

Pennsylvania TROUT



Fall 2013

Publication of the Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited

www.patrou.org

Unassessed Waters Initiative: Science and collaboration meet

Students assist survey efforts on state's wild streams

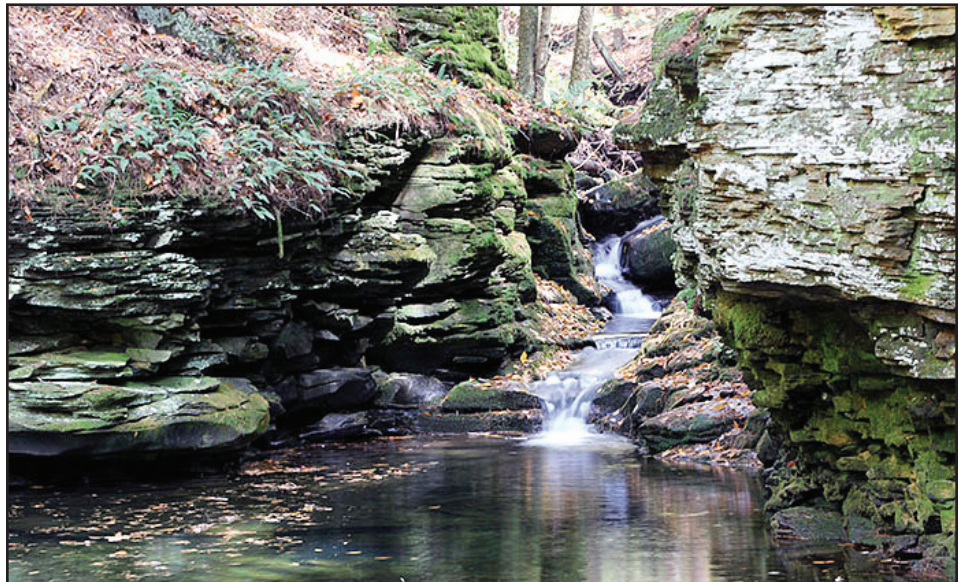
By Andy Turner
Special to PA Trout

The cornerstone for wise stewardship of our coldwater resources is a sound scientific understanding of those resources. We are currently faced with the challenge of managing the boom in drilling wells into the Marcellus Shale to withdraw natural gas, as drilling activities have the potential to degrade water quality.

A variety of state and federal laws give considerable protection to our aquatic resources, but a portion of these protections depend on the "designated use" of a waterway. In Pennsylvania, one important legal criterion in determining the designated use of a stream is the presence of wild trout. Simply put, under state law, streams that support wild trout populations are afforded additional regulatory protections.

The problem is that most small streams have not been surveyed and thus receive only the baseline level of protection. Assessing the fisheries of our streams is not easy, as there are more than 80,000 miles of

See **INITIATIVE**, page 7



Mark Nale Photo

Mine Hole Run, a Class A wild trout stream and tributary to Cedar Run, flows near heavy Marcellus Shale activity in the Pine Creek Valley.

A new perspective

TU tour gives closer look at Marcellus Shale activity in Pa.

By Mark Nale
Special to PA Trout

The sound and beauty of water cascading into a boulder-lined pool on Mine Hole Run, a Class A wild trout stream, was contrasted with the noise of a Marcellus Shale drilling rig and gas-related land disturbances almost everywhere one looked. The sad thing is that both of these sights and sounds were occurring on "our" state

forest land in the Pine Creek Valley.

As part of Trout Unlimited's media outreach programs, on Oct. 5-6, National TU hosted six members of the outdoor press in Slate Run, Lycoming County. One attended from New York, one from western Maryland and four from Pennsylvania. They included writers and photographers, radio show hosts, bloggers and the publisher of the online *Hatch* magazine.

Trout Unlimited staff and hosts for the event included National Press Secretary Erin Mooney, Sportsmen Organizer Paula

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Pennsylvania TROUT

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PATU holds successful Fall Meeting

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited held its annual Fall Meeting on Sept. 21 at the Shavers Creek Community Building in Petersburg, Pa. The meeting kicked off with state and national updates from Council President Brian Wagner, followed by Bryan Moore, vice president of volunteer operations with Trout Unlimited.

Over 65 members were in attendance representing 31 chapters across the state.

Throughout the day, sessions were held on conservation and protection of our cold-water streams and updates on programs and initiatives from across the state.

Following the meeting portion of the event, PATU held its annual pig roast and awards ceremony. We had a great event and we thank everyone who attended and look forward to seeing you and others next year.

Next year's event is Sept. 12-14 at the Shaver's Creek Community Building.

We hope to add to the success of this year and provide a fun filled event for all TU members, consisting of seminars, informational sessions, fishing opportunities and other educational and recreational activities. This event is open to everyone and we encourage all to attend.

Award winners not pictured:

**Best Chapter Website
Penns Woods West**

**Greatest % Membership Increase
Seneca (35%)**



*Outstanding Coldwater
Conservationist (Professional)*
Kristina Heister



Outstanding Volunteer
Rick LaTourous



Best PA Chapter
Lackawanna Valley



*Outstanding Coldwater
Conservationist (TU Member)*
Mike Danko



Greatest Membership Increase
**Spring Creek
(65 members)**



Outstanding Youth Outreach
Larry Winey



Best Chapter Project
Stanley Cooper, Sr.



Best Small Chapter
God's Country



Best Chapter Newsletter
Brodhead

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Headwaters

A message from PATU President Brian Wagner

Where did the summer go? You may be asking yourself this same question.

Well, for me, part of it was spent attending several Trout Unlimited trainings and meetings, including National TU's Annual Meeting held in the Driftless Area of Wisconsin. I find these events very rewarding. Of course, fishing is a bonus.

The weekend of July 19 was spent at the Northeast Regional Meeting held in the Catskills near Windham, NY. It was during that oppressive heat wave, so fishing options were limited. I did spend Friday morning on the Schoharie Creek fishing for smallmouth bass. I caught a few before I started to melt and decided it might be prudent to have a late breakfast in an air-conditioned restaurant.

Come Saturday, it was all business. I gave a "state of the union" address for Pennsylvania Council, as did the other council chairs for their respective states. Along with Samantha Kutskel, Justin DiRado and Charlie Charlesworth, who was presenting on Lackawanna Valley's youth program, we covered as many sessions as we could, feverishly taking notes. The result was that we were able to bring back a lot of "good stuff" to help our chapters and present at our own trainings that were held in Emmaus and DuBois on subsequent Saturdays.

I would like to thank all of the chapter leaders that were able to make these meetings. The camaraderie, sharing of information, candid discussion, mission focus and energy surrounding these events do wonders to recharge the old batteries. We are planning to reconvene the Mid-East Regional Meeting next year in the State College area to better serve our chapters and those in New Jersey, Maryland, Ohio, West Virginia and New York.

Although the legislature had the summer off, we have been quite busy following several bills of interest. House Bill 1576 and its companion Senate Bill 1047 have been front and center. These bills have the potential to "politicize" the designation of wild trout waters and the

listing of endangered species.

On Aug. 26, I provided testimony on HB1576 at a joint House Game and Fisheries Committee and House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee hearing in Pottsville. We also submitted a formal follow-up letter to the bill's sponsors and committee members, circulated an informational flier and sent an Action Alert to our members.

This bill was highlighted in Chris Wood's State of TU address in Wisconsin, and it is our primary focus during legislative visits that resumed Oct. 15. A letter has also been sent to the House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee members and HB1565 sponsors regarding PATU concerns with HB1565 (Buffer Bill – see "Headwaters" column, summer *PA Trout*).

As an organization, we really need to strengthen our relationships with our local legislators. We need more of them to understand what TU is about, who we are and why our mission is important to them.

In response to recent developments regarding the discovery of didymo in Pine Creek and an informative seminar on aquatic invasive species held at the Northeast Regional Meeting, I asked Bob Volkmar, our environmental chair, to form an aquatic invasive species workgroup. The workgroup is being led by Caleb Tzilkowski and is tasked with keeping Council informed on AIS, new research, new developments, collaborating with PFBC and other agencies, providing public outreach and creating a PATU policy statement on AIS.

The following interim guidance on didymo has been provided by the workgroup.

Until scientists provide us with a better understanding of didymo and its spread, anglers should take measures to prevent its spread from one drainage basin to another. Consider the following actions:

1. Maintain two pairs of wading boots – one for your home waters and a second for fishing in other drainage basins. After using your "travel boots" they should be quarantined until cleaned and/or dried.



2. Felt-soled boots are more difficult to clean and dry. Please consider avoiding the use of felt soled wading boots. If you must use felt-soled boots, consider restricting their use to your home waters only.

3. After fishing, clean and or dry equipment (boots, lower part of waders, etc.) that has come in contact with the water. Didymo can be killed by cleaning with either of the following. Soaking for 30 minutes greatly increases the effectiveness of cleaning: A five-percent solution of dishwashing detergent and hot water. A salt solution made of one cup of table salt mixed with three gallons of hot water.

4. Didymo also can be killed by completely drying your equipment. However, it can persist in damp conditions for quite a long while. Keep in mind that canvas and felt can take several days to dry completely.

With the most recent discovery of the New Zealand mudsnail in Spring Creek, additional guidance will be forthcoming on how we can help slow the spread of these invasives that have the potential to impact our trout streams. I want to give a shout out to the Codorus Chapter, which has been leading the way in Pennsylvania with wader wash stations.

I arrived a day early for our PATU Annual Meeting and pig roast at Shavers Creek Community Center, held on Sept. 21. After a pleasant stop, chat and some great chocolate chip cookies at the Spruce Creek Bakery, I managed to catch a few

trout on the Little Juniata.

I hope everyone had a great time on Saturday. Congrats to this year's very impressive award winners. The day featured several guest speakers including Amy Wolfe from TU's Eastern Abandoned Mine Program discussing culvert assessment. Culvert assessment and replacement could be the next big thing for our state and chapter engagement, especially as we explore potential impacts from climate change. And of course, George did another great job with the "pig."

After a stop at home for one day, I was on my way to Middleton, Wisc. to fish a few spring creeks in the Driftless Area and attend National's Annual Meeting. Several NLC (National Leadership Council) workgroups were seeking non-NLC volunteers, so I signed on for the Responsible Energy Development workgroup and the Grassroots workgroup.

I felt it was necessary for me to represent Pennsylvania's interests in the Energy workgroup and that I could be of assistance to the Grassroots workgroup in providing tools to councils. Charlie Charlesworth and I also attended an informal meeting with Tim McDermott, newly-hired chief marketing officer for National, to discuss membership and marketing strategies. I caught a few trout too.

At several of these meetings I have heard Jeff Yates, Connecticut NLC representative, describe Trout Unlimited:

"We are a community of anglers who share a passion for fishing and conservation."

There is a lot of power in that statement. If we engage our own communities and tap into the diversity that we find there, including families, women and youth, we can grow our TU community, empower our chapters and face the growing challenges to our coldwater resources.

Recently, I had the opportunity to assist with a family fishing program at Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center. Instruction was given on identifying places to fish, regulations, fish identification, equipment use and knot tying. The families were then allowed to fish using the equipment provided by DCNR. I assisted with the casting instruction and with the fishing as needed.

I was honored to assist a family consisting of three generations of family members to experience fishing for the first

time. Everyone enjoyed themselves and was looking forward to fishing again. It's these connections that we make within our communities that really can make the difference.

It's that time of the year again for our chapters and members to reconnect with our students and teachers as Trout in the Classroom starts up for another semester.

The message here is the importance of good water quality, coldwater habitat and the importance of trout in our coldwater ecosystems. If we take care of the fish, the fishing takes care of itself. But of course, it means so much more. After all, we only need clean water for our own survival as a species.

Until next time, don't forget our T-shirt fundraiser and raffle. Visit our website, www.patrou.org, often for the latest updates and like us on Facebook!

Obituary Gerry Miller

Gerry Miller, of Harrisburg, who had served recently as PATU's Awards Committee chair for several years, passed away at age 65 on Oct. 12, after many months of receiving chemo and radiation treatments to combat lung cancer.

For those of you who never got to know or work with Gerry, he was a very gentle and caring individual who could always be counted on to step up and volunteer

when help was needed. In addition to his duties with Council, he had served as treasurer, trout stocking chair and most recently as a board member of the Doc Fritchey Chapter.

You can view his obituary at <http://obits.pennlive.com/obituaries/pennlive/obituary.aspx?n=gerald-l-miller&pid=167551031&fhid=28177>.



The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited has nearly 12,000 members in more than 50 chapters statewide, with one common goal: The conservation and enhancement of Pennsylvania's coldwater streams and fisheries, specifically our wild trout resources. Trout Unlimited is an IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, functioning for charitable, educational and scientific purposes. Donations are deductible to the extent provided by law. For information on advertising in PA Trout, call 814-692-5232, or e-mail advertising@patrou.org. See pages 2-3 for Council contact information, officers and committees. For listings of Regional VPs and Pennsylvania TU chapters, and their contact information, see pages 12-19.

Pennsylvania
Trout is a
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Piatt and Katy Dunlap – the Eastern Water Project Director for TU.

The weekend began with a breakfast slide presentation by Susquehanna Chapter of TU volunteer Walt Nicholson. Nicholson outlined the size and depth of Marcellus Shale activity on public land in northcentral Pennsylvania. He discussed the Unassessed Waters Initiative, disruptions to the Midstate Trail, as well as past environmental problems and the threats to wild trout streams associated with Marcellus Shale activity.

At one point, Nicholson showed slides of views from Hemlock Mountain in the Tiadaghton State Forest. Looking north or south, you can see miles of the scenic, undeveloped Pine Creek Valley.

“I used to think that all of this beauty was protected for future generations. Now I know that just isn’t the case,” commented Nicholson. “Even the Wild and Natural Areas are only protected by a DCNR designation that could be changed at any time by a governor or state legislature trying to balance their books.”

Nicholson suggested that Pennsylvania develop a way to permanently set aside certain special places so that they would never be subject to drilling.

The first of two tours of Marcellus Shale activity on public land began after Nicholson’s program. On the tour, Mooney, Piatt and Dunlap opened the outdoor media’s eyes to the additional activity within Tiadaghton State Forest. Marcellus development is not just 4-6 acre well pads, it is also pipelines, water storage facilities, compressor stations and increased truck traffic. Many miles of once quiet state forest roads are now paralleled by pipelines and have trucks driving back and forth all day and night.

God’s Country Chapter of TU volunteer Bob Volkmar, along with Piatt, addressed the group during lunch as the cool waters of Pine Creek flowed by in the background. Volkmar and Piatt explained the role of TU’s Coldwater Conservation Corps – a group of 425 people in Pennsylvania, trained to conduct weekly monitoring of streams for Marcellus Shale-related im-



Mark Nale Photos

Above, massive Marcellus Shale-related water tank used for storing fracking water is located on state forest land. At left, the TU Media Tour visits an active Marcellus well along Limbaugh Road in the Tiadaghton State Forest.



pacts. Piatt also discussed the Sportsmen Alliance for Marcellus Conservation.

Next stop – Slate Run Tackle – for an overview of quality trout fishing opportunities by owner Tom Finkbeiner.

“I’m not against drilling,” Finkbeiner said. “But I am for strict enforcement of our environmental laws. If a company is found to have even one intentional violation, I’d say kick them out of the state – sending them back to Texas or Oklahoma or wherever they came from.”

That afternoon, the media members were treated to guided trout fishing on Pine Creek and Cedar and Slate runs. Even in the low water, a number of wild and stocked fish were brought to net. Ted Bear, a member of the God’s Country Chapter, was a volunteer guide for the afternoon.

A quick breakfast on Sunday morning was followed by a second tour – this time

to an active well, a large water-storage lagoon and more disturbed habitat.

“We are in the middle of nowhere and listen to this,” shouted Katy Dunlap over the din of the drilling activity along Limbaugh Road in the Tiadaghton State Forest.

The media weekend ended at noon with some writers packing up and beginning a long drive home. A few others stayed and sampled more of the area’s wild trout fishing and photography opportunities.

“I came away with a much better perspective on the shale drilling issue than I had before,” commented Matt Smythe, blogger on the Fishing Poet website.

“What I saw this weekend was a wonderful example of grassroots support for conservation. It shows that people care,” said Charlie Burchfield, a writer and radio show host from DuBois. “I am pleased that Trout Unlimited is at the forefront on this important issue.”

Based on comments from the media, such as those above, it was a productive weekend for TU and the coldwater resource.

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Mark Nale is an outdoor writer and photographer who lives in Centre County. He is a member of the Spring Creek Chapter of TU.

INITIATIVE

from page 1

streams and rivers within Pennsylvania's borders.

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission has assessed about 24,000 miles, which is a significant accomplishment, but it leaves the other two-thirds unassessed. Using their own biologists, it is estimated that it would take the Fish and Boat Commission more than 100 years to complete the stream assessment work. Meanwhile, more than 2,000 permit applications to drill gas wells into the Marcellus Shale were submitted in 2012. Many of the proposed well sites fall within the watersheds of unassessed streams.

Novel challenges require novel solutions. In this case, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission has reached out to partners with expertise in fisheries assessments in order to fill the breach with the Unassessed Waters Initiative. Funding has been provided by nonprofits including the Mellon Foundation, and grants are administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. In western Pennsylvania, collaborating partners include Duquesne University, Allegheny College, the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy and my lab at Clarion University.

We work with Fish and Boat Commission biologists to prioritize streams for sampling and to coordinate survey activities. I employ several Clarion University students and, working as a team, we spend long summer days in the field surveying streams.

In 2012 we surveyed 54 streams and discovered wild trout in 26 of them. These streams are now being considered for addition to Pennsylvania's list of designated wild trout streams. If approved, they will enjoy additional management considerations and legal protections. Our work for 2013 is ongoing, but it looks like we will conclude the field season with 21 additional wild trout streams.

Streams are surveyed in accordance with Fish and Boat Commission protocols, and surveys include both measurements of basic water chemistry parameters and fish surveys. The fish surveys involve the use of a backpack electrofisher. The electrofisher



Andy Turner Photos

Above, students process fish from Shippen Run, Forest County, as part of the Unassessed Waters Initiative. Below is a brook trout from Maple Run, a formerly unassessed tributary to Bear Creek in Elk County.



consists of a gasoline powered generator and a transformer unit that regulates voltage output and converts the AC power into a pulsed DC waveform. An anode and cathode are placed into the water and the power applied will temporarily stun the fish closest to the probes.

The operative term here is temporarily. The effective field is small, just a few feet in diameter, and when power settings are set correctly so as to minimize stress to the fish they are stunned for just seconds. Netting fish with efficiency requires an athleticism of the sort usually seen on a competitive playing field, and it takes some practice for students to become proficient. We identify the fish, measure total length, photograph any trout and return them to the stream.

Summer internships like this one afford students the opportunity to learn important hands-on skills that are in demand by employers and my students have been successful at translating their undergraduate training into good jobs and entry into

graduate programs. In a twist some might view as ironic, the Marcellus Shale boom has created additional job opportunities in private industry for environmentally oriented students, and job prospects are generally good for students in the aquatic sciences.

Our work for the Unassessed Waters Initiative complements our broader research program in stream ecology. The data we collect are immediately applied towards better management of wild trout streams, as has been described here. However, we also use the data to address fundamental questions in stream ecology.

As one example, we are working to understand how watershed fragmentation due to acid-mine drainage affects fish species diversity in upstream tribs not directly affected by the pollution. Uncovering the answers to such questions is essential to the conservation of our coldwater resources, but funds to conduct basic research are generally scarce. The Unassessed Waters

Continued on next page...

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Initiative provides us with an opportunity to conduct additional field work and is thus a good example of how basic research and applied conservation can be dovetailed.

I've heard the recent rumblings from Harrisburg: lawmakers have criticized the Unassessed Waters Initiative and proposed that politicians be given input into the stream listing process.

From where I sit though, the Unassessed Waters Initiative is a huge success, having substantially increased our knowledge of Pennsylvania's cold-water streams. It is an excellent model for how state agencies can and should work with outside partners to the benefit of all involved, with the most important stakeholder being the resource itself.

The success of the initiative provides a great testament to the value of collaboration. If we want to preserve and protect trout and their habitat, we will all need to work together.

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Andy Turner is a Professor of Biology at Clarion University.

PATU updates electronic mailing service

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited is updating its electronic mailing service to provide the most up-to-date information and news, such as newsletters and action alerts, to all members of the email list.

This list will be used strictly by PATU to improve communication with our members and the community. Please register your email to ensure you continue receiving statewide updates and information.

Everyone who registers with a valid email address by Feb. 3, 2014 will be automatically entered to win an original "The Hunting Snow" framed print by famed wildlife artist Ned Smith.

To register visit www.patroul.org. You will find a link at the top of every page labeled "Sign Up Now For PATU Updates." Enter your email address in the box and click the "Go!" link.

Help us provide you with important information, and thank you for continuing to protect, conserve and restore Pennsylvania's coldwater resources.

PA COUNCIL OF TROUT UNLIMITED

*Minutes of the Sept. 22, 2013
Executive Committee Meeting
PFBC Stackhouse Training Center
Bellefonte, PA*

Officers Attending: Brian Wagner, Ken Undercoffer, Charlie Charlesworth, Sherwin Albert, George Kutskel, Bob Pennell, Greg Malaska, Mark Hanes, John Leonard

Others Attending: Samantha Kutskel, Justin DiRado, Eric Wilson, Lee Hartman, Jeff Skelding (FUDR)

President's Report: President Wagner called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. In regard to national TU's draft energy policy, it was stated that PA Council's comments previously submitted would likely be submitted again. Wagner requested that suggestions for increasing membership should be sent to him in preparation for his meeting with T. McDermott next week at the national TU meeting in Wisconsin. A motion by Hanes/seconded by Malaska was approved to accept the minutes of the June 29, 2013 EXCOM meeting, as previously distributed to EXCOM.

Treasurer's Report: The Budget Report for the period ending Aug. 31, 2013 was approved on a motion to receive and file by Malaska/seconded by Undercoffer.

Discussion/Action Items:

- *PEDF Lawsuit Against Gov. Corbett* – A motion by Hanes/seconded by Charlesworth was approved to contribute \$100 to support the general fund of the PA Environmental Defense Fund.
- *Mine Bond Lawsuit* – No further action is required at this time. It was suggested that Terry Morrow should attend a future EXCOM meeting to bring us up to date on this issue.
- *PATU Officers Operating Manual* – The new manual has been distributed to members of EXCOM for review and comment prior to soliciting approval.



- *PA Trout Newsletter* – Bulk mailing will be available to chapters at a cost of \$25 per year. S. Kutskel will also add the PFBC Commissioners and key legislators to the mailing list.
 - *PATU Officers Retreat* – Locations discussed for an overnight retreat were either the PFBC Stackhouse facility on Nov. 23, or the Allenberry on Nov. 16 which Leonard will check for availability. Malaska agreed to develop an agenda.
 - *Bylaws Revisions on Election of Officers* – Pennell will revise wording to include a provision for the Governance Committee/then President to decide on tie votes, and resubmit for EXCOM approval at the January meeting.
 - *Big Spring Public Meeting on Sept. 23* – Undercoffer and Leonard will attend to comment if necessary on PFBC's plans for trout management on Big Spring.
 - *TU Opposition to HB1576 and SB1047* – Regional VPs were requested to follow up with their chapters to reinforce the need to contact their legislators about opposing these pending bills.
 - *PATU Speakers Bureau* – Albert is requesting that Regional VPs contact their chapters to each submit recommendations for one or two of their best program presenters to compile a statewide speakers list.
- Awards Committee: Wagner will contact Bryan Moore to assist in putting together a timeline on PA chapter founding.
- Development Committee: G. Kutskel reminded all of the importance of promoting Education & Outreach Raffle ticket sales with the chapters due to a cutback in former state agencies funding for Trout in the Classroom. The annual appeal letter to all PA members is planned for mailing in November.
- Environmental Committee: Bob Volkmar has requested that followup and action on environmental issues needs to become the Legislative Committee's responsibility when issues have reached the stage where legislation is pending. Further discussion

of the relationship between these two committees will be on the agenda for the officers retreat planned for November.

Trout Management Committee: It was decided that PATU should accept the PFBC proposal to stock trout in 10 newly-designated Class A stream sections in urban areas where angler use is high, with the provision of no harvesting of trout after Labor Day.

Youth Education Committee: Wilson expressed his disappointment with the lack of response to requests for added chapter participation in this committee. DiRado will review quarterly chapter reports to compile a list of chapter contacts to reach out to. Charlesworth, Malaska and Hanes will have a followup discussion about the PATU College Outreach compared with the TU 5 Rivers Club programs for presentation at a future meeting.

Communications Committee: Charlesworth reported that he will resume efforts to procure advertising, with initial emphasis on doing a composite of fly shop ads for the back page of *PA Trout*.

Legislative Committee: A replacement is needed for Fred Bohls who resigned as chair of this committee.

Membership Committee: Malaska reported that he will continue as interim chair of this committee until a replacement is found.

Women's Committee: S. Kutskel will schedule a women's event for next year in an attempt to gain more active participation from women members across the state.

Delaware River Committee: Hartman introduced Friends of the Upper Delaware (FUDR) Executive Director Jeff Skelding who talked about the "Water, Water Everywhere" conference scheduled for Oct. 15-16. A motion by Albert/seconded by Hanes was approved to contribute \$500 toward the cost of the conference.

Program Director: S. Kutskel reported that five chapters have not attended either a regional or the annual membership meeting this year as required for re-chartering.

Education & Outreach Coordinator: DiRado reported that a "Special Events" calendar has been added to the Chapters page on our website, and TIC T-shirts are now available for general purchase at a cost of \$15 each.

Regional Reports

• *Central* – All 5 chapter reports were filed. S. Kutskel is still attempting to reorganize the Columbia County Chapter. A motion by G. Kutskel/seconded by Undercoffer was approved to appoint Albert as acting regional VP for a period of three months unless a replacement is chosen sooner.

• *North Central* – Three out of four chapter reports were filed (Seneca was absent). This region is still in need of a regional VP.

• *Northeast* – All nine chapter reports were filed.

• *Northwest* – All seven chapter reports were filed. James Zwald Chapter's request to have Council support a coldwater release from Kinzua Dam was referred to the Trout Management Committee for further consideration.

• *South Central* – All eight chapter reports were filed.

• *Southeast* – All seven chapter reports were filed.

• *Southwest* – All eight chapter reports were filed.

Old Business

• *TU 2015 Annual Meeting in Scranton* – National TU will announce its choice of Scranton for 2015 at this year's meeting in Wisconsin. Charlesworth reported that venues are being investigated and other work is already under way in Scranton in preparation for this event.

• *Woolrich Proposal to Support PATU* – Charlesworth met with Woolrich marketing personnel to begin the process of developing a PATU-logged product or products and work out a discount program for PATU members

to purchase Woolrich products at their factory store.

New Business: The following dates were selected for 2014 EXCOM meetings: Jan. 18 (snow date – Jan. 25), March 22, June 21, Sept. 14 (Annual Membership Meeting – Sept. 13).

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m. on a motion by Malaska/seconded by G. Kutskel.

Election of Officers for FYE2014: The following officers were elected unanimously by the membership at the PATU Annual Meeting on Sept. 21 to serve one-year terms beginning on Oct. 1, 2013:

President – Brian Wagner

Vice President – Charlie Charlesworth

Vice president – Sherwin Albert

Secretary – Bob Pennell

Treasurer – George Kutskel

NLC Representative – Monty Murty

Central Region Vice President – Sherwin Albert (acting)

Northeast Region Vice President – Greg Malaska

Northwest Region Vice President – Mark Hanes

Southcentral Region Vice President – John Leonard

Southeast Region Vice President – Fred Gender

Southwest Region Vice President – Chuck Winters

Approval of PA Council Bylaws Revisions: Also at the PATU Annual Meeting on Sept. 21, the membership voted unanimously to accept the Bylaws revisions as published in the Summer 2013 edition of the *PA Trout* newsletter.

– Bob Pennell, Council Secretary

2013-14 PATU Calendar

Nov. 12-13: Legislative Days in Harrisburg. For more information please contact Katy Dunlap at kdunlap@tu.org.

Dec. 11: Deadline for Back the Brookie Grants. (Applications can be found at www.patrou.org).

Dec. 13: Deadline for Coldwater Heritage Partnership Grants. (Applications can

be found at www.coldwaterheritage.org).

Jan. 18, 2014: Winter EXCOM meeting.

Feb. 21-22, 2014: Keystone Coldwater Conference.

March 22, 2014: Spring EXCOM meeting.

June 21, 2014: Summer EXCOM meeting.

Sept. 12-13, 2014: Annual Fall Meeting.

Sept. 14, 2014: Fall EXCOM meeting.

To stay up to date with the latest news from PA Council, please visit www.patrou.org.

Fundraisers help TIC programs across the state

Fall is a great time of year for students participating in the Trout in the Classroom (TIC) program across Pennsylvania.

The program continues to be a huge success as 247 classrooms have enrolled in TIC for the 2013-14 school year. In November, nearly 80,000 brook trout eggs will be shipped from the Benner Springs State Fish Hatchery to the classrooms. Each classroom will be receiving about 300 eggs.

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and PATU are asking for volunteers to help pack food and eggs. Food packing will take place Oct. 24 at 10 a.m. and egg packing is tentatively scheduled for Nov. 4 at 9 a.m. Both packing days will be held at Benner Springs Hatchery.


If you are interested in helping with either day, please contact Justin DiRado at jdurado@patrout.org or 814-359-5114. Lunch will be provided at both packing days.

As highlighted in previous issues of *PA Trout*, we have hit a few bumps in funding, which has limited the amount of funds we can provide through the TIC grant program and other initiatives. To help in our efforts to provide support and enhance the TIC program, PATU has established two fundraisers that will provide funding for youth programs and education.

Education and Outreach Raffle tickets are being sold to support the efforts of Council and our chapters in educating today's youth. Money raised by this raffle will make up the largest contribution of funding to support youth programs, including Trout in the Classroom, in the next fiscal year, with a goal of raising \$10,000.

To this point, ticket sales have been slow, with less than 10 percent of the tickets sold so far. We are giving away over \$2,000 in cash and as the commercial says "everyone loves cash," so please help support PATU and our youth initiatives. Tickets are \$5 each.

Trout in the Classroom T-shirts are also now available for purchase for \$15, with

		Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited	
NAME _____		Education and Outreach Raffle SGO# 3782	
ADDRESS _____			Winners 1-4: \$50
CITY, STATE, ZIP _____			Winner 5: \$250
PHONE NUMBER _____			Winners 6-9: \$50
NUMBER OF TICKETS PURCHASED _____			Winner 10: \$250
Drawing will take place April 12, 2014, in Bellefonte, PA at 12:00PM.			Winners 11-14: \$50
			Winner 15: \$250
			Winners 16-19: \$50
			Winner 20: \$500
		Drawing will take place April 12, 2014 in Bellefonte, PA at 12:00PM. \$5.00 a chance	

all proceeds helping to provide additional equipment and field trip funding to classrooms involved in the TIC program.

The T-shirt fundraiser is a great way for you to represent the program while also helping to provide an education in coldwater conservation to students. Though still relatively new, this fundraiser has been met with great enthusiasm and support from teachers, students, program partners, parents, TU chapter members and more.

The next TIC T-shirt order deadline is Nov. 22. After this order round, TIC T-shirts will cost \$20 (plus \$2 extra for 2XL and 3XL sizes).

For ticket or T-shirt orders, please cut out, complete and mail the order form, along with a check payable to "PA Trout"

to PO Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823. The winning tickets will be drawn April 11, 2014, and winners will be notified at that time. T-shirts will be shipped by the start of the New Year.

Thank you to everyone that has supported Trout in the Classroom and other youth programs in Pennsylvania. They are incredibly important to youths and the future of coldwater conservation in the state.

If you have not supported the raffle or TIC T-shirt fundraiser, please consider the influence of these programs on our young conservationists. They will soon be in our shoes, conserving, protecting and restoring our coldwater resources. If we all do our part to contribute now, the future of our streams will look much brighter.

TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM T-SHIRT

The PA TIC T-shirt is on sale for \$15 per shirt (\$2 extra for 2XL and 3XL). All shirts are green with the PATIC logo (pictured) in white ink on the front and back. The next T-shirt order submission deadline is **Nov. 22**. Shirts will be ordered in December and should be shipped at the start of the New Year. After this order round, T-shirts will cost \$20 each (\$2 extra for 2XL and 3XL).

If interested in ordering a shirt, please make check payable to "PA Trout," complete this order form and send it with a check to: **PA Trout Unlimited, PO Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823**

Name _____

Mail Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Shirt size and quantity (\$15 per shirt; * additional \$2 charge for 2XL and 3XL)

_____ Small _____ Medium _____ Large _____ X-Large _____ 2XL* _____ 3XL*

Total Amount Enclosed: _____

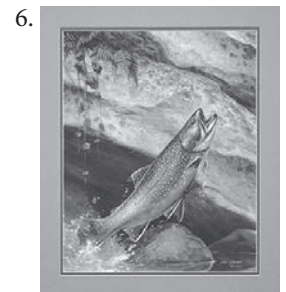
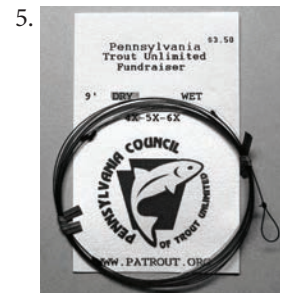
All proceeds from the fundraiser go directly to supporting the Trout in the Classroom program.





Merchandise Order Form

Thank you for supporting the efforts of Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited in protecting, conserving, and restoring Pennsylvania's coldwater streams. Returning readers will see the merchandise order format has changed. Orders for the majority of merchandise available for purchase will now be completed using this order form. (Other merchandise will still be available, accompanied by their individual order forms). Merchandise orders are processed during volunteer time. Please allow adequate time for your order to be filled and shipped.



	Item Description	Price	Qty.	Total
1	"Back the Brookie" License Plate	\$23.50		
2	Custom Fly Rod – 7ft. 2wt. 4pc. (case included)	\$130.00		
3	Ball cap w/logo (circle) Khaki Navy Camo	\$15.00		
4	Waterproof Fly Box	\$20.00		
5	Custom Fly Leaders			
	Dry Fly – 4X Tippet			
	Dry Fly – 5X Tippet			
	Dry Fly – 6X Tippet			
	Wet Fly – 4X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers			
	Wet Fly – 5X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers			
	Subtotal – Leader Quantity (1 to 9)	\$4.00		
	Subtotal – Leader Quantity (10 or more)	\$3.50		
	Dan Shields' <i>Fly Fishing PA's Spring Creek</i> Book	\$20.00		
6	Ned Smith "Sting of the Hook" Print – Framed	\$185.50		
	Ned Smith "Sting of the Hook" Print – Unframed	\$132.50		
7	Little Juniata Patch 2011 – 4"	\$7.50		
	Little Juniata Patch 2011 – 6"	\$19.50		
8	Kinzua Creek Patch 2010 – 4"	\$7.50		
	Kinzua Creek Patch 2010 – 6"	\$19.50		
	PATU Decals – 3"	\$3.00		
	Practice Casting Game	\$20.00		
Note:	6% sales tax (where applicable), shipping and handling costs included in unit prices.			
		Total \$		

Mail this form, along with money order or check payable to "PA Trout" to:

Attn: Merchandise
PA Council of Trout Unlimited
PO Box 5148
Bellefonte, PA 16823

Ship to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone _____ Email _____

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

Treasurer's Report

by PATU Treasurer George Kutskel

First off, I would like to thank you, the members, for your support and dedication to PATU and all our programs and initiatives.

The past several years we have grown many of our programs around the state and that is thanks to you and our partners. We are starting to feel the effects of the same economical stresses as those in other organizations. This past year we lost critical funding that helped support our outreach coordinator. While these losses are big they have not crippled us, mainly because of you. Below are a few ways you get involved in helping our chapters and Council to be the leaders we are in conserving and protecting our coldwater resources.

Education and Outreach Raffle tickets were given to chapters that attended regional trainings, and mailed to those that didn't attend. The sale of tickets from the newsletter has not been as strong as was hoped. I had mentioned this at the Fall Meeting and someone asked if we could list all sponsors on our website. I said that we do. He said that he only saw us and the Fish and Boat Commission, which sadly are the only sponsors of our TIC program. This is the easiest way for *all* of our members to help with one of PATU's most visible projects. The best part: You may actually win more than you contribute. There are 20 prizes – and all are cash.

Looking at the 2014 Keystone Coldwater Conference, we are starting to feel the effects of budget cuts and cutbacks by state agencies. We moved the conference to the State College Ramada to lower our exposure as the cost to attend the conference depends on how well our fundraising works to subsidize the actual cost of attending. We have sent letters to many private industries that work with the environment to see if some of the losses can be made up. If you work for or know of a company that would like to help with this conference, please contact Samantha Kutskel so she can coordinate sponsorship.

Merchandise sales really picked up with the sending of our summer newsletter to all members. The first series of fly rods are

Chapter Donations

The following chapters have donated to further council's mission, in addition to supporting fundraisers, in 2013.

Allegheny Mtn.	Neshannock
Adams County	Mountain Laurel
Brodhead	Pike Wayne
Doc Fritchey	Spring Creek
Donegal	

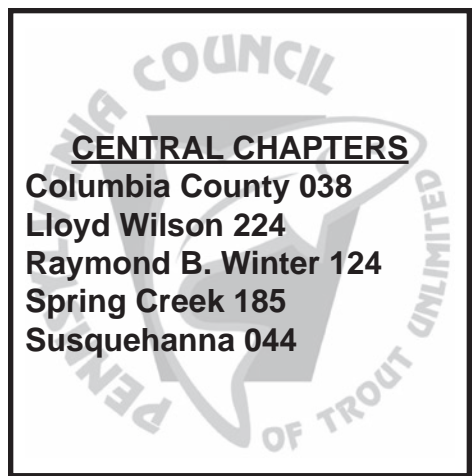
In memory of Jim Green by Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Sherman.

now history, so those who own one now have a collectible. I am waiting on the vendor to let me know when the second series of 9-foot fly rods are available. We currently have a fair supply of the second series of 7-foot rods from Greys. Fly boxes have been a very popular item and, unfortunately, our supplier had a heart transplant and is out of business. I have made contact with another vendor and we have a new version of fly box. You can check it out on our website. Leaders are still very popular and sales of them have been very steady along with the "Back the Brookie" license plate.

If you don't have a "Brookie" plate, now is a great time to purchase one as a gift to the person who has all the fishing equipment they need. Proceeds from the sale go directly to protecting and restoring brook trout through the Back the Brookie Grant Program. Falling Springs Chapter recently received the first grant. We know how hard it is for chapters to raise enough cash to do habitat and other projects. This is a way for all 13,000-plus PATU members to do something positive and help to restore, protect, reconnect and sustain our only native trout.

We are working on our annual appeal letter that is sent to all our members. We hope to have this in the mail in early November. Please be as generous as you can. This appeal has allowed us to expand our many programs and be able to serve our membership better all around the state.

Keep in mind that all the money raised with any of the programs and merchandise listed above stays in Pennsylvania.



REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Sherwin Albert

161 Ryan Lane

Milton, PA 17847

E-mail: sherwina@dejazzd.com

Phone: 570-524-7645

Columbia County Chapter #38

814-359-5233

info@coldwaterheritage.org

The chapter meets Oct. 29 at the Columbia County Conservation District. Charlie Charlesworth, producer of *Fly Fishing Top 2 Bottom*, is giving a presentation on steelhead fishing in North and South America. The presentation will be followed by a brief planning session for the upcoming year and election of officers.

Lloyd Wilson Chapter #224

Bill Bailey

570-748-6120; wbailey@kcnet.org

Website: www.lwtu.org

Our website was upgraded and contains the most recent newsletter. It also has links to chapter supporters, some of whom provide updated information on stream conditions and what flies to use. Our banquet is Nov. 1 at the Southern Clinton Co. Sportsman's/Lions Club. Speaker is Ed Perry, who retired from the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The topic is global warming and its effect on fish and wildlife. Members did improvement work on Antes Creek and Texas Creek, and assisted with eight fishing events at the N.E. Fishery Center in Lamar. Members taught fly tying at the Clinton County Conservation District's day camp. Members also taught tying, casting and assisted with fishing at the "Brookies" camp sponsored by The Wildlife Leadership Academy at the Sieg Conference Center along Big Fishing Creek.

R.B. Winter Chapter #127

Robert Laubach

570-966-3379, oldfrstr@dejazzd.com

September's guest speakers were Wayne White and Joe Dougherty, who spoke on the local Total Outdoors program. It provides military families and veterans

with an opportunity to learn angling and outdoor skills while developing an appreciation and commitment to our environment. Our October meeting featured local Wildlife Conservation Officer Dirk Remensnyder, who updated us on the latest PGC activities. TIC will soon be up and running in the Mifflinburg Middle School. Plans are underway for our fly tying classes in January and our annual banquet in March.

Spring Creek Chapter #185

Judi Sittler

814-861-3277, pres@springcreektu.org

Website: www.springcreektu.org

The first mailing for streamside improvement went to property owners in September. We targeted streamside owners from Boalsburg to Houserville. As part of our WREN grant, we are offering a backyard makeover to one lucky property owner. The makeover will include before and after photos and video along with local publicity, calling attention to the need for deep-rooted vegetation along the stream bank. This type of "community awareness" campaign is a first for our chapter. We are partnering with ClearWater Conservancy and conservation biologist, Katie Ombalski, to hold two community outreach events in the targeted areas. Judi Sittler attended the 2nd annual Teen Summit in Jackson, Wyo., at the foot of the Tetons. Cory Stoner was a teen representative from our chapter. There were 30 teenagers from across the country, double from last year when it was held at Fisherman's Paradise. Our banquet is March 29 at Mountain View Country Club. Our chapter recently started the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited Endowment Fund, which will allow members and friends to contribute to our chapter by way of a special cash donation or by naming the endowment in their will or a life insurance policy. The investment will maintain a level of funding into the future. Our thanks go to Dick and Fran Stevenson for their part in coordinating this effort. This was the first year for the PA "Brookies" Leadership Academy run by the PA Institute for Conservation Education. We, along with the Lloyd Wilson Chapter, sent plenty of volunteers for the fly fishing component of the week-long activities. One of our chapter's founding fathers, Vance McCullough, died Aug. 19 at age 69. We honored the six men who started this chapter 40 years ago, including Vance, at this year's banquet.

Susquehanna Chapter #044

David Craig

570-971-4744, davsalc@comcast.net

www.susquehannatu.wordpress.com

We are one of two chapters participating in the PFBC's Unassessed Waters Program. Some members are also members of the Loyalsock Creek Watershed Association, which worked intensively in the watershed. Dr. John Niles of Susquehanna University spent the summer working on the project with five interns. Over 100 streams and tributaries were assessed, many for microinvertebrates along with the fish. A number of the streams may now qualify for special protection. Some are quite close and below active gas well drilling activity. Our September meeting was a picnic at the Montoursville boat launch with a program about kayak fishing presented by Kevin O'Shea of Country Ski and Sports. An anniversary celebration is being planned for early 2014, which is the chapter's 50th year.

NORTHEAST CHAPTERS

Brodhead 289

Forks of the Delaware 482

Hokendauqua 535

Lackawanna Valley 414

Monocacy 491

Pike-Wayne 462

Schuylkill County 537

Stan Cooper Sr. 251

Western Pocono 203

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Greg Malaska

638 Center Ave.

Jim Thorpe, PA 18229

E-mail: gregmalaska@yahoo.com

Phone: 570-657-7169

Brodhead Chapter #289

Tom Battista

570-236-1734, mooseowl@ptd.net

Website: www.brodheadstu.org

We sponsored Katy Stanovic and Cole Bernier to attend Rivers Conservation School at Allenberry Resort in Boiling Springs in June. Cole received an award at the school for his high quality work. We also sponsored two campers for the Monroe County Conservation Camp in July. Ed Filipkowski, Gerry Bortz, Will Daskal, John Smith, Cole Bernier, Katy Stanovic and Ben Conklin all participated in a July 25 program. Also in July, Will Daskal and John Smith attended the Northeast Regional Meeting in Windham, N.Y. Will returned with several contacts that will give programs at our meetings. Will Daskal, Eric Baird, Greg Malaska and John Smith attended PATU training in Emmaus. Chapter members participated in a cleanup of Lake Creek near Saylorsburg with Brodhead Watershed and Pocono Heritage Land Trust. A large amount of trash and tires were removed. About two weeks later the three organizations met on McMichael Creek near Beaver Valley Road in Stroud Township to remove trash and to dig out tires that had previously been buried to stabilize the creek's banks by landowners. The tires were exposed by flooding the last several years and created an eyesore and beginning of an environmental problem. The group used canoes and kayaks to float the tires downstream to where they could be removed and disposed of. Stanley Cooper and Brodhead members assisted veterans in Project Healing Waters run by Heide Cebrick, president of Stanley Cooper Chapter. Bob Eddy arranged for the group to fish at Arrowhead Lakes in June. In May and August, vets fished Dotters Creek inside the grounds of Indian Mountain Rod and Gun Club. Several members of Indian Mountain stocked the creek with large trout from their nursery before the group arrived. In August, a dozen buckets of 10- to 12-inch trout and 20 trout over 20 inches were stocked the morning before veterans arrived. Bill Marks, a member of Indian Mountain arranged for a visit from "Operation Touch of Home" to

provide comfort packages to troops overseas.

Forks of the Delaware Chapter #482

Joe Baylog

610-761-9116, baylogj@gmail.com

Website: www.forkstu.org

Meetings are at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month, except July and August, at Stockertown Rod & Gun Club. We sent a letter to DEP to address a recent dewatering that occurred in June. In a related matter, leadership attended a community advisory group meeting at Buzzi Unicem, Stockertown Plant (Hercules Cement) to discuss development of a north quarry on Aug. 15 and a subsequent follow-up meeting to discuss Bushkill Creek dewatering. Our 2nd annual Pig & Corn Roast was at the Riverside Barr & Grill on Sept. 28. We held our summer Adopt-A-Highway cleanup on Bushkill Drive on July 31. On Aug. 31, several of our members assisted Lauren Forster, DCNR educator at Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center, with their family fishing education program. Instruction was given on identifying places to fish, regulations, fish identification, equipment and knot tying. Families then fished using the equipment provided by DCNR. The program allowed one family consisting of three generations to experience fishing for the first time. Our Sept. 4 meeting was a meet-and-greet featuring a pictorial summary presentation of summer fishing adventures and chapter events from our members. On Sept. 21, we assisted at the Roseto Rod & Gun Club Youth Day. This is our seventh year with the TIC program. We are assisting with programs at Nazareth, Wind Gap and Bangor middle schools, Easton High School and Easton Academy. We will be selling TIC T-shirts and raffle tickets in support of the program.

Hokendauqua Chapter #535

Dave Abraham

610-844-3459, dabraham@rcn.com

Website: http://mysite.verizon.net/vze26x43/hokendauquachaptertroutunlimited

The chapter's Embrace-A-Stream grant closed out with a work detail on Sept. 14-15 on Hokendauqua Creek at the Kreidersville Covered Bridge. Trees and shrubs were planted to construct a riparian buffer along the stream, and another sign was installed on the KCB property in Allen Township. We started another project on the Hokey Oct. 8-9 to install root wad deflectors downstream from our previous project. Projects for the Coplay Creek in Lehigh County are in planning. A fourth kiosk and third picnic table were constructed and installed along the Hokey in Northampton as an Eagle Scout Project. Information about TU, local stream projects, maps, etc. was hung on the bulletin boards for public awareness. On June 8, several chapter members helped with Women in the Outdoors at Ontelaunee Rod and Gun Club. There were eight groups of up to 12 women in each group. Chapter members took turns talking about fly fishing, equipment and casting. At the end of each session, the groups were introduced to TU and its mission statement. June 21-23 was a Project Healing Waters weekend at Benton. Vets fished Huntington Creek and Fishing Creek during their stay. On Aug. 3, 16 members assisted 10 groups of girls and boys at the Jake's Youth Field Day sponsored by the Wild Turkey Federation and held at Blue Mountain Rod and Gun Club. The 3rd annual Hokendauqua Family

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Picnic was Aug. 15 at the Saks' residence. In Sept., Ed Hozza, mayor of Whitehall, talked about the Coplay Creek project. Chapter programs include Chris Kocker of the Wildlands Conservancy in October, Paula Piatt of TU with an update on Marcellus Shale in November and Bob Saks with a presentation on Czech nymphing in December. Check our website for the calendar of events, meetings, projects, stream cleanups and more.

Monocacy Chapter #491

Erik Broesicke

610-909-2652, monocacytu491@gmail.com

Website: www.monocacytu.org

Monthly meetings resumed in September and are 7-9 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of the month at the DAR house, Bethlehem. Meeting schedules and updates are on our website. The chapter was active in supporting conservation projects and monitoring several residential/commercial developments in the watershed this summer. At the end of August, the City of Bethlehem started on a dam removal project at Johnson Park. A 50-foot stone dam was removed and 500 tons of rock is to be placed along the banks to stabilize the stream. Some of the rock will also be placed in-stream to create habitat.

Pike Wayne Chapter #462

Matt Wishneski

570-685-5420, mattwishneski@gmail.com

Website: www.pwtu.org

Our monthly summer Lackawaxen riverfront meetings were a success, turning out higher attendance than regular meetings. Our Sept. 9 meeting was at Lukan's Farm Resort in Hawley, the same venue as our banquet. Our Wyoming County Marcellus Shale water testing and stream improvement project went well. A private section of the Meshoppen Creek was tested for water quality parameters and a macroinvertebrate study was conducted. Water quality was not upsetting and an abundant sampling of insect life was collected and examined. It seems that this particular portion of the stream is quite healthy and has felt unremarkable impact, which was a relief to both PWTU and the landowner, one of our chapter members. The stream also needed no intervention in the way of redirection or obstruction clearing. Membership approved the purchase of three fly rods from PATU that will be auctioned at our 2014 banquet on April 5. Matt Wishneski, our president and banquet chair, is working to match the rods with reels and other accessories for the auction. Fishing on the Lackawaxen River has been quite poor this year. Early season saw higher than normal temperatures that required frequent releases from the hydroelectric plant at Lake Wallenpaupack that comply with our agreement with PPL to control downstream temperatures. Heavy and frequent rains midseason saw very cloudy and stained unfishable water, now we are seeing turbidity that is probably attributable to algae from the lake being introduced into the releases. Our Wounded Warrior initiative came to fruition on Sept. 9 when a day at stream and lake was enjoyed by local veterans with members volunteering time and equipment. We progress with other projects including our scholarship initiative and stream improvements.

Schuylkill County Chapter #537

John Bondura

570-640-5300, jgbond@verizon.net

On June 21, chapter volunteers conducted a basic fishing program for 83 students at Williams Valley Elementary and High School as part of an after-school program funded through a grant from Schuylkill County Intermediate Unit No. 29. It was held at Sweet Arrow Lake Park. On June 23, volunteers conducted a fly casting seminar for the Schuylkill YMCA Summer Camp. There were over 60 participants in the program from across the county. Chapter volunteers attended the July 27 regional training in Emmaus. On Aug. 10, SCTU volunteers gave a fly tying seminar at the Memorial Youth Field Day at the Valley View Rod & Gun. The event was attended by more than 70 people and was held in memory of Robert Machamer. Bruce Schneck took a grant writing seminar on Aug. 14 in Schuylkill Haven. On Aug. 15, volunteers attended the Tradegar Film Products 2nd annual safety day at Mar Lin and promoted TU to over 300. Our annual picnic was Aug. 24 at the Schuylkill County Fairgrounds with over 100 people. On Aug. 26, members attended a public hearing in Pottsville on HB 1576, dealing with endangered species and wild trout streams. Bud Noel has agreed to serve as the chapter's youth coordinator. We recruited 22 new members over the summer. In July, members met with Karl Lutz, habitat manager for PFBC, to research a stream improvement project on the section of the Schuylkill River between Port Carbon and Pottsville.

Stanley Cooper, Sr. Chapter #251

Heide Cebreck

570-675-4881, heide@baut.com

Website: www.sctu.org

Our September meeting featured Barry and Cathy Beck, who presented "Dry Fly Strategies." Barry shared many techniques and expertise along with stories and photos of some of their global fishing adventures. The meeting boasted the best attendance in recent memory and that was in part to the reminder postcards and e-bulletin. Directors decided to continue the incentive for member attendance at meetings. Each member in good standing is given a ticket and at each meeting, and one is selected. The winning ticket is entered into a drawing at our May meeting and the winner can choose a high-end Orvis or Winston graphite rod in the length and weight of their choice. Officers and board do not participate in the raffle. Members and those from other chapters continue with the monthly Project Healing Waters program. Outings for July, August and September included Lackawanna State Park, Frances Slocum State Park, Indian Mountain Rod & Gun Club and Lake Ladore. Heide Cebreck, who leads the program, reported 34 new veteran participants were introduced to fly fishing in the last quarter. The program introduced an outside group of Antique Model "A" car owners to TU through attending a Project Healing Waters event. The antique cars were a treat for the Veterans to see and ride in at Lackawanna SP and again at Frances Slocum SP. The Wyoming Valley Fly Tyers' monthly meetings resumed in September. President Cebreck and her husband, Dave, attended the leadership training/regional meeting in Emmaus. The college outreach initiative committee, headed by board member Rob Gaiteri with Steve and Mary Seyfert assisting, contacted local colleges. Plans for our 23rd annual banquet on April 5 at the East Mountain Inn, Wilkes-Barre, have begun. Directors gathered

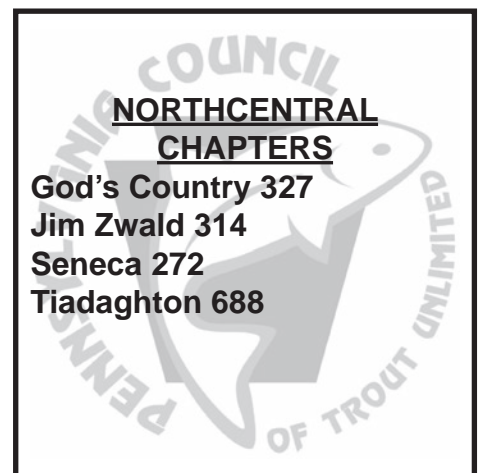
for a special meeting with members from Lackawanna Valley TU to discuss the permit issued to American Rock Salt to release overflow water with a high level of salt from a settlement pond into the Lackawanna River. The board voted to make a donation to the legal fund to fight the permit. President Cebreck and member Mary Seyfert participated in a stream bed cleanup on Solomon's Creek in Wilkes-Barre.

Western Pocono Chapter #203

George Hludzik

570-233-0099, grhlaw@ptd.net

Our board re-aligned: George Hludzik, president; Tom Jones, VP; Paul Raubertas, 2nd VP and newsletter editor; Jerry Muhlbauer, secretary; Rich Schwartz, treasurer; board members Shane Becker and Cory Blair; and Tom Jones, youth events coordinator. WPTU hosted a fellow TU member from South Carolina, Mrs. Simons Welter. Simons and her husband were visiting Hazleton on business, and Simons, an avid fisherwoman and trout fishing guide in North Carolina, wanted to sample trout waters of the Poconos. She fished Tobyhanna Creek, the Brodhead and Nescopeck Creek and also visited Big Bushkill Creek. Extremely high water prevented safe and successful fishing, though she enjoyed the fishing opportunity and appreciated the geology, history, lore and the classic rustic architecture of the Poconos. She is a member of the Mountain Bridge TU Chapter in Greenville, S.C. Mike Gondell volunteered his time to coordinate the speakers for our next several meetings. Bernie McGurl, CEO of Lackawanna River Corridor Association, spoke about "Trophy Trout Waters on Lackawanna River and Acid Mine Drainage on Oct. 15. At 7 p.m. Nov. 19, Dr. Frank "Doc" Plucinsky of the Tulpehocken Chapter will present "The Tulpehocken Creek Tailwater Fishery and its Aquatic Life." The board is working to: create a chapter website, develop a chapter logo to affix to T-shirts and hats for our members, improve our newsletter and ways to increase involvement by our current members and new membership development. We are planning a stream restoration project for spring, in conjunction with the PFBC. Many of the Nescopeck tributaries are listed as Class A streams and contain brook trout. PFBC wants to install stream improvement devices with the goal of increasing the size of the individual native brook trout that are so abundant in these small streams. We are hoping that this endeavor provides WPTU volunteers with an opportunity to become involved with stream habitat improvement, and perhaps attract our inactive members and new members.



REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Open

God's Country Chapter #327

Dr. Peter Ryan

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Chapter members have been keeping an eye on the Tennessee Gas Pipeline traversing northern Potter County. It is almost completed and well ahead of schedule. Michel Pipeline Construction Company has done an extraordinary job in their efforts to contain erosion and prevent sedimentation at the stream crossings. They used a helicopter to hydroseed and it was quite a sight to see. We assisted the Upper Allegheny Watershed Association in completing the stream assessment of the Allegheny River above Coudersport as part of a Coldwater Heritage Partnership grant. Frank Weeks is in the process of compiling the data and we will see what shakes out from all this work. Mosch's Tavern of Coudersport hosted its inaugural Project Healing Waters bike run, barbecue and auction on Aug. 24. All proceeds will help fund our PHW event in May, 2014. Three in-stream data loggers have been received through the grant Mitch Blake received for the CCC program. One is installed on Fishing Creek in Roulette Township, one is on the upper Allegheny and one to be installed on Reed Run as soon as landowner permission is granted.

Tiadaghton Chapter #688

Larry Harris

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At our September meeting, chapter members, with the assistance of PFBC, DCNR Bureau of Forestry and laborers from Tioga County Court system, completed five stream bank stabilization devices on Asaph Run adjacent to the Asaph Campground in Tioga State Forest. We are waiting for new leadership to take over before making plans for additional events, projects and fundraising.

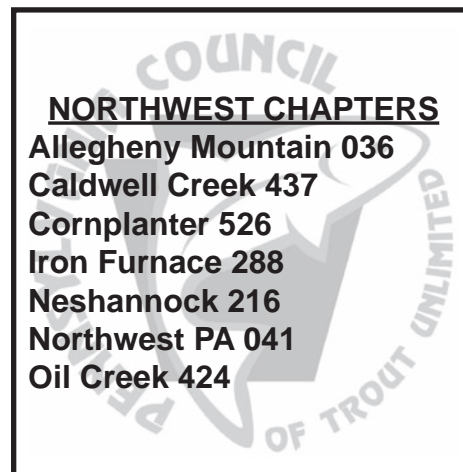
James Zwald Chapter #314

Murray Neeper

814-834-3472, mneeper@zitomedia.net

The chapter met in June and August. We placed our "knot tying" learning station used for TIC release days in the St. Marys Area Middle School Outdoor Classroom. The unit provides nine stations for tying various knots. It will be available for use by scouting groups, TIC classes and other groups offsite. The chapter supported Johnsonburg Area Junior Senior High School financially with its TIC setup. Along with PATU and PFBC support, and more from the Stackpole Hall Foundation and local donors, we have TIC classrooms in all five school districts in Elk and Cameron counties, which includes 10 of the 16 buildings in those districts. We participated in Mitch Blake's monitoring grant. Two units were received and placed on tributaries of the East Branch of the Clarion River - Middle Fork and Crooked Creek. These tributaries constitute the drainage for the majority of State Game Lands 25, an area of Marcellus activity. We toured new habitat improvement structures at Bendigo State Park. PFBC and the Rivers Foundation funded this project, which was a longtime goal of the

chapter. In addition to in-stream muddills, rock vanes and log structures, a great deal of work was done to create a handicapped access point in the center of the park. We will continue working to have additional in-stream projects developed on this tailwater section of the East Branch.



REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Mark Hanes

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Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036

George Kutskel

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We resumed meeting in August, and planned a member-guest cookout for September at the Tannery Dam. TIC tickets were handed out to members to sell and the response has been very good. We are starting our CHP grant project on the Upper Sandy Lick Creek by making sure we have members to help with water quality collection. Kelly Williams discussed this at our September meeting. Our October meeting included interested landowners and how they may become involved. Also in October, we compiled the data from our unassessed waters program. Chapter members and other groups have been looking at local streams as candidates to be surveyed and possibly added to the Class A list. We attended training on the use of HOBO data loggers to monitor water in the Allegheny River drainage. We received two data loggers through a grant given to National TU by the Iron Furnace Chapter. With the help of Mitch Blake we also received a grant to purchase additional data loggers to be used in other watersheds in our chapter. They can collect data for up to six months and it will be easier to keep up with the collection of baseline data. The two are deployed in the upper Redbank and Mahoning watersheds. We are holding our after-school fly tying and fishing clubs. We plan on starting our TIC schools in January. This year we have TIC set up in DuBois Area Middle School. We hosted a macroinvertebrate station at the Clearfield County Watershed Festival at the Curwensville Dam in September.

Caldwell Creek Chapter #437

Tom Savko

814-964-8899, tksavko2@verizon.net

Election results were: Tom Savko, president; Bill Joslin, VP; Bill Peiffer and Tom Varrassa, co-secretaries and Tom Mack, treasurer. Three members attended leadership training in DuBois on Aug. 3. Our chapter and the Northwest Chapter assisted the Northwest PA Conservancy and PFBC with a week-long stream project on Caldwell Creek. We placed several log and plank structures and many tons of rock in the creek. We made arrangements with the PFBC habitat manager to assess the repair of structures installed upstream from this project several years ago. We continue to strengthen and expand our water testing program and recently had data logger training with Bruce Dickson and Mitch Blake that led to three data loggers being installed in local streams. We took advanced training in September that included macroinvertebrates. Julie Vastine from ALLARM was here for a volunteer water testing workshop, followed by tests, critique and Q&A. We have four TIC programs this fall. Kudos to member Jonathan Dietz and the US Fly-Fishing Team on winning gold at the World Championship in Ireland in July. Jon led two of the segments. Congratulations to Marsh Young, who turned 80 Aug. 10. Marsh is a local and widely-known fly fishing legend, a founding member of the Northwest and Caldwell Creek chapters and was presented with a certificate for his lifetime contributions. We conducted a youth fishing day Aug. 17 in conjunction with the Brokenstraw Watershed Council at Tom Stroup's Pond in Columbus, Pa. It was attended by over 60 kids ages 3-15.

Cornplanter Chapter #526

Troy McDunn

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We completed another successful Expo to raise funds for our TIC and Morrison Run projects. We have been working with several landowners to secure designs and funding to replace a poorly-designed stream crossing that consists of three small culverts on Morrison Run Road. We are waiting for the engineering design to be complete. No date has been set for the construction but we hope it might be this fall. Another major project we would like to see completed is the removal of another dam two or three miles from the mouth. When this is completed the stream will be barrier free and allow for natural movement of aquatic insects and fish throughout its length. A youth event was held in June and we taught kids in grades 6-8 about fly fishing. They learned how to cast, tie a fly and identify aquatic insects. In the afternoon we headed to a pond to catch sunfish and bass. We are again working with PFBC to place habitat improvement structures in Morrison Run. After four years of placing structures we are almost done with the improvements planned for this section of stream. We now have two automatic data recorders and are exploring locations for them.

Iron Furnace Chapter #288

Mark Hanes

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Website: www.ironfurnacetu.net

Officer nominations were in September, followed by

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elections in October. Mark Hanes and Bruce Dickson attended the regional training in DuBois on Aug. 3. We are still working on the 3RQuest water monitoring grab samples. Work on the watershed assessment of Cathers Run has been ongoing throughout the summer. We anticipate a few possible projects as a result of the study. Riparian planting may be some of the first work we do in the watershed. We are observing 25 locations with our current monitoring networks throughout the Upper Allegheny Watershed. This project has been a huge success thanks to the hard work done by Bruce Dickson to get it started. Bruce has been busy expanding the network with those that received our grants over the summer. He is also working with the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy to remove culverts on streams in the Upper Porcupine Creek Watershed that block fish passage. Plans are underway for our annual fly tying classes that take place over the winter. Our seven TIC programs are looking forward to getting this year off to a good start.

Neshannock Chapter #216

Jeff Kremis

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Website: www.neshannock-tu.org

Our annual banquet is March 15 at the Park Inn by Radisson in West Middlesex. We had a work day to complete the final phase of the Coolspring Stream Bank Stabilization Project June 29. We built five multi-log vane deflectors downstream from the ones installed last year on the opposite side of the stream. Another work day was Oct. 5 to complete the project. The Deer Creek group had a work day on Sept. 28 in the area of the Custaloga Boy Scout Camp. We are looking for volunteer monitors for the CCC program. The chapter will again be involved with five TIC schools this school year.

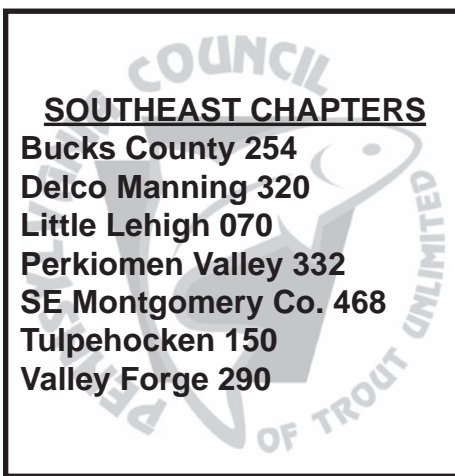
Oil Creek Chapter #424

Gary Ross

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Website: www.oilcreektu.org

Election results are: Gary Ross, president; Don Wilson, VP; Vaughn MacGregor, secretary; Dan Rockwell, treasurer; and directors Linda Wilson, Suzan Senko, Ron DeWoody, Jason Rockwell, William L. Huber, Tom Young and Walt Zinno. Gary Ross and Dan Rockwell attended the PATU leadership training in Dubois Aug. 3. The first of our habitat improvement projects on Little Sandy Creek were scheduled for Sept. 24-25. There were a possible 40 different devices that could be installed to improve stream habitat. We would like to do a big project next year, starting at the pump station. OCTU is now in the data logging program. Gary Ross attended the initial training. We placed two loggers in Little Sandy Creek and Sandy Creek on Aug. 30. We sponsored a high school student to attend the Wildlife Leadership Academy's "Brookies" Camp. We again participated in the Venango County Youth Field Day on June 15 and made a monetary donation. We provided six instructors who gave fly tying instruction to about 140 students. Three OCTU members attended the outdoor program and dinner of the Living Word Church at Seneca Fire Hall on Aug. 22. We answered questions and manned OCTU's picture display. We were invited to do a fly fishing presentation at Titusville Middle School on Sept. 27.



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

Fred Gender

E-mail: afgender@ptd.net

Phone: 570-704-8764

Bucks County Chapter #254

Ed Harrington

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Website: www.buckstu.org

We meet at 7 p.m. the first Thursday of every month at Bucks County Fish & Game in Doylestown. On July 16, Solebury Township supervisors voted unanimously to breach the Aquetong Lake dam and restore a free-flowing stream. The dam was built in the 1870s just downstream of Ingham Spring, a two-million gallon per day limestone spring, which is the source of one branch of Aquetong Creek. In his book "Guide to Pennsylvania Limestone Streams," Joe Armstrong called the creek a squandered limestone stream, and rightly so. Monitoring by the chapter as part of our dam removal study found that Aquetong Lake warmed Ingham Spring's water by an average of more than 15 degrees Fahrenheit. The complete dam removal study can be viewed on our website. On some July and August afternoons we recorded water temperatures at the lake outflow in the low- to mid-80s. Ingham Spring maintains a near constant 53 degrees, a 30-degree difference. In 1998, we began advocating for the dam's removal and the restoration of the stream. We were the first conservation organization to suggest that the dam's removal made the most sense both ecologically and financially. If it was to remain, Aquetong Lake dam was in need of repairs. Many times over the past 15 years we were told that decisions had been made to restore the dam and that any further effort on our part would not affect the outcome. Our persistence paid off on July 16 with the supervisors' unanimous vote. We strongly believe that a wild brook trout population can be re-established in Aquetong Creek once the dam is breached. On Sept. 14, the Bucks County Fish & Game Association held its annual Youth Field Day. Our chapter will have three schools participating in the TIC program.

DelCo Manning Chapter #320

David W. Wharton

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Website: www.dmtu.org

We meet at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Delaware County Field & Stream Association clubhouse.

Little Lehigh Chapter #070

John Tunney

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Art Weiler gave a demonstration and talk on bamboo rod making at our September meeting. He is based in Kunkletown. Our TIC program school received its equipment. Board member Joe Schuler worked with teacher Rebecca Filipos at St. John Vianney Regional School in Allentown to set up the tank. Another school, Seven Generations in Emmaus, also received equipment. We continue to monitor CCC sites on Little Lehigh Creek. Meetings are 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Wildlands Conservancy in Emmaus.

Perkiomen Valley Chapter #332

Chaz Macdonald

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Website: www.pvtyu.org

Our first meeting of the fall was Sept. 17. Don Baylor, longtime member of the Brodhead Chapter, spoke about fishing trout streams of the Pocono Mountains. Bob Ballantyne, who has gone to Yellowstone National Park for 28 years and fished many of the best trout streams there, spoke about fisheries biology and species restoration on Oct. 15. The program focused on the concept of "conservation biology" as applied to trout. In January Bob will return to present "The Fish and the Fishermen in Yellowstone National Park." We are waiting to hear back on a grant for a tributary on Hosensack Creek for riparian buffer remediation.

SE Montgomery County Chapter #468

Richard Terry

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Website: www.tu468.org

Our annual picnic was Sept. 7 at Lorimer Park, in Abington Township with great turnout. Two workdays took place on Pennypack Creek. Maintenance was performed on in-stream deflectors that were constructed between 2002-05 with the additional of rocks and logs.

Tulpehocken Chapter #150

Bill Eggleston

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Website: www.tullytu.org

Our chapter sponsored a "Teach a Kid to Fish" event at French Creek State Park with underprivileged kids from the Opportunity House of Reading. Chapter elections are in October. We held five successful "Breakfast on the Tully" events at the Tully House this year. We are planning our 2014 banquet, set for March 21 at Reading Country Club. We sponsored a young lady to attend the Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp. We have two schools starting TIC programs. Our chapter funded Governor Mifflin High School, and Reading High School is being supported by an anonymous donor through the Berks County Community Foundation. We

have six schools involved in TIC. Restoration projects in the Tulpehocken and Quittapahilla Creek Watershed are in November. Several members have stepped up to participate on the Resource Management Committee. Under outgoing manager Len Good's guidance, they surveyed Hay Creek as it runs through the Joanna Furnace area in Robeson Township. We hope to do stream restoration on this neglected creek in 2014 to repair erosion issues. Chapter members are monitoring several Berks County streams to gather baseline information on stream quality in preparation of the possible natural gas pipelines that may be coming through the county.

Valley Forge Chapter #290

Robbi Freisem

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Website: www.valleyforge.org

Chapter elections were held Sept. 12: Robbi Freisem, president; Chuck Cutshall, VP, external affairs; Karl Heine, VP, internal affairs; John Dettrey, secretary; Chris Burns, treasurer; Rich Bauer, environmental chair; Ed Penry, membership chair; and directors Pete Goodman, Frank Donohoe, Joe Armstrong, Jeff Bush, Fred Gender, Rod Horton, John Johnson, Jim Leonard, Dave Macaleer, Owen Owens, Andy Pancoast and Jeff Turner. Bob Ballantyne spoke about fishing the "other" species of fish present in the Florida Keys during the winter months. Matt Seymour, Fred Gender and Robbi Freisem attended the PATU leadership training on July 27 in Emmaus. Matt completed his interviews of board members for succession planning and is providing his ideas for discussion on this topic. Chuck Marshall is applying for more grants to plan or accomplish more storm water management work for additional protection of Valley Creek. We are planning a fundraising raffle for our December meeting. "Trout Tales and Watershed Heroes" is available through the chapter website, board members, local fishing shops and amazon.com. Our Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing program recruited about 19 volunteers to participate at an event in Coatesville, Va. in September. Check out the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/ValleyForgeProjectHealingWaters>. A rainy summer challenged the newly-planted rain gardens in Wilson Farm Park in Tredyffrin Township. The Williams Transco gas line dry cut crossing of the Brandywine above Downingtown did not take place on the expected schedule. The Keeper of the Stream program for Valley Creek continues to seek permission for stream access from landowners. Jeff Bush is monitoring and reporting creek bank erosion and exposed sewer manholes to Valley Forge National Park.

SOUTHCENTRAL CHAPTERS

Adams County 323
Codorus 558
Cumberland Valley 052
Doc Fritchey 108
Donegal 037
Falling Spring 234
Muddy Creek 575
Penns Creek 119

www.patrou.org

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

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Phone: 717-697-6188

Adams County Chapter #323

Dave Swope

717-624-8134, swopeda@hotmail.com

www.adamscountytu.org

Our September speaker was Phil Bietsch from DCNR, Michaux State Forest. Our annual incentive program, which awards members for their dedication and efforts in over 28 categories of activities during 2013, was in October. A biology teacher at local high school showed interest in partnering with ACTU to build a youth chapter. On Sept. 4, officers met to discuss strategic planning, annual donations, membership, activities, chapter visions and initiatives to further our mission statement. Our newest partnership with FSTU and NVTU will continue into next year with 15 habitat devices installed on the Conococheague Creek in the upper portions of Adams County. We applied for a South Mountain Partnership Grant to finalize this restoration project next year by adding more habitat woody debris devices. Stream restoration work in the regulated section of the Conewago was held on July 20 with partner Northern Virginia TU. We completed work started last year with PFBC Habitat Division Chief Karl Lutz. We added the final in-stream log devices. On Oct. 3, we partnered with PFBC to float stock the 1.1-mile stretch of the catch and release section of the Conewago. Chapter members participated in our annual Youth Field Day at East Berlin Fish and Game Club. ACTU, in partnership with the Adams County Conservation District, will have eight schools involved in the TIC program. At our August meeting Ricky Whitmore spoke on his attendance at the Rivers Conservation School, which was funded by ACTU.

Codorus Chapter #558

Tom Fenninez

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Website: www.codorustu.org

We have decided that we need to bolster our efforts regarding chapter-wide communication. We're concerned that our chapter website and Twitter feed are not bringing adequate results. A return to a bulk-mailed piece is one option being considered. Our chapter was able to send a representative to both the leadership training in Emmaus and the annual meeting at Shavers Creek. We started the application process for funding of another large-scale reclamation project. We have purchased and will soon be installing several "No Parking" signs to help a local streamside landowner. He has had an ongoing problem with anglers blocking access to his farm fields. We have identified a site with an interested landowner for a potential stream improvement project. We plan to look into a Coldwater Heritage Partnership Grant (and others) as a source of funding and complete the work sometime in 2014. We continue to maintain our four wader wash stations along the Codorus, and plan to add at least two more. Our first TIC project is entering its third year. The teacher from our second project has

chosen not to continue this year. We'll be looking for another participant in the future.

Cumberland Valley Chapter #052

Justin Pittman

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In July, we had our joint stream project on Birch Run with the Adams and Franklin County chapters. Our end-of-summer picnic was Aug. 2. We had around 55 people attend. Our "Last Supper" was Sept. 7 at Vince's Meadows on the Letort. We hosted around 40 people. We also held the Fly Tying Championship and the first-ever Pa. Fly Casting Championship at the Carlisle Outdoors and Sports Show on the same date. On Sept. 14, we hosted an Intro to Fly Fishing course at the Army War College in Carlisle. Work completed on the first section of the Birch Run projects. We were very active with phase two of the completed Big Spring project.

Doc Fritchey Chapter #108

Archie Fenton

717-533-2367, archief3@verizon.net

Website: www.dftu.org

Our annual membership meeting was Sept. 24. Ed O'Gorman and Francis O'Gorman attended the PATU leadership training in Emmaus on July 27. March 15 is the date for our banquet at the Holiday Inn of Grantville. With the assistance of Karl Lutz of PFBC, five chapter volunteers constructed a stream bank rock/log deflector along Manada Creek on Aug. 10. Work continues at the diversion wells on Rausch Creek. Our second Adopt-A-Highway cleanup along Clarks Valley Road this year was Oct. 5. We sponsored two teens for the Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp in June. Our beginners fly tying class started Oct. 10 and runs for nine weeks at Gander Mountain on Jonestown Road. Members demonstrated fly casting and tying demonstrations at the Ned Smith Festival on July 27.

Donegal Chapter #037

Tom Hall

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Website: www.donegaltu.org

Faye Haering's ladies fly fishing clinic held in June at Hugh Wenger's farm outside of Elizabethtown was a success. She had 15 women attend and they were taught how to select proper equipment, knot tying, casting instruction and ultimately catching fish. The clinic was conducted by Diane Tidy and her husband, who reside in Maryland. There has been discussion about conducting an intermediate clinic that would include men and women. The date for the 3rd annual Women's Coldwater Breakfast at Millport Conservancy is April 26. We hosted a Big Brothers/Big Sisters event at Ned Bushong's farm. We had to cancel our annual Special Olympics fishing derby because of personnel changes in their group, but we certainly hope to continue again next year. On Oct. 16, we held our annual Oktoberfest banquet at Four Seasons in Lancaster. The featured speaker was Eric Stroup from Spruce Creek Fly Shop,

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who spoke about fly fishing in central Pa. We also held our annual board elections. Plans are underway for our annual spring banquet at the Host Farm Convention Center on March 29. We recently signed a partnership contract with the Lancaster County Conservancy for stream and watershed work to be done on Climbers Run in southern Lancaster County. The conservancy recently acquired about 80 acres of land, formerly known as Camp Snyder, which has Climbers Run running through the middle. It is to be restored and developed into an ecological and coldwater conservation center that will have tremendous potential for education for school groups, Boy & Girl Scout groups and even adults. This may well be one of the most important properties that the conservancy owns and we are very excited about its long-term potential. We are partnering with Adam Smith of US Fish & Wildlife for design and restoration work. We are in the process of obtaining funding from Excelon, PPL and several other sources with work slated to begin sometime next year. Matt Kofroth from the Lancaster County Conservation District conducted electro-shocking on several sections of stream and turned up fair numbers of native brookies. From Sept. 9-11 we completed two smaller projects. One was on the Bob Landis property on Fishing Creek just upstream from the Drumore Township Park. While there, we were contacted by another landowner downstream who indicated his interest in doing some restoration on his property. He had Tyler Niemond from PFBC look at what might be involved. The second project was on Charles Run, a tributary to Donegal Creek, just outside of Mount Joy. This job included log deflectors back-filled with shot rock to control silt erosion. Work is ongoing on the Conowingo Creek Watershed. We were recently approved for another grant for design and engineering at five more sites.

Falling Spring Chapter #234

Rod Cross

717-264-2747, rcross@mathesongas.com

Rod Cross, Georgia Townsend and Bill Bashor attended the regional leadership training in Emmaus in July and brought back some very good information on chapter development, officer recruiting, youth involvement, legal and administrative issues. We would like to thank Jim Rainey and members and friends of the Cumberland Valley Chapter for the hard work and excellent preparation that went into the Pennsylvania Fly Casting Championship that was held during the Outdoor Show at the Carlisle Fairgrounds in September. Our banquet was Oct. 19 at the Landis-McLeaf Marine Corps League facility. Work completed on this year's phase of the Birch Run brook trout habitat improvement project in partnership with the Cumberland Valley and Adams County chapters, DCNR and John Gleim Excavating. We received a \$1,000 "Brookie" grant from Council and used it for that project. The chapter represented itself at a barbecue at Hamilton Hyundai in Chambersburg. Proceeds will go to the Wounded Warriors fishing outing that the chapter hosts in May and a pheasant hunt that Safari Club International hosts in the fall. Members volunteered for the Franklin County Sportsmen for Youth Day in June, and instructed 150 young people on tying the Green Weenie. We sponsored Dylan Phillipson to attend the Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp.

Muddy Creek Chapter #575

Fred Hess

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Website: www.muddycreektu.org

Our annual board meeting/picnic was in July. Items discussed were the Pine Run project final report, future stream restoration projects, the annual budget, newsletter items and the Red Lion Street Fair. One chapter officer attended the regional meeting in Emmaus. Plans are underway to develop 25th anniversary patches, hats and shirts for sale next year. The chapter's total in-kind match for the Pine Run project was over \$12,000. We provided and planted 186 trees and shrubs from our native plant nursery. The Owad Road bank stabilization project was completed on Aug. 17 with the help of five MCTU volunteers, an excavator, skid steer and 70 tons of rock. The scope of work included one deflector with a log and root wad extending 15 feet into a 20-foot carved out bank of sediment upstream from a large maple tree. The stream is 70 feet wide in this area and is a popular access point on Muddy Creek. The project resulted in fast runs beginning at a root wad and ending at a large tree root mass now protected from direct stress. Tree and shrub plantings will follow. In conjunction with York County's "Watershed Weekend," we held an open house at the Pine Run project on Sept. 28 that featured tours and a light lunch.

Penns Creek Chapter #119

Gary Parzanese

717-242-3451, 6sneezes@comcast.net

Gary Parzanese, chapter president, and Kevin Lutz, VP, attended the PATU leadership training held in DuBois on Aug. 3. Our social held in June was well attended with good food, fellowship and fishing on Penns Creek. Monthly meetings resumed in September and are held at 7:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month at the Lewistown Rec Center. Preparations are underway for our annual banquet on March 22 at the Belleville Mennonite School. The 2013 banquet had 224 people attend. On July 17, members, PFBC, Mifflin County Conservation District, Mifflin County Probation Department and Shafranich Excavating started work on the rehabilitation of three old stream structures on Havice Creek. The original structures were installed in the early 1980s and had deteriorated to the point they no longer functioned properly. The structures are located on the Zook Farm outside of Siglerville. Two of the structures were completed on the 17th with the final structure to be completed on Sept. 28. Along with the stream structures, stream bank fencing, two cattle crossings and one tile drain have been installed by Mr. Zook as part of riparian grant. In August, members participated in the Shade Mountain Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation Youth Field Day at Mifflin County Sportsman's Club. We provided fly tying and operated the fishing station for about 65 youths that attended. We worked to get two TIC grants for schools in the Mifflin County area for the 2013-14 school year. Sacred Heart received a grant, but due to the teacher's unexpected resignation in early August, the TIC grant was forfeited. We will try to find a new teacher at Sacred Heart for next year and also reapply with Belleville Mennonite School. Gary Parzanese attended the TIC training held for teachers and project partners at the PFBC facility in Pleasant Gap.

SOUTHWEST CHAPTERS

Arrowhead 214

Chestnut Ridge 670

Forbes Trail 206

Fort Bedford 291

John Kennedy 045

Ken Sink 053

Mountain Laurel 040

Penn's Woods West 042

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Chuck Winters

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Arrowhead Chapter #214

Chad Hough

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Website: www.arrowhead214tu.org

After flash flooding of Buffalo Creek, the stream was surveyed by a watershed specialist from the Armstrong County Conversation District. Members removed trees and debris and large downfalls were removed by a local excavation contractor. We are preparing for TIC and will be purchasing additional equipment to be used as backup. Schools have been in the program four to five years and are starting to have equipment reliability issues. We are appointing a youth education representative to help with our TIC programs, grants and other youth functions. Our October meeting was a joint meeting/presentation with Tri-County Trout Club in Lower Burrell, which had George Daniel present his program on "Dynamic Nymphing." Our November meeting is a presentation and Q&A with Lake Erie trib guide and "Blood Dot" fly inventor Jeff Blood.

Chestnut Ridge Chapter #670

Scott Hoffman

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The chapter has been selected to receive a capacity building grant, which developed a strategic plan that is nearly complete. Items to be done include assignment of task responsibility, due date and success measurement. Another component of the grant was an audit of our website. We received suggestions for minor design and functional improvement to the website and high marks for our social media pages. The Growing Greener-funded sediment grant for an assessment of the upper portion of Laurel Hill Creek is now closed. Most of the sediment load in this upper section during

winter and spring are from runoff from the farming community and during the summer and fall the sediment is from eroded banks. Therefore, it makes sense to develop a partnership with the farming community to assist them in using the best management technologies on their farms and also to apply for funding to continue stream bank stabilization projects on specific locations throughout this upper section. Our Critical Area Resource Plan (CARP) continues to be on hold by the DEP in Harrisburg. The steering committee for the plan will touch base with DEP to see when this project will proceed. Our stream bank stabilization and habitat improvement project located above the upper DHALO area in Laurel Hill State Park has been completed by the Somerset Conservation District and PFBC. DEP selected Biomost, not the chapter, to apply for a Growing Greener grant to fund construction of improvements to remediate the AMD discharge from PURCO's mining operation on Jonathan Run. The preliminary recommendations for improvements to Morgan Run from TU's AMD technical assistance program are to remove accumulated precipitates and debris from surface of compost, stir compost and limestone layers, add 450 tons of limestone and install floating baffles. The estimated cost for this work is approximately \$50,000. The chapter hopes to secure funding for these improvements in the near future. Based on recommendations, we plan to request that DEP delay preparation of the Growing Greener Plus-funded Operation, Maintenance and Replacement Plan until the improvements are constructed. Rob Ryder attributes the steady growth in macroinvertebrates in Glade Run over the past three years to a dramatic drop in acidic deposition resulting from a 23.6 percent decrease in coal-fired electricity generation. Testimonials by local anglers indicate catching and releasing of large numbers of native brook trout, some up to 8 inches, is now the norm and not the exception. It is amazing to think that this stream was dead not long ago. We plan to place approximately 170 tons of sand on the banks of Glade Run, Big Piney and Little Piney later this fall. The sand and subsequent analysis will be funded by a Growing Greener Plus grant.

Forbes Trail Chapter #206

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Directors are reviewing a possible change of meeting location for next year. There were no formal meetings in July or August. Directors met Sept. 18 to nominate new officers. We are planning and acquiring prizes for our March banquet. We are working with a local watershed association and PFBC on a Loyalhanna Creek habitat restoration. "Date Night" is held last Sunday evening of each month and includes couples fly fishing and dinner at Foggy Mountain Lodge, Stahlstown. Our president was a guest on the one-hour "High and Wide Outdoors" radio call-in program, and talked about/how-to information on Forbes Trail Chapter, joining TU, TIC, chapter youth and women's programs and Laurel Highlands Trout Trail. A committee of the board and active volunteers is reviewing options for keeping the chapter vibrant and effective given the long-term trend of declining member participation. All options are on the table, including changing the locations and formats of meetings and events. Our goal is to better budget our limited volunteer hours with chapter activities. We will emphasize youth education via our Fly Fishing Youth Group and TIC programs. We are strongly considering

restoring our women's fly fishing class, and adding adult fly fishing/fly tying classes when volunteers are available. After four years of high-tempo public service we feel we owe our "old faithful" volunteers more in the way of self-rewarding events such as fly fishing, fly tying and teaming with like-minded trout anglers and conservation-minded friends of TU such as the International Federation of Fly Fishers.

Fort Bedford Chapter #291

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In an effort to attract more members to chapter functions, our August business meeting was replaced with a chapter outing at Shawnee State Park. It consisted of a provided cookout, a "9-Hole Casting Course" and a prize giveaway to attendees. Turnout was slightly higher than our typical business meeting. Our annual picnic was Aug. 24 and was a success.

John Kennedy Chapter #045

Creg Strock

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Our chapter continues to increase membership as we promote the chapter to fishermen, conservationists and the public. We advertise our completed stream restoration projects as well as those we currently have planned for next year. Since Jan. 1 we have added 42 new members. This is the largest membership growth we have experienced within the past five years. We believe this is a direct result from our newsletter, an updated and current membership email address list, periodic email blasts to inform and remind our members of upcoming special events as well as an aggressive marketing plan. Attendance at our monthly meetings continues to grow as we schedule guest speakers from conservation groups, The Pennsylvania Conservancy, PATU as well as informative video presentations. Meeting dates for next quarter are published in our newsletter and details of the presentations are listed. Our annual banquet was Aug. 24 at the Lions Club Park in Newry. Attendance at this year's banquet was over twice as many individuals as in 2012. We sold a total of 126 tickets and the chapter raised in excess of \$4,200. Our spring event, the Jaffa Sportsmen's Show in late February, is being planned. We are involved in water quality monitoring on several streams in Blair County with the hopes of expanding our efforts to include more streams. This project is imperative to form a baseline of information on stream's water quality, particularly with the continued expansion of natural gas/fracking exploration. We are working a stream restoration project on Plum Creek and hope to receive PFBC assistance in the design work that is slated for completion next year. The Sheetz wetland project has been halted as the original permits that were issued have been rescinded. A new location is now being sought to complete this project. We have five schools in TIC and have had additional inquiries from others hoping to add it to their curriculum. We are planning to hold fly tying classes from the first Saturday after New Year's Day until the first Saturday in April.

Ken Sink Chapter #053

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We participated in the Indiana County Youth Field Day at Sheloceta Sportsmen's Club on Aug. 10. We assisted with fly casting and tying programs. We also held a joint stocking on a local stream with employees from NRG Services, Homer City, in mid-September. Fall meetings kicked off in October with a presentation by Dwight Landis entitled "Mountain Trout: Flyfishing for Wild Trout on PA's Forested Freestone Streams." The meeting also included board elections. Our November meeting is expected to be a steelhead presentation by Karl Weixlmann.

Mountain Laurel Chapter #040

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Meetings are the second Tuesday of the month. Twelve Days of Christmas fundraisers were sent out to support our annual banquet. Eleven devices were installed on Potter Creek in Bedford County with the help of 10 volunteers. Stream improvement on Bens Creek in Cambria was done by installing five devices. Stream monitoring as part of the CCC is ongoing. We sponsor 10 schools for TIC.

Penns Woods West Chapter #042

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Our banquet celebrating 50 years as a chapter was Sept. 21. There was a slide show, various memorabilia and documents from the archives chronicling the inception and growth of the chapter from a group of dedicated conservationists from Pittsburgh and Harrisburg. Former officers and older members provided vignettes of chapter milestones and accomplishments. Chris Wood, CEO of TU, presented "Saving the World, One Trout at a Time." Our monthly meetings continue to have strong turnout. In September, Mark Signorino filled us in on the activities of the PA Steelhead Association and Karl Weixlmann gave a presentation on fly fishing for steelhead before they enter the tribbs. TIC continues to be actively supported with three ongoing programs. We will continue to help stock and maintain a section of Little Pine Creek in Shaler Township as a children-only trout fishery. Plans are underway for our major fundraiser - Cabin Fever - in early March. In addition, there will be a rod raffle prior to Christmas, and our Joe Kline Great Fly Sale in January. On Aug. 21, we held our annual Pine Creek stream improvement workday that included the installation of four log frame stone deflectors. Hampton Township donated the construction material as well as the use of three pieces of heavy construction equipment with operators. Thirty-five volunteers from PWWTU and the Allison Park Sportsmen's Club, with direction from Mark Sausser of PFBC, participated. An additional five devices are planned for next year. We continue to monitor three local creeks - Pine, Deer and Bull - to establish baseline measurements in preparation of possible future impacts from Marcellus drilling.

Falling Spring Chapter receives first 'Back the Brookie' Grant

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited awarded the first "Back the Brookie" Grant to Falling Spring Chapter for its efforts to protect, conserve and restore the brook trout population in Conococheague Creek.

The project will consist of adding in-stream structure to improve flow and add bank stabilization to the stream. These in-stream structures will also provide important habitat for brook trout.

This project will be conducted through the help of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and Pennsylvania Department of Natural Resources and a partnership between the Adams County, Cumberland Valley and Falling Spring chapters of Trout Unlimited.

The Back the Brookie grant is a PATU initiative to protect, conserve and restore Pennsylvania's coldwater streams. Funding for this program is available through the sales of the Back the Brookie license



Rod Cross, Falling Spring Chapter president, left, receives his grant award from Brian Wagner, PATU president, at the East Regional Training in Emmaus. (Contributed photo)

plate, which was created as a fundraiser by PATU to be used for brook trout conservation, protection and restoration in Pennsylvania. PATU has been selling the brook trout plates for several years and has established a small fund that will be used to award small grants to chapters to complete projects and programs that directly relate to the protection and restoration of Penn-

sylvania's wild brook trout populations.

The grant will provide PATU chapters funding assistance for on the ground projects that may need additional financial support. All applications should focus on brook trout and their habitat. Chapters can apply for up to \$1,000 each fiscal year. The grant round is now open. Applications can be found at www.patROUT.org.



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