

Pennsylvania TROUT



Spring 2023

Publication of the Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited

www.patROUT.org

Council award nominations due Aug. 31

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited will present its annual awards during the fall meeting at Haywood's on the Green, 43 Fairway View Drive, Mill Hall, PA 17751 on Saturday, Sept. 16.

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/>.

See **AWARDS**, page 10

CHP announces 2023 conservation grants

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited is pleased to announce that 11 grants totaling \$120,000 have been awarded to conservation organizations across Pennsylvania through the Coldwater Heritage Partnership's Coldwater Conservation Grant Program.

These funds will be used to perform stream assessments and develop conservation plans in three watersheds

See **GRANTS**, page 3



Brad Isles Photo

Bringing a wild brown to net on a misty spring morning along Slate Run.

Spring... ahead

Trip to new water reveals promise of a new year

By Todd Lepley
Penns Woods West TU

For me it usually starts sometime in January. It's like this little internal clock kicks in right after the holiday decorations are packed away, when the last of the leftover sauerkraut and pork is gone and the nights seem to go on forever. I start thinking of warmer days, greener scenery, sunnier skies and open water just waiting to be fished. It may still be Scotch-sipping season with opening day months away, but the countdown is on and the new fishing season is coming.

Soon I'm digging out fly boxes, taking

inventory and restocking from flies tied or purchased at countless fly shops through the years. I check my reels and lines, rods and nets, weights and flotant, bug spray and sunscreen.

Each year I realize a few things like, for some reason, I have a stupid number of leaders, or that I have enough hand warmer packets to open an online store, and more forceps than some hospitals. I even have things I've never used. Probably because I have no idea what they are, but at some point I just had to have them. I guess.

Hats are big for me. I have a bunch, but usually wear ones with sun blocking brims like my cowboy hat with the 2.25 flip-down magnifier securely attached to

See **SPRING**, page 12

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Pennsylvania TROUT

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Grant-writing assistance available for chapters that seek TIC funding

By Bob Neu

Development Committee Chair

We are now able to offer grant-writing assistance to local chapters interested in raising funds to support Trout in the Classroom programs in their region.

On behalf of PATU, we recently applied for a grant from a major Pennsylvania corporate foundation to support TIC activity at the state level; we're awaiting a decision from the corporation.

In the course of constructing the grant proposal, we accessed current student-participation statistics from our own records and from the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, which tracks participating classrooms, schools, and school districts across Pennsylvania. We also developed language for the grant proposal that meets current best-practices standards, and which describes clearly and succinctly the direct benefits of the TIC program to students.

We have now further developed the material from this grant application into a template that, with some customization to reflect current local TIC practices, activities and achievements, can be used by local chapters to request funding from sources available in their own region, whether from corporations, foundations or individuals.

If your chapter would like to access this information and make use of the grant-application template to obtain funding for your own local TIC program, please send an email to Bob Neu, Development Committee chair, at development@patrout.org.

We'd be happy to provide you with a copy of the template and offer grant-writing advice and recommendations. We can also particularize past and current participation statistics for your own chapter region.

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

EXCOM actions taken since January 1, 2023

March 8, 2023 – Approved April 2023 PFBC Class A Wild Trout proposals

March 20, 2023 – Approved DCNR grant resolution

March 28, 2023 – Approved PATU budget

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GRANTS

from page 1

and complete on-the-ground projects, such as construction of instream fish habitat structures and stabilization of eroding stream banks in eight additional watersheds.

The grants are made possible through 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 Watersheds. The Coldwater Heritage Partnership is a collaboration between PATU, PA DCNR, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, and the Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds.

Receiving funding support this year are:

Clinton County Conservation District

– This project will stabilize and protect approximately 2,600 linear feet of streambank on Fishing Creek in Mill Hall Borough, Clinton County, and will provide more suitable habitat for coldwater species of fish in a Class A wild trout stream.

Elk County Conservation District

– This project is part of a collaborative, phased approach to reconnect and improve aquatic habitat in the Middle Fork East Branch Clarion River watershed by removing passage barriers (culverts), stabilizing eroding streambanks, and enhancing instream habitat structures. This phase of the project includes the installation of three fish habitat improvement structures to protect 120 feet of stream bank along Middle Fork and Briggs Hollow Roads, Jones Township, Elk County.

Huntingdon County Conservation District

– This project will develop a coldwater conservation plan that will provide a foundation for the continued management and conservation of the coldwater stream ecosystem in the Shavers Creek watershed, Huntingdon County.

Kettle Creek Watershed Association

– Through this project, the KCWA will complete strategic wood additions to enhance habitat on 6.93 miles of wild trout streams in the headwaters of Trout Run, a major tributary of Kettle Creek, Clinton

County.

Lehigh County Conservation District

– Partners will stabilize and install fish habitat structures in a 730-ft section of the Little Lehigh Creek in Lehigh Parkway, Lehigh County, to reduce erosion, mitigate flooding impacts, and improve aquatic habitat and recreational opportunities.

Somerset Conservation District

– Funding will be used to install large wood habitat structures into Clear Shade Creek and Mile Run, Somerset County, to provide fish cover and stream channel stability.

Tiadaghton Trout Unlimited

– This project will provide a thermal imaging map of Long Run and identify cold water influences in the Long Run watershed, Tioga County, to help prioritize conservation projects that will benefit the wild trout population.

Tubmill Trout Club Unlimited

– This project will construct stream habitat and erosion correction devices along 2,500 feet of Hendricks Creek, Westmoreland County, for the benefit of wild trout.

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy

– This project will replenish large woody material into the Farnsworth Branch of the West Branch Tionesta Creek watershed, Warren County, to enhance habitat for naturally reproducing wild brook trout populations, increase groundwater storage, decrease water temperatures, and reconnect historic floodplains.

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy

– This project will remove eleven old, collapsed timber bridge structures in Seeley Hollow, improving fish passage to 2.84 miles of coldwater habitat in Elk County.

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy

– Funding will be used to create a coldwater conservation plan for Shannon Run, a tributary to the Conemaugh River, Westmoreland County, to assess brook trout populations and identify restoration needs within the watershed.

To view Coldwater Heritage Partnership plans and projects, please visit www.coldwaterheritage.org.

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Headwaters

**A message from PATU President
Lenny Lichvar**

Resource science, political science and social science. Sounds like an academic course load. However, in the real-life field of public agency fisheries management all these sciences are in play and play a role.

Resource science relates to data gathering and interpretation of that data in order to make management decisions based on peer reviewed and accepted protocols.

Political science, at least as practiced by elected officials, is the representation of the interests of citizens and an effort to influence policy and decision making accordingly.

Social science in a broad context is primarily what members of the general populace determine is best for their personal well-being and what provides them with the most personal satisfaction.

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission's motto has for quite some time been "Resource First." That would lead some to believe that resource science is the guiding light that dictates management decisions above all else. However, a motto is not a mission statement, or a board- or staff-approved policy, or part of the Fish Code, and consequently carries with it no real mandates.

The recent PFBC stocking authorization proposal, which has now transitioned into a proposed stocking notification, is just one example of a long-needed modification that is rooted in sound resource science. But because of social science perceptions and resultant political science intervention, will now not have the original positive impact on the resource, at least for now, that was initially intended.

Back in 2015, as Commissioner for the PFBC, during debate and discussions on the continued stocking of multiple stocked trout waters that had transitioned to the Class A wild trout level, I requested that the stocked trout simply be transferred to another section of the same waterway or into another waterway that required stocked trout in order to be a viable public recreational fishery.

The angry and disrespectful response I



Lenny Lichvar Photo

Local businesses and citizens need to contribute money yearly to purchase trout to stock Quemahoning Creek in Somerset County which has recovered from historic pollution. This privately driven initiative creates new public recreational opportunities for anglers. Meanwhile, the PFBC stocks hatchery trout in Class A wild trout waters that could be more effectively be placed in these waters rather than in waterways that already possess enough naturally reproducing trout to provide a recreational angling experience.

received at the time to that simple suggestion from several fellow Commissioners as well as Fisheries Management staff did not surprise me, but certainly did disappoint me. (By the way, if you think I am exaggerating, a fellow Commissioner actually publically apologized to me later for his remarks made to me on that specific subject.)

All of it was a classic example of politi-

cal science, this time coupled with social science, contradicting and overriding resource science.

Fast forward to today and I have made the same simple solution request to the PFBC Commissioners and Fisheries Management staff and have received the same resounding "No," albeit much politer. What has not changed is the same mixture and conflict of the sciences.

All three sciences can and should be taken into consideration and there are multiple other examples where these sciences are in conflict and certainly are other instances where they actually all align as well. But you get the idea.

Circling back to the motto of "Resource First," my close friend and longtime Mountain Laurel Chapter of Trout Unlimited president, the late Randy Buchanan, often said to me "Resource First my ass" when we got into discussions about what is best for the natural resource and the human resource and how much emphasis resource, social and political science deserve to have in PFBC decision making. Make no mistake, Randy respected and vocally supported the PFBC most of the time on many issues.

However, Randy also truly put the natural resource first and agreed with what I have always said. When you try to do what is right for the natural resource you always do what is right for the human resource. When you try to do what is right for the human resource you rarely do what is right for the natural resource.

Randy just explained it more simply and colorfully.



Save the Date

The 2023 PATU Annual Meeting

When: Saturday, Sept. 16, 2023

Where: Haywood's on the Green
Lock Haven, PA

More info will be forthcoming at
www.patROUT.org

Treasurer's Report

by PATU Treasurer
Russell Thrall

As I write this during the last weekend of April, the deadline for filing Chapter Annual Activity Reports (AARs) with Trout Unlimited is just a few short weeks away. I want to thank all the chapter treasurers and other volunteer leaders who filed online before the deadline.

The reports are an essential source of data for chapters, councils and National TU to quantify the impact we collectively make in support of our vision.

Trout Unlimited needs to understand every dollar of revenue and expense its chapters have generated in the mission of preserving, protecting and restoring America's coldwater streams and their watersheds.

This financial knowledge combined with the volunteer impact directly supports our ability to get federal, state and local grants as well as private donor funds.

Chapter treasurers and presidents should also keep in mind the end of the fiscal year reporting requirements to the IRS.

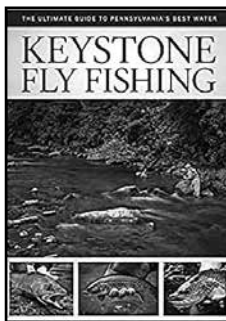
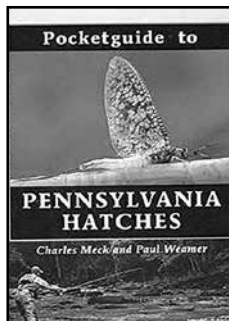
For chapters and councils that report less than \$50,000 in annual revenue on their Annual Activity Report, TU's National accounting firm will file your Form 990N with the IRS before the Aug. 15 deadline on your behalf. If your chapter or council has greater than \$50,000 in revenue, you must file your own 990EZ or full 990 with the IRS.

See order form on page 7.

Spring discount on PATU merchandise

We are pleased to announce that for the duration of the spring season we are offering additional discounts on your online purchases of all PATU merchandise.

Whether it's PATU-logoed T-shirts, sweatshirts or hats, fly rods, custom-tied leaders, books, "Back



the Brookie" license plates, or "Catch & Release" license plate frames, you will

Chapter Donations

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

High Quality \$500 to \$999

- Penn's Woods West (*Women's Leadership Retreat Sponsorship*)
- Spring Creek

Brook Trout \$250 to \$499

- Adams County

Wild Trout \$100 to \$249

- Penns Creek (*Women's Leadership Retreat Sponsorship*)
- Tulpehocken (*Women's Leadership Retreat Sponsorship*)

In Memoriam

- In Memory of Dan VanWinkle Sittler Family
- In Memory of Harry "Bill" Ciccolini Walther Family
- In Memory of Walter Glunt Denning Family

automatically receive a 5% discount on orders totaling \$50 to \$99.99 and 10% on orders totaling \$100 or more.

These discounts will be available for online purchases at www.patROUT.org/merchandise and will be applied from now through June 20.

Discounts are not applicable to purchases using the mail order form.

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 14-20.

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



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Fly Patterns of Pennsylvania

by Nick Cobler

Little Yellow Sally Stonefly Variant

A highly visible and buggy stonefly pattern that floats very well.

Fly Design / Highlights

- Constructed with a few, readily available materials
- A nice point fly to anchor smaller dropper flies
- Excellent pattern that sits close to the surface of the water

Background

I first saw a version of this pattern tied by Henry Ramsay in his book *Matching Major Easter Hatches*. I really liked the look of it and it has proven to be a nice addition to my fly box. I decided to tweak his recipe a bit to make it even bugger, however this step isn't necessary. I encourage you to experiment with your materials and create your own versions of the fly pattern. And – most importantly – go test them on the water!

About the Little Yellow Sally Stonefly Variant

If you have seen Mr. Ramsay's version of this pattern you may notice I have adjusted the pattern slightly. I have found that the 2XL and 3XL dry fly hooks both really make this fly look good and imitate the naturals very well. The addition of the cdc feather, I think, helps the floatation as well as increases the bugginess. I also like to mix the yellow dubbing with a bit of light green dry fly dubbing to give the body a bit of a greenish cast. I also like to use white hackle for added visibility. Have fun tying some of these up and I wish you luck in your fly-fishing adventures.



Materials

- **Hook:** Your choice (size #14–#18)
- **Thread:** Your choice
- **Tails:** Hackle barbs or deer hair
- **Body:** Yellow dry fly dubbing, (I added a yellow cdc feather too)
- **Wing:** Light Yellow z-lon or other synthetic material and deer hair
- **Thorax:** Yellow dry fly dubbing
- **Hackle:** Pale ginger or white
- **Head:** Yellow dry fly dubbing



Start the thread behind the eye and wrap a base back to the bend of the hook. Create a small dubbing bump and tie in a tail. The small bump should help split the fibers.



Create a thin dubbing noodle and wrap back toward the eye covering your thread wraps and creating a nice body. Trim errant fibers to your liking.



Tie in an underwing of yellow z-lon or other synthetic material to add a bit of sparkle and shine. Trim the excess material and comb out the fibers if necessary.



Add some cdc for an even bugger appearance in this step. Simply tie in one cdc feather by the tip and wrap a few turns around the hook. Tie off and trim the stem.



Clean and stack some deer hair and tie in as the wing. Then tie in a hackle feather to match the hook size. Create an additional dubbing noodle and cover the thorax of the fly. Trim fibers that aren't cooperating.



Wind the hackle forward in open wraps (about three turns) and tie off securely. Add a few half hitches or whip finish the fly. Then trim the bottom fibers so the fly will sit flush on the water's surface.

Merchandise Order Form

Thank you for supporting the efforts of PATU in protecting, conserving, and restoring PA's coldwater streams. Please allow 7 to 10 days to receive your order. Most items should arrive sooner. For pictures and complete descriptions of these items please go to www.patrou.org/merchandise. If you have questions about the availability of any specific items, please feel free to contact Bob Pennell at rpennell37@comcast.net or 717-395-5124.



	Item Description	Qty.	Unit Price	6% PA Tax	Total w/Tax	Line Total
1	"Back the Brookie" License Plate		\$24.50	\$1.47	\$25.97	
2	"Catch & Release Wild Trout" License Plate Frame		\$16.50	\$0.99	\$17.49	
	Official PATU Ballcap (circle) Khaki Olive		\$18.00	None	\$18.00	
	Official PATU Ballcap – Digital Camo		\$21.00	None	\$21.00	
3	Men's PATU T-shirt (circle size) S M L XL		\$21.00	None	\$21.00	
	Men's PATU T-shirt (circle size) 2XL		\$23.00	None	\$23.00	
	Men's PATU T-shirt (circle size) 3XL		\$26.00	None	\$26.00	
	PATU Sweatshirt (circle size) M L XL		\$39.00	None	\$39.00	
	PATU Sweatshirt 2XL		\$42.00	None	\$42.00	
	PATU Sweatshirt 3XL		\$45.00	None	\$45.00	
	Custom-tied Leaders					
	Dry Fly – 4X Tippet		\$6.50	\$0.39	\$6.89	
	Dry Fly – 5X Tippet		\$6.50	\$0.39	\$6.89	
	Dry Fly – 6X Tippet		\$6.50	\$0.39	\$6.89	
	Wet Fly – 4X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers		\$6.50	\$0.39	\$6.89	
	Wet Fly – 5X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers		\$6.50	\$0.39	\$6.89	
	"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	
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	
* Prices effective April 25, 2023			Total:			



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**** Phone number and email are needed should PATU have questions regarding your order.**

PA Council of Trout Unlimited

Minutes of the April 23, 2023

Executive Committee Meeting

PFBC Centre Region Office, Bellefonte, PA



Attendees: Lenny Lichvar, Greg Malaska, Todd Burns, Russ Thrall, Bob Neu, Kelly Williams, Rachel Kester, Russ Collins, Gary Parzanese, Judi Sittler, Jimmy O'Connor, Erick Lewis, Dave Rothrock, Rick Nyles, Brian Wagner, Dean Druckenmiller.

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. by President Lichvar. Minutes of the Jan. 22, 2023, EXCOM meeting were approved as submitted.

President's Report: Submitted by L. Lichvar.

Treasurer's Report: Submitted by R. Thrall.

List of Actions Taken: Submitted by E. Lewis.

Program Director's Report: Submitted by R. Kester. CHP grants moving along, announced next week or two, asked for same amount for 2024. Mariner East money deposited. Coldwater Conference at the Ramada Inn in State College, looking for volunteers for the planning committee. TIC grants are at capacity. R3 Education, 2021-2022 wrap up, new grant applied for \$25,000 for Community Engagement & Women's Leadership and TIC (411 classrooms, 8 new this year). Forever Wild grants awarded \$10,000 in 2023, \$15,000 is available in the new fiscal year.

Communications and Outreach Report: R. Kester is working with R. Thrall to look for funding with expected hire by July 1. The annual meeting will be held Sept. 16, 2023, at a new location – Haywood's on the Green in Lock Haven. The 2024 Keystone Coldwater Conference will be held Feb. 23-24, 2024, at the Ramada Inn Conference Center in State College, PA.

NLC Report: Submitted by R. Collins. Training developed for chapters regarding climate change; presenting at NE Rendezvous; website revisions being made to make climate change more central. Attended lobbying for Chesapeake Bay at Cleanwater Coalition. Assembling an

inventory of projects underway in Council to help drive National TU decision-making regarding state projects.

Advocacy Report: Submitted by E. Baldauff.

Regional VP Reports:

Northcentral (G. Parzanese) – Trestle 19 on Penns Creek replacement is a foot/bicycle bridge only. Susquehanna TU's new members are going to wrong chapter; engaged with National TU to assemble a group to discuss and find a solution.

Northeast (T. Burns) – There are still warehouse issues in the Pocono region. Western Pocono TU is getting active. Trout Rodeo is coming up.

Northwest (A. Capotis) – Attending local chapter events.

Southcentral (J. O'Connor) – Cumberland Valley TU is attended a meeting regarding Letort development, voted against. Made stream monitoring equipment purchases. New board members for Adams County TU and Doc Fritchey. A nine-year project is on Fishing Creek. Falling Spring TU partnered in study on the fall of macros. Muddy Creek women's events continue; replacing barrier culvert.

Southeast (D. Druckenmiller) – Little Lehigh TU is reinvigorated, looking for a meeting location. Perkiomen TU is doing lots of stream restoration work; question about TU engagement in private property without public access. New National TU hire to review chapter contracts with designers, engineers, etc. Monitoring Tulpehocken dam removal, bank stabilization and silt removal.

Southwest (B. Mathie) – Nothing to report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trout Policy Committee Report: Submitted by D. Rothrock. Scheduled quarterly meetings with PFBC staff. Stocking notification/authorization update: R. Lewis dedicated to stocking authorization with a commitment to this in the future;

for data collection; communication to hunting and fishing clubs is not adequate. Proposed management change to protect wild brown trout via catch and release. Rainbow fingerling stocking suspension is on agenda for April 24 meeting. Yellow Creek removed from stocking list. Proposed PFBC Class A stocking regulation. Co-op nursery, angler communication from PFBC is insufficient. PFBC Fisheries Managers – L. Lichvar: Inquiries from TU and anglers, want things to change/be enhanced, Local Fisheries Management level is starting point, distributed region map and contact info. Fly Fishing Only Requests – L. Lichvar: Stocking over class A, Fly Fishing Only is not on the PFBC agenda, instead focus on conservation. PATU-NFC Work Group – L. Lichvar: Working coalition does not seem feasible at the moment.

Development Committee Report: Submitted by B. Neu. FileMaker program purchased and GrantStation subscription established; segmented outreach to donors has been successful so far; additional uses for FileMaker: Subscriptions, project database, membership. Annual Appeal focused over the entire year, with additional reminders and special purposes, such as youth educational event participants. Donors receive signed acknowledgement of their contribution, within two weeks of donation, adding names to donor page on the website alphabetically with no donation amount, and updated each year. Model grant proposal for TIC has been assembled; used for Terracon grant application; will be available to chapters.

Awards Committee Report: Submitted by J. Sittler. T. Burns and E. Lewis form the committee.

Delaware River Committee Report: Submitted by J. Skelding. E. Lewis reported on reorganization/charter of group to focus on a broader range of issues.

Conservation Committee Report: Submitted by B. Wagner. Forever Wild grants were awarded. Nicholas Meats in F.C. watershed. On SRBC June docket for water withdrawals for public comment; B. Wagner to send out info to interested EXCOM members. Length of time for stream to have existing use be written into Chapter 93 designations. Increased mar-

keting of state parks resulting in potential overutilization.

Diversity Committee Report: Submitted by K. Williams and A. Daniel. Nearing next Women's Leadership Retreat with multiple presenters; raised more than \$4,000, which covers most of costs; 28 items gathered for silent auction; 35 participants currently signed up. Will include evening social event. Regional events are in the works. Spring Creek had 2nd regional event. Eastern and western planned for 2024. Supporting United Women on the Fly event.

Youth Committee Report: Submitted by J. Sittler. Started 2018 STREAM Girls focus; most regions have held events; it is a national program. Patch program for Girl Scouts has evolved over the years; added STREAM Keepers as a one-day program; seven scheduled for this year. Loaner equipment is available for all regions: fly outfits, vises, etc., to support this work.

Membership Committee Report: Submitted by J. Miller.

Communications Committee Report: Submitted by B. Isles.

Financial Reviewer: Submitted by N. Cousins. Review underway.

College/5 Rivers: Submitted by C. Charlesworth.

TU Service Partnership: Vacant. D. Rothrock and R. Nyles to discuss a meeting of potential volunteers with EXCOM to see what his vision is for restarting this program.

OLD BUSINESS

Priority Watersheds: R. Thrall to ensure PATU has a strong voice in PA's Priority Waters Initiative funding distribution. Looking forward to meeting new contact from National TU.

NEW BUSINESS

Embrace A Stream: Deadline for notification is May 15.

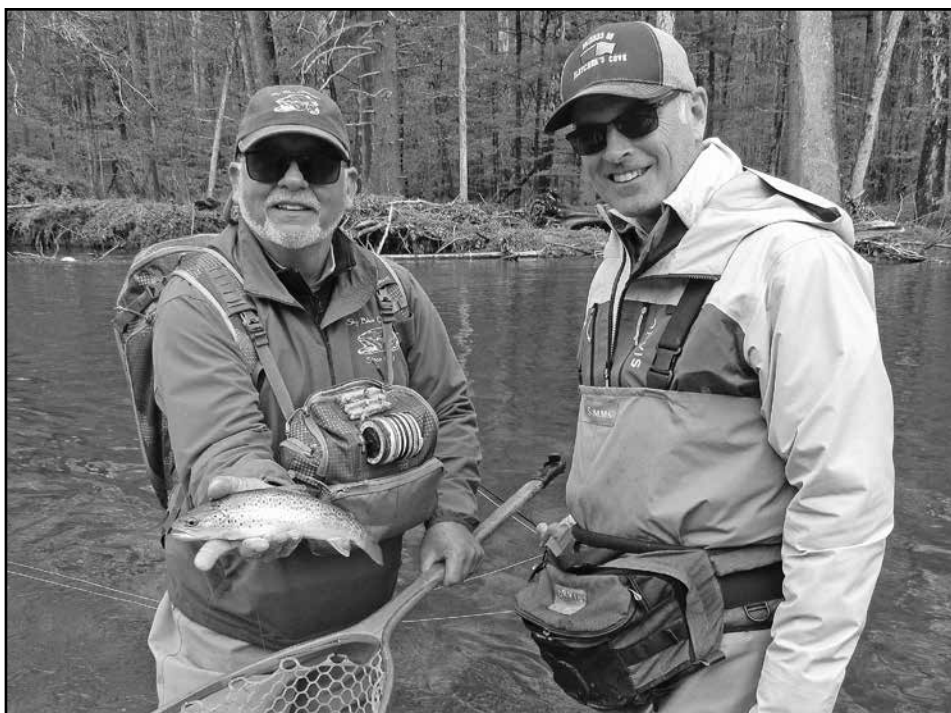
Litter Creel: L. Lichvar. Idea for a give-away; tabled for future discussion.

Mission Statement: Move PATU mission statement to front page of website and label it as "PATU Mission."

The next EXCOM meeting is July 16, 2023.

Motion to adjourn at 1:50 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Erick Lewis – Secretary*



Lenny Lichvar Photo

PATU Eastern Region Vice-President Rick Nyles, left, displays a brown trout caught by National Trout Unlimited President and CEO Chris Wood in April on a central Pennsylvania trout stream during a TU fund-raising event sponsored and hosted by Sky Blue Outfitters LLC, a Trout Unlimited Gold Level Business member.

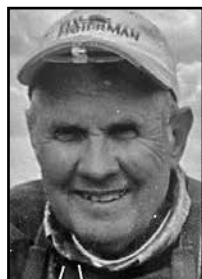
In Memoriam

Gene Brown III

Gene Brown III, founder and first president of Penns Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited passed away at his home in Lewistown from heart failure on Jan. 12, 2023. He was 84 years old. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Shirley; son Kraig Brown of San Francisco, Calif.; and daughter Kim Moist of McVeytown, Pa.

Gene recently presented a history of the acquisition of the Special Regulations Area of Penns Creek at the PATU fall meeting. His program chronicled the threat of losing this special "fly stretch" as it is commonly called to private control or having it be an unregulated disaster as it was for a short time in 1970.

Gene appealed to the Pennsylvania Council of TU for help.



Gene Brown III

Gene initiated the creation of Penns Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited in March of 1970 and focused attention to the sale of the R.B. Winter property, which encompassed the 400 acres and about four miles of Penns Creek below the railroad tunnel near Poe Paddy State Park. He had the foresight to present a strong case to the Nature Conservancy to purchase the recently abandoned Pennsylvania Railroad right-of-way along the stream to control access from Mifflinburg to Coburn, PA. The Conservancy purchased it and turned it over to the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

In 1975, the PA Fish and Boat Commission purchased this property from the Winter family estate and ensured this property was safe from exploitation. Gene Brown and Ken Sink convinced the officers of PFBC and Director Ralph Abele to adopt strict regulations for this pristine section of Penns Creek that have sustained its productivity for wild trout propagation – an example that has been imitated nationally.

Both Gene Brown and the Penns Creek Chapter of TU were awarded the Golden Trout award from National Trout Unlimited in 1975.

Biennial TIC Summit set for July 12

Join PATU and PFBC for the 3rd Biennial PA Trout in the Classroom Summit. Teachers and program partners participating in the TIC program are encouraged to attend this one-day conference to connect with other teachers, partners, and organizations across the state to network, learn about available resources, and gather new

ideas for enhancing your TIC program.

Date: Wednesday, July 12, 2023

Time: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Location: Pa Training and Technical Assistance Network (PaTTAN) Building, 6340 Flank Road, Harrisburg

Cost: \$60

More info: <https://www.patrouinthe->



classroom.org/pa-tic-summit.html

Registration: <https://tu.myeventcenter.com/event/3rd-Biennial-Pa-Trout-In-The-Classroom-Summit-71821>

AWARDS

from page 1

Forms may be emailed to Judi Sittler at jsittler@comcast.net or mailed to her at 108 Gaslight Circle, State College, PA 16801. Nominations for Best Newsletter and Best Chapter website should be sent to Brad Isles at bisles@live.com.

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

- **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 be 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 organizations such as government agencies, other non-profits, schools, etc., and which had a notable impact on the community and/or environment.
- **Doc Fritchey Award for Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist, TU Member** – 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:
 - Veteran, 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.

PATU Awards 2023 Nomination Form

Fill out, clip and except where otherwise indicated mail this nomination form to: Judi Sittler, 108 Gaslight Circle, State College, PA 16801. You may also download it from www.patrou.org and mail to the same address. Scanned submissions can be emailed to jsittler@comcast.net. **The deadline for nominations is August 31.**

Nominator's Name: _____ **Email:** _____

Telephone Number(s): _____

***Nominator will be notified once a decision has been made.*

I would like to nominate _____ **for the**

Check one: _____ Edward Urbas Best Chapter _____ Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist, TU
Member (Doc. Fritchey Award)

 Best Chapter Project

_____ Best Small Chapter (150 or fewer members)

____ Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist,
Professional

_____ Dr. Jack Beck Award for Outstanding Youth
Outreach

Outstanding Volunteer
(Person who contributed time or effort in helping a TU chapter or project, either one time or ongoing; doesn't need to be a member or conservation professional)

Ken Sink Memorial (not presented every year)
For an individual who has made long-term
significant contributions through their work
with state council.

_____ Inky Moore Outstanding Contributions to
PATU's Conservation Mission

_____ Diversity Award
(For a chapter that shows diversity among
its membership.

Samuel Slaymaker For Best Newsletter
(Send copies of at least three recent issues to
email to Brad Isles at bisles@live.com)

Best Chapter Website
(Send nomination to Brad Isles at
bisles@live.com)

Reason for nomination (250 words or fewer): _____

(Continue on a separate page if necessary.)

SPRING

from page 1

the brim. I check my waders for leaks, my boots to make sure the soles aren't rotting off, and my vest to see that it's loaded with the necessities. If it weighs anything less than double-digits I figure I'm forgetting something.

I pour over maps. I love maps. I know a lot of my friends swear by their watches and GPS systems, guided to places by satellites and robotic voices giving turn by turn directions, but give me a Gazetteer or my trusty National Geographic Recreation Atlas and I'll spend hours flipping through pages tracing the little blue lines that crisscross the Commonwealth. Here, the trick isn't finding water, it's choosing which of our more than 86,000 miles of streams and 15,000-plus miles of designated Wild Trout Water to put on the season's list. That's a lot of choices. Some are places I fish each year, casting to familiar spots, remembering rises and strikes of fish brought to the hand and others that were long-distance released. I love these waters and look forward to seeing them like I look forward to dollar wing nights and cheap pitchers at my favorite tavern every Thursday.

Other blue lines are streams new to me. In my mind they're filled with trout, I'll have them all to myself, and every cast will lead to a tight line and a journal-worthy moment.

Not long after my preparation begins, I'm reaching out to friends who I assume have the same internal clock and have been busy doing all the exact same things. Soon, plans are made and dates are set. And while some may be for trips to other states, we know there's no shortage of water here at home - enough to fill more than a few seasons without casting to the same water twice.

It's sometimes easy to overlook the insane amount of water we can fish without ever crossing a state line. Maybe that's part of the excitement of Spring here in Pennsylvania - knowing how much fishing can be done close to home with no major trips needed.

I once heard a well-traveled fisherman who had just returned from a bucket-list

trip to Patagonia say that Patagonia was an amazing experience and the fishing was stellar, but it still wasn't Montana or Pennsylvania. While trips to Montana and occasional stops in Wyoming, Colorado and Idaho certainly find their way onto the calendar each year, most seasons start right here at home.

So, we pick our streams and set our dates.

Last year one of the streams that made it on that list was Slate Run - a first for me and a place I was excited to explore. With gear packed and expectations high, we set out on an overcast spring afternoon, winding through the small towns that dot the map along the way. We stopped to make a few casts to non-cooperative trout in nearby Pine Creek and then moved on to our camp in a covert spot we had all to ourselves.

Not long after the last tent stake was firmly set, the overcast skies let loose with a rain that came and went, which led to the two of us sitting on the tailgate, talking about the season and life and all the things shared between friends on fishing trips. We passed on any attempts at building a fire, cooked our freeze-dried meals and wondered what tomorrow would bring.

At some point during the night, the rhythm of raindrops on tent fabric slowed, then stopped, and we woke to a cool, cloudy morning, energized to get to the water as we broke camp. New water is

always exciting. Having it all to yourself is even better, which is exactly what we found when we arrived at a spot chosen through a little research and a bit of local intelligence.

Soon we were off, our rods strung, vests packed, waders donned, curving down the path from our parking spot high above, each step taking us closer to the little blue line on the map and the distant sound of rushing water somewhere below.

We walked through a fine, low-hanging mist that shrouded everything around us, quieting the forest, droplets clinging to the brilliant green of evergreens and plants with leaves as big as our heads. It was like

Continued on next page...



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Want to show others that you're a proud member of PATU and support the mission of Trout Unlimited? Well, you can, and it will only cost you a onetime charge of \$28 for a specialty PA license plate. The custom plate fee is in addition to your annual registration fee, and the plate is available for passenger cars and trucks 14,000 lbs. or less, motor homes and trailers.

To order your Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited PA state license plate, send your name, TU membership number and current PA license plate number by email to eelewis@tds.net 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 \$28 payment to PennDOT.



Help protect and improve the Little J

Join the

Little Juniata River Association

Free River Tour

www.littlejuniata.org or email

bjuniata@verizon.net

...Continued from previous page

we were walking into Jurassic Park, hopefully without all the prehistoric things waiting to eat us. When the water finally came into view, it was everything we'd hoped to find – runs and riffles with pools of varying depths, undercut banks, plenty of structure and coloration that was off just enough without being unfishable.

As we walked along the banks, the rain began again, only stopping when we took time to put on rain gear, starting again the minute we took it off. While this is usually frustrating, we didn't really care. Not this day.

We studied the water and picked our spots. It didn't take long before that first familiar tug came and the line went tight, and I knew a new season was finally here. I felt the rush of adrenaline as my unseen foe ran downstream, me working to steer him clear of the submerged pine lying just below the surface.

I imagine its branches tangled in tippet, picturing the frustration of others as their lines suddenly go slack, flies left slowly waving and rusting uselessly in the current. The battle done, the fish moving into deep cover to fight another day. I wonder if fish smile. If they feel that satisfaction of success when they free themselves from bugs with more bite than expected.

A sudden surge from below brings me back to the present and my next moves become automatic – the rod bending, the delicate dance of give and take, the line connecting fisherman to fish. Soon I see the flash, my first view as his buttery underside rolls. I slowly work him into the shallows, head up, coming to my net with little fight left.

I kneel in the water, taking time to catch my breath, my heart still racing as I admire what Slate Run has revealed. I hold him in the current and glance around at where I am, quietly thanking the stream, the heaving brown, the rain, the fact that I'm healthy enough to be here.

With a flick of his tail and a powerful twist, he's gone, back to the depths in an instant. Invisible to the eye. And in that moment, with this first fish on new water, I forget about all that came

Mountain Laurel TU Honors...



Lenny Lichvar Photo

Mountain Laurel Chapter of Trout Unlimited Treasurer and wife of the late Randy Buchanan, Pat Buchanan, accepts the chapter's Joseph Arcuri Jr. Award from MLTU Vice President Shane Rudnik, left, and MLTU President Dave Maher, right. The award posthumously recognizes Randy Buchanan for his lifelong devotion to the conservation of the coldwater resources in MLTU's service area. The award was presented at the chapter's annual fund-raising banquet at the Johnstown Holiday Inn.

before – the hours spent organizing and buying and planning, the drive, the rehydrated dinner, the night spent without a warm fire, the little stone in my right boot that I'm too lazy to remove.

I forget it all and suddenly only have this moment to remember. And what a memory it is.



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!



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
Russell Thrall III
570-620-8677, russ@thrall3.com
www.brodheadtu.org

The chapter's annual banquet was March 24 at Stroudsmoor in Stroudsburg. A Fisherman's Flea Market was June 10 at the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center in Anomink. The chapter continues to plan for restoration work in McMichaels Creek at the Pocono Heritage Land Trust's Pomeroy McMichaels Creek Nature Preserve. The project will take place next October in conjunction with both the land trust and PFBC. We offered a series of six fly-tying classes in January and February as well as an Introduction to Fly-Fishing class in March in conjunction with the Kettle Creek Environmental Education Center. A STREAM Girls program at Hickory Run State Park was held in May. A veteran's Introduction to Fly-Fishing day is June 24 at 9 a.m. at the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center. A Women's Introduction to Fly-Fishing program is planned for September.

Forks of the Delaware Chapter #482
Joe Baylog
610-751-9116, baylogj@gmail.com
https://forksofthedelaware.tu.org/

The chapter offered an Intro to Fly-Tying course in January and an Intro to Fly-Fishing course in February in conjunction with Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center, in support of the "Fly Rod Loaner" program. We held a free Saturday morning event in March featuring Jeff Gensheimer from Wild East Outfitters presenting on fly-fishing the Delaware River for trout, shad and smallmouth.

Hokendauqua Chapter #535

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

The chapter held a cleanup on Hokendauqua Creek in April. We sponsored five TIC projects in different school districts. We resumed our monthly "Ties and Lies." We use this time to instruct new and advanced fly-tyers in different methods of tying. We held an eight-session fly-tying course in January and February. The chapter sponsored a student to attend the Youth Conservation Camp this summer. We tied flies and donated them to the Casting for Recovery program.

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

No report.

Pike-Wayne Chapter #462

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

Our banquet was held in April at Lukans Family Resort in Hawley. We assisted PFBC with spring stocking, and held a Lackawaxen River cleanup in April. PWTU had a TIC program at Western Wayne Middle School. We held fly-fishing instruction and demonstrations at Lake Ariel in May.

Schuylkill County Chapter #537

Bruce Herb
wetflyguy@yahoo.com
www.schuylkillcountytu.org

SCTU held fly-tying classes January through March at Sweet Arrow Lake Clubhouse. We also co-sponsored "1st Day on the Water" with Schuylkill Headwaters on Jan. 1. We donated to Sweet Arrow Lake's youth fishing day and the Bruce Schneck memorial. We hosted a kid's fishing rodeo in April at S&A Trout Ponds.

Shehawken Chapter #81

Richelle Dufton
rdufton33@gmail.com
https://www.facebook.com/Shehawken-
Trout-Unlimited-811023349070239/

No report.

Stanley Cooper, Sr. Chapter #251

J. Scott Brady
570-479-6016, jsbrady@jscottbradylaw.com
www.sctu.org

We have a project at Mountain Springs Lake where we removed a dam, planted over 2,000 trees, and restored the habitat of five springs. We had two TIC programs this year. A one-day women's fly-fishing camp is June 24. Jim Sulesky presented on brook trout at our April meeting.

Western Pocono Chapter #203

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

WPTU leaders attended the Butler Township (Luzern County) Board of Supervisors meeting in February and presented a letter of support to renew interest in treating the Jeddo Tunnel mine drainage. The hope is to develop a coalition to seek new federal monies that could be used to address the pollution of the Little Nescopeck Creek in Butler Township. On June 3, WPTU sponsored the first White Haven Trout Festival at the White Haven Library Community Center. Conservation organizations, fly shops, fishing clubs, artists, craftsmen, and various speakers were present to highlight and celebrate the river, the Poconos and trout. Matt MacConnell of the Sierra Club and Lehigh River Stocking Association spoke on acid mine drainage remediation efforts on Buck Mountain Creek and its direct influence on Lehigh River at our March meeting. An engineer by profession, he uses both simple and sometimes sophisticated techniques and state of the art equipment in combating acid mine drainage.

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

www.patROUT.org

Columbia County Chapter #38

Erick Lewis

607-621-8126, ealewis@geisinger.edu

Our chapter banquet was March 5 at The Lightstreet Hotel. Also in March, we held a litter cleanup at Fishing Creek in Orangeville. We supported the "Good Water = Good Fish" event at Kocher Park in March. We are pursuing an Embrace A Stream grant to identify malfunctioning septic systems in several areas on Fishing Creek in Columbia County. Chapter meetings are the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Columbia County Conservation District Office in Bloomsburg. Fly-tying sessions are the third Tuesday of each month at Lightstreet Community Fire Company in Bloomsburg. Our chapter picnic is June 13 in Point Township. A Fish n' Fun event for handicapped children is June 30 at Kocher Park, near Lightstreet.

God's Country Chapter #327

David Saulter

814-274-9763, saulterdg@yahoo.com

God's Country TU held meetings in January, February and March on the last Thursday of each month. The chapter reviewed and updated our bylaws and adopted new ones with some minor changes. Also, the chapter finalized this year's Project Healing Waters event to be held May 23-26 at Big Moore's Run Fish and Game Preserve, which will be our 14th event, and this year will "Honor the Global Defenders of Democracy." Chapter members helped PFBC with the stocking of various streams into the first week of May. We also conducted a stream cleanup on Little Kettle Creek in late April along with members of the Kettle Creek Watershed Association. We assisted at an Environmental Day with the Northern Potter School at Big Moore's Run in May.

Lloyd Wilson Chapter #224

Bill Bailey

570-748-6120, wbailey@comcast.net

www.lwtu.org

No report.

Penns Creek Chapter #119

Joe Dunmire

717-899-6085, jhjazzbo@hotmail.com

Penns Creek TU's annual banquet was March 11 at the Belleville Mennonite School. Adam Miller, communications director for the Alliance for the Chesapeake presented. Members held a fly-tying class for students in the Mifflin County Junior High conservation club. The chapter is sponsoring a student at the Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp in June. Chapter members attended a meeting with numerous other groups to explore the possibility of getting DCNR to replace "trestle 19" across Penns Creek between Ingleby and Poe Paddy. Members attended Spring

Creek TU's March meeting to present the program by the late Gene Brown on the formation of the Penns Creek chapter and the "fly-fishing stretch" of Penns Creek. The chapter has five TIC programs in progress. We held a stream cleanup in April with Juniata Watershed Alliance, and another on Kish, Tea, and Honey creeks. We held a STREAM Girls program in April in Port Royal. TIC releases with Tuscarora Junior High, Mifflin County schools and Richfield Elementary were in May. ENVIRO camp was June 12 in Richfield. Youth Field Day at Mifflin County Sportsman's Club is Aug. 12.

R.B. Winter Chapter #124

Rod Jones

570-259-7205, flyrodjones@gmail.com

facebook.com/RBWinterTroutUnlimitedChapter/

Chapter members were very busy during the first quarter of 2023. We ran beginner and advanced fly-tying classes once again. Beginner classes continue a tradition that started in the early 1970s. The successful longevity of this program is due to people like Bob Layton and many other volunteers. Bob decided this year would be his last as director and used this session to transition Rick Kintzer into the leading role for next year. Bob's leadership was key to the quality of this program. Many thanks to Bob and all the other volunteers for their tireless service to the fly-fishing community. The advanced class offered instruction from articulated streamers to the tiniest of midges. Experienced tyers explored some of the newest ideas in tying techniques and materials. Organizer Rick Edwards brought in some of the best fly-tyers in central Pennsylvania to instruct. This program has evolved into more than just a fly-tying class. It has become a forum where passionate fishermen and conservationists can gather to share ideas. If you live in or near the Susquehanna Valley and this sounds like you, you may want to join this group next year. The Conservation Banquet is one of the highlights of the year for most TU chapters. While the purpose of the banquet is to raise funds it also provides an opportunity for fellowship, education, and to honor those who serve the community. Speaker Bill Kosmer presented a detailed look

at Yellowstone Park that provided information for a broad audience. Dr. William Snyder was the recipient of the prestigious Warren Wolfe Conservation Award. This award was presented to "Dr. Bill" by past president Bob Laubach who detailed over 50 years of service.

Spring Creek Chapter #185

Jamie SanFilippo

SanFilippo.Jamie@gmail.com

www.springcreektu.org

We currently have an intern, James Lose, who is an Outdoor Recreation major at Lock Haven University. Our annual banquet was a success. The F3T was shown on May 3. Our conservation committee hosted Congressman G.T. Thompson on a site visit to our recently completed stream restoration project on Cedar Run. A new TIC program was set up at Easterly Parkway Elementary School. We taught fly-tying to local Boy Scout troops 370 and 66. We offered Fly-Fishing and Fly-Tying 101 courses at South Hills Business Schools throughout the winter months, sponsored by the SCCTU Veteran Service Program. Our Women Anglers Club continues to be active. R.B. Powell presented on the history of Penns Creek at our March 2 meeting. Dennis Charney was our speaker in April and discussed dry fly tactics and techniques. Our Family Fishing Picnic was June 4 at Tussey Mountain Pond, and the Veteran Fly-Fishing Outing was April 11 at Bald Eagle State Park.

Susquehanna Chapter #044

Walt Nicholson

717-322-2656, walt.nicholson10@gmail.com

www.susquehannatu.com

Charles W. "Bill" O'Connor, a founding member and director emeritus of the Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited, passed away on March 21. We are coordinating with National TU and PATU to resolve chapter membership issues. We held a fund-raising sale of donated fishing tackle, books, lure making, rod building, and fly-tying supplies in March. We also donated sup-

Continued on next page...

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plies to several area high school fly-fishing clubs. The chapter and Lycoming College Clean Water Institute co-hosted a PFBC Public Forum about the proposed Chapter 93 stream reclassifications for the Lycoming Creek Watershed in March. We provided a support letter for re-designation of Lycoming Creek from HQ-CWF to EV. We are monitoring the proposed "stream cleaning" bill and other environmental legislation and will provide comments when appropriate. We are meeting with DCNR and EQT about gas drilling activities in Loyalsock State Forest, including the Hillsgrove water intake and pipeline. President Walt Nicholson is participating in National Leadership Council Responsible Mining and Energy Work Group meetings. We continue 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. Jamie Brelsford with the PFBC presented a program about water safety at our March meeting. Members provided fly-casting and fly-tying instruction to the Hughesville High School fly-fishing club. We have started a loaning library of over 300 books, periodicals, and videos returned to us from the J.V. Brown Library after they discontinued the "Angler's Alcove." Service Partnership Program coordinator Charlie Knowlden assisted three first responders and one youth in building fly rods. We completed a fly-tying class with a diversified group of 18 tyers, including four young women.

Tiadaghton Chapter #688

Jere White

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www.tiadaghtontu.com

Chapter members planted trees in various riparian areas in the Pine Creek watershed, along with the Pine Creek Watershed Council, in April and May. The chapter, in conjunction with National TU and Tioga County Conservation District, will embark on a large soil erosion control project on Long Run this summer. The chapter will also be collecting macros and doing a stream survey, as well as conducting a fish survey with Kathleen Lavelle of TU. Mansfield University fisheries students will also be assisting with the Long Run surveys. The AMD project on the upper Tioga River near Blossburg is proceeding. The chapter participated in the spring festival at Nessmuk's in Morris in April. The chapter applied for a Coldwater Heritage Partnership grant to conduct thermal imaging flights along the entire length of Long Run to locate cold-water refuge areas for trout, and then apply for implementation grants to enhance these areas. If funded, the work would be done by Jacob Fetterman of TU. Chapter meeting are the first Tuesday of each month, except July and August, at 7 p.m. Our meeting location is now the Tioga County Conservation District Office at 1867 Shumway Hill Road, Wellsboro.

NORTHWEST CHAPTERS

**Allegheny Mountain 036
Caldwell Creek 437
Cornplanter 526
Iron Furnace 288
Jim Zwald 314
Neshannock 216
Northwest PA 041
Oil Creek 424
Seneca 272**

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Ari Capotis

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Erie, PA 16511

Email: acapotis@gmail.com

Phone: 814-602-3324

Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036

Codey Schlemmer

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www.amctu.org

No report.

Caldwell Creek Chapter #437

Tom Savko

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

No report.

Cornplanter Chapter #526

Troy McDunn

814-688-5463, troutbum1963@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/pages/Cornplanter-Chapter-Of-Trout-Unlimited

Cornplanter TU hosted a spring conservation and fishing show in April as part of an Earth Day celebration at the Brokenstraw Fish and Game Club in Youngsville. Booths featured local conservation groups such as the Allegheny National Forest, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Trout Unlimited, Seneca Nation Hellbender Conservation, Conewango Creek Watershed, Brokenstraw Fish and Game Club, and more.

Iron Furnace Chapter #288

Mark Hanes

724-464-7320, m_d_hanes@yahoo.com
www.ironfurnacetu.net

No report.

James Zwald Chapter #314

Murray Neep

814-834-3472, mneep@zitomedia.net

No report.

Neshannock Creek #216

Matt Ceremuga

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www.neshannock-tu.org

No report.

Northwest PA Chapter #41

Jim Head

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

The Northwest chapter had 14 successful TIC projects. We hosted an IF4 movie night in March. Volunteer efforts continue on Trout Run in Waterford and Elk Creek with the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. Recent guest speakers at our chapter meetings have included Karl Weixlman, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, PFBC, Mercyhurst University, and Asbury Woods. Our annual picnic at Oil Creek State Park was June 3.

Oil Creek Chapter #424

Jennifer Lyons

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www.oilcreektu.org

The Venango Conservation District was understaffed for quite a few months, but now has a new district manager and watershed specialist. Local WCO Mark Kerr suggested stocking Oil Creek as it was years ago – by rail car – due to the difficulty in spreading the trout evenly along the creek. Members attended a meeting with the Oil Creek & Titusville Railroad, who conduct scenic rail trips along Oil Creek. They were enthused about the idea, and it is in the concept stage at this time. We donated to the Cranberry Jr.-Sr. High School Conservation Club again this year. Our Veterans Service Program activity day took place at the Sandy Creek Conservancy in May, in conjunction with Neshannock TU, the Sandy Creek Conservancy and PFBC. The Oil Creek Classic trout tournament was held in May. The chapter offered activities for Community Day at Drake Well Park. We were donated some fly-fishing and fly-tying items from an estate, and we gave some of the tying materials and other items to the Federation of Fly Fishers. We held chapter meetings in April and May at King's Restaurant in Franklin, PA. Our annual banquet is planned for Sept. 9, 2023, at The Inn at Franklin.

Seneca Chapter #272

Chase Howard

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

No report.

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

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www.buckstu.org

We continue to bring donated fly-fishing and fly-tying items to meetings for chapter members to select and hopefully make a small contribution. Our annual fund-raising raffle was held at our April meeting. The subcommittee on Aquetong Creek restoration is continuing to work with Solebury Township on development of a restoration plan. We have applied for a PATU grant to help in covering the expense of survey work. The committee is in contact with National TU personnel who will be able to assist with the stream evaluation and restoration recommendations. BCTU continues to support five TIC projects. The newest one is at the Bucks County Youth Center. In addition, the Youth Center has expressed interest in getting fly-tying, casting and fishing instruction. Our March speaker was Rod Rohrbach, April was Nick Raftas who spoke about fishing the Lehigh River, and May was Tom Nowaski, who presented a program on carp fishing. Our chapter picnic was June 1 at Aquetong Spring Park.

Delco Manning Chapter #320

Charles Lesky

charlesleskyjr@gmail.com

www.dmtu.org

We assisted PFBC with stocking the delayed harvest fly-fishing only section of Ridley Creek in March. We also installed a monofilament collection tube along the Delaware County Train in Havertown. We are currently involved in a TIC program with Strath Haven Middle School. Our annual fly-tying courses were conducted on Tuesday evenings in January.

Little Lehigh Chapter #070

Dan Dow

ddow23@gmail.com

www.lltu.org

The board held its first meeting in a year on April 4. We are actively seeking a long-term meeting place and home for chapter meetings. We have picked back up the planning and preparation process for our stream restoration project. The project team has started regular meetings again. Construction is planned for the first week of August this year. TU scientist Kathleen Lavelle conducted the first round of pre-project surveys to measure the site and control sites near the restoration location. We continue our partnership with and support of the Little Lehigh Watershed Stewards, a group that LLTU board members Scott Alderfer, Dan Dow and Dave Roth helped to establish in 2020. LLTU is currently trying to wrangle up our gear and re-establish TIC partnerships with local schools. Many of our past liaisons have moved on and we have lost contact. We are exploring a new partnership with Lincoln Elementary School in Emmaus.

Perkiomen Valley #332

Bryan Fulop

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www.pvtu332.org

A DCNR grant in the amount of \$58,200 was awarded to the restoration project for the Perkiomen Creek in Camelot Park that PVTU is leading, in partnership with Upper Hanover Township (Montgomery County). With this grant, the project is fully funded with cash and in-kind donations totaling \$200,000. Work is underway preparing the request for proposal package that will be issued once all documentation is received from DCNR for its grant. The goal is to complete the project in September or October 2023, contingent upon securing a contractor. Funding for a restoration project on a 100-foot section of the West Branch Perkiomen Creek on the Longacre Farm (Berks County) is underway. The project budget is \$95,000 for which PVTU has committed \$25,000 in cash and in-kind services and materials. Additionally, a \$5,000 grant has been awarded to the project from the Berks County Conservation District Clean Water Fund. The final funding source is a \$65,000 grant request with the Schuylkill River Restoration Fund, for which PVTU has completed the first of three grant review stages and has been invited to proceed to the second stage. Fieldwork is targeted for September 2023 or 2024, contingent on receipt of all funding and environmental permits, and securing a contractor. For restoration of the riparian area for the tributary to the Perkiomen Creek on the Davies' Farm, Berks County, PVTU has agreed to partner with the landowner to plant 800-plus trees along the tributary in the fall of 2023. PVTU is partnered with Aqua PA (landowner) to restore

Perkiomen Creek and West Branch Perkiomen Creek where dams were removed in the winter of 2022. Design work for these projects will begin in the second quarter of this year. PVTU accepted a request to serve on the steering committee for development of a renewed master plan for the Green Lane Park, Montgomery County. The park adjoins Green Lane Reservoir, which is a drinking water source for the greater Philadelphia area. PVTU's conservation work on the source water to the reservoir (Perkiomen Creek and West Branch) is recognized as an important component to the master plan. This is a two-year commitment. A cleanup in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Game Commission on the West Branch of the Perkiomen Creek at PA Game Lands 315 was completed in March. TIC is ongoing in six of our seven local schools. Dock Mennonite High School opted out of participation this year due to a high small fry mortality rate and not being able to obtain replacement fish in a timely manner. Perkiomen Valley Middle School is applying to participate in TIC in the 2023-24 school year. PVTU is sponsoring their application. We partnered with the Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy and Stoney Creek Anglers to host a Youth Fishing Day at Lenape Park on the East Branch of the Perkiomen Creek in May. Our second annual picnic/pig roast is June 24 with guest speaker Dave Rothrock.

SE Montgomery County Chapter #468

Richard Terry

215-675-1536, rtroadrash@msn.com

semontco.tu.org

The chapter held its annual Polar Bear fishing outing on the second Saturday in January. A spring stocking took place on the Pennypack that flows within the Pennypack Trust. A flea market was held at the March meeting. Four of the individuals that took the "Learn to Fly-Fish" course in the fall came to the fly-tying classes we offered in February. Our nine TIC schools received their eggs, and the trout did well.

Tulpehocken Chapter #150

Brenda Bittinger

610-704-4676, b.bittinger@gmail.com

www.tullytu.org

Additional remediation work on Cacoosing Dam, where the Tully and Cacoosing confluence, and silt will be done by American Rivers. Our Mantawney Creek project is progressing. We have a plan in place, but we are still trying to secure agreements with all landowners. The project includes six to seven barb rock deflectors, root wad and a modified muddsill. We're also hoping for additional signage about stream etiquette and cleanup. We had a number of TIC releases. STREAM Girls is being introduced to the chapter with the help of Berks County Conservation District. We hosted the F3T in May at the Colonial

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Theatre in Phoenixville. We have a board meeting on June 21 at Chatty Monks and July 19 at the Tully House. Both start at 6 p.m.

Valley Forge Chapter #290

James Leonard

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www.valleyforgetu.org

No report.

SOUTHCENTRAL CHAPTERS

Adams County 323

Codorus 558

Cumberland Valley 052

Doc Fritchey 108

Donegal 037

Falling Spring 234

Muddy Creek 575

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Jimmy O'Connor

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Marietta, PA 17547

Email: tightlinejimmyo@gmail.com

Phone: 717-451-5200

Adams County Chapter #323

Frank Kozak

fmkozak@gmail.com

www.adamscountytu.org

Adams County TU led the PFBC stocking of eight trout streams in the county on multiple days. Trophy Trout stocking in several county creeks by the Mummasburg Sportsmen Association occurred in March. Field work under the South Mountain Partnership grant started with marking the planned 600-yard walking trail, contracting with a forestry firm to spray ubiquitous multi-floral rose near Conewago Creek, and planting the first 60 trees and shrubs of the 300 trees and shrubs that are to be planted on the Zeigler Mill Road Access Site. Our March program on Trout Streams of Adams County, which was given by Dave Swope, had over 55 attendees – the most ever at an ACTU program. Lesa Bird, who joined the board in March, will be initiating a long term program to attract and retain women. Adams County WCO Rachel Diaz Thurner spoke at our April meeting. Our May meeting featured a presentation on “Fly-Fishing in the Rocky Mountains.” The Latimore Creek Youth Fishing Derby was also in May. Our next meeting will have a Euro-nymphing presentation at 6:30 June

21 at the Adams County Conservation District Office, Gettysburg.

Codorus Chapter #558

Bob Daviau

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www.codorustu.org

We received the Ecological Restoration Study that included initial design concepts for restoration work on two sections of Codorus Creek from our restoration partner. The study was reviewed and approved by the chapter and the Watershed Alliance of York, the grant sponsor. Next steps are to secure grant funding for final design and construction. The chapter received its HOBO monitoring station equipment obtained through a Forever Wild grant and we hope to complete installation in the next quarter. We sponsored four TIC programs. We assisted Boy Scout Troop 30 from Spring Grove with completing Fly-Fishing Merit Badge requirements in April and May. The chapter received a C-SAW grant to allow the USGS to assist with installation and establishing a monitoring plan for the to be installed monitoring station. We are looking for the next grant for the next phase of the stream restorations from the recently completed study. Henry Ramsay presented at our April meeting, followed by a Boy Scout integrated sampling and casting instruction at our May meeting. Also in May, the chapter participated in the annual Give Local York fundraising event.

Cumberland Valley Chapter #052

John Zazworsky

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www.pacvtu.org

In February, we joined with leaders of Central PA Conservancy and the Letort Regional Authority to have the first of many meetings to coordinate with and mutually support future projects along the Letort. We recognized our annual award winners at the chapter's annual Limestoner banquet in March. They were: Limestoner – John Leonard; Order of the Quill – Biff Healy; Charles K. Fox Rising Trout – Ross Purnell, publisher/editor of *Fly Fisherman* magazine; and Jim Hepfer – outstanding ghillie at Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp. CVTU members cleaned up storm damage on our Letort Spring Creek properties in March, removing deadfall and trash. Days later, we planted native grasses to stabilize open ground and inhibit the return of invasive bushes. We conducted our annual fly-tying class from January to March, featuring both beginner and advanced classes. On March 27, we began follow-up classes on fly-fishing gear, casting and fishing techniques, in an effort to stay engaged with newcomers to fly-fishing and fly-tying. CVTU worked with the Cumberland County Conservation District for additional grant funds to complete funding for the Barnitz Church Yellow Breeches project to be completed this summer.

Recent speakers at chapter meetings include Jamie SanFilippo, Spring Creek chapter president, Rod Rohrbach, and Jim Suleski, from the Doc Fritchey chapter. Membership meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month (except August & December) at Bosler Public Library in Carlisle.

Doc Fritchey Chapter #108

Chuck Swanderski

chucks@dftu.org

www.dftu.org

Doc Fritchey TU is operating under a new five-year strategic plan. It was drafted by the Strategic Planning Committee in January, reviewed and modified at the Board of Directors meeting in February and approved by membership in March. We placed a new Sonde monitor on the Quittapahilla special regulations project. We walked the upper end of this area with PFBC to determine needs for long-term improvements. We conducted two fly-tying courses, one for beginners and the other for intermediates, which ran for six weeks earlier this year. Our TIC release days were held in May. We received a PFBC grant of \$96,000 for stream bank improvement just below Spruce Street Bridge in the Quittapahilla special regulations area. Ben John, lead guide for Precision Flies, presented on Euro-nymphing at our annual meeting on March 28. We did cleanups at our Clark's Creek Adopt-a-Highway project and along the Quittapahilla stream in April. Also in April we had an exhibit at the Wildwood Wetlands Festival. Our next Board of Directors meeting is June 27 at the Skelly & Loy conference room.

Donegal Chapter #037

Claire Landis

claire.dtrout@gmail.com

www.donegaltu.org

Board meetings have moved from Millport Conservancy to Lancaster Farm and Home Center. Michael Morris of PA DEP presented “Fishing Creek Advance Restoration Plan Lancaster County” at our March board meeting. This comprehensive plan outlines a nine-year restoration project implemented by DTU and with assistance from other agencies and DEP. The goal is to delist the Fishing Creek Watershed and its seven sub-watersheds. The board approved the partnership with DEP, and Morris submitted the project for funding under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. Peters Creek and Daniel Lapp restoration were completed this winter and buffer plantings will be scheduled for the spring. Daniel Miller Farm restoration will start in the fall. Due to inflation, additional funding will be needed to supplement the original grant of \$834,000 for both D. Lapp and D. Miller Farms. We were approved by Eris as non-profit in order to use ArcGIS mapping for our conservation projects. Our buffer maintenance team started their spring work days, and our nursery opened for the spring on March 31. We are collaborating with educators at the Black

Rock Retreat in southern Lancaster to start a TIC program in the fall. The center works with Christian, non-traditional schools, and home schoolers to provide outdoor educational experiences. DTU has a grant application in to DEP to design and permit 10,000 feet of stream restoration. We are in the process of locating farms where we can begin the design phase. David Bower presented "My Fishing Techniques" at the chapter's April meeting. Our next board meeting is June 14. We are hosting a Special Olympics fishing event on June 17 at a member's private pond.

Falling Spring Chapter #234

Took Coder

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www.facebook.com/fstu234/

We signed and notarized a contract to receive a \$70,000 grant (Impact Funding) to improve a stretch of water below Edwards Avenue on the Falling Spring. Construction is planned for 2024. DEP completed a study on Falling Spring relative to the concern of decline of macroinvertebrates. Volunteers from TU, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay and the Franklin County Conservation Group live staked 720 trees on Falling Spring. These were identified as dead out of the 2,600 that were initially planted. We planned for a TIC event on Conococheague Creek in May, our Falling Spring Invitational for Wounded Warriors also in May, and Franklin County Youth Day with the Waynesboro Fish and Game in June.

Muddy Creek Chapter #575

Jimmy O'Connor

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www.muddycreektu.org

In February, we hosted a Cabin Fever fly-tying event in Stewartstown, featuring guest tyers Tom Herr, Bobby Clouser and Henry Ramsay, in addition to a number of tyers from MCTU. On the opening day of trout season, we held a fundraiser selling food and merchandise to hungry fishermen at Muddy Creek Forks and High Rock. The chapter is currently pursuing the replacement of a barrier culvert on Piney Hill Road at the Spencer Run Crossing, near the intersection with Bridgeton Road. The culvert is owned by Lower Chanceford Township, and we recently attended two township supervisor meetings to introduce the potential project and provide information on the Low Volume, Dirt and Gravel Road program that is administered by the York County Conservation District. Muddy Creek TU will continue to be a driving force behind this potential project. MCTU is sponsoring TIC programs for six classrooms, reaching 400-plus students across Red Lion, Dallastown, South Eastern and Eastern York school districts. On April 16, the chapter hosted a Women's Intro to Fly-Fishing course in Stewartstown. At our February chapter meeting, guest speaker Kiki Galvin spoke on "More Time Fishing and Less Time with Equipment."

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

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Arrowhead Chapter #214

Bill Libengood

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www.arrowhead214tu.org

No report.

Chestnut Ridge Chapter #670

Ben Moyer

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www.chestnutridgetu.org

Chestnut Ridge members completed an annual litter cleanup on Dunbar Creek and surrounding areas of State Game Land 51 in March. We have picked up trash and litter on Dunbar every spring since 1995, with the exception of 2020. Our Youth and Nursery committees worked together with Friends of Jim Tobal (a longtime CRTU member) to implement the annual Jim Tobal Memorial Youth Fishing Experience at South Union Township's community park at Hutchinson. We supplied trout from our PFBC cooperative nursery for the event and scheduled more trout releases to support another half-dozen youth events throughout CRTU's membership area. Members were "hands-on" providing a fishing experience to urban youth from the East End United Community Center. In January, the Center honored CRTU with its Martin Luther King Jr. Meritorious Service Award, in recognition of our ongoing work to provide a trout fishing experience to youth affiliated with the Center. Several of our members assisted Mountain Watershed Association in providing a day-long trout fishing clinic at Resh Park in Saltlick Township. A CRTU committee attended a meeting on trout management issues on Back Creek, a PFBC-stocked stream that is a tributary to Indian Creek and the Youghiogheny River. The consensus is that Back

Creek, which supports a robust wild trout fishery, should be managed differently. Heavy fishing pressure drawn to Back Creek by stocking may be having a negative impact on the native and wild trout populations there. In April, we placed our final order of limestone alkaline sand, purchased through a Coldwater Heritage Partnership grant, into the Glade Run watershed. We will hold a public meeting to explain the Glade Run project and call appropriate attention to funding from the Coldwater Heritage Partnership. Stream monitoring continues to show improved water quality in Glade Run and in Dunbar Creek downstream. We are proud to continue distributing the Laurel Highlands Trout Trail brochure. Chestnut Ridge was a content contributor to the brochure and website, working together with Forbes Trail, Mountain Laurel, Penns Woods West, and Ken Sink chapters. We are happy to announce that CRTU is resuming its popular annual banquet, the first since 2019. Our banquet is Sept. 16 at Hugo's Restaurant on Route 40 in Washington County.

Forbes Trail Chapter #206

Larry Myers

724-454-9345, myersld@comcast.net

www.forbestrailtu.org

Forbes Trail celebrated its 50th anniversary with a banquet on March 18 at Ferrante's Lakeview in Greensburg. Alan Stansbury was the guest speaker and Westmoreland County Commissioners presented the chapter with a proclamation. The chapter released its Coldwater Conservation Plan for Linn Run at a public meeting on March 30. A meeting is scheduled with Linn Run State Park and Forbes State Forest to discuss watershed remediation projects. The stream is described as being relatively healthy but fragile. While the main stream is stocked with trout, the main stem and tributaries support a healthy population of wild brook trout and macroinvertebrates. The chapter taught classes on coldwater conservation, fly-tying and fly-casting to the Outdoor Club of Ligonier Valley Middle School. We completed a fly-casting seminar with students at Latrobe Senior High; fly-tying classes for Cub Scouts in Ligonier; partnered with DCNR on a fly-tying class for adults; and, partnered with Mountain Watershed Association, PFBC and Chestnut Ridge TU on a fishing clinic for youth and adults. Working with four other TU chapters, we completed and are distributing 10,000 Laurel Highlands Trout Trail brochures and launched www.laurel-highlandstrouttrail.org. Forbes Trail completed its spring 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 next year with a new TIC program. Our recently formed Advocacy Committee has been active attending meetings and

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**PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL
OF TROUT UNLIMITED**
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...Continued from previous page

submitting written comments 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 have organized a joint picnic with Chestnut Ridge TU for members and committee chairs to get to know each other. Forbes Trail will hold a family picnic for members and friends at Kingston Veterans Sportsmen Club on July 16.

Fort Bedford Chapter #291

Ryan Schnably
fbtu291@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/fortbedfordtu

FBTU collected fishing equipment to be donated to a local family that lost everything to a home fire. Our meeting location and time has changed. FBTU now meets at 6:30 p.m. on the final Tuesday of each month at Horns Cabins Office, Manns Choice, PA. Our Shobers Run Phase II stream restoration project is scheduled for this spring. Shobers Run Phase III is scheduled for July. We held a Bobs Creek cleanup on March 25 and offered fly-tying, casting and pond fishing at Friendship Village Campground in April. We presented fly-tying at the Home & Garden Show April 15-16 at the fairgrounds. Our Project Healing Waters Fly-Fishing Weekend was May 19-21.

John Kennedy Chapter #045

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

After a two-year hiatus, the chapter held free fly-tying classes on Saturdays in January and February. The chapter helped set up seven TIC schools. We had a booth at the annual Jaffa Outdoor Sports Show in February. We highlighted our TIC program, conservation and stream projects, and the overall mission of TU. Director and master tyer Creg Strock, from Aquatic Imitations, kicked off our speaker program in February. This was followed by Father Clem Gardiner, another master tyer that specializes in foam and unusual tying materials. Joe Humphreys spoke at our April meeting, and Eric Kelley, U.S. Rep and product developer for Fulling Mill products, spoke at our May meeting.

Ken Sink Chapter #053

Barrie Mann
407-808-1588, barriemann@rocketmail.com
[http:// http://kstupa.blogspot.com](http://http://kstupa.blogspot.com)

The chapter conducted a fly-tying for beginners course that met once a week. Regular meetings were held with speakers presenting on fishing topics and conservation. The chapter worked with other local chapters in the revamping of the Laurel Highlands Trout Trail brochure. A fly-tying round robin was held with a mixture of professional and amateur tyers. We planned and executed the KSTU annual banquet, where two young students who attended TU-sponsored conservation camps in 2022 presented. Future projects include road cleanup along Little Mahoning Creek, supporting local schools with field days, plus helping to get a TIC program started.

Mountain Laurel Chapter #040

Dave Maher
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www.mltu.org

The chapter held its annual banquet on March 25. We are currently planning projects for Stuarts Run, Potter Creek and Higgins Run. A litter pickup was held on Bens Creek in March. Additional litter pickups were conducted on Yellow Creek and Little Paint Creek in April and along Shade/Crumb Road in May. The chapter held free fly-tying classes over five weeks in January and February. Two sessions were held, on Saturdays and Mondays. MLTU supports numerous local school districts with TIC programs, including Shade-Central City, Divine Mercy, Forest Hills and Conemaugh Township. Release days for the schools were held in April and May. The chapter had a table and conducted fly-tying demonstrations at the Nature Works event in Johnstown.

Penn's Woods West Chapter #042

Ian Brown
www.pwwtu.org

Penn's Woods West held its annual Cabin Fever in February at the Hilton DoubleTree Cranberry with over 1,100 attendees, a new record, as well as over 70 vendors. We had 12 conservation partners join us in "Conservation Corner," and Kelly Galloup was a tremendous draw to the show. Cabin Fever 2024 will be on Feb. 25. There will be two STREAM Keepers events in 2024, dates and locations are to be announced.