

Pennsylvania TROUT



Summer 2014

Publication of the Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited

www.patrou.org

Information and a registration form for the PATU Fall Meeting and Festival at the Shaver's Creek Community Building Sept. 13-14 is available on page 6.

Deadline to register is Sept. 8.

Celebrating progress on Kettle Creek

By Mark Taylor
TU Eastern Communications Director

They don't come much more opposite than a Caterpillar D-11R bulldozer and the Eastern brook trout. One is massive and powerful, an exhaust-belching monstrosity weighing more than 100 tons and capable of literally moving mountains. The other is tiny and beautiful, a natural work of art capable of inspiring people to move mountains. Here in the mountains of Northcentral Pennsylvania they are

intertwined.

On a recent warm morning, I watched in awe as two of those giant bulldozers pushed tons of soil mixed with alkaline materials as part of a massive abandoned mine drainage (AMD) reclamation project on a 100-acre tract at the head of the Huling Branch, a tiny feeder to Twomile Run, a historically imperiled Kettle Creek tributary. The project is among the latest in a monumental collaborative effort to

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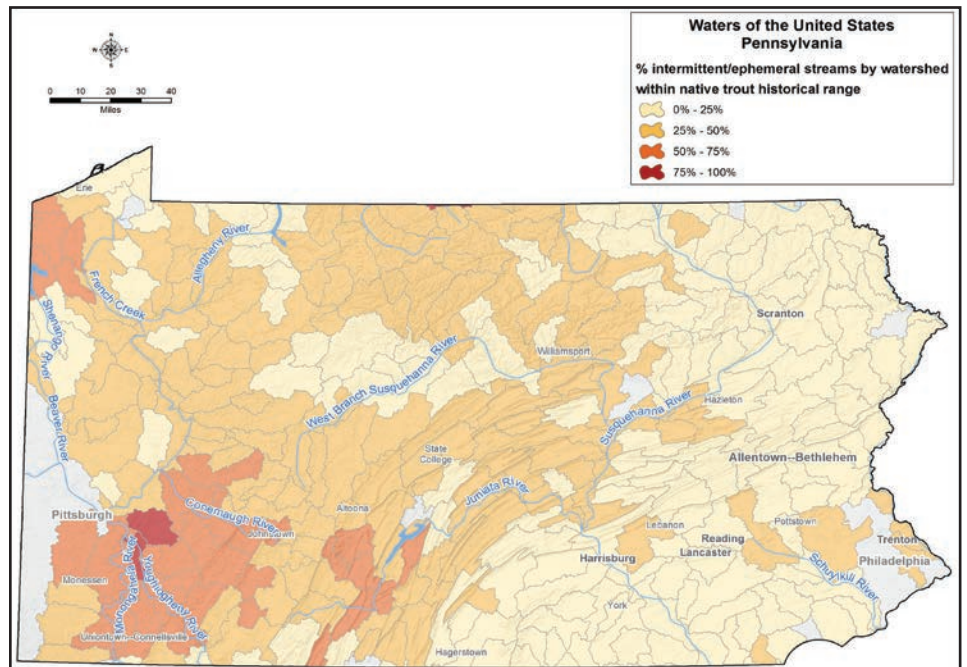
Clean Water Act protections need support

By Katy Dunlap
TU Eastern Water Project Director

The EPA and Army Corps of Engineers have recently released a proposed rule that aims to clarify which bodies of water are protected by the Clean Water Act from pollution discharge, dredge and fill, and other sources of stream damage.

The rule offers strong protections for "ephemeral and intermittent" streams, which means they may only flow part of the year. These streams are often small headwaters that are important habitat for spawning and juvenile brook trout. They are surrounded by habitat important to hunters, as well. Whether or not someone fishes them or hunts in the surrounding habitat, they are important in that they

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Pennsylvania TROUT

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PROGRESS

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improve the health of the Kettle Creek watershed. Obtrusive as those bulldozers may be, the work they are doing eventually will benefit brook trout.

Fifteen years of effort

In fact, that kind of work has been under way for the past 15 years in the area, and the efforts are paying off. Tributaries once lifeless due to AMD have recovered to the point where they once again are home to wild, native brook trout.

There is a way to go, but the improvement is striking. The mainstem of Kettle Creek flows for 43 miles through the steep mountains of Tioga and Potter counties, eventually meeting the West Branch of the Susquehanna River in Clinton County.

Most of the land in the 245-square-mile watershed is publicly owned, and the area has long been a popular sportsman's paradise, one where countless camps draw in hunters and anglers by the tens of thousands during peak seasons. Kettle Creek proper has been a popular stocked trout stream, and remains one. Many of Kettle Creek's small tributaries not impacted by AMD are Class A and wild trout streams.

Trout Unlimited has been working closely with the Kettle Creek Watershed Association since soon after the association formed in 1997. The team, with assistance from many other groups, has spearheaded dozens of projects, big and small. Through 2013, the price tag of restoration efforts totaled \$6.5 million, the cost covered by funding from multiple sources, including from government entities and from philanthropic grants. The Huling Branch reclamation project will cost \$12.2, covered by funding from the Department of Environmental Protection.

A team effort

Many of the key players in the efforts over the year were at the Huling Branch project site on a tour that was part of a celebration of the 15 years of restoration efforts in the Kettle Creek watershed. In addition to AMD sites, we also checked out fish habitat projects in Kettle Creek and its tributaries, as well as visiting areas that could be the site of future habitat projects.

Between tours we broke for lunch in

Cross Fork, more than 80 of us jamming into Deb's Place, a homey bar/restaurant just off Kettle Creek.

After lunch TU's Amy Wolfe presented awards of appreciation and framed TU prints to a number of the effort's key players. David Keller and Dr. Bob Hedin were honored for technical guidance while David McIntyre was praised for his volunteer commitment to fish habitat improvement efforts. Rep. Mike Hanna, D-Lock Haven, and Pamela Milavec both were honored for above-and-beyond support of Kettle Creek restoration efforts, while KCWA leaders Richard Sodergren and James Dubisz both earned awards for their leadership.

Afterward, the KCWA surprised Wolfe with a print – of a wild wolf – and “The Most Outstanding Award of All Time.” Wolfe, TU's Eastern Abandoned Mine Program and PA Eastern Brook Trout Habitat Initiative Director, has been involved with the project since its inception. She was visibly touched by the gesture of gratitude.

Varied approaches

In addition to surface site reclamation, another approach to restoring AMD impacted streams is to install passive treatment systems.

At the Swamp Area passive treatment system, Hedin, of the consulting firm Hedin Environmental, explained how the settling pond systems utilize a series of ponds through which water passes, limestone and organic compost in the pools helping to remove acidity. On average, the Swamp Area system removes 240 pounds of acidity per day. At the bottom of the series of settling ponds, the water runs into a wetland, where frogs enjoying the healthy wetland environment croaked contentedly.

Driving back down the mountain Hedin asked the bus driver to stop atop a culvert where Huling Branch flows into Twomile Run. The streambed through which Huling Branch flowed was iron orange, the discoloration an obvious indication of the creek's imperiled condition. Above the confluence, Twomile Run had the appearance of a healthy Appalachian trout stream, which it now is, to a large degree.

The lower stretch is not there yet. But it soon will be. Aquatic insects will come back first, the wild brook trout not far behind.



Brad Isles Photo

Headwater streams are the places where iconic brook trout go to spawn. They are often small streams that are vulnerable to the impacts of development.

SUPPORT

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provide high quality water to larger perennial streams.

The agencies are also looking for input on how to properly protect “isolated wetlands” which are important habitat for migrating waterfowl. Some bogs and brook trout ponds may also fall into this category.

This rule is a huge step forward for waters that were left unprotected by a series of Supreme Court decisions over the last decade. This rule is not a radical expansion of Clean Water Act authority, but a restoration to the protections offered to bodies of water for three of the four decades of the Act’s existence.

By protecting intermittent and headwater streams, the EPA and Corps are protecting some of the most important fish habitat, not only for spawning and juvenile fish, but also for ensuring higher water quality for downstream rivers.

These headwater streams are the places where iconic brook trout go to spawn. They are often small streams that are vulnerable to the impacts of natural gas development. The protection of the streams from natural gas development also extends to the surrounding upland habitat, which sportsmen value for hunting habitat for deer, wild turkey and small game.

The Corps and EPA are prudently asking for feedback on how to protect isolated wetlands which are important for migrating waterfowl. The rule specifically requests comments on this and other questions to find a balance between the

interests of the regulated community, conservationists and sportsmen.

Nothing in the rule changes the longstanding Clean Water Act exemptions for normal farming, ranching and forestry activities. Nobody wants to regulate a farmer’s responsible use of water in Pennsylvania.

According to the Fish and Wildlife Service, there were 1.1 million anglers and 775,000 hunters in Pennsylvania in 2011. Together, they directly spent more than \$1.45 billion on equipment and trips. Combined with wildlife watching activities, healthy fish, game, and other wildlife contribute more than \$2.6 billion to Pennsylvania’s economy. These species depend on healthy habitat and clean water.

The EPA and Corps are restoring the Clean Water Act to waters that were protected for most of the life of the law. The Clean Water Act has been an essential tool for making our country’s waters fishable and swimmable. This rulemaking isn’t a radical expansion of authority, but a clarification of which waters enjoy these protections.

We have seen the value of an effective Clean Water Act here in Pennsylvania. As late as the 1970s, rivers like the Little Juniata, Monongahela and Allegheny were so polluted that fishing and swimming were unthinkable. Today, we enjoy some of the best trout fishing in the state on the Little J, and Pittsburgh holds bass tournaments on its famous Three Rivers.

We want Congress to work with the Corps and EPA to IMPROVE the Clean Water Act, not weaken it.

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Contact information is available on pages 2-3.

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Headwaters

A message from PATU President Brian Wagner

On my way home from the Mid-Atlantic Regional meeting held in State College May 30-June 1 I stopped at my mother's home and stuck my waders in her deep freezer. Mom didn't ask why. She knows by now there must be some good reason for my request, like the year we made a kick seine net on Mother's Day.

Anyhow, I did explain to her about the New Zealand mud snail and how we want to prevent them from spreading to other waterways. If you have the means, a minimum of six hours in the freezer is the easiest way to kill the snails. For other cleaning options, please check out the link at patrout.org. PATU will be holding four Aquatic Invasive Species workshops across the state this fall and next spring to bring our members and the public the latest information on New Zealand mud snails and a host of other invasives, including didymo. (Is it really an invasive?)

After the "Getting Women Involved in TU" workshop at the meeting Friday afternoon, some of us headed out to the "Canyon" section of Spring Creek, below Benner Springs. As it turned out, I was in good company. Heidi Oberstadt, TU women's membership coordinator, and Judi Sittler, past president of the Spring Creek Chapter, were just upstream and Kelly Buchta, New Jersey Council women's initiative coordinator was downstream. Needless to say, we all shared in some success and fun on the water. During the weekend, I was able to speak with several other women chapter leaders from Pennsylvania, some that fly fish and some that do not. Fly fishing may be the front door into TU, but whether someone fly fishes or fishes at all it doesn't matter to me if they have something to offer and further the TU mission. Sandy Sausser, PATU outreach coordinator, will be allotting staff time to the TU Women's Initiative in Pennsylvania, but we still need to locate a volunteer to chair the committee. Finding a chair and other qualified women to fill roles within Council is a priority.

In my last column, I wrote about the EPA's Waters of the United States (WOTUS) proposed rule to clarify protection

under the Clean Water Act for streams and wetlands. Keith Curley, the director of government affairs at Trout Unlimited, focused his talk on WOTUS at the meeting. The comment period has been extended to Oct. 20. All of us need to weigh in on this matter. It is too important to anglers across the nation and especially for Pennsylvania to protect our headwater streams. Not to mention, one in three Americans gets drinking water from public systems that rely on seasonal, rain dependent and headwater streams. Please go to the PATU website's Announcements, News and Notes and click the link: "Your voice is needed now to protect PA's headwater streams." There you can find links to the draft rule, Chris Wood's video and the Take Action page on the TU website. This situation is very fluid, no pun intended, as there are legislative attempts to derail this proposed ruling as I write this.

When I gave the opening remarks at the regional meeting, I spoke about all of the opportunity that TU provides as an organization, opportunity for us as members and the diverse groups that we serve. These include youths, women, veterans, families and our communities as a whole. During the weekend, we shared new ideas and explored many of these opportunities, networking with each other and learning from each other on the best practices to take advantage of these opportunities and turn them into real initiatives to strengthen our chapters and further the TU mission.

I was reminded of a TU opportunity in early May when I had the pleasure of attending the 15 Year Kettle Creek Watershed Celebration in Cross Fork. The event was a celebration of the extraordinary work done there by several groups, but none more important than the group led by Trout Unlimited's Amy Wolfe, director of the Eastern Abandoned Mines Program and PA Eastern Brook Trout Initiative. We were treated to two conservation tours – one on large scale AMD (abandoned mine drainage) work and the other highlighting habitat projects within the watershed, including some upcoming culvert replacements. Cleaning up AMD is a daunting task



and seeing the work first hand left quite an impression.

Upon leaving the celebration, I was speaking with Katy Dunlap and Samantha Kutschel about everyone's plans for the upcoming weekend. As it turned out, Katy was heading to Erie for a Coldwater Conservation Corps stream monitoring training hosted by the Northwest PA Chapter. Samantha was heading back to State College for a women's fly fishing workshop. And I was heading home to eastern Pennsylvania to assist with a PFBC Mentored Youth Fishing Day. Again I was reminded of all of the opportunity that TU brings to the table. When you look at the entire effort of our chapters and members to further our mission it really is remarkable.

Building membership and retaining those members is critical to our success as an organization if we are to utilize all of this opportunity and is certainly a one TU moment. Work is being done at all levels of TU to attain this goal. The National Leadership Council (NLC) Grassroots workgroup, which I join in on, is working on several tools to ensure chapter and council effectiveness and membership retention.

Building on several surveys National has undertaken in other parts of the country, PATU has sent out a survey to our members to get a better understanding of our membership, assist our chapters and build a stronger council. Results will be shared

Continued on next page...

TIC programs wrap up another successful year

Trout in the Classroom wrapped up another successful year. For those unfamiliar with TIC, it is an interdisciplinary program in which students in grades 3-12 learn about coldwater conservation while raising brook trout from eggs to fingerlings in a classroom aquarium. All classrooms end the year by releasing their trout into a state-approved waterway. Over 250 schools in Pennsylvania participate in TIC, reaching upwards of 26,000 students per year.

Many of our chapters have members who are designated “program partners” with participating TIC schools. These partners offer their time, expertise, and sometimes financial funding to the classrooms in order to enhance the student’s learning and understanding of their environment.

Schools typically hold their trout release days from mid-April to late May. Most turn the release into a day-long event, incorporating educational learning stations such as macroinvertebrate identification, habitat walks, fly casting demonstrations and abandoned mine drainage activities.

On June 27, teachers introducing TIC to their schools for the



Contributed Photo

Students participating in a Trout in the Classroom program survey a stream for macroinvertebrates.

2014-15 school year attended a day-long workshop to learn about aquarium setup, trout care and release day activities.

Pennsylvania’s statewide TIC program is made possible through a unique partnership between PATU and the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission.

...Continued from previous page

at our state meeting on Sept. 13. Speaking of our annual meeting, I hope to see you there. We will not be far from the Little J, and Saturday’s events will include presentations from National’s Bryan Moore and Jeff Yates on critical information for our chapters. I even hear that there will be a fly casting obstacle course, and don’t forget the pig roast. And of course, our PATU awards presentation where we get to honor our chapters and volunteers for all they do.

Not to get too philosophical, but every time we head to a trout stream we are seeking out opportunity – opportunities to make

memorable moments. It may be the feel of a big brown checking the knot strength at the end of our tippet, a rainbow stripping line and flying out of the water like nobody’s business or the beautiful colors of our native brook trout back dropped by the pristine wilderness in which it lives. It may be to just get away from it all, commune with nature at our local stream, clear our heads or to spend time with family and friends.

I had some memorable moments this spring on our Pennsylvania waters, including one afternoon in late April on Brodhead Creek. Allow me set the mood.

Faint strands of sunlight washed the just-budding trees in an ominous glow, pushing through the clouds that were insistent on spitting rain. A breeze was blowing against my back. A mix of Quill Gordon and Hendrickson mayflies were having difficulty getting off the water. A few discerning trout were dining on the meal being collected and delivered to them on the far edge of the stream. I took this opportunity and was rewarded with a 20-inch wild brown trout.

Sure, we are not always rewarded in such a manner, but I do know that all that we do at TU makes these opportunities possible, making fishing better.

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@patrout.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 15-23.

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



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2014 PATU Fall Meeting and Festival

Shaver's Creek Community Building
September 13-14

Pennsylvania Council's annual Fall Meeting is our way of saying thank you to each chapter for their dedication in protecting, conserving and restoring Pennsylvania's coldwater streams.

This year's event includes training sessions that will provide ideas and strategies for building membership and protecting our coldwater resources. We are also encouraging members and those interested in learning more about Trout Unlimited to attend. We will have activities for the entire family!

TENTATIVE AGENDA

Saturday, September 13

8:30 a.m. – Registration

9:30 a.m. – Welcome: Brian Wagner, PATU President; Bryan Moore, TU Vice President of Volunteer Operations

10:45 a.m. – Break

11 a.m. – Effective Communication: Jeff Yates, Manager of Communications

11:45 a.m. – Update of statewide initiatives

12:30 p.m. – Lunch

1:30 p.m. – Breakout sessions and outdoor activities (This is an opportunity to discuss a variety of topics and share ideas and strategies with other chapters, and to participate in fun activities and network with other TU members). Potential Breakout sessions:

- Successful conservation projects
- Women in TU
- Youth engagement
- Membership engagement (Women in TU)
- Fundraising
- Sales tax exemption (assistance in filling out the paperwork)

3:30 p.m. – Fly Swap (Bring a dozen flies to swap with others.)

4 p.m. – Election of officers, approval of Bylaws revisions and PATU awards

5 p.m. – Raffle drawing

6 p.m. – Annual pig roast

7:30 p.m. – Bonfire social (weather permitting)

Sunday, September 14

9 a.m. – Executive Committee meeting (all are welcome to attend)

DETAILS

Location: The Shavers Creek Firemen's Park and Community Building is located at 8707 Fireman's Park Lane, Petersburg, PA.

Cost: The cost for the weekend is \$35 per person, and includes the annual pig

roast, programs and handouts.

DIRECTIONS

To the Shavers Creek Firemen's Park and Community Building:

From State College: Take Rt. 26 South at the bottom of Pine Grove Mountain. Turn right onto SR 1029, Charter Oak Road. Go 7 miles to Shavers Creek Fireman's Park. Look for sign on left.

From Huntingdon: Take 22 west to Rt. 305 East through Petersburg. Go 8 miles to Shavers Creek Fireman's Park. Look for sign on right.

FALL MEETING & FESTIVAL REGISTRATION

Name: _____ Chapter: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

____ I plan to bring an item for the Annual Raffle.

____ My chapter is not sales tax exempt and would like to complete the paperwork with assistance from PATU.

I plan to attend:

SATURDAY:

____ PATU Meeting, seminars, awards, pig roast, bonfire

____ I plan to bring my family and would be interested in family activities (Fish Prints, AMD chalk, Macro ID and game) ***\$5.00 additional charge, includes all meals.**

Name(s) of additional family member(s): _____

____ Fly Swap (I plan to bring a dozen flies of my choice to exchange with others.)

SUNDAY:

____ Executive committee meeting (optional)

____ Festival Activities

I would like to participate in the following breakout sessions (Choose no more than three):

- () Successful Conservation Programs and Projects
- () Women in TU
- () Youth Engagement
- () Membership Engagement
- () Fundraising

Registration deadline is September 8

(Please make checks payable to *PA Trout*)

The cost to attend is \$35/ person and includes all events and meals (excluding annual raffle and games), \$5 additional charge if planning to bring family.

MAIL TO:

PA Trout, PO Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823

More information on Fall Festival activities can be found at www.patrou.org.

LODGING

Stone Valley Recreation Area, Petersburg; 3 miles from the meeting. Let them know you are with TU. Rates vary depending on cabin occupancy. http://www.athletics.psu.edu/stonevalley/sv_cabins.shtml

The Inn at Edgewater Acres, Alexandria; 4.2 miles from meeting. Call for rates. <http://www.edgewateracres.net/>

Marriott Fairfield Inn, Huntingdon; 10 miles from meeting. \$169 and up per night. <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/scehd-fairfield-inn-and-suites-huntingdon-route-22-raystown-lake/>

Huntingdon Motor Inn, Huntingdon; 9.8 miles from meeting. \$68 and up per night. http://www.tripadvisor.com/Hotel_Review-g52862-d96502-Reviews-Huntingdon_Motor_Inn-Huntingdon_Pennsylvania.html

Whitetail Ridge Inn, Huntingdon; 16.1 miles from meeting. Call for rates. <https://www.facebook.com/whitetailridgeinn>



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In return, you'll receive an application form to complete and send to PennDOT along with your \$20 payment.

Revisions to PATU Bylaws

The following revisions in our procedure for the election of regional vice presidents, as covered in our PA Council Bylaws, were approved by the Executive Committee on Jan. 18, 2014, and will be voted on for approval at the Annual Membership meeting on Sept. 20, 2014. *Additions/revisions are in bold italics.*

ARTICLE III – OFFICERS

SECTION 4 – Regional Vice Presidents (Beginning with next to last paragraph)

Regional Vice Presidents shall hold at least one (1) Regional meeting per year, preferably at least six (6) weeks prior to Council's Annual Membership Meeting, ***at which time for the purpose of selecting a nominee or nominees for the position of Regional Vice President shall be selected to serve for the ensuing fiscal year. The nominee or nominees for Regional Vice President shall be voted on at Council's Annual Membership Meeting, to be decided by a majority vote of the Chapters present from that Region, with each Chapter submitting one vote. In the event***

that there is more than one (1) nominee and a tie vote results, the winner will be selected by the President.

Additional Regional meetings may be scheduled at the discretion of the Regional Vice Presidents as required to adequately address other matters pertinent to their respective Regions. A minimum of thirty (30) days advance notice of Regional meetings shall be provided by Regional Vice Presidents to their respective Chapter Presidents.

In the event that a vacancy occurs during a Regional Vice President's term of office, the Council Secretary will call for a special election. Candidates for the office of Regional Vice President shall submit to the Council Secretary a brief resume of their past duties and responsibilities, and the Council Secretary in turn will distribute their resumes to all Chapter Presidents within that respective Region for a vote on the candidates. Election of Regional Vice Presidents shall be determined by ***a*** at least a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of their respective Chapters, with each Chapter submitting one vote, which in turn shall be approved by a ***majority*** vote of the Executive Committee.

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Name: _____

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Chapter I wish to join: _____

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PA COUNCIL OF TROUT UNLIMITED

Minutes of the June 21, 2014
Executive Committee Meeting
PFBC Facility, Pleasant Gap, PA

Officers Attending: Brian Wagner, Ken Undercoffer, Charlie Charlesworth, Sherwin Albert, George Kutskel, Bob Pennell, Greg Malaska, Mark Hanes, Chuck Winters, Ben Hayes, John Leonard, Fred Gender, Monty Murty.

Others Attending: Samantha Kutskel, Sandy Sausser, Bob Volkmar, Jeff Ripple, Katy Dunlap, Tom Hall.

President's Report: The meeting was called to order at 9 a.m. by President Wagner. Wagner referenced his written report and announced that National TU has renewed its focus on the Chapter Effectivity Index (CEI) and is developing a similar rating program for councils. Member retention and a system to report volunteer hours online are other areas National is working on. A motion by Malaska/seconded by Undercoffer was approved to accept the minutes of the March, 2014 EXCOM meeting, as amended and previously distributed to EXCOM.

Treasurer's Report: The Budget Report for the period ending 5/31/14 was approved on a motion to receive and file by Charlesworth/seconded by Malaska. G. Kutskel noted that while Council no longer receives \$10K from the PFBC in support of Trout in the Classroom, the TIC Raffle did bring in \$8,488 to help pay for the program.

Discussion/Action Items

- ***Advocacy for the Clean Water Act Rule*** – Katy Dunlap emphasized that while chapters and sportsmen's group comments to legislators are important, individual comments are critical as they are counted the same in terms of numbers of comments received. Chapter leaders are asked to encourage members to submit comments. Deadline for comments is Oct. 20.
- ***Approve revisions to Stream Access Policy*** – The revised policy sent out to EXCOM prior to the meeting

was approved on a motion by G. Kutskel/seconded by Charlesworth with the additional provision of updating the membership numbers noted in the policy.

Awards Committee:

Report submitted. Albert noted that nominations were coming in slowly. S. Kutskel suggested that regional VPs should each submit a nomination for their region. A banner design to be used for chapter awards was reviewed. Wagner stated that National TU award nominations are due by Aug. 4.

Delaware River Committee: Report submitted. Decree Party members have adopted a one-year extension to the current interim policy on water releases. PFBC is installing temperature monitors in the main stem of the Delaware.

Environmental Committee: Report submitted. The committee is working on revising those PATU policies pertaining to environmental issues. Volkmar suggested, for credibility, that statements in our policies need to reference scientific evidence. The committee is transitioning over to Jeff Ripple as chair, effective in September. Ripple's contact info is 814-267-5881 and jripple@jripple.com.

Stream Access Committee: Report submitted. Winters reported that the committee is actively following the PFBC's new changes to habitat and access as they relate to its Cooperative Habitat Improvement Program (CHIP).

Trout Management Committee: Report submitted. Undercoffer reported that the committee is open to comments until June 27 on their revised Trout Management Policy. He also stated that PFBC is receptive to further angler input regarding identification of wild trout populations that are observed in the 49 stream sections recently removed from their Wild Trout listings. S. Kutskel announced plans to organize and conduct a seminar on wild trout.

Women's Committee: Report submitted. Sausser announced that the half-



price TU membership for renewed women TU members campaign has been extended through the end of 2014. She is considering a "Water & Wine" event to attract female anglers to join TU.

Communications Committee:

Report submitted. Charlesworth reported that additional ads have been obtained and will appear in the next issue of PA Trout. Deadline for submissions for the summer issue is July 5.

Development Committee: Report submitted. G. Kutskel reported that future Education & Outreach Raffle sales efforts need to be targeted to members instead of depending on chapter leaders to carry the ball. Future chapter donations will be assigned categories, e.g. Exceptional Value, High Quality, etc., to denote levels of giving.

Legislative Committee: Since the chair is vacant, no report was submitted.

Membership Committee: Report submitted. Hanes reported that the Council membership roster shows an increase of approximately 4% for the last quarter, but that it's difficult to gauge how much of this increase is due to free memberships offered to women because of National TU's outdated software.

Youth Education Committee: Report submitted. There was much discussion over whether Council's college initiative should be run under a National TU program, but there appeared to be a consensus that utilizing National's 5 Rivers Program would attract more college students through offering free memberships. S. Kutskel recommended that the Youth Education and Membership committees schedule a joint meeting to sort out which of the committees is best suited to administering the college program.

Eastern Water Projects Program Update: Katy Dunlap announced that Jake Lemon will be scheduling advanced CCC training for this fall, with another CCC conference planned for Aug. 15-16. Paula Piatt will be focusing on education about wild trout and classification of wild

trout waters in the Delaware River Basin. TU will be conducting assessments of unassessed waters in the Delaware River basin (in addition to the West Branch of the Susquehanna), and where warranted, TU will be advocating for wild trout stream designations.

National Leadership Council: Report submitted. Murty announced that John Kearney, who was nominated as Grassroots Trustee from PA, did not make National TU's cut for final consideration. Murty acknowledged Charlesworth's good work to date on planning for TU's 2015 Annual Meeting in Scranton, but also emphasized the need to promote the meeting with our chapters to ensure a good member turnout, particularly for the banquet.

Outreach Coordinator: Report submitted. Sausser announced that a Fishing Skills Instructor course will be conducted by Amidea Daniel of PFBC on Sept. 21. Sausser is requesting that photos of brook trout be submitted to her for a photo contest that will kick off at the fall meeting. The winning photo will be used as part of the design for a new PATU T-shirt. Funding for Trout in the Classroom was discussed at length. Approval was granted on a motion by Albert/seconded by Winters for Council to suspend startup funding for new programs until such time as funding source(s) can be established to replace funding formerly available from the PFBC.

The available funds will be used to support existing programs. It was also suggested that chapters request some portion of new program startup money as a partial match by their candidate schools.

Program Director: Report submitted. S. Kutskel reported that four regional workshops on aquatic invasive species (AIS) are being planned. A comprehensive overview of the Coldwater Heritage Partnership (CHP) program was presented by S. Kutskel for the benefit of newer members of EXCOM. A Back the Brookie grant for \$1,000 was presented to Tom Hall, Donegal Chapter President, who presented an overview of the Climbers Run project that the grant will be used for. Bob Volkmar accepted the grant for the God's Country Chapter's project on the First Fork of Sinnemahoning Creek.

Regional Reports

- ***North Central*** – Six out of eight chapter reports were filed, including Columbia County submitted by S. Kutskel. Susquehanna and Penns Creek did not report.
- ***Northeast*** – All nine chapter reports were filed.
- ***Northwest*** – Eight out of nine chapter reports were filed. Neshannock did not report.
- ***South Central*** – All seven chapter reports were filed. Leonard highlighted the Falling Spring Chapter's concerns

over a major CAFO proposed in Fulton County which could impact Cove Creek.

- ***Southeast*** – All seven chapter reports were filed.
- ***Southwest*** – All eight chapter reports were filed. Gender announced that he is moving out of his region, and therefore a new SE Regional VP must be found ASAP.

It was decided that future regional VP reports should include a regional overview similar to what is contained in the current SC Region Report.

New Business:

The following meeting calendar was established for FY2015:

November 8-9, 2014 – Strategic Planning Meeting

January 10, 2015 – EXCOM Meeting (snow date January 17)

April 11, 2015 – EXCOM Meeting

June 27, 2015 – EXCOM Meeting

September 19, 2015 – Annual Membership Meeting (in conjunction with National meeting)

September 20, 2015 – EXCOM Meeting (in conjunction with National meeting)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:03 p.m. on a motion by Gender/seconded by Winters.

– Bob Pennell, Council Secretary

Fishing Skills Instructor course set for September

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited will be hosting a Fishing Skills Instructor course from 12-5 p.m. Sept. 21 at the H.R. Stackhouse Facility in Bellefonte.

We encourage all our chapter members and TIC program partners to attend this course to gain helpful tips and insights for holding fishing classes in your area. Once a participant has gone through the course and registers as a Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission instructor, they are able to borrow fishing equipment from PFBC for their own events.

The training is designed to cover the basics on fishing instruction, teaching tips and program set up. This initial course is a prerequisite for the fly fishing instructor

class that will be held late 2014.

Another benefit to becoming a certified instructor is that you can start earning points, either by teaching or assisting a class, to redeem for gear from Cabela's.

If you're interested in attending the FSI course on Sept. 21, please contact Sandy Sausser at outreach@patrout.org.

If you are not able to travel to Central PA for a course, please check the list of currently scheduled FSI courses on the PFBC's web site at www.fish.state.pa.us.

The following is a list of FSI coordinators if there isn't a course being held in your area and you have a group of interested participants who would like to attend one in your region. All FSI courses

are schedule permitting of the Regional Education Staff.

Region Education Staff contact information to hold FSIs in TU chapter regions:

NE Region: Allan Schreffler, 570-477-2206, alschreffl@pa.gov

NC Region: Amidea Daniel, 814-359-5127, adaniel@pa.gov

NW Region: Chad Foster, 814-336-2426, chfoster@pa.gov

SE Region: Andy Desko, 215-968-3631, adesko@pa.gov

SC Region: Adam Spangler, 717-486-7352, adspangler@pa.gov

SW Region: Mandy Smith, 814-443-9841, mirsmith@pa.gov

Treasurer's Report

by PATU Treasurer George Kutskel

There was not a lot of new revenue this quarter, and that was expected. The upside was the Trout in the Classroom raffle.

Last quarter it appeared that we were only going to come up with half of our \$10,000 goal. Thanks to the efforts of Sandy Sausser and Samantha Kutskel we were able to make larger gains than we were on pace for. I would like to thank the

members that took the time and spent their cash in helping to keep our grant program going. I would also like to give a shout out to the Oil Creek Chapter, which donated their winnings back to the program.

The total raised was \$8,488.12 – still short of goal – but it gave some room and allowed us to fund TIC grants at a reduced level.

Chapters receive 'Back the Brookies' grants for conservation efforts

The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited announced this year's Back the Brookie grant recipients at the summer Executive Committee Meeting on June 21.

Recipients were:

- Donegal Chapter for Climber's Run
- Adam's County Chapter for Birch Run
- God's Country Chapter for 1st Fork of the Sinnemahoning Creek.

"It's a great pleasure for our Council to be able to provide assistance to these worthy projects in support of our native trout," said PATU President Brian Wagner.

These small grant opportunities are

given to chapters to assist in their efforts to protect, conserve and restore Pennsylvania's native brook trout populations. This grant is made possible through the Back the Brookie license plate sales.

Thank you to everyone who has purchased a license plate. If you haven't had a chance to donate to the conservation, protection and restoration of Pennsylvania's brook trout yet please order you license plate today. The order form is available on page 11.

Updates on these projects will be made available in future newsletters.

Chapter Donations

Starting with this issue we will be using a new format to show chapter donations to Council.

Please note that all money we receive from chapters and individuals is used to fund Council program or project, including this newsletter. Grant money can only be used for the purpose of the grant. We know how hard it is to raise funds and wish to recognize your efforts.

Exceptional Value \$1,000 or more

- Mountain Laurel

High Quality \$500 to \$999

- Allegheny Mountain
- Oil Creek
- Penns Creek

Brook Trout \$250 to \$499

- Donegal
- Chestnut Ridge
- Adams County

Wild Trout \$100 to \$249

- God's Country
- RB Winter

***Want to see your chapter listed?
Contact your officers and tell them!***



Contributed Photos

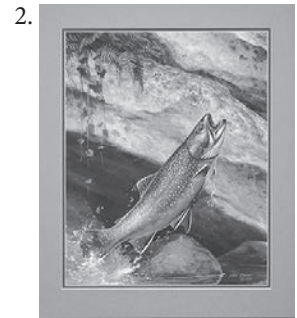
Above left, Tom Hall, president of the Donegal Chapter, accepts a Back the Brookie grant from Council President Brian Wagner at the Executive Committee meeting on June 21. Above right, Bob Volkmar accepts a grant for the God's Country Chapter.

Merchandise Order Form

Thank you for supporting the efforts of the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited in protecting, conserving, and restoring Pennsylvania's coldwater streams. Merchandise orders are processed during volunteer time. Please allow adequate time for your order to be filled and shipped. Direct questions to George Kutskel at maksak@comcast.net or 814-371-9290.



	Item Description	Price	Qty.	Total
	"Back the Brookie" License Plate	\$25.00		
1	Ball cap w/logo (circle) Khaki Navy Camo	\$15.00		
	Small Waterproof Fly Box (5"x4"x1")	\$20.00		
	Large Waterproof Fly Box (6"x4"x1")	\$25.00		
	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		
	<i>More of CVTU's Favorite Flies</i> Book	\$22.00		
2	Ned Smith "Sting of the Hook" Print – Unframed	\$148.40		
3	Little Juniata Patch 2011 – 4"	\$6.00		
	Little Juniata Patch 2011 – 6"	\$10.00		
4	Kinzua Creek Patch 2010 – 4"	\$6.00		
	Kinzua Creek Patch 2010 – 6"	\$10.00		
5	Delaware River Patch 2009 – 4"	\$6.00		
	Delaware River Patch 2009 – 6"	\$10.00		
	Pine Creek Patch 2008 – 4"	\$6.00		
	Pine Creek Patch 2008 – 6"	\$10.00		
	PATU Decals – 3"	\$3.00		
	PATU Travel Rod Case	\$50.00		
	Practice Casting Game	\$25.00		
	Custom 9'0, 5-wt., 3-piece Fly Rod	\$175.00		
	Adult TIC T-Shirt (circle size) S M L XL	\$20.00		
	Adult TIC T-Shirt (circle size) 2XL 3XL	\$22.00		
	Youth TIC T-Shirt (circle size) M L	\$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: _____

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

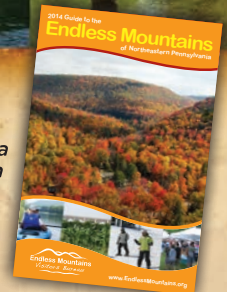
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Column wins award sponsored by PATU

Editor's Note: Each year at its spring banquet, the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association – of which Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited is a supporting member – presents its Excellence in Craft Awards. These awards recognize POWA members for their outstanding work in 20 different categories during the previous calendar year. PATU has been a long-time sponsor of the “Trout and the Coldwater Resource Award.” The following column authored by outdoor writer Don Feigert, and published in *The (Sharon) Herald* on Sunday, Sept. 15, 2013, was selected as this year's winner.

Last trip for wild trout in the fall

It was the first week of October last year, early in the morning, and I set out for what I knew would be my last wild trout venture until spring.

I chose a wade-across little stream I had never visited before, one that runs into the Allegheny from the east side of the river, not my side, the west side, where Camp F-Troop resides. Pausing at the mouth of the creek, I felt anticipation and a sense of adventure.

Among the great pleasures of fishing wild trout streams is the joy of discovery. Even a familiar waterway inspires wonder at what you might encounter around the next bend, but a “new” stream brings extra revelations: waterfalls, pools, riffles, wildlife and outdoor scenery that you've never encountered before. I couldn't wait to step in and find out.

The autumn air felt cool on my face, and a light mist rose off the waters where rays of sunlight filtered in among the dark green hemlock branches. On the hillsides above rose hardwood trees sporting foliage of bronze, amber, scarlet and gold. The brook



Todd Puleo Photo

A Warren County wild native brook trout, taken last fall from a wade-across little stream.

trout, too, would be dressed in their best annual finery, reticulated deep green on top with burnt orange bellies and salmon-colored fins below. When you catch a wild native Pennsylvania brook trout in the fall, you stop and gaze at it under the crystal blue October sky before you release.

Dressed in camouflage, hunkered down to avoid spooking fish as I crept forward up the stream, I hiked 100 yards in before I cast a line. But the water in front of me now was irresistible, a long white-water riffle that tumbled down into a deep green pool, with tree roots and jammed branches along the shoreline for cover.

I raised my 9-foot fly rod, tossed my number 12 muddler minnow upstream, and let it drift down into the feeding zone. I felt a tug and set the hook and thrilled to the thumping vibration on the line. I played him briefly and coaxed him – a pumpkin and avocado-colored 10-inch beauty – to the sandy shoreline below the pool, wet my hands, unhooked him, looked at him for a minute, and let him go.

I'm a lucky fisherman, and I often catch one early in the day, which takes the pressure off and allows me to enjoy even more the autumn splendor of the woods. That was a good-sized brookie, I thought, which is not unusual during the fall. Wild trout feed heavily before spawning, and even the older, smarter fish that elude you all summer long can be duped in October.

I fished and hiked another three hours and caught six more trout, all of them smallish, five to seven inches long, which is to be expected in a tiny stream like this. I stopped and sat on a rock and cracked my thermos of coffee and munched an apple and sighed and breathed in of pure mountain air.

The stream was high gradient and rocky,

so the waters tumbled down sharply and created fishable pools from place to place. I thought about my morning. Three hours of enjoyment in the big woods, catching some wild brook trout, spotting two deer on a hillside, getting some uphill hiking in, relishing the cool temperatures, and just being there, in the Pennsylvania woodlands where I belong.

I peered far upstream and spotted a small mass of whiteness in the distance, a waterfall, I was sure, a big one a long ways off. I clambered to my feet and reached the spot in five minutes, a small glade among the tall hemlocks, with boulders pressing the shorelines and a six-foot plunge waterfall above me, with deep emerald waters at my feet, the aroma of damp greenery all around, and the sense of past joined with present. Some Seneca boy must have fished this spot or one just like it 300 years ago and felt the leap of heart at being here that I felt now.

I tossed in, and a big fish hit and fought and came to hand beautifully colored and fierce of spirit, and I released him before I could take a picture or measure his size. A foot long I'll say now, because that's as big as they get in these little creeks. He was at least three years old, born and raised and thriving in these small clean cold waters.

I broke down my rod and walked out of the trout woods for the last time that year. The brook trout were due to spawn in a week or two, and I don't bother them then.

*

Don Feigert is the outdoors writer for The Herald and the Allied News. To find out about his latest book The F-Troop Camp Chronicles or his earlier books, contact him at dfeigert@verizon.net or 724-931-1699. Visit his web site at www.donfeigert.com.

Wayne's Coldwater Kids enjoy great day on water

By Sandy Sausser

PATU Outreach Coordinator

The group of 37 students and mentors stood on the banks of Spruce Creek anxiously peering into the water. Joe Humphreys expertly cast his line into a bubbling riffle waiting only a few moments before his fly enticed a nice-sized trout to the surface. Everyone clustered closer as a student helped Humphreys bring the fish to shore. The crowd admired the catch before the trout was released back into the sparkling stream.

Youth and mentors alike couldn't have asked for nicer weather on April 27 as the fifth annual Wayne's Coldwater Kids event kicked off. The day is an opportunity for youth ages 12-15 to fish Wayne Harpster's pristine section of Spruce Creek. Mentors representing 16 chapters attended the event to offer help and guidance as the youths spent the day pulling in trout and enjoying the bucolic setting.

Harpster generously offers his section of stream for the kids to fish, and also provides a delicious meal to all the participants. The event is organized by Mark Belden of Penn State Fly Fishing and



Contributed Photo

A group of 37 students and mentors participated in this year's Wayne's Coldwater Kids event.

PATU's Youth Education Committee. Humphreys was on hand to lend his expertise to the young anglers along with Penn State entomology professor Greg Hoover, who gave a presentation on macro invertebrate identification.

The event aims to encourage an interest in fly fishing among youths. It was easy to see the excitement amongst as they pulled in one trout after another. Even when a trout was missed, the fishermen and women remained happily determined to keep trying.

The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited would like to thank the Harpster Family, Mark Belden, Penn State student mentors, volunteers, chapter mentors and youth participants for making the 2014 event a great success.

Be creative when introducing youngsters to fishing

By George Kutskel

President of Allegheny Mountain Chapter

Have you ever heard someone say "we need to stock trout to get kids fishing?"

I've heard this statement and many just like it too many times to count. Our chapter even went down this road about 10 years ago. If our goal as members of Trout Unlimited is to get young children to enjoy fishing and continue to participate in the sport we all love, maybe we need to look at this from the kids' perspective. For any beginner a trout fishing trip does not always provide the best results.

We recently held two youth fishing events. One was geared towards fly fishing and the other bait. Both were at locations where bluegills are the dominate species, and everyone who attended enjoyed the events and expressed an interest in continuing to participate in the sport.

The first one was a family fishing event that was held at the Keystone Tall Tree Girl Scout Camp. Each youth that attend had to be accompanied by a parent or guardian. The camp has a pond with bluegills, largemouth bass and brown

bullheads. We used the PA Fish and Boat Commission's SMART Angler program to kick off the day.

Some parents expected this event to be a trout derby, and were surprised to hear there were no trout. This event was held to get the youths interested in fishing so that they may continue to go out and enjoy the outdoors.

We had over 100 people come out that day and not only did everyone catch fish, but even those who expected a trout derby said they would do it again.

The second was a fly fishing event with Big Brothers Big Sisters. While we had a better turnout for the family fishing event, this one featured one-on-one mentoring program. Again, we use PFBC's fishing skills course and all participants caught many bluegills, all on flies. In fact, this event is so popular, we have a hard time getting participants to come back for lunch.

I give these two examples to drive the message that we do not always need to provide trout for an enjoyable and memorable event. Panfish can be just as

fun.

Plus, there are many benefits – the first being cost. Bluegills and bullheads have no problem reproducing and are very common in lakes and ponds around the state so there is no need to stock them for good fishing. Second, they feed actively, many times trout just will not feed due to the water temperature or stress from the trip from a hatchery.

If your chapter is thinking of hosting a fishing event, I would suggest trying out a bluegill pond or lake. Also, take the Fish and Boat Commission's Fishing Skills Instructor Course. This one-day course provides the skills and teaching techniques to help beginners learn fish. After becoming certified you can also use PFBC equipment for events.

PATU will be hosting a FSI course on Sept. 21 in Bellefonte. For more information visit www.patROUT.org.

Let's get more people involved by showing them that fishing doesn't have to be difficult or stressful and can be infinitely more fun than playing on the computer or watching TV.

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

at Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center. It gave an overview of the state of our streams in the county. Chapter leaders met with PA Rep. Marcia Hahn on April 23 to discuss HB1576 and other sportsmen issues. Leadership toured Bushkill Creek on May 14 with Jim Wilson, Northampton County watershed specialist, Karl Lutz, PFBC stream habitat section chief, and members of the Bushkill Stream Conservancy to review potential habitat improvement sites. We signed on to a TU sportsmen's letter to Congressman Bill Shuster in support of the EPA proposed rule clarifying protection of ephemeral and intermittent streams under the Clean Water Act. Our 3rd annual Pig & Corn Roast is at the Riverside Bar & Grill on Sept. 20. Stream cleanups were held April 9 concentrating on "high use" and access areas on Martins Creek north of the village, and April 19 at the Bushkill Creek catch and release area, our Adopt-A-Highway along Bushkill Drive and the Martins Creek in Bangor. We posted new signs along the catch and release section of Bushkill Creek. We participated in two TIC release days with staff at Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center. Nazareth Middle School's release was April 25 with about 120 students and Wind Gap Middle School's was May 28 with about 150 students. Each school released about 80 brook trout into Bushkill Creek and then rotated through several stations. Members participated in a Project Healing Waters event hosted by the Hokendauqua Chapter on May 17. Our May 7 "Bugs & Dogs" family picnic featured plenty of hot dogs, macro-invertebrates and camaraderie. Our June 4 membership meeting was held at the catch and release section of Bushkill Creek. On June 7, we participated in Northampton County Youth Day at Stockertown Rod & Gun Club. About 170 youths rotated through 10 stations including our "Forks of the Delaware Fly Fishing Experience."

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Greg Malaska

218 W. 13th St.

Jim Thorpe, PA 18229

E-mail: grgemalaska@gmail.com

Phone: 570-657-7169

Brodhead Chapter #289

Todd Burns

610-704-4549, tgburns@rcn.com

Website: www.brodheadtu.org

On April 9, Greg Malaska, Don Miller, Eric Baird and Don Baylor gave PFBC Executive Director John Arway a tour of numerous Monroe County streams, highlighting the efforts of the chapter. Arway then gave a presentation to membership that evening. A stream improvement project planned for McMichaels Creek is set for this summer. Bank and in-creek boulder and stone placements will stabilize banks, create needed structure and cover, and increase holding water. Early discussions regarding a project on Pocono Creek continue. Our TIC school successfully released trout into McMichael Creek. Members assisted with an April 12 children's fishing contest and the May general membership meeting was at Hughes Cancer Center in East Stroudsburg for a presentation for Casting for Recovery. Members manned a booth and helped at Friends of Cherry Valley on May 17 and attended the Casting for Recovery luncheon on May 18. We assisted with workshops at the Monroe County Conservation Camp in July and also with a fly fishing workshop along Brodhead Creek on June 28.

Forks of the Delaware Chapter #482

Joe Baylog

610-751-9116, baylogj@gmail.com

Website: www.forkstu.org

Chapter leaders and members attended the Northampton County EAC meeting on March 31

The board elected Jennifer Abraham to be chapter historian. Our college outreach program began and two students spent a few hours fly fishing with Dale Ott at Bob Saks' pond on April 29. Committees were restructured and approved at the June 5 board meeting. One change was the adoption of a Women in the Outdoors Committee. On April 12, we had 10 members assist with a cleanup on the Hokey in Northampton. On May 5, we had 10 members at a cleanup on Coplay Creek. Ott reported at the June 5 board meeting that a permit was approved by DEP for projects planned on Coplay Creek. A Project Healing Waters "Train the Trainer" was held at Saks' pond on April 26. Members of the Lehigh Valley chapters met for instruction on working with disabled vets. May 17 was the first PHW outing. Fifteen vets and their families, 23 chapter members and seven members from other Lehigh Valley chapters spent the day at Saks' pond. A second event was in Benton from June 6-8 with five vets and six chapter members. A September outing is planned at Greenwalk Nursery in Bangor. A membership meeting on the Hokey was May 21. We were asked by Tom Christopher of the Kreidersville Covered Bridge Association to help with youth fishing at their weekend festival May 31-June 1 and nine members assisted. The association stocked 110 trout and they were very cooperative. Other events were an introduction to fly fishing (casting) on June 18, introduction to fly fishing (knots) on July 16, and our family picnic is Aug. 9 at Saks' pond.

Lackawanna Valley Chapter #414

Gary Smith

570-718-0686, aflytyer@comcast.net

Website: <http://www.lackawannavalleytu.org>

Two board members attended the Northeast Regional meetings in State College where two of our TU Teens graduates talked at the NLC Youth Committee workshop. One of our directors also

Continued on next page...

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spoke at the meeting. One of our TU Teens grads was accepted to attend National's Teen Summit in the Driftless Area of Wisconsin. The same teen was elected to our board. The TU Teens formed their own sub-chapter within Lackawanna TU, elected their own officers, are working on their own bylaws, set up a Facebook page and are developing a website with National TU. They conducted a group trip to Hillside Lake. The chapter is currently involved in two fundraisers – a raffle with first prize being an entire fishing outfit from Orvis and the second is our annual pig roast on Aug. 16. We received a \$12,000 grant from Lackawanna County for a project on the Lackawanna River that will be added to an EAS Grant we've gotten from TU. We have an offer for technical assistance from TU's AMD office for a project on Leggetts Creek. We had a booth and made a TU presentation at the Green Stormwater Solutions Bus Tour at the University of Scranton. Chapter members took part in three river cleanups. One was our own, one was with the Lackawanna River Corridor Association and one was with the Lackawanna River Conservation District. Chapter volunteers worked a booth at the Lackawanna River Corridor Association's Riverfest, which is their biggest celebration for the year. LVTU has agreed to a settlement with DEP and the American Rock Salt Company to monitor river conditions below their discharge point that will be funded by them. DEP has agreed to notify us if there is a violation. We completed this year's TU Teens Fly Fishing School and sent in a bulk registration form for 12 new teen members. We conducted a women's fly fishing school that featured all women instructors on June 8. Eighteen women took the course and it was probably most well-received school we have done. We had a display at the 5 Rivers College initiative program at the University of Scranton, Marywood University and Keystone College. Keystone College is starting a fly fishing curriculum on campus and will have TU members teaching the course. Chapter members attended the PATU Youth Committee meeting in Pleasant Gap in April. Volunteers worked a booth at two kids fishing derbies in June and had a booth at the Lackawanna Heritage Trail bike tour. Our chapter trip to the Catskill Fly Fishing Center was June 23 in Roscoe, NY. Our women's intermediate fly fishing class was July 19-20 at Hillside Park, and the chapter's annual barbecue is coming up on Aug. 16 at Dickson City Community Park.

Monocacy Chapter #491

Erik Broesicke

610-909-2652, monocacytu491@gmail.com

Website: www.monocacytu.org

We participated in the annual Spring Event, a collaboration between the four Lehigh Valley chapters. We have made progress on permitting requirements for the removal of a small dam. A

joint effort between the DEP, American Rivers and TU took place in June to complete the on-site survey work needed to fulfill the permits. We participated in the "Save the Farm" event, a community outreach program at a local farm. TU members helped to educate residents about the importance of clean, cold water, and macroinvertebrates. Secretary Bob Signorello collaborated with Bob Saks of the Hokendaqua Chapter to create the "Train the Trainer Program," designed to help educate members interested in volunteering for a Project Healing Waters event in May.

Pike Wayne Chapter #462

Matt Wishneski

570-685-5420, mattwishneski@gmail.com

Website: www.pwtu.org

Our annual banquet was April 5 at Lukan's Farm Resort. Over 100 prizes were offered at the bucket raffle, silent and live auctions which were highlighted by valuable works of art, fly rod outfits and fishing trips and a custom handcrafted "Lackawaxen River" shadow box. Thanks goes to our banquet chair, Matt Wishneski, and his committee. Our culvert replacement project on Masthope Creek has been canceled. The Game and Fish commissions completed the project without us. We are currently planning a handicapped fishing access area on the same water. Our project to realign the mouth of Shehawken Creek at its confluence with the Delaware is still in the works. The chapter has already begun its monthly barbecue meetings on the Lackawaxen River the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m.

Schuylkill County Chapter #537

Tony Mione

717-979-0235, tonymione@outlook.com

Website: www.schuylkillcountytu.org

We were very busy in March, April and May with several raffles, sales, educational and conservation events. The TIC release at Tri Valley and Williams Valley had almost 50 percent survival rate. Beau Huey was selected to go to the Yellow Breeches Fly Fishing School.

Stanley Cooper, Sr. Chapter #251

Joseph J. Gruszkiewicz, Jr.

570-430-2300, blast.castjgg@frontier.net

Website: www.sctu.org

Heide Cebrick, our Project Healing Waters coordinator, says the project continues with field trips as veterans from the VA now get to practice their skills learned over the winter months on some local waters. The chapter had several presentations during its general meetings. Ed Perry spoke on Global Warming and Gary Edwards, noted fisherman and guide, gave a presentation on Salmon Fishing in NY. Mike O'Brien will have a presentation on "Fly Fishing for Carp on the Susquehanna River" at the next general meeting in September. Our 23rd annual banquet was in April and 86 attended. At the banquet, the chapter presented a donation to Friends of the Upper Delaware to be used for conservation of the Delaware River and its watershed. We also continue to monitor water conditions on Bowmans Creek. Our 17th annual Youth Fly Fishing Camp was June 7. The 26 youths attending rotated between four learning stations – entomology, fly tying, knot tying and fishing on Bowmans Creek. The chapter thanks coordinator Joe Ackoury and volunteers for making this camp a success.

Western Pocono Chapter #203

George Hludzik

570-233-0099, grhlaw@ptd.net

We have been working with Penn State University, Hazleton Campus, to organize a seminar on acid mine water and its effects on freshwater streams in northeastern Pennsylvania. The seminar is at 7 p.m. Oct. 21 at Costas Auditorium. Mike Gondell has lined up three speakers, and we are hoping to get two more. The WPTU summer outing was June 15, Father's Day, but not at the White Haven Sportsmen's Club as originally planned. The board decided to have the outing at a more public, accessible location, and chose Austin Blakeslee Park, along the Tobyhanna River. We had two featured speakers, Don Baylor and Don Miller. Baylor has fly fished for trout extensively throughout Pennsylvania, the northeast US and in western states. A native of Stroudsburg he has fished Pocono streams for over 50 years. Miller, also a retired Stroudsburg school teacher, is known for his extensive knowledge of the Poconos, their natural history and the effect this natural history has had on the culture of the region. On May 20, several board members, representatives of Nescopeck State Park and a member of the Luzerne County Conservation District met with Karl Lutz, of PFBC in an effort to find an appropriate location on one of the Nescopeck Creek tributaries for a restoration project. We were

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unable to find one, but Karl said the tributaries are all in wonderful shape with good base, little erosion and plenty of tree cover. We will continue to work with Karl in planning restoration projects in our chapter's geographical boundaries. Several representatives of WPTU attended the Mentored Youth Fishing Day at the Nescopeck State Park. Members assisted at the Cub/Boy Scout fishing derby at Camp Kresge. Member Joe Drozdak was wonderful with the kids in his fly tying lessons, and the members also conducted fly casting classes. Our chapter was recognized at the Boy Scouts dinner and our vice president, Tom Jones, received a plaque in recognition of his work with the scouts.

NORTHCENTRAL
CHAPTERS

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Raymond B. Winter 124
Spring Creek 185
Susquehanna 044
Tiadaghton 688

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Ben Hayes

119 Vista Drive

Mifflinburg, PA 17844

E-mail: brh010@bucknell.edu

Phone: 570-939-0730

Columbia County Chapter #38

814-359-5233

info@coldwaterheritage.org

We participated in the Fish 4 Fun Day sponsored by the Columbia County Conservation District helped with the Outdoor Adventure Camp on June 17. We had a booth at the Outdoorsman Expo at the Northern Columbia Community Center in Benton June 14-15. We are looking at potential projects for this fall and plan to meet in September. More information will be sent out to members and the community in August. Anyone interested in getting involved in the chapter please contact Samantha at skutskel@coldwaterheritage.org.

God's Country Chapter #327

Dr. Peter Ryan

814-274-8718, drflyfish@yahoo.com

Our 7th annual Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing event was May 20-23 and honored Korean War veterans. Along with this year's 13 disabled veteran guests, 16 WWII and Korean War vets from Potter County participated in the 40 mile parade/motorcycle escort. Pete Ryan attended the 15th anniversary celebration of the founding of the Kettle Creek Watershed Association and its partnership with National TU. Amy Wolfe organized and hosted the event, which included visits to stream improvement sites and AMD remediation sites, as well as a great luncheon and award ceremony. Several members also attended aquatic invasive species programs at Sinnamahoning State Park and Wellsboro. The chapter, under the guidance of Ted Bear and David Sautler, built and placed eight streamside wader/boot wash stations along the three special regulation projects in Potter County to stop the spread of didymo and New Zealand mud snails. On April 24, members Ted Bear, Kathy Mitchell, Frank Weeks and Pete Ryan helped with a TIC release of over 120 brook trout into Toles Hollow Run. Pete Ryan and grandson Mitch participated in the Wayne's Coldwater Kids on April 27. God's Country will take part in the Black Forest Conservation Club's Potter County Conservation School by providing fly fishing and casting instruction on Aug. 6, and also by sponsoring a student. On June 14, we drew the winner of our Project Healing Waters raffle – a day of chartered fishing for four on Lake Erie with Capt. Fred Forsythe on his boat Cast Away Adventures. Members Bob Volkmar and Frank Weeks are preparing the final draft of a conservation plan for the Upper Allegheny River as the final stage of the Coldwater Heritage Grant received last year. The Upper First Fork Watershed Association, after the application preparation completed by member Ted Bear, received a Back the Brookie Grant for a stream improvement project on the Prouty Branch of the First Fork. Stream monitors continue recording and Bob Volkmar continues downloading data from four instream data loggers as part of the CCC program. We began planning for the Unassessed Waters Initiative at the June chapter meeting. Three members attended the Aquatic Macroinvertebrate Identification Workshop in Wellsboro presented by Katy Dunlap and Bob Volkmar. It is hoped that those participating in the CCC stream monitoring program will incorporate macroinvertebrate identification as part of their monitoring effort. Ted Bear, the chapter's TIC coordinator, hopes to have Galeton and Northern Potter schools also involved in TIC next year. Ted and Kathy Mitchell attended an "Invasive Plants" presentation by Kim Lott, education specialist at Sinnamahoning State Park.

Lloyd Wilson Chapter #224

Bill Bailey

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Website: www.lwtu.org

Dr. Lester Kleckner is researching, compiling and organizing the history of our chapter. We finished our annual fly tying class at the end of March. We averaged 20 students at each session. At the conclusion we provided each attendee a voucher for a youth fishing license and a youth membership in TU. On May 15-16, chapter members instructed fly casting and fly tying to Jersey Shore Middle School students at their annual outdoor environmental field days. The first day was at Little Pine Creek State Park and the second day was held inside due to weather. On May 28, members participated in the Jersey Shore High School Outdoor Club's float trip down Big Pine Creek. Members assisted with fishing events at the NE Fishery Center in Lamar in May and June. Those we helped included young people, special needs students and guests from various assisted living homes. Our annual family picnic was June 4 at Sieg Conference Center. Several members assisted at the PFBC sponsored family fishing day event at Bald Eagle State Park on June 7.

R.B. Winter Chapter #124

Robert Laubach

570-966-3379, oldfrstr@dejazzd.com

Members conducted a fly tying seminar at the Union County Library, presented a water quality program for Mifflinburg Middle School's Outdoor Day, assisted with the Wounded Warriors program sponsored by the Union County Sportsman Club, and conducted the chapter's annual cleanup along Penns Creek in April. Members served as monitors at Youth Fishing Day at R.B. Winter State Park in May. The annual "fishout" and picnic was held along Penns Creek. In June, members taught fly casting and fly tying during Summerfest at R.B. Winter State Park.

Spring Creek Chapter #185

Bob Vierck

814-360-3702, pres@springcreektu.org

Website: www.springcreektu.org

Our first two meetings in the fall will be with Dennis Charney, a guide and casting instructor, and Bill Anderson, resident of the Little Juniata River Association. Our 41st annual dinner had 22 percent greater attendance and produced \$5,000 more than the prior year. In addition, we raised \$3,250 via a 36-hour Centre Gives campaign that will be used primarily for the endowment. Judi Sittler raised \$2,400 to start a new TIC program in Bellefonte. Conservation activities include mixed seed planting at the Lower Milesburg site and a major planting of 1,750 different native shrubs and trees at Upper Milesburg. In conjunction with partners PFBC, Western Pa. Conservancy, Clearwater Conservancy and the Citizens Hook and

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Ladder No. 1 we were able to float 69 volunteers over two days on Spring Creek and accomplish a planting that had been hoped for many years. Fisherman's Paradise parking lot improvements, in-stream stabilization, and planting and Rock Road parking lot improvements and planting are upcoming. Permits have been approved and we expect construction in August/September. The Oak Hall project is still in the planning and permits stage and is set for August. Our "Return the roots, runoff pollutes" campaign is over. This project included mailing 200 "My Healthy Stream: A Handbook for Streamside Owners" and "A Homeowner's Guide to Stormwater," two streamside informational sessions, and a "backyard makeover" for a streamside landowner. We are coordinating with Bellefonte Borough and PFBC for habitat improvements along Spring Creek in Bellefonte as part of the construction of a new flood wall. The permit application will include several in-stream habitat structures and a 180-foot overhang using the block construction. Additional recent activities included sponsorship of an all-day conference "Stormwater Management: Looking for Innovative Approaches"; a mentored youth program at Whipple Lake on April 5; an outreach program on Earth Day; an Arbor Day program at Penn State on April 25; Spring Creek cleanup with the Clearwater Conservancy on April 26; Wayne's Coldwater Kids; a May 1 meeting with Larry Fennessey presenting the results of an extensive water flow and temperature study of the "Duck Pond," including recommendations; and a tour of the UAJA wastewater treatment plant.

Tiadaghton Chapter #688

Jere White

570-662-2167, whitesgordonsetters@gmail.com

Trees on Crossfork Creek have been planted. The Asaph project, in conjunction with DCNR and PFBC, was rescheduled until August to give us more time to acquire landowner permissions. Several members will be surveying unassessed waters this summer. Stream monitoring continues and several macroinvertebrate surveys have been completed on numerous streams. An aquatic insect work session was conducted May 19 for people needing help with insect identification. We were assisted by experts at the Asaph USGS lab in Wellsboro. We conducted fly casting and fly tying lessons at Springfest, May 17 at Hill Creek State Park. We had 30-40 participants. We are sponsoring four area TIC schools. Chapter members helped at Liberty Elementary School with an aquatic insect identification lab to determine stream quality based on biological diversity. Members also helped in a fish dissection lab with 5th graders at LES. We had two students attend Wayne's Coldwater Kids on Spruce Creek. Our general membership meeting is at 7 p.m. Aug. 25 at Wellsboro Community Center.

NORTHWEST CHAPTERS

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Caldwell Creek 437

Cornplanter 526

Iron Furnace 288

Jim Zwald 314

Neshannock 216

Northwest PA 041

Oil Creek 424

Seneca 272

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Mark Hanes

254B S. Main St.

Brookville, PA 15825

E-mail: m_d_hanes@yahoo.com

Phone: 724-464-7320

Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036

George Kutskel

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Website: www.amctu.org

The chapter held a joint picnic with Iron Furnace at Walter Dick Memorial Park in Brookville on May 21. Attendance was down somewhat as the creeks were flooded and there were thunderstorms in the region. The chapter held its 48th annual banquet on April 5. Attendance was down from the last couple of years, but it was still a successful fundraiser. Next year's banquet is on April 4 at the Falls Creek Eagles. Kelley Williams won the Golden Reel Award for the work she has done in running our CHP grant and in-stream projects. Williams, Eric Wilson and Joe Fieo continue to work on our Coldwater Heritage Grant on the Sandy Lick Creek. Our Wolf Run logger did not record data during the winter, and looks like it just didn't turn on. All other loggers seem to be okay. We attended the 15th anniversary of the Kettle Creek watershed. We had a chance to speak with DEP and OSM on re-mining the Cooks Run Fran Coal site in Clinton County. We were told they are still looking at it and we will keep the pressure on to have this project completed. Our environmental day at Camp Mountain Run was a success with over 300 students. With help from Brockway FFA and TU staff, we were able to host 10 stations. We had our release day and bug identification with DuBois Central Catholic on Wolf Run. Eric Wilson and Brian Miller helped the Brockway Elementary collect bugs at Clear Creek State Park at the end of May. George Kutskel hosted a family fishing skills for the Girl Scouts at the camp at Curry Creek. There were 56 girls and parents on hand and all caught fish from the pond. Our

annual Big Brothers Big Sisters fly fishing event was June 14 at the Tannery Dam.

Caldwell Creek Chapter #437

Tom Savko

814-664-2124, tksavko2@verizon.net

An outdoor day and raffle will be held at Glen Mead Day, Mead Park in Corry on Aug. 10. On April 24 we reviewed last year's stream project and assessed an old project upstream for repair and expansion to start paperwork and grant process. We did this with PFBC and Western Pa. Conservancy. We finished another successful fly tying class on April 16, and completed four TIC programs stocked trout in May.

Cornplanter Chapter #526

Troy McDunn

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

Our annual Spring Fishing Show was in April. The weather was not the greatest but we did have a good turnout. We are planning for the 2015 show on March 28. The removal of three large sluice pipes and replacing them with a bridge on Morrison Run will be happening this year. We made great progress in permits and other legal issues to remove the pipes and replace with the bridge. Thanks to member Mike Fadale for coordinating our projects on Morrison Run. We have committed to enhance another 1,000 feet of stream with 11 structures on Morrison Run over a five-year period. Two chapter members fished this spring in the enhancement areas that have been completed in years past and reported several native brookies in the stream. Our TIC projects had a successful year and trout were stocked in local streams.

Iron Furnace Chapter #288

Mark Hanes

724-464-7320, m_d_hanes@yahoo.com

Website: www.ironfurnacetu.net

We held a joint May cookout with Allegheny Mountain Chapter and the weather kept the crowd small at Walter Dick Park in Brookville, but it was still a success and we hope to do this more in the future. Our next chapter meeting is in September and a board meeting will be held in August. The annual banquet generated an approximate profit of about \$10,000. Administration of a Growing Greener Grant in the amount of \$132,227 to replace six culverts in Porcupine Creek was handed over to the Venango County Conservation District. Bruce Dickson did a training day for those participating in the 3RQuest water monitoring program,

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which consisted of data analysis and reading what is collected on the units. On April 26, members cleaned our Adopt-a-Highway stretch along Piney Creek in Limestone. Our TIC programs released fish in April and May. Mark Hanes' weekly classes were a moderate success throughout April despite rain and cold weather keeping attendance low. The hope is to try this again next spring.

James Zwald Chapter #314

Murray Neeper

814-834-3472, mneeper@zitomedia.net

The chapter is working with the Elk County Freshwater Association to coordinate joint meeting nights and enhance mutual support. Chapter members attended a seminar conducted in Warren as part of the Iron Furnace and 3R monitoring grant. During our April meeting, the board met with the Headwaters Foundation to plan for developing additional habitat on the East Branch of the Clarion within the boundaries of Bendigo State Park. In May, chapter representatives met with Bendigo State Park personnel, the director of PFBC's Habitat Division, and state and regional DCNR leadership. As a result, the chapter will be seeking private funding to enhance habitat below the dam removal site in the park. We continue to monitor and collect data on Middle Fork and Crooked Creek tributaries on the East Branch of the Clarion. Two students attended the Wayne's Coldwater Kids event on Spruce Creek under the supervision of Russ Micale. Chapter members supported St. Marys Area High School's TIC program on its release day.

Northwest Chapter #41

Erik Cronk

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Website: www.neshannock-tu.org

Chapter members Rick Gilson and Richard Zinn put on a fly tying demonstration at the Creek Connection's annual Student Research Symposium held at Allegheny College April 11. Member Bill Glecos has been active with our chapter's participation in the TU Stream Monitoring program and we sponsored a training day May 10 at Asbury Woods in Erie. Jake Lemon, TU field coordinator, was in attendance and gave members a chance to review the process and see changes in monitoring. We sponsored local student Matthew Schultz for the Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp. It's with deep sadness that we report the loss of one of our founding members in John "Jack" Busch, who was instrumental in starting this chapter in the 1960s and was a prominent figure on the fishing scene in Pennsylvania.

Oil Creek Chapter #424

Gary Ross

814-337-6931, info@oilcreektu.org

Website: www.oilcreektu.org

This year's banquet, our 31st, was a huge success. Next year's date is April 4. Our annual budget meeting was in May. We are in good shape financially to accomplish our goals for this coming year, including our planned habitat improvement project on Little Sandy Creek. The project is scheduled for Sept. 16-18. Gary Ross attended a 3RQ workshop on data loggers. We have loggers monitoring Little Sandy and Sandy Creeks. We provided fly tying instruction at the Venango County Youth Field Day on June 21, and we also made a donation. We sponsored and provided mentors for three students to attend Wayne's Coldwater Kids. The chapter was represented at Earth Day celebrations at Polk Center on April 23. Vaughn MacGregor manned the display and Gary Ross demonstrated fly tying. The two attended the Cochranon TIC release day and taught fly tying to 40 students after the release. OCTU spoke about coldwater conservation, fly tying and casting at the Tionesta Dam Visitor Center on June 28. Upcoming meetings are Sept. 17, Oct. 15 and Nov. 19 at King's Restaurant in Franklin.

Seneca Chapter #272

Chase Howard

814-598-3449, chaserhoward@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/SenecaTroutUnlimited

Planning and organization is underway for our fall member/guest dinner and a banquet next spring. The chapter will be selling raffle tickets for a chance to win a 5-weight rod/reel/line, a 6-weight rod/reel/line, or an Orvis chest pack. The drawing will be held at the dinner. Chapter members have been collecting data for the Unassessed Waters Initiative. Anyone interested in assisting the Seneca Chapter with the UWI should contact Chase Howard, chapter president, for more information.

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Fred Gender

E-mail: afgender@hotmail.com

Phone: 570-704-8764

Bucks County Chapter #254

Dan Weaver

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Website: www.buckstu.org

Solebury Township is continuing preparations pertaining to the breach of Aquetong Lake dam and restoration of a coldwater stream on the Ingham Spring property. BCTU placed stream temperature loggers in Aquetong Creek in June to identify thermal impacts (other than Aquetong Lake dam) to gather baseline data for future mitigation efforts. We continue to monitor the riparian buffer planting on Watson Creek at the Lindquist Farm for any vole damage to the trees and are planning the removal of a stand of bamboo at the site that is adjacent to the buffer plantings. We are planning two workdays in November for riparian buffer plantings in the Cooks Creek and Watson Creek watersheds. Our June chapter meeting/picnic was at Ingham Spring to showcase the the spring and property to our chapter members and guests for the future coldwater restoration project. Our four TIC release events were successfully completed in May. We attended a World Fish Migration Day Event on May 24 at Black Rock Park on the Delaware Canal.

DelCo Manning Chapter #320

David W. Wharton

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Website: www.dmtu.org

We participated in a TIC project with a local school. Participants provided a presentation at our May meeting after they released fish into Ridley Creek. We participated in the annual stream cleanup with Chester Ridley Crum Watershed Association on May 3.

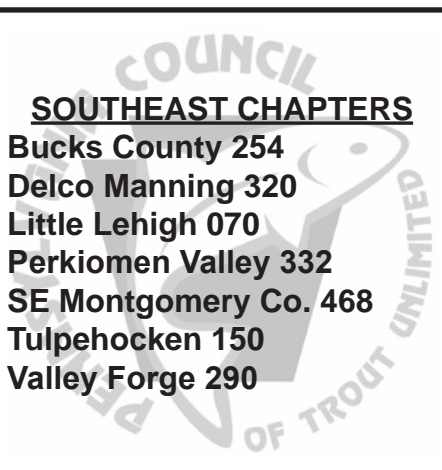
Little Lehigh Chapter #070

John Tunney

610-360-1956, littlelehighchaptertu@gmail.com

Website: www.littlelehigh.new.tu.org

At our April meeting, Paula Piatt presented "Shared Habitat" focusing on the potential impacts of gas drilling and its associated construction activities on fish and wildlife habitats, and the sportsman's experience, as well as ways sportsmen can protect habitat. In May, Bill Krauss Jr. spoke at our meeting. He has fished several prime locations, including Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Colorado and Wyoming, and the local streams



of Pennsylvania. Two TIC schools released their trout into Cedar Creek and the Little Lehigh. Joe Schuler, our TIC chair, worked with both throughout the year. Students of St. John Vinney Regional School and Seven Generations Charter School participated. Our big event in June was a youth camp at Camp Olympic. Eighty trees were planted along selected areas the Little Lehigh in May. Cooperation and support from Lower Macungie Township and a private landowners made access possible. Funding for the project was obtained through a CHP grant and was managed by our conservation chairman, Scott Alderfer.

Perkiomen Valley Chapter #332

Chaz Macdonald
6107304956; Chazmac1949@rcn.com
Website: www.pvту.org

Plans are proceeding for tree planting along the Hosensack Creek. Brook trout were released in conjunction with the TIC program at Hereford Elementary School.

SE Montgomery County Chapter #468

Richard Terry
215-675-1536, rtroadrash@msn.com
Website: www.tu468.org

The annual fishing derby for kids in Lorimer Park was held in April. The annual chapter trip to Penns Creek was also in April. A spring stocking of trout took place on the Pennypack Creek in Pennypack Trust as a result of member contributions.

Tulpehocken Chapter #150

Daniel Shaffer
610-334-2615, info@tullytu.org
Website: www.tullytu.org

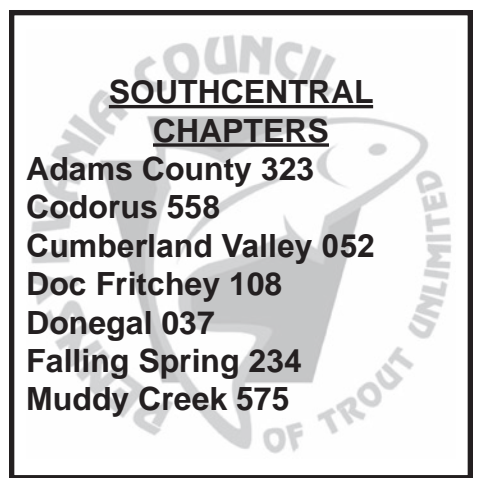
Dan Shaffer and Ron Weidner attended the Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting held in State College. We had our second annual "fishing with a buddy" event following Breakfast on the Tully on June 14. These breakfasts are a \$6 donation at our facility on the Tulpehocken Creek from 8:30-10:30 a.m. on the second Saturday of the summer months. Logo hats are available for \$15 each through our website. Karl Lutz from PFBC visited our proposed Hay Creek project. What started out as a small streambank restoration project is growing in scale. We are conferring with the Maiden Creek Watershed Association about mapping unassessed streams within the watershed. Our funded project on the Upper Tully at the Sonnen Farm was reauthorized. We worked with the Reading School District's TIC program. In April, Jen Clinton, the TIC teacher,

along with board members Pier Ignozzi-Shaffer and Cathy Curran-Myer took about 20 inner-city high school kids on the Tully for a stream study. This was followed on a few weeks later with the release of their fingerlings. Robeson School also released a number of fingerlings, and the Governor Mifflin School program had over a 60 percent survival rate. Members LaMonte Garber and John Jackson from the Stroud Water Research Center talked to us about riparian buffers and how they can help us with stream projects either with funds and or expertise. They are currently working toward cleaning up the upper Tully and have asked for our help.

Valley Forge Chapter #290

Robbi Freisem
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Website: www.valleyforgetu.org

Frank Donohoe finished a document of restrictive covenant to finalize a long-sought agreement with Trammell Crowe/Atwater land developer to continue protecting Cedar Hollow Run, a major coldwater tributary to Valley Creek. It was to be signed in June. Land to be developed around Atwater Quarry has been sold for residential development. It may or may not be possible to influence storm water management plans. The board voted to join the Sportsmen Alliance for Marcellus Conservation. President Robbi Freisem attended the Mid-Atlantic Meeting in State College. Member Jim Lowe and Ed Penry combined efforts to create two shadow boxes made by Ed and filled with trout flies tied by Jim. The chapter is planning a fall fund raising raffle. Pete Goodman, past chapter president and VFTU representative to the Valley Creek Coalition, has exchange two letters with Tredyffrin Township supervisors and lawyers concerning two events of intentionally dumping millions of gallons of raw sewage into Valley Creek throughout the entire two-mile run in Valley Forge National Historical Park to the Schuylkill River. The Valley Creek Coalition, along with several other environmental groups, have challenged the township to develop alternative plans to discharging raw sewage into this Class A stream. The township insists there is no other solution to their high-pressure main breaks downstream while the Coalition continues to request that an alternate plan be developed. Township supervisors met again on June 16. Frank Donohoe led Chris Wood and several chapter members on a tour of Crabby Creek restoration and ongoing work, and Cedar Hollow Run. Five TIC programs released their trout. Our Project Healing Waters program is meeting weekly at the pond on Paradise Farm Camp for fishing there and at West Valley Creek. Neil Johnson, Fred Gender and Robbi assisted WCO Erin Czech in introducing spin and fly fishing to about 15 middle school students participating in an environmental camp at Paradise Farm Camp.



REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

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Adams County Chapter #323

Dave Swope
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We had a meeting in July for Phase 2 of our Birch Run restoration project and annual restoration project on Conewago Creek for riparian buffer repairs to older devices. We received two grants from South Mountain Partnership and PATU for restoration work on Conococheague Creek. A Conewago Creek landowner on a PFBC-regulated section signed an agreement with Adams County Land Preservation and Land Conservancy on a land and stream easement. The chapter assisted PFBC with in-season stocking on the Conewago Creek, performed water testing on Conococheague Creek and planted trees and shrubs with two Gettysburg High School students. Our eight TIC programs held releases at Strawberry Hill in Fairfield. We held a fly tying seminar at the Southcentral Outdoors for Youth event.

Codus Chapter #558

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We're proud to announce that 2014 marks our 25th year as a TU chapter. We were represented at the recent Mid-Atlantic Meeting in State College. We are looking into a project for the latest round of Growing Greener funding, and have just started with initial phone calls and paperwork. We had a great outing with our TIC students on their release

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day. We gave them a quick lesson on some of the life in the stream, and they took a few samples back to the classroom to put under a microscope. We received a commitment from another teacher to add a second project next year.

Cumberland Valley Chapter #052

Justin Pittman

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We had a chapter fishing trip to Clarks Creek on April 12. We had our board meeting on May 14 and May 21 was our members meeting with guest speaker Todd Deluccia giving an intro to muskie fly fishing presentation. We also had another chapter fishing trip to Pine Creek. In June, our board was the 11th and our members meeting was held at a Senators baseball game on June 4. This was a first for CVTU and was a great event. Several members from the Doc Fritchey Chapter also attended. June 10-11, we hosted Reel Recovery at the Allenberry Playhouse and Resort. Our Youth Conservation Camp at Allenberry was June 15-20. The fifth Cumberland County Street to Streams program was June 24-25. We have been planning for a fundraiser in September at the Carlisle Sports and Outdoor show and also at our August picnic. We had two stream projects planned for June. One was on the Yellow Breeches' catch and release section by the Rivers Conservation campers with the help of CVTU members, and the other was to be completed by members of CVTU and staff from PFBC. We are also completing the final steps for a project that will be done in August on the Yellow Breeches downstream of the Route 34 bridge. We have been working closely with our chairperson to focus on our TIC program. Upcoming events include our August member meeting and picnic Aug. 22 at Allenberry, and the CVTU Last Supper on Sept. 6 at Vince's Meadow on the Letort. See our website for details.

Doc Fritchey Chapter #108

Edward O'Gorman

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Our annual banquet was March 15 at the Holiday Inn of Grantville. About 125 guests attended. Our ongoing weekly work continues at our diversion wells in the headwaters of Stony Creek. Volunteers meet every Monday evening in the summer to maintain the wells. The Quittapahilla Watershed Association is moving forward on a substantial restoration and improvement project in Quittapahilla Nature Park and we look forward to assisting with their work. We have decided to move forward with installation of our first permanent water monitoring devices in Stony

Creek. We are finalizing a partnership with the Dauphin County Conservation District for technical assistance and publication of data collected. In August, the chapter is planning streambank restoration work with assistance from PFBC Habitat Improvement. We support six TIC programs in Dauphin and Lebanon county schools. During the spring, the chapter was represented at several events including the Ft. Hunter Garden Faire and the wetlands festival held at Wildwood Park. Our Diversion Well Picnic is Aug. 18 at Clarks Creek, downstream of Route 225.

Donegal Chapter #037

Tom Hall

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Our annual fundraiser was March 29 at the Lancaster Host Resort. It drew 270 attendees and raised about \$30,000 for our stream projects. Dan Brandt, our banquet chair, did another great job. On May 7, Brad Aungst and his 7th and 8th grade students from Marticville Middle School, placed about 110 brook trout fingerlings in Climbers Run. He actually made it a two-day educational event for his kids and it was covered by the local media. A Channel 8 news crew followed the kids into the stream to film the stocking, and Mike Burcin, CEO of the Lancaster County Conservancy, was interviewed on-camera explaining the nature of the project and DTU's part in it. This was a privately-funded TIC project through the Lancaster County Conservancy. This property will now be known as Climbers Run Nature Preserve. We held our yearly membership picnic there on June 18. Faye Haering's annual Ladies Coldwater Conservation Breakfast was another success. It was in mid-April at the Millport Conservancy and was attended by 18 women and two youths. It included conservation presentations, fly casting and tying, as well as a tour of the Millport property. We will host our inaugural Youth Fly Fishing Clinic on Sept. 13 at Hugh Wenger's farm, outside of Elizabethtown. It is open to boys or girls ages 12 to 18.

Falling Spring Chapter #234

Rod Cross

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Our annual banquet is Oct. 18 at the Marine Corps League on Grant Avenue, Chambersburg. The chapter will meet with the Adams County, Cumberland Valley and the National Capital chapters, along with DCNR to plan the next phase of work on the Birch Run Project to restore habitat to that native brook trout stream. We have been monitoring efforts to stop the building of a hog farm in the Big Cove Creek watershed, Fulton County. On May 16-17, members hosted the 7th

Falling Spring Invitational for Wounded Warriors in the Project Healing Waters program. A banquet was held Friday evening at the Amvets, then the in-stream companions and soldiers met at the Izaak Walton League's property, the Waltonian Meadow, and from there we spent the morning fishing Falling Spring. A barbeque lunch was provided at the Meadow, then the afternoon was spent fishing back on Spring. On June 7, members participated in the Franklin County Sportsmen for Youth Day held at the Waynesboro Rod and Gun Club. Eagle Scout candidate Jordan Bender had his project approved by his review board. The project is developing a plan to have the fencing replaced in two parking areas along the Falling Spring, Briar Lane and Spring View Drive. Jordan arranged for quotes on material and labor, did the paperwork required from PFBC to do work on their property, and will lead the effort to remove the old fencing and replace with new, more durable synthetic materials. The chapter sponsored two students from the area to attend the Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp. Also on June 7, the chapter helped with a Wounded Warrior event hosted by a private family on Falling Spring.

Muddy Creek Chapter #575

Fred Hess

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Our 25th anniversary T-shirts have arrived and are selling well. A new style MCTU hat has been received and they are selling well too. Despite lousy weather on the trout season opener, which impacted the amount of people fishing, our food stands did as well or better than ever. We also had a nice bump in income from numerous donations from landowners and the general public. The first Pine Run Project stream restoration monitoring was conducted in March by members. In addition, members from a local Boy Scout troop assisted, which made the day a youth education event as well. Cross sectioning of the project will be conducted soon. The Owad Road project was completed by planting the riparian buffer in April. Members planted over 40 shrubs and trees from the chapter's native plant nursery. This project was done entirely by chapter members and restored a section of stream along the main stem of Muddy Creek that suffered from severe bank erosion. A workday was held on the nursery grounds to clean up and weed our native plant nursery. A local Cub Scout Pack assisted. The chapter hosted children and families from ForeSight Vision for a day of fishing, food and companionship in early May. The event was held at the handicap area on Tom's Run for the fourth consecutive year. Every child left with a fishing rod that was donated by one of our members. The chapter will be present at the Red Lion Street Fair in August.

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

additional lands being leased for shale gas extraction in nearby state forests and parks, new streams will be added. Recent monitoring on our AMD projects on Glade and Morgan runs indicate the continued success of these efforts. Alkaline sand distribution in the Glade/Dunbar Creek watershed has been completed with plans to supplement in the fall. We continue to monitor the activity at the Curry mine site above the Youghiogheny River just north of Ohiopyle State Park. The chapter supports TIC programs in 13 area schools and we have an additional school for 2015. Students released trout into area streams in May, and participated in instruction in entomology, stream flow, water chemistry and fly casting. Over the next three months we will provide fly casting and fly fishing merit badge instruction for Boy Scouts.

tying, fly casting, riparian buffer movie and stock the fish they raised. We are planning to do two projects on Popular Run and Plum Creek.

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

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Arrowhead Chapter #214

Chad Hough

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We stocked the DHALO section of Buffalo Creek with the remaining trout from our nursery. Several chapter officers participated in the inaugural Reagan's Cause outdoor event. This encompassed several days of outdoor activities including fishing, hunting and rifle shooting for mentally challenged individuals within the region. Arrowhead also donated approximately 200 of its nursery trout. Chapter officers and members assisting with our TIC programs' release field trips to local waterways. Activities included macro studies, casting demonstrations, water quality testing and fishing. Arrowhead continues to monitor three local watersheds with the use of data loggers.

Chestnut Ridge Chapter #670

Dale Kotowski

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The chapter will supplement a mailed membership survey with an on-line questionnaire. This is coupled with our effort to improve our website and social media communication. We will utilize community days and county fairs to drive membership and to increase public awareness of the chapter and its conservation efforts through the summer. The CRTU Film Festival was held in May. Our chapter's CCC continues to routinely monitor four local headwater streams. With the possibility of

Forbes Trail Chapter #206

Leo Vensel

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We held our annual Sulphur Hatch Fly Fishing Trip on Spring, Penns and Fishing creeks; our mentored youth day at Twin Lakes; a youth group fishing outing at Foggy Mountain Lodge in Stahlstown; and a women's fly fishing forum with assistance from Ligonier Outfitters. Our TIC field trip and release for Ligonier Valley Middle School was held at Linn Run State Park. A trout dissection demonstration by FTTU volunteers was held at Valley School.

Fort Bedford Chapter #291

Corey Brown

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Chapter members assisted with the Bobs Creek annual cleanup on April 5. On April 26, members attended an Earth Day stream cleanup and celebration at Shawnee State Park. On May 24, we partnered with the Bedford County Conservation District and the Bobs Creek Stream Guardians in presenting a program for park visitors. FBTU plans to have a members meet and greet picnic later this summer, with demos and games.

John Kennedy Chapter #045

Dan Beck

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Dan Beck, Jerry Green and Chuck Winters went to the TU Regional Meeting. Our banquet will be Aug. 23. The chapter attended the Blair County Youth Field Day and had around 200 youths for fly tying. The chapter also had an outing at Henrietta Sportsman Club for TIC students. They were able to experience a river lab, environmental lab, fly

Ken Sink Chapter #053

Dick Farabaugh

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Two youths from our fly tying class attended Wayne's Coldwater Kids. We also partnered with employees of NRG Energy to stock fish in a local stream and do a stream cleanup. We have been involved with other partner organizations in opposing the use of a non-productive gas well as an injection well for Marcellus Shale fracking material near the headwater of Little Mahoning Creek.

Mountain Laurel Chapter #040

Randy Buchanan

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We're working on a stream restoration project on Ben's Creek. We're assisting Yellow Creek Coalition with stream habitat improvement. Our 11 TIC programs released trout in May. Quemahoning Tail waters fishery program at Rizzo's Restaurant (April). Presented by Len Lichvar and Greg Shustrick, this program detailed conservation efforts on Quemahoning Creek and the currently under development Tail Waters fishery at the outflow of Quemahoning Reservoir.

Penns Woods West Chapter #042

Walter Reineman

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The first outing for our mentoring program was May 17. A big step for us was moving our meeting site this fall to Grazies, just north of Pittsburgh, a more contemporary venue that could help in recruitment of more members. Our highest concentration of members is north of the city. We have plans for a stream work day on Pine Creek this September. Details are being worked out for access from a landowner not previously involved with our work. The chapter donated of a gate to a landowner on Pine Creek who wanted to permanently block off access due to recent unauthorized vehicle use. We wanted to keep access for stocking by community groups. Thanks to the efforts of stream coordinator Tom Walsh, the landowner was open to the solution of a gate to control access. Our annual Cabin Fever show is TBA, but will be either the last Sunday in February or the first Sunday in March. Under the leadership of Christian Shane we have two strong TIC participants. We plan on funding a third program this fall.



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Inaugural TU Mid-Atlantic Meeting a success

The inaugural Trout Unlimited Mid-Atlantic Meeting was held in State College over the weekend of May 30 through June 1. About 80 TU members attended, representing Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Ohio, Maryland, New York, Virginia and West Virginia.

Friday kicked off with “Getting Women Involved in TU.” Heidi Oberstadt, Women’s Initiative Coordinator with TU, led the session and gave some great advice on getting women more involved in their chapters as well as some suggestions on how they can take on leadership roles.

Saturday’s sessions were full of useful information on various topics ranging from effective chapter communication and leadership strategies to environmental issues such as Marcellus Shale and the Delaware River.

Saturday night featured a fun-filled barbecue along the banks of Spring Creek. After a delicious meal catered by Dickey’s BBQ of State College, many attendees



Brad Isles Photo

Introductions are made at the inaugural Trout Unlimited Mid-Atlantic Meeting held in State College May 30-June 1.

took the opportunity to hook a fish or two, or just relax and enjoy getting to know members of other chapters.

Sunday started off with a session on the National Leadership Council, led by NLC Chair, Larry Harris. Also included in Saturday’s sessions were “Building Stronger Chapters: Membership Development & Retention Best Practices”

and “Successful Stream Restoration.”

Thank you to all who attended the meeting. Participants gained great networking opportunities and will surely return to their chapters with new, helpful information and ideas.

All of the information presented at the meeting will be available on TU.org in the “Tackle Box” section.