

Pennsylvania TROUT



Fall 2023

Publication of the Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited

www.patrou.org

A conservation collaboration...



Sigrid Sharif Photo

PA Council of Trout Unlimited and other partners focused on watershed conservation projects met at the Muddy Paws Environmental Center in Spring Mills in October to explore a reconstructed wetland and Muddy Creek stream restoration. Read more about the collaboration on page 7.

Council welcomes communications coordinator

Sigrid Sharif recently joined Pennsylvania Trout Unlimited as Communications Coordinator. A Pennsylvania native, she enjoys exploring the coldwater streams of Centre County.

Sigrid has a BA in Liberal Arts from Penn State, and an AAS in Graphic Design from Portland Community College. Over the past 15 years, she has developed marketing and communications strategies



Sigrid

for both the public and private sectors and is a volunteer for the Penns Valley Conservation Association.

Sigrid enjoys organic gardening, reading, and tubing on Penns Creek. She can be reached via

email at Sigrid.Sharif@tu.org.

Keystone Coldwater Conference planned for Feb. 23-24, 2024

Presentation, poster proposals now being accepted until Dec. 15

Proposals are now being accepted for presentations and posters for the 2024 Keystone Coldwater Conference. The conference will be held Feb. 23-24, 2024, at the Ramada Conference Center in State College.

The conference theme is "Shared Priorities: Ensuring Cold, Clean Water for All through Community and Collaboration."

A primary objective of the conference is to promote collaboration and an exchange of ideas among diverse groups with shared interests in cold-water fisheries and watershed conservation.

Conference Topics

Across Pennsylvania, many different
See **CONFERENCE**, page 11

It is time to support PATU's Annual Appeal

By Bob Neu

Development Committee Chair

Each year at this time, the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited asks our loyal members, donors, and friends to support our efforts to improve stream habitat, protect coldwater resources, and provide public outreach and youth education programs.

See **APPEAL**, page 9

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Pennsylvania TROUT

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PATU chapters, individuals recognized with annual awards

The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited held its annual meeting on Saturday, Sept. 16 at Haywoods on the Green in Mill Hall. Eighty-eight individuals from 35 chapters joined us for a fun-filled weekend of fishing, networking, updates, and celebrating our amazing volunteers.

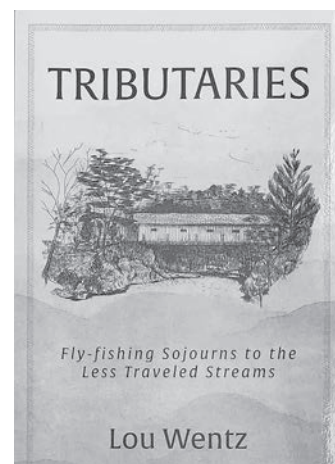
Thank you to all of our members, chapters, presenters, and partners for your support and for making this an enjoyable and informative annual meeting. For those that were unable to join us, PDF versions of the presentations are available on the PATU website at <https://patrout.org/index.php/annual-meeting/>.

The 2023 annual awards were presented at the meeting to those chapters and individuals that have gone above and beyond in the past year to support the mission of TU here in Pennsylvania. If you run into any of these folks, please join us in congratulating them for a job well done!

- Edward Urbas Award for Best PA Chapter – Perkiomen Valley Chapter #332
- Best Small Chapter (<150 Members) – Fort Bedford Chapter #291
- Best Chapter Project – Adams County Chapter #323
- Dr. John A Fritchey, Jr. Award for Coldwater Conservationist (TU Member) – Owen Owens
- Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist (Professional) – William “Doc” Kimmel
- Samuel Slaymaker Award for Best Chapter Newsletter – Forbes Trail Chapter #206
- Best Chapter Website – Brodhead Chapter #289
- Greatest Membership Increase (Number & Percentage) – Susquehanna Chapter #044
- Dr. Jack Beck Award for Outstanding Youth Outreach – Jodie Minor
- Enoch “Inky” Moore Award for Distinguished Service to Council – Todd Burns
- Ken Sink Award for Outstanding Service to Council – Larry Myers

- Ken Sink Award for Outstanding Service to Council – Nick Cobler
- Outstanding TU Volunteer – Hazel Stryker
- Diversity Award – Doc Fritchey Chapter #108
- Lifetime Achievement Award (Posthumous) – Randy Buchanan

In addition to the presentations and awards, the PATU annual report was unveiled at the annual meeting, providing a brief recap of the work that Council has completed over the past year. You can view the annual report at <https://patrout.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/PATU-annual-report-2023.pdf> or by scanning the following QR code with your smartphone.



“We’re recommending it because we think it’s the coolest concentration of Pennsylvania- (and a bit Catskill-) centric short essays we’ve read.” – *Trout magazine*

Visit www.coastforkpress.com

Merchandise collection makes for perfect holiday gift ideas

If you're considering giving your trout fishing buddies something meaningful, or simply want to treat yourself to a gift for the holidays, you need to look no further than what's currently available from the PATU merchandise collection.

As an example, we've recently added a really cool fly reel with a unique brook trout finish that will pair beautifully with our Ultralight 9-foot, 3-weight fly rod, or a 3- or 4-weight fly-rod of your choice. This durable large arbor all-aluminum reel features a rugged adjustable disc drag and is easily adjustable from left to right-hand retrieve.

Or, consider purchasing a 9-foot, 5-weight, 7-piece Traveler fly-rod, custom-tied leaders in both dry and wet fly con-



figurations, PATU-logoed hats, T-shirts and sweatshirts, "Back the Brookie" decorative license plates, "Catch & Release" license frames, plus a number of books on PA fly fishing.

It's easy to order merchandise online using a credit card or PayPal, or simply fill out the order form in this issue and mail with your personal check to the address on the form. And please remember... your purchases help fund your Council's coldwater conservation projects in PA!

The order form is available on page 13, or visit www.patROUT.org.

A special recognition...



Lenny Lichvar Photo

During Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited's annual meeting, Council presented a special lifetime conservation award to the late Randy Buchanan, who served as the longtime president of the Mountain Laurel Chapter and was actively involved in countless coldwater conservation projects in the Cambria, Somerset and Bedford County region. Accepting the award are (from left): MLTU member Jill Roberts, MLTU Vice President Shane Rudnik, MLTU President Dave Maher, Randy's wife and MLTU Treasurer Pat Buchanan, MLTU member and Randy's niece Becky Buchanan, and niece Kim Lardieri.

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Digital Edition Sponsors

The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited would like to thank the businesses on the next page for sponsoring the digital edition of *PA Trout*.

For information on how to become a sponsor of the digital edition or to advertise in the printed newsletter, please contact Brad Isles.

Contact information is available on pages 2-3.

Digital edition sponsorship is \$25 per issue for an approximately 3.5-inch by 3-inch ad that runs online only.

Print ad costs vary by size.



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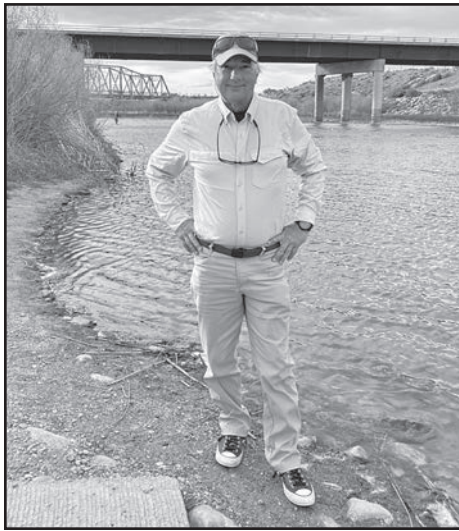
Headwaters

**A message from PATU President
Lenny Lichvar**

Generating interest and motivation for PATU members to become advocates for the resources they joined TU to protect and enhance has been an ongoing challenge. There are multiple reasons for that. Of course, not all issues resonate with all members. There may be a serious management issue that, say, will impact Penns Creek. However, it is very difficult to get the attention and interest of members that live far away or have never or very rarely visited that waterway to take action.

Of course, many issues, especially legislative and even fishery management proposals, such as the stocking notification for example, are quite complicated and require a great deal of time and study just to comprehend.

Also, many TU members are not totally connected to statewide or national issues. Often the only time they are exposed to them might be when they attend their lo-



cal chapter meeting. The balance of their lives revolve around completely different interests and responsibilities that are outside the resource conservation community network.

In addition, here at PATU, we have struggled to find and keep a communications staffer on board that adds to the challenge of informing members of what and when to advocate.

To generate a real response from the

masses you often need the Boogieman. That is, you have to have something that really resonates or flat out hits a nerve.

The recent legislative issue of the amendment the PA Senate put on HB 1300 that would take money from one conservation fund to fund another one and at the same time jeopardize millions of additional conservation funds from the federal government coming to the state seems to be a current Boogieman for TU and many of our conservation partners. National TU has informed us that this issue has generated the most advocacy response they have seen from PATU in recent memory.

Also, we now have on board our new PATU Conservation Communications Coordinator, Sigrid Sharif, who will, among many tasks, put a major focus on mobilizing advocacy action from the membership.

Maybe the combination of some more Boogiemens and Sigrid, PATU might just rise to the level of making our desires known to decision makers which is essential if the coldwater resource and wild and native trout are survive and thrive into the ever more challenging future.

Council receives DCNR grant to support CHP program

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited is pleased to announce that it has been awarded a grant from the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to continue the Coldwater Heritage Partnership in 2024.

The CHP was formed in 2002 through a partnership between PATU, the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, and the Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds.

Through the program, eligible entities can apply for up to \$15,000 to complete planning and implementation projects that will benefit coldwater streams, with an emphasis on protecting and restoring native and wild trout habitat.

The next round of CHP grant applications will open early next year. To view past plans and projects along with last year's grant application and guidance information, please visit www.coldwater-heritage.org. If you have any questions or want to discuss a project idea, contact Pro-



Rachel Kester Photo

Farnsworth Branch: One of the many habitat improvement projects in Pennsylvania that has been supported by the Coldwater Heritage Partnership program.

gram Director Rachel Kester at c-kester@pa.gov or 814-359-5233.

The CHP mini grant program is made possible through funding by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and

Natural Resources, Bureau of Recreation and Conservation, utilizing monies from the Environmental Stewardship Fund, as well as funding from the Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds.

Treasurer's Report

by PATU Treasurer
Russell Thrall

It's the time year to update your chapter's leaders on the leaders-only section of the TU website (<https://leadersonly.tu.org/>) with any changes that may have occurred during the chapter election season over the past few months.

Keeping your leadership information up to date is a key part to help TU National and Council effectively communicate with all of our chapter leaders.

From details on TU programs to the information on how to file our annual activity reports in the spring, having up-to-date information makes it possible to get new chapter treasurers' and presidents' and other leaders information on training opportunities and deadlines for reports.

It's also time for PATU's Annual Appeal for support. The Annual Appeal should be hitting your mailboxes soon if it hasn't already.

I want to give thanks for the generosity of the PATU members and other supporters

who donated over \$28,000 to last year's appeal, up from over \$26,000 in response to the 2021 appeal and from \$23,000 to the 2020 appeal.

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

Bob Neu shares more details on the Annual Appeal and the impact it has on our community in his Development Committee report in this issue. If you haven't donated to the appeal yet, please visit the PATU website at www.patrou.org at any time and click on "Donate Today" to help support the work of all the great TU volunteers throughout the Commonwealth.

As always, if you have any questions, or need any assistance, feel free to reach out to me via email at russ@thrall3.com or call my cell phone at 570-620-8677.

Have a happy and safe holiday season!

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

- Cumberland Valley
- Spring Creek (Women's Leadership Retreat Sponsorship)

Wild Trout \$100 to \$249

- Ken Sink (Women's Leadership Retreat Sponsorship)
- Penns Creek (Women's Leadership Retreat Sponsorship)

In Memoriam

- In Memory of H. Daniel Hill
Deborah A. Phillips
- In Memory of H. Daniel Hill
Dr. Scott J.M. Lim

In Brief

Directors set 2024 meeting dates

At the EXCOM meeting on Oct. 15, the PATU Board of Directors selected dates for the 2024 quarterly meetings and the annual meeting.

Please make note of these dates and try to avoid scheduling chapter events over them (particularly for the annual meet-

ing). You can always find the dates for our meetings and events on the homepage of our website at www.patrou.org.

- January 21 – Quarterly ExCom Meeting (virtual via Zoom)
- February 23-24 – Keystone Coldwater Conference (Ramada, State College)
- April 21 – Quarterly ExCom Meeting (PFBC Centre Region Office, Bellefonte)

- May 17-19 – Women's Leadership Retreat in Port Matilda
- July 21 – Quarterly ExCom Meeting (PFBC Centre Region Office, Bellefonte)
- September 14 – Annual Meeting (location TBD)
- October 20 – Quarterly ExCom Meeting (PFBC Centre Region Office, Bellefonte)

The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited has more than 15,000 members in nearly 50 chapters statewide, with one common goal: The conservation and enhancement of Pennsylvania's coldwater streams and fisheries, specifically our wild trout resources. Trout Unlimited is an IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, functioning for charitable, educational and scientific purposes. Donations are deductible to the extent provided by law. For information on advertising in PA Trout, call 814-692-5232, or email bisles@live.com. See pages 2-3 for Council contact information, officers and committees. For listings of Regional VPs and Pennsylvania TU chapters, and their contact information, see pages 12-20.

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Fly Patterns of Pennsylvania

by Nick Cobler

Bead Head Caddis Larva

A great, general nymph pattern that works many times of the year.

Fly Design / Highlights

- Constructed with a few, readily available materials
- Easily adaptable by changing material colors
- Easy to tie and a box can be stocked quickly

Background

As winter begins to peek around the corner, I start tying and filling up my nymph fly boxes. I saw this pattern in Mike Heck's book recently as I was researching some good flies to take to the spring creeks of Pennsylvania. In "Spring Creek Strategies," Mike shows his version and explains how to fish it successfully. I'm not 100% how he constructs his pattern, but I do know his dubbing mix comes from his own harvested animals and they appear buggy as ... well ... heck. And they work.

About the Bead Head Caddis Larva

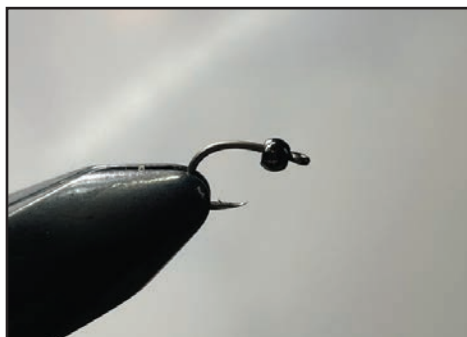
This is another one of those patterns that is fairly simple to construct. And color combinations can be easily modified. I sometimes mix dubbing colors and types to get interesting effects. Various wire colors can be incorporated. You can add weight to the hook prior to attaching the copper wire if you like. Eliminating the bead is another option. Experiment, analyze the naturals where you fish, and spend some time at the vise this winter tying up a few. Better yet, tie some up and hit the streams right after you do. Stay warm and tight lines!



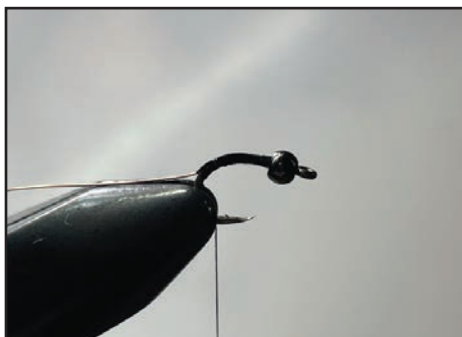
Materials

- **Hook:** Your choice of type & size
- **Thread:** Your choice of type & size
- **Bead:** Black, copper, gold
- **Body:** Your choice of dubbing mix
- **Thorax:** Your choice of dubbing mix
- **Wire:** Copper or gold

Note: In this example I have not added additional weight to the hook. Also I think a continuous bend hook appears the best, but that is totally up to you and your own judgement. Match bead size to hook size.



Insert a hook into your vise after adding a bead (small hole first) to your hook. Here I am using a black bead on a general caddis hook. Note: I haven't pinched the barb quite yet.



After securing the bead with some wraps of thread and creating a foundation, tie in some copper wire starting at the front of the hook and wrap back towards the bend.



Create a loose dubbing noodle and wrap forward from the hook bend to the behind the bead. Be sure to pay attention to that sharp hook point as you wrap.



Now wrap the copper wire forward in open turns, creating a segmented body. Use your bobbin to stabilize the hook and helicopter the wire to break it off cleanly.



Create another dubbing noodle on the thread and wrap a few turns behind the bead to generate some buggy goodness. I like the look of the guard hairs poking out.



Whip finish with some secure wraps of thread and add a little head cement if you like. Then roughen up to your liking. I use a popsicle stick with a piece of velcro glued to it.

Partnerships pave way for success at Muddy Paws Enviro Center

By Sigrid Sharif

PATU Communications Coordinator

Employees from PA Council of Trout Unlimited, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and other partners focused on watershed conservation projects met at the Muddy Paws Environmental Center in Spring Mills on Oct. 19 to explore a reconstructed wetland, discuss purple loosestrife biological control, outreach, and youth education programming.

The group then toured Muddy Creek along Harter Road where the Penns Valley Conservation Association has been the driving force behind the young forest habitat and stream restoration. The area now features deer fencing, a singing bird survey route, and burgeoning wood turtle population.

The Coldwater Heritage Partnership provided funding for in-stream and riparian habitat improvements in the watershed. The CHP is a coalition of PATU, the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, and the Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds.

Representatives of partner organizations took a few minutes to describe their role in the project.

“The goal is to measure wildlife response, water quality response, and brook trout response. The great thing about this project is that it’s all getting measured,” said Lisa Williams Witmer of the Pennsylvania Game Commission. “There are trout surveys, and I count woodcock every spring down through this system. Fish and Wildlife is now starting a wood turtle research project because we started tripping over wood turtles in these habitats,” she laughed.



Sigrid Sharif Photos

At top, representatives of partner organizations including PA Council of Trout Unlimited, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and others visited the Muddy Creek Stream Restoration project, which won a Governor’s Award for Environmental Excellence. Below, the wetlands of the Muddy Paws Environmental Center in Spring Mills.



Whitmer is passionate about growth of the woodcock population in the George’s Valley project area.

“This is a species that if you build it, they will come,” she said. “They will give you a very quick feedback loop, which is good for your grant cycle. Within just a few years we saw this pretty amazing population response. Projects that combine water quality improvements in riparian corridors and associated upland corridors capture a whole suite of species which allows you to appeal to different landowners.”

The Muddy Creek Stream Restoration project received the Governor’s Award for Environmental Excellence in 2021 for restoration of riparian areas, protection of stream banks from erosion, and for providing wildlife habitat.

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PA Council of Trout Unlimited

*Minutes of the October 15, 2023
Executive Committee Meeting
PFBC's Centre Region Office
Bellefonte, PA*



Attendees: Rachel Kester, Sigrid Sharif, Brian Wagner, Lenny Lichvar, Erick Lewis, Russ Thrall, Todd Burns, Bob Neu, and Russ Collins.

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by President Lenny Lichvar. Minutes of the July 16, 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. Two advocacy letters were approved and sent.

Program Director's Report: Submitted by R. Kester. Grant rounds are progressing with multiple projects underway. A new PNBC grant advisor is auditing all existing/new grants. A 2024 grant for \$124,000 has been received. Regarding TIC, Cody Whipple is leaving PFBC. Amidea Daniel is taking his place. Volunteers are needed Jan. 8 at approximately 9:30 a.m. to help ship eggs. Jan. 3 is food packing day. All occur at PFBC Centre Region Office. Two Forever Wild grants were approved in 2023. There is up to \$2,500 available for chapter grants. A 2023 R3 grant was received to support the conservation communications coordinator and TIC. PATU and TU National will hold a call on the first Tuesday of each month at 9 a.m. to coordinate activities. Proposing regional leadership meetings to align with fall chapter elections, for new leaders in-person and virtually.

Governance Committee: Bylaws indicate a quarterly meeting is required to ensure compliance with TU National and PATU bylaws to revise documents, capital management, etc. Bylaws are available under "documents" at patrout.org.

Strategic Plan Fundraising: Many irons in the fire now as the strategic plan is quite large. Need to review and assess feasibility and prioritize. Fundraising is

needed to support selected initiatives. R. Kester will investigate with B. Neu.

Project Management Tracking: B. Neu suggests File Maker Pro as a solution for a more robust tracking system, due to lack of intuitive operation, we will look for additional options. R. Kester to reach out to other Councils for suggestions.

Conservation Communications Coordinator: Welcome S. Sharif, who has experience that could be valuable evaluating PM/CRM software.

Keystone Coldwater Conference 2024: Submitted by R. Kester. The Keystone Coldwater Conference is Feb. 23-24 at the Ramada Conference Center in State College. Put it on your calendar. Sponsor recruitment is underway.

NLC Report: Submitted by R. Collins. CX3 in Spokane, Wash. featured jam-packed sessions. A highlight was a distinguished panel addressing climate change, which TU CEO Chris Wood attended. The Council meeting's focus was a strategic agenda. PATU needs to submit award nominations for next year. Chris Wood's "State of TU" session was exceptionally good.

Advocacy Report: Submitted by E. Baldauff. HB 1300 Amendment update: More input from many PATU chapters helped have the amendment removed from legislation, but dirt & gravel road provision was left in. We need to continue to monitor status.

Regional VP Reports:

Northcentral (G. Parzanese) – Submitted.

Northeast (T. Burns) – Brodhead TU completed McMichaels Creek project with PFBC, which included many stream improvements. Stanley Cooper Sr. TU continues working to establish cross-chapter projects.

Northwest (A. Capotis) – Submitted.

Southcentral (J. O'Connor) – Submitted.

Southeast (D. Druckenmiller) – Submitted.

Southwest (B. Mathie) – Submitted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trout Policy Committee Report: Submitted by D. Rothrock. Proposed PFBC Class A stocking regulation PATU position for 12 stream sections that will continue to be stocked. An article was published in The Daily American, including an interview with L. Lichvar. Stocking notification is *not* stocking authorization, is on the agenda and will pass, going into effect in January 2024. Approval will be followed with a PR push and inclusion in summary book. PFBC asked if we could put out information about this as well. Planning to include info in PA Trout newsletter. It's important that PATU chapters understand and follow the process. The new regulations include baitfish and vegetation movement. Fish health requirements and authorization is planned. A Spring Creek Northwest Region property transfer was brought to our attention. PGC has acquired land in the Brokenstraw/Clarion watershed, a fantastic Class A brown trout fishery. L. Lichvar and A. Capotis have engaged with local chapter. No stocking will occur. Special regulations are under discussion with the regional fisheries manager.

Development Committee Report: Submitted by B. Neu. Environmental education grant for TIC registration renewal is ongoing. We received a grant from UPMC. A \$12,000 grant request was submitted to EBTJV small grant program. We're investigating a SRBC stream and watershed enhancement grant, as well as an environmental education grant with EPA. We're looking to send out the Annual Appeal in mid-November rather than early December while exploring a more affordable printing/ mailing solution to send personalized letters, as well as a personalized letter to recent contributors and another letter to new members and those who have not previously given. We're looking for a window envelope solution for bulk mailing.

Awards Committee Report: Submitted by J. Sittler.

Delaware River Committee Report: Submitted by J. Skelding.

Conservation Committee Report: Submitted by B. Wagner. Stream testing for a railroad spill is underway. A Forever Wild Grant was awarded for Penns Creek.

Continued on next page...

...Continued from previous page

Provided forever chemical information for an article. Updated letter for Widener University regarding climate change effects on wild fish. DEC comments request regarding PEGC pipeline route through nine stream crossings “high quality, exceptional value fisheries. An alternate route map has been compiled, and we need PATU comments/support for the alternate route. Discussed Hazle Creek watershed ATV access position. B. Wagner will draft a letter of support and distribute it to EXCOM for approval. L. Lichvar received call from the Spring Creek Chapter regarding an East Palestine rail spill remediation request. PATU will not pursue beyond existing agency investigation and remediation. Consensus of EXCOM to respond.

Diversity Committee Report: Submitted by K. Williams and A. Daniel.

Youth Committee Report: Submitted by J. Sittler. The Tomorrow Fund offers matching grants for the Headwaters Youth Program from the Guadalupe Chapter in Texas.

**Motion* by R. Thrall to approve a \$500 donation from PATU. Approved.

Membership Committee Report: Submitted by J. Miller.

Communications Committee Report: Submitted by B. Isles.

Financial Reviewer: Submitted by N. Cozzens.

College/5 Rivers: Submitted by C. Charlesworth.

TU Service Partnership: Vacant.

NEW BUSINESS

Outdoor Show Participation: There is an opportunity for a table and presentations at The Fly Fishing Show in Lancaster. There is also an opportunity to have a table at Penns Woods West’s Cabin Fever event. L. Lichvar will attend the Fly Tyers Reunion at 7 Springs.

Meeting Dates: The next EXCOM meeting is Jan. 21 and will be virtual. Other dates are April 21, July 21 and Oct. 20. The Annual Meeting is Sept. 14. There is an opportunity to combine the Annual Meeting with an EXCOM Meeting.

Motion to adjourn at 12:35 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Erick Lewis – Secretary*

APPEAL

from page 1

Although we’re part of the TU National organization, we focus *directly* on the conservation, protection, and restoration of Pennsylvania’s coldwater fisheries and watersheds – and especially wild trout resources – for all residents of the Keystone State. We rely on your financial support to accomplish these goals year after year.

Whether you enjoy fly-fishing, spin-casting, or simply the serene beauty of a clear, pristine stream, we believe you’re as passionate as we are about guarding Pennsylvania’s waterways from invasive species, stream erosion, and the harmful effects of polluted runoff and other contaminants. Here’s what we’re doing to protect and preserve Pennsylvania’s waterways:

- **Trout habitat and stream improvements:** PATU’s Forever Wild program and Coldwater Heritage Partnership provide conservation planning and implementation funding to local chapters and other conservation partners to protect and enhance native and wild trout populations across the state.
- **Protection of Pennsylvania’s water resource:** Through advocacy and outreach to lawmakers and regulators, PATU remains a powerful voice for clean water and healthy fisheries

across the Commonwealth.

- **Educating the next generation:** Our STREAM Keepers programs empower youth as future conservation leaders. And each year we partner with the PA Fish and Boat Commission for Trout in the Classroom, engaging nearly 50,000 students in over 400 classrooms statewide in cold-water conservation by raising trout from eggs to fingerlings and releasing them into PFBC-approved waterways.
- **Increasing participation and diversity:** We’re Trout Unlimited’s largest state council with more than 16,000 members and supporters. We’ve expanded access to loaner fly-fishing equipment at seven PFBC fishing tackle loaner sites in every region of our state. We also host an annual Women’s Leadership Retreat to encourage women and girls to take on more leadership roles within our organization.

Your support keeps us influential, connected, and strong. Please visit www.patROUT.org and click on “Donate Today” to make a secure donation online. Or, respond to the letter arriving in your mailbox soon.

Bob Neu is chair of the PATU Development Committee. He can be reached at development@patROUT.org.



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Valley Forge Chapter among Embrace A Stream grantees

By Peter Ten Eyck
Embrace A Stream Committee Rep.

Embrace A Stream is a matching grant program administered by Trout Unlimited that awards funds to TU chapters and councils for coldwater fisheries conservation. As announced at the recent CX3 meeting in Spokane, Wash., Pennsylvania's Valley Forge Chapter was among the successful EAS grant award recipients for 2023.

Valley Forge has been working in partnership with many organizations such as the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, the Valley Creek Restoration Partner-

ship, Tredyffrin Environmental Advisory Council, and others to build resiliency and restore native trout populations in the Valley Creek watershed.

Embrace A Stream grant funds will be used by VFTU to implement a sampling and monitoring program on Crabby Creek to evaluate the impact of stormwater control structures and determine if the stream can support the reintroduction of eastern brook trout.

This was my first year serving as the Embrace A Stream committee representative for the Northeast Region, which includes TU chapters in PA, NY, NJ, and DE. It's

been a steep learning curve to understand all that is involved in grant writing and the EAS program.

Supporting several chapters through the EAS grant application process has been rewarding, however. The enthusiasm and work that is being done by so many chapters across the country is impressive. EAS-funded projects have a real-world impact on restoring and protecting our coldwater resources.

Looking ahead to 2024, I encourage the PA chapters to consider applying for an EAS grant to fund their conservation project.

Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp accepting apps

The Cumberland Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited is accepting applications for its 29th Annual Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp June 16-21, 2024. The camp will be at Messiah University in Grantham, PA.

Admission is limited to 24 selected qualified students from 14 to 17 years of age.

"This is not a fishing camp. It is a conservation camp with fishing sessions and fly-fishing instruction," Camp Chairman Clark Hall said. "Give us a budding angler with a passion to learn, and we will return a conservationist with enhanced fly-fishing skills."

The deadline for early acceptance is Dec. 31. Students selected for early acceptance

will be notified in early January 2024. Applicants who apply during the regular application period of Jan. 1 through Feb. 29, 2024, will be notified in early March 2024.

Apply via the camp website, www.riverscamp.com.

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

The highly structured curriculum is based on college level classes. Students are instructed in ecology, aquatic biology, geology, hydrogeology, erosion and sediment control, ichthyology, riparian cor-

ridor protection, watershed management, entomology, and much more. Students also participate in a hands-on stream habitat improvement project.

But it's not all work. There are 10 fishing sessions, casting, and fishing instruction and fly-tying classes. Over 25 instructors, all experts in their field, teach the various classes.

A student doesn't have to be an accomplished fly-fisher or a budding aquatic biologist to attend. The student only needs to be highly motivated and willing to learn.

For more information, visit the camp website at www.riverscamp.com. Questions may be submitted at the website or via email to riverscamp@gmail.com.

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Forever Wild funding still available

Chapters are encouraged to apply for Forever Wild funding to support on-the-ground projects and education and outreach programs that focus on coldwater habitat and wild and native trout conservation.

Up to \$2,500 can be applied for to purchase materials, equipment, and supplies to support chapter activities and events.

Learn more and download an application form here: <https://patrout.org/index.php/programs/>.

CONFERENCE

from page 1

organizations and agencies are working to protect and enhance cold-water ecosystems, but often we work in our own bubbles and may not be aware of what others are doing.

By coming together to discuss our shared priorities, we can develop strategies to promote collaboration, create synergy, and enhance conservation outcomes.

We also believe that community engagement is key to protecting and enhancing cold-water resources. By increasing public knowledge and understanding of the issues facing our cold-water ecosystems and efforts to protect and conserve them, we hope to foster greater stewardship of these important natural resources.

Proposals are welcome on topics related to today's challenges to conservation, protection, restoration, and stewardship of cold-water resources and to share examples of success in meeting these challenges.

We welcome presentations that address issues such as emerging contaminants like microplastics and "forever chemicals," the effects of climate change on cold-water ecosystems, impacts of new and proposed

policy changes, threats associated with exotic and invasive species, water quality and habitat impacts associated with development, as well as projects directed at conserving and restoring aquatic species and their habitats, especially native and wild trout.

We are also interested in proposals about creative outreach, education, and engagement efforts that can be utilized to promote community support for and stewardship of our shared cold-water resources.

Student Poster Contest

Undergraduate and graduate students from Pennsylvania colleges and universities are also invited to share their cold-water related research and participate in our student poster contest.

Posters will be judged by a panel of conservation professionals during the student poster session on Friday evening, Feb. 23.

Monetary prizes will be awarded to the top undergraduate and graduate student posters during the conference the following day.

We want to hear about:

- Current research & scientific findings
- Successful on-the-ground projects
- Effective monitoring efforts
- Community stewardship successes
- Outreach and advocacy efforts and

KCC sponsorship opportunities available

The Keystone Coldwater Conference planning committee is hard at work developing an agenda, but you can be sure there will be plenty of informative workshops, interesting speakers, and opportunities to connect with folks from across Pennsylvania that are passionate about coldwater conservation.

If your chapter or business is interested in sponsorship opportunities, please contact Rachel Kester at c-rkester@pa.gov or 814-359-5233. Keep an eye on www.coldwaterconference.org for more information as it becomes available.

outcomes

- Unique approaches to watershed/conservation education
- Innovative funding sources and partnerships
- Measuring and building upon successes

Requests for presentations/posters must be received no later than Friday, Dec. 15, at 4 p.m.

Questions should be directed to Rachel Kester at c-rkester@pa.gov.



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 holds monthly in-person board meetings and committee meetings as needed. We conducted our third annual online auction in August with funds raised going toward our stream restoration projects. Restoration work in conjunction with PFBC in the McMichaels Creek at the Pocono Heritage Land Trust Pomeroy McMichaels Creek Nature Preserve began on Oct. 2. Logs and the first loads of stone were delivered to the site along with rebar that will help hold the logs in place. Larry Ott, a retired biology teacher and Brodhead TU board member with an obsession for vintage and antique fishing tackle, presented at our September chapter meeting on early fly lures. His presentation provided an interesting look at the earliest fly-fishing terminal tackle and included what collectors call "The Big Five" fishing lure companies. A Girl Scout troop has been identified for next year's STREAM Girls event. Don Baylor presented "Trout Stream Ecology" at our Oct. 11 meeting. Brodhead Fly-Tyers met Oct. 16 and Nov. 20. Our Rod Building 101 program was Oct. 18. We did a hike at the Pomeroy McMichaels Creek Nature Preserve on Nov. 11.

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

Forks of the Delaware TU held its annual Pig & Corn Roast Sept. 30 on the Delaware River at Riverside Bar & Grill. The Wildlands Conservancy

oversaw two dam removals on Bushkill Creek this summer, projects that our chapter has supported over the years. An additional dam will be coming out in 2024. On Sept. 16, board member John Trycinski provided a fly-tying demonstration at the Fry's Run Watershed Association's Family Fun Day.

Hokendauqua Chapter #535

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

We sponsor five TIC projects in different school districts. We resumed our monthly "Ties and Lies" where we gather once a month and tie flies. We use this time to instruct new and advanced fly-tyers in different methods of tying. The chapter participated in "Jake's Day" at a local sportsman's club. Our portion of the event was to instruct and help kids with a fishing contest at a pond on the property. We had about a dozen volunteers and around 150 kids who participated. Our September meeting speaker presented "In Praise of the Brook Trout," which included a 40-minute film of underwater footage of the life cycle of the Brook Trout. The chapter also participated in an event sponsored by the local watershed association. We had an informational both and demonstrated and taught fly-casting and fly-tying. In addition to that, we had kids participate in a fishing game. We are preparing for our annual fly-tying course to be held in January and February. The course is on eight consecutive Saturdays.

Lackawanna Valley Chapter #414

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

No report.



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bjuniata@verizon.net

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

In September, the chapter president attended a two-day Dirt and Gravel, Low Volume Road recertification training in Scranton, hosted by Penn State University Center for Dirt and Gravel Road Studies. Also in September, member George Simon provided fly-fishing instruction to men and women from US Forestry in PA, NJ, NY and West Virginia at Lilly Pond in Milford. Members also

Continued on page 14...



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	Official PATU Ballcap (circle) Khaki Olive		\$18.50	None	\$18.50	
	Official PATU Ballcap – Digital Camo		\$21.50	None	\$21.50	
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	
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	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	
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	Wet Fly – 5X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers		\$6.50	\$0.39	\$6.89	
	"Orvis Fly Fishing Guide" Book		\$24.95	\$1.50	\$26.45	
	"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	
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...Continued from page 12

supplied information on Trout Unlimited. Chapter members volunteered at Casting for Recovery's retreat at Sky Top Lodge, the eighth year members have participated. PFBC Commissioner William Gibney and Executive Director Tim Schaeffer attended. In August, members participated in Canal Fest at Lock 31 in White Mills. We provided fly-fishing instruction and information on Trout Unlimited. More than 800 community members attended. Also in August, the chapter voted to extend its \$500 stipend to a graduating senior from Western Wayne High School majoring in environmental or related studies in the fall of 2024. Members of Healing Waters Pike/Wayne Chapter provided an overview of their program. They are currently in the planning stage. PWTU offered any assistance they may need.

Schuylkill County Chapter #537

Bruce Herb

wetflyguy@yahoo.com

www.schuylkillcountytu.org

No report.

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

No report.

Western Pocono Chapter #203

Janet Schmitt

570-510-1189, flytyer1776@gmail.com

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

No report.

NORTHCENTRAL CHAPTERS

Columbia County 038

God's Country 327

Lloyd Wilson 224

Penns Creek 119

Raymond B. Winter 124

Spring Creek 185

Susquehanna 044

Tiadaghton 688

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Gary Parzanese

491 Walnut St.

Reedsville, PA 17084

Email: 6sneezes@comcast.net

Phone: 717-437-0318

Columbia County Chapter #38

Erick Lewis

607-621-8126, ealewis@geisinger.edu

facebook.com/troutunlimitedcolumbiacounty

The chapter offered fly-tying and fly-casting lessons during the Watershed Festival a Briar Creek Lake Park this summer. We also participated in Orangeville Sportsmen's Club Field Day with fly-tying demonstrations, as well as Water, Water Everywhere Day at Briar Creek Lake Park. CCTU offered macroinvertebrate identification sessions. We are working with Peter Ten Eyck to pursue an Embrace A Stream grant to identify malfunctioning septic systems in several areas on Fishing Creek in Columbia County. Our chapter fishing trip to Slate Run was Oct. 20-22. Recent CCTU chapter meetings were Oct. 10 and Nov. 14. Our next is Dec. 12 at 7 p.m. at the Columbia County District Conservation Office, 702 Sawmill Road, Bloomsburg. Chapter fly-tying session is Dec. 19 at 7 p.m. at the Lightstreet Community Fire Hall, 1630 Monroe Ave., Bloomsburg.

God's Country Chapter #327

David Saulter

814-274-9763, saulterdg@yahoo.com

Our president attended and gave comments at a public meeting held by DEP in regard to a proposed permit for a brine injection well in Clara Township in July. The chapter also wrote letters against the proposed well and permit. The good news is the permit was denied. Many local residents also attended and spoke out against the well. Chapter members assisted the Black Forest Conservation School with an afternoon of casting and fishing at Big Moore's Run Fish and Game Preserve in August. At our September meeting, there was discussion about next year's PHWFF event and the theme will be "In Honor of the Care Givers, Donors, and Volunteers." It will be held May 21-24 at Big Moore's Run Fish and Game Preserve, and will be our 15th time hosting the event.

Lloyd Wilson Chapter #224

Bill Bailey

570-295-7210, wbailey@comcast.net

www.lwtu.org

Our annual banquet was Nov. 3 at Southern Clinton County Sportsmen's/Lions Club in Loganton. Members completed stream improvement work on Antes Creek. Along with PFBC and Clinton County Conservation District, we are

meeting and planning for AMD remediation on Beech Creek. Members provided fly-tying instruction to youths as part of a program conducted by the City of Lock Haven Recreation Department and the Clinton County Conservation District. We helped with fly-casting instruction for beginners at a program sponsored by PFBC and North Central Pa. Conservancy held at Little Pine Creek State Park.

Penns Creek Chapter #119

Kevin Lutz

PennscreekTU@gmail.com

The chapter is preparing for our annual banquet set for Feb. 24. PCTU helped Mifflin County Sportsmen's Club and NWTF with youth day activities. The chapter presented fly-tying and worked the fishing station for the program. We assisted with Centered Outdoors & PVCA at the Poe Paddy tunnel for their yearly Get Outdoors event in August. Members set up a stand at the PVCA CrickFest held over Labor Day weekend in Coburn Park. The chapter also provided fly-fishing instruction at the Promise Ranch in Juniata County over three different days. A total of 227 hours of volunteer time was accumulated during the events. The chapter has applied for a Forever Wild grant to offset the cost of plant material for a planting project held Oct. 26. Also in October, we participated in Fall Fest at Reed Gap State Park and a tree planting project with Mifflin County Conservation District and students from the Mifflin County Junior High School Conservation Club.

R.B. Winter Chapter #124

Rod Jones

570-259-7205, flyrodjones@gmail.com

facebook.com/RBWinterTroutUnlimitedChapter/

While R.B. Winter Chapter members took a little break from regular meetings during the summer, the executive board continued to meet. The board did some visionary planning for the coming year and worked on modifications to the annual fly-tying classes. The Chesapeake Conservancy invited representatives from chapter to visit the site of a conservation project in Port Matilda, Pa. This site is a working cattle farm where the pastureland has a coldwater stream running through it. Years of use by dairy cows had caused considerable impairment to the stream banks and land. Under new ownership, the property changed from dairy to cattle. The new owners embraced the opportunity to make changes suggested by local, county, and state conservation organizations. A plan was adopted, and work began as a cooperative effort. Aesthetically and functionally the changes at this site are dramatic. Selective planting of cover crops and trees, as well as adding very strategic fencing to protect the riparian buffer zones of the stream, have made a major improvement. The cattle now only cross the stream at one point designed to limit their impact on the stream. Plants and animals are thriving. This was

a great example of what can be achieved through cooperation and the pooling of resources. Many aspects of the Port Matilda project are similar to the Turtle Creek Project in East Buffalo Township which is of special interest to the R.B. Winter Chapter. Several chapter members are engaged in the planning for the second stage of development for this project. Turtle Creek and the surrounding park land have great potential. Finding the right balance of recreation and interaction with the natural environment will be key. Returning Turtle Creek to a viable coldwater fishery is very much on the chapter's radar going forward. Kids Day at the West End (Union County) Fair was a highlight of the summer. The macroinvertebrate display at our booth was very popular with kids and adults. Many visitors were surprised to see the diversity of living things found in our local waters. Getting to know the relationship between these organisms and water quality is important to building support for conserving our coldwater resources. Watching the pulsating gills of a mayfly nymph or the intricacies of a caddis case go a long way to building interest that motivates our youth to want to learn more about our environment and why we need to protect it. The fly-tying demonstration gave visitors a chance to make the connection between fly-fishing and aquatic insects that live in the stream. This was quite a revelation for many. Our September Fishout was a great opportunity for chapter members to reconnect after not seeing each other over the summer. We were blessed with a beautiful setting on the banks of Penns Creek and some fantastic weather. Chapter meetings were held Oct. 18 and Nov. 15 at Lewisburg Hotel, 136 Market Street, Lewisburg. Our next meeting is Dec. 20 at 6 p.m.

Spring Creek Chapter #185

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

Congratulations to Hazel Stryker for winning PATU's Outstanding Volunteer Award. Our annual winery event was a success. We received a \$1,500 donation from Mount Nittany Vineyard & Winery for 10% of Spring Creek Peach sales. SCTU's annual Redd Count at Spring Creek Park was Nov. 19. In late August, our Youth Education Committee participated in the Safe Routes to Parks event in Bellefonte. Aquatic insect identification was a hit. Our Women Anglers continue to meet regularly on and off the water. Anyone who is interested in joining should contact: sctuwomenanglers@gmail.com. Guide Matt Kowalchuk presented Fishing Penns Creek Year-Round at our Oct. 5 meeting. Our veteran fishing outing was Oct. 6 at Fisherman's Paradise.

Susquehanna Chapter #044

Steve Martin
sam667@verizon.net
www.susquehannatu.com

Our board met Sept. 7. President Walt Nicholson and Director John Kolb attended the PATU Annual Meeting in September. SCTU won an award for the highest growth in new memberships, in terms of both percentage and real numbers, thanks to Bob Baker's efforts. The chapter is continuing to coordinate with National TU and PATU to resolve chapter membership issues. Our Conservation Committee met with EQT gas development representatives to view the Hillsgrove water intake and pipeline construction in the Loyalsock watershed. EQT seems to be doing a good job with stream-crossing conservation measures. We are monitoring the fiscal code amendment to take \$150 million of Pittman Robinson funding away from the PGC for habitat and put it in the DEP Clean Streams fund. We are also continuing to monitor the Nicholas Meat water withdrawal proposal and advocating for a USGS gage on Fishing Creek. Steve Szoke and Walt Nicholson attended a kickoff meeting on Aug. 17 with DEP, BAMR and Kleinfelder consultants to design the rehab of the Connell A & B AMD treatment systems on upper Loyalsock Creek. We attended the Susquehanna Heartland Coalition meeting at Lycoming College in July. Walt and Steve presented a program at the September chapter meeting in Trout Run Park about ongoing and future SCTU activities, followed by fly-casting instruction and a viewing of the handicap-accessible fishing platform and streambank stabilization/floodplain overflow restoration project. The chapter began organizing its spring fly-tying class. Program Coordinator Charlie Knowlden and Walt attended a Veteran's Expo sponsored by the Lycoming-Clinton Counties Veteran's Coalition on Aug. 28 at Penn College to highlight opportunities for veterans in our area. Charlie had a rod building demonstration and Walt did a fly-tying demonstration. The best result of the conference was that other organizations were informed about opportunities available to veterans and will be able to refer veterans to each other according to their needs and desires. Matt Kaunert, director of the Lycoming College Clean Water Institute presented at our Oct. 11 meeting. Chapter elections were held during our Nov. 8 meeting at Covenant Central Presbyterian Church, 807 W. 4th St., Williamsport.

Tiadaghton Chapter #688

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

Our meeting location has changed to the Tioga County Conservation District Office at 1867 Shumway Hill Road, Wellsboro. Six sites were electro-fished this summer on Long Run near Gaines, Pa. A few native brook trout were found at some of the sites and a few wild brown trout were found at all the sites except in one tributary. Also, macroinvertebrate samples were taken at all the sites and sent out for identification. A series of bank stabilization projects were also completed

on Long Run and on the Wattles Run tributary. PennDOT completed repairs on the Route 6 bridge and put in rip-rap under the bridge. Our TU crew put in a mud sill below the bridge. Jacob Fetterman with TU out of New York state completed about three miles of thermal imaging flights in August. He will return in January to complete flights on the rest of long run. Once thermally cooler areas have been identified, in-stream enhancements will be designed and implemented in those areas to provide refuges for trout during warm summer temperatures. The chapter took part in Wellsboro Hometown Science festival in September by providing free fly-casting lessons. Chapter meetings are at 7 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month except July and August.

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

Jimmy Lattimer
814-952-1682, jwlattimer@yahoo.com
www.amctu.org

We held our board meeting at the Tannery Dam in August and had photos taken for the PA Wilds award the chapter received for inspiring youth. Our 2024 annual fundraiser will be held at Luigi's Villa (former Litts Club) in DuBois on April 13. We attended the CHP closeout for Clover Run and the chapter will be reaching out to American Rivers to help with the removal of the old Punxsutawney Reservoir. DuBois Area Middle School Fly-Fishing Club returned to activity in October. We are partnering with the Brockway Area School FFA in its effort to start raising seedlings that can be used by the chapter for riparian plantings. We participated with Boy Scouts on an intro to fishing course on Oct. 7. We added another TIC program, our fifth school

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district, welcoming Clearfield Area Schools. We held officer elections at our Oct. 19 meeting and a reorganizational meeting on Nov. 1.

Caldwell Creek Chapter #437

Tom Savko

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www.facebook.com/CaldwellCreekTU437

Bill Kibler and Dan Ahl, two of our loyal stream testing members, passed away this summer. A couple of other members had some health problems so they could not always help with the testing. The rest of our testing group, although it is small, stepped up and is getting the job done every week. We are looking for new members to help, and we will train them. We assisted the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy with the Brokenstraw stream restoration.

Cornplanter Chapter #526

Scott Dyke

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

No report.

Iron Furnace Chapter #288

Andrew Turner

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www.ironfurnacetu.net

Members of Iron Furnace TU attended the centennial celebration recognizing the 100th year of establishment for the Allegheny National Forest. In collaboration with the three other chapters covering the ANF region, we manned a table with display boards highlighting TU projects in the area. Iron Furnace TU volunteers recently turned out to the Beaver Creek ponds to help with an ecology field day for Keystone Junior High School. Throughout the day, students learned about ecology and conservation, and even got to give fly-fishing a try.

James Zwald Chapter #314

Murray Neeper

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No report.

Neshannock Creek #216

Matt Ceremuga

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www.neshannock-tu.org

No report.

Northwest PA Chapter #41

Jim Head

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<http://nwpatrout.org>

The Northwest PA Chapter held a "Benevolent Beers" fundraiser with Erie Ale Works in August. This was our first try at this type of fundraiser. It was a great opportunity to let people know what we stand for and to highlight our TIC projects. Members also gave fly-tying demos. We plan to make this an annual event. Chapter members also assisted the Asbury Woods Nature Center with its Fish Field Day event. Members offered fly-tying, fly-casting instruction, and highlighted our TIC projects. Chapter members were also invited by the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy and the Pennsylvania Game Commission to tour the recently completed Heavy Wood Project on Benson Run, which flows through SGL 109. Past chapter president Bill Eckert has long been a champion for this project, and it was great to see the results of a hard work by all involved. Benson Run is one of a scarce few Class A Wild Trout Streams in Erie County. Our chapter plans to initiate stream monitoring of Benson Run in the spring. Chapter members Bill Eckert and Jim Head attended the PATU annual meeting.

Oil Creek Chapter #424

Jennifer Lyons

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www.oilcreektu.org

Our 39th annual banquet on Sept. 9 was a big success. We are currently reviewing possible improvements we could make for next year's banquet. Bailey Kozalla is the new watershed specialist for the Venango Conservation District. She has been keeping us up to date on conservation and educational activities of the district. She is planning on receiving electro-shocking training, which will help us with stream surveys. Our Veterans Service Program Day was held in May and was done with participation by Neshannock TU, the Sandy Creek Conservancy and PFBC. Veterans fished Sandy Creek on the Conservancy property. We had 14 veterans participating with guests. Fishing on Big Sandy Creek was good, although the day was pretty hot. Members of both chapters provided fly-tying and fly-casting demonstrations and instruction. We have another teacher who is interested in starting a TIC program and we are exploring the possibility of getting her training and equipment. We contributed to Big Uncle Day at the Venango Coon and Fox Club. Recent meetings were Oct. 18 and Nov. 15 at King's Restaurant in Franklin, Pa. Our chapter membership and Christmas party is Dec. 20.

Seneca Chapter #272

Chase Howard

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www.facebook.com/SenecaTroutUnlimited

Seneca TU is continuing to seek new leadership. Any chapter members in the region are encouraged to reach out to Chase Howard. A membership event/kick off is in the planning stages; ideally, will take place before the end of 2023.

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

National TU consultants toured Aquetong Creek to evaluate current conditions. BucksTU is working with National and Solebury Township to develop a "restoration game plan" and develop cost estimates. BCTU continues to support five TIC programs. The newest one is at the Bucks County Youth Center. In addition, the center has expressed interest in getting fly-tying, casting, and fishing instruction. The chapter has received a grant to be used in the Aquetong Creek restoration. Dave Hess, store manager/fly-tying instructor with Tight Lines Outfitters in Parsippany, NY presented "What's New for 2023/2024: Gear, Tools and Accessories" at our September meeting. At our Oct. 5 meeting, Tim Flagler of Tight Lines Productions in Califon, NJ, presented "Secrets of the Ken Lockwood Gorge." He covered tips, techniques and things to look for on this well-known section of the South Branch of the Raritan River. Our Nov. 2 meeting featured Sam Vigorita, an instructor and author who presented "Tactics for Catching More Fish & Bigger Fish." Anita Coulton with Cross Current Guide Service in Shehawken presented "Dry Fly Strategies for the Upper Delaware" at our Dec. 7 meeting. Anita is an Orvis Endorsed Guide, an avid writer, and is active with Casting for Recovery. Our Jan. meeting's topic is "Fish Tales – 2023: What was your most memorable fish/trip in 2023?" On Feb. 1, Joe Mihok will present "Climate Change 101: A look at the basics of climate science." BCTU is also looking into the Fly Fishing Film Tour.

Delco Manning Chapter #320

Charles Lesky
charlesleskyjr@gmail.com
www.dmtu.org

We assisted the local fishing club, Delco Angers, with the stocking of a local stream. The chapter installed a monofilament collection tube along the Delaware County Trail in Havertown, one in the FFO section along Ridley Creek. We are currently involved in a TIC program with Strath Haven Middle School.

Little Lehigh Chapter #070

Dan Dow
ddow23@gmail.com
www.lltu.org

No report.

Perkiomen Valley #332

Bryan Fulop
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www.pvtu332.org

We held tree maintenance and replanting on the West Branch and Main Branch of the Perkiomen on Oct. 16 and 23. We did water quality testing on the creek Oct. 26 and Nov. 3. TIC is ongoing in nine local schools. Guide Rick Nyles spoke at our September meeting and Bryon Fulop presented in October.

SE Montgomery County Chapter #468

Richard Terry
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semontco.tu.org

Fall stocking took place in Pennypack Creek that runs through the Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust. We have added Gwynedd Square Elementary to our TIC programs. We have set up a macroinvertebrate sampling program and are waiting for the schools to set up field days.

Tulpehocken Chapter #150

Brenda Bittinger
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www.tullytu.org

The chapter is looking for a location to create a coldwater conservation mural in the local Reading area with SRI Grant and Fellows. We worked on a newsletter and raffle for the fall season, featuring a guided trip, Yeti bundle and an outdoorsman's bundle. The chapter's Mantawney Creek project is progressing. We have a revised plan in place due to unamenable residents. Riparian buffers and stream wall restoration are being considered for the new plan. A new sign was installed for our Cacoosing dam removal project as part of stream restoration project scope. STREAM Girls is being introduced to the chapter with the help of the Berks County Conservation District. Our

holiday membership meeting is Dec. 20 at 6 p.m. at Chatty Monks.

Valley Forge Chapter #290

James Leonard
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www.valleyforge.tu.org

The chapter is now holding its general membership meetings at The Barn at Upland Farm Park, 301 Pottstown Pike, Chester Springs. The space has Wi-Fi, and we are looking into having hybrid meetings. Membership meetings are the second Thursday of each month except March, June, July and August. The VFTU online store is live. Water temperature and conductivity are measured and recorded at 52 locations, principally in Little Valley and Valley creeks as part of an ongoing study by Stroud. The snapshot is taken annually during the warmest weather, usually in July. All data is recorded on the same day from 3-5 p.m. Benthic macroinvertebrates were collected from various locations and sent for species identification and counts. Data for this year has been combined with data from the previous two years, and Latin names have been assigned common usage names where possible. The data was then analyzed using EPT and Hilsenhoff biotic indexes to estimate water quality. We participated in a Girl Scout macro sampling of Crabby Creek.

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
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www.adamscountytu.org

The chapter received PATU's Project of the Year Award for the Zeigler Mill Road Access Site project. The nomination for the award presented

a concise story of ACTU's accomplishments since 2021, encapsulating the long-term effort, partnerships and community support that made the project a success. Many thanks are due to ACTU Director Rick Franzese, who prepared the submission. ACTU was selected to participate in the Adams County Giving Spree on Nov. 9. This is Adams County's annual day of giving. Twenty-two members of ACTU and Northern Virginia TU, along with PFBC Habitat Division specialists, constructed a 40-foot-long mud sill on the Catch and Release, Fly-Fishing Only section of Conewago Creek on Aug. 26. At the Zeigler Mill Road Access site, which the CRFFO section flows through, the 600-yard walking trail for the community has been completed. This includes the construction of three teaching stations, each with an educational sign. ACTU Director Mike Waldron led the project to construct the trail and plant 300-plus trees and shrubs at the site earlier this year. ACTU has taken the lead for the TIC in Adams County. Lynn Rebert, Dave Swope and Jerry Gladfelter are co-leading the TIC program. No activity to report. The chapter's Women's & Diversity Initiative, led by Director Lesa Bird, will become more of a focus in the coming months and into 2024. The chapter explored a grant opportunity from TC Energy for habitat improvement work and decided to pursue a grant in 2024. We plan to evaluate habitat improvement opportunities on waters in the county other than the Conewago Creek CRFFO section. Similarly, the chapter reviewed a grant opportunity through the Susquehanna River Basin Commission. As we are winding down the work at the Zeigler Mill Road Access site, which has been funded by the grant from the South Mountain Partnership, it is unlikely that we will apply for this grant. "2023 Fishing Exploits in Belize, Ontario, and Colorado" was the topic of our Oct. 20 meeting, while our Nov. 15 meeting featured "Fly Fishing in Alaska."

Codorus Chapter #558

Bob Daviau
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www.codorustu.org

We added a fifth tank to our TIC program for 2023-24. Chapter members assisted the Watershed Alliance of York at the Youth and Family Fishing event during Watershed Week. Members demonstrated fly-casting, gave casting instruction and assisted participants with fishing. We held elections on Oct. 11 during our chapter meeting at VFW Post 5265, 199 Veterans Way, Spring Grove.

Cumberland Valley Chapter #052

John Zazworsky
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www.pacvtu.org

Two board members attended the PATU annual
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meeting on Sept. 16. Our first Veterans/First Responder Service Program was Oct. 14. The chapter had three workdays for stream cleanup and spawning bed clearing in September. We have commitment from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation for donation of native trees and bushes to complete the Barnitz Church Yellow Breeches project. Riparian planting events were planned for Oct. 7, 18 and 29. The mouth of the Letort project was not conducted in September due to lack of landowner approval before a grant deadline. CVTU is still engaged with the owners' representatives, in hope of completing the project this fall. Planning has begun for winter fly-tying courses. Elizabeth Grant, Cumberland County planning specialist, spoke at our July meeting. The chapter's annual family picnic washeld in August. Our September meeting featured speakers Jeff Hartranft and Scott Cox from DEP's Bureau of Waterways Engineering and Wetlands, and Stephanie Williams from Cumberland County Planning Department. The chapter does not meet in December.

Doc Fritchey Chapter #108

Chuck Swanderski
chucks@dftu.org
www.dftu.org

DFTU's new organizational structure streamlines our board meetings. Committees are still seeking members to help with volunteers. Several Constant Contact emails were sent to the membership. Four members of DFTU attended the PATU annual meeting. Our Snitz Creek 3 project's final design and permit conversation with DEP has been completed. The Bachman Run surveying and wetland delineation was also completed with a stream assessment. One of the two properties was sold at auction, and we are awaiting approval documents from the new property owner. Our Snitz Creek 4 project Growing Greener Grant application was approved by DEP pending submission of documentation from the 20 landowners. We have secured the needed documents except one, and the decision was made to work around that property. Our Barry Farm Hammer Creek Project footprint surveys, bog turtle phases 1 & 2, and wetland delineation are now complete, and the legacy sediment trenching is scheduled to begin soon. Following that, a detailed design will be done. The Beck Creek construction phase grant application was submitted. We applied for \$795,506, which was turned down. We have a new project on the Quittie. Landowners have been contacted. Approximately \$250,000 is funded by the Lebanon County Conservation District with matching funds from Palmyra Sportsman's Association and DFTU. We also completed the process of applying for a package of several grants from various agencies to assist Becks Creek. Our Rausch Creek Diversion Well underwent some major repairs during low water conditions. Several members helped stock Yellow Breeches through

the YBACA co-op nursery. DFTU volunteers held a fall cleanup of Manada Creek as part of our Adopt-A-Highway program on Oct. 21. DFTU volunteers assisted PFBC in the fall float stocking and of the Quittapahilla on Oct. 12. We assisted Palmyra Sportsman's Association in stocking the Quittie on Oct. 7 with trout obtained from their co-op nursery, and we had a three-tent booth at the PSA Field Day on Oct. 8. DFTU manned an informational booth and offered fly-tying at the Ned Smith Festival and Wild Woods Festival. We participated in TU's Cast and Blast for Legislators on Oct. 17. DFTU had five teachers at four schools participate in our 2022-23 TIC program. Two were fourth grade, two were eighth grade and one was a high school teacher. This year's schools had a very high egg-fingerling survival rate. DFTU held its annual family picnic at Memorial Lake. DFTU participated in both PATU and National TU Diversity and Inclusion conference calls. We provided Casting for Recovery with our annual donation and participated as guides during the three-day program. Our chapter was nominated for and received the PATU Diversity Award at the annual meeting. Oct. 7 was DFTU's fifth consecutive Ladies Fly-Fishing Day at Limestone Springs Fishing Preserve. Ross Purnell presented "Pristine habitat equals great trout fishing" at our Sept. 26 meeting. Guide Dusty Wissmath presented "Fly-Fishing in Iceland" at our Nov. 28 meeting. Rick Nyles, owner of Sky Blue Outfitters is speaking at our Jan. 23 meeting. It will be held at the Fort Indiantown Gap Community Room.

Donegal Chapter #037

Claire Landis
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www.donegaltu.org

Donegal TU's board approved a new Strategic Plan. We also agreed to be a nominating organization for the Lancaster County Conservation District. Executive meetings are held via Zoom the Monday before the board meetings to review the agenda, discuss future planning and any concerns. On Aug. 16, 63 members attended our annual picnic at Millport Conservancy. After-dinner activities included a fly-casting competition and a nature walk conducted by Lemont Garber of Stroud Water Research Center and a Conservation Chair. We held an Oktoberfest dinner meeting on Oct. 18 at Blue Collar Restaurant in Landisville. Our Conservation Committee met with Dr. John Niles of The Nature Conservancy to discuss partnering on the Fishing Creek ARP. The first week of August, our nursery moved from Millport Conservancy to Penn State Research Center (SEAREC) in Landisville. We continue to survey our buffers, remove invasives and replant when necessary. We hired a contractor to mow and spray invasives on four buffers. For the 2023-2024 school year, DTU will have five new TIC programs including two in the city and two at education centers that serve home-schoolers.

Our VSP is holding bi-weekly fly-tying classes at the American Legion Post 34. We applied to the Keith Campbell Grant to support our education and outreach programs. We submitted a Stream Restoration Grant to Clean Water Partners. The total cost of the project is \$460,000 to repair 1,000 feet of stream. Our next board meeting is Dec. 10, and our next general meeting is Dec. 20 at the Lancaster Farm and Home Center.

Falling Spring Chapter #234

Took Coder

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www.facebook.com/fstu234/

Our barbecue was postponed until spring as the membership felt we could attract more youths. We have begun the process of creating a website for the chapter. We are hoping to get grant approval for a complete watershed plan for Falling Spring. We've submitted a letter to Tim Schaffer, executive director of PFBC, requesting the delayed harvest area of Falling Spring be replaced with Catch & Release Fly-Fishing Only. We are concerned with the landowners posting this section of the stream due to heavy traffic. This section is used for our Healing Waters program.

Muddy Creek Chapter #575

John Snyder

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www.muddycreektu.org

The Red Lion Street Fair is a summer mainstay event for our chapter and this year was, again, a great success for the chapter. Several new members were signed up and we get the opportunity to interact with many residents and landowners in the Muddy Creek Watershed. We continue to work with the York County Conservation District and Lower Chanceford Township on a culvert replacement project under the Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road Program. The Lower Chanceford Township Road Crew has received its ESM Certification to be eligible to receive funding from the program, and the project is still under consideration. Our chapter supports TIC programs in six classrooms in York County at Red Lion, Dallastown, Eastern York, and Southern York. A shortage of precipitation in our watershed gave us a good challenge regarding our fall stocking activities. On a very tight schedule, a work team bucketed the remaining fish from our nursery and cleaned and prepared the nursery for our fingerlings that arrived Sept. 22. Another regular on our fall activities list is preparation and maintenance of our streamside incubator program. This program continues to enhance our watershed with brown trout fry that, outside of their genetic imprint are as close to true wild fish as possible. Eggs hatch in the incubator and in a few weeks find their way directly to the headwaters in our watershed. We estimate our hatch success rate to be over 90 percent. Downstream, throughout the main watershed, we have permanent signage

that explains and illustrates the identification of wild fish and a kind request to "Release the wild Browns." The results have been outstanding with numerous wild fish in our watershed of substantial size. Many thanks to all our members on the Incubator Committee and the work crews that support it. We held a landowner appreciation event Oct. 14 at Stewartstown American Legion. Chapter meetings are the third Wednesday of each month.

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 Clouser

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No report.

Chestnut Ridge Chapter #670

Ben Moyer

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Chestnut Ridge directed most of its efforts during the third quarter to planning and holding its first chapter banquet since 2019. The Covid-canceled banquet of 2020 would have been our 25th annual event. So, we considered this 2023 banquet to be our 25th. The banquet showed that a well-organized and well-run event does not have to be huge to be successful. Thanks go banquet Chairman Eugene Gordon, his right-hand helper Candy Gordon, and to the entire banquet committee and all members who helped in any way. In August, we placed 118 tons of alkaline limestone sand into our three treatment sites on the Glade Run headwaters, tributary to Dunbar Creek. We also hosted a meeting on-site with Rachel Kester, PATU's program director, who came to assess our progress in utilizing a Coldwater Heritage Partnership grant to continue this work, first

begun in 1998. With the recent construction of permanent treatment systems on Glade Run and resulting improvements in water quality in Glade Run main stem, we have been able to reduce the amount of alkaline sand treatment. Treasurer Doc Welling made the chapter a new display board to take to events and meetings, and we "broke it in" by attending the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Youghiogheny Dam. CRTU members at our display talked to many visitors and distributed chapter and TU information. Bottom releases from the Youghiogheny Reservoir are what makes possible 30 miles of near-wilderness coldwater trout fishing in the Youghiogheny River downstream. We assisted Mountain Watershed Association with its annual Fishing Day at Resh Park in Saltlick Township, Fayette County, and we worked with Mountain Watershed and the PFBC to present a public fly-fishing clinic at Hutchinson Park in South Union Township on Oct. 22.

Forbes Trail Chapter #206

Larry Myers

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www.forbestrailtu.org

Forbes Trail Chapter worked with four other TU chapters to complete the Laurel Highland Trout Trail project. The project included developing a new website and brochures as a means to guide anglers to premier trout streams in the Laurel Highlands while helping to drive eco-tourism. The final step is placing two signs in parking areas along each of the 10 streams to identify the streams and provide additional information via QR codes. The chapter partnered with Kingston Veterans Sportsmen Club to complete its 5th annual fishing event for military veterans. Participants included veterans, first responders, Boy Scouts who prepared our lunch, and volunteers/mentors. After completing a Coldwater Conservation Plan for Linn Run, Forbes Trail submitted a project proposal to the DCNR to install a small limestone sand treatment system in the headwaters. High levels of aluminum leaching out of the headwater soils are believed to be causing mortality for the young of year brook trout. The limestone is expected to precipitate out the aluminum and raise the pH. If DCNR approves the project, we'll be applying for implementation grants. We assisted Linn Run State Park again this fall treating trees for the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid via soil injection. We've been asked to assist Hempfield Area High School with a new TIC program and Greensburg Salem Middle School with an afterschool program to teach coldwater conservation. Forbes Trail's annual fundraiser is a meat raffle that started in October, partnering with Werry's Provision meat market and the Westmoreland County Food Bank. Upcoming meetings are Dec. 6 at Sharky's Café, Latrobe and Jan. 3 at Nimick Family Education Center. We are hosting a veterans' fishing event Feb. 7 at Nimick Family Education Center.

Fort Bedford Chapter #291

Ryan Schnably

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www.facebook.com/fortbedfordtu

FBTU held its annual membership meeting on Nov. 14 at the Horn O Plenty Restaurant. The event was open to the public and we hosted a pizza buffet. The chapter held 200-ticket drawing fundraiser on Sept. 23 at Bedford American Legion. FBTU completed Phase II and III of the Shobers Run Project on Sept. 15.

John Kennedy Chapter #045

Scott Kavanagh

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www.facebook.com/johnkennedytu

The chapter mailed out raffle tickets to membership and supplied them for local fly shops for our drawing on Oct. 3. We are partnering with the Blair County Conservation District on possibly four projects next year. Some of the permits were applied for this fall. On Nov. 11, the chapter completed its fourth Adopt-A-Highway cleanup along Plum Creek Road, which parallels Plum Creek, a Class A wild trout stream. The chapter hosted a booth at NatureWorks Park for the Blair County Conservation District's Family Fun Day on Aug. 12. Activities included information on TU, macroinvertebrate identification, and a casting station for the kids. We set up aquariums for the seven schools that are in our 2024 TIC program. We did not have any speakers in July or August. Creg Strock, a local fly shop owner and master fly-tyer, presented a program on "Steelhead in the Lake Erie tributaries" in September. In October, we hosted John Brehm, master fly-tyer and guide. The chapter's pizza party is Dec. 5 at 6:30 p.m. at Marzoni's Restaurant, 1830 East Pleasant Valley Blvd., Altoona. Our Fly-Tyer's Roundtable is Jan. 2 at Allegheny Volunteer Firehall, 651 Sugar Run Road, Altoona, and will feature Walt Young, Bill Anderson, Kevin Compton, Shawn Holsinger, Ron Holsinger, Creg Strock, John Brehm, Bob George and Brad Zeiders.

Ken Sink Chapter #053

Barrie Mann

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

The chapter has been involved in several different projects and programs this quarter. We have supported and attended the Marion Center School summer program and also the Indiana County Youth Field Days, giving instruction on basic entomology and fly-fishing. In addition, we also helped judge in the Indiana County Conservation District's Envirothon program. The annual macroinvertebrate survey on Little Mahoning Creek was conducted and showed encouraging results of insect life in the stream. Discussion was

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PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL
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held with Friends of Yellow Creek State Park to establish a beginners course in fly-fishing. It is proposed that the first class be held in May 2024 and be offered to women, limiting the class size. Further discussions and planning are to follow. The chapter has signs for the Laurel Highlands Trout Trail that will be installed at the appropriate area on Yellow Creek ending successful collaboration with other chapters that worked on the LHTT project. Kudos to the Forbes Trail Chapter for their lead on this program. The chapter supported and helped with the Yellow Creek bank restoration project conducted by the Indiana Conservation District. KSTU continues to support other orga-

nizations such as PASEC, and will continue to do so. Looking forward, we will again offer fly-tying classes in early 2024 and will also announce our annual banquet.

Mountain Laurel Chapter #040

Dave Maher
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www.mltu.org

No report.

Penn's Woods West Chapter #042

Ian Brown
ianmbrown79@gmail.com
www.pwwtu.org

The summer was quiet from an events perspective though several of our members attended the PATU Annual Meeting. The "Bar Flies" program continues to be well-attended and is back in full swing. Our women's group continued to be very active, maintaining a monthly event cadence in co-operation with Forbes Trail. We reopened our regular meetings on Sept. 18 with a presentation from Tim Flager who demonstrated tying four flies, along with numerous tricks and tips. Planning is underway for our annual Cabin Fever event on Sunday, Feb. 25, 2024.