabbit and squirrel was in February. Our two targeted restoration projects are moving at the typical pace. We are seeking initial funding for a baseline that will aid in the design, data collection, bank analysis and sediment sampling for nutrient crediting for one project. We are in the process of scheduling a meeting with the restoration company and landowner for the much larger project to discuss the initial feasibility study and recommended approach. We have three active TIC tanks in 2022, all managed by experienced TIC teachers. We planned to apply for a small grant from the York County Community Fund in January for one of our anticipated stream restorations.

Cumberland Valley Chapter #052

John Zazworsky

717-805-8234, johnzaz83@gmail.com

www.pacvtu.org

We conducted a tour of chapter-area streams with a focus on past, recent & future conservation projects for Emily Baldauf, TU Mid Atlantic Organizer. Planning is underway for the Limestone Fundraiser and Awards Banquet on March 19 at Carlisle Country Club. We are working with PFBC on a project to restore the eroded mouth of the LeTort in 2022. We are also planning on a 300-plus yard restoration with 11 structures on the Yellow Breeches (Barnitz Mill area), hopefully in 2022. We did a walk-through of Mountain Creek with PFBC, with short-term goal of a small scale bank reinforcement project and long-term goal of multi-phase former lake restoration project (like the recently completed Wittlinger preserve) with a likely timeframe of 2023. We are planned eight-week beginners and advanced fly tying classes beginning in January. We have engaged with local schools with the intent of re-starting several TIC programs that went dormant due to COVID restrictions. We are looking at several grant opportunities for 2022 projects.

Doc Fritchey Chapter #108

Rich DiStanislaw

724-664-3122, rdistaqni@comcast.net

www.dftu.org

We established a committee for our winter raffle, with winners to be selected on Feb. 17. The chapter continues weekly work on our diversion well at Rausch Creek. We're replanting trees washed out by flooding on Snitz Creek. Cornwall Borough is in the process of purchasing two acres on Snitz Creek from the Krall family, one of the stream area and another of a wetland area. We indicated that it would be beneficial to wrap up soon so we can proceed with our design and permitting schedule. After receiving notice of a grant award, work has begun on our Snitz Creek project's design and permitting phase. We recently installed groundwater wells on our Barry Farm project at Hammer Creek to measure the depth of groundwater in the wetlands area where the new streambed will be moved, and stream water temperatures monitors to assess whether it is suitable for the brook trout population. Data was gathered for the first time on Dec. 21. An EPA 319 non-point source grant award was received and accepted for our Bachman Run project. We applied for \$795,506 in our Beck Creek construction phase grant application. We are expecting a spring announcement of the potential award. We submitted a Growing Greener grant application for design and permitting on Snitz Creek in the amount of \$171,512 in early summer. We expect the award to come in late winter or early spring. Funding for planning, design and permitting on Killinger Creek was awarded and check received for \$129,084. Contracting for the project is in the works with Clear Creeks Consulting. The chapter held a fly tying demonstration featuring six different chapter tiers at our membership meeting on Oct. 26 at Palmyra Sportsmen's Association Clubhouse. We held a fly tying mentor's meeting at the end of November. Tom Whittle and Barry Weaver presented on rod building at our Jan. 25 membership meeting. We're holding a weekly advanced fly tying course at Wildwood Nature Center beginning on Feb. 17 and running to March 24, and a beginner's fly tying course on Feb. 21 and running to March 28 at the Palmyra Sportsmen's Association Clubhouse. Our board meets Feb. 22 online.

Donegal Chapter #037

Garry Longnecker

717-989-621, garrylongnecker@gmail.com

www.donegaltu.org

We had a two-day board retreat on Dec. 3-4. We are also in the process of amending our bylaws and have been reorganizing our organizational chart. We have nine funded stream projects listed for the new year, and six projects to be designed, funded and constructed in the future. Our Water Quality Volunteer Coalition has begun monitoring. We continue to reach out to TIC teachers to support their efforts in the classroom. We are applying for a Camble Foundation Grant for ongoing organizational and educational improvements and functions of DTU. Our next board meeting is March

9 at Millport Conservancy. Our next membership meeting is March 16 at Lancaster Farm and Home Center. Dave Rothrock will present "PA's Finest Trout Streams." Apr. 20 Rick Kustich is on tap for April 20 with "Musky Fishing with a Fly Rod" and Mike Morris presents "Restoration Plan for Hammer Creek" on May 18.

Falling Spring Chapter #234

Took Coder

717-352-3989, hcoder115@comcast.net

www.facebook.com/fstu234/

Conservation Activities Stream restoration projects: We had 18 volunteers (TU members, 4H club, Boy Scouts) to identify dead trees of the newly planted trees along the Falling Spring. 560 of 2600 were marked for replanting to take place in February. Working with Sportsman's Warehouse on a fundraiser in January, 2022. 2 Grants are pending for a complete watershed plan and cleanup of the abandoned trout nursery along the Falling Spring.

Muddy Creek Chapter #575

Jimmy O'Connor

717-451-5200, jim.oconnor.001@gmail.com

www.muddycreektu.org

We hosted our inaugural One Fly Tournament and annual Fall Fest/Landowner Appreciation Day on Oct. 16. We partnered with Codorus TU, Penn State Master Watershed Stewards and the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay as we led a large pollinator-friendly riparian buffer zone planting of nearly 800 trees along Leib's Creek, a Class A Wild tributary to the South Branch of Muddy Creek, on Oct. 30. Our six local TIC classrooms took a break last year due to the pandemic, though we anticipated that all will be up and running this year. We hosted roughly a dozen children and their families of VisionCorps-York as we revived a heartwarming MCTU event by providing local vision-impaired children with the opportunity to catch a few trout on Oct. 9. Our next meeting is at 7 p.m. March 16 at Mignano's Pizza, 76 Red Lion Ave, Felton, PA 17322.

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

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REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Bryan Mathie

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Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Email: peregrine94@sbcglobal.net

Phone: 708-921-8373

Arrowhead Chapter #214

Bill Libengood

724-498-6632, libengood2000@yahoo.com

www.arrowhead214tu.org

Arrowhead plans on constructing three additional stream diverters within the DHALO below Nicola bridge. Dave Beale, a forester and stream improvement expert, has identified the locations in need of such and will donate his time relative to supervised implementation of these improvements. Scot Magacky will also donate his time and equipment relative to this initiative. The chapter will hold its annual banquet on March 19. Our December meeting was held on Dec. 23 at the DHALO. Arrowhead members agreed to attend a sportsman's banquet held by the Harvest Baptist Church.

Chestnut Ridge Chapter #670

Ben Moyer

724-329-3772, bcmoyer@verizon.net

www.chestnutridgetu.org

Our chapter committed to a more faithful review and compliance with administrative requirements of National TU, as communicated through the Volunteer Leaders Only website login. We won an \$800 grant from the BHE GT&S (Berkshire Hathaway Energy Company) grant program administered by Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. This grant is important because it will defray costs of continued water sampling in Glade Run basin as we, hopefully, transition away from alkaline sand treatment, to rely on the water quality benefits of the two new treatment systems recently built by Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. Our plan is to now direct our restoration efforts to a new stream, Jonathan Run, which was formerly an approved trout stream. We will disclose more details later when the plan is more concrete, and uncertainties resolved. We've also been working to encourage replacement of a culvert which carries Ramcat Run under Sugarloaf Road in Henry Clay Township to a fish-passable design. Sen. Pat Stefano has been a help to us in identifying appropriate contacts. We are encouraged by the growing interest among Southwestern chapters to mount some kind of coordinated response to Hemlock Woolly Adelgid on identified and prioritized streams within the Laurel Highlands Region. Chestnut Ridge is pleased to be a part of this collaboration and will continue participation and input.

Forbes Trail Chapter #206

Larry Myers

724-454-9345, myersld@comcast.net

www.forbestrailtu.org

Forbes Trail held its second annual meat raffle partnering with Bardine's Country Smoke House and Westmorland Food Bank. We sold 843 tickets, gave away eight \$250 gift cards to Bardine's, and donated \$600 to the Westmoreland Food Bank. We completed the bulk of the remaining on-stream studies for our Coldwater Conservation Plan for Linn Run and its tributaries. TU members and local citizen-scientists completed a second round of water quality sampling and macroinvertebrate studies. A group of volunteers assisted Linn Run State Park with treating hemlock trees along the stream for the invasive Hemlock Woolly Adelgid. We have several classrooms in our region participating in the TIC program. We will offer assistance as needed and as permitted. We are scheduled to reconvene our coldwater conservation and fly tying program during the winter at one local middle schools, and may partner with Penn's Woods West TU at a new school. We planned to restart our guest speaker presentations via Zoom in January and partner with other local TU chapters to provide expanded opportunities to members. We partnered with the Kingston Veterans Sportsmen Association and Project Healing Waters to hold our third annual VSP event on Oct. 2. Penn's Woods West TU is providing a grant for the next phase of our "Trout Trail" project. We will be partnering with PWW and other local TU chapters in this effort to drive eco-tourism in the Laurel Highlands Landscape.

Fort Bedford Chapter #291

Ryan Braman

ryanbraman@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/fortbedfordtu

Our annual chapter meeting was held at Horn O Plenty restaurant on Dec. 16. Chapter meetings will be held on the last Tuesday of each month. Fly tying roundtables for chapter members and the board are scheduled for February and March meetings on the last Tuesday of those months.

John Kennedy Chapter #045

Scott Kavanaugh

814-515-4788, johnkennedytu@gmail.com

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

No report.

Ken Sink Chapter #053

Barrie Mann

407-808-1588, barriemann@rocketmail.com

http:// http://kstupa.blogspot.com

The chapter's annual banquet is set for March and will celebrate our 50th anniversary. We continue to support local conservation agencies such as PASEC and youth activities in the area. Our

annual fly tying classes scheduled for January were postponed.

Mountain Laurel Chapter #040

Randy Buchanan

814-467-4034, prbfish4fun@aol.com

www.mltu.org

The chapter's annual fundraising banquet is scheduled for March 26, tentatively at the Johnstown Holiday Inn. We are currently in the planning stages for numerous projects projected for the upcoming summer. We held fly tying classes in January at the Richland Municipal Building. Upcoming meetings are at 7 p.m. March 3 and April 7 at the Richland Municipal Building.

Penn's Woods West Chapter #042

Charles Buffington

412-418-7885, buffingtoncw@gmail.com

www.pwwtu.org

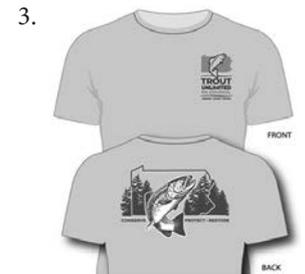
Penn's Woods West had planned on going back to live chapter meetings, but the board voted to delay return and continued to hold virtual chapter meetings the second Monday of every month. Other chapters can view these speakers like Tim Flagler, Skip Morris and many others if they visit our webpage at www.PWWTU.org and go to our YouTube page. The chapter is in the middle of a website revamp. We held a Montour Run cleanup on Oct. 23 in collaboration with the Montour Run Watershed Association. A Chatham University scholarship of \$2,500 was awarded to a qualified student that is in school for conservation. Assisting the Arrowhead Chapter, PWWTU is offering financial assistance and labor in adding instream structures and riparian planting to extend the quality fishing areas in Buffalo Creek. We are also fostering eco-tourism with the Forbes Trail, Chestnut Ridge and Mountain Laurel chapters to promote lodging, fly shops, restaurants and other business in the area around the "Trout Trail" website and map. Our chapter awarded Forbes Trail a \$4,200 grant to provide assistance and funding for the Trout Trail. Our PWWTU women's group is exploring doing the Trout Trail in the spring. We are expecting two new TIC classrooms to go along with our other 10 programs. The chapter received corporate grant funding for our partnership with Chatham University to set up a virtual TIC aquarium in the Aquaponics lab led by Dr. Roy Weitzell. There would be a 24/7 video camera on the aquarium to enable life sciences educators in economically disadvantaged locations to still take part in the TIC curriculum. This will be a pilot season and we will work to put metrics into the website to monitor how many hits, length of time viewed, and geographic locations.

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3	Official PATU T-shirt (circle size) S M L XL	\$20.00		
	Official PATU T-shirt (circle size) 2XL	\$23.00		
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