

Pennsylvania TROUT



Winter 2023

Publication of the Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited

www.patrou.org



Jerry Bush Photo

Enjoying a winter evening fishing for steelhead at the mouth of a tributary.

Steelhead in the winter

By Jerry Bush
Neshannock Creek TU

The temperature hovered a couple of degrees above freezing when my friend Jim and I arrived at a favored location on a Lake Erie tributary. Spotty snowflakes floated through the air, but afternoon temperatures were predicted to slightly exceed freezing for the remainder of the day. A couple of inches of bright, white snow covered the ground, and large icicles covered parts of the rocky cliffs, which directed the water's flow.

The water was considerably clearer and

shallower than preferred, and we could see a few, dark fish. The vision meant we had to be stealthy because they would likewise be able to see us.

The chrome-sided fish – sometimes referenced by locals as "silver bullets" – that entered Erie County creeks in autumn have grown darker in color. After spawning, they become a bit less energetic and voracious, but the holdovers hit often enough to provide plenty of thrills and after being hooked, still provide all the fight any fisherman could hope for.

As usually occurs during our outings, my
See **STEELHEAD**, page 11

TIC program continues to make an impact

By Rachel Kester
PATU Program Director

Volunteers and staff from PATU and the PA Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) gathered at PFBC's Centre Region Office in Bellefonte on Jan. 9 to ship out this year's batch of rainbow trout eggs. A total of 384 boxes of eggs along with three sizes of fish food were shipped to 411 classrooms statewide.

Thank you to the dedicated volunteers from the following chapters that came out to help with food and egg packing days: Donegal, Forbes Trail, Oil Creek, Penns Woods West and Spring Creek. Additional volunteers from the Indiana
See **TIC**, page 7

CHP conservation grant round now open

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited is pleased to announce that Round 28 of the Coldwater Heritage Partnership's Coldwater Conservation Grant program is now open.

Trout Unlimited chapters, watershed associations, conservation districts, conservancies, and municipalities are among those eligible to apply. Proposals for planning grants up to \$7,500 and
See **GRANTS**, page 11

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Pennsylvania TROUT

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



PRESIDENT – Lenny Lichvar

213 Atlantic St.
Boswell, PA 15531
Phone: 814-659-7057
Email: lennyll@yahoo.com

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT –

Kelly Williams

152 Geno Lane
Reynoldsville, PA 15851
Phone: 814-591-1299
Email: kwilliamsccd@atlanticbba.net

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT –

Rick Nyles

212 Deysher Road
Fleetwood, PA 19522
Phone: 610-987-0073
Email: rick@skyblueoutfitters.com

TREASURER – Russell Thrall

159 Swift Road
Stroudsburg, PA 18360
Phone: 570-620-8677
Email: russ@thrall3.com

SECRETARY – Erick Lewis

70 Brentwood Circle
Bloomsburg, PA 17815
Phone: 607-621-8120
Email: eeelewis@tds.net

PA TROUT EDITOR & DESIGNER –

Brad Isles

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

PA TROUT ADVERTISING –

Brad Isles

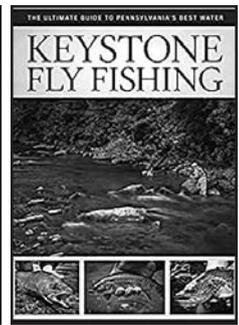
P.O. Box 23
Grove City, PA 16127
Phone: 724-967-2832
Email: bisles@live.com

WEB EDITOR – Carolyn Heckman

P.O. Box 5148
Bellefonte, PA 16823
Phone: 717-607-9428
Email: carolyn.heckman@
patroun.microsoft.com

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Time to stock up on PATU merchandise

With spring right around the corner, now is the time to check out the PATU Merchandise Collection to stock up on our custom-tied leaders, or perhaps treat yourself to a new ultralight or traveler fly rod.

And if you are looking for information on new fishing destinations, or flies and hatches in PA, you'll find a wealth of information in one or more of the books on PA fly fishing.

And don't forget that we also offer a complete line of PATU-logoed clothing items; men's and women's T-shirts, hoodie-style sweatshirts, and ballcaps in a choice of three colors.

Last but not least, "Back the Brookie" decorative license plates and "Catch & Release" license frames are available to show your support for PATU and our native



salmonid species.

It's easy to order PATU merchandise online using PayPal or a credit card, or you can download and print out an order form to mail with your personal check or money order.

Check out our complete offerings at <https://patroun.org/index.php/merchandise/> and place your order today!

You may also clip and mail the merchandise order form located on page 10.

To our donors: Tight lines & thanks

By Bob Neu

Development Committee Chair

The hatch is on for Pennsylvania Council's Annual Appeal.

As of Jan. 31, generous members of PATU, along with individuals and families honoring their favorite anglers, have contributed over \$22,000 in support of PATU's conservation efforts. We're grateful to all who responded to this year's appeal – see the growing list of donors at www.patroun.org – but we still have a long way to go. Our records show that only two percent of registered members make donations to PATU in addition to the dues they pay through TU's national office.

PATU is a volunteer organization: Please know that we are working every day to protect, conserve and restore Pennsylvania's coldwater resources, and to make your fishing experience in the Keystone

State outstanding in every way.

Please send a check today to PA Council of Trout Unlimited, PO Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823, or go to www.patroun.org and click on "Donate Today!" at the top of our home page. Give what you can: It's the participation that counts, not the amount. Please join your fellow members in supporting PATU – this year and every year.

Employer Match: Ask your employer if the company has a program to match your individual contribution to PATU. Many businesses have charitable giving policies aligned with the interests of their employees.

Tax Savings for Your Business: Are you a small-business owner, or are you influentially-placed in a larger corporate office? Here's an opportunity to support PATU's signature education program in a way that could generate savings on your

Continued on next page...

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PA business taxes. PATU has been certified for 2023 as an Educational Improvement Organization, which means that business contributions in support of Trout in the Classroom accrue tax advantages for PA companies registered for the Educational Improvement Tax Credit program.

Each year, more than 400 schools across the commonwealth participate in TIC, raising trout from eggs in their classroom to releasing them as fingerlings in approved PA streams, and practicing responsible stewardship of Pennsylvania's waterways. Find out more at: <https://dced.pa.gov/programs/educational-improvement-tax-credit-program-eitc/> or email us at development@patrout.org.

Two Big Dates in April: While you're tying flies and checking your rig for Opening Day on April 1, keep in mind that the IRS goes fishing too, on Tax Day (April 18). Here are a couple of extra-beneficial ways to support PATU and save on your taxes at the same time:

Giving Directly from Your IRA: Many supporters over 70-1/2 years of age are able

to donate directly from their Traditional Individual Retirement Accounts and count the amount toward their annual minimum required withdrawal. With an IRA gift, it's possible to reduce your tax obligation and help build a thriving coldwater habitat at the same time. You pay no tax on the gift amount, and PATU receives the total contribution tax-free. Talk to your tax advisor, or go to: <https://www.investopedia.com/taxes/can-i-use-money-my-ira-donate-charity/>.

Planned Giving: It's never too early to consider placing a bequest to PATU in your will. Contributions of this type accrue strong tax advantages to your estate, and can be a source of long-term benefit for all of PATU's programs. Ask your lawyer or tax adviser for details, or go to: <https://www.plannedgiving.com/resources/what-is-planned-giving/>.

PATU is a federally certified 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization, and gifts are tax-deductible according to law.

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If you have questions, Bob can be reached at development@patrout.org.

PA COUNCIL OF TROUT UNLIMITED 2022-23 COMMITTEES



Awards –

Beth Boyd
717-404-7642 / ycpnurse@gmail.com

Budget –

Russell Thrall
570-620-8677 / russ@thrall3.com

Coldwater Heritage Partnership Admin. –

Rachel Kester
814-359-5233 / c-rkester@pa.gov

Coldwater Heritage Partnership TU Delegate –

Ken Undercoffer
814-765-1035 / kcoffer@atlanticbb.net

College/5 Rivers –

Charlie Charlesworth
570-954-5042 / ffnepa@epix.net

Communications –

Brad Isles
724-967-2832 / bisles@live.com

Conservation/Climate Change –

Brian Wagner
484-894-8289 / bewagner482@gmail.com

Delaware River –

Jeff Skelding
410-245-8021 / skelding@fudr.org

Development –

Bob Neu
development@patrout.org

Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture –

Ken Undercoffer
814-765-1035 / kcoffer@atlanticbb.net

Membership –

Jason Miller
412-335-8647 / jdm5047@gmail.com

National Leadership Council Rep. –

Russ Collins
717-580-3958 / [rusthepres@dfu.org](mailto:russthepres@dfu.org)

Trout in the Classroom –

Rachel Kester
814-359-5233 / c-rkester@pa.gov

Trout Policy –

Len Lichvar
814-659-7057 / lennyl@yahoo.com

Dave Rothrock
570-377-9712 / daver2@comcast.net

TU Service Partnership –

OPEN

Women/Diversity Initiative –

Amidea Daniel
814-359-5127 / adaniel@pa.gov

Kelly Williams
814-765-2624 / kwilliamsccd@atlanticbbn.net

Youth Education –

Judi Sittler
814-861-3277 / jlsittler@comcast.net



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Headwaters

A message from PATU President Lenny Lichvar

At the family Thanksgiving dinner my 5-year-old granddaughter turned to me and asked, "Pappy how is Fish Club going?"

While I was momentarily confused, my daughter chimed in that they had received a news clipping from a family friend about me becoming president of PATU with a note about me taking over the helm of some sort of "fish club."

It then became a family inside joke to the point that on Christmas I received a custom shirt from my daughter, son-in-law and co-conspirator grandkids with "Fish Club President" prominently embossed on it.

Aside from answering the question of what to get Pappy for Christmas, it also unintentionally re-raised thoughts to me as to exactly what Trout Unlimited really is, since I have been involved with that debated issue many times before.

Certainly, fishing and fly fishing run through the fabric of Trout Unlimited at all levels. It is estimated that 90 percent of all TU members fly fish so it stands to reason fishing and specifically fly fishing is a topic that resonates. As a Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commissioner for 12 years I was sometimes labeled, by certain individuals, as the fly fishing commissioner, largely because of my affiliation with TU.

Also, because as a Commissioner and long before and since, I spoke up in favor of enhancing and protecting native and wild trout, which by the way is what TU was founded on, as well as stating repeatedly that stocking over wild trout, in particular Class A designated waters, was not sound management of the resource.

I took and still do take the PFBC's motto of "Resource First" literally and seriously. Let's just say not everybody does. Of course, I was labeled yet again, by even more individuals, as anti-stocking and TU was again guilty by my association.

So, in today's world of social hype and media driven perception and opinion, without regard or respect for fact and reality,

I am often regarded as an anti-stocking elitist fly fisherman who belongs to nothing more than a fish club that embodies those



Laurel Rosenbaum Photo

'Fish Club President' Lenny Lichvar and granddaughters, from left, Mackenzie, Leanora and Emalyne.

accusations.

To be somewhat fair, National TU is very much in lock step with the fly fishing community. However, at other levels TU has made inroads in attempting to offset this. The recent PATU newsletter article on spin fishing is a step in that direction and our efforts in angling education have broadened to include all types of fishing methods. Even a recent piece by Trout Magazine's editor discussing the issue of angling preferences, and why it should not matter inside or outside of TU, is a result of the drumbeat of ongoing perception of TU as an elitist fish club.

Of course, getting back to reality, in my local chapter alone we have members who

do not fish at all or fish rarely, which sometimes defines me in the latter. Yet these are among some of the most active members we have. In our chapter we have many members who assist in stocking thousands of trout every year. I personally led our chapter members in assisting a coop trout nursery in its stocking for years. I currently assist in raising funds, outside of TU, to purchase trout to continue that stocking in the same waterway which has no wild trout and was recovered from historic AMD pollution and constitutes an expanded opportunity for anglers that without those efforts would not exist.

Fun fact: I also grew up fishing with bait and lures and killed countless trout. I raised two kids to fish using all sorts of angling equipment and do the same now for the aforementioned grandkids. These are just facts and realities that bear no resemblance to perception.

What really unites TU members is not how they fish or where the trout originate from.

Even then, not all TU members agree on everything either. However, the common bond that does unite them is protecting and improving the native and wild trout and coldwater resources. We can all take solace in the actually documented projects and initiatives that TU volunteers and professionals have implemented for decades that will stand the test of time and outlive, as well as outshine, the past, present and future misperceptions and fact-less driven opinions by those who drink that flavor of the Kool Aid.

That all being said, my Fish Club President shirt does look pretty cool.

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Treasurer's Report

by PATU Treasurer
Russell Thrall

I want to thank all the members, volunteers and supporters who donated so far to PATU's Annual Appeal. Through mid-January we had received \$21,750 in donations, a little bit behind last year. However, there were still donations arriving regularly in late January.

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

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

Also please read Bob Neu's Development Committee report containing important information on other opportunities to help us support PATU activities.

Chapter treasurers and presidents should also keep in mind the end of the fiscal year on March 31 and the need to start the process to timely file your Annual Activity Report (AAR) with TU as well as the IRS filings. Expect to see additional information over the next several weeks about this year's AAR process and deadlines.

You should check that you have access to the members only section of the TU website and that the treasurer is correctly listed for your chapter. Doing so will ensure they receive TU communications about training on the AAR process and important information for the treasurer role.

President Lichvar to appear at SW PA events

PATU President Lenny Lichvar will be one of the participants in a panel discussion on wild trout and trout stocking, among other topics, from 2-3 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 18 at the USA International Sportsmen's Show at the Monroeville Convention and Events Center located at 209 Mall Plaza Boulevard, Monroeville. This public event is being sponsored by the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* and will be moderated by Outdoor Editor John Hayes. Visit www.sportandtravel.com for information.

PATU will have a booth and Lichvar will

be on hand at the Penns Woods West Chapter of Trout Unlimited Cabin Fever Show on Sunday, Feb. 26. The show runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Doubletree Hilton Pittsburgh Cranberry located in Warrendale. More information on the event is available at www.pwwtu.org.

Additionally, on Wednesday, April 19, Lichvar will have table for PATU at the annual Fly Tyers Reunion, featuring celebrity fly tyers, held at the Laurel Highlands Sporting Clays Lodge located at 199 Teal Drive, Champion. The event runs from 6-9 p.m.



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

- Doc Fritchey
- Neshannock
- Oil Creek
- Penns Creek

Brook Trout \$250 to \$499

- Donegal

Wild Trout \$100 to \$249

- None

In Memoriam

- In Memory of Charles "Fred" Wagman
Weaver Family
Batchelor Family
Winters Family
Boyne Family
- In Memory of Dr. Francis Menapace
Churnetski 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 13-20.

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



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Fly Patterns of Pennsylvania

by Nick Cobler

Quill Gordon Streamer Variant

A nod to the classic fly pattern with some new twists.

Fly Design / Highlights

- Constructed with a few, readily available materials
- Sleek, buggy and strike-inducing profile
- Good early season pattern for our cold area waters

Background

Winter is a great time to experiment with new patterns and new materials. And last summer I received a great bag of wood duck feathers from a friend in the Catskills. With my love of the classic, wet fly aesthetic, this led me to think about a streamer version of the famous Quill Gordon — an early season pattern for the cold waters of Pennsylvania. The Quill Gordon Streamer Variant is what I call it. Try it out and I hope it produces some fish for you this season.

About the Quill Gordon

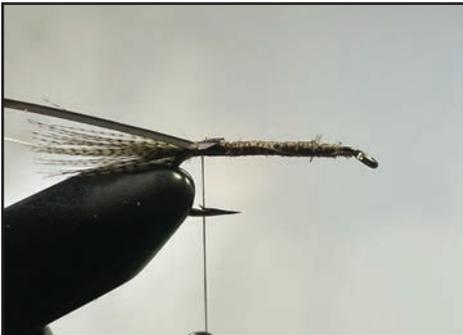
The Quill Gordon dry fly pattern was created by the “Father of Dry-Fly Fishing in America” — Theodore Gordon (1854–1915). It is well-known and it can be found in many fly boxes today for early season trout. But few know that Gordon got his start fishing the limestone streams of Pennsylvania at an early age. He was a big fan of stripped peacock quills for mayfly bodies and was known to tie his pattern in various shades. He felt they mimicked the natural body ribbing very well. I agree and lucky for us, there are many options to create this effect when tying today.



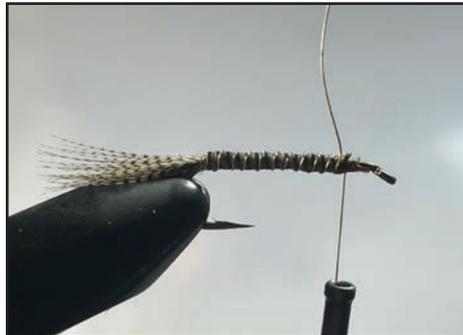
Materials

- **Thread:** Your Choice
- **Tail & Wing:** Wood duck / Mallard
- **Body:** Your Choice
- **Rib:** Gold Wire
- **Hackle:** Medium Dun
- **Hook:** Your Choice

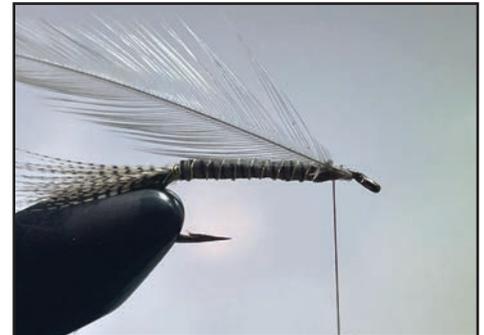
Like always, I invite you to explore using various combinations of materials. Keep learning, having fun and let the fish decide if the fly works. Tight lines out there folks.



Start the thread behind the eye and wrap a base back to the bend of the hook. Tie in a tail of wood duck about a hook shank in length, gold wire your body material choice.



Wrap the body material forward (here a synthetic quill) and secure. Coat with some head cement. Follow with the gold wire and tie off. Trim or helicopter the wire to break.



Wrap a nice base of thread and clean up any loose materials. Select and tie in a hackle feather. Wrap forward around the hook a few and secure the feather with tight wraps.



Wet your fingers and preen the fibers downward to create a collar. Trim unruly fibers on top and use thread wraps to clean up a base for the next step.



Attach more wood duck using the natural curve of the feather. I like the length to be equal to, or a little longer than the tail. Tie down with a few wraps, lift the butt ends and wrap a few turns behind the eye.



Trim the wood duck butt ends, and build up a nice, neat head with your tying thread. Whip finish the fly and coat with some head cement for durability. Good luck!

Furimsky inducted into PA Fly Fishing Museum

Chuck Furimsky, a member of the Mountain Laurel Chapter of Trout Unlimited, was inducted into the Pennsylvania Fly Fishing Museum on Nov. 5, 2022 at the Museum's Induction Ceremony in Mount Holly Springs. The Fly Fishing Museum is located just outside of Carlisle and houses many displays and artifacts of legendary fly anglers.

Chuck is the originator and longtime manager of the Fly Fishing Shows that he began on a small scale at Seven Springs Mountain Resort in Somerset County and has grown to show sites across the country showcasing celebrity fly anglers and fly

tyers as well as the latest fly fishing and tying products. Chuck retired as manager of the shows six years ago and his son Ben is now the manager. However, the Fly Fishing Show corporate office is still located in Somerset.

Chuck still independently organizes and operates the International Fly Tyers Symposium that is held each autumn. He also organizes the annual Fly Tyers Reunion Show held at the Laurel Highlands Sporting Clays Lodge in Somerset County every spring. Chuck has also presented various programs at MLTU functions and to many other organizations over the years.



Furimsky

TIC

from page 1

County Conservation District and Norristown Farm Park also assisted. A big thank you to Bio-Oregon for donating all the fish food again this year, and to Trout Lodge for providing a 50% discount on the rainbow trout eggs.

Despite the challenges that the pandemic posed over the past couple of years, statistics show that the TIC program continues to make quite an impact. The following statistics are from the 2021-22 school year:

- 379 classrooms participated in TIC. They were located within 64 of PA's 67 counties and represented 44% of Pennsylvania school districts (222).
- Over 39,548 students were reached through the program.
- TIC teachers provided 7,625 hours of instruction on TIC topics and 967 hours related to fishing.
- Fishing skills instruction and/or fishing experiences were provided to 27,610 students (over double that of the 2018-19 school year which was the last in-person year prior to Covid)

TIC workshops are being planned for this summer in June and July. Teachers and program partners can sign up at <https://www.patrouinthe classroom.org/workshops.html>. Plans are also underway for the third biennial TIC Summit to be held in Harrisburg on July 12. Registration information will be available later this



Carolyn Heckman Photo

Staff and volunteers from PATU and PFBC pose with the boxes of rainbow trout eggs on their way to UPS for shipping.



Carolyn Heckman Photo

Eyed rainbow trout eggs await packing and shipment.

spring also on the TIC website.

Finally, the next round of TIC teacher grants will be opening in February or March. New and existing programs can sign up for funding to support the purchase of equipment and supplies and



Rachel Kester Photo

Eggs and food for the TIC program are packaged assembly line style at the PFBC Centre Region Office in Bellefonte. trout eggs on their way to UPS.

travel costs associated with TIC field trips and release days. More information will be available later this spring at <https://www.patrouinthe classroom.org/patugrant.html>.

PA Council of Trout Unlimited

Minutes of the Jan. 22, 2023
Executive Committee Meeting
ZOOM Teleconference



Attendees: Lenny Lichvar, Greg Malaska, Carolyn Heckman, Russ Thrall, Russ Collins, Rick Nyles, Erick Lewis, Brian Wagner, Nate Cozzens, Kelly Williams, Todd Burns, Jimmy O'Connor, Gary Parzanese, Bob Neu, Rachel Kester, Jason Miller, Ari Capotis, Bryan Mathie, Dave Rothrock, Jimmy O'Connor, Jenn Orr-Greene, Dean Druckenmiller, Judi Sittler, Emily Baldauff.

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 a.m. by President Lichvar. Minutes of the Oct. 16, 2022, EXCOM meeting were approved as submitted.

President's Report: Submitted by L. Lichvar.

Treasurer's Report: Submitted by R. Thrall. We are in good shape. Grant requests are ahead of 2021. As of Dec. 31, 2022, we were up to \$22,000 in the annual appeal. Budget Committee needs to be completed for February meetings.

Merchandise Sales: Submitted by B. Pennell.

List of Actions Taken: Submitted by E. Lewis.

Program Director's Report: Submitted by R. Kester. DCNR report is due by the end of February. CHP report received. TIC report received. KCC report received. It will be held Feb. 24-25, 2024.

Communications and Outreach Report: C. Heckman has accepted a new position and she will stay on part-time until a replacement is found. Grant submitted for education on the Climate Action Plan. YouTube goal of more than 100 subscribers has been reached.

**Motion* to adopt the Communications Work Plan as submitted. Approved.

NLC Report: Submitted by R. Collins. The majority of work has been with the Climate Change and Communications work groups. Regional Rendezvous is coming up and work will take place at this event. Reaching out to RVPs and chapters for issues that can go to NLC.

Advocacy Report: Submitted by J. Orr-Greene and E. Baldauff. Stream Act – Cartwright and Casey – language in omnibus bill enables up to 30% of annual expenditure for long-term operation and maintenance of acid mine treatment systems for next 15 years, act mirrors state program at national level. G.T. Thompson – appointed to chair House Ag. Committee, Farm Bill is up for reauthorization, we are reaching out to engage. Six-hundred million dollars is in the Clean Stream Fund, some to Agriculture Assistance Program, some to Growing Greener, some to new State Parks program. House speaker is in flux which is impacting our ability to conduct legislative visits for education, etc. Governor's budget is March 2 and we'll have some opportunities. Will be conducting advocacy webinars in next few weeks. Need to establish priorities for PA legislative initiatives for PATU. B. Wagner requested a thank you letter to Cartwright and Casey for passage of the Stream Act, J. Orr-Greene will copy us on the National TU letter, L. Lichvar and B. Wagner to circle back on letter content.

Regional VP Reports:

Northcentral (G. Parzanese) – Gas drilling still on our list; ATV trail is still a concern.

Northeast (T. Burns) – Pike-Wayne still having trouble with getting new members assigned to their chapter; big warehouses moving into the Poconos still an issue and being monitored; J. Baldauff said TU National is migrating databases, so they will watch out for issues like this.

Northwest (A. Capotis) – TIC is going with multiple new tanks; Cornplanter and Seneca chapters need assistance; Caldwell is continuing water quality monitoring.

Southcentral (J. O'Connor) – Doc Fritchey is very active; Cumberland Valley recently received two grants; Adams County is working on new access site and restoration; Donegal has a new president;

Falling Spring received a grant; Muddy Creek had success with incubator program.

Southeast (D. Druckenmiller) – Attended chapter meetings for introductions; Little Lehigh is looking for assistance with member engagement.

Southwest (B. Mathie) – Chestnut Ridge AMD work is ongoing; chapters in Laurel Highlands pulling together to build ecotourism map with Trout Trail enhancements; work continues on Hemlock trees inoculation against invasive Hemlock Woolly Adelgid with education and training being put together; lots of leadership turnover at chapters; Penn's Wood West has Cabin Fever coming up on Feb. 26, many vendors and attendees expected, Kelly Galloup will be presenting and tying flies and speaking at a dinner.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trout Policy Committee Report: Submitted by D. Rothrock. Received email from PFBC; we will have quarterly meetings on a schedule; proposal to amend the PA code regarding notice of stocking and authorization of stocking, seems there has been some significant backward movement on this; language has been removed from PA Code; brook trout stocking is allowed without this language; timeline for implementation is no longer included; would like PATU to approve a letter asking for this to be corrected and moved forward with implementation; "hassle" seems to be driving resistance; comments are still being accepted, over 1,000 comments received to date; commissioners need to hear from our side;

**Motion* to write letter to be written. Approved.

Yellow Creek article in Fish and Boat magazine shows a large stocked rainbow trout caught in this Class A stream, counters article L. Lichvar previously had published.

Development Committee Report: Submitted by B. Neu. Learning complexities of our organization, working to make connections between committee and other work. Approval received for educational tax credit for businesses and corporations for TIC, will reapply in November, two or three potential contributors. Twenty-two thousand received for Annual Appeal;

Continued on next page...

...Continued from previous page

would like to approach as cyclical process throughout year versus single letter; contributions are 2-3% more with invitations to contribute. Suggested: one, reminder to past year contributors that have not yet contributed for approximately 300-400 members; two, warm welcome mailing to new members who joined after Annual Appeal letter distributed and to those who joined two months prior throughout the year, welcome to PATU and link to their chapter website, ongoing work update; three, fundraising letters can also detail non-monetary ways members can contribute, four years of donor giving history in new database can be used when soliciting corporations and foundations for funds. Invitation made to PATU Board to contribute to PATU if not done so already, we need 100% participation. Invitation made for volunteers to participate in Development Fundraising Committee, not just asking people for money. Regarding deceased members in your chapters, please let B. Neu know in an email so they can be removed from outreach and a condolence letter can be sent.

Awards Committee Report: Submitted by B. Boyd. Committee chair needs to be replaced; volunteer or appointment; reviews awards nominations with committee and selects winners at end of year; additional chapter communication may be valuable.

Delaware River Committee Report: Submitted by J. Skelding.

Conservation Committee Report: Submitted by B. Wagner. Proposal received from David Coughlin from Widener College regarding climate change effects on brook trout.

**Motion* to support Widener College project as detailed in report. Approved.

Microplastics/forever chemicals link in report to information; committee looking into research and information; reaching out to Helen Nevel at National TU; potential future article in Trout magazine; E. Baldauff involved from advocacy standpoint.

Diversity Committee Report: Submitted by K. Williams and A. Daniel. Working on agenda for upcoming meetings; to schedule leadership meeting in west, cen-

tral and eastern areas; May 26-28 women's weekend gathering – Fishing Food Fun and Friends; please solicit engagement from women engaged in your chapters; only about 15 Chapters have WDI leaders.

Youth Committee Report: Submitted by J. Sittler. RVPs please get to know chapter leaders and encourage women to get involved in chapter leadership; many chapters only include members on email distribution, reach out to others who participate as well; STREAM keepers is under development to expand beyond STREAM Girls for gender inclusivity, hours to two-day programs are available; National TU youth program matching funds opportunity via Guadalupe Chapter.

Membership Committee Report: Submitted by J. Miller. We're above 15,000 members, up about 2,000 in 2017. Northwest, Ken Sink, Broadhead and Bedford Co. chapters had significant increases. Discussion of engagement of colleges in chapters, 5Rivers discussed, information to be distributed by E. Baldauff.

Communications Committee Report: Submitted by B. Isles.

Budget Committee Report: Submitted by R. Thrall. If interested in participating, please send Russ an email.

Financial Reviewer Report: Submitted by N. Cozzens. Working on new reports.

College/5 Rivers: Submitted by C. Charlesworth. See above in Membership.

TU Service Partnership: Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS

Loyalsock Update: *Bay Journal* article covered this, summarized information; Walt Nicholson is closely following; small fine on pipeline; overview presentation from Game Commission to be distributed.

Priority Watersheds: Nothing new since presentations; Jason Thomlinson, point person, has departed National TU; Laurel Highlands project fits into this area, will do outreach when project starts.

NEW BUSINESS

Stream Act Passage: J. Orr-Greene covered this in her report; consensus to send thank you letter to state legislators and members of congress; drafting letter for review and approval.

Letter to Gov. Shapiro: L. Lichvar asked for letter to be compiled, introducing TU,

congratulate and request for meeting.

**Motion* to write a letter to Gov. Shapiro. Approved.

Penns Creek Bridge: Email received with concern about replacement; Lenny followed up with landowner; Trestle 19 near Poe Paddy in Centre County washed out by flooding; email sent to Spring Creek president; attending meeting Feb. 9, 2023; concern about limit to pedestrians and bicycles (not ATVs or snow mobiles); L. Lichvar requested follow-up from meeting to determine if PATU needs to engage

Outdoor Show Participation: L. Lichvar participating in three events – USA International Sportsman Show in Monroeville, panel discussion at 2 p.m. on Feb. 18, wild vs. stocked trout/stocking over brook trout. Cabin Fever, run by Penn's Woods West Chapter, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Feb. 26. Fly Tyers Reunion, run by Chuck Furimsky, held at 7 Springs, mid-April 2023.

Additionally: J. Sittler suggested selling women's clothing at events. E. Baldauff will be at The Great American Outdoor Show on Feb. 6 and Feb. 8, handing out pamphlets. Eastern Chapter of Wild Sheep Foundation, Feb. 16-18. Need additional volunteers to staff in Lancaster. Hunter and Angler Heritage Day in early April, setting up meetings with legislators. Local and state gatherings will be scheduled with legislators, volunteers will be needed for these as well.

The next EXCOM meeting is April 23, 2023 at the PFBC Centre Region Office. It will be in person.

Motion to adjourn at 12:12 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Erick Lewis – Secretary*



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	Women's PATU T-shirt (circle size) 2XL		\$23.00	None	\$23.00	
	Women's 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		\$15.95	\$0.96	\$16.91	
	"Dry Fly Strategies" Book		\$29.95	\$1.80	\$31.75	
	"Pocketguide to PA Hatches" Book		\$21.95	\$1.32	\$23.27	
	"Keystone Fly Fishing" Book		\$29.95	\$1.80	\$31.75	
	"Favorite Flies of PA" Book		\$24.95	\$1.50	\$26.45	
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STEELHEAD

from page 1

friend cranked his first cast into a promising area while I fumbled with my leader and a Woolly Bugger. A loud splash caused me to turn from my task and witness my friend already battling a large steelhead. As I offered encouragement, the broad fish bolted about 10 yards downstream before unexpectedly breaking the water's surface a second time.

As it reentered the water, Jim's rod popped straight, and we knew immediately that yet another mighty steelhead had fought its way to safety. It happens!

The consensus among tributary fly-fishers is that landing 50 percent of hooked fish is a good day, and if 70 percent are landed, they've had a great day.

After casting a few times into the same hole, my rod bent strongly, and it was my turn to show a steelhead who was boss.

In a typical manner, it dashed downstream but instead of breaking the surface, it remained deep and raced back toward me. Luckily, I already "had it on the reel," which allowed me to retrieve the line fast enough to keep the hook pressured into the fish's jaw. After its return, the fish held to the bottom and only moved slightly from side to side, seemingly challenging me to a battle of strength. I kept the pressure on the fish but continually reminded myself to be ready for a burst.

Three or four minutes passed before the tired fish came to the surface, but soon after I made a rookie mistake. Underestimating the amount of energy the fish still possessed, I pulled it free of the current and then dunked my net under it. It may

GRANTS

from page 1

implementation grants up to \$15,000 will be accepted until March 10, 2023.

CHP grants are made possible with financial assistance from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources through a Community Conservation Partnerships Program grant administered by the Bureau of Recreation and Conservation, and through funding from the Foundation for Pennsylvania



Jerry Bush Photo

A holdover steelhead being coaxed from a tributary current.

not have been silver in color anymore, but when it saw that mesh, it bolted downstream like a bullet and broke my leader when I added the mistake of trying to stop it too quickly.

Later, we moved to the river's mouth, and each enjoyed some success. I managed to bring one fighter to the net, and Jim caught two. With less than an hour before the horizon would engulf another gorgeous Lake Erie sunset, we chose to access the open water of the big lake.

Occasionally, winter conditions permit safe wading into the lake itself and on this day, we were blessed with one of those instances. We attached floats about five feet above our imitations and let the current drag our offerings farther into the lake than we could hope to cast. The prolonged drifts sometimes entice steelhead waiting for food to be washed to them by water that is closer to their preferred 55-degree temperature.

You haven't enjoyed the full steelhead fly-fishing experience until you hook one in open water!

Each of us had the pleasure of battling a steelhead in water not limited between stream banks. They were quickly lifted for a couple of quick photos and released to

Watersheds. The Coldwater Heritage Partnership is a collaboration between PATU, PA DCNR, PFBC and the Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds.

Eligible projects include the development of conservation plans for watersheds containing native and/or wild trout populations and on-the-ground conservation projects such as streambank stabilization, in-stream habitat enhancements, streambank fencing, removal of fish passage barriers, and other recommendations from previously

fight again another day.

As I signaled it was time to leave, my friend made one last cast. I observed his strike indicator land perfectly in the center of the outflowing current, and he swung his fly rod in perfect time with the flow to assure his imitation didn't drag. At precisely the moment before the imitation would unnaturally slow, he ripped more fly-line from his reel, which allowed the float and submerged lure to drift farther.

He was forced to stop the drift when his strike indicator contacted one of the snow-capped ice blocks that were floating beyond his position. He couldn't complain about the interference because he knew, as did I, that the presence of so much broken ice prevented the breeze from stirring up waves, which would have made it unsafe for us to enter the lake.

As we exited, we turned to witness the finality of the sunset's vanishing colors, and I couldn't help appreciating the special rewards of winter's steelhead fishery.

Jerry Bush is an outdoors writer based in Mercer County, Pa., a member of the Neshannock Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited and a member of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association.

completed watershed restoration or conservation plans. Successful projects require 1:1 match of cash or in-kind services. DCNR funding or other funding originating from the Environmental Stewardship Fund may only be used to match CHP funds in certain instances, so please check with the CHP program director before applying to ensure that your match qualifies.

Info, along with the grant application form, can be found at www.coldwaterheritage.org.

Partnership fuels the rebirth of Jonathan Run

By Ben Moyer

Chestnut Ridge TU President

Working with an array of private and public partners, the Chestnut Ridge Chapter of Trout Unlimited is pleased to report that construction is complete on our Jonathan Run alkaline sand treatment site within Ohiopyle State Park, Fayette County, and that the initial 300 tons of high-carbonate alkaline sand are in place.

Chestnut Ridge TU was awarded an Embrace A Stream grant which paid for about 40 percent of this initial treatment. Our partner at Jonathan Run, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, purchased the remainder.

Lesser amounts will be added in future treatments. Sampling showed an immediate improvement in pH and alkalinity downstream. Our objective is to restore a population of naturally reproducing wild brook trout to Jonathan Run. This project builds upon the experience and success we have gained from treating Glade Run, tributary to Dunbar Creek, using this same method since 1998.

Chestnut Ridge is proud to have achieved the return of a naturally reproducing brook trout population to Glade Run, once documented by California University of Pennsylvania scientists to be devoid of fish.

Jonathan Run presents a tragic, but now hopeful story.

Once classed as an Exceptional Value stream, Jonathan flows nearly its entire eight-mile course to the Youghiogheny River through public land—State Game Land 51 and Ohiopyle State Park.

Jonathan was once an approved trout water, stocked by the Fish and Boat Commission, and also supported wild brook trout. But a poorly reclaimed coal surface mine, upstream from the game lands, unleashed acid and aluminum into the stream in the early 1980s. Early attempts by Chestnut Ridge TU to restore the stream encountered administrative and legal obstacles, and Jonathan Run has remained largely devoid of fish life since.

The Jonathan Run Alkaline Sand Treatment Project has been an example of cooperation and partnership, beginning with



Ben Moyer Photos

Chestnut Ridge Chapter convened a series of meetings to build support for an alkaline sand treatment project on Jonathan Run. Partners in the effort include CRTU, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources Bureau of State Parks, Ohiopyle State Park, Pennsylvania Game Commission, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and the PA Dept. of Environmental Protection.



Ben Moyer Photo

Working in collaboration with the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy watershed office, CRTU members surveyed Jonathan Run prior to seeking funding to remediate acid mine drainage on Jonathan Run. They found no fish in the stream's upper reaches, and limited diversity and abundance of minnow species downstream. The project's objective is the restoration of a naturally reproducing brook trout population.

a series of meetings convened by CRTU on-site in late 2020.

Cooperating partners include Chestnut Ridge TU, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Ohiopyle State Park, Pennsylvania Game Commission, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, and PA DEP, with funding from Pennsylvania Foundation for Watersheds, PA DCNR Bureau of State Parks, and Trout Unlimited's Embrace A Stream program.



Ben Moyer Photo

A diverse partnership organized by CRTU achieved construction of this new treatment site where high-carbonate limestone sand will be introduced to Jonathan Run to neutralize acid mine drainage and boost alkalinity. The gate in the foreground is on State Game Lands 51, while the treatment area beyond is on Ohiopyle State Park. The project was funded through Pennsylvania Foundation for Watersheds, PA DCNR Bureau of State Parks, and TU's Embrace A Stream program.

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

570-396-4647, ericrobertbaird@gmail.com
www.brodheadtu.org

The chapter's annual banquet is planned for 5:30 p.m. on March 24 at Stroudsmoor in Stroudsburg, Pa. Don Baylor will present on his recent fishing trip to Patagonia. The chapter conducted a riparian buffer tree planting Oct. 22 in conjunction with Polk Township at the township's walking park along Middle Creek in Kresgeville. The chapter received permits for the planned 2023 restoration work in McMichaels Creek at the Pocono Heritage Land Trust's Pomeroy McMichaels

Creek Nature Preserve. The project will take place next fall in conjunction with both the Land Trust and PFBC. The chapter expanded its support of TIC with the addition of a program at J.T. Lambert Middle School in the East Stroudsburg School District. In October, the chapter held a rod building workshop over several Wednesday evenings, producing some great 7-foot-6, 4-weight fiberglass rods. A women's Intro to Fly Fishing program is planned for September. The chapter is considering applying for Delaware River Restoration funding through National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and/or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for Phase II of the McMichaels Creek project at the Pomeroy McMichaels Creek Nature Preserve. Our advocacy workshop is March 11 at Pocono Mountain Library at 10 a.m., followed by a general members meeting at 1 p.m. We're holding an Intro to Fly Fishing workshop on March 25 at the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center

Forks of the Delaware Chapter #482

Joe Baylog

610-751-9116, baylogj@gmail.com
<https://forksofthedelaware.tu.org/>

We attended a November Easton city council meeting in support of a dam removal project on Bushkill Creek. Our 10th annual Pig & Corn Roast was Oct. 1 at Riverside Barr & Grill. Several members participated in a tree planting with Bushkill Stream Conservancy and the Wildlands Conservancy at Mill Race Park along Bushkill Creek on Oct. 27. We donated six fly rods with reels, fly line and leaders along with six fly boxes loaded with flies to jumpstart a "Fly Rod Loaner" program at Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center. The chapter offered an Intro to Fly Tying course on Jan. 12 and another on Feb. 9 in conjunction with Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center, supporting the rod loaner program.

Hokendauqua Chapter #535

Art Williams

610-266-1788, awilliams1947@hotmail.com
<http://hokendauqua.tu.org>

We sponsor five TIC programs at local middle and high schools. In conjunction with the National Wild Turkey Federation, we participated in a Jake's Day, where we ran a kid's fishing contest. After a two-year pause, we have resumed our regular monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of the month. We have resumed our monthly activity called "Ties and Lies" at 6:15 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of the month in the Egypt Fire Hall in Egypt, Pa.

Lackawanna Valley Chapter #414

Greg Nidoh

570-489-1050, info@agoutfitters.com
www.lackawannavalleytu.org

No report.

Monocacy Chapter #491

Erik Broesicke

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

The chapter is in talks with ArtsQuest to bring the Fly Fishing Film Tour back to the Frank Banko Alehouse Cinemas this year. One major change will be the timing of the event as the F3T has extended its deadline to receive films for inclusion until February 2023 and the final product won't be available until sometime later this year. Several chapter members continue to be involved with the Monocacy Creek Watershed Association and its projects on the stream. MCWA has made great progress on opening trails, planting trees and installing signage at the previously unused Gertrude Fox Conservation Area, as well as at other park and open-space areas. Upcoming meetings are Feb. 28 and March 28 at the DAR House. Our family cookout is April 25 at Illick's Mill. We will also hold a membership meeting at 7 p.m. and fish the evening hatch on May 23, also at Illick's Mill.

Pike-Wayne Chapter #462

Paul Ranello

973-452-9301, pvranello@yahoo.com
www.pwtu.org

Our annual banquet is April 15 at Lukan's Farm and Resort, Hawley. The Pike County Conservation District 2022 Surface Water Quality Report is completed. Full results can be found www.pike-conservation.org. On Dec. 7, the Delaware River Commission adopted new rules prohibiting the discharge of wastewater from high volume, hydraulic fracturing to water or land in the Delaware River Basin. Our TIC program at Western Wayne received their trout eggs. In October, PWTU gave a TU overview to the Rotary Club in Hawley.

Continued on next page...

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Schuylkill County Chapter #537

Bruce Herb

wetflyguy@yahoo.com

www.schuylkillcountytu.org

No report.

Shehawken Chapter #81

Richelle Dufton

516-551-3205, rdufton33@gmail.com

https://www.facebook.com/Shehawken-

Trout-Unlimited-811023349070239/

No report.

Stanley Cooper, Sr. Chapter #251

Scott Brady

570-479-6106, jsbrady@jscottbradylaw.com

www.sctu.org

No report.

Western Pocono Chapter #203

Janet Schmitt

570-510-1189, jreichel@ptd.net

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

Members Mike Gondell and Ray Youngblood were acknowledged for their work over the past 30 years after recognizing the incredible ecological value of the Penrose Swamp/Barrens near Hazleton and Weatherly, Pa. They advocated for the preservation of the special semi-wilderness area which was made part of Pa. Bureau of Forestry Weiser District. The Wildlands Conservancy was contacted four years ago and they pursued funding for the incredibly rich and diverse 2,700 acre wild trout, wildlife and botanical area that contains 100 acres of rare climbing fern (the largest colony in the world) and other unique plants. Scientists validated the discovery and are continuing their research. Other research organizations such as the Smithsonian Institute and the Native Orchid conference have expressed interest. The tract contains four wild brook trout streams along with deer, bear, grouse, migratory songbird and waterfowl populations. It is open to fishing, hunting, hiking, birding, cross country skiing and other traditional non-vehicular public recreation. Brodhead TU members Don Miller and Don Baylor also participated in the partnership Award Ceremony along with PA Bureau of Forestry officials, Wildlands Conservancy officials and University of Pennsylvania scientists. The chapter is making plans to learn more about Lehigh River tributaries such as Buck Mountain Run, Wetzel Creek and Hazle Creek, among others, near Weatherly that have acid mine remediation projects on them or are returning to healthy wild trout habitat. The chapter is also planning to hold some very informative spring and summer streamside programs in White Haven and Weatherly to further educate the public on the value of local trout waters and to especially encourage local youths to learn about the impor-

tance of wild trout habitat and the enjoyment of trout fishing. The chapter also hopes to have speakers explain some of the enormous benefits that the recent federal infrastructure funding will have on trout habitat improvement projects and acid mine water remediation projects sponsored by TU. Our next general meeting is March 14 at White Haven Library.

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

607-621-8126, ealewis@geisinger.edu

We attended FUDR's "Water, Water, Everywhere" conference on Oct. 11-12. We planted approximately 50 trees at Oquaga Creek on Oct. 29. CCTU alerted DEP and the Columbia County District Conservation Office to contaminated



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bjuniata@verizon.net

runoff from a hardware/convenience store fire in Orangeville on Dec. 1. Fly-tying sessions were held at the Lightstreet Community Fire Company Hall on Oct. 18, Nov. 15 and Dec. 20. Rick Nyles spoke at the CCTU chapter meeting on Dec. 13. His program was on Penns Creek. On Jan. 10 we held our chapter meeting followed by a screening of "Lee Wulff, A Remarkable Life." Our chapter meetings are at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at the Columbia County Conservation District Office, 702 Sawmill Road, Bloomsburg. Fly-tying sessions are at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at the Lightstreet Community Fire Company, 1630 Monroe Ave., Bloomsburg. The CCTU Spring Banquet is at 6 p.m. March 5 at the Lightstreet Hotel, 1361 Main St., Bloomsburg. On March 25 is the "Good Water - Good Fish" Youth Education Day with the Columbia County District Conservation Office at Kocher Park, near Lightstreet on Rt. 487 North.



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Erick Lewis

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Bloomsburg, PA 17815

In return, you'll receive an application form to complete and send with your \$28 payment to PennDOT.

God's Country Chapter #327

David Saulter

814-274-9763, saulterdg@yahoo.com

The chapter met in October and discussed updates to our bylaws. Other issues discussed were our Project Healing Waters Event in May 2023, our TIC project and an update on the Embrace A Stream project on Little Portage Creek. We also discussed a letter opposing expanded ATV trails in Potter County, which would cross numerous wild trout streams.

Lloyd Wilson Chapter #224

Bill Bailey

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

We held our annual banquet/business meeting/raffle in November. Chapter members met with the Clinton County Conservation District and PFBC to discuss AMD remediation in Beech Creek. Members assisted students from Jersey Shore High School with stocking the DHALO Keystone Select section of Little Pine Creek in October.

Penns Creek Chapter #119

Joe Dunmire

717-899-6085, jhjazbo@hotmail.com

Officers met with Carolyn Heckman, PATU's community outreach coordinator, to gain a better online and social media presence for the chapter. Members joined MCCD, Juniata Watershed Alliance and MCJHS Conservation Club, for tree planting on two projects on Kish Creek. The trees were paid for by Forever Wild, a PATU grant program. Plans are underway for tree planting along the Jack's Creek project sometime in the spring. We will have five TIC projects this year. The chapter held a fishing trip in October to the Spruce Creek/Little Juniata area. Our Winter Social was in December at the Stonefly Cafe. Monthly meet-

ings are the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Juniata Valley YMCA. Our banquet is March 11 at Belleville Mennonite School.

R.B. Winter Chapter #124

Rod Jones

570-259-7205, flyrodjones@gmail.com
facebook.com/RBWinterTroutUnlimitedChapter/

Among the highlights of the last three months was the return of Dirk Remensnyder, a Game Warden who is also a member of the National Guard, who spoke to our chapter. During the Covid pandemic he was called to active duty where he remained in service to our country for two years. He is an inspirational figure with a passion for conservation. Chapter members received a detailed update on chronic wasting disease and had questions answered about the management of local game lands. Renee Carey of the North-central Pennsylvania Conservancy visited chapter in November to inform members about projects completed by the Conservancy. These projects are impressive and serve as models for current practices in flood control and stream restoration. TU Chapters in search of a speaker will want to contact Dave Rothrock. Dave represented TU on a recent visit to Slovenia where he had an opportunity to pursue marble trout and grayling among other species. Dave has assembled an enchanting presentation that is a beautiful mix of angling and Slovenian culture. Dave's email address: daver2@comcast.net. Our annual banquet is March 24 at the Watson Inn, Watsontown.

Spring Creek Chapter #185

Jamie SanFilippo

SanFilippo.Jamie@gmail.com
www.springcreektu.org

Our Mayflies and Manhattans social event was a success, with over 40 people in attendance. Our annual Holiday Party was also well attended. Our

annual redd count was Nov. 19 and more than 1,400 redds were counted. Our Youth Education Committee attended the YMCA's annual Trunk or Treat event. We are adding two new TIC programs. Our Women Anglers Club continues to be active, meeting regularly on and off the morning. They are planning for more retreats and fishing outings in 2023. Steelhead guide Jeff Blood spoke at our Jan. 5 meeting, following our state of the chapter address. Our banquet is March 18 at Mountain View Country Club, Boalsburg.

Susquehanna Chapter #044

Walt Nicholson

570-447-3600, walt.nicholson10@gmail.com
www.susquehannatu.com

Our Board met on Nov. 2 and Dec. 14. The Susquehanna Ripples chapter newsletter was distributed in October and November. We activated our Conservation/Legislative Affairs Committee to monitor and comment on legislation such as the proposed "Stream Cleaning Bill," ATV trails, and gas development. We prepared and distributed an annual report at the November chapter election and annual meeting. We received several large donations for our spring fundraising sale of donated fishing tackle, books, lure making, rod building and fly-tying supplies. We continued to coordinate with the Loyalsock Creek Watershed Association, EPCAMR and SRBC on monitoring and rehab of AMD treatment systems and tributary streams of the upper Loyalsock Watershed. SCTU, the Lycoming College Clean Water Institute and PFBC held a public information and outreach forum on Oct. 12 at Lycoming College about the proposals by PFBC to prevent undesirable aquatic organisms and diseased and undesirable fish from being introduced into the waters of the Commonwealth from activities including fishing, boating, private hatchery operations, fish stocking

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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!



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practices, and use of certain live baits. Members hosted a table at the PA Woods and Wilds event at the Lycoming County Fairgrounds on Oct. 2. Service Partnership Program coordinator Charlie Knowlden will be assisting one first responder and one veteran, and possibly two more veterans, with building fly rods. We hosted Ashley Wilmont of the U.S. Women's Fly Fishing Team at our Nov. 9 chapter meeting. She spoke about her experiences representing the United States in Norway for the first Women's World Fly Fishing Championship. We're hosting fly-tying classes for eight weeks into mid-March. Our Jan. 11 meeting was a public forum on Loyalsock Watershed Gas Development. Our March 8 meeting will be a spring fishing tackle and book sale fundraiser at 7 p.m. at Covenant Central Presbyterian Church, 807 W. 4th St., Williamsport.

Tiadaghton Chapter #688

Jere White

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

We met Feb. 7 at the Wellsboro Senior Center, 3 Queen St., Wellsboro, with Don Kelly presenting. March 7 is a macroinvertebrate training. On April 4, Jim Weaver will present on riparian buffers and trees. Our night fishing for trout meeting is May 2, followed by our chapter picnic on June 6. Fly-tying classes were held at the Senior Center on Monday evenings in January. Our Route 6 litter cleanup is this spring.

**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

Ari Capotis

1863 E. 12th St.

Erie, PA 16511

Email: acapotis@gmail.com

Phone: 814-602-3324

Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036

Codey Schlemmer

814-953-5295, schlemmerservices@gmail.com
www.amctu.org

Starting with the Board of Directors in January our meeting location will change to the DuBois Campus of Penn State, in room 202 in the DEF Building. The chapter's fundraiser for 2023 is March 25 at the Falls Creek Eagles. The chapter's annual cleanup is April 22 at the Tannery Dam. The Dr. Blakeslee Forest cleanup will be held in May. We are working with the local Boy Scout camp on riparian tree planting at our Environmental Day with DuBois Middle School. Phil Thomas from National TU presented why all the trees in the stream are good at our October meeting. The fly-fishing club at DuBois Middle School has 15 students. We have been teaching basic fly tying along with flyfishing information. Our popular fly-tying roundtable started in January and we are back at the DuBois Penn State Campus in room 202 of the DEF building. The sessions will run each Thursday until the weather breaks. In addition, we are trying a roundtable at Punxy Pizza in Punxsutawney on Mondays.

Caldwell Creek Chapter #437

Tom Savko

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

We are continuing our water testing around the injection wells near Bear Lake. We test seven locations in the area almost weekly.

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

No report.

James Zwald Chapter #314

Murray Neepser

814-834-3472, mneepser@zitomedia.net

No report.

Neshannock Creek #216

Matt Ceremuga

724-301-0482, Matt.ceremuga@gmail.com
www.neshannock-tu.org

No report.

Northwest PA Chapter #41

Jim Head

bsidejimmy@gmail.com
http://nwpachaptertu.blogspot.com

North East School District has joined the TIC program, bringing the total to 10 tanks in opera-

tion within the district. We are also involved with existing tanks at two other school districts as well as a new tank at the Asbury Woods Nature Center. We also assisted the Pennsylvania Steelhead Association with its annual fruit basket distribution. The baskets are given to local landowners in appreciation for generously allowing access to their property for anglers on Lake Erie tributaries.

Oil Creek Chapter #424

Jennifer Lyons

814-671-1292, lyons3876@gmail.com
www.oilcreektu.org

We lost two good friends and supporters in the last few months. Lance Bowes passed away on Sept. 30. As district manager of the Venango Conservation District, he worked on many conservation projects with Oil Creek Chapter. Joseph Lehosky passed away on Dec. 23. He was a past chapter president and member of the board of directors. At our October meeting, we planned the budget for the next fiscal year. The chapter Christmas dinner was Dec. 21 at Dawndi's Restaurant. Dirt and gravel road projects in Venango County were approved in November with cooperation from the townships. Only one proposed road project was not approved. We have seven TIC classrooms. Member Julie Thompson attended the Women's Steelhead Fishing Clinic sponsored by PFBC, the Pennsylvania Steelhead Association and 3CU. Upcoming meetings are Feb. 15 and March 15 at King's Restaurant - Franklin. Our 2023 banquet is scheduled for Sept. 9.

Seneca Chapter #272

Chase Howard

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

The Seneca Chapter has paused monthly meetings and events for the time being and is currently seeking new leadership. We currently have two habitat projects that received extensions from 2022 to 2023. Our intent is to complete those projects this summer and if no solution has been found, we will look into dissolving the chapter.

**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
Dean Druckenmiller
130 Fox Hill Dr.
Wernersville, PA 19565
Email: justthrow@ptd.net
Phone: 610-693-5537

Bucks County Chapter #254
Douglas McCabe
215-262-1441, dougmccabe74@gmail.com
www.buckstu.org

We received results from a survey of Aquetong Creek, which showed a healthy population of trout. We have set up a subcommittee to work with Solebury Twp. and PFBC to develop an action plan for the next phase of stream restoration. Our November chapter meeting was a presentation on how to tie hair wing dry flies. The December speaker was Henry Ramsey, who presented on the Kettle Creek watershed. January was "Fish Tales" for chapter members to share their stories from the year. Our February meeting was an open tying night for chapter members to bring their vises and demonstrate favorite patterns. Rod Rohrbach will speak at our March 2 meeting, followed by Nick Raftas on April 6 and Tom Nowaski on May 4. Meetings are at the Buckingham Twp. building. Our chapter picnic is June 1 at Aquetong Spring Park, Route 202, Solebury.

Delco Manning Chapter #320
Charles Lesky
610-635-8064, charlesleskyjr@gmail.com
www.dmtu.org

No report.

Little Lehigh Chapter #070
Dan Dow
ddow23@gmail.com
www.lltu.org

No report.

Perkiomen Valley #332
Bryan Fulop
610-564-9899, bryanfulop@yahoo.com
www.pvtu332.org

Perkiomen Creek streambank stabilization and habitat improvement at Camelot Park in Upper Hanover Township was delayed until late 2023 after economic conditions dramatically escalated project costs. We applied to a special fall DCNR grant round and anticipate completing the full project in October 2023 if we receive the funding. If we do not receive the DCNR funds, the project will be executed with a reduced scope using existing funds in October 2023. Design and budget were completed for West Branch Perkiomen Creek streambank stabilization and habitat improvement at Longacre Farm in late 2022. A

funding application will be submitted in February to the Schuylkill River Restoration Fund for 75% of the project costs. Berks County Conservation District has agreed to lead the environmental permitting processes. Field work is targeted for September 2023 if funding and permits are secured in time. Initial planning will begin in early 2023 for stream restoration projects in conjunction with Aqua America at two sites where dams were previously removed. In November, project partners, including PVTU, were recognized as winners of the 2022 Environmental Stewardship Award by the Montgomery Awards for the Perkiomen Creek dam removals and stream restorations. Two dams were removed in early 2022 under the leadership of Aqua America. PVTU is partnering with Aqua America to lead the stream restoration projects. Field work is anticipated to begin in 2024. The Montgomery Awards are managed by the Montgomery County Planning Commission and Montgomery County Conservation District, recognizing significant achievements within the county. This is the second award that PVTU received in 2022. Planning is underway for a riparian restoration project at the Davies Farm in Berks County. More than 800 trees are scheduled to be planted in fall 2023 along a tributary of Perkiomen Creek. Tree maintenance continues at Longacre Farm (West Branch Perkiomen Creek), at Green Lane Park above and below dam (Main Branch Perkiomen Creek) and at Heffner Lane (West Branch Perkiomen Creek). We have eight ongoing TIC projects. Upcoming meetings are Feb. 27 and March 20 at Upper Perkiomen Library, Red Hill. Our Youth Trout Derby is March 25 at Lenape Park.

SE Montgomery County Chapter #468
Richard Terry
215-675-1536, rtroadrash@msn.com
semontco.tu.org

A fall stocking was completed in the section that flows through the Pennypack Trust. Several of the individuals that took our "Learn to Fly Fish" course have been seen on the Pennypack practicing what they learned. Fly tying classes will be offered on Tuesday nights in February in the Nature Center. Three of our new TIC schools are setting up their equipment in anticipation of receiving their eggs in January. One school had to wait for a chiller to arrive. Funds raised from the sale of used equipment have been donated to one of our new TIC schools.

Tulpehocken Chapter #150
Brenda Bittinger
610-704-4676, b.bittinger@gmail.com
www.tullytu.org

The Manatawny Creek project is progressing. We have a plan in place and will be looking for additional funding to complete it, once we receive approval from all landowners. The plan includes

six to seven barb rock deflectors, root wad and a modified mudsill. We added three new TIC projects. STREAM Girls is being introduced to the chapter with the help of the Berks County Conservation District. Ben Jon presented on Fishing for Erie Steelhead at our January meeting. Upcoming meetings are Feb. 15 and March 15 at 6 p.m. at Chatty Monks. We're also holding "Coffee & Donuts on the Stream" in March at the Red Bridge Pavilion. Day is to be determined.

Valley Forge Chapter #290
James Leonard
610-793-1706, jamesleonard@hotmail.com
www.valleyforgetu.org

The chapter planted brook trout eggs in two spring run tributaries of West Valley Creek. Our participating TIC programs have received materials and eggs. Chris Kennedy, fish biologist for Rocky Mountain National Park and the US Fish & Wildlife Service, spoke about the "History of Fisheries Management and Greenback Cutthroat Trout Recovery in Rocky Mountain National Park" for our January meeting. We're hosting an "Evening of Fly Tying" at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 9 at Chester Valley Grange, 3285 Phoenixville Pike, Malvern. Our 43rd Annual Trout Show is at 2 p.m. on March 25 at Lionville Middle School, 550 W. Uwchlan Ave., Exton.

SOUTHCENTRAL
CHAPTERS

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

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT
Jimmy O'Connor
1203 Colebrook Rd.
Marietta, PA 17547
Email: tightlinejimmyo@gmail.com
Phone: 717-451-5200

Adams County Chapter #323
Frank Kozak
419-704-2755, fmkozak@gmail.com
www.adamscountytu.org

At the Zeigler Mill Road access site, construc-
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tion of the 10-car parking lot and the access road is complete. It is noteworthy that all the labor, materials and equipment for the construction project were donated to the chapter by Conewago Enterprises, Vulcan Materials and New Enterprise Company. A bronze recognition plaque that lists the partners in the land acquisition and those individuals and companies that donated \$1,000 or more was mounted on a large stone at the site. On Oct. 1, a celebration of the 40th anniversary of the partnership between ACTU and the Northern Virginia TU chapter and the Zeigler Mill Road access site acquisition was held. Our Board is considering an initiative to attract and retain female members, which may be a one-day fly-fishing class or a long-term strategic initiative. The one-day event is thought to not meet the goal of bringing women members into the chapter. The long-term initiative will require a leader committed to its success. On Sept. 30, ACTU was announced as a recipient of a South Mountain Partnership (SMP) Grant for \$13,200 for the Zeigler Mill Road access site recreational and restoration development project. ACTU is contributing a \$16,000 non-cash match to the project. The project work, which is to be performed in the 2023 calendar year, includes: Installing stream restoration devices in the CROFFO section of Conewago Creek, constructing a 600-yard educational nature trail and three teaching stations, removing invasive plant species; and planting 200 to 250 trees in retired agricultural areas. The work may start as early as January, weather depending, and be finished by early fall. The 58-acre site, which is owned by PFBC, is maintained and improved by ACTU under a 25-year lease agreement. Dean Simpson led a fly-casting session at our September gathering. Frank Nale presented "Spin Fishing for Trout" at our October chapter gathering. The November program was a fly-tying workshop led by Lynn Rebert. Dean Simpson presented "Leader Tying and Knots" at our Jan. 18 meeting, our board meeting is Feb. 15 and Dave Swope will present "Trout Streams of Adams County" on March 15.

Codorus Chapter #558

Bob Daviau

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

www.codorustu.org

We anticipate receiving preliminary design and recommendations for a restoration project in an area of the Class A section of Codorus Creek in January. Project funding is to be determined. We added a fourth tank to our TIC program this year. The chapter received a Forever Wild grant to add a water level and temperature monitoring station in the upper section of the Class A section of Codorus Creek. We hosted an open fly-tying event at the Troop 24 Scout House in New Freedom on Jan. 11. Our next chapter meeting is March 8 at VFW Post 5265, 199 Veteran Way, Spring Grove.

Cumberland Valley Chapter #052

John Zazworsky

717-805-8234, johnzaz83@gmail.com

www.pacvtu.org

The chapter held an outing at Spring Creek on Oct. 15. On Nov. 6, we met with the president of Mountain Creek Trout Club in Mt. Holly Springs. Both groups can learn from each other, and both share the goal of a restoration of Mountain Creek – a major tributary of Yellow Breeches from Mt. Holly Springs upstream to its source. On Nov. 7, we met with representatives from PA American Water utility company to discuss its public outreach programs and related funding opportunities. Our Embrace A Stream fundraiser was a successful endeavor and funds will go toward the Barnitz Church project targeted for summer of 2023. We recently received word from the Cumberland County Conservation District for CAP Block Grant sub-awards of \$38,000 for the Barnitz Church project and \$12,000 for restoration of the mouth of the Letort. On Oct. 15, we met with Spring Creek Chapter representatives to view recent projects in their area. On Oct. 23, chapter members and PSU master watershed steward volunteers planted 50 trees and bushes along the Yellow Breeches in the Wittinger Preserve near Boiling Springs. This work continues to improve the environment around a multiyear stream structure project reclaiming the land formerly covered by a 200-plus-year-old impoundment. On Dec. 10 we did a streamside cleanup of two of our four Letort Spring Creek properties, removing deadfall, trash and invasive plants in preparation for planting of native grasses. Our Limestoner Banquet fundraiser is March 11 at Carlisle Country Club.

Doc Fritchey Chapter #108

Rich DiStanislaw

724-664-3122, rdistaqni@comcast.net

www.dftu.org

Work on our diversion well at Rausch Creek is 6 p.m. weekly on Mondays. On Nov. 12 we participated in tree planting as riparian buffer in Cornwell Township in Lebanon County. The chapter sponsored an informational booth at the DeHart Dam exhibit on Clark's Creek on Oct. 1. We sponsored an information booth at the Palmyra Sportsmen's Association Field Day in Lebanon County on Oct. 9. We assisted in stocking the association's section of the Quittapahilla in the morning for the family fishing day, then provided fly-tying demonstrations and casting lessons to association members and their families. We participated in the Family Fun Fishing Day at Italian Lake in downtown Harrisburg on Oct. 22. DFTU visited the Yellow Breeches stream restoration project at Allenberry Resort on Nov. 14. We sent invitations to all former participants in our Ladies Day with the offer of free membership for the year, and information on the November general membership meeting and the opportu-

nity to sign up for our fly-tying courses. After receiving notice of the grant award for our Snitz Creek 3 project, work has begun on the project's design and permitting. Surveying and wetland delineation have been completed at Bachman Run. Stream assessment will wait for winter to be completed due to the heavy overgrowth of wetland grasses. We received \$129,084 for planning, design and permitting for our Killinger Creek project. Assessment has begun, and wetlands delineation and surveying of the reach have all been completed. We were awarded a grant for our Barry Farm Hammer Creek project, and in seeking grant acceptance documents, the property challenged language in the Landowner-Grantee Agreement. A Dec. 28 meeting was scheduled to iron out the issues and submit grant acceptance paperwork. A construction phase grant application in the amount of \$795,506 for our Beck Creek project was submitted, but it was declined with comments that the engineering cost was seen as too high. We challenged this report. We will be re-submitting to a combination of CAP, Growing Greener and other potential funding sources. We received conditional approval on our grant request to PFBC for a short section of the main stem of Quittapahilla Creek at Spruce St. in Annville. Chapter members Tom Whittle and Barry Weaver gave a combined presentation "Rod Building – Creating the Tools of our Trade" at our Nov. 22 meeting. Tom demonstrated split bamboo rod building in the most traditional means, and Barry demonstrated rod building with modern fiber rod blanks. A special premiere showing of the new *Fly Fisherman* magazine film "Over the Guardrail" – co-sponsored by the magazine and our chapter – was Jan. 21 at the Troegs Brewery Community Room. Lower Susquehanna River Association and the Yellow Breeches restoration project were part of our Jan. 24 membership meeting. Intermediate fly-tying classes are Feb. 20 to March 20 at Olewine Nature Center building at Wildwood Park in Harrisburg. Beginning fly-tying classes are Feb. 27 to April 3 at Palmyra Sportsmen's Association clubhouse in Annville. Our chapter's annual meeting with elections, budget presentation and a PFBC program is March 28 at the Fort Indiantown Gap Community Building.

Donegal Chapter #037

Claire Landis

717-381-7471, claire.dtrout@gmail.com

www.donegaltu.org

The chapter's annual meeting was Oct. 19. Bob Kutz was presented with the "Doc Fritchey Cold Water Conservationist Award" and Barry Whitmer was presented with the "Kutz-Wilson Conservation Award for Outstanding Service." We participated in the Lancaster ExtraGive on Nov. 18. Due to Covid, we had excessive trees in our nursery and with approval and guidelines from the Keystone 10 Million Tree Initiative, we were able to give away over 785 trees and shrubs to the

public. DTU was awarded \$188,500 to design and permit projects at three sites in the Conowingo Creek Watershed. Work was scheduled to begin on the Peters Creek stream restoration project (\$169,000) in early January. We are in monthly communication with existing TIC teachers to offer both information and financial support for their classroom activities. VSP members meet at a local fly shop for tying during the winter months. An application for organizational funding was submitted to the Keith Campbell Foundation. Due to Covid and other issues, we requested a one-year extension of a \$50,000 grant to DCNR. Upcoming monthly chapter meetings are Feb. 15 and March 13 at Lancaster Farm and Home Center. Our Board meets March 8 at the same location.

Falling Spring Chapter #234

Took Coder

717-352-3989, hcoder115@comcast.net

www.facebook.com/fstu234/

The Fulton County Conservation Group facilitated the construction of a series of streambank stabilization and fish habitat enhancement structures along 1,200 feet of Big Cove Creek near Big Cove Tannery. TU habitat specialists headed up a construction crew composed of local DCNR Bureau of Forestry and PennDOT employees. FSTU has received \$70,000 of IMPACT funding for stream restoration along the Falling Spring Creek near Edwards Avenue.

Muddy Creek Chapter #575

Jimmy O'Connor

717-451-5200, tightlinejimmy@gmail.com

www.muddycreektu.org

The chapter is currently working to add new conservation projects into the pipeline. Last fall we again supported our annual incubator program, placing nearly 100,000 eyed brown trout eggs into Whitlock-Vibert boxes and then into streamside incubators. This program dates back many years for the chapter as we work to promote and enhance the natural reproduction of brown trout within the watershed. MCTU is sponsoring TIC programs in six classrooms across Red Lion, Daltown, South Eastern and Eastern York school districts. In October, TU Mid-Atlantic Organizer Emily Baldauff spoke about her role and ways that she supports local chapters, the opportunity for advocacy, policy of interest to TU, and other initiatives. TU Senior Scientist Helen Neville presented "Climate Change and Trout: Impacts, Opinions and How to Help" at our January meeting. Our Cabin Fever fly tying event was Feb. 4 at Stewartstown American Legion. Guide Kiki Galvin is presenting "More Time Fishing, Less Time with Equipment" at our Feb. 15 meeting at Chanceford Township Community Building, 33 Muddy Creek Forks Road, Brogue, Pa.

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

Bryan Mathie

930 Penn Ave.- Ste 2A

Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Email: peregrine94@sbcglobal.net

Phone: 708-921-8373

Arrowhead Chapter #214

Garry Clouner

gclouner@gmail.com

www.arrowhead214tu.org

Arrowhead TU is in the process of initiating a STREAM Girls program. Planning is underway for the chapter's annual banquet scheduled for March 2023. We are looking into additional stream improvements for the chapter's Buffalo Creek DHALO. We are offering a beginner's fly-tying class at the Audubon Center in Sarver from 7-9 p.m. each Tuesday in February.

Chestnut Ridge Chapter #670

Ben Moyer

724-329-3772, bcmoyer@verizon.net

www.chestnutridgetu.org

Our chapter has enjoyed working with the Forbes Trail, Penn's Woods West and Mountain Laurel chapters to revise the Laurel Highlands Trout Trail brochure. Larry Myers, of Forbes Trail TU, has been spearheading this project, which is nearing completion. Now the chapters are working on a Trout Trail website. We are joining with the Southern Laurel Highlands Pest Management Partnership, a collaboration of the Fayette County Conservation District, PA Game Commission, DCNR and National Park Service, to provide chapter-volunteer manpower to address Hemlock Woolly Adelgid infestation on high-priority headwater streams. Logan Brown, one of our two students who attended the Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp in 2022 visited a recent chapter meeting and made a presentation about the camp. He said his understanding of coldwater conservation, and his enjoyment of fly fishing were enhanced

by the camp. Our nursery committee made significant infrastructure improvements to our PFBC cooperative trout nursery in the tailrace of Youghiogheny Reservoir. Funding came through a grant from Laurel Highlands Visitors Bureau. We are investigating the possibility of resuming our popular annual banquet, and we are selling raffle tickets for a fly rod and tackle package we are calling "Trout Blowout," complete with a float-trip on the Middle Youghiogheny River donated by Silver Hen Guide Service. For tickets contact CRTU Secretary John Dolan at: jdolan@zoom-internet.net. CRTU was notified it will receive an award from the East End Community Center in Uniontown at the Center's annual Martin Luther King Jr. breakfast. The award recognizes the chapter's ongoing program providing trout fishing experiences to urban youth.

Forbes Trail Chapter #206

Larry Myers

724-454-9345, myersld@comcast.net

www.forbestrailtu.org

We held our annual meat raffle in the fall, partnering with Werry's Provision meat market. We gave seven \$250 gift cards to winners and donated \$600 to the Westmoreland Food Bank. We will hold our chapter's 50th anniversary banquet on March 18 at Ferrante's Lakeview in Greensburg. Alan Stansbury will be the guest speaker. We completed our fifth fishing event for military veterans in October at the Kingston Veterans Sportsmen Club. We are again conducting coldwater conservation training and fly-tying sessions during the winter with Ligonier Valley Middle School. We will also conduct a fly-casting seminar with students at Latrobe Senior High. We Council and PFBC with egg packaging for the TIC program. We completed all of the stream studies for the Coldwater Conservation Plan for Linn Run including habitat assessments, water quality testing and macroinvertebrate studies. A list of remediation projects has been developed. The final report is being prepared. A public meeting will be held in March at Powdermill Nature Reserve in Rector to share the results of the study. Forbes Trail completed its fall fly fishing events and field trips with two local school districts. The most recent field trip included streamside 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 with a new TIC program. Our March 1 monthly meeting will feature guest speaker Robert "Bob" Steiner, a retired WCO and author of "River Boots." The meeting is at Nimick Family Education Center.

Fort Bedford Chapter #291

Ryan Braman

ryanbraman@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/fortbedfordtu

No report.

Continued on next page...



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

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Lancaster, PA
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...Continued from previous page

John Kennedy Chapter #045

Scott Kavanaugh
814-515-4788, johnkennedytu@gmail.com
www.tu.org/connect/groups/045-john-kennedy

No report.

Ken Sink Chapter #053

Barrie Mann
407-808-1588, barriemann@rocketmail.com
<http://kstupa.blogspot.com>

The chapter has supported and participated in a veterans fishing event as well as contributed to the revised Laurel Highlands Trout Trail brochure organized by Forbes Trail TU. We also had our regular meetings well attended to hear presentations on steelhead fishing and advanced streamer fishing. In addition, our annual Christmas party was well-attended and two program managers from the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy presented on concern regarding Yellow and Cush creeks in Indiana County. We have started the planning process for our annual banquet set for March 18 in Indiana, Pa. The chapter is offering beginner fly-tying classes in January and early February. Additionally, we continue to support and attend PASEC monthly meetings.

Mountain Laurel Chapter #040

www.mltu.org

Budget/project planning will be conducted in January. The chapter held its "12 Days of Christmas" drawing during December, which is the main fundraising effort in support of our annual banquet. The banquet will be held at 5 p.m. on May 12 at the Holiday Inn Johnstown. We have begun planning multiple projects for 2023. The chapter is holding free fly-tying classes starting in January and going for five weeks at the Richland Township Municipal Building. The chapter supports numerous local school districts with TIC programs, including Shade-Central City, Divine Mercy, Forest Hills and Conemaugh Township. Upcoming meetings are at 7 p.m. on March 2 and 25 at the Richland Township Municipal Building.

Penn's Woods West Chapter #042

Charles Buffington
412-418-7885, buffingtoncw@gmail.com
www.pwwtu.org

Our annual Cabin Fever event is from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Feb. 26 at the Hilton DoubleTree Cranberry. We will have over 65 vendors, a Conservation Corner, and several speakers, including Kelly Galloup. There will be a limited ticketed dinner with Galloup from 6-10 p.m. on Feb. 25, and a tying

session with him during the show. Visit www.pwwtu.org/cabinfever for information. There will be two Streamkeepers events in 2023 with dates and locations to be announced.