

Pennsylvania TROUT



Spring 2025

Publication of the Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited

www.patROUT.org

TIC: Hands-on STEAM learning for students with autism

By Chuck Dinkel
Cumberland County TU

Lamberton Middle School in Carlisle, PA is one of the schools in Cumberland County that participated in the Trout in the Classroom program this school year.

Through a partnership with the Cumberland County Chapter of Trout Unlimited, students with autism and intellectual/developmental disabilities raised rainbow trout from eggs to fingerlings in a carefully maintained 55-gallon aquarium.

TIC is a hands-on STEAM experience combining science, environmental conservation, and inclusive education — empowering students to observe, analyze, and engage in real-world learning.

In Mrs. Mitchell's special education classroom, students tested water quality
See TIC, page 7



Chuck Dinkel Photo

General education students and staff regularly visited Mrs. Mitchell's classroom to learn about trout care.

*The nomination period for PATU's annual awards is now open.
Please see pages 10-11 for criteria and more information.
You may also submit a nomination online at www.patROUT.org.*



Jamie Shallenberger Photo

On a clear day in Harrisburg, a pedestrian about to cross the Susquehanna River walks across excess road salt that remained days after a winter storm.

Road salt: A slippery threat to PA's trout ecosystems

By Jamie Shallenberger &
Beth Dutton

PA Road Salt Action Working Group

As anglers, we are drawn to Pennsylvania's trout streams — rich with diverse aquatic life and fishing opportunities. However, an invisible and growing threat lurks beneath the surface: chloride pollution from excessive winter road salting. While de-icing salts play a vital role in public safety during icy conditions, their overuse causes unintended harm to fresh-

water ecosystems, infrastructure, soil, and even human health.

Pennsylvania's trout fishing community has a unique opportunity to address this environmental challenge. By partnering with the Pennsylvania Road Salt Action Working Group, anglers and TU chapters can help lead state-wide efforts to reduce chloride pollution while ensuring winter weather safety remains a priority.

In January 2025, the Pennsylvania Road Salt Action Work Group was formed to co-

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Pennsylvania TROUT

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



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

EXECUTIVE VICE CHAIR – Michael Stahl
146 Weyant Circle
Bedford, PA 15522
Phone: 814-505-5201
Email: mbstahl2007@yahoo.com

EXECUTIVE VICE CHAIR – Rick Nyles
212 Deysher Road
Fleetwood, PA 19522
Phone: 610-987-0073
Email: rick@skyblueoutfitters.com

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

SECRETARY – Erick Lewis
70 Brentwood Circle
Bloomsburg, PA 17815
Phone: 607-621-8120
Email: eeewis@tds.net

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – Eric Null
PO Box 5148
Bellefonte, PA 16823
Phone: 724-640-1022
Email: executive.director@patrout.org

**COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR/
WEB EDITOR – Sigrid Sharif**
P.O. Box 5148
Bellefonte, PA 16823
Phone: 971-276-8622
Email: sigrid.sharif@tu.org

PA TROUT EDITOR & DESIGNER – Brad Isles
147 Swain Hill Road
Harmony, PA 16127
Phone: 724-967-2832
Email: bisles@live.com

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Jamie Shallenberger Photo

Winter stormwater runoff pours from a highway overpass into a tributary to Pennsylvania's fabled Yellow Breeches Creek.

SALT

from page 1

ordinate initiatives across the state aimed at lowering road salt use. Road salt saves lives by preventing slips and crashes, but its impact extends beyond winter safety. The same salt that melts ice also corrodes vehicles, damages infrastructure, and disrupts aquatic ecosystems — including drinking water sources and trout habitats. Fortunately, there are ways to reduce salt usage without compromising safety.

A Salty Reality

Since 1975, road salt usage in the U.S. has doubled, with Pennsylvania among six states (alongside OH, NY, MI, IL, and WI) long responsible for 75% of the nation's total salt application. Together, these states spread 15 million tons (30 billion pounds) of salt on roads, parking lots, and walkways each winter.

Once the weather thaws or rain falls, most road salt dissolves into stormwater, carrying chloride and, depending on the type of road salt, also sodium, calcium, and magnesium into local waterways. Streams and lakes that experience salty runoff see short-term chloride concentration spikes after the storm. Where salty stormwater has pathways into groundwater, chloride levels in the groundwater increase year over year. Groundwater maintains stream flow throughout the year, contributing to elevated year-round chloride levels in some streams. Chloride and other road salt components at elevated levels cause both immediate and lasting damage to aquatic

ecosystems.

Certain mayfly, stonefly, and caddisfly species are highly sensitive to chloride concentrations, which disrupts their gills and internal fluid balance. Trout and salamanders may tolerate salt as adults, but their eggs and young are highly susceptible.

Unlike some pollutants, road salt's effects often go unnoticed. There's no odor, visible contamination, or sudden die-off. Instead, sensitive aquatic species quietly decline. For anglers, the impact may be masked by weather, luck, or technique — but if trout eggs were harmed years ago or if baitfish and mayflies dwindled due to salt pollution, the stream may struggle to support the trout population as it once did.

Solutions: The Road Less Salty

Reducing road salt use requires balancing safety with environmental consequences. Adopting the best practices can limit negative effects:

Individuals can:

- Shovel more and use less or no salt on driveways and walkways.
- Use sand for traction on icy surfaces instead of salt.
- Report excessive salt use or unnecessary salt piles to municipalities or parking lot owners.
- Urge local governments to adopt winter maintenance best practices.

Municipalities, contractors, and PennDOT can:

- Cover and protect salt stockpiles from
- Continued on next page...**

...Continued from previous page

rain.

- Calibrate spreading equipment to minimize overuse.
- Apply liquid brine solutions instead of road salt — brine reduces salt use by 75% while maintaining de-icing effectiveness.

Pennsylvania Road Salt Action Working Group

The Pennsylvania Road Salt Action Working Group was formed to tackle chloride pollution and promote smarter winter practices. Bringing together representatives from numerous organizations, this initiative advocates for safer and more environmentally conscious winter practices.

The group's goals include:

- Developing strategies for municipalities and large landowners to adopt best practices.
- Creating a website with advocacy materials and resources.
- Supporting PennDOT's training program with a focus on salt reduction.
- Advocating for state legislation to curb excess winter salting.
- Establishing statewide training programs for private contractors.
- Securing grants for equipment upgrades and assistance to municipalities.

Call to Action for Trout Anglers

As anglers, our connection to Pennsyl-

vania's waterways goes beyond recreation. We are stewards of these ecosystems. Chloride pollution impacts the natural places we cherish, diminishes our fishing experiences, and threatens to jeopardize fishing enjoyment for our children and grandchildren.

Partnering with the Pennsylvania Road Salt Action Working Group amplifies our voices and can lead to real change. Watershed groups, Trout Unlimited chapters, conservation organizations, and individuals all play a critical role in this effort. By engaging locally, sharing successes, and supporting statewide initiatives, anglers can help reduce road salt's harmful effects while preserving public safety.

To get involved, complete the survey: Survey Link (https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfDboZN25aCJcL_SSmnBUi118yfONpCqaA3xk6MkLD_T19QQA/viewform?usp=header)

The battle against chloride pollution isn't an easy one, but together, we can ensure that Pennsylvania's streams remain a sanctuary for trout and aquatic life for generations to come. Let's protect what we love by choosing the road less salty.

For more on best practices and road salt impacts, visit: www.littlehigh.org/salt-deep-dive.

To connect with us, use the link on the deep dive page or send email to: paroadsaltactionwg@gmail.com, jshallenberger@srbc.gov, or bethdutton2000@yahoo.com.

PA COUNCIL OF TROUT UNLIMITED 2024-25 COMMITTEES



Awards –

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

Budget –

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

Coldwater Heritage Partnership Admin. – OPEN

Coldwater Heritage Partnership TU Delegate –
Scott Altemose
610-295-7660 / saltemose@trefoiltta.com

College/5 Rivers –
Charlie Charlesworth
570-954-5042 / ffnepa@epix.net

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

Conservation/Climate Change –
Brian Wagner
484-894-8289 / bewagner482@gmail.com

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

Development –
Bob Neu
development@patrout.org

Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture –
Ken Undercoffer
kcoffer@atlanticbb.net

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

National Leadership Council Rep. –
Russ Collins
717-580-3958 / russthepres@dftu.org

Trout in the Classroom –
OPEN

Trout Policy –
Len Lichvar
814-659-7057 / lennyll@yahoo.com
Dave Rothrock
570-377-9712 / daver2@comcast.net

TU Service Partnership –
OPEN

Women/Diversity Initiative –
Amidea Daniel
814-359-5127 / adaniel@pa.gov
Kelly Williams
814-765-2624 / kellyw@clfdccd.com

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

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Headwaters

**A message from PATU President
Lenny Lichvar**

The buzz word around natural resource conservation sectors today is “uncertainty.”

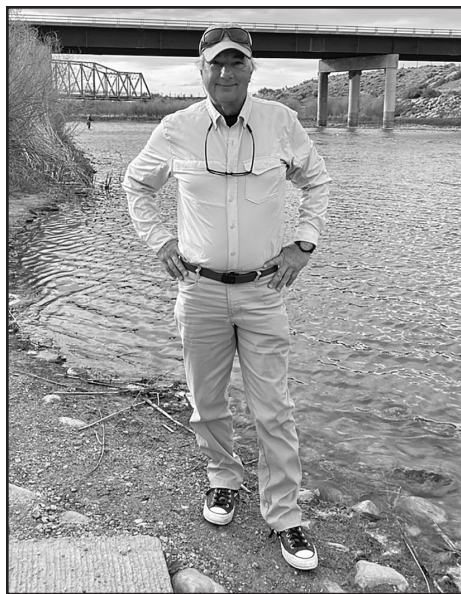
Being uncertain is not a comfortable place to be, especially when decades of documented positive progress in enhancing and protecting our natural resources has been made in so many ways. Trout Unlimited is just one of countless professional and volunteer organizations and agencies in the public sector that have tirelessly worked to improve and protect our recreational assets, which also fuel and sustain our economic well being as well.

With all that uncertainty, as professional and volunteer resource conservationist for over 40 years, I too am uncomfortable about the future of conservation.

So, I want to share with you some things that I am certain about.

I am certain that even in the best of times there have never been enough federal, state or local resource professionals and their contributing empowerment to meet the ever-growing need for natural resource conservation.

I am certain the 50 federal Natural Resource Conservation Service agency staff that were eliminated in Pennsylvania will reduce the agency’s ability to provide



empowerment and pursue its extensive conservation agenda.

I am certain the federal mandate to lift barriers on coal mining on federal land will only accomplish a less than positive change to federal landscapes.

I am certain that the \$18.9 billion-a-year outdoor recreation industry in Pennsylvania that employs 168,322 people stands a better chance of decreasing than growing.

I am certain the effort to dramatically increase timber harvest on National Forest lands will be done with little to no regulatory oversight.

I am certain that the current proposal to

sell off large tracts of federal land by some members of Congress is among the most disturbing ideas to ever be contemplated.

I am certain that the budget cuts and the potential elimination of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) will reduce funding efforts in coldwater conservation.

I am certain that prices will increase for fishing and all other outdoor recreation related products.

I am certain that the total elimination of federal resource programs and agencies, not just a pause or cuts, will be debated in the upcoming federal budget negotiations.

I am certain that many members and elected officials of both political parties already have and will stand up for and support natural resource conservation amid all of this.

Therefore, I am certain that we will find our way through all of this.

See there... I ended on a positive note.

Post-Script: While I am at it, I am certain the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission’s potential plan, driven by commissioners, to again put hatchery trout in the Class A wild trout water of Freeman Run in Potter County in the name of research and data gathering, has nothing to do with research or data.

Pennsylvania TU’s Annual Appeal eclipses goal

By Bob Neu

Development Committee Chair

We’re happy to report that on March 31 we blasted past our Annual Appeal goal, overshooting to score an impressive \$41,710 — all in gifts from individual members and friends of PA Trout Unlimited.

To all of you who made a gift to PATU, our heartfelt gratitude. Check out your name on our Honor Roll of Donors at www.patROUT.org. New donors are added at the beginning of each month.

This was the largest Annual Appeal total we’ve achieved in recent memory. You honored us with more than 600 individual gifts from 543 generous members — a 10%

increase over last year.

Your contributions are already hard at work protecting coldwater habitats in all areas of our Commonwealth — particularly our precious wild trout resources. Your gifts also help provide informational outreach to communities across the state, along with youth education initiatives, such as our signature Trout in the Classroom program, to train the conservation leaders of tomorrow.

Every gift to PATU, no matter the amount, makes a significant difference, and your participation is far more important than you might realize. Your contributions go to work exclusively within Pennsylvania to protect and maintain the rivers and streams you love to fish.

On April 1, 2025, we began our new fiscal year, and thanks to you, our members, we’re already several thousand dollars ahead. To help us keep the momentum, please go to www.patROUT.org, click on the “Donate Today!” button. Or, if you’d rather send a check, please make it out to PA Trout, and mail it to: PA Council of Trout Unlimited; PO Box 5148; Bellefonte, PA 16823-5148.

Your Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited is a federally certified 501(c)3 non-profit charitable organization, and contributions are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

Have questions? Contact Bob Neu, Development Committee chair, at development@patROUT.org.

Treasurer's Report

by PATU Treasurer
Russell Thrall



As our rainy spring continues across Pennsylvania, I want to thank all of the chapter leaders and treasurers who submitted their Annual Activity Reports (AARs) by the May 15 deadline.

These reports are a crucial part of our collective ability to tell the story of the work Trout Unlimited accomplishes across the Commonwealth—both in volunteer hours and in real dollars spent on conservation and engagement efforts.

It's important that every chapter meets the AAR reporting requirements to remain in good standing and qualify for future grants and rebates.

Last year, the data from these reports told a powerful story about the impact you make: over 75,000 volunteer hours and \$1.8 million invested in program services by Council and our 49 local chapters.

That kind of impact helps us secure matching grants, demonstrate value to

donors, and support our mission of protecting and restoring Pennsylvania's coldwater resources.

In addition to the AAR, chapter treasurers should keep in mind the IRS reporting deadline. Chapters reporting less than \$50,000 in annual revenue on their AAR will have their Form 990-N automatically filed with the IRS by TU National's accounting firm before the Aug. 15 deadline. If your chapter reports more than \$50,000 in revenue, you'll need to file a 990-EZ or full 990 directly with the IRS.

As many of you prepare for summer events—whether it's riparian plantings, fishing clinics, or chapter meetings—I encourage all chapters to maintain careful records of expenses and volunteer hours. Doing so now will make your next AAR much easier and more accurate.

My time as Treasurer is up in September. If you are interested in serving PA Council

Donations & In Memoriam

• In support of the 6th Annual Women's Retreat:

- » God's Country Chapter #327
- » Penns Creek Chapter #119
- » Precision Fly and Tackle
- » Spring Creek Chapter #185
- » Spring Creek Women Anglers

• General support for PATU:

- » Adams County Chapter #323
- » Cumberland Valley Chapter #052
- » Iron Furnace Chapter #288
- » Penns Creek Chapter #119

• In memory of Bob Pfendler, NWPA TU #41:

- » Anonymous

in this role or as a financial reviewer, please reach out to me.

Thank you again for your ongoing support and the countless hours you dedicate to TU's mission in Pennsylvania.

Beat potential price increases on PATU merchandise!

If you're considering the purchase of PATU merchandise, we are suggesting that now would be a good time to take advantage of ordering items from our existing inventory, since the cost of some products in our merchandise collection will likely increase due to higher tariffs imposed by the current federal government administration.

While the full impact of these tariffs will likely not be known for some time, we will continue to offer pricing at the current levels for as long as current supplies last.

Visit the Merchandise page at www.patROUT.org and you'll find a selection of fly-rods and reels, custom-tied leaders, books on PA fly-fishing, PATU-logoed hats and T-shirts, "Catch & Release" license frames

and "Back the Brookie" decorative license plates and refrigerator magnets.

It's easy to order merchandise online at <https://patROUT.org/index.php/merchandise/> using a credit card or PayPal; or download, print the order form and mail to the address on the form along with your personal check or money order.

The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited has nearly 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, email bisles@live.com. See pages 2-3 for Council contact information, officers and committees.

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



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Fly Patterns of Pennsylvania

by Nick Cobler

Red Quill

A Classic Catskill style dry fly representing the Male Hendrickson Mayfly.

Fly Design / Highlights

- Constructed with beautiful, natural materials
- Floats high and very visible to the angler
- Once mastered, the techniques can be applied to other Catskill style flies

Background

According to Mike Valla in his book “Tying Catskill-Style Dry Flies,” this pattern was popularized by the legendary Art Flick and was tied to imitate the male Ephemerella subvaria, or the Hendrickson as it is commonly known.

About the Red Quill

I think the beauty of this fly-pattern resides in the striking materials used in the recipe. The barred wood duck, divided, and upright wings are very handsome and have a bugginess and movement to them – while helping to balance the fly on the water. The stiff tails and hackle help float the fly high in the water. And the varnished quill wrapped around the body creates a fantastic, segmented body. A quick tip is to be sure to soak the quills in water overnight to keep them supple when time to wrap around the hook. Varnish or head cement will help reinforce them and some tyers even add additional wraps over the quill to further strengthen them. If you use white thread the varnish almost makes them disappear. Try tying up a few and test drive 'em on your local streams. Tight lines all!



Materials

- **Hook:** #14 Allcock W175 or Mustad 94840
- **Thread:** Your Choice
- **Wing:** Wood-duck Flank Feather
- **Tail:** Stiff Medium Dun Hackle Barbs
- **Body:** Rhode Island Red Rooster Quill
- **Hackle:** Natural Blue Dun, Medium to Dark

Note: Don't get too hung up on the exact recipe materials. Use what you have on hand and be sure to have fun and enjoy the process!



Insert a hook into your vise and start to thread, leaving an ample amount of space behind the eye. Measure and tie in a wood duck wing. Then trim the butt ends.



Produce upright wings by first creating a thread dam in front and using figure eight wraps to divide the bundles. Then tie in some stiff hackle barbs as tails.



Create a smooth body using additional thread wraps to even any rough spots. Strip the barbs from a rooster feather and tie in by the tip, wrapping backward toward the tail.



Move your thread forward and, using touching wraps, wind the quill forward. Secure the quill with thread wraps and trim the butt. Leave room for hackle wraps.



Secure one or two hackle feathers and wrap your thread forward. Follow that by wrapping three wraps behind the wing and three in front. Tie off the feather securely and trim.



Whip finish the head and trim any uncooperative barbs. Adding a touch of head cement or the like to the body will reinforce it and bring out the segmentation.

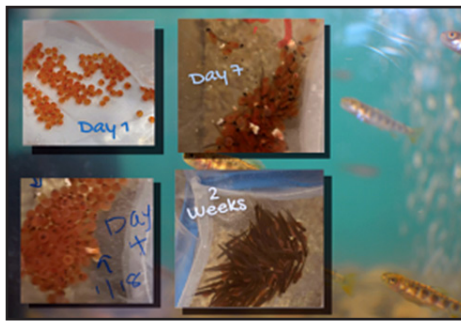
daily and recorded data, monitoring fish development from egg to fingerling stage, and learned about aquatic ecosystems and conservation.

Approximately 120 trout eggs were delivered to the school in early January by a TIC volunteer. With his assistance, the students acclimated the eggs to the 58 degree water temperature of the tank and transferred them to a breeder basket. The students carefully observed the hatching of the eggs, which began seven days after their arrival. During the next two weeks the eggs sacs were absorbed and students then began feeding the resulting alevin.

As part of the preparation for egg arrival students took field trips to a local fish hatchery and an aquarium supply store — giving them hands-on experience beyond the classroom.

In a one-of-a-kind experience, students were also able to dissect an adult trout, thanks to volunteer Chuck Dinkel from Cumberland County Trout Unlimited and Andrew Wagner, hatchery manager, who provided the 16-inch trout.

One of the most powerful aspects of this program is how it's breaking down barriers



Chuck Dinkel Photo

Approximately 120 trout eggs were delivered to Mrs. Mitchell's classroom in early January. Students tracked the eggs' progress over the next several weeks.

ers between students in special education and the broader Lamberton Middle School community. General education students and staff regularly visited the classroom to learn about trout care, engage with Mrs. Mitchell's students in hands-on science, and build connections and understanding around autism and IDD.

This spring, students released their trout into a local stream — putting their hard work, observations, and care into action while reinforcing the importance of environmental conservation.

Want to learn more about the Trout in the Classroom program and how it brings hands-on STEAM learning to students? Visit PA Trout in the Classroom for more details!



Chuck Dinkel Photo

As part of the preparation for egg arrival students took field trips to local Hunt-sdale Hatchery and an aquarium supply store — giving them hands-on experience beyond the classroom.



Chuck Dinkel Photo

In a one-of-a-kind experience, students were also able to dissect an adult trout, thanks to volunteer Chuck Dinkel from Cumberland County Trout Unlimited and Andrew Wagner, hatchery manager, who provided the 16-inch trout.

Cold Water Fisheries Report

By Thomas B. McCartney

Penn's Woods West TU

Climate Change Coordinator, Western PA

The mission of Trout Unlimited is to conserve, protect, and restore North America's cold water fisheries and their watersheds. To help address this challenge, TU's Climate Change Workgroup is actively building a national network of volunteer Climate Change Coordinators.

These coordinators will engage their chapter and council members around topics such as climate science, adaptation, advocacy, and education as they relate to trout and salmon habitats — in ways that are appropriate to their local and regional membership and with respect to diverse

points of view.

Key to making progress on climate change goals is establishing durable partnerships with other like-minded organizations. A good example of this kind of collaboration is southwestern Pennsylvania's Forbes Trail Chapter's involvement with the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pittsburgh, and its Climate and Rural Systems Partnership (CRSP).

According to Forbes Trail TU President Larry Myers, "the chapter partnered with the museum and its Powdermill Nature reserve on our Linn Run Coldwater Conservation Plan. We then invited the researchers to discuss the impact of climate change on trout and trout waters based on their research from CRSP."

CRSP, supported by National Science Foundation awards, is a collaborative learning-research project that aims to get people talking about climate change

in western Pennsylvania so communities can ultimately do something about it.

Over the past five years, the museum, together with the University of Pittsburgh Center for Learning in Out of School Environments (UPCLOSE), has engaged community partners across rural western Pennsylvania including educators, conservation practitioners, watershed specialists, land managers, farmers, environmental advocates, recreationists, industry leaders, and scientists.

Their purpose was to explore strategies to overcome social and political barriers to talking about climate change and encourage conversation about the climate impacts and solutions, both present and future, in rural Western Pennsylvania.

The Mercer County, PA Conservation District in Northwestern PA also participated in CRSP.

PATU Executive Committee Meeting

*Minutes of the April 27, 2025
Executive Committee Meeting
Axemann Brewery, Bellefonte*



Attendees: Lenny Lichvar, Judi Sittler, Bob Neu, Russ Thrall, Dave Rothrock, Dean Druckenmiller, Greg Malaska, Eric Null, Sigrid Shariff, Brian Wagner, Gary Parzanese, Erick Lewis, Todd Burns, Jon Daniels, Scott Koser.

The meeting was called to order at 11:12 a.m.

Minutes of the Jan. 19, 2025 meeting were approved as submitted.

**Motion to approve by T. Burns.*

President's Report: Submitted by L. Lichvar.

Secretary's Report: Submitted by E. Lewis. Discussion of license plate fees.

Treasurer's Report: Submitted by R. Thrall. Budget draft distributed and is looking better than March. Currently there is a \$18K negative budget with biggest changes being salary. Annual Appeal went well. Coldwater Heritage Partnership budgeted but not received. TIC had \$28K income and \$27K spent. Grant program for this year not launched.

**Motion to approve by B. Neu. Approved.*

G. Malaska suggested additional participation in annual budget is needed. P&L Dist.: Angling Activity Report is under way. 90% reduction in grant revenue. \$50K from PA Watershed, R3 is \$25K, CHP money is expected soon at \$152K. Additional details in report.

Executive Director Report: Submitted by E. Null. Another report coming May 1. DCNR portal is updated. Working closely with DCNR, in contact with Attorney General regarding Mariner East funding, approval expected this week. Behind in spending due to 18 county restrictions, about 10 projects in process should approach spending expectations. TIC – PFBC looking for DCNR to be a partner, DCNR declined due to resource constraints, PACE was approached next and are interested in partnering. Meeting in June to discuss inclusion. PACE to provide financial support and staffing. Website build is underway and going well, website content is complete, should launch this Summer. Website has more functionality. Keystone Coldwater is moving forward and will be

more inclusive of PATU volunteers. Participating in committee planning next year's conference. Working to set up committee chair Zoom meetings monthly to coordinate efforts of committees. Suggests EXCOM meet once per month in addition to quarterly in-person meetings. B. Neu and E. Null will be working on pursuit of private money availability. Contact made with Marcellus Shale Org. money availability. Conservation of Marcellus Shale operations is improving significantly. EXCOM structure – need to work on flow of information, centralize through Executive Director. DCNR will fund a portion of ED salary. Need a new Program Director to be eligible for additional C2P2 funding. TIC private funding is being explored. D. Druckenmiller – Conservation Districts have funds available for TIC via NDPES permit fees. R. Thrall – Clarification questions, Round 27 is close to closure? E. Null – Yes. D. Druckenmiller – Check should come out this week. Round 28, final reports? E. Null – Final report is near completion. Not all sites have been visited. R. Thrall – Need to report on hanging reports. Round 29 – OAG contact change. E. Null – Ended up with person who got it. Eric will announce awards this week. R. Thrall – What outreach can we do regarding Mariner in 18 southern counties. Outreach via RVPs and Conservation Districts. E. Null has talked with Conservation Districts and Watershed Associations in the region. R. Thrall – Grant checklist status? E. Null – On it. Round 30 PA Watersheds has been applied for. We should know about it on April 25. Round 31 has been applied for. Computer resources are not available via PFBC, hard drive failed. IT match is underway with PFBC. Needs to be included in MOU. Files are available via hard drive R. Thrall supplied at Annual Meeting. Keystone Coldwater Conference – CHP Committee had many questions. Partnership approved by AMR Committee. Partnership needs PATU approval. G. Malaska – Prior Program Directors received weekly reports. Gap in reports recently. Rachel had put together a monthly binder of what needed to be accomplished. E. Null – Binder is available, but timing of

grants has changed significantly. R. Thrall – Binder has prioritized responsibilities. "Start here first file." R. Thrall offered assistance if needed. G. Malaska – Round 29, what is status. E. Null – CHP will be awarded this week. All money was used up. \$5K additional awarded to two projects. G. Malaska – Concern about ask for additional staffing. Board had approved grant applications. Gap in awareness of awards. G. Malaska – Keystone Coldwater Conference – What is risk to the conference? Is MOU in process? E. Null – Yes in process with AMR.

**Motion for Executive Director to start monthly meetings with committee chairs and EXCOM by G. Malaska.*

L. Lichvar – Kris Kuhn mentioned relocation of office space. Storage space is gone. He and Eric will coordinate. Relocation within CROW.

National TU Assistance Agreement: HR & Administrative Services Agreement – G. Malaska made suggestions, one-year agreement vs. three-year agreement, \$160 per month.

**Motion to sign agreement by R. Thrall. Approved.*

Conservation Communication Coordinator Report: Submitted by S. Sharif. Annual Appeal donations, B. Neu did extraordinary job with notices and message. Amount of donations tapering off. Expect greater than last year. Exploring the concept of insuring timely handling of checks. Physical deposit of checks has risk. Discussing use of check scanner to streamline process. Potential for automation using QR code. R. Thrall said PNC offers check scanner for \$25 per month. Can capture additional data. Social media presence remains strong. 7,600 followers on Facebook, 1,700 on Instagram. Focusing on posting chapter content photos and videos, conservation, events, fishing regulations, etc. Twitter has taken a back seat due to community curation. Follows are up 130% since last quarter on Facebook. Men 33 to 55 are primary followers. Pittsburgh is location of highest viewership. Will dist. Facebook analytics to ExCom for review. Website analytics will also be available. Our Constant Contact metrics are performing very well. Google analytics has not been available to all users. Working with E. Null & Brad Isles on new website. Details need some additional resolution. Content refresh areas being identified. Some additional features need board approval, like adding payment options beyond PayPal to add additional

security. Investigating a member portal for engagement of chapters and members in strategic direction/mission statement. TU National is rebranding, Dave Kinney is leading this. Suggest outreach to him. Looking at software that tracks legislation at the state level for information and fact checking e.g. Bill 50. Looking to share a map of projects with details available. Looking to include TIC into the website. Will look at opening the website to advertisers. Mail/PO Box change may be needed to streamline between Bellefonte and State College. Change to PNC may facilitate this. Looking to create a contact form on the website to facilitate another non-phone contact method. Need to get PFBC phone number moved over or set-up voicemail check process.

PATU Treasurer Position Status: Submitted by R. Thrall. Term limited last September. Looking to outsource bookkeeping. CHP Grant covers \$500 monthly stipend. Donegal Chapter is outsourcing bookkeeping, currently looking for a new firm. Completed an RFP with several firms and have selected a new firm. Staff have an option to use QuickBooks and a firm to audit. Donegal pays \$830 per month for service. R. Thrall would like to do an RFP and have a review committee to investigate firms for bookkeeping and review. Treasurer would be more traditional oversight position. Cloud based QuickBooks is less expensive than current desktop version. B. Neu said outsourcing provides cover for staff turnover and assurance of skills. L. Lichvar, B. Neu, R. Thrall, T. Burns and E. Lewis volunteered to assist. Russ motioned to start committee, approved.

**Motion to start committee by R. Thrall. Approved.*

Regional VP Reports:

Northcentral (G. Parzanese) – No questions from chapters. Lloyd Wilson did not report. Two activity reports pending.

Northeast (T. Burns) – No issues to report. Activity reports are coming in. TIC reminders sent. Schuylkill reporting is to be addressed. Warehouses in area continue to create issues.

Northwest (A. Capotis) – Report submitted.

Southeast (D. Druckenmiller) – Five of 7 activity reports received. Lots of TIC releases planned. Valley Forge pursuing grant for Crabby Creek.

Southwest (B. Mathie) – Reports submitted.

Southcentral (J. Daniels) – TIC going well.

Fundraising activities ongoing. Tree nursery opened. In communication with chapter presidents.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trout Policy Committee: Submitted by D. Rothrock. Attending fisheries meetings and meeting with PFBC staff. Meeting with Commissioners on deck. Need to keep stocking at the forefront of discussion including stocking authorization process. Thirty-three states already have this. Second year of stocking notification process data needs analysis. Staff indicate lower than expected notifications. Freeman Run has pressure to stock in this Class A stream. Data indicates that freestone streams respond well to stocking cessation. We need additional participation in PFBC public comment submissions. Send info and dates to S. Sharif for blast on social media. Investigating PATU video explaining value of wild fish. More information to be provided after Commission mtg.

Development Committee: Submitted by B. Neu with an amendment. Good progress with new system. Thank you to E. Null and S. Sharif around communication. Hearing we need a customer relationship management system to handle donors. There are CRM systems for non-profit organizations that have a cost, but we may be at a point where we need to consider acquisition. Currently looking at full-functionality CRM systems and will provide recommendations. Annual Appeal brought in \$41,000.

Conservation Committee: Submitted by B. Wagner. Forever Wild going to a grant round as a change. Will be communicated to chapters. Regional meeting follow-up coming soon regarding preserving public lands. Asking for an Advocacy Chair leader. Attended two session at regional meeting. Tire compound toxic influence on salmonids. Lingered hemlock with resistance to disease, will collect seeds from these to see if resistant trees can be grown. House Bill 866 regarding road salt, asking for PATU support for best practice management plan. Bill is asking for study and creation of a BPM plan. Recommends backing Valley Forge Chapter in support of this bill.

**Motion to for PATU to support Bill 866 by T. Burns. Approved.*

NLC Committee: Submitted by R. Collins.

Communications Committee: Submitted by B. Isles. May 6 is newsletter deadline.

Delaware River Committee: Submitted by J. Skelding. E. Lewis made comments.

Membership Committee: Submitted by J. Miller.

Women/Diversity Committee: Submitted by A. Daniel. J. Sittler commented. Women's Retreat funding is secured; expecting approximately 50 participants.

Youth Education Committee: Submitted by J. Sittler. STREAM Keepers program is off to a slower start. Kids waders are available via Spring Creek Chapter.

NEW BUSINESS

National TU Mid Atlantic Organizer Position: L. Lichvar. Position eliminated due to funding reduction.

Meetings with National TU staff in PA: S. Koser. Project schedule distributed. Contacting chapters when projects are in their neighborhood. Will email schedule. Federal funding has continued except for US Forest Service. Available for assistance on Coldwater and Priority projects. UDR Project Manager position is currently open for applicants. Will share when hiring is complete and looking for input.

Outdoor Show Participation: L. Lichvar. Should we participate in Lancaster Show next year from March 14-15? Positive reception at the event. Significant literature distribution.

**Motion to attend by G. Malaska. Approved.*

Annual Meeting 2025: L. Lichvar will distribute email to cover this. Looking at Godspeed location.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

TU National Meeting: J. Sittler. Meeting is every other year and this year it was canceled due to funding freeze.

Annual Activity Reports: R. Thrall. Please work on and submit annual activity reports. Chapter rechartering process happens this year. RVPs need to make recommendations. B. Wagner to distribute criteria to RVPs for review in May.

Next EXCOM meeting date: July 13, 2025.

Executive Meeting – Attendees: L. Lichvar, G. Malaska, E. Lewis, R. Collins, D. Druckenmiller, J. Daniels, T. Burns, G. Parzanese.

Motion to adjourn at 2:36 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Erick Lewis – Secretary*

PA Council Award nominations are due by Aug. 31

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited will present its annual awards during the fall meeting.

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, 2025**.

An online nomination form is available on the PATU website at patrout.org.

Forms may be emailed to Judi Sittler at jlsittler@comcast.net or mailed to her at PATU P.O. Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823. Please note: nominations for Best Newsletter and Best Chapter website (described below) should be sent to Brad Isles at bisles@live.com. Below is a brief description of each award with eligibility criteria when applicable:

- **Chapter with greatest membership increase** – Nominations not accepted; Recipient determined based on data collected from National TU.
- **Chapter with greatest percentage increase in membership** – Nominations not accepted; Recipient determined based on data collected from National TU.
- **Edward Urbas Award for Best PA Chapter** – This award is given to the chapter that best exemplifies the work of TU, including involvement in conservation efforts, community activities, outreach, youth activities, etc.
- **Best 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.
- **Best Small Chapter Award** – The same criteria used in the Edward Urbas Award will applied to this award, but it is limited to chapters with 150 or fewer members.
- **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 Contribution to PATU's Conservation Mission** – 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.

- **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.
- **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.
- **Diversity Award** – This award recognizes a chapter that shows diversity among the members in the chapter. It is important that chapters ensure that youth, women, and men take an active part in TU chapters. This ensures that TU chapters are able to carry on and it allows experienced chapter members to cultivate knowledge to new members. But it is also important that all members bring a voice to the chapter to ensure forward momentum.

Submission Criteria:

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

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

- **Best Chapter Website Award** – 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.

Fill out, clip and except where otherwise indicated mail this nomination form to: Judi Sittler, c/o PATU P.O. Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823. You may also download it from www.patrou.org and mail to the same address. Scanned submissions can be emailed to jlsittler@comcast.net. The deadline for nominations is **August 31, 2025**.

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

Check One: _____ Edward Urbas Award for Best PA Chapter _____ Samuel Slaymaker Award for Best Newsletter

*Send copies of at least three recent issues
by email to Brad Isles at bisles@live.com*

Doc Fritchey Award for Outstanding
Coldwater Conservationist, TU Member

Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist
Award, Professional

Outstanding Volunteer Award

Person who contributes 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.

Diversity Award

For a chapter that shows diversity among its membership.

Best Chapter Website Award

*Send nomination to Brad Isles at
bisles@live.com.*

[illegible]

(Continue on a separate page if necessary.)

Update: PFBC proposal for revisions to policy and operational guidelines for stocking Class A stream sections, and more

By Dave Rothrock
Trout Policy Committee Chair

At the April PFBC Commissioners' meeting in Harrisburg, the proposed policy and operational guidelines for stocking, considering, and approving exemptions to stocking Class A stream sections was presented to the Board of Commissioners by staff.

As I read through the information presented on the screen it appeared that there had been some changes from what was done so previously. While this was presented, in part, to eliminate confusion, it was my position that the language offered was more confusing than what was presented previously. While these guidelines are significant I've been informed that they can be changed without having to go through the "hoops" required for a change in policy.

There was some lively discussion among the commissioners regarding both the operational guidelines, as well as the policy change allowing for the executive director to be granted authority to rule on requests for exemption to stock a Class A stream section.

It was good to hear that some

commissioners feel that this process should remain with the commissioners to ensure transparency. However, it did not appear that there was sufficient resistance to deter the proposal from moving forward.

As expected, there was a motion to accept, a second to move forward with the proposal, and then the call for discussion. Surprises come in a form and at a time when least expected. That's why they're surprises.

The surprise was when the president of the commissioners voiced concern about the proposal and suggested the need for further discussion among commissioners. He then moved to table the proposal, which quickly received a second, and all

of the commissioners voted in favor.

While the tabling of this proposal was a surprise, there's no way to tell what the final outcome may be. Certainly, PATU's position opposing all stockings of Class A stream sections remains.

Studies reveal that stocking over wild trout populations negatively impacts the wild trout populations. This is especially true of wild trout populations in the more fragile mountain freestone streams.

I would encourage anyone interested in learning more to "tune in" to the next PFBC Fisheries and Hatcheries Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 8 at 10 a.m.



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www.littlejuniata.net
or email bjuniata@verizon.net



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To order your Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited PA state license plate, send your name, TU membership number and current PA license plate number by email to 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.



4TH ANNUAL
PVTU SUMMER
Picnic

L Saturday, June 21, 2025
09.00 AM-3.00 PM

Location Longacre's Meadow
1387 ROUTE 100, BARTO

**OFF THE HOOK
TICKET
RAFFLES PRIZES**

Pig Roast

Casting Competition

**TROUT UNLIMITED
PERKIOMEN
VALLEY CHAPTER**



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 | | \$18.50 | \$1.11 | \$19.61 | |
| | PATU Ballcap (circle) Khaki Olive | | \$21.00 | None | \$21.00 | |
| | PATU Ballcap – Digital Camo | | \$24.00 | None | \$24.00 | |
| 3 | Men's PATU T-shirt (circle size) S M L XL | | \$24.00 | None | \$24.00 | |
| | Men's PATU T-shirt (circle size) 2XL | | \$27.00 | None | \$27.00 | |
| | Men's PATU T-shirt (circle size) 3XL | | \$29.00 | None | \$29.00 | |
| | Custom-tied Leaders | | | | | |
| | Dry Fly – 4X Tippet | | \$7.00 | \$0.42 | \$7.42 | |
| | Dry Fly – 5X Tippet | | \$7.00 | \$0.42 | \$7.42 | |
| | Dry Fly – 6X Tippet | | \$7.00 | \$0.42 | \$7.42 | |
| | Wet Fly – 4X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers | | \$7.00 | \$0.42 | \$7.42 | |
| | Wet Fly – 5X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers | | \$7.00 | \$0.42 | \$7.42 | |
| | Wet Fly – 5X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers | | \$7.00 | \$0.42 | \$7.42 | |
| | Euro Nymphing Leader –30 ft. | | \$12.00 | \$0.72 | \$12.72 | |
| | "Euro Nymphing" Book | | \$34.95 | \$2.10 | \$37.05 | |
| | "Pocketguide to PA Hatches" Book | | \$22.95 | \$1.38 | \$24.33 | |
| | "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 | |
| | "Brookie" Fly Reel 3/4 wt. | | \$46.50 | \$2.79 | \$49.29 | |
| | "Brookie" Fly Reel 5/6 wt. | | \$49.50 | \$2.97 | \$52.47 | |
| | "Back the Brookie" Refrigerator Magnet | | \$3.50 | \$0.21 | \$3.71 | |
| | PATU Sticker | | \$1.50 | \$0.09 | \$1.59 | |
| * Prices effective May 13, 2025 | | | Total: | | | |



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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 held its 2025 banquet on March 28 at the Shawnee Inn in Shawnee on the Delaware. We are planning several invasive plant removal, riparian buffer planting, and maintenance work days this spring and summer. We are also continuing habitat improvement work in Yankee Run near Mount Pocono. Our Introduction to Fly-Tying course was held in January and February. Chapter Treasurer John Smith started a weekly fly-tying demonstration program at local libraries as part of a new outreach program. We held an Introduction to Fly-Fishing course in March. We hosted a STREAM Girls event for a local Girl Scout troop in May, and the chapter is working with a local Scouting America Troop comprised of girls to conduct a fishing and fly-fishing merit badge weekend in September. An Introduction to Fly-Fishing class at BCHC is June 23. Our tree committee meets June 23 and we're holding a stream improvement workday on Yankee Run on June 28.

Forks of the Delaware Chapter #482

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

The chapter nominated Rich Budihas for a director position with Northampton County Conservation District. Our end-of-year Annual Appeal was a success. Nate Pritchard presented "The Hole Story – Karst Issues in the Lehigh Valley" at our January meeting. The chapter is following and

reviewing several unique development proposals along Bushkill Creek. Part of our strategic plan is to provide fishing education to our members, so Director Bruce McCutcheon is providing a monthly fishing blurb to membership through our Constant Contact. Nazareth, Wind Gap and Bangor middle schools had TIC programs for the 2024-2025 school year. We are in the process of adding another for 2026 at the Kenneth N. Butz Jr. Elementary School in Bushkill Township. Our Adopt A Highway cleanup was held in April. Our Bugs & Dogs picnic was held in May.

Hokendauqua Chapter #535

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

We supported five TIC programs in the area this year. Our eight-week fly-tying course concluded at the end of February. We also continued our monthly "Ties and Lies," a casual evening where we meet to tie flies and share techniques and instruct new tyers. The chapter hosted a casting clinic in May. We've had several speakers at our monthly meeting to share their knowledge of fly-fishing.

Lackawanna Valley Chapter #414

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

No report.

Monocacy Chapter #491

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

The chapter hosted a screening of the Fly-Fishing Film Tour in March, which represents a significant fundraising opportunity for the chapter and demonstrates the power of local partnerships to highlight the work of TU and our partner, ArtsQuest. Our Fishing the Evening Hatch event was held in May at Illick's Mill Park, Bethlehem.

Pike-Wayne Chapter #462

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

The chapter's annual banquet was in April at Lukan's Farm and Resort. We planned a STREAM Keepers activity with Pike and Wayne County conservation districts in May at Carlton Drake Memorial Park in Newfoundland, PA. TIC eggs were delivered to Western Wayne. The instructor used wastewater from the fish tank to grow vegetables. The trout were released at Varden Conservation Area in May. Lacawac Sanctuary demonstrated water quality. DCNR offered fish identification, while WPTU gave fly-casting demonstrations, and talked about TU.

Schuylkill County Chapter #537

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

No report.

Shehawken Chapter #81

Steven Mongiardo
mongiardo1@comcast.net, 609-304-5868
<https://www.facebook.com/Shehawken-Trout-Unlimited-811023349070239/>

No report.

Stanley Cooper, Sr. Chapter #251

Joseph Simons
570-592-1480, mind3d@aol.com
www.sctu.org

Our 32nd annual Conservation Banquet was March 29. We supported EPCAMR – Eastern Pennsylvania Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation and TIC at Bear Creek Charter School. We have been approved for a Coldwater Heritage grant for Bowmans Creek. Recent speakers were Henry Ramsay with "Early Season PA Hatches," Rick Nyles on fishing Penns Creek, Sean Witman with "Streamer Fishing on the Delaware," Peter Petokas on "Ecology and Conservation of the Eastern Hellbender Salamander," Don Baylor on "Trout Stream Ecology," and Joseph Simons on "Wild Trout Man: the Art, Science, Adventure and Zen Experience of Fly-Fishing for Wild Trout in Class A Streams." Our Penns Creek Camping/Fishing trip at Poe Paddy Campground was May 2-4, and our woman's fly-fishing camp was May 31 at Frances Slocum State Park. Upcoming is our Adult Fly-Fishing Camp at Frances Slocum State Park, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on June 21.

Western Pocono Chapter #203

Janet Schmitt
jreichel@ptd.net
www.tu.org/chapters/pennsylvania/western-pocono

Founding WPTU chapter member John Kanayak, passed away. The chapter started in John's kitchen in Weatherly in 1973. Ray Youngblood, original founding chapter president, recalled the beginning and origins of the chapter with John, who was a quiet, old-school, gentlemanly small-stream trout fisherman. He also fished the Lehigh River and enjoyed traveling to the Catskills where he and his wife Janice occupied a cabin near the Beavertkill. The second annual Trout Literature Night was held at White Haven Library in February. Don Baylor introduced his new book on his early trout fishing experiences as a youth and later during his career as biologist, author, artist, guide, and trout fishermen. WPTU held its second annual round table discussion with panelists from LOVE Kidder, Lehigh Coldwater Fishery Alliance, Lehigh River Stocking Association,

North Pocono CARE, Brodhead TU and Pocono Heritage Land Trust in March. Topics included Lehigh River flow plans and the future of possible FEW Dam projects and the effects on river trout habitat. The proliferation of many warehouse distribution centers and rampant development created by these projects throughout the Poconos was discussed. To highlight the rich trout resources that the Lehigh and all Pocono waters possess, several small but effective electronic billboard signs were posted in the town of White Haven near the Lehigh River and other Pocono trout waters for the opening day of trout season. The 3rd annual White Haven Trout Festival hosted by the chapter was June 7. Various conservation groups, TU chapters, numerous fly shops, outfitters, river guides, artists, crafters along with PFBC, Pennsylvania Game Commission, and local state parks participated. Historical bike hikes and nature hikes were held along the Delaware and Lehigh Heritage Corridor Trail.

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

www.facebook.com/troutunlimitedcolumbiacounty

Our annual banquet was in March at Lightstreet Hotel. We held a litter clean-up at Kocher Park in Lightstreet, in coordination with Commonwealth University's "Big Event" in April. CCTU supported TIC for Benton Area School District. Our spring fishing trip to Muncy and Loyalsock Creek was in April. The CCTU spring fishing trip to Penns Creek was May 10. The CCTU Trout Rodeo at Lightstreet Community Fire Company Carnival Grounds, Bloomsburg, was also in May. The chapter's summer fishing trip to the Upper Delaware River, Deposit, NY, is June 20-22.

God's Country Chapter #327

David Saulter

814-274-9763, saulterdg@yahoo.com

Our annual Project Healing Waters fly-fishing event was held in May. The chapter made several donations to other conservation-related efforts and organizations. We continue to work with and support the Northern Potter High School Fly-Fishing Club. We are in the planning stages of rehabilitating and expanding upon a habitat improvement project on the Allegheny River that was completed in the early 2000s. Chapter members inspected our 2022 tree planting project along the Allegheny River and were excited to see a 50-60% success rate among the plantings. We are preparing for multiple youth and women's fishing activities taking place through August.

Lloyd Wilson Chapter #224

Bill Bailey

570-295-7210, wbailey@comcast.net

www.lwtu.org

No report.

Penns Creek Chapter #119

Kevin Lutz

PennscreekTU@gmail.com

www.pennscreektu.org

Chapter members assisted with the food and egg packaging for the TIC program. We held fly-tying classes at Juniata Jr. High School, one in January and one in February. We also held a fly-tying class at Little Buffalo State Park. The chapter made donations to PATU, to two TIC programs to assist with their releases, and in support of the annual Women's Mentor Retreat held in Port Matilda. Our annual banquet was held in February, with Dave Rothrock as our program speaker. The chapter has nine TIC programs within Mifflin and Juniata County. George Daniel spoke at our March 2025 meeting.

R.B. Winter Chapter #124

Rod Jones

570-259-7205, flyrodjones@gmail.com

facebook.com/RBWinterTroutUnlimitedChapter

Under the direction of Rick Kintzer and with the support of many dedicated volunteers, our beginner fly-tying classes ran from Jan. 20 through March 3. The program focused on building foundational skills, with each session dedicated to applying those techniques to a single fly pattern. Following the beginner sessions, an intermediate class was held, organized by Dr. William Snyder. He assembled a team of instructors who shared some of their most effective patterns. Each session covered multiple patterns, and participants not only filled their fly boxes but also walked away with some valuable insider knowledge. Our annual conservation banquet on March 8 was a great success, highlighted by an engaging

presentation from George Daniel. The evening began with Dave Rothrock as our emcee. Dave, a respected figure in the fly-fishing community, introduced George, whom he had mentored earlier in his career. Their connection added a personal touch to the event, showcasing the tradition of passing down knowledge and passion for fly-fishing. George's presentation covered the current program at Penn State University as well as the history and impact of the program. The winner of the grand prize of an Orvis 9-foot, 4-weight Helios fly-rod was Ben Wetzel. Thanks to Bruce Fisher of Penns Creek Angler for his generous donation of the rod. Todd Boop was honored as the recipient of the Warren Wolfe Conservation Award. The traveling rod recipient was Tim Hummel. Many thanks to our other sponsors for providing gifts for the raffle.

Spring Creek Chapter #185

Tim Bruggeman

412-807-992, tjbruggeman88@gmail.com

www.springcreektu.org

Three members received awards at our annual banquet, including Jamie John Graham who won the Order of the Sulphur Award, Fran Stevenson who won the Phillips-Brenchley Award, and Sima Bruggeman who won the Brookie of the Year Award. Seventeen contestants participated in our Chopped Fly-Tying Contest at the Happy Valley Brewing Company in February. In March, the chapter hosted its 52nd annual banquet at the Mt. View Country Club in Boalsburg. There is growing uncertainty about whether planned work at Millbrook Marsh can proceed as scheduled this summer due to the challenges within federal agencies, including the local US Fish & Wildlife office, which play a critical role in supporting such projects. ClearWater Conservancy's president is gathering letters of support for a new conservation preserve that would make public a three-quarter-mile section of Half Moon Creek for fishing. We sent ClearWater a signed letter of support. In February and March, the chapter hosted Fly-Fishing 101 classes, along with beginner and intermediate fly-tying sessions. Our youth education volunteers took part in the State College YMCA Healthy Kids Day on March 29. Spring Creek Chapter Women Anglers attended an afternoon social at Nancy Noll's Queen B&B in January. In February, the 15th annual Joe Humphreys Film Fest was held at the YMCA. Attendees reminisced about Joe's stream outings through YouTube videos, shared fond memories of WA founders' gatherings, and learned his signature figure-eight bow cast technique. Several practiced casting with Joe Humphreys. In March, WA focused on promoting events, including the Lancaster Fly Show and the chapter banquet, celebrating Fran Stevenson's receipt of the Al Philips/Jean Brenchley Mentoring Award. The chapter received \$43,000 for the Millbrook Marsh project. We are hoping to get

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\$30,000 from CAP for the second phase of the project this summer. SRBC grant applications were submitted for Joe Humphreys and the Vinyl King grants. In January, Richard Novak presented on endangered species in Pennsylvania. He shed light on the devastating impact of white-nose syndrome on bats, revealed the fascinating way some female mussels mimic small fish to help disperse their offspring, and shared practical steps for protecting endangered turtles in the state. In collaboration with ClearWater Conservancy's Watershed Cleanup Day, the chapter held its annual Spring Creek cleanup on April 12. On April 10, the chapter presented the 19th annual Fly-Fishing Film Tour at the State Theatre in State College. Dennis Charney from Flyfisher's Paradise hosted a live cicada fly-tying demonstration on May 1 at the Comfort Suites near Penn State. Centre Gives, Centre Foundation's 36-hour online giving event, was May 14-15. Our annual Family Fishing Picnic was June 1 at Tussey Mountain. Visit www.spring-creektu.org for information on upcoming events.

Susquehanna Chapter #044

Steve Martin

sam667@verizon.net

www.susquehannatu.com

Board member Mike Ditchfield accepted an invitation to represent SCTU on the Lycoming County Flood Hazard Mitigation Team. The chapter received donations of fishing and hunting gear from Mrs. Deirdre Unger of Rockville, MD (delivered by Ned Dietrick and son) and Jerry Walls of Montoursville. We held a successful Fishing Flea Market fundraiser on March 22. Eric Hussar, PFBC Commissioner for the 5th District, said at our chapter meeting on March 12

that the October 2024 PFBC meeting testimony that was provided by PATU and SCTU was very well received, and that he has never seen a group come in more prepared and present more professionally. He expressed his deep thanks to Walt Nicholson and Dave Walters from our chapter and other TU representatives who attended the meeting and provided testimony. We continue to monitor and comment on the proposed "Stream Cleaning Bill" and other legislative activities, as appropriate. Dr. Benjamin Hayes, director of the Watershed Sciences and Engineering program at Bucknell University, presented a comprehensive program about the legacy impacts of the "Lumber Era" and sustainable alternative flood mitigation strategies to reduce storm water impacts and improve stream habitat, at our January meeting. We completed a six-session fly-tying course in January and February. At our March meeting, John Arway gave an inspiring program about his remarkable 30-year career with PFBC, beginning as a fisheries biologist and culminating as the executive director from 2010-2018. Eric Hussar and WCO Hunter Shoemaker then provided updates about PFBC policies and activities. The chapter sponsored the Hughesville High School Fly-Fishing Club to become an official TU Youth Fly-Fishing Club. Charlie Knowlden conducted a raffle to benefit our Service Partnership. Proceeds will be used for fly-tying equipment and supplies, rod building supplies, and outings for the veterans and first responders in our program. Matthew Wilson, director of the Freshwater Institute at Susquehanna University, presented "Beavers and Brook Trout" at our April meeting.

Tiadaghton Chapter #688

Jere White

570-662-2167, whitesgordonsetters@gmail.com

www.tiadaghtontu.com

The chapter collected macroinvertebrates from three sites for our ongoing survey on Long Run near Gaines, PA in April. We will also be doing fish surveys later in June. The surveys are being done in conjunction with Kathleen Lavelle and crew from TU National as part of our multiyear study and in-stream projects conducted on Long Run. TU will be planting trees in riparian zones along tributaries in the Pine Creek watershed. We will be planting another 3,000 trees, putting our five-year total over 20,000 trees. The chapter co-hosted the North Central Conservation Fair in March, in conjunction with the Tioga County Conservation District. Speakers included Ben Hays from Bucknell University, Emily Shosh from DCNR, Scott Koser from TU National in Lock Haven, Renee Cary from the North Central Pennsylvania Conservancy, and Jim Weaver from the Tiadaghton Chapter. Members had an info booth at Nessmuk's Spring Festival in Morris, PA in April. Chapter meetings are at 7 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month except July and August at 1867 Shumway Hill Road, Wellsboro, PA 16901.

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

Our fly-tying roundtable was held at Penn State DuBois, and we also held a beginners fly-tying class. Our January meeting featured Jacob Smith, who presented on what has been done in the Mosquito Creek watershed so far to mitigate the negative impacts of acid precipitation on both the fish and macro populations of this once famous watershed. We approved letters of support to both the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy and Elk County Conservation District in securing grants to complete an assessment on the Medix Run watershed. We attended an informational meeting for a proposal from Rosebud Mining on expanding their deep mine into Sandy Township. Our March meeting featured Eric Null, executive director of PATU. We took the DuBois Area Middle School Fly-Fishing Club on its annual outing in May. Our annual Environmental Day was held in May at Camp Mountain Run. Our spring cleanup at the Tannery Dam was held in April. In addition to sending students to the Wildlife Leadership Academy and the Rivers Conservation Camp we also made donations to the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Brockway FFA, Toby Creek Watershed, and Kettle Creek Watershed Association. Some of the area's best fly-tyers were showcased during an event at Jim's Sports Center in Clearfield in March.

Caldwell Creek Chapter #437

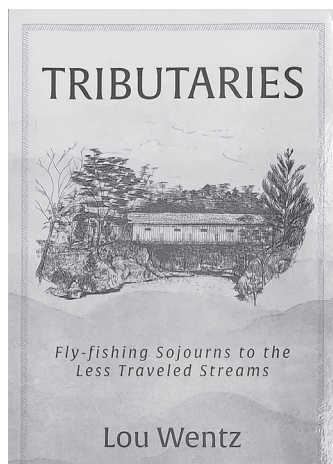
Tom Savko

814-664-2124, tksavko2@verizon.net

www.facebook.com/CaldwellCreekTU437

No report.

www.patROUT.org



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Visit www.coastforkpress.com

Cornplanter Chapter #526

Scott Dyke

814-706-3049, scott@joneschevrolet.com

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

No report.

Iron Furnace Chapter #288

Justin Barrett

justinbarrett16@yahoo.com

www.ironfurnacetu.net

Nothing to report.

James Zwald Chapter #314

Jude Schlimm

A West Creek AMD bid meeting was proposed for April. This project aims to remedy AMD sources in headwater sections located in Elk County. Funding has been secured for fish habitat improvement in the Silver Creek section that flows through Johnsonburg Park. We completed our six-week basic fly-tying program at the Ridgway Library. We visited Fox Township Elementary School in April to see and hear firsthand from some of their TIC teachers. We held a women's Learn to Fish event in May at Bendigo State Park. Grants to support building a fishing pier at Johnsonburg Park were submitted in April.

Neshannock Creek #216

Matt Ceremuga

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

www.neshannock-tu.org

Our banquet was March 22 and was a great success with plenty of corporate, and individual sponsors. General trail maintenance was completed at the Coolspring DHALO area in March. We are in constant contact with several schools that have TIC programs and support them when needed. Local Girl Scouts helped us stock fish in Sandy Creek on April 28. Our next meeting is Aug. 25 at Neshannock Creek Fly Shop.

Northwest PA Chapter #41

Jim Head

bsidejimmy@gmail.com

<http://nwpatrout.org>

We held a joint membership meeting with the Pennsylvania Steelhead Association in January. This yearly meeting allows members of both organizations to be better informed regarding upcoming events and projects where members of both groups can become involved. Tony Sobina gave an inspirational talk regarding his quest to fish each day since he retired a few years ago at our February meeting. Our IF4 Fundraiser at the Tom Ridge Environmental Center in Erie was in March. We also held our first TU Tuesday at 6 Pack House of Beer. We plan to continue this

event on the last Tuesday of upcoming months. Members had the opportunity to participate in a cleanup of Erie's lower eastside in partnership with Erie Insurance and Penn State Master Watershed Stewards.

Oil Creek Chapter #424

Jennifer Lyons

814-671-1292, lyons3876@gmail.com

www.oilcreektu.org

Gary Ross, past president, director emeritus, and good friend passed away on Feb. 20. He served as chapter president for 10 years and was a founder of our Veterans Service Program. He was a highly skilled fly-tyer and taught tying and fly-casting to many school students. He was very actively involved in our TIC program for many years as well as many of our stream improvement and habitat projects. Donations in memory of Gary can be made to the Oil Creek Chapter of TU. Our annual banquet is planned for Sept. 6. Several of our members have been involved in acquiring items for the banquet. The chapter continues to work with the Venango Conservation District. There is a Growing Greener grant for the East Branch of Sugar Creek, off Davis Road. It is tied in with Dirt & Gravel Roads. The District is working with PFBC on a fish habitat improvement project on Sandy Creek near Seneca Hills Bible Camp. WCO Mark Kerr has retired, Noah Grice is the new WCO for Venango County. TIC classes were doing well as last reported. We obtained three extra freshwater filters for anyone who needs them. Project Healing Waters held an event on April 16 at the Sandy Creek Conservancy. The Oil Creek Classic trout tournament was planned for May 9-10. Community Day was May 9. The keynote on Friday was John W. Knight, and brought people to the Ed Byers Conference Center. There was fly-tying and casting for people to try. Our next meeting is Sept. 17 at King's Restaurant – Franklin.

Seneca Chapter #272

Dominic Petrucci

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

215-262-1441, dougmcabe74@gmail.com

www.buckstu.org

BucksTU has been making progress with Solebury Township on finalizing the scope of work for the restoration of Aquetong Creek as well as identification of the project budget. This project might be the only one in the county where native brook trout were successfully transplanted into a stream that hadn't had wild trout for over 150 years. There has been some damage observed at our Watson Creek project and we need to make a more complete assessment to determine if repair work is necessary. BCTU supported three TIC projects, the newest one being at the Bucks County Youth Center. We are working to add an additional school to the program for 2025-26. The chapter is preparing an application for a Growing Greener grant for restoration work on Aquetong Creek. Speakers at chapter meetings have included Dr. Erik Silldorf from Delaware River Keepers, Henry Ramsey on "Early Season Hatches" and Jeff Neamand on "Practical Nymphing." Our chapter picnic was in June at Aquetong Creek Park.

Delco Manning Chapter #320

Charles Lesky

charlesleskyjr@gmail.com

www.dmtu.org

No report.

Little Lehigh Chapter #070

Dan Dow

ddow23@gmail.com

www.lltu.org

No report.

Perkiomen Valley #332

Bryan Fulop

bryanfulop@yahoo.com

www.pvtu332.org

The chapter held a stream cleanup on West Branch Perkiomen Creek in March. We also completed live staking along Perkiomen Creek in Camelot Park and tree planting at Longacres Farm on West Branch Perkiomen Creek in March. We planned water quality testing in April tree maintenance for April and May. We had four TIC release days with five schools in May.

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SE Montgomery County Chapter #468

Richard Terry

215-675-1536, rtroadrash@msn.com
semontco.tu.org

The chapter held a spring stocking on the Pennypack that flows within the Pennypack Trust. A flea market was part of the March meeting. Beginners and advanced tying classes were held on Tuesday nights in February. Our nine TIC programs went well, as did the releases.

Tulpehocken Chapter #150

President: Mike McLaughlin

610-207-7994, mikemclaughlin11@gmail.com
www.tullytu.org

The chapter is helping with the Berks County Conservation District's Cacoosing Creek Restoration Project, a section that is downstream of a previous Superfund cleanup site. Expectations are for work to begin in August. TCTU coordinated with Tulpehocken Creek Watershed Association for a monofilament cleanup along the Tulpehocken in March as a result of two great horned owls being entangled and succumbing to their injuries. TCTU held a Tulpehocken Creek streambank trash cleanup and brush clearing in coordination with Berks County Parks & Recreation in May. We submitted a proposal to PFBC and Blue Marsh US Army Corps of Engineers to collaborate and promote maximization of coldwater outflow from Blue Marsh Reservoir and reduce low flow conditions in late summer/early fall. The proposal by Tully TU is asking USACE to do a study to "optimize downstream conditions by reducing the duration of low flows." An initial response was received and was not favorable; TCTU is responding with further supporting hydrology study data to appeal the initial negative response. Next steps will be an in-person meeting with PFBC and USACE to discuss the next steps to reach a resolution. The chapter provides classroom support with 31 TIC classrooms. TCTU is planning a TIC learning event for teachers combined with a "Fish the Tully with a Buddy" event tentatively planned for June 22 at the Tully House. Topics include macroinvertebrate collection techniques, tools, and use for stream evaluation, water testing – total dissolved solids, pH, conductivity, temperature and suggestions for tools to do it with students and hands-on training. The chapter's annual casting competition is tentatively scheduled for July 16. We are hosting George Daniel for his "Evolution of Fly-Fishing" presentation at 6 p.m. on Nov. 14 at Berks Nature Rookery.

Valley Forge Chapter #290

James Leonard

610-793-1706, jamesmleonard@hotmail.com
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

Jonathan Daniels

1040 Myerstown Road
Gardners, PA 17324

Email: jonboar@aol.com

Adams County Chapter #323

Frank Kozak

fmkkozak@gmail.com
www.adamscountytu.org

Phase I of the Conewago Creek Restoration Project was completed last year. Work started at the upper end of the CROFFO section of the creek and continued downstream to the junction with the new access parking lot. A grant for Phase II has been approved for 2025, which will restore trout habitat on the remainder of the CROFFO section this summer. The chapter received more than \$5,000 in donations during the Adams County Community Foundation Giving Spree.

Codorus Chapter #558

Bob Daviau

717-817-6374, bob.daviau@gmail.com
www.codorustu.org

The chapter supports five TIC programs. We submitted an application for a Growing Greener grant to continue efforts to improve the warm water branch of Codorus Creek. Neil Sunday presented "A Year on the Breeches" with hatch information, access areas, setups, water considerations and favorite flies. We held open fly-tying in January and chapter meetings in February and April at Porters Fire Company.

Cumberland Valley Chapter #052

John Zazworsky

717-805-8234, johnzaz83@gmail.com
www.pacvtu.org

We held our first Veterans/First Responder Service Partnership program, and we will continue to build on it in the future. Our annual banquet was held in April. For the second year, we planned an all-day team fishing event followed by the ban-

quet in the evening. We are seeking areas along the Yellow Breeches for our next stream project. We are monitoring American Rivers efforts to remove two dams along the Yellow Breeches: one in Brandtsville that may be removed in 2025, and one in New Cumberland. Our beginner and intermediate fly-tying courses ran at the Carlisle Stuart Community Center. A recent meeting speaker was member/guide Tom Baltz, who spoke about steelhead fishing on Lake Erie tributaries. Membership meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month except August & December at Mt. Zion Crossroad Church in Mt. Holly Springs.

Doc Fritchey Chapter #108

Rich DiStanislao

724-664-3122, rdistani@comcast.net
www.dftu.org

The chapter reviewed and updated our sponsor program, and the board reached out to current sponsors up for renewal. Our "Chapter Partner" program recognizes businesses and individuals that donate goods and/or services in lieu of monetary contributions. Russ Collins has been following up on projects and reviewing grants and new stream improvement projects in the DFTU footprint. The Quittapahilla Watershed Association's monitoring program continues. The goal is to measure the extent to which the restoration work in the watershed is having its intended effects. Weekly maintenance at the Rausch Creek Diversion Well continues on Mondays. The chapter sponsored three winter tying events in Harrisburg and Palmyra and an intermediate class in Harrisburg. A free tying event was held for all classes at the Palmyra Sportsmans Association in March. DFTU participated in the Lebanon County Clean Water Day sponsored by Penn State Extension. DFTU added two TIC schools this year. Recent speakers include Rick Nyles from Sky Blue Outfitters on "Fishing Penns Creek" and Ben John from Precision Fly Shop with "Erie Steelhead Fishing." The DFTU/Healing Waters Veterans Fishing outing was in April at the Ned Smith Center. We exhibited at the Wildwoods Festival in April.

Donegal Chapter #037

Claire Landis

president@donegaltu.org
www.donegaltu.org

Flyway successfully completed the \$217,000 Dellinger Run project despite a brief pause in federal funding. The Fishing Creek ARP 319 project completed the EPA's required 30-day comment period in March. DTU is awaiting approval for three additional 319 Conowingo WIP projects submitted last summer, and we continue to pursue projects in Donegal Creek and Conewago Creek. Members helped with the spring opening of the DTU/PSU tree nursery in March. Three new TIC programs will be introduced next year. DTU had a booth at the Lancaster Fly Show. Our VSP hosts

monthly fly-tying sessions at Precision Fly and Tackle with guest instructors, along with walk-and-wade outings.

Falling Spring Chapter #234

Took Coder

717-352-3989, hcoder115@comcast.net
www.facebook.com/fstu234/

We have a permit and signed contract to go forward with the stream restoration project on Falling Spring below Edwards Avenue. The project is scheduled for July/August. We also met with PFBC to begin the design of an additional project above Springview Drive on Falling Spring. We held a beginners fly-tying class. We participated in the Waynesboro Fish & Game Club Youth Day June 7 as well as two TIC events in April and May. Also in May, FSTU sponsored a Project Healing Waters event at the Isaak Walton picnic grounds. Our Falling Spring Road cleanup was April 26.

Muddy Creek Chapter #575

John Snyder

717-870-6111, jsnyder89@gmail.com
www.muddycreektu.org

Our 4th annual Walt Lister Memorial Cabin Fever fly-tying/fishing event was held in February at the Stewartstown American Legion in York County. This year's guest tyers were Tom Herr, Henry Ramsey, and Brad Ritter. More than 400 Trout Fund letters were mailed in late March to our chapter members and fishing enthusiasts throughout the Muddy Creek watershed. In May, MCTU sponsored its annual VisionCore event for visually challenged children and adults with disabilities at the fishing accessible location on Tom's Run located in our watershed. June 14 we are sponsoring a Women's Introduction to Fly-Fishing event. Work will begin to complete electrical upgrades to our nursery from a state grant applied for in 2024.

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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

Chad Hough

724-525-3033, grayco2014@gmail.com
www.arrowhead214tu.org

No report.

Chestnut Ridge Chapter #670

Ben Moyer

724-329-3772, bcmoyer@verizon.net
www.chestnutridgetu.org

CRTU participated with other southwest chapters Forbes Trail, Penns Wood West, and Mountain Laurel in the Laurel Highlands TU Priority Waters strategic planning process, led by PA Habitat Director Scott Koser. The team completed a planning document that will be National TU's blueprint for working with chapters to direct resources and expertise to coldwater conservation projects in

the Laurel Highlands region. We completed litter cleanups on Dunbar Creek in Fayette County and Pike Run in Washington County. Both are special regulation streams. This marked our 30th consecutive cleanup (excluding Covid in 2020) on Dunbar Creek one week prior to opening of trout season. It's our second annual cleanup on Pike Run. We held our annual banquet March 22 at Hugo's Restaurant, Brownsville, PA. At our March meeting we invited several of our partner organizations in the Laurel Highlands to attend a presentation by Doug Austen, former executive director of both PFBC and the American Fisheries Society, and by PATU's Eric Null. Austen and Null spoke on the harmful impacts of current federal policies on water quality, public lands, and fish and wildlife. Attendees were encouraged to contact congressmen and U.S. senators to express their concerns about these policies and the firings of staff from U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Natural Resource Conservation Service, and EPA. Our Co-op Nursery Committee distributed trout from our Youghiogheny Tailrace trout nursery to waters offering youth fishing experiences in the region.

Forbes Trail Chapter #206

Larry Myers

724-454-9345, myersld@comcast.net
www.forbestrailtu.org

Forbes Trail sponsored a regional chapter meeting for the initial discussion of developing a strategic plan for the Laurel Highlands Priority Waters Initiative. Discussion was led by TU's Scott Koser. We also sponsored a meeting with guest speakers from Carnegie Museum of Natural History and Powdermill Nature Reserve to share with us research findings on how climate change is impacting the Laurel Highlands, and mitigation actions we as individuals, and as a chapter, can take. In-classroom programs have been completed. Fishing with students on streams and local lake is underway. The chapter is holding a family picnic June 28 to celebrate our volunteers and another year of successful programing. We are treating the headwaters of Linn Run with limestone sand to restore the nursery waters for wild brook trout. Water quality sampling will continue quarterly.

Fort Bedford Chapter #291

Rylan Schnably

fbtu291@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/fortbedfordtu

No report.

John Kennedy Chapter #045

Lexi Trenger

814-312-8559, lexitrenger@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/johnkennedytu>

Permits are in place for three projects to start
Continued on next page...



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in 2025. The chapter completed three Bioblitz activities in partnership with the Blair County Conservation District at local high schools. Our part is to help the kids identify stream health and the macroinvertebrates that live in the stream. We also teach the students how to conduct a stream study. We attended a STEM night at PennMont Academy, a TIC school, in April. Four TIC schools held trout releases in April and May. Master tyer Kevin Compton presented at our April meeting. We held an Adopt a Highway cleanup on Plum Creek Road in May. Blair Women Take Aim was in May at Riggles Gap Sportsmen's Club, Altoona.

Ken Sink Chapter #053

Barrie Mann

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

Chapter member Dave Allbaugh presented his wet fly program in January. Our six-week "Intro to Fly-Tying/Fly-Fishing" class was held in January and February. We held our popular fly "Round Robin" featuring 24 tyers in February. The chapter's annual banquet was held in March. Tim Cammisa presented "Rising to the Occasion: Mastering Dry Flies and Emergers" at our April meeting. A litter cleanup and cookout was on Earth Day on the FFO section of Little Mahoning and the parking lot at Cessna Run. We assisted with Indiana Area School District Outdoor Day

field event with an entomology/fly-casting station in April. We hosted a women's only Introduction to Fly-Fishing class in early June. Our four TIC programs released fingerlings at the end of May.

Mountain Laurel Chapter #040

Dave Maher

**814-341-5422, dmahergdyr@gmail.com
www.mltu.org**

Our 2025 banquet was held in April at The Willow in Johnstown. Planning has started for stream improvement projects to be initiated this summer. The chapter held free fly-tying classes in January and February. The chapter supported numerous local school districts with their TIC endeavors, including Richland Elementary, Shade-Central City, Blacklick Valley, Divine Mercy, and Forest Hills. MLTU attended and presented at Nature Works at Bottle Works in Johnstown in March. We held a fly-tying demo at Bishop McCort Elementary School in April. We also held a cleanup along Paint Creek and Yellow Creek in April, and Clear Shade in May. The Windber Sportsmans Kids Rodeo was in early June.

Penn's Woods West Chapter #042

Nora Cline

www.pwwtu.org

The chapter's annual Cabin Fever was a great success. Vendors were very happy with the attendance and the increased number of vendors. Forty tyers donated to our annual Joe Kline Memorial

Fly Sale. Big Sewickley Creek is really the last coldwater stream left in Allegheny County and it connects to the Ohio River. Endangered species have been identified here and it is a focus stream for our chapter. We are working with the Big Sewickley Creek Watershed Association as well as the Allegheny Land Trust to execute on the watershed program over the coming years. PWWTU is working with Allegheny Land Trust in securing grants to upgrade sections of Big Sewickley Creek. The chapter participated in an outreach program with the Seneca Valley Fishing Club. Participants were taught to tie bugs that would be fruitful on their home waters. Our women's program kicked off in January. In February, there was an "Equipment, Flies and Tying" event followed by "Steelhead and Suckers" in March and Buffalo Creek in April. PWWTU held a free fly-fishing school in March. We participated in Seneca Valley's "Field Day" and AW Beattie Care Center's event "Out for Trout" where we taught fly-fishing and macroinvertebrates to students. Due to changes at Chatham University, the board has decided not to renew our scholarship funding and are pursuing other opportunities for providing support to a student for research. Chapter meeting speakers have included Ari Kapotis on "Steelhead Fishing in Erie" in February, James Hill with "Fishing the Clarion River" in March and Jack Barr with "Making Fishing Casts" in April. Our Bar Flies program is the fourth Monday of each month at Howard's Tavern.