

Pennsylvania TROUT



Summer 2022

Publication of the Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited

www.patrou.org

PATU Annual Meeting makes return in Bellefonte

The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited will hold its Annual Meeting on Saturday, Sept. 17, 2022 at Lambert Hall, 303 Forge Road, Bellefonte, PA.

Join us to hear updates about PATU programs and partnerships, participate in annual elections, hear from special guest speakers, learn about advocacy opportunities, network with PATU members from across the state, and maybe even win a

See page 10 for more info on PATU's Annual Meeting at Lambert Hall in Bellefonte.

Deadline to register is Sept. 7.

raffle prize.

Cost is \$40 per person. Register by Sept. 7. Do so online at <https://tu.myeventscenter.com/event/2022-Patu-Annual-Meeting-65194>.

For more information, please visit <https://patrou.org/index.php/annual-meeting/>. We hope you will join us for our first in-person annual meeting since 2019!

Please note that nominations for open board seats can be made by contacting John Leonard or Barry Witmer. Elections will be during the meeting on Sept. 17.

Wild vs. stocked trout

By Lenny Lichvar

Daily American Outdoor Correspondent

Editor's Note: This article was originally published in The Daily American in October 2021. See page 11 for more details.

As current Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) Commissioner Eric Hussar puts it, "Common ground is very uncommon." In today's world of extreme polarity that could refer to multiple topics. However, Hussar was referring to the now deepening divide between anglers who judge trout fishing in Pennsylvania in regard to how many trout are artificially raised and stocked and those who focus on and prefer the increasing numbers of wild stream bred trout.

See TROUT, page 11



Lenny Lichvar Photo

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commissioner Eric Hussar with a wild brown trout he caught and released on a designated Class A wild trout stream that is also still stocked with hatchery trout by the Commission.

IN THIS ISSUE

Headwaters	4	Minutes	8-9
Treasurer's Report.....	5	PATU Merchandise Order Form	13
Fly Patterns of Pennsylvania.....	6	On the Bookshelf.....	16

Pennsylvania TROUT

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Contributed Photos

The Perkiomen Valley Chapter was recently recognized by the Berks County Conservation District as its “Organization of the Year” for work completed on the West Branch of the Perkiomen Creek within the Longacre family farm in Barto, PA.

Perkiomen Valley TU recognized as “Organization of the Year”

Perkiomen Valley Trout Unlimited was recognized as the Berks County Conservation District’s “Organization of the Year” during an Aug. 8 banquet held in Oley, PA.

BCCD’s Conservation Service Individual or Organization of the Year Award is given to the individual or organization that has made an exceptional contribution to the conservation of Berks County’s soil, water and related natural resources. Without their contributions the quality of the natural resources of the County would be diminished.

Perkiomen Valley Trout Unlimited’s project for which it received this recognition was conducted on the West Branch of the Perkiomen Creek within the Longacre family farm in Barto, PA.

The project encompassed the restoration of severely-eroded stream banks, repair of a livestock crossing area, and enhancement of in-stream habitat for invertebrate and vertebrate organisms to expand suitable fishery habitat and spawning conditions for wild brown trout residing within the creek.

The project’s scope also included the installation of 500 feet of electric fencing to prevent access of cattle to the riparian stream buffer and 100 trees were planted to aid with the reclamation of the riparian buffer.

The length of the project site was 880 feet in length. Overall, 3,190 feet of the



stream flows through the Longacre Farm and additional work is planned in other sections in future years.

PVTU is deeply appreciative of this award and recognizes their project partners without whom this project could not have been accomplished: The PVTU Board of Directors and chapter volunteers, the Longacre family, and the BCCD. Funding for this project was received from the estate of Dwight Gehman, a former long-standing member of PVTU and Longacre family member, and the Coldwater Heritage Partnership which a collaborative effort between the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited, PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds, and PA Fish & Boat Commission. PVTU also thanks Martin Quarries for their financial contributions for stone materials used with this project.

In Brief

TU's president talks cleaner waters, healthier fisheries, more resilient communities

During the Trout Unlimited CX3 conference held recently in Portland, Maine, TU President and CEO Chris Wood, spoke about the urgent work ahead to make our waters cleaner, our fisheries healthier, and our communities more connected.

"We live in a world today where our relationship with nature is broken," he said. "We live in a world where our relationships with one another are often strained and frayed. We live in a world where our communities are increasingly defining themselves by their differences, as opposed to what unites them."

Watch at <https://vimeo.com/734544093>.

PFBC awards grants to support education programs

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) has awarded \$201,837 in grant funding through the R3 Education Grant Program to support 13 fishing and boating education projects in nine counties. Recruiting new participants, retaining existing participants, and reactivating former participants is collectively known as R3. This grant program aims to increase the number of anglers and boaters in Pennsylvania.

Recipients of the PFBC R3 Education Grant successfully applied for and demonstrated ways in which their new or

expanded projects advance R3 initiatives and connect Pennsylvanians with Commonwealth waterways. The 2022 R3 Education Grants include (by county):

Allegheny: Sarah Heinz House Association, Heinz House Camp Experiential Waterfront Initiative

Allegheny: Watersmith Guild, First Waves
Chester: Stroud Water Research Center, Strengthening Capacity through Partnerships in Southeastern PA for Accessibility to Boating and Angling Education

Fayette: Mountain Watershed Association, Get Fishing Indian Creek

Greene: Southeastern Greene School District, Fly Fishing

Lycoming: Jersey Shore Area School District, Jersey Shore Outdoor Club Learning A.P.P.S. (Anglers Protecting and Preserving Stewardship)

Monroe: Brodhead Chapter Trout Unlimited, Chapter Fishing Programs Expansion

Montgomery: Let's Go Outdoors, Beginner Fishing in Philadelphia

Montgomery: Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy, Floating Classroom Outdoor Education Program

Montgomery: Schuylkill River Greenways National Heritage Area, Introduction to Recreation on the River

Philadelphia: Independence Seaport Museum, Paddling at Any Size

Philadelphia: John Bartram Association, Deepening and Renewing Recreational Fishing and Boating at Bartram's Garden on the Tidal Schuylkill River

Pike: Pocono Environmental Education Center, PEEC Summer Camp Fishing Programs

Sky Blue Outfitters

Fly Fishing Guide Service

Walk and Wade Drift Boat Trips
Destination Trips Educational Trips
Professional Presentations

Central and Eastern PA, Penns, Spring, Pine,
Lackawanna, Little Juniata, Lehigh,
Tulpehocken, Little Lehigh, Pohopoco,
Susquehanna, Juniata, Delaware, Montana

Rick Nyles-Taylor Helbig-Dave Allbaugh
Dave Rothrock-Derek Eberly-Bill Nolan
Brian Shumaker

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Headwaters

A message from PATU President
Greg Malaska

*I've seen all there is to see.
I've heard all they have to say.
I've done everything I wanted to do.
And I've done that too.
And it ain't that pretty at all.
– Warren Zevon*

This is my final column as president of the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited. As such, I couldn't miss the opportunity to drop such a great Warren Zevon lyric (maybe more). Fortunately, this quote serves as a theme tying together this entire parting message.

One of my pipe dreams is to get a cabin. We have a pretty outdoorsy arrangement at home, so I figured if the stars ever aligned financially, I'd get a place. The only issue was ... where? Over the last few years, I've seen so many areas of the state and fished and met with so many great people that honestly, I can't find one single place that I love above all others. I never found that one place that I love so much that I could set up a home away from home. That's really saying something. We have so many great waters here in PA, I couldn't narrow it down to just one. I guess that's why Jay Nichols' magnum opus, "Keystone Fly Fishing," is 600 pages long.

In May, I had the pleasure of fishing with TU CEO Chris Wood in Central PA. On our drive from Loganton to Little Pine Creek, I tried to give Chris a flavor of our wild trout resources here in the commonwealth. Without pumping our state fish's tires too much, we couldn't go five miles without encountering a "native crick." We're that blessed!

I've had the luck to travel and fish many of the great trout fisheries in this country. And you know what? There is nothing really better than what we have here in our backyard. Montana, California, Wyoming, Arkansas... they ain't that pretty at all. We have so much water, all worth protecting, and protect it you have.

Over the last four years, I've met (in person or via Zoom) all 49 chapters in this state. Every one of them cares about what

is around them, regardless of whether it is on anyone else's radar. The most impactful work done by TU is on water that no one has heard of.

I remember when I was first elected in 2018. I was so nervous going into that annual meeting. While I was thrilled to show off my new Washington Capitals 2018 Stanley Cup Champions hat to Mark Hanes and Christian Shane, I was secretly scared about what lay ahead. I would be the youngest president in PATU history, with an hour commute, unpredictable work schedules, and two pre-teen daughters. Could I make everything fit?

Over time, everything fit.

Thousands of miles on my Honda CRV and Subaru Forester, lots of 4 a.m. mornings sending emails, and many late returns home after chapter meetings comprised my invigorating new normal.

Then COVID hit. Not a day has gone by since March 15, 2020 that I didn't wonder: What more could we have done without the pandemic? Despite being faced with a once-in-a-lifetime challenge, we still found ways to improve this organization.

Perhaps the greatest intangible benefit of COVID was that it gave us time alone. To think. To think about those projects we always talked about but never got around to. It also made us yearn. It made us miss each other and working collaboratively to protect and improve our streams.

I predict the coming years will see a renaissance in PATU's conservation efforts. All of the ideas and plans we dreamed of are now in front of us. We have money in our pockets and volunteers itching to get their boots on the ground and in the streams.

When I was first elected, I had two primary goals: 1. Reestablish Council's relationship with our chapters; and 2. Find ways to get more grant funding back in their hands. Over time, we tackled these challenges along with increasing our diversity and enhancing our social media and outreach. We succeeded and the key to these successes was approach. We identified a challenge, found partners, developed a plan, and implemented it. We also troubleshooted at each stage; not afraid to be critical, when necessary. Great thoughts are valueless unless their plans

can be put into place.

It's been a pleasure sharing a foxhole with all of you over the last few years. I can't even begin to list every person who I'd want to thank for their efforts, but there are a few I absolutely must recognize:

John Leonard and Bob Volkmar – Bob and John were sounding boards, voices of reason, and on many occasions, purveyors of a much-needed kick in the ass. Your wisdom and guidance were always available and always appreciated. You are both true mentors and friends.

Monty Murty – You taught me to think five steps ahead. Your perfectly-timed catch-phrases still get some good traction. Thank you for showing me how to play chess when I was stuck playing checkers.

Rachel Kester – You were worth the wait. Responsive, tireless, creative and passionate. Enough said. You are a true asset to PATU and coldwater fisheries throughout the state.

Dave Rothrock – Thank you for sharing your experiences and helping me to navigate many of the multiple landmines I have faced in this role. I also thank you for showing me how to properly select the best color of PowerBait to address any water condition (insert smartass emoji).

Any regrets? Maybe one, but there is still time left on the clock. Changes in the tax code and COVID never allowed us to get a solid fundraising program off the ground. While our board was able to move the ball on every other initiative, this one stalled.

Fortunately, on Oct. 1, I get to go back in time. Instead of having my hands in everything PATU, I get to pick and choose my battles. As I assume my new role as immediate past president, I will steadfastly resist the temptation to put my feet on the desk. What will be my next PATU crusade? Come to the Sept. 17 annual meeting to find out. More importantly, come to find out how you can be a part of it.

To my successor, another passionate volunteer from a town even smaller than Coaldale. You have the relationship with Commission staff and biologists that I always sought to replicate. You're a relentless scrapper that will serve our 17,000 members well. Vel'a Stastia (Slovak for good luck).

Continued on next page...

Treasurer's Report

by PATU Treasurer
Russell Thrall

Chapter activities tend to slow down during the summer as people take vacations or just get out and enjoy the warmer weather. The PATU Annual Meeting planning committee has been hard at work during June and July planning selecting the facility, catering and planning the agenda for our upcoming meeting.

The Annual Meeting is being held Sept. 17 at Lambert Hall in Bellefonte, Pa. just north of State College.

I urge you to attend the meeting and take part in the opportunities to learn some new things, celebrate our successes and meet TU volunteer leaders from around

the Commonwealth. It will be great to be back in person after two years of virtual meetings.

Look for complete details on the Annual Meeting on page 10.

We've set up online registration for the Annual Meeting using TU National's event registration system that was launched last year.

We've used the system several times over the past year to streamline event registration and the accounting processes on both the front end and back end. If you haven't used it for your chapter yet, I urge you to do so for paid or free events.

...Continued from previous page

So what happens tomorrow?

I think I'll take a short sabbatical. Volleyball season starts on Aug. 22 (Go Lady Olympians!!!) and I look forward to spending some tree time with my Matthews VXR 27.

My wife of 18 years, Mary Kay, and my daughters, Maura (14) and Hailey (13) have made some sacrifices for me over the last four years. It's time I start working off my debt.

In five years, my daughters will both be in college and I'm never going to get these years back. The passing of my father last year made me really understand that I don't want to miss any of these moments.

In one of my last official acts as PATU president, I will invoke executive privilege (don't call CNN) and end this column with my final Warren Zevon quote.

Thoughtful, humorous, and apropos of nothing:

*And if California slides into the ocean
Like the mystics and statistics say it will
I predict this motel will be standing
...until I've paid my bill*

– Warren Zevon from the song “Desperadoes under the Eaves”

Thank you for the opportunity and don't ever forget the impact of your efforts on our coldwater resources.

Ciao.

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

High Quality \$500 to \$999

- Neshannock
- Oil Creek
- Penns Creek

Brook Trout \$250 to \$499

- None

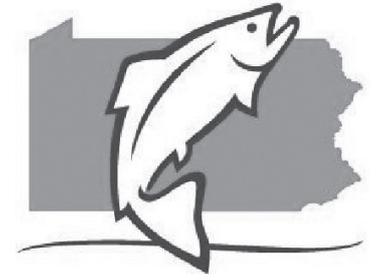
Wild Trout \$100 to \$249

- None

In Memoriam

In memory of Gary Bruce Scranton

Hollenback Family
Johnson Family
Rudy Family
Sherburne Family
Snee Family



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 17-24.

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



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Fly Patterns of Pennsylvania

by Nick Cobler

Dubbin' & Deer Hair Ant

A simple, highly visible terrestrial pattern that fools those finicky fish during the hot summer months. Don't be afraid to try it other times of the year!

Fly Design / Highlights

- Utilizes a few, readily available materials
- Wing is easy to see on the water and helps flotation
- Can be tied in many colors to match the naturals

Background

I've always enjoyed summer terrestrial fishing. Some anglers go to a trusty grasshopper pattern to entice those explosive strikes. When the fish are being finicky though, an ant pattern seems to work well. It is a decent meal for the fish and ants aren't the most elegant swimmers. A simple twitch during the drift helps give the fly some life and piques the interest of curious fish.

About the Fly Pattern Design

Ant patterns have been around for quite a while. And everyone has their own way of constructing these fish-fooling concoctions. I encourage you all to use these steps below as a starting point and make the pattern your own. Experiment with the materials you have on hand and see what you like the best. Then tie up a bunch and go test them on the water. You can also tie these up in a variety of sizes and modify the wing for visibility by using other materials. Ants make a good indicator fly when tied in larger sizes as well. So now go hit the vise — and then go hit the water!



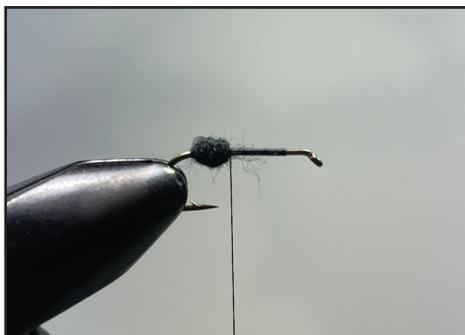
Materials

- **Thread:** 6/0 or 8/0 Black
- **Body:** Black Dubbing
- **Underwing:** Your Choice of Flash
- **Wing:** Deer / Elk Hair
- **Legs:** Black Round Rubber
- **Hook:** #12– #20

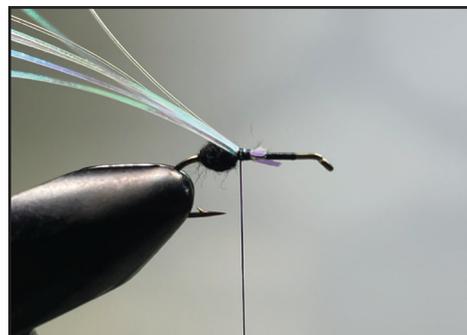
Feel free to modify thread color, dubbing and wing material to your liking. Legs are optional as well, and other materials like hackle can be used instead. Remember, have fun!



Start and create a thread base beginning at the eye and working back toward the bend of the hook. I like to stop my thread at the barb location before the next step.



Create a dubbing noodle on your thread and make a ball to represent the abdomen or back portion of the ant. Take your time here. End your thread just in front of the ball.



Although not necessary, I like to add a bit of flash to catch attention. Here, a few fibers of flash are tied in with nice tight wraps. Experiment with your materials of choice.



Once I trim the fibers to my liking, I create another dubbing noodle and cover up the butt ends and try to keep the body slim and somewhat slender.



Adding rubber legs is an optional step, but I really like how they add some life to the pattern. They also create a nice footprint on the water's surface. I tie in only four legs. I doubt fish can really count.



After tying in the legs, I move the thread forward. Clean and stack some hair of your choice and measure for a wing. Tie in, trim, and cover the butt ends to create a head on the fly. Whip finish and tie up another one!

Submit PATU award nominations online by Aug. 31

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited will present its annual awards during the fall meeting at Lambert Hall, 303 Forge Road, Bellefonte, PA 16823 on Saturday, Sept. 17.

There is a huge amount of extraordinary work being accomplished by PATU chapters, as well as many individuals, and that work should be recognized.

If you are aware of a group, chapter or individual you feel is worthy of a nomination, please consider filling out a nomination form. Nominations are due by *August 31*.

An online nomination form is available on the PATU website at:

<https://patrout.org/index.php/patu-awards-nominations/>

Please note: nominations for Best Newsletter and Best Chapter website (described below) should be sent to Brad Isles at bisles@live.com.

Below is a brief description of each award with eligibility criteria when applicable:

- **Chapter with greatest membership increase** – Nominations not accepted; Recipient determined based on data collected from National TU.
- **Chapter with greatest percentage increase in membership** – Nominations not accepted; Recipient determined based on data collected from National TU
- **Edward Urbas Award for Best PA 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** – The same criteria used in the Edward Urbas Award will applied to this award, but it is limited to chapters with 150 or fewer members.
- **Best Chapter Project** – 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 or-

ganizations 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** – 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** – 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** – 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. Their efforts on either a single project or on an ongoing basis can be considered and described in the nomination.
- **Best Chapter Website** – Is your Chapter's website particularly attractive, clear, up-to-date and easy to navigate? If so, send nominations to Brad Isles at bisles@live.com.
- **Samuel Slaymaker Award for Best Chapter Newsletter** – If your newsletter includes information about your chapter's activities that is current, well-presented and clear, and is visually attractive, your chapter may very well win this award. Send nominations, with a few copies of the newsletter, to Brad Isles at PO Box 23, Grove City, PA 16127. A digital copy can also be sent to Brad at bisles@live.com
- **Dr. Jack Beck Award for Outstanding Youth Outreach** – 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** – 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** – This award recognizes a person who through his or her recent efforts shows promise as a future leader of the organization.
- **Diversity Award** – This award recognizes a chapter that shows diversity among the members in the chapter. It is important that chapters ensure that youth, women, and men take an active part in TU chapters. This ensures that TU chapters are able to carry on and it allows experienced chapter members to cultivate knowledge to new members. But it is also important that all members bring a voice to the chapter to ensure forward momentum.

Submission Criteria:

- Provide a description for any events held by the chapter:
 - Veterans, Youth and/or Women Events
 - Chapter youth and/or female leader
- Provide the number of:
 - Active male chapter members
 - Active female and/or youth member

(For a member to be considered active, they must attend at least three chapter meetings per year or participate in at least one chapter event per year.)

Minutes of the PA Council of Trout Unlimited Executive Committee (EXCOM) Meeting

July 31, 2022



The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by President Malaska. Minutes of the April 24, 2022, EXCOM meeting were approved as submitted.

President's Report: Submitted by G. Malaska

Treasurer's Report: Submitted by R. Thrall. Stock market negatively impacted accounts. Cash slightly better than last year.

Merchandise Sales: Submitted by B. Pennell. Sales are down.

List of Actions Taken: Actions taken via email by EXCOM meetings, submitted by E. Lewis

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

Communications and Outreach Report: Submitted by C. Heckman.

- YouTube channel: Promotion and interviews – Need to get out to chapters and members. C. Heckman is doing interviews to post to the channel. Subscribers are at 20 subscribers, need 100 to get a custom URL.
- Chapter communications: Would like chapters to reach out with events so they can be promoted.
- Climate Action Plan Proposal (Council & National): Information seeking now, National is looking to do an inventory and will pay for C. Heckman's time. She is to begin working on PATU Climate Action Plan now. G. Malaska asked RVPs to reach out to chapters to facilitate contact with C. Heckman.

NLC Report: Submitted by B. Wagner.

Climate Change Report: Submitted by R. Collins. Attending national meeting in Portland. Each of the states

with Climate Change Coordinators are working on state policies. Will share examples with C. Heckman. R. Collins will be chairing the committee for approximately years.

Advocacy Report: Submitted by J. Orr-Greene and E. Baldauff. PFBC fish health protocol support. A letter was submitted in regard to Wilderness Streams. License fee increase comments shared with PFBC. National TU submitted support letter, as did multiple other outdoors/sports groups. State budget was approved with several environmental wins/increases in available funding, approximately \$696 million and \$63.5 million and \$125 million, for \$835 million. L. Lichvar asked for assistance with a letter to U.S. Sen. Pat Toomey regarding an AML funding amendment.

Financial Reviewer Report: No issues reported.

Regional VP Reports:

T. Burns – Some leadership issues with Schuylkill chapter; new president expected.

G. Parzanese – Nothing new to report.

K. Williams – Cornplanter is only chapter that did not submit financial report; former president abandoned position. K. Williams is offering assistance. Still some issues with stocking brook trout over native brook trout; PFBC oversight gap. E. Branch of Clarion River, for example.

B. Mathie – Randy Buchanan at Mountain Laurel Chapter leadership change. Fort Bedford and Arrowhead chapters have some issues with leadership and engagement.

J. O'Connor – Hank Rishat replaced by Frank Kosak at chapter. Prayer at chapter meetings issue, working with National TU.

R. Nyles – Delco-Manning lost its

treasurer; replacement being recruited. Perkiomen Chapter receiving award from its Conservation District; Pig Roast attendees asked about transferring membership to their more active chapter.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trout Policy Committee Report:

D. Rothrock, at July 2022 PFBC meeting, no issues with adding new Class A streams; staff now reporting ongoing stocking of new Class As; receiving a lot of comments regarding authorization of stocking; asked for our support on the new stocking policy. L. Lichvar would like to put together a letter of support for the stocking authorization. Freeman Run electroshocking showed local sportsmen what is really in the water. G. Malaska asked E. Baldauff to start stocking authorization letter; Native Fish Coalition podcast re: stocking in PA – Flyfishing Guide Podcast.

Development Committee Report:

Introduction to Bob Neu, candidate for Development Committee Chair. He's retired and getting more involved. Been into fly fishing since the 1990s. Reviewed career/experience with grant writing, foundations and governmental agencies, reporting, statistics, etc. G. Malaska asked for a Zoom meeting prior to the Annual Meeting to discuss opportunities with officers and Bob. R. Thrall to reach out to B. Neu with background info.

Investments Committee Report:

Nothing to report.

Awards Committee Report:

Submitted by B. Boyd. RVPs, please encourage award nominations from chapters.

Delaware River Committee Report:

Submitted by J. Skelding.

Conservation Committee Report:

Submitted by B. Wagner. No submissions yet for Forever Wild grants. Policy statements/review/revisions, stream channelization and wastewater for dust control (PADEP sent cease and desist order); stream maintenance bills related to flooding continue to come up and need our attention. ATV trail expansion,

Continued on next page...

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connector trails, concerns from chapters, need chapters to watchdog this; committee would like to do outreach to ATV groups in north central region for collaboration. Would like PATU to review PFBC Climate Action Plan. Climate change video will be coming out soon.

Diversity Committee Report: Submitted by K. Williams. Successful bilingual event in Lancaster. Women's Intro to Fly Fishing classes continue to be successful.

Youth Committee Report: Submitted by J. Sittler. STREAM Girls needs to stay as a patch program with Girl Scouts; trend to STREAM Keepers gender-neutral and one day.

Membership Committee Report: Submitted by E. Lewis.

Communications Committee Report: Submitted by B. Isles.

VSP Committee Report: Still open at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

TU Priority Waters Working Group: Approved Priority Waters; Home Waters is on hold; not much new information from National TU meeting.

National TU, Council of the Year Award: Massachusetts won the National TU award for Council of the Year. Our application got special outreach from Jeff Yates.

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment of Nominating Committee: Slate of officers for 2022-23

- President – Len Lichvar
- Executive Vice President (West)
 - Kelly Williams
 - Executive Vice President (East)
 - Rick Nyles
 - Secretary – Erick Lewis
 - Treasurer – Russell Thrall
 - NLC Representative – Russ Collins
- Northcentral Regional VP – Gary Parzanese
- Northeast Regional VP – Todd Burns
- Northwest Regional VP – Open
- Southcentral Regional VP – Jimmy O'Connor
- Southeast Regional VP – Open

Southwest Regional VP – Bryan Mathie

In-Person Retreat Agenda: The evening before Annual Meeting at Lambert Hall. Lodging is available at the Econolodge and around the area. Start looking now.

Transition Planning/Term Limits: G. Malaska is the only one term-limiting this year. Transition plan is underway with L. Lichvar. G. Malaska will be available as immediate past president.

Annual Meeting Update, Guest Speakers: The first speaker will give a history of Penns Creek; second speaker is in the works.

Annual Meeting Raffles: Raffle prizes for the Annual Meeting are needed.

Fishing with Chris Wood: Raised \$900 this year and will take place again next year in May.

Randy Buchanan Tribute: L. Lichvar will be penning an article about R. Buchanan and the Mountain Laurel Chapter, and will send to B. Isles for the newsletter.

Leadership Transition: L. Lichvar has a summary of president's responsibilities and G. Malaska's notes. G. Malaska will be staying on as a resource.

AFR Filings: R. Thrall said filings are more complicated this year. Big lesson learned was chapter leader updates in TU National database so that reminders and info. are received timely.

Embrace A Stream: G. Malaska concluded work this year on interim role. We have \$85,000 to give out. Rough drafts not required this year and quality of applications declined. Money is available.

Bob Baker Communications: As discussed.

Schuylkill County TU: As discussed. Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Erick Lewis – Secretary*

EXCOM actions taken by email vote since March 21, 2022

May 25 – Approved Class A & Wild Trout listings letter of support.

July 8 – Approved Priority Waters selections and delay in implementing Home Waters selection.

July 13 – Approved PFBC fee increase proposal letter of support.

July 27 – Approved CVTU Yellow Breeches stream improvement mini-grant letter of support.



Council seeks input via online survey

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited needs your opinion. Please take a few minutes to fill out the PATU Community Survey at <http://ow.ly/jTHt50K6rEZ>

Results will be presented during the September 2022 Annual Meeting.

Not a member?



JOIN TODAY!

www.tu.org/join

2022 PATU Annual Meeting

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2022

Lambert Hall

303 Forge Road, Bellefonte, PA

DRAFT AGENDA

9:30 a.m. – Welcome (Greg Malaska, President)

9:35 a.m. – PFBC Update (Bob Caccese, Director of Policy, Planning & Communications)

10 a.m. – State of CHP (Rachel Kester, Program Director)

10:20 a.m. – State of PATU (Greg Malaska, President)

10:50 a.m. – Break

11 a.m. – Council Elections (John Leonard/Barry Witmer)

11:20 a.m. – Outreach Update (Carolyn Heckman, Community Engagement Coordinator)

11:40 a.m. – Advocacy Update (Jen Orr-Greene, TU Eastern Policy Director and Emily Baldauff, TU Mid- Atlantic Organizer)

12 p.m. – Lunch

1 p.m. – Preservation of Penns Creek Project Waters (Gene Brown)

1:30 p.m. – Speaker to be Determined

2 p.m. – Awards

2:30 p.m. – Raffles

3 p.m. – Adjournment

Slate of officers for 2022-2023 terms

President – Len Lichvar

Executive Vice President (West) – Kelly Williams

Executive Vice President (East) – Rick Nyles

Secretary – Erick Lewis

Treasurer – Russell Thrall

NLC Representative – Russ Collins
Northcentral Regional VP – Gary Parzanese

Northeast Regional VP – Todd Burns

Northwest Regional VP – Open

Southcentral Regional VP – Jimmy O'Connor

Southeast Regional VP – Open

Southwest Regional VP – Bryan Mathie

Raffle prize donations sought for Annual Meeting

As in the past, we are inviting all chapters to donate a prize for our raffle to be conducted at the Annual Meeting on Sept. 17. We would welcome donations of gear, fishing trips, art, books, or anything that you think would appeal to those who will be attending the meeting.

If you're planning to attend the meeting, you can simply bring your donation with you. If you cannot attend, you can send your item to Bob Pennell, 2319 Valley Road, Harrisburg, PA 17104, but please make sure it is shipped to arrive no later than Sept. 16.

We hope that every chapter will contribute a donation to ensure a successful raffle, and we thank you in advance for your participation.



PATU Annual Meeting

Saturday, September 17, 2022

Lambert Hall – 303 Forge Road, Bellefonte, PA 16823

REGISTRATION FORM

(Please print neatly)

Name: _____

Chapter: _____

Email/Phone: _____

Names of Additional Guests: _____

Total # of registrations _____ X \$40.00 = TOTAL DUE \$ _____

Please send the completed form along with a check or money order for the total amount due to:

PATU
PO Box 5148
Bellefonte, PA 16823

Please mail with enough time for registrations to be received by September 7.

If you do not receive confirmation that your registration was received by September 7, please contact Rachel at 814-359-5233 or c-rkester@pa.gov.

Online registration is also available and encouraged:

<https://tu.myeventscenter.com/event/2022-Patu-Annual-Meeting-65194>

No doubt there has been and continues to be room for both until the two overlap, which is when the room tightens. Stocking of trout in waters that now hold various levels of wild trout is a fisheries management flash point that has gotten brighter in recent years. The reason is that over the past several decades the state's overall water quality has improved significantly from the days of unregulated environmental degradation that ran rampant driven by the industrial revolution's thirst for resources in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

As documented in the book "To Protect, Conserve and Enhance — The History of the PA Fish and Boat Commission," water pollution and unscrupulous activities by anglers were creating a huge fish depletion of the natural stocks. To address this issue the early version of the Commission began the construction of fish hatcheries and along with existing commercial hatcheries the solution to pollution became simply attempting to replace decimated fish populations with a temporary fix of artificial plantings of trout.

That continued to be the only accepted solution until the 1960s and '70s when an environmental awakening of sorts began to take hold with the public, as well as state and national elected officials. Laws and regulations were supported and implemented that gradually began to restore land and water resources.

By the 1980s fish populations, that were severely impacted but never completely eliminated, began to rebound. The state's native brook trout, which have been mostly relegated to remote headwater streams, began to stabilize and introduced species such as brown and even rainbow trout began to naturally reproduce and expand in many downstream waters.

In 1983 the Commission, under the leadership of legendary Executive Director Ralph Abele, in response to this positive trend, made a shift in philosophy and mission. The agency pivoted from just providing a temporary recreational resource to something called "Resource First" with the creation of a new policy dubbed "Operation Future." Among the

Each year at its annual spring banquet, the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association – of which PATU is a supporting member – presents its Excellence in Craft awards. These awards recognize POWA members for their outstanding work during the previous calendar year. This article by Lenny Lichvar, originally published in The Daily American in October 2021, is this year's winner.

hallmarks of the initiative was to manage self-sustaining fish populations as renewable resources and use hatchery fish to provide recreation in those waters where fish numbers were inadequate to sustain the fishery at desired levels. It also defined class populations with Class A being the level of abundance needed to support a recreational sport fishery.

The agency attempted to build upon this altered direction with other programs to the point where the future is now. Among them is the Unassessed Waters Program, aimed at surveying and determining the trout populations of thousands of miles of water that were never previously assessed. This ongoing monumental effort has identified and documented wild trout waters that either were there all along or have recovered in recent years enough to naturally sustain recreational fisheries. From 2010 to 2018, 5,615 miles were added to the wild trout water list and 2,402 miles to the Class A list.

The effort began to identify some sections of water that were historically stocked, but for a variety of environmental enhancements were now confirmed to hold a recreational capacity fishery of natural reproducing trout.

All this first came to a head in 2015 when the majority of the PFBC Board of Commissioners, supported by Bureau of Fisheries staff at the time, voted in favor of continuing to stock 13 newly designated Class A wild trout waters primarily for the social reason of long-term high angler use of those waters. That in particular did not sit well with the proponents of the wild trout resource then or now.

Commission staff has resurveyed both fish and anglers on these stream sections and after the data is assimilated will make a recommendation to the Commissioners at a future meeting to continue the stocking or alter the action in some way.

At the most recent Commission meeting in regard to the wild trout resource PFBC Chief of the Division of Fisheries Manage-

ment Dave Nihart stated, "Resource based management is at the core of the agency's mission." However, shortly after during a discussion regarding the possible exemption of the no stocking policy over several newly determined Class A wild brook trout waters Commissioner Roco Ali sounded a different tone with, "Maybe it should not be about science all the time."

Pennsylvania chapter of the Native Fish Coalition Chairman, Philip Light, follows these discussions and actions closely and describes the Commission's current stocking strategy as "a hot mess." He adds, "Stocking Class A sections is an oxymoron. It is simply a misuse of stocked trout and needlessly puts added angling pressure on wild trout."

Co-Chairman of the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited's Trout Policy Committee Dave Rothrock concurs. He explains, "The stocking of Class A water has unintentional consequences. This stocking not only draws angling pressure that otherwise would not be present on wild trout but also creates the higher angler use that has been promoted as the reason to do it."

The topic of wild vs. stocked sparked debate not long ago when a section Penns Creek that has historically been stocked was determined by surveys to now hold a sufficient reproducing population that no longer required supplemental stocking. That sparked an uproar from a local sportsmen's club that had always stocked it. This time Fisheries staff recommended the elimination of stocking and the Commissioners held steady and approved it.

Adding more fuel to the smoldering fire is the long-standing ability for private clubs, and individuals to place trout where they desire without any documented oversight. Some PFBC supported Coops have also been guilty of not following guidance. This enables wild cat stocking of wild trout waters that otherwise would be prohibited by PFBC policy.

To finally address this issue the Bureau
Continued on next page...

In Memoriam

Randy Buchanan

The Mountain Laurel Chapter of Trout Unlimited lost its president and the world lost a staunch natural resource conservationist with the passing of Randy Buchanan on June 30, 2022. Randy was a lifetime member of Trout Unlimited and during his 30 years as president of MLTU the chapter received local, state and national recognition.

MLTU was awarded the Silver Trout Award by National Trout Unlimited in 1999 and twice received the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited's Edward Urbas Outstanding Chapter Award under Randy's tenure.

These recognitions were derived from the chapter's long time successful cold-water conservation projects and support of countless natural resource enhancements in Cambria, Somerset and Bedford Counties. Randy was recognized by PATU with the Doc Fritchey Award as the outstanding volunteer coldwater conservationist in the

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of Fisheries is planning to present to the Commissioners a proposal for a stocking authorization that is recommended in the new 2021 Trout Management Plan. This would require anyone that wishes to place trout in waters of the Commonwealth to receive approval from the Commission prior to doing so. According to the Director Bureau of Fisheries, Kris Kuhn, this proposal will come up for consideration in early 2022.

Hussar, who is often frustrated with lack of understanding of the importance of the wild trout resource, along with the support of several other Commissioners, recently made a call to have all Class A waters be declared Catch and Release Artificial Lures Only. His proposal, which was not adopted, was supported in some angling circles, but severely criticized in many others.

Undeterred Hussar states, "Despite these reactions on both sides I plan to keep the conversation going in regard to options for innovative and better wild trout manage-



Randy Buchanan

ment." He also twice received the Order of the Mug Award from MLTU as the chapter's most outstanding member.

Randy was a founding member and served for many years as president of the Yellow Creek Coalition that has worked to enhance angling opportunities and water quality in the Yellow Creek watershed in Bedford County.

Randy was also well known as professional fly tyer and fly-tying instructor

ment."

Using hatchery fish to compensate for the destruction of natural populations was in the past a necessary effort and unfortunately is still required and needed today in waters that still suffer from degradation. However, because that needed process has now transcended generations of anglers it has been ingrained in angling tradition even as the need for it has evolved.

As legendary angler the late Lefty Kreh often said, "Tradition is fine as long as it

and demonstrated and taught his skills at national fly-fishing shows across the country as well as at countless local and state events. His angling and tying skills, as well as his signature fly patterns such as his Buchanan Stonefly Nymph, were profiled in many local, state and national outdoor magazines, newspapers, videos and other publications such as books authored by Charlie Meck and Ann McIntosh as well as the multi-authored book "Keystone Fly Fishing."

His passion for angling was only surpassed by his drive and desire to protect and improve water quality and preserve the natural environment.

Growing up and living in southwestern Pennsylvania Randy saw firsthand how the degradation of natural resources negatively impacted not only recreational opportunities, but how it impaired the economy and quality of life of the residents.

He voluntarily led many of the efforts that have now reversed much of that trend and his legacy will live forever within the confines of that unselfish and noble role.

— Lenny Lichvar

does not get in the way of progress."

Indeed we have progressed in a positive way in regard to improving our aquatic resources as well as in agency led trout management programs and the increasing numbers of wild trout are the indicators of that progress.

Perhaps the Commission, Commissioners, fisheries staff and both stocked and wild trout enthusiasts will also progress and someday find Hussar's elusive "common ground."

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2	"Catch & Release Wild Trout" License Plate Frame		\$15.50	\$0.93	\$16.43	
	Official PATU Tote Bag		\$15.50	\$0.93	\$16.43	
	Official PATU Ballcap (circle) Khaki Olive		\$17.50	None	\$17.50	
	Official PATU Ballcap – Digital Camo		\$21.00	None	\$21.00	
3	Official PATU T-shirt (circle size) S M L XL		\$20.00	None	\$20.00	
	Official PATU T-shirt (circle size) 2XL		\$23.00	None	\$23.00	
	Official PATU T-shirt (circle size) 3XL		\$26.00	None	\$26.00	
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	Wet Fly – 5X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers		\$6.50	\$0.39	\$6.89	
	"Brownie & Bo at the Big Woods Diner" Book		\$19.95	\$1.20	\$21.15	
	"The Delaware River Story" Book		\$24.95	\$1.50	\$26.45	
	"Fly Fishing PA's Spring Creek" Book		\$15.00	\$0.90	\$15.90	
	"Keystone Fly Fishing" Book		\$29.95	\$1.80	\$31.75	
	"Favorite Flies of PA" Book		\$24.95	\$1.50	\$26.45	
	"Fly Tying for Everyone" Book		\$24.95	\$1.50	\$26.45	
4	Traveler Fly Rod – 9-ft., 5-wt., 7-piece		\$130.00	\$7.80	\$137.80	
5	Ultralight Fly Rod – 7-ft., 3-wt., 4-piece		\$115.00	\$6.90	\$121.90	
	PATU Sticker		\$1.50	\$0.09	\$1.59	
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Susquehanna TU's O'Connor creates a lasting legacy

By Bob Baker

Susquehanna Chapter TU

As we go through life, we meet many people. Some will become friends, colleagues, teachers and someone you can get advice from and always turn to. Occasionally, we are fortunate to meet someone who meets all the above and influences us and in one way or another.

Bill O'Connor is one such man. He has touched thousands of lives over the years, and he is only a phone call away to ask for help or guidance.

While in junior high school in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, he met an older girl named Doris Hille. They immediately hit it off and began dating. Bill was later introduced her parents, Hilda and Ernie Hille, who owned E. Hille, and neither he nor Doris could have imagined how her parents would change the course and path of his life. Prior to meeting Doris, Bill was a bait fisherman and now he was being exposed to fly-fishing and fly-tying. He started to work part time for E. Hille 1948 filling orders, running errands, and learning all he could about this new and exciting hobby.

Bill graduated from Williamsport High School in 1951 and left for the Navy three days later. He and Doris married in December of that year and saw each other when leave would allow Bill to travel home.

Following an honorable discharge from the Navy in 1954, he immediately went to work full-time for E. Hille with his wife. Bill's influence on the business could be seen immediately as he encouraged Ernie to sell to all anglers and not just fly fisherman. In 1956 the business became E. Hille Anglers Supply House and sold everything a do-it-yourselfer could want.

Ernie was introducing Bill to all his friends and customers, and he was learning everything there was about the business. Ernie taught Bill how to tie flies, build



Susquehanna Chapter of TU Photo

Some of the past and current officers who came out to honor Bill O'Connor. Front (L-R): Walt Nicholson, Bob Spencer, Jim Latini, Ed Danneker, Bill, Dave Craig, Dave Rothrock and Joe Radley; back (L-R): Charlie Knowlden, Steve Szoke, Bob Baker, Kevin McJunkin, John Kolb, Rick Kinzer and Isaac Bragunier.

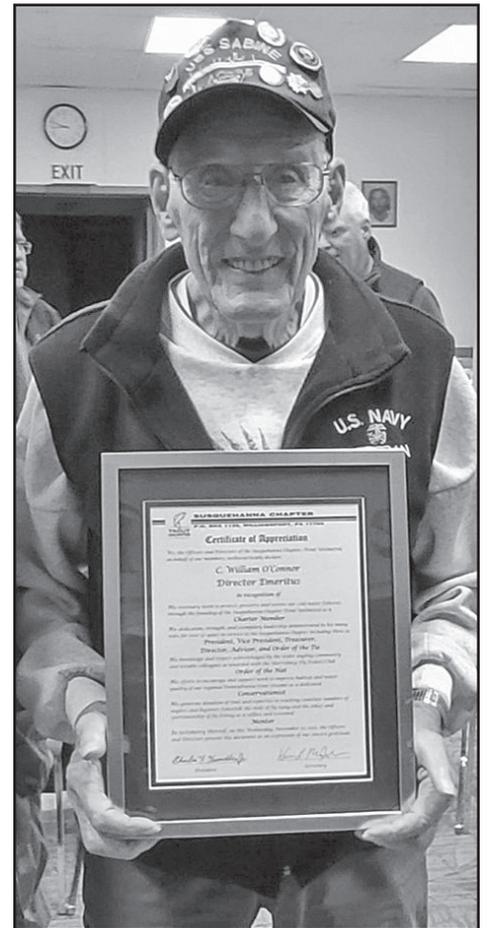
rods, and manage the day-to-day business. The rod making business exploded through the years to the point that Bill was building four-plus rods a day and he had to hire a full-time rod maker after taking ownership of the business so that he could concentrate on other areas.

Ernie was a dry-fly fisherman and that is what Bill learned and became quite proficient at it. Ernie and Bill would often meet these customers on a local stream or be invited to their homes or a lodge for a fishing venture.

One such customer was Charlie Wetzel. He and Bill arranged to meet on the famous Penns Creek for a day of fishing. Charlie knew Bill did not know how to fish wet flies and helped him on this trip.

They met on Penns Creek and found a beautiful stretch. Charlie instructed Bill to start at the top of a run and work his way down. Bill made casts and let his fly drift down, then retrieved it, took a few more steps downstream and repeated the process. Bill got to the bottom of the run after making several casts and had not caught a fish. He told Charlie that there must not be any fish, or they just were not hungry.

Charlie had been watching Bill fish the run the entire time and immediately saw something was wrong. Charlie said that he would give it a try and went to the head of the run, made a cast and caught a wild trout immediately. He continued down the run, just as Bill had done, and caught several trout in the same stretch that Bill



Susquehanna Chapter of TU Photo

Bill with the Certificate of Appreciation he received from the chapter.

failed to catch any.

Bill was confused as they were using the same fly and Charlie ask him what he was doing that Bill was not. Bill could not

Continued on next page...

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figure it out and Charlie said, "You have to mend your line." Mending the line brings the fly to the surface and gives it action in the water. Simple movements of the rod were the answer.

Charlie told Bill to go back out and try. Wouldn't you know it, Bill started catching fishing. Mending the line was one of the most important things he learned and when talking to him about fishing today, Bill still says that you have to mend your line.

Bill joined Trout Unlimited in 1962. Along with Ernie Hille and a group of friends, they wanted to start a chapter in the Williamsport area. After many letters were exchanged with George Griffith and Art Neuman, and talking with Charlie Fox, president of the newly formed PA State Council, the decision was made to officially pursue a chapter.

On Sept. 5, 1963, the first official meeting of this group of friends was held at the E. Hille Angling Supply House and discussions were held on the goals of the new chapter. They filled out a charter application and submitted it to TU.

The Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited #044 was officially chartered on March 14, 1964, and Bill is the only surviving founding member. Other founding members were Ernie Hille, Bob Rinn, Horace Hand, Al Troth, Ray Secules and Dick Leaver.

Bill was elected a director that first year and held that position for several years before serving as chapter president, vice president, treasurer, returning to director, and serving on many committees. He also served as Northern Region vice president for PA Council of TU (long before it became the North Central Region), director for the Council, and director for National TU. He has been chapter advisor since the early 1980s, and remains in that position, and has also attained director emeritus status.

Bill took the lead on many projects with the chapter. If not leading, he played pivotal roles in those projects. His dedication to conservation, teaching and furthering the goals of TU earned him the Order of the Hat given out The Fly Fishers' Club of Harrisburg in 1979 and the Order of the Tie by the chapter. The Order of the Tie award

was conceived by Ernie Hille in 1968 and modeled after The Fly Fishers' Club award. It's presented to a chapter member who had performed an outstanding duty or service for benefit of the chapter.

Bill used his connections at E. Hille to bring in many distinguished program presenters at the Trout Kickoffs (the main fundraiser held by the Chapter starting in 1977). They included Lee Wulff, Sam Slaymaker, Lefty Kreh, Joe Humphreys, Barry and Cathy Beck, Curt Gowdy and Jay "Fishy" Fullum.

Bill and Doris took ownership of E. Hill Anglers Supply in 1968 when Hilda and Ernie retired. At that time, the business had more than 6,000 customers in 10 countries and supplied 150 stores worldwide. It grew to more than 35,000 customers in 16 countries when he retired.

Shortly after taking ownership of the business, he started to teach fly-tying classes with the Susquehanna chapter. His first class, taught in 1968, had 20 students and each participant paid \$10 for two hours a week for 10 weeks of instruction. He continued teaching fly-tying classes with the chapter until our last class was held in 2020.

Rod building classes began, and many were taught the thrill of making a rod and catching a trout, or other targeted fish. Bill was always available for any class that needed instructors. He presented many programs to the chapter over the years at monthly meetings. The last one was in April 2017 when Bill and friend Don Daughenbaugh co-hosted and shared their experiences and times on the streams of North Central Pennsylvania and fishing with many dignitaries and other memorable characters.

Bill regularly attended the monthly meetings and even though he was not the guest speaker, attention usually turned to him as he would give insight based on his years of experience or would have a story or two to share related to the evening's topic.

When the chapter became involved with Project Healing Waters and the Service Partnership, he was one of the first people to volunteer to help teach rod-building and fly-tying.

Bill worked full time for E. Hille for 37

years before retiring. He was able to meet anglers from all walks of life and fame. Some of the notable anglers and customers that Bill fished with include John Alden Knight, Richard Allen Knight, Al Troth, Ernest Schwiebert, New York Anglers Club, Vince Marinaro, Charlie Fox, Ed Koch, Alvin Grove, Lefty Kreh, George Harvey, Joe Humphreys, Ed Zern, Charlie Meck, Greg Hoover, Eric Leiser, Bruce Brubaker, Lee and Joan Wulff, and our own Bob McCullough, Don Daughenbaugh and Mike O'Brien.

He built rods for John Alden Knight and Lefty Kreh, and we will never know if Bill's rods were the ones to help put them in the record books and in becoming legendary anglers.

His knowledge of fishing and techniques continued to improve, and others began seeking his help. He taught many basic casting and fly-fishing class's and started guiding as a result. Even though someone knew how to fly-fish, they may not have known how to fish particular water or certain techniques and Bill always had the answers.

Bill left his mark on everyone he met and worked with. He could not have done any of this without the support of Doris. Even though Bill was the face of the business, Doris was an equal partner and supported Bill in every way. Bill and Doris would work all day and after getting home, Doris would help Bill get his materials together for a class that night. Without her support, Bill could not have done everything that he has.

At the November 2021 chapter meeting, Bill was honored with a Certificate of Appreciation from the chapter as well as a letter of commendation from Tim Schaeffer, executive director of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission.

We are truly grateful for Bill's leadership, expertise, and willingness to help anyone and everyone. Bill is truly a special person and we, and the thousands of people he has interacted with, thank him for everything he has done and taught us. He has left a permanent mark on us all.

RIVER BOOTS – A Fish Warden’s Tales of Pennsylvania Fish and Game Law Enforcement

by Robert Lynn “Bob” Steiner

“RIVER BOOTS – A Fish Warden’s Tales of Pennsylvania Fish and Game Law Enforcement,” written by Robert Lynn “Bob” Steiner, was recently published on Amazon.com.

Bob describes it as “a career synopsis, a training manual, a history book and one conservation officer’s slightly twisted view of a quarter century in the business. It is a sometimes belly-laughing look at a profession that can turn deadly serious in a second and can leave tears running down your face from laughter a few minutes later.”

Bob was the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission officer in Southern Luzerne and Venango counties, in the northeast and

Salmon Survivor

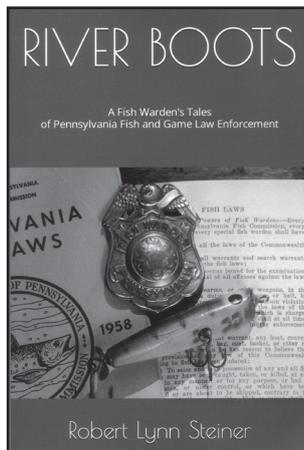
by Christian Shane

Western Pennsylvania is a long way from Alaska. But a handful of visits to “the last frontier” by Penn’s Woods West TU member Christian Shane left an indelible mark from the beginning.

It was on his first trip that Shane, a seventh grade Life Science teacher, witnessed the remarkable and tragic life cycle of salmon as they returned to their natal streams. As he made his own attempt to catch the Alaska “Salmon Slam” (all five species of Pacific salmon: chinook [or king], coho, pink, sockeye and chum), Shane also began piecing together the threads of a story. It wasn’t a typical “me and Joe” yarn. Rather, it was a story about life and death; about navigating loss and grief after the death of a parent or loved one.

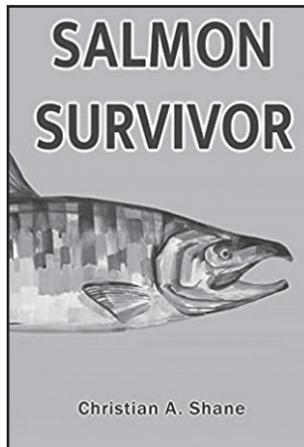
The result is “Salmon Survivor” – a middle grade fiction novel to be released on Aug. 15 by Relevant Publishers.

In the book, 12-year-old Jack Cooper unwillingly travels with his mom from Pennsylvania to Alaska after the death



Bob was Officer of the Year in 1993 and has worked and traveled throughout the state.

A longtime member of Trout Unlimited, Bob worked with TU chapters on projects in eastern and western Pennsylvania. He is a past president of the Oil Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited and was active in the chapter when it won the Gold Trout and Silver Trout awards.



himself to do something his father, ‘Redds’ Cooper, had never accomplished. He attempts to catch the Alaskan Salmon Slam in one summer.

While chasing after the Slam, Jack needs the assistance of Fly Bob, who teaches him the secrets of fishing for salmon in Alaska. Against Alaska’s mighty wilderness, wild-life, and weather, the question becomes: Can Jack complete the slam before the summer’s end?

As Redds used to say, “It’s not called catchin’, it’s called fishin’.” And as Jack

northwest parts of the state. He completed his 27-year career as assistant regional law enforcement supervisor for the PFBC’s Northwest Division.

The more than 250 stories in RIVER BOOTS were written for fishermen, hunters, boaters, conservation officers and their deputies, all law enforcement officers and anyone who has an interest in the outdoors. For conservation officers it is a textbook, with the how-tos and the how-not-tos, the whys and the why-nots. For conservation agency folks, it is a bit of nostalgia with a smirk.

Other law enforcement officers will see some intense, perhaps lifesaving thinking, coupled with a “Barney Miller” attitude. Folks considering a job in the agencies will get an on-the-spot look at what they are asking for and will come away eagerly awaiting their turn to join in. The license-buying hunter, fishermen or boater will get a firsthand look at how their license fees are spent for the good of the sport, the environment and the fish and game resources.

In RIVER BOOTS, you will laugh at **See BOOTS on next page..**

of his father and fishing partner. There, he meets his so-called grandfather and veteran fishing guide, Fly Bob, for the first time. Jack challenges him-

self to do something his father, ‘Redds’ Cooper, had never accomplished. He finds out, nothing comes easy, especially in Alaska.

“Salmon Survivor” is available at Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Indiebound, and Relevant Publishers.

Chris Wood, president and CEO of National TU, says of the book: “‘Salmon Survivor’ is poignant, funny, dramatic, educational, and above all entertaining. Do yourself a favor and read this book to learn about salmon, to learn about Alaska, but especially to learn about why we fish, and how often that is less about catching fish than connecting with friends and family.”

Adds April Vokey, podcaster, outdoors-woman, FFF casting instructor: “‘Salmon Survivor’ follows the struggles of a young angler as he navigates grief and self-discovery in the middle of remote Alaska. Whether you’re new to the outdoors or are one of the many who’ve found themselves on the river, there’s something for everyone in this remarkable story.”

Copies of “Salmon Survivor” will be available at the PATU Annual Meeting in Bellefonte in September.

See SURVIVOR on next page..

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

311 Crestmont St.

Pen Argyl, PA 18072

Email: salmofisher7@gmail.com

Phone: 610-704-4549

Brodhead Chapter #289

Eric Baird

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www.brodheadtu.org

We have continued planning for restoration projects on McMichael Creek on the Pomeroy Preserve. Polk Township Supervisors have approved an iteration of our buffer restoration plan and we are moving forward with a fall project. The Conservation Committee is scheduled to reconvene on Aug. 24. We are working with the USFWS to implement a chop and drop project in the Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge. We planted over 300 bare root seedlings at the Larson Tract of the Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge. The chapter's five TIC programs all had successful years. We held an Introduction to Fly Fishing class in June, and provided an Introduc-

tion to Fly Fishing class for 4 Groundworks Elizabethtown youth leaders. We planned to do the same at the Monroe County Conservation Camp. The chapter received an R3 grant from PFBC. Upcoming meetings include "Sand Spring Run Restoration" at 7 p.m. Sept. 14 at the Kettle Creek Environmental Education Center, 1539 Cherry Lane 8050 Running Valley Rd, Stroudsburg, PA; and Frank Nale on "Spin Fishing for Trout" at 7 p.m. Oct. 12 at Roseto Rod & Gun Club, 30 Shooktown Rd., Bangor, PA. Brodhead Fly Tyers meet Aug. 16 and Sept. 19 at 6 p.m. at the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center, 1539 Cherry Lane Rd, East Stroudsburg. Women's Introduction to Fly Fishing begins at 9 a.m. Oct. 1 at the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center.

Forks of the Delaware Chapter #482

Joe Baylog

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<https://forksofthedelaware.tu.org/>

In a collaborative effort with a student from Lehigh Career and Technical Institute, the chapter created a new chapter logo and several other logos to be used on merchandise along with educational signage for the recently completed Bushkill Creek stream restoration project. The project restored a 1.25-mile stretch along the Class A stream to improve riparian and in-stream habitat. The project goes through existing public parks and open space in three different municipalities. The chapter is reviewing the Hercules quarry application to mine deeper and their response to PADEP's comments from the public meeting held in 2021. Emily Baldauff, TU's Mid-Atlantic Organizer, was guest speaker at our April membership meeting, discussing Trout Unlimited's plan for advocating for our coldwater resources here in Pennsylvania. Forty volunteers from Forks United Church of Christ, Palmer Earth Stewards and our chapter participated in our Bushkill Creek "Put & Take" event. We "put in" over 200 live plant stakes purchased from Ernst Seeds by our chapter, along with 50 seedlings donated by Wildlands

Conservancy and Bushkill Stream Conservancy, upstream from a recent dam removal. We "took out" 40 bags of trash and a vacuum cleaner along Bushkill Drive that parallels the creek. Our first TIC release days since 2019 were held along Bushkill Creek at Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center. For Nazareth and Wind Gap middle school students. We held "macro madness" at Wind Gap's release day. The chapter provided a conservation talk, fly tying and casting as well. The 6th grade at DeFranco Elementary School (Bangor) released 80 rainbow fingerlings into Jacoby Creek. We will be partnering with them again next year. In June, the "Forks of the Delaware Fly Fishing Experience" was back on track at Northampton County Youth Field Day after a two-year hiatus.

Hokendauqua Chapter #535

Art Williams

610-266-1788, awilliams1947@hotmail.com

<http://hokendauqua.tu.org>

We held a cleanup event near Hokendauqua Creek in April. The chapter sponsors five TIC programs at local middle and high schools. We held a TU Service Program in May at a local private pond, where we taught fly casting and fly tying in addition to fishing. We have resumed our monthly "Ties and Lies" at 6:15 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of the month at the Egypt Fire Hall in Egypt, PA. This event is an informal evening where we get together to tie flies and teach new and experienced tyers how to use different materials and techniques.

Lackawanna Valley Chapter #414

Continued on next page...

Jacob Bliss

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www.lackawannavalleytu.org

No report.

... BOOTS from previous page

the scofflaws and you will laugh at the conservation officers. You will chuckle and you will ponder. The book's 24 chapters include, "Thrills on Wheels," "Trouting Culprits," "Warmwater Culprits," "Things That Go Bump in the Night," "Snakes and Turtles and Frogs, Ah-ha," and "Game Calls."

To answer the question, the original RIVER BOOTS were green, 10-inch leather boots the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission issued with those snazzy green-and-brown uniforms we wore. They leaked.

Robert Lynn "Bob" Steiner has been a published author and photographer for 50 years, winning awards on a state and national level. He is a member of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association.

He and his wife, Linda, who was one of the first female conservation officer deputies in Pennsylvania, live in a log home on 30 wooded acres. Linda is a former editor of the PATU newsletter and was also a president of the Oil Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

Retired since 1999, Bob writes, plays guitar, hikes, bikes, hunts, fishes, canoes and is still having fun.

... SURVIVOR from previous page

Shane's work has been published in magazines such as The Drake, Fly Culture Magazine, and others. He also writes the "Tying Together" articles for *PA Angler & Boater* magazine. Shane lives north of Pittsburgh with his wife and three children. Visit his website at www.christianshane-author.com.

The book includes illustrations by fellow Penn's Woods West member Nick Cobler, a freelance designer and author of the "Fly Patterns of Pennsylvania" column printed in this newsletter each quarter. View more of his work at www.nickcobler.com.

...Continued from previous page

Monocacy Chapter #491

Erik Broesicke

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www.monocacytu.org

PFBC WCO Zach Rudd informed the chapter that PFBC is considering changing the current Trophy Trout sections on Monocacy and Saucon creeks to slot limit programs. This would allow the harvest of smaller fish, which is not allowed under current regulations. A public meeting was scheduled for July 18. Details are available on our website.

Pike-Wayne Chapter #462

Paul Ranello

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www.pwtu.org

After two years of COVID restriction, we held our banquet in April at Lukan's Farm and Resort. We were able to award two Charlie Bright Awards for outstanding contributions to our chapter. The 2020 award went to Anthony B. Capitano and 2022 award to John Hochreither. Members assisted PFBC with the spring trout stocking. Members were involved in Lackawaxen River cleanup, a road cleanup on State Route 402 with Pike County Conservation District, and the Pocono clean program. Members were involved in a macroinvertebrate study with the Pike County Conservation District, assessing a total of 17 streams in Pike County. PWTU supported a TIC program at Western Wayne Middle School. Students released fingerlings into Middle Creek in the Varden Conservation Area. Chapter members visited the Leadership Academy at Lacawac Sanctuary to teach the teenage campers how to fish. Members provided fly-casting demonstration and instruction at Grey Towers National Historical Site in Milford. In this year's program, 80% of the participants were women. At a June fly-casting demonstration and instruction at Bingham Park in Hawley, 90% of the participants were women or teen-aged girls. The Park was secured with funds donated by Housefly Fishing Fly Shop. Lackawaxen River Trails (Wayne County) was awarded a \$250,000 grant from PFBC for a fourth river access between Honesdale and Hawley at Indian Orchard. On May 23, the Secretary of DCNR, Commissioner William Gibney, PFBC, and representatives of US Wildlife Service met at the Honesdale site to recognize the investment coming to Wayne County. Kenneth Christianson from the Lackawaxen River Conservancy presented on their grant proposal to rebuild the staircase to provide safe access to the river and the building at the old Charlie Bright site during a recent meeting. PWTU supported the grant proposal. The 9th annual Canal Festival is Aug. 20 at Lock 31 in White Mills. A Casting for Recovery events is Sept. 13 at Sky Top Lodge.

Schuylkill County Chapter #537

Peggy Hutton

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www.schuylkillcountytu.org

No report.

Shehawken Chapter #81

Richelle Dufton

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<https://www.facebook.com/Shehawken-Trout-Unlimited-811023349070239/>

Under new chapter president leadership, we are resuming regular monthly board meetings. The chapter submitted comments on DRBC fracking rules. We held an invasive species event on Japanese Knotweed in partnership with FUDR. This included both a presentation/group discussion and removal of knotweed along the main stem of the Upper Delaware. We partnered with FUDR on Embrace A Stream implementation.

Stanley Cooper, Sr. Chapter #251

Scott Brady

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www.sctu.org

No report.

Western Pocono Chapter #203

Janet Schmitt

570-510-1189, flytyer1776@gmail.com
www.tu.org/connect/groups/203-western-pocono

No report.

NORTHCENTRAL CHAPTERS

Columbia County 038
God's Country 327
Lloyd Wilson 224
Penns Creek 119
Raymond B. Winter 124
Spring Creek 185
Susquehanna 044
Tiadaghton 688

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Gary Parzanese

491 Walnut St.

Reedsville, PA 17084

Email: 6sneezes@comcast.net

Phone: 717-437-0318

Columbia County Chapter #38

Erick Lewis

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Chapter members planted approximately 500 trees this spring, including 10 Mile Run (April 23), Hemlock Creek (April 23) and Roaring Creek (May 18). Fly tying sessions were held at the Lightstreet Community Fire Company Hall on April 19 and May 17. We presented our mission and conservation activities to Fishing Creek Watershed Association in April. CCTU participated in Fish-'N-Fun at Kochoer Park in Lightstreet. Dave Rothrock spoke at the CCTU chapter meeting on April 12, presenting on "Short Leash Nymphing." Our next meeting is at 7 p.m. Sept. 13 at the Columbia County Conservation District Office, 702 Sawmill Road, Bloomsburg. Fly-tying lessons will be at 7 p.m. Sept. 20 at Lightstreet Community Fire Company, 1630 Monroe Ave. Bloomsburg.

God's Country Chapter #327

David Saulter

814-274-9763, saulterdg@yahoo.com



GET A CUSTOM TROUT UNLIMITED PENNSYLVANIA LICENSE PLATE!

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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.

GCTU held meetings in April and again in June. Our normal meeting in May was during our 13th annual PHWFF Global War on Terror event from May 24-27. Eleven veterans were hosted for the 3 1/2 day event. As a number of them stated, they were spoiled, overwhelmed, and amazed at the 45-mile welcome parade and the turnout from the citizens of Potter County to welcome them. Chapter members held a tree planting day along the Allegheny River below Coudersport, assisted at the Maple Festival in conjunction with the Potter County Veterans Service Committee talking about our "Healing Water Event's" and more This includes Envirothon, an environmental day with the science and biology students from Northern Potter High School held at Big Moore's Run Fish and Game Preserve. Members will be participating for a day at the Black Forest Conservation Camp in August.

Lloyd Wilson Chapter #224

Bill Bailey

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www.lwtu.org

No report.

Penns Creek Chapter #119

Joe Dunmire

717-899-6085, jhjazzbo@hotmail.com

Five stream projects were set to begin in July: One on Jacks Creek, Honey Creek, Strodes Run, and two on Kish Creek. We held a cleanup on Jacks Creek in April, and assisted Juniata Watershed Alliance with a cleanup of the towpath. We assisted with the Mifflin/Juniata Envirothon at Lost Creek Park. The chapter manned a macroinvertebrate station at Juniata High School eel release program, as well as Mifflin County School District's Eco-Day TIC release and Richfield Elementary's TIC release. We attended the

Penns Valley Conservation Association's Centred Outdoors program near Poe Paddy State Park. The chapter also held a trip to Penns Creek in April, and our Summer Social on June 18. Upcoming, we will host a station at the National Wild Turkey Federation Field Day on Aug. 13 at Mifflin County Sportsman's Club.

R.B. Winter Chapter #124

Rod Jones

570-259-7205, flyrodjones@gmail.com

[facebook.com/RBWinterTroutUnlimitedChapter/](https://www.facebook.com/RBWinterTroutUnlimitedChapter/)

During the month of April, members and R.B. Winter Chapter along with volunteers from a local Scout troop combed the banks of Penns Creek picking up trash. Also in April, the chapter put a showcase in the Union County Library. The display, designed by Bob Layton, featured chapter history as well as educational information about fly fishing and the mission of TU. In May, members used the annual Fishout to plan a fly-fishing seminar held at Fireman's Carnival Grounds in Middleburg for July 23. The program was designed to help beginners get foundational information and skills needed to get started with fly fishing. In June, volunteers were present during Summer Fest at R.B. Winter State Park where they demonstrated fly tying throughout the day. Plans were made to visit two sites on White Deer Creek to monitor the Woody Debris Project and trees planted by DCNR near the headwaters of White Deer Creek. Chapter volunteers helped on both projects.

Spring Creek Chapter #185

Jamie SanFilippo

SanFilippo.Jamie@gmail.com

www.springcreektu.org

SCCTU participated in the annual Watershed Cleanup Day in April. Our Youth Education

Committee participated in the YMCA of Centre County's annual Healthy Kids Day. The chapter hosted its annual Family Fishing Picnic at Tussey Mountain Pond. SCCTU volunteers assisted Happy Valley FitLink and the YMCA with fly casting and fly fishing on June 25. Volunteers helped PFBC with a casting demo for new TIC teachers on June 28. Our Women Anglers Group meets once per month, on and off the water. Colleen DeLong from Clearwater Conservancy discussed local conservation efforts at our April meeting. Tiffany London with Farm Girl Graphics was our May guest speaker. She discussed how fly fishing has influenced her artwork, and over 20 participants participated in hands-on activities. The Y Trout Release was Aug. 6.

Continued on next page...



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bjuniata@verizon.net



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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

Susquehanna Chapter #044

Walt Nicholson

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www.susquehannatu.com

Three young anglers – Samantha Harvey, Wesley Harvey and Carter Hockenberry – have accepted the position of Youth Coordinators. They will co-chair our Youth Committee (with guidance from their parents and the chapter), contribute articles, stories and pictures to the newsletter as well as helping the chapter with activities geared towards youth with the goal of getting more kids involved in fishing and conservation efforts. We completed an inventory of the fishing book collection held by the chapter: 265 books and additional bound volumes including PA Angler, Fly Fisherman, and Trout magazines. The chapter hosted a presentation at April meeting by Matt Long, district manager of the Lycoming County Conservation District, and Billy Clees, coordinator of the county's Cleanwater Action Plan (CAP), about the efforts being made to accomplish Lycoming County's nutrient reduction goals under the PADEP and US EPA Chesapeake Bay Program. We attended a Pine Creek Watershed Council meeting to report on Fisher Mine tours, findings, and recommendations for comments to the Pennsylvania Game Commission on a proposed new coal mining lease. The chapter provided a letter of support for Lycoming College Clean Water Institute's grant application for a riparian buffer for the Field Station on Loyalsock Creek. We participated in a TIC release with Montgomery High School on White Deer Hole Creek. Additionally, we presented fly-fishing and aquatic entomology sessions at Wyalusing School District's TIC release on Schrader Creek. We conducted sessions at Montoursville Elementary School's outdoor day. The chapter assisted in PFBC's Family Fishing Day program and Loyalsock Watershed Association Memorial Day Cane Pole Fishing Derby, both at Rose Valley Lake. Our VSP has had five participants who each built fly rods from kits. Our next chapter meeting is at 7 p.m. Sept. 14.

Tiadaghton Chapter #688

Jere White

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www.tiadaghtontu.com

We helped plant 3,000 trees along riparian areas of various streams in conjunction with the Pine Creek Watershed Council this spring. In the last four years we have helped plant 10,000 trees in riparian buffers along local native brook trout streams. The chapter's North Central Grass Roots Conservation Conference was canceled at the last minute because the main presenter came down with COVID. It will be held at a later date at the Lumber Museum in Galeton and will be rescheduled at a later date. Chapter meetings are the first Tuesday of the month, except July and August, at 7 p.m. at the Wellsboro Senior Center.

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

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Reynoldsville, PA 15851

Email: kwilliamsccd@atlanticbnn.net

Phone: 814-591-1299

Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036

Codey Schlemmer

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www.amctu.org

After two years, we held our annual banquet at the Falls Creek Eagles on April 9. Next year's banquet will be at the same location, but the date will be March 25 due to Easter and the opening day. The chapter held two cleanups: the Tannery Dam Earth Day Celebration on April 23 and May 12 at the Dr. Colson Blakeslee Recreation Area. Our April meeting was held at the Cardiff mine site that the chapter donated to the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy to reclaim Cherry Run. A public meeting was held in July at the Lindsey Fire Hall regarding the Clover Run CHP grant. We held several educational events this quarter: Two family fishing events, one fly fishing event for the DuBois Area Middle School Fly Fishing Club, and our annual Environmental Day with DuBois Middle School. We also participated in both the Clearfield and Jefferson counties' Youth Field Days. Two Women's Intro to Fly Fishing on-water classes were held at the Tannery Dam in June in partnership with PFBC.

Caldwell Creek Chapter #437

Tom Savko

814-664-2124, tksavko2@verizon.net
www.facebook.com/CaldwellCreekTU437

Weekly water monitoring is ongoing. Our TIC programs were successful and fish were stocked in May. On May 28, we assisted in a fishing day for Corry Area School District's sixth grade class.

Cornplanter Chapter #526

Troy McDunn

814-688-5463, troutbum1963@gmail.com
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 gained six new members from our Pint Night at Lost in the Wilds Brewery. We hope to do a similar event in the late fall or early winter. The North Fork and Redbank Creek stream habitat funding has been acquired by Jefferson County Conservation District. Sections that will receive the upgrades are the project area at Walter Dick Park and a section of Redbank Creek near Moore Road between Summerville and Brookville. Hopes are the work will be done in 2023. We are in the early stages of planning a veteran's fly fishing outing on Leatherwood Creek. We're hoping to make this happen in 2023, along with a fly-tying class and fly-tying nights.

James Zwald Chapter #314

Murray Neeper

814-834-3472, mneeper@zitomedia.net

Elk County Conservation District submitted a grant application for Growing Greener funds for Phase III of the AMD project on the West Creek tributary to Driftwood. Riparian planting has been completed on Gallagher Run which completes that stabilization and habitat improvement project. Work was scheduled for July on Sandy Beach on the Clarion River for handicapped access and habit. Completion of the West Branch stabilization and habitat improvement should be done by fall under our Stackpole Hall grant. Students from St. Leo's Elementary School participated in riparian planting on Gallagher Run. A second "Gyotaku" art class was presented at a "Meet and Greet" session in Emporium along with an aquatic life display. Louise Avery represented the chapter at the May PATU Women's Initiative seminar.

Neshannock Creek #216

Matt Ceremuga

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www.neshannock-tu.org

The 2023 fundraising banquet is scheduled for March at Tiffany's Banquet Center. We had a work day at Coolsprings DHALO area. We completed trail maintenance and general cleanup of the area in April. On June 21, members of Neshannock TU taught Lawrence County Girl Scouts to fish during the week-long Girl Scout Camp held at the Coachmen's Club in New Castle, PA. We are working with Buhl Park to start a STREAM Girls program. We're also 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 Aug. 22 at Munnell Run Farm, Mercer.

Northwest PA Chapter #41

Bill Eckert

814-392-2696, bill@eckertappraisals.com
<http://nwpachaptertu.blogspot.com>

We had our first fundraiser since the beginning of COVID on May 13, showing the Fly Fishing Film Tour movie at Hirt Auditorium in Erie. On April 23, nine members teamed with NWPC to do live stake planting on private property along Trout Run in Eric County where a mud sill project had been completed prior to summer. Two members also joined with NWPC to do live staking and maintenance to the riparian buffer on property held by the Foundation for Sustainable Forests located on Caldwell Creek. Fry from our three TIC schools were into local waters.

Oil Creek Chapter #424

Jennifer Lyons

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www.oilcreektu.org

Venango Conservation District planned a habitat project on the East Branch of Sugar Creek between Creek Road and Davis Road in July. Our Veterans Service Program Day was May 21 with Neshannock TU, the Sandy Creek Conservancy and PFBC, providing opportunities for veterans to fish Sandy Creek on the Conservancy property. Member Al Rickerson headed up the Oil Creek Classic trout tournament on May 13-14. A Community Day for the public also took place on May 14. Meadville School District may want to start another TIC classroom. Our Victory Elementary TIC class had its trout release in May at Two Mile Run. Member Julie Thompson attended the 3rd Annual PATU WDI Women's Leadership Retreat at Port Matilda. Judy Acker, outreach and education specialist for the French Creek Valley Conservancy will speak at our Oct. 19 meeting. Our annual banquet is Sept. 10 at The Inn at Franklin in Franklin, PA. Our next chapter meeting is Sept. 21 at King's Restaurant, Franklin.

Seneca Chapter #272

Chase Howard

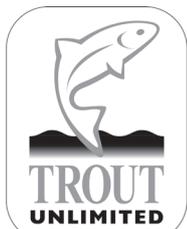
814-598-3449, chaserhoward@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/SenecaTroutUnlimited

No report.

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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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Email: rick@skyblueoutfitters.com

Phone: 610-987-0073

Bucks County Chapter #254

Douglas McCabe

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www.buckstu.org

A walking tour was made along Aquetong Creek with Bucks TU, Aquetong Watershed Association and Solebury Township to observe current site conditions. Information collected will be used to develop plans for additional work for the stream corridor. Board member Andrew Napolitano represented TU at a Girl Scout program in June. We had four TIC programs and they released their trout this spring. We began discussions with Solebury Township for a kids program related to Aquetong Creek Park.

Delco Manning Chapter #320

Charles Lesky

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www.dmtu.org

We held a streamside tree planting at Ridley Creek State Park along the lower FFO section. We had a successful TIC program at Strath Haven Middle School. Recent meetings featured "Shade Fishing" with Wild East Guide Service's Jeff Gensh and "Kettle Creek and its Tributaries" with Henry Ramsey.

Little Lehigh Chapter #070

Dan Dow

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www.lltu.org

Unfortunately, the stream restoration project on the Little Lehigh in partnership with the Lehigh County Conservation District, Allentown Parks Department, Little Lehigh Watershed Stewards

and TU, has been postponed until 2023 due to difficulties securing a construction partner.

Perkiomen Valley #332

Bryan Fulop

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www.pvtu.org

We held our first fundraising picnic on June 18. Water quality monitoring continues with the May-fly Logger on Hosensack Creek in conjunction with Stroud Water Research Center. We received PFBC approval for our Camelot Park project. We held cleanups in April on West Branch Perkiomen Creek at the fly-fishing area of Green Lane Park in conjunction with the PGC, and at the Perkiomen Creek Fly Fishing Area, Green Lane Park. TIC release days were held in May for Christopher Dock High School, Upper Perk Middle School and Hereford Elementary.

SE Montgomery County Chapter #468

Richard Terry

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semontco.tu.org

The chapter assisted PFBC with its "Learn to Fly Fish" classes in Norristown Farm Park. Four of our TIC schools did fish releases this spring with some doing fishing and other activities involved in the outing. Two new organizations received TIC grants for next year. We had 26 individuals participate in STREAM Girls at the Pennypack Environmental Center in June. Our annual banquet was held in May. Our annual trip to Penns Creek was cancelled due to poor stream conditions.

Tulpehocken Chapter #150

Brenda Bittinger

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Our Eco 5k is back on for 2022 and will be held Sept. 25 at 10 a.m. We have a settlement for \$20,000 earmarked for work on Mantawny Creek. We're working with the Berks County Conservation District to locate potential areas of improvement. Tree deflectors are actively working and in place, and have already started creating fish habitat.

Valley Forge Chapter #290

James Leonard

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We received a \$45,000 matching grant for a Growing Greener grant for infiltration trenches in the upper reaches of the Crabby Creek watershed. We continue to gathered samples for ongoing macroinvertebrate study. We held a fly-fishing school on May 15. We had 10 TIC programs

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release trout fry. We participated in a STREAM Girls program in May at Stroud Water Research Center. Our next general meeting is Sept. 8.

SOUTHCENTRAL CHAPTERS

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

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

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Adams County Chapter #323

Frank Kozak

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ACTU entered into a 25-year lease agreement with PFBC to operate and maintain 58 acres of PFBC-owned land that encompasses a portion of Conewago Creek's CROFFO section in May. The premises, referred to as the Zeigler Mill Road Access Site, will be open to the public for fishing and outdoor recreation. A critical path model has been created and is being used to plan and forecast recreational development phases for the site. In addition to the 25-year lease, PFBC acquired 10-year fishing easements from the two landowners at the upstream and downstream sections of the CROFFO. These agreements, combined with the lease, guarantee at least 10 years of public access to this section of Conewago Creek. This fall, a 10-car parking lot and an access road to the creek will be constructed on the site. The materials, equipment, and labor for this construction project are all being donated by Conewago Enterprises and Vulcan Materials Company. Stocking across Adams County was well supported by member volunteers. Nineteen thousand fish were stocked in the county. Four chapter members participated in Environmental Education Day at New Oxford Middle School. The Southcentral Outdoors for Youth Day was held in June. Also in June was the Latimore Creek Youth Fishing Derby. The chapter received two \$250 grants from Wal-Mart. An application to PFBC for a grant to fund the

TIC program was rejected. The chapter prepared a grant application for the South Mountain Partnership to fund stream restoration work, walking/hiking trail and teaching station construction, and tree planting.

Codorus Chapter #558

Bob Daviau

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www.codorustu.org

The chapter held an open fly tying even at a local brewery in April. Our May and June meetings including presentations on sulphurs, tightline nymphing and midges. Members joined the release day for one of our TIC classrooms, the other two classrooms held private releases. Chapter members manned the fly-casting area at Experience Codorus Outdoors in June at Codorus State Park. We partnered with the Watershed Alliance of York to be the primary sponsor of a grant to fund early testing and site evaluation for potential project work in the trophy trout section and the upper main branch of the creek. Upcoming meetings are Aug. 10 and Sept. 14, creekside at Stewart Laughman Sawmill, 1595 Krafts Mill Rd, Spring Grove.

Cumberland Valley Chapter #052

John Zazworsky

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www.pacvtu.org

Members gathering for a fishing outing at East Licking Creek in June. Also in June, VP Justin Pittman conducted a Streets to Streams mentoring outing for at-risk youths. President John Zazworsky and board member Jonathan Daniels met with new executive director of Central Pennsylvania Conservancy to discuss both organizations' ideas about future conservation efforts in the Letort Spring Creek greenway. We'll be working with several other stakeholders to coordinate future conservation/restoration projects. Multiple chapter members supported Reel Recovery fishing event at Allenberry Resort in June. We held an online auction in mid-April to raise additional money to supplement fundraising at our annual banquet. Projects to restore the eroded mouth of the LeTort and to restore and improve a 300-plus-yard stretch with 11 structures on the Yellow Breeches (Barnitz Church area) are on hold due to unsuccessful grant applications. We continue to engage with PFBC and Cumberland County Conservation District with respect to Mountain Creek. We're discussing a long-term goal of a multi-phase former lake restoration project (like the recently completed Wittlinger Preserve) with a likely timeframe of 2023 or 2024. We are working with landowners, Cumberland County Conservation District and PFBC to pursue removal of two dams in Brandtsville. Although not a CVTU project, work on the second half of the stream restoration project of the Allenberry special regulations area of the Yellow Breeches

resumed in late July. The Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp was held in June with several members participating as classroom staff and guides. We are engaging with local schools with the intent of restarting several TIC programs that went dormant during COVID restrictions. One new school reached out to us to start a program. Upcoming events include our membership meeting/family picnic on Aug. 20 at Carlisle Fish & Game Club, Carlisle, our "Last Supper" picnic is Sept. 10 at Vince's Meadow Pavilion, Carlisle, and a fishing outing on Oct. 15 at Spring Creek. Upcoming meetings are Sept. 21, Oct. 19 and Nov. 16 at Bosler Public Library, Carlisle.

Doc Fritchey Chapter #108

Rich DiStanislaw

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In May, State Sen. Chris Gebhard attended an on-site walk to see the "before" state of proposed work on our Snitz Creek project and to meet property owners, and then see the "after" effects of our project work done on Quittapahilla Creek. Gebhard is a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee who introduces Growing Greener bills. We held a workday in June on Lower Snitz Creek where we planted new trees to replace ones that were taken out by flooding. We added new protection for seedlings that were put in place last year, removed tree/log obstructions from the project, planted our memorial tree on the bank and added a stone at the base with a dedication plaque and had a cleanup in the project area. Weekly work on a diversion well at Rausch Creek takes place at 6 p.m. on Mondays. Our Snitz Creek 2 project is moving forward and must be completed by end of year, and our Snitz Creek 3 project began after receiving notice of the grant award. We installed groundwater wells at our Hammer Creek - Barry Farm project to measure the depth of groundwater in the wetlands area where the new stream bed will be moved, and stream water temperatures monitors to assess whether it is suitable for the brook trout population. We staffed an informational booth at the Wildwood Wetlands Festival in April. Also in April, we conducted a fly-tying demonstration at Palmyra Sportsmen's Association club house. Harrisburg Sportsmens Association sponsored "A Day with the Legislators," and we staffed an information booth and conducted a "learn to cast" event for Pennsylvania legislators. We had an exhibit booth and provided casting and fly-tying instruction at Ned Smith Nature Center's Summer Festival on July 30. In June, we were notified that our chapter was awarded a \$10,000 grant from Keeping Pennsylvania Beautiful, sponsored by the Giant Corporation. This grant allows for the purchase of a stream monitoring device for use at our project on Quittapahilla Creek, among others. We also received an EPA 319 non-point source grant award for Bachman Run. Ladies Day Learn to Fly Fish is Sept. 17 at Limestone

Springs Preserve. The Wildwood Celebration is Sept. 24 at Wildwood Nature Park, Harrisburg. Chapter member Dr. James Suleski will present a program on "Trout Stocking Practices on Wild Brook Trout Streams" on Sept. 27 at Bellevue Park, Harrisburg.

Donegal Chapter #037

Garry Longnecker

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www.donegaltu.org**

DTU completed a new buffer planting in April. It was an all-women event at upper Camp Andrews. We are in the restoration process of two new projects that we intend to finish by the end of the year. A WIP was completed for Fishing Creek, helping with securing future stream conservation grants. We completed a workday on two old buffers in the Fishing Creek watershed. We continue to reach out to TIC teachers to support their efforts in the classroom, and we are recruiting additional teachers in our inner-city schools. We will add two TIC programs this coming school year. Those teachers have received their equipment and initial training for start-up. Our summer picnic is Aug. 31 at Millport Conservancy. We have formed a relationship with a women's fishing group, and intend to support them in the future. Upcoming meetings and speakers are Sept. 21 with Matt Kofroth on conservation in Lancaster County, Oct. 18 with Anita Coulton on the physical side of fly fishing, Nov. 16 with Bill Nolan on Fishing the Lehigh River, and Dec. 21 with Barry Weaver and Tom Whittle on rod building. Meetings are at Lancaster Farm and Home Center.

Falling Spring Chapter #234

Took Coder

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We participated in Trout in the Classroom event on May 19 at Caledonia State Park. We also participated in the Waynesboro Fish and Game Youth day on June 11. We demonstrated fly casting and awarded gift cards for best casters. TU volunteers supported PennDot with our annual clean-up of trash on the Falling Spring Road. We will be soliciting volunteers soon to remove bird nets on the Falling Spring tree planting project above Quarry road. Unfortunately, we were not awarded grants for the Watershed Plan or restoring the section on the Falling Spring with the abandoned fish hatchery.

Muddy Creek Chapter #575

Jimmy O'Connor

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On Opening Day, we sold food and merchandise at Muddy Creek Forks and High Rock. Funding for the sponsorship of our cooperative nursery continues to do well. MCTU is sponsor-

ing TIC programs for six classrooms across Red Lion, Dallastown, South Eastern and Eastern York school districts. The chapter awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to Allison Baliko of South Eastern school district in support of her pursuit of a degree in aquatic biology at West Chester University. Our chapter supported a fishing derby for veterans and their families, sponsored by the York County Conservation District and Glenn Hope Agricare. Our chapter is placing a new emphasis on bringing women into the chapter and creating diversity among our membership with appointment of a Women's & Diversity Initiative Chair. We are planning a Women's Intro to Fly Fishing event in September.

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**

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

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Arrowhead Chapter #214

Bill Libengood

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The chapter is having issues getting members to attend meetings after COVID. We are still pushing ahead with conservation projects, but we are waiting on permits.

Chestnut Ridge Chapter #670

Ben Moyer

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The chapter has remained active even though we do not normally hold a monthly meeting in July. On what would have been our regular July meeting date, we cooperated with Forbes Trail TU to hold an enjoyable joint-chapter picnic at the Youghiogheny Reservoir day-use area at Confluence. The picnic was well attended and

both chapters hope the event will lead to better coordination on projects to improve coldwater resources in southwestern Pennsylvania. Forbes Trail members enjoyed a tour of our Coop. trout nursery in the Yough Dam tailrace. We continued to work with several partner organizations to establish an acid-mine-drainage treatment project on Jonathan Run within Ohio State Park. In May, working with Western Pennsylvania Conservancy's watershed office, we surveyed two sites on Jonathan Run to establish baseline condition of water quality and biodiversity. The upstream site, nearest to unsuccessfully reclaimed surface mines, showed extremely poor water quality, scant macroinvertebrates, and no fish life. The downstream site showed some improvement in water quality and yielded 66 fish of various Cyprinid minnow species, but no trout. Our chapter submitted an Embrace A Stream grant application in hopes that, in addition to the volunteer hours we've invested, and commit to continue investing, we can also make a financial contribution to the restoration of Jonathan Run. Chestnut Ridge continues to work to enhance our influence on youth in the region. We learned our two students we sponsored to the Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp did very well there. We are working now to arrange their attendance at a future chapter meeting to present a report. We also held our annual Youth Fishing Experience with East End Community Center of Uniontown. The Center serves primarily urban children, and our hope is to offer the joy of fishing to kids who, otherwise, would not have that opportunity. This year we added a tree-planting experience to the fishing, making the connection that trees and forests benefit clean water. The East End kids were enthusiastic in their work to plant trees along Hutchinson Run and the Sheepskin Trail. Our nursery committee also worked hard to raise, transport and stock trout for numerous other youth fishing events. In the interest of forging partnerships, CRTU participated in the inaugural Youghiogheny Watershed Convergence, convened at Ohio State Park by Mountain Watershed Association. Several different organizations working to improve water quality within the Youghiogheny Basin attended and presented their groups' projects.

Forbes Trail Chapter #206

Larry Myers

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Forbes Trail has completed its spring fly-fishing events and field trips with two local school districts. The most recent field trip included stream-side macro studies and water quality testing, as well as a service project in Linn Run State Park. We've been asked to assist a third school district next year with a new TIC program. Our recently formed Advocacy Committee has been active attending meetings and submitting written com-

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ments on a proposed coal mine expansion into our watershed. Our Diversity Committee is partnering with Penn's Woods West on a new STREAM Girls event on Aug. 14. We organized a joint picnic with Chestnut Ridge TU for members and committee chairs to get to know each other. Forbes Trail held a family picnic for members and friends at Kingston Veterans Sportsmen Club on July 16. Our 50th anniversary banquet is scheduled for March 18, 2023 at Ferrante's Lakeview in Greensburg.

Fort Bedford Chapter #291

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No report.

John Kennedy Chapter #045

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

No report.

Ken Sink Chapter #053

Barrie Mann
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In April, Tim Cammisa presented on advanced tactics for catching trout at our chapter's general meeting. The chapter conducted a macroinvertebrate survey on lower Yellow Creek. We attended and supported the River Valley High School Youth Field Day, and cooperated with Forbes Trail TU in the revision of the Laurel Highlands Trout Trail project, and we continued to attend monthly PASEC meetings. In May, the chapter conducted macro surveys in Little Mahoning Creek and at Cessna Run along with the PA Senior Environmental Corps. We also supported and attended Blairsville TIC release and Field Day activities. The chapter received a plaque recognizing the work we do with the Indiana County Conservation District.

Mountain Laurel Chapter #040

www.mltu.org

Due to the pressing health issues and subsequent passing of chapter President Randy Buchanan, the chapter has not met. We will elect his replacement at an Aug. 4 meeting. There is a meeting scheduled for August 4th where the chapter will vote in a new president. Shane Rudnik served as interim president.

Penn's Woods West Chapter #042

Charles Buffington

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www.pwwtu.org

Penn's Woods West has taken the summer off but there is a lot of work still being done behind the scenes. We have two upcoming outreach events scheduled: STREAM Girls on Aug. 7 and Aug. 14, and a collaboration with Afro Outdoors on Sept. 10/11. We held two cleanups in collaboration with Allegheny Cleanways and Three Rivers Conservation this spring. They were at Tom's Run on the Ohio River and Chartiers Creek. We are expecting to have three new TIC classrooms. We supported two this year, bringing our total to 12. One of the new classrooms is an all-African American charter school in downtown Pittsburgh that offers inner-city kids the opportunity to learn how their actions affect the three rivers area. This fall, through corporate grant funding, we are launching a virtual TIC program with Chatham University in the Aquaponics lab lead by Dr. Roy Weitzell. It will be a 24/7 video camera on the aquarium that enables life science educators in economically disadvantaged locations to still take part in TIC. This is a pilot season and we will work to put metrics into the website to monitor how many hits, length of time viewed and locations of the viewers to see how widespread it is.