

Pennsylvania TROUT



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www.patrou.org

Marcellus development in Harrisburg spotlight

By Katy Dunlap

Eastern Water Project Director for Trout Unlimited

Marcellus Shale development continues to hold the spotlight in Harrisburg, as legislators and regulators grapple with how to balance the environmental impacts of drilling with the economic benefits that the state can reap from shale gas development.

Impact Fee – In the fall of 2011, more than 30 bills were introduced in the House and Senate relating to this topic – most of which included amendments to existing regulations and/or new gas drilling regulations. In November, the House passed an impact fee bill (HB1950). In December, the Senate Environmental Resources and

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Preserving, protecting and restoring the Trout Unlimited brand

By Monty Murty

PA Representative, National Leadership Council

Our brand symbolizes 50 years of hard work preserving, protecting and restoring America’s trout streams and their watersheds. Trout Unlimited has gained the reputation as America’s premier coldwater conservation organization by winning the respect of countless government agencies and non-profit organizations.

This isn’t necessarily the case with the general public. They don’t usually perceive Trout Unlimited as a conservation organization. Most think we’re just another fishing club. So it’s important to preserve, protect and restore our brand standing with the public by using it more effectively in the media to connect our local grass-roots programs to TU.

Perception is reality. Too often our chapters tee-up a great program and, lastly, write the announcement, email off the newspaper article, or telephone a busy reporter, only to forget to give TU the credit! Without proper branding the credit for a TU project can be mis-attributed to other “conservation” organizations or activist media-hogs in the community. This is especially important when chapters team with non-profits that have paid staff,

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Teen Owen Welch already an accomplished TU contributor

By Judi Sittler

Spring Creek Chapter President

Owen Welch is the “poster boy” for youth involvement in Trout Unlimited.

He caught his first trout with a fly when he was about 10 years old, during a “First Cast” field trip to Fisherman’s Paradise, sponsored by the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited and Centre Region Parks and Recreation.

He remembers Dan Shields teaching kids to cast during that camp and he loved all the field trips. He says he owes his

See **WELCH**, page 3



Mark Belden Photo

Owen Welch poses with a fish while assisting with a summer fly fishing class led by Penn State professor Mark Belden.

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Pennsylvania TROUT

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MARCELLUS

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Energy committee amended HB1950, by replacing the language in the entire bill with the language from the Senate-backed impact fee bill, SB1100. The Senate then passed that bill and a week later, the House unanimously voted to “non-concur” on the impact fee approved by the Senate. Now, negotiation between the Governor’s office and the Senate and House is underway. An agreement on the bill could be reached before Gov. Corbett gives his budget address on Feb. 7.

TU continues to advocate for a portion of the revenue generated from the tax or fee to be allocated to the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission for its additional inspection and enforcement duties related to Marcellus development. TU also continues to call for stronger protections including: setbacks from streams (a minimum of 300 feet from the edge of the well pad), prohibiting drilling-related activity in the floodplains, upholding the moratorium on leasing additional state forest lands and increasing oversight and enforcement of erosion and sedimentation pollution related to drilling activities.

State Forest Lands – In his 2012 budget address, Gov. Corbett may propose opening up more state forest lands for gas leasing to fill the gaps in the state budget. In late January, TU worked with more than 40 sportsmen conservation groups, representing more than 100,000 hunters and anglers, to send a letter to the Governor and to go on record to oppose the leasing of additional state forest lands. Much of the state’s forest system lies in the area where the bulk of the commonwealth’s coldwater resources exist.

TU must continue to put pressure on state decision-makers to uphold the moratorium on leasing additional state forest lands for gas drilling unless the science can prove that further development will not diminish ecological integrity of the state’s forest system.

Erosion & Sedimentation related to drilling activity – In March, TU and PATU will submit coordinated comments on proposed changes to DEP’s erosion and sediment control permit for drilling-related

construction activities.

Coldwater Conservation Corps: Building the Network of Eyes and Ears on the Ground – In 2010-2011, Dave Sewak, TU’s Pennsylvania Marcellus Shale field organizer, helped to train more than 200 TU volunteers to conduct stream surveillance on Pennsylvania’s coldwater streams and monitor the impacts of



MITCH BLAKE

Marcellus Shale development. Sewak has since moved on from TU and we are grateful for his efforts to help launch the Coldwater Conservation Corps program. Beginning in February, Mitch Blake will serve as the Pennsylvania Marcellus Shale field organizer and pick up where Dave left off, organizing CCC trainings and implementing TU’s statewide monitoring strategy. An avid angler and hunter, Mitch is a Pennsylvania native with a background in wildlife ecology and conservation and experience working in the nonprofit, government and private sector. He can be reached at mblake@tu.org.

CCC trainings are conducted by Trout Unlimited staff and volunteers, using a field manual and resources developed by PATU and TU, as well as the Marcellus Monitoring manual and training resources developed by the Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring of Dickinson College. These trainings cover topics ranging from basic environmental concerns of gas extraction in the Marcellus Shale to hands-on water quality sampling. As an angler and conservationist, please consider attending an upcoming CCC training session to learn how you can get involved in protecting Pennsylvania’s coldwater streams from the impacts of shale gas development. More details about upcoming trainings are on page 9.

Updated PATU bylaws to be voted on at March 24 EXCOM meeting

In accordance with current Council bylaws, PATU's March 24 Executive Committee meeting has been designated as a "special meeting" for the purpose of approving the updated bylaws as required by National TU.

This action is generally taken at the fall annual membership meeting, but the revision of existing bylaws had not been completed before the required 30-day advance notice period rolled around.

Since the current bylaws do not allow proxy voting, Council members who are interested in voting to approve the updated bylaws must attend the special meeting for

their vote to be counted. Voting members are officers of the Executive Committee, chairpersons of all standing committees and the president or one appointed delegate from each of the chapters in the state.

You can read the 2012 Council bylaws as proposed, and you can find the current bylaws for reference on the documents page of the PATU website, or place <http://www.patrou.org/Content/20120122171829597.pdf> into your web browser.

If you have any questions or comments about their content, you may feel free to contact Secretary Bob Pennell at rpennell37@comcast.net.

WELCH

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..... fishing skills to his parents and to Trout Unlimited.

Welch was introduced to bait fishing at age 4 by his dad and grandpa. By 8, he was curious about fly fishing so his family, not being fly fishing people, did the next best thing and gave him a fly tying kit. At 10, they enrolled him in the First Cast camp in State College. They took him to the Penns Creek TU Chapter banquet where he won the raffle "Kids Fish for a Day with Larry Winey."

"Without that TU guy who took me fly fishing and my parents who sent me to the First Cast camp, I wouldn't be where I am today in the world of fly fishing," Welch said.

Today, at 17, Welch's fly fishing world includes being a member of the U.S. Youth Fly Fishing Team. The team won the gold medal in world competition in Italy this summer. And speaking of the U.S. Youth Fly Fishing team – as if the Penns Creek Chapter, with Gary Parzanese as president, doesn't have enough to brag about by helping Welch, they can also boast to having Adam Pickets, Spencer Miller and Kyle Winey as chapter members. All four of these young men have been on the US Youth Fly Fishing Team over the years.

Welch said he got most of his appreciation for stream conservation from his

regular attendance at TU meetings.

Welch has one more feather in his cap – or is it in his fly tying box? He has earned 1½ credits from Penn State University. Both of Welch's parents work on the PSU campus.

Someone showed his mom a video of a fly fishing course offered at Penn State. A week later, his dad ran into Mark Belden, who teaches the fly fishing classes at PSU. Belden is another big advocate of teaching kids to fish and appreciate the environment that goes with fishing. He is also a very active member of the Spring Creek Chapter. Belden told Welch's dad about the summer fly fishing basics class. After some arranging with Lewistown High School, Welch took the course for credit. The college students were pretty impressed when they learned that Welch was only 14 at the time.

Welch didn't stop with just learning for himself. For three summers, he mentored multicultural fly fishing classes offered to high school students getting a campus experience.

What we all want to take away from Welch's story is how much of a difference each of us can make in the life of a kid. We are contributing to the leaders of tomorrow.

"Being a part of TU and the U.S. Youth Team got me out in front of people," Welch said. "I learned to talk to lots of different people."

Welch is well on his way to being a leader in his community and a steward of the environment.

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Headwaters

A message from PATU President Ken Undercoffer

I participated in a National Leadership Council (NLC) discussion at the National TU conference in Bend, Ore. last September. One of the topics was the well-known negative effects of stocking over native and wild trout populations. This practice is common all over the US and the possibility that some chapters or councils may be stocking hatchery trout on top of native trout populations was considered. Nobody in the meeting thought that this should be a part of the TU mission.

At the top of the National Conservation Agenda is the statement that we should protect “*Native trout and salmon watersheds.*” A decision was made to draft a policy on this issue and I volunteered to participate in that process. I act as the coordinator of the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture for PATU and have been a life-long advocate for protecting not only native brookies, but native species in general. The alarming decline of native species is an issue we should all be concerned with. The NLC has approved a policy to be presented to the Board of Trustees for approval prior to sending it out to councils and chapters. We should be receiving notification of the policy soon.

Trout Unlimited was formed in Michigan in 1959. “*The 16 fishermen who gathered at the home of George Griffith were united by their love of trout fishing, and by their growing discontent with the state’s practice of stocking its waters with “cookie cutter trout”— catchable-sized hatchery fish. Convinced that Michigan’s trout streams could turn out a far superior fish if left to their own devices, the anglers formed a new organization: Trout, Unlimited dedicated to ensuring that wild and native trout populations were allowed to thrive, as nature intended.*” [Quote from National TU web page <http://www.tu.org/about-us>]

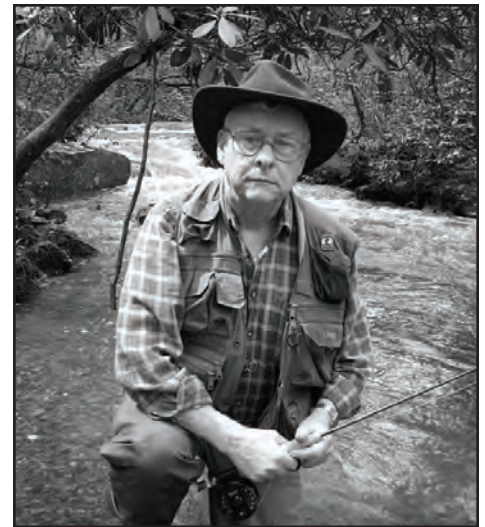
When William Penn came to the New World to establish Pennsylvania in 1682, brookies were the only trout swimming in our streams. They had been living here for a million years or more. They had survived and were molded by the turmoil of the Ice Ages when great glaciers pushed down to the northern border and into the eastern

and western corners of what we now call Pennsylvania. When Pennsylvania joined the revolution against King George in 1776 brookies still inhabited nearly every coldwater stream in every county and soon became a favorite of anglers.

Not much literature exists about trout fishing in Pennsylvania before the late 1800s. We do know that until the early part of the 20th century, brookies thrived in numbers and sizes we can now barely comprehend. The limit was 40 per day, six inches or over, and it was easy to fill a “12-pounder” creel. A little grade school arithmetic indicates that the average brookie in that creel would have been slightly over nine inches in length, a fair sized brookie today. But they got even bigger. Foot-long brookies were not unusual in the bigger freestone and many limestone streams. Brookies up to 20 inches and approaching four pounds were occasionally taken in our limestone streams and in the big freestones like Sinnemahoning, Kettle Creek and the Loyalsock. But even in those days, brookies of the headwaters were small. These so-called, “hemlock trout” averaged about eight inches and seldom exceeded 10 inches. But they were, and still are, as beautiful as any freshwater fish that swims.

The massive and unregulated logging that occurred at the end on the 19th and early 20th century took a terrible toll. Then unregulated coal mining took much of what the loggers hadn’t wrecked. Rampant land development also wreaked havoc on the brook trout population. Brook trout don’t last long when humans open the landscape. They must have wilderness in order to survive.

Now brookies are confined to small headwater freestones and a scant few limestone streams where they must compete with their larger brown trout cousins from European waters, introduced into Pennsylvania around 1886. Brook trout almost always lose this battle. They only dominate in small infertile headwaters, where food is scarce and life is brief. That is why brook trout of Pennsylvania seldom live longer than about six years now and



few exceed 10 inches in length.

Humans, being the impatient critters they are, decided a long time ago this was not acceptable and built hatcheries to raise trout so they could still bring home a basketful on nearly every trip to the stream. What nature couldn’t provide, hatcheries would. And that is, in a nutshell, how we arrived at this point. And this was happening all over the country.

Studies have shown that stocking over wild and native trout populations causes a serious decline in numbers and average size of the wild fish. A study presented by the PFBC at the 2002 Trout Summit indicates that an 80 percent increase in seven-inch and larger brook trout could be achieved by simply halting stocking. Brown trout seem to be less affected, but there are still sharp declines in wild brown trout numbers and size when they are stocked over.

Trout Unlimited is engaged in a massive effort to restore native trout species all over the US. In many cases federal and state governments are helping to support these efforts, as are many NGOs. It just doesn’t make sense for TU chapters to be doing something that has been proven to impede this effort. The NLC conducted a survey questioning the grassroots on the practice of stocking hatchery trout on top of native trout populations.

The issue was brought to the attention of National TU that some chapters and councils may be engaged in such stockings, which are contrary to the TU mission. At the annual meeting in Bend on Sept. 17,

Continued on next page...

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2011 the NLC considered the results of the survey and passed the following resolution:

- RESOLVED, that the NLC is opposed to Chapters or Councils stocking of non-native hatchery trout on top of native trout.
- RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Trout Unlimited fully supports the NLC's directive to chapters and councils that no chapter or council can participate or support the stocking of non-native hatchery trout in streams containing native trout.

You will soon be receiving notification of this policy and I'm sure it is going to raise some hackles. Please keep in mind: we are a conservation organization. Stocking is something we should only be doing in streams that cannot support biologically viable native trout populations. Sadly, there are plenty of waters in the Commonwealth that have been so degraded by human activities that the only way they can provide trout fishing is thru stocking. Stocking has its place, but not in the last refuges of our native trout.

The brook trout is the only salmonid native to Pennsylvania streams and our state fish. They have already been extirpated from over a third of the stream mileage they once inhabited in Pennsylvania. Only 10 percent of our brook trout waters are still relatively intact. TU's mission should be to preserve and protect what we have left and restore what we can. Otherwise, we are just a fishing club.

BRAND

from page 1

or with for-profit sponsors ever alert to a marketing opportunity. We must give credit where credit is due while making sure TU gets its fair share of the credit, and first-billing when earned.

For-profit organizations always blow their own horn, especially polluters! While we're careful not to accept money from the Marcellus Shale industry and egregious polluters, many of the organizations we team with on projects, especially watershed associations, run on money from environmental penalties and fines. We want to get our TU brand out in public, but we don't want it used by polluters to soft-pedal their harm to our environment. The TU logo may not be used without expressed permission.

Our trout logo is Trout Unlimited's most famous brand. But there's more to branding than using the logo. For example, TU's Headwaters Youth Education Initiative includes branded programs like Trout in the Classroom and First Cast. So, all chapter-level TU youth fly fishing programs should use "Trout Unlimited First Cast" in their program title. And programs not closely associated with a name-brand TU program should always include TU in the title; for example, PA Trout Unlimited Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp. Pasting our logo here and there isn't enough.

Don't pass off the requirement to brand as bureaucracy. It's important to brand



all projects that involve safety risks that might need TU's insurance or officer liability indemnification. Be aware that participation in a program not branded as TU, or another fully incorporated non-profit, could be considered taxable if you receive in-kind compensation such as food, lodging, or private stream fishing privileges for which a fee is normally charged.

Finally, it's just not fair to ask members to donate their time and money and then have TU's contribution go unnoticed by the public. It's unfair to chapters to contribute conservation or fly fishing know-how without the potential for payback in the form of future financial or volunteer support. This is becoming more important as we move toward "One TU." It doesn't mean chapters must change their proud old logos, or rename long running programs. Just make sure we are protecting our TU brand.

Of course chapters and councils should always use our TU name and logo in press releases. Camera-ready electronic images of TU logos can be found at www.tu.org in the "Leaders Only, Tackle Box" section.

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 14-23. For TU membership information, see page 10.

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Support Trout in the Classroom by purchasing TIC raffle tickets!

The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited is conducting a raffle for four great prizes, the proceeds from which will be used to pay our share of the wages for an outreach and education intern to coordinate PATU's youth education programs and outreach events during 2012. Through your past financial support of our previous raffles, the state's TIC program has grown to include nearly 200 participating schools over the last couple of years. Your support for this year's raffle will help ensure continued growth for this popular educational program.

The raffle tickets sell for \$5 each, or five for \$20, and can be ordered by sending a check payable to "PA Council of TU" to PO Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823. Prizes will be awarded in the order of the tickets drawn at Council's annual membership meeting on Sept. 29, 2012. Please do your part to ensure PATU's successful future for Trout in the Classroom and purchase your tickets before Sept. 29, and thank you for your support!



1st Prize
Wyatt Dietrich custom built 7'2" 5-wt. bamboo rod with extra tip and custom leather case.

2nd Prize
Old Town Vapor Series 10-foot fishing kayak.



3rd Prize
Ned Smith framed "Flushing Pheasant" conservation edition print. (Frame not shown.)



4th Prize
\$200 cash card to store of choice. (Card shown is for example only.)

BACK THE BROOKIE PLATE - ORDER FORM FOR INDIVIDUAL ORDERS ONLY



TU Chapter presidents: Contact PATU Treasurer George Kutskel by e-mail at maksak@comcast.net or phone 814-371-9290 for information on ordering larger quantities.

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PA COUNCIL OF TROUT UNLIMITED

*Minutes of the Jan. 7, 2012
Executive Committee Meeting
PFBC Stackhouse Training Center
Bellefonte, PA*

Officers Attending: Ken Undercoffer, Brian Wagner, Charlie Charlesworth, George Kutskel, Bob Pennell, Monty Murty, Greg Malaska, Mark Hanes, Fred Bohls, Fred Gender, Chuck Winters.

Others Attending: Greg Grabowicz, Samantha Kutskel, Katy Dunlap.

President Undercoffer called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. A motion by Hanes/seconded by G. Kutskel was approved to accept the minutes of the Oct. 2, 2011 EXCOM meeting as previously distributed. Undercoffer reported that he, Wagner, Charlesworth, G. Kutskel, Pennell, Malaska and S. Kutskel had met the previous evening to review and discuss a number of the discussion items listed on the EXCOM meeting agenda. The intended purpose was to condense the discussion of these items and bring recommendations for action to the EXCOM as a whole.

CHP Administrator Financial Arrangements with National TU: Undercoffer announced that S. Kutskel's salary will now be administered by National TU with CHP funds to be transferred from Council. Her benefits and expenses will continue to be handled by Council.

PATU Treasurer Restrictions: G. Kutskel has been paid a salary since 2005 as an outside consultant to administer funds for the CHP program. A question was raised by Undercoffer concerning a potential conflict of interests due to a provision in the Council Bylaws stating that, "no compensation shall be paid to any member of the Executive Committee for his or her services." Pennell agreed to contact National TU to determine if any problem exists in changing this provision to "compensation may be paid, etc." Grabowicz suggested that when the annual audit of the Treasurer's books is performed, it should be made known to EXCOM.

Planning for Future Staffing: In order for

EXCOM to move ahead in hiring a part-time executive director (administrator), Malaska will draft a job description for approval at the March meeting. As it stands right now, this will likely be a 20-plus hours/week position that would pay somewhere between \$20-30K, with no benefits.

National TU Policy on Stocking Over Native Trout: Murty reported that National TU will be publishing the results of the Q&A conducted recently to further define the conditions under which no stocking should be allowed, and that chapters who do not comply with the letter of the policy will not be penalized for non-compliance.

PFBC Proposal to Conduct Joint Fishing Programs with PATU: G. Kutskel suggested that the Youth Committee should be tasked to work out the details and a schedule with PFBC. S. Kutskel will follow through on this with the committee chair.

Restructuring PATU Regions: There was considerable discussion at the Friday night meeting about the current geography assigned to certain regions and the resulting difficulty in getting chapters to travel great distances to attend regional meetings. As a first step toward restructuring, a motion by Malaska/seconded by Gender was approved to create a new Central Region by splitting off the following chapters from the Northcentral Region: Columbia County, Lloyd Wilson, Spring Creek, Susquehanna, Raymond B. Winter, and Wood Duck. The revised Northcentral Region will consist of the Art Bradford-Northern Tier, God's Country, Jim Zwald, Kettle Creek and Tiadaghton chapters, plus the addition of the Seneca Chapter from the Northwest Region. Pennell will be responsible for preparing a new chapter map reflecting these changes.

De-chartering of the Wood Duck Chapter: Following up discussions at our last EXCOM meeting, National TU is eager to de-charter the Wood Duck Chapter and eliminate any legal liability for the property that the chapter owns. Undercoffer and G. Kutskel will follow through with National to determine the course of action to be taken on these issues.



Treasurer's Report: On a motion by Malaska/seconded by Bohls, approval was given to receive and file the Treasurer's Report for the period ending 12/20/11. Undercoffer suggested, and G. Kutskel agreed, that future Treasurer's Reports will include a more detailed

breakdown of the major budget categories.

Awards Committee: Discussion on the type of annual awards currently given to chapters vs. individuals resulted in Wagner agreeing to contact Chair Gerry Miller to come up with a recommendation at the next EXCOM meeting.

Delaware River Committee: Lee Hartman's report covered actions taken on the water release issues, and noted that the DRBC had cancelled their meeting scheduled last November to seek approval for regulations to allow gas drilling in the Delaware River Watershed.

Environmental Committee: Grabowicz deferred to K. Dunlap to update EXCOM on current Marcellus activities.

Legislative Committee: Bohls stated the need for Regional VPs to emphasize with their chapters the importance of developing "legislative trees" with their respective legislators. Bohls, Grabowicz and K. Dunlap will work together to develop "talking points" for what Council feels are the most important issues to be included in pending Marcellus legislation.

Trout Management Committee: Dick Soderberg's report suggested that we broaden our influence on fishery management strategies by seeking support from the PA Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, but it was decided that further discussions on this proposal are needed by the committee due to the feeling that the Federation might be overly influenced by the Marcellus industry. Charlesworth reported that the petition for Class A Trout Waters on seven miles of the Lackawanna River from Olyphant into Scranton had been approved by the PFBC.

Communications Committee: Pennell reported that distribution of our printed newsletter to fly shops and outfitters has

Continued on next page...

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been successful in generating both new members and sales of PATU merchandise. It was also confirmed that the summer issue of *PA Trout* will be printed and mailed to all members to create interest in attending the Annual Membership Meeting. A proposal by our web developer Paul Raubertas to charge for his future services will be given further consideration by the committee.

Development Committee: G. Kutskel reported that the year-end appeal has generated \$9,000 in member donations to date. He will be investigating PayPal as an alternative to the current PayTrace service to reduce our costs of supporting on-line donations. The selection of TIC raffle prizes has been finalized and tickets should be available in March for distribution to the Regional VPs.

Membership Committee: Malaska announced that his College Outreach program will be introduced to Clarion University and the University of Scranton as pilot programs prior to being released to all members at the annual membership meeting in the fall.

Stream Access Committee: Winters reported that the Maple Run property in Blair County that was purchased jointly by the John Kennedy Chapter and the Blair County Conservation District has been turned over to the PFBC. Bohls reported that an easement for property on the LeTort is being developed by the Cumberland Valley Chapter. Further revisions on the Stream Access brochure have been completed by National TU, and will be distributed for EXCOM approval.

Youth Committee: The Wayne's Kids fishing event planned for April on Spruce Creek has been expanded this year to allow 50 kids to participate, and first emphasis will be placed on attracting entrants from the eastern PATU regions.

National Leadership Council: Murty reported that National TU's goal is to double its membership over the next several years, with a focus on attracting women and kids. TU's new website, with an emphasis on fishing, is intended to aid in accomplishing this goal. Murty also expressed the need for him to be involved in the dissolution and de-chartering process for the Wood Duck Chapter.

Marcellus Shale Issues: K. Dunlap reported that Marcellus issues have become the second highest priority on National TU's agenda. Resumes were accepted through Jan. 10 for hiring a new Marcellus Shale Field Coordinator for PA. As many as six Marcellus media trainings to educate volunteers on how to communicate with the public are being planned by Erin Mooney of National TU. Bohls reported that he is now on a list to be considered for the Governor's Sportsmen's Advisory Council.

Coldwater Heritage Partnership/Trout in the Classroom: On a motion by Bohls/seconded by Malaska, approval was given to hire an intern to support S. Kutskel's work with CHP and TIC. This will be a part-time position from January through April paying \$10/hour, with a limit not to exceed \$1,500. S. Kutskel reported that 14 applications had been received for CHP grants, including just one from a TU chapter. Everything has been finalized for this year's Keystone Coldwater Conference, and registration information will be sent out in the near future.

Regional VP Reports: In addition to what is contained in the Regional Reports submitted to EXCOM, the following comments were registered:

- **Northeast Region** – Malaska reported that a regional meeting will be held on April 28 at the Monroe County Conservation District office, and that the Western Pocono Chapter is back on track under the new leadership of Paul Raubertas.

- **Southwest Region** – Winters reported that the Ft. Bedford Chapter will be moving forward after a re-organizational meeting planned for the near future.

- **Southcentral Region** – Bohls suggested that Council might want to sell TIC raffle tickets at the Cumberland Valley Chapter's booth at the Eastern Outdoor Sports Show in February if arrangements can be worked out with the chapter.

Regional VPs were advised to notify their chapters that any who have not filed their updated bylaws would be expected to do so no later than our next EXCOM

meeting.

Approval of Revised Council Bylaws: The following additional revisions were suggested in the draft Council Bylaws dated 12/31/11 as previously distributed to EXCOM:

- **Article II, Section 5 Conduct of Meetings** – Change the percentage for meeting a quorum from “50%” to “25%,” as approved on a motion by Charlesworth/seconded by Malaska.

- **Article III, Section 4 Regional Vice Presidents** – Eliminate a specific number for Regional VPs and reword to minimize future Bylaw revisions when Regions are added and/or deleted.

- **Article III, Section 6 Treasurer** – Leave the phrase “limitations of authority” as is, and not specify any specific dollar amounts.

- **Article IV, Section 1, Item G Compensation** – “Upon approval by the Executive Committee” should be added, the word “no” should be deleted, and the word “may” substituted for “shall” in the first sentence. Pennell is to check with National TU to determine if this proposed change is in conflict with TU policy.

- **Article V, Section II Standing Committees** – Add language for a “Governance Committee” as proposed by Murty and approved on a motion by Bohls/seconded by Wagner.

- **Article V, Section Reporting and Accountability** – Add “With the exception of the Governance Committee” at the beginning of the first sentence.

Pennell will incorporate the suggested revisions and further refine the draft Council Bylaws, then send out to EXCOM for comments and/or approval prior to circulating to chapter presidents for a vote to approve.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m. on a motion by G. Kutskel/seconded by Hanes. The next EXCOM meeting is scheduled for March 24, 2012 at the PFBC Stackhouse Training Center.

-- Bob Pennell, PATU Secretary

CCC sets winter training schedule

Winter Coldwater Conservation Corps training sessions have been announced. The sessions are conducted by Trout Unlimited staff and volunteers, using materials developed by PATU and the Marcellus Monitoring Manual developed by the Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring (ALLARM) of Dickinson College.

Registration for all sessions begins at 8:30 a.m. with the program starting at 9 a.m. and continuing until completion, usually between 2:30 and 3:30 p.m. Coffee and light breakfast fare, along with lunch, will be provided.

- February 18 in Mercer at Munnell Run Farm. This training is hosted by the Neshannock Chapter of Trout Unlimited.
- March 3 in St. Michael at the Disaster's Edge Environmental Center. This training is hosted by the Mountain Laurel Chapter of TU.
- March 10 in Bloomsburg at the Columbia County Ag Center. This training is hosted by the Columbia County Chapter of TU.
- March 31 in Uniontown at the

Knights of Columbus. This training is hosted by the Chestnut Ridge Chapter of TU.

Trainings will cover topics ranging from basic environmental concerns of gas extraction in the Marcellus Shale to hands-on water quality sampling. If you are a coldwater fisherman or hunter and have concerns about Marcellus Shale gas drilling in your area, this training will cover all aspects of gas drilling and what you, as an angler or hunter, can do to look after your favorite waters.

Educational materials, two water quality sampling kits per TU chapter, and lunch will be provided at each training session. Please plan to attend and help to ensure that our fisheries are better protected.

To register, please send an email to Katy Dunlap at kdunlap@tu.org or call 607-703-0256, and provide your name, phone number and chapter name. Directions and an agenda will be provided the week of the training session.

There is a \$17.50 fee for non-TU members, which includes the cost of a half-price membership. We require all participants to be members of TU to ensure that each volunteer is covered under our liability policy and is able to access our secure online data portal.

WBSRC Symposium planned for April 27-28

Trout Unlimited and the West Branch Susquehanna Restoration Coalition will host the 6th West Branch Susquehanna Restoration Symposium on April 27-28 at the Ramada Inn and Conference Center, State College.

April 27 will be filled with a variety of presentations on topics related to abandoned mine drainage cleanup efforts in the West Branch Susquehanna watershed. On April 28, training sessions will be offered for teachers who are interested in implementing AMD curricula in their classrooms.

A field trip will also be offered to visit treatment systems in the headwaters of the West Branch Susquehanna River, including the recently completed Lancashire No.

15 active treatment facility.

A student poster competition will be held in conjunction with the symposium. Posters should present research related to abandoned mine drainage (AMD), abandoned mine reclamation, or a related topic. Projects with a focus in the West Branch Susquehanna River basin are preferred, but not required.

Registration fees for the symposium will be waived for each student entering a poster, and first, second and third place contestants will receive a monetary award. To enter, please send an abstract (250 word maximum) along with your name, affiliation and contact information to Dr. Jennifer Demchak by sending email to: jdemchak@mansfield.edu by Feb. 24.

For more information, visit the Symposium webpage at <http://www.wbsrc.org/symposium.html>, call 570-748-4901, or send an email to: info@wbsrc.org.

Keystone Coldwater Conference Feb. 24-25

PA Council of Trout Unlimited will be hosting the 10th Keystone Coldwater Conference Feb. 24-25 at the Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel in State College.

This conference is designed for grassroots members from nonprofit organizations such as Trout



Unlimited, sportsmen's groups and watershed associations, along with environmental professionals from conservation districts, agencies and consulting firms to share ideas and concepts among diverse groups with the common interest of protecting our coldwater resources.

This year's conference is titled "Responsible Land Use: Protecting Habitat and Native Species," with topics such as landscape fragmentation, buffer maintenance, stormwater management, invasive species and development (pervious and impervious).

The conference will begin on Feb. 24 with a Friday night social. Individuals have the opportunity to network and visit exhibitors. The event will include appetizers and a cash bar, along with opportunities to win some great prizes.

On Saturday, Feb. 25 the program will begin at 8:30 a.m. with our keynote speakers. Twelve breakout sessions will round out the morning and afternoon, with topics related to protecting habitat and native species.

The presentations will highlight research, case studies, proactive community action and targeted outreach and advocacy that have played a part in ensuring environmental protection.

For more information or to register please visit <http://www.outreach.psu.edu/programs/coldwaterconservation/> or contact Samantha Kutskel at 814-359-5233 or skutskel@coldwaterheritage.org.

Treasurer's Report

by PATU Treasurer George Kutskel

Another year has passed and I, along with all the members of the Executive Committee, would like to say thank you to all who contributed to our annual appeal. We were a little late in sending out this year's appeal. Still, many of you made a generous contribution. I hope to have totals for everyone in the next newsletter.

Our TIC raffle tickets will be reaching each chapter soon and I think we have some nice prizes as you can see elsewhere in this issue. All proceeds from the raffle go toward our support of an education outreach coordinator.

One item that has come up several times in the past two months is the issue of tax exemption. Each chapter has been assigned an EIN#, and in order to avoid paying sales tax on items a chapter may buy for a fundraiser or stream project they first must apply to the state for the exemption.

There are several pages of paperwork that must be filled out and submitted, but it's something to consider if your chapter

buys several items subject to sales tax. I intend to go over the paperwork with interested chapters at one of our planned trainings this year. Please visit our website regularly to keep up with dates of interest for our members.

That brings up item of concern for chapter presidents and PATU members. I've fielded several calls about things that, had the person checked the PATU website, they would've had an answer without a phone call or email. One suggestion is for chapters to appoint a member to follow our website as well as National TU's or even the Fish and Boat Commission's.

I'm sure most chapters have someone who is "chained" to his or her desk and are logged into the Internet daily. All they need do is at least once a week check out each website and see if there is breaking news. Then give a report at the chapter's meeting, or better yet, if it is something needing immediate attention send an email to all members.

Chapter Donations

The following chapters have donated to further council's mission, in addition to supporting fundraisers, in 2011-2012.

- Allegheny Mountain
- Donegal
- Hokendauqua '11
- Neshannock
- Oil Creek
- Spring Creek
- Mountain Laurel
- Valley Forge
- Broadhead
- Arrowhead
- Chestnut Ridge
- Hokendauqua '12

I know in my own chapter we had someone watch the PA Bulletin for mining permits and other items that would impact the chapter and give a report at each chapter board meeting.

Today's technology makes monitoring issues so much easier, yet most of us fail to use it in a way to make our chapters better. This is just a suggestion, but I think you'll find your chapter will be much more ahead of the curve by trying it.

VPs for North Central and Central regions needed

At the PATU meeting on Jan. 7, EXCOM voted to split the North Central Region into two regions – a North Central Region and a Central Region. The change was made to consolidate geography to allow for less travel, hopefully making it easier for chapters to conduct regional meetings. The realigned regions and their chapters are below, and a map showing the new regional structure can be found on the "Chapters" page at www.patrou.org.

North Central: Seneca, Gods Country, Tiadaghton, Art Bradford, Jim Zwald and Kettle Creek. (Note that Seneca was moved from the Northwest Region)

Central: Spring Creek, Lloyd Wilson, Susquehanna, R.B. Winter, Columbia County and Wood Duck

Council is seeking candidates for vice presidents to serve both of these regions. If you would like to know more about what the position entails, please contact Ken Undercoffer at 814-765-1035 or kcoffer@atlanticbb.net.

NOT A TROUT UNLIMITED MEMBER YET? CLIP AND MAIL THIS FORM TODAY!

Membership Level	Dues
Stream Explorer (under 15)	\$12
Special Introductory *	\$17.50 *
Regular Renewal	\$35
Family	\$50
Senior (62 or older)	\$20
Sponsor	\$100
Business	\$200
Conservator	\$250
Life (one-time payment)	\$1,000



* For special rate, must note chapter you want to join. Regular individual membership is \$35. Members renew at full price. Members receive chapter newsletter, Pa. TROUT newsletter and Trout magazine. Form may be photocopied, or send same information on separate sheet to TU.

Currently all levels have a rebate to the designated chapter joined.
See PA chapter listings
or visit www.tu.org or www.patrou.org for more info.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone(s) _____ E-mail _____

Chapter I wish to join _____

MasterCard/Visa # _____ Exp. Date _____

Mail this form / or photocopy / or send same info to:

TROUT UNLIMITED P.O. Box 7400 Woolly Bugger, WV 25438-9960

PICE's Wildlife Leadership Academy plans 'PA Brookies' field school

On July 10-14, 2012, the Pennsylvania Brookies Field School for youths age 14-17 will be held in Clinton County.

The brook trout-focused field school and subsequent year-long conservation outreach experience is a part of the Wildlife Leadership Academy program facilitated and administered by the Pennsylvania Institute for Conservation Education. The week-long field school will be held at Lock Haven University's Sieg Conference Center located along Fishing Creek, just outside of the State College area.

More specifically, the WLA begins with this intensive field school experience that, during PA Brookies, will focus on brook trout as a springboard for exploring biology, habitat and conservation issues. During this week, youths will also develop leadership skills by engaging in team-building activities, educational presentations and mock "town hall" meetings.

Prepared with the knowledge and the skills from the field school, students return to their home communities to complete conservation outreach that focuses on environmental education, community service, media engagement and/or participation in the arts.

The overall mission of the Academy is to empower youths to become ambassadors for conservation in order to ensure a sustained wildlife legacy for future generations. Academy participants have taken the program's mission to heart. Since the program's beginning, WLA graduates have conducted 522 conservation education, communication and service projects; given more than 2,000 hours of work towards these efforts; and engaged over 10,000 Pennsylvania citizens across 44 counties in the state.

The first WLA field school, held in 2007, focused on white-tailed deer. A second field school, focusing on ruffed grouse,

was added in 2010. This year, PICE and its partners will offer Pennsylvania Bucktails focused on white-tailed deer and Pennsylvania Brookies focused on brook trout.

As the program has grown from one field school to two, it became clear there was a need for partners to assist with the planning and execution of the program. For this reason, PICE and Trout Unlimited's Eastern Abandoned Mine Program have partnered to plan the brook trout-focused field school. The partnership will greatly enhance the experience for the students attending PA Brookies, and will allow the program to reach more youths across the state.

The WLA is now accepting applications for participants. Pennsylvania youths with an interest in fisheries and wildlife conservation and community leadership between the ages of 14 and 17 are encouraged to apply. The WLA is also seeking adult leaders to serve as mentors for the week. Adult leaders learn right alongside the students from the top professionals in the state. Adult leaders must be over the age of 21. Teachers, graduate students, volunteers and anyone with an interest in fisheries and wildlife are encouraged to apply. Teachers are eligible to receive 40 Act 48 credits.

Applications for youths and adult leaders are available at www.PICEweb.org under the Youth Programs link or by contacting Academy Director Michele Kittell at mkittell@piceweb.org or 570-245-8518. The application deadline for students is April 1, 2012; the application deadline for adult leaders is March 1, 2012.

TU and PICE are also looking for chapters or groups who are interested in supporting the program through a youth sponsorship or through youth tuition scholarship support. The field school also requires a significant number of volunteers to provide instruction and other assistance throughout the week. Finally, your chapter can help by providing outreach opportunities for students during the year following the field school.

If you are interested in these opportunities or would like more information about this program please contact Michele Kittell at mkittell@piceweb.org or 570-245-8518.

Harpster offers youths a unique fishing opportunity

Wayne Harpster is offering young fly anglers a chance to fish the storied waters of the central Pennsylvania's Spruce Creek. The event will be held at his family's Evergreen Farm on Sunday, April 29. The goal is to provide youngsters with a unique fly fishing experience based on the quality fishing on Spruce Creek that is enhanced by education and guiding from a variety knowledgeable adults.

There will be two education programs. Joe Humphreys will conduct a casting and fishing demo and Greg Hoover will present on local fly fishing entomology. The day will be topped off with a group meal at the covered bridge on the lower water. This opportunity is provided through the efforts of Harpster, PSU Fly Fishing and the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited.

All chapters are encouraged to participate. Chapters are responsible for the behavior of their youths. A maximum of one adult per every two students is requested. Students should be between ages 12-15. There is a limit of 50 students and 25 adults for the program. We suggest that students use their own equipment, they must have their own flies and those must be fished barbless.

All fishing is catch/release with no wading. There is a \$10 registration fee for each student who attends. We are asking the chapters to cover the cost of registration. Because the event is limited to 50 students, please turn in your registration as soon as possible. Deadline for registration is March 9. For more information or to register, please contact Samantha Kutskel at 814-359-5114 or c-skutskel@pa.gov.

The Fishery of Spring Creek / A Watershed Under Siege

Centre County's Spring Creek is the subject of a new technical publication from the PA Fish & Boat Commission, authored by Dr. Robert Carline, Becky Dunlap, Jason Detar and Bruce Hollender.

The 88-page document which tracks the decline and rebirth of the creek can be read by visiting: <http://www.patroul.org/Content/20110407221507156.pdf>.

Next round of CHP grants on tap

Is your chapter looking for funding to protect local wild trout streams? The Coldwater Heritage Partnership Program may be able to help. The program provides leadership, coordination, technical, assistance and funding support for the evaluation, conservation and protection of Pennsylvania's coldwater streams. It also provides grant opportunities to help protect our wild trout streams that have potential for impact, threats or other problems.

CHP is a partnership between the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds.

The program provides two grant opportunities – a planning grant to develop coldwater conservation plans and an implementation grant to complete recommendations that are listed in completed plans. It has been administered by PATU since 2003, providing more than \$360,000 in grants that has helped to develop 73 conservation plans and five implementation projects. All completed plans can be found at www.coldwaterheritage.org.

Planning grants are awarded to non-profit organizations to develop a coldwater conservation plan. These plans evaluate the stream conditions, identify impacts and threats, outline needed protection and build community awareness and support for the conservation of the stream.

Implementation grants are awarded to organizations that have already created a plan (not necessary through CHP) to apply recommendations outlined in the plan. Projects must enhance, conserve, or protect the stream in which the plan was created.

The next grant round doesn't open until September, so there is plenty of time to discuss this opportunity with your chapters.

Samantha Kutskel, PATU's coldwater resource specialist, is available to attend chapter meetings and give more information about this great opportunity. For more, visit www.coldwaterheritage.org or contact Kutskel at 814-359-5233 or skutskel@coldwaterheritage.org.

TIC Report by Samantha Kutskel

The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited will be accepting Trout in the Classroom grant applications until Feb. 24 for the 2012-2013 school year.

Trout in the Classroom 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.

Grant applications are available for the following:

- **Trout in the Classroom Start-Up Grants** are awarded to applicants who are (501)c3 conservation organizations that have developed a partnership with a teacher. The start-up grant provides essential equipment necessary to start a TIC program. The grantee must provide a \$350 cash match to PATU as well as a 55-gallon aquarium and lid to the classroom.

- **Trout in the Classroom Existing Grants** are awarded to teachers and conservation organizations which have an existing program in place. The maximum amount of this grant is \$500 for specific replacement equipment, TIC

support materials (i.e., books, videos, multi-media), and classroom field trip expenses.

Pennsylvania's state-wide TIC program is made possible through a unique partnership between PATU, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and Pennsylvania Department of Education Environmental and Ecology section. Funding for this opportunity was provided by PATU, PAFBC and the Department of Education's Environment and Ecology section.

Grant applications and additional program information are available on the TIC website at www.patrouintheclassroom.org. For more information, contact Samantha Kutskel at 814-359-5114 or c-skutskel@pa.gov.



BUY SPECIAL PATU FLY BOXES

High quality, waterproof, double-sided fly boxes, featuring see-through lids and micro-foam inserts, which will accommodate as many as 276 flies, are now available from PATU. These boxes are 6" long by 4" wide by 1-3/4" thick and will include a PATU logo decal that can be applied to the box or used wherever you choose. Send this form or same information:

Name _____

Mail Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Quantity _____ / Amount _____

Pricing: \$20.00/box

Tax: \$1.20/box

S&H: \$2.30/box

Send form or info and check payable to "PATU" to: George Kutskel, 107 Simmons St., DuBois, PA 15801

PATU introduces guide to stream access, easements

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited has developed a new brochure that explains to landowners the many benefits of providing public access for fishing through easements and other types of agreements.

The brochure provides helpful information on obtaining easements, sources to contact for assistance and the purpose of the Recreational Land and Water Act (RULWA).

PATU's Stream Access Policy is also covered in the Landowners Guide to Easements and Access Agreements brochure, found here: <http://www.patrou.org/Content/20120119201926719.pdf>.

What you need to know to receive PA Trout newsletters

The goal in changing our method of distributing future newsletters from essentially a print medium to electronic distribution is to save a substantial amount of dollars that can be used more directly for other worthwhile projects related to PA Council's mission, "To conserve, protect, restore and sustain Pennsylvania's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds, especially our wild trout resources."

It is our belief that this move serves the best interests of our PA Trout Unlimited members. Review the following options:

1. The newsletter will be posted electronically on the PA Trout Website, www.patrou.org, where it can be read online or downloaded and printed out.

2. If you are a current PA TU chapter member, you will automatically receive a notice by email when each new issue of *PA Trout* is posted at www.patrou.org, provided that your email address on file with National TU is current. If not, then you should log on to www.tu.org and update your email address as follows: Click the "Member Login" box

and enter your username and password which opens the "Welcome to My TU" page. Click "Edit Profile" and then click on "Account" tab where you will enter your email address.

3. If you do not have access to the Internet and/or you would prefer to receive a printed copy by mail, you can subscribe at a cost of \$5.00 per year (4 issues). **Please note that this is a reduction in the previously announced cost of \$10.00 per year. Those who have previously paid**

\$10.00 will automatically receive a one-year extension on their subscriptions. Just send your check payable to "PA Trout" to George Kutskel, 107 Simmons Street, DuBois, PA 15801.

4. A limited number of printed copies for distribution to other organizations will be available at no cost to chapters on a first come/first served basis. Send requests to Samantha Kutskel, PATU, P.O. Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823, or by email to c-skutskel@state.pa.us.

Subscribe to PA Trout

If you would like to receive future Pennsylvania Trout newsletters by U.S. Mail, fill out the following form and mail with your check payable to "PA Trout" to: George Kutskel, 107 Simmons St., DuBois, PA 15801.

Name _____

Street or P.O. _____

City, State & Zip _____

Subscription rate is \$5.00 per year (4 issues)

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ for _____ year(s)

Valley Forge book 'Trout Tales and Watershed Heroes' now on Amazon.com

Longtime friends and Valley Forge Trout Unlimited members, Jim Clark and Tom Prusak, hatched the idea to select the best writing from the past 30 years of the chapter's award-winning newsletter "Banknotes."

Tom, Jim and editor Tom Ames painstakingly searched the chapter's archives to produce this outstanding collection of outdoor writing. Linda Steiner describes the book in her foreword as, "Not a mere compilation of stories and reports from a conservation organization, this ranks with the best anthologies of outdoor writing."

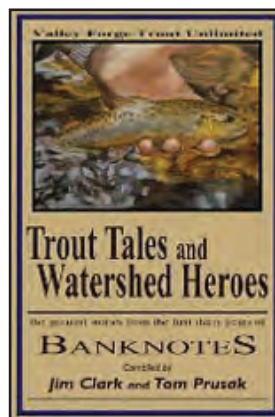
Recently, Trout Tales and Watershed

Heroes was recognized by Pennsylvania Trout Unlimited as "Best Chapter Project."

The book is beautifully illustrated with original artwork from

chapter members Todd Henderson, Andy Leitzinger and the late Carl Dusinger.

Trout Tales and Watershed Heroes is available at VFTU chapter meetings, through their website and on Amazon.com. (<http://www.amazon.com/Trout-Tales-Watershed-Heroes-BANKNOTES/dp/1456538748>)



Book on Pa.'s Spring Creek available

Pennsylvania Council is offering for sale copies of Dan Shields's "Fly Fishing Pennsylvania's Spring Creek," at a cost of \$20 each, including tax and shipping.

All fly-rodders should appreciate this book about the Centre County stream that has played such a significant role in the development of the sport and, even more importantly, how it has proven the benefits of catch-and-release as a fisheries conservation tool. The author examines what makes this fishery what it is, its angling history and, of course, the fly patterns and techniques for successfully fishing this limestone stream.

Order by sending a check for \$20 payable to "PATU" to George Kutskel, 107 Simmons Street, DuBois, PA 15801.

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

TU members tie flies that are raffled off to people attending the seminar. Past seminar pictures are posted on the chapter's website. This year we are planning on a follow-up session on a local pond where seminar participants may fish for panfish in April. The chapter offers a kids fishing tournament in cooperation with The Knights of Columbus, PFBC and Stroud Township on opening day, April 14, at the Brodhead Park. Every participating child under 12 receives a prize. Our annual banquet is March 31. Eric Baird, our treasurer, is the chairman and contact for tickets and seating. On April 21, we will host the Northeast Regional Spring Training at MCEEC. We hope to facilitate a good session, and offer some great Pocono streams for those representing their chapters to enjoy while they are here.

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Greg Malaska

638 Center Ave.

Jim Thorpe, PA 18229

E-mail: gregmalaska@yahoo.com

Phone: 570-657-7169

Brodhead Chapter #289

Tom Battista

570-236-1734, mooseowl1151@gmail.com

Website: www.brodheadtu.org

The chapter voted to publish and distribute our newsletter, "Streamside Asides," electronically, by e-mail and on our website. The cost in both time and money has made publishing a print version increasingly more difficult. Changes in the post office where our bulk mail permit is handled and the strict requirements to continue to use this type of mailing have resulted in our shift to modern methods. Hopefully this will also help with a more ecologically friendly result without using paper and requiring gas transportation to distribute the newsletter. Our bylaws were formally adopted at the November meeting. They were sent to National and are posted on our website. Thanks to Will Daskal, our editor and webmaster, for handling this important task. We started out the new year with a basic fly tying class Jan. 7, 14 and 21. A two session intermediate fly tying class meets Feb. 25 and March 3. Classes are at our meeting site, the Monroe County Environmental Education Center, meeting between 9 a.m. and 12 p.m. for all sessions. Our February meeting is our fly tying round robin to which we invite all the participants in the fly tying classes to join in to learn additional patterns and techniques. This year we hope to have a large turnout of tiers so we can produce boxes of flies to be donated to Project Healing Waters and Casting for Recovery. On March 10, Monroe County Environmental Education Center is offering a seminar on fly fishing from noon to 3 p.m. The chapter provides instruction along with the center's Carl Meyer.

Forks of the Delaware Chapter #482

Ryan Rush

610-217-8326, flyfishryan@yahoo.com

Website: www.forkstu.org

Meetings are 7 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month, except July and August, at Stockertown Rod & Gun Club. Revised bylaws were unanimously approved by the membership at the chapter's annual meeting on Nov. 2. Revised bylaws have been filed with National. An ad-hoc committee will revise our strategic plan. Accident insurance is renewed. Our annual financial report was filed with National. Our annual holiday raffle was Dec. 7. The chapter signed on as a member of the Sportsmen Alliance for Marcellus Conservation. The chapter signed on to letters addressed to DRBC federal and state parties requesting a cumulative impact analysis before issuing Marcellus drilling regulations. The chapter signed on as a member to the Growing Greener Coalition. We sent a letter of support for open space in the current budget process to Northampton County Council. We are partnering with five schools in the TIC program. We purchased replacement parts and supplies for the schools. Eggs were received on Nov. 2 and Nov. 3 at Wind Gap, Bangor and Nazareth middle schools and Easton Academy. Viable egg numbers varied from 421 to 488. Easton High received eggs on Nov. 16. Eggs developed into sac-fry, swam out of the hatching baskets and into the tanks. We are planning release dates for the spring. Our annual trout redd survey was cancelled due to high water. Our eight-week beginner fly tying class started Jan. 16.

Hokendauqua Chapter #535

Dale Steventon

610-767-1213, adms@enter.net

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

Two stream bank restoration projects were planned for Hokendauqua Creek this fall, but

inclement weather precluded use of heavy equipment. A waiver for a "permit to work project" was filed with DEP requesting an extension on our time limit until June. Annual fundraisers are a fly tying course raffle and combined Chapters of Lehigh Valley meeting in March. We are planning a 25-year anniversary banquet and fundraiser on April 27. And we are planning a "Two Fly Tournament" in June. At the PATU annual meeting on Oct. 1 we were surprised and elated to have been chosen and awarded the "Edward Urbas Best Chapter 2011. During Armed Forces Week on Dec. 7 we received a call announcing that we were awarded a \$1,000 gift from the "1st Generation Foundation" for our work with veterans through our Project Healing Waters activity. Our TIC program is progressing and trout are being successfully reared in fish tanks at the science class of our member, Janet Reichelderfer, at Catasauqua High School. Fourteen boxes of a dozen flies were prepared for and sent to the "Casting for Recovery" organization for their fly fishing experience next year. Fifteen rods were refinished with bait hook keepers for use at a Youth Field Day event to be held in August. Manuals have been prepared and collated for our fly tying course which began Jan. 7. Materials and tools have been prepared for the course. A news release has been submitted to local newspapers announcing the course and registration contact information. Project Healing Waters events are scheduled for May, June and October. Speakers at our monthly meetings for the last quarter discussed fishing Penn's Creek, Marcellus Shale drilling for natural gas and the adverse effects of the operations, and a review of the Project Healing Waters events for the year. Our board members reviewed PA TU's comment concerning use of natural gas drilling brines on roadways and are in agreement with said comment. Our chapter is now on Facebook.

Lackawanna Valley Chapter #414

Charlie Charlesworth

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We met with representatives from the University of Scranton to help set up a Fly Fishing Club and a possible fly fishing class. The University and the chapter are working together to develop a Fly Fishing Retail show at the University which would take place two weeks before the Somerset Show in 2013 at the University Conference Center. Elections were held and the board remained the same, with the exception of the treasurer who was stepping down and replaced by another board member. Bylaws were revised, approved and submitted to National. Members attended the annual banquet for the Lackawanna County Federation of Sportsmen. Our president attended the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority Christmas party and grant awards ceremony. We joined the non-profit community assistance center which

will assist in generating a list of agencies offering grants and then helping them with their submissions. The chapter received a \$500 mini-education grant from the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority to conduct a teen fly fishing school. A banquet committee was established and our yearly fund raising raffle ticket was put together. Chapter representatives met with the mayor of Scranton, director of public works and the city planner. Scranton has signed a letter to the director of the PFBC asking that the lower section of the Lackawanna River (within city limits) be classified with a Class A designation. The city is also going to develop six fishermen parking areas along the levee system. The city has also asked us to assist them in mapping the storm drains (those that drain into the river) of the 40,000 total drains within the city. Our president met with the chief of staff from State Sen. Blake's office expressing our concerns about SB1100. We sent a letter to the PFBC asking for the results of electro-shocking on the lower portion of the Lackawanna River that was completed over one year ago. We received a reply that the report has been completed, but it takes an extended period of time before all those involved sign off on it. The chapter declined co-sponsoring a presentation by Penn Environmental at the University of Scranton after getting guidance from National. We took part in a macroinvertebrate assessment on the Lackawanna with DEP, the Lackawanna County Conservation District and Dr. Shawn Rummel from National. A group from the chapter made a weekend trip to the Salmon River for steelhead in November. December's meeting also doubled as the chapter's Christmas party with a presentation about the steelhead trip.

Monocacy Chapter #491

Steve Vanya

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Elections were held in October and resulted in Erik Broesicke being elected VP. Former VP Dr. Ted Burger will join the board along with new members Phil Burtner and Gary Fenstermacher. We thank Dr. Burger for his years of service and dedication as an officer for over 25 years and welcome Erik to his new leadership role. Meetings in 2012 include: Don Baylor – "The Poconos: Cradle of American Fly Fishing" in January; Bob Signorello, chapter board member presenting "the Great Lakes fishery," in February; Erik Broesicke – "Saltwater Fly Rodding Tactics – Fishing Sandy Hook," in March; spring fishing patterns for Monocacy Creek with group fly tying and discussion in April. Also in April is our annual stream cleanup. Planning for the 10th annual spring event, a major fundraiser for Lehigh Valley chapters, is in process. Bethlehem Township recently opened Housenick Memorial Park which is part of the Archibald Johnston Conservation Area.

This area is essentially the heart of the Monocacy where a geologic rock formation known locally as Camel's Hump forces groundwater flowing through limestone rock to the surface. This results in numerous springs that are critical in helping the Monocacy maintain its high quality, cold water fishery status. We recognize the importance of this area, and in November we participated in a group walk of the property to access what areas need cleaning, and other restorative actions. Interest in this environmentally special area has been a collaborative effort which has included Vicky Bastidas, activist and teacher, as well as the LV Audubon Society, the Sierra Club, NCC students and others. Chapter members later participated in the removal of several log jams that were impeding flow and damming water beyond its banks. Future work projects are being planned. Although we are excited that this area is under preservation, property adjoining this park may be up for future re-zoning and development. We will continue to monitor this situation.

Pike Wayne Chapter #462

Matt Wishneski

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Website: www.pwtu.org

Members unanimously voted to continue with our current executive board. Our president gave a plea to membership for additional responsible involvement in key areas of interest, including conservation and fundraising chairmanships. We sponsored the Northeast PA symposium held at the PPL Center on Nov. 14. Dave Sewak of National TU, presented "Shared Habitat." Part of the presentation dealt with the impact of Marcellus Shale gas drilling. The chapter was pleased to augment its already deep involvement in this important cause by accepting two water test kits as part of PATU's Coldwater Conservation Corps. We have been involved with water quality baseline testing with the Delaware Riverkeepers' Network for more than two years. As part of this program it is important to say that the Delaware River (part of our home water and responsibility), having been recognized as the most threatened river in the nation because of potential devastation from gas drilling impact, has actually been elevated in classification. Also, all Pike County streams are classified as either High Quality or Exceptional Value. The chapter takes pride in this assessment and cherishes its unspoiled resources, and while we fail to attract the attention or funding of the more famous Penn's Woods streams, we strive to maintain them. Our president, Matt Wishneski, has been recommended by the Stanley Cooper Chapter as the "go-to guy" to the Delaware Riverkeepers' Faith Zerbe, along with such notables as Ken Undercoffer and Lee Hartman for any future advice on Pike/Wayne stream quality. It's a recommendation our president and our membership does not take lightly. In October our

chapter presented guest speaker Jim Krul, director of the Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum of Livingston Manor, NY. His slide presentation was entitled "The Evolution of Trout Flies" and obviously dealt with the history of tying trout flies, materials and methods involved, as well as notable tiers and materials employed. This was an extremely interesting presentation which sparked many questions from the member attendees. This is a highly recommended program for other chapters. Other discussions at the meeting dealt with the honoring of a recently deceased member of our chapter at the aforementioned museum. Krul also solicited membership/sponsorship of his cause. Our December meeting included a Christmas party.

Schuylkill County Chapter #537

Bruce Herb

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Website: www.schuylkilltu.org

New officers are in place: Bruce Herb, president; John Bondura, VP; Tony Mione, secretary; Bill Degler, Treasurer; and directors Jim Kurchock, Bud Noll, Wayne Maurer, Rich Kovitch, Jerry Homick and Bruce Schneck. Fly Tying Classes will be held at Sweet Arrow Lake Club House, Pine Grove on Feb. 21, March 13 and 20. Our Christmas party was well attended and everyone had great evening with lots of very good food, games, raffles and of course, Diane Bogdon's special gift exchange plus a fly swap. We are planning to sponsor two schools for the TIC program. Our picnic in August was our most successful fundraiser in recent years. This coming year we will again rely on a picnic format for our fundraiser. The picnic will be held at Schuylkill County Fairgrounds on Aug. 18. Commitments have been made to participate in the Schuylkill County Youth Field Day, Norm Thornberg Youth Conservation Camp, Bear Creek Festival and Valley View Gun Club Youth Field Day.

Stanley Cooper, Sr. Chapter #251

Heide Marie Cebrick

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Our annual election was in October. Two new board members were added and two retained their positions. New officers were elected at this meeting and are Heide Marie Cebrick, president; Dr. Brian Jameson, VP; John Stegura, secretary; and Mike Matso, treasurer. Members also enjoyed presentations by guest speakers. In October, Ben Turpin spoke on "The Best Pennsylvania Trout Streams." In November, Ray Miller of RiverSage Outfitters shared stories of fly fishing in Patagonia. The December meeting had two short presenta-

Continued on next page...

tions and we celebrated our annual holiday party. Chapter members participated in Project Healing Waters and the final fishing outing was in October at Lake Ladore, Waymart. November's meeting was the annual appreciation luncheon which is paid for and catered by our veterans to thank us for taking them fishing. We were honored to see over 75 people in attendance as our VA Hospital is encouraging more of their outpatients to join in our program. At our December meeting, Santa made a visit and helped distribute 25 gift bags that were assembled for the veterans of our program. The gift bags had three-foot tape measures, small flashlights, zingers with nippers, small fly boxes, fly patches, fly dressing and candy. Santa also gave participants fly boxes, a rod case, vest and two complete rod, reel and line outfits. Chapter members not only actively participate in our monthly meetings, but also generously donate items for the program on a regular basis. The generosity of our chapter in time, money and donated fishing necessities keeps this a very viable and vibrant program. The Banquet Committee is preparing for the 22nd annual conservation banquet on March 31 at the East Mountain Inn in Wilkes-Barre. Joe Vinton, manager for the Bear Creek Preserve, came and introduced our members to the preserve that is virtually in our back yard. He spoke of how they would like us to assist them in protecting this local treasure. We also had a biology teacher and students from a local high school present a proposal to build trout float stocking barrels as a class learning project. The float stocking barrels will be given to the PFBC to use on local streams to aid in their stocking efforts. Members agreed to support both projects. Members continue to monitor and stay aware of issues affecting our local streams and rivers, including Bowmans Creek, the Lehigh and the Delaware rivers. We are looking into gaining better access on the Upper Lehigh and fully support FUDR.

Western Pocono Chapter #203

Paul Raubertas

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The chapter has successfully and fully reorganized after two planning meetings which occurred in November and early December. At our Dec. 13th meeting, we elected a full slate of officers and filled some initial board roles, established a "home" stream, set membership meeting dates for 2012, and outlined initial plans for moving forward with fundraising and conservation work in the Pocono region. We prepared materials to communicate to the membership at large, including the bylaws for review and adoption, a meeting announcement flyer for our first post-reorganization membership meeting on Jan. 17 and late in January the mailing of our new newsletter. The chapter is in the process of recruiting additional board members to fill in areas for membership de-

velopment, communications and communications consistent with our new organization structure. Chapter leadership favors a more team-based approach rather than that of individual efforts, with the goal of better balancing the workload which in some regards almost mirrors that of the structure of Council. Also discussed at our December meeting was chapter engagement with Council, including required attendance at the annual membership meeting as well adhering to annual financial reporting requirements and other relevant matters. The chapter voted and approved subsidizing travel expenses for the annual meeting and to send at least one delegate to this meeting.

NORTHCENTRAL CHAPTERS

A. Bradford - No. Tier 357

Columbia County 038

God's Country 327

Jim Zwald 314

Kettle Creek 151

Lloyd Wilson 224

Raymond B. Winter 124

Spring Creek 185

Susquehanna 044

Tiadaghton 688

Wood Duck 235

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Open

Columbia County Chapter # 038

Brian Yeager

570-672-0111, cctu@pa.net

We had a booth at the Early Bird Sports Expo in Bloomsburg from Jan. 26-29. Our annual fly tying classes are being planned. We are working with Ed Wytovich from Catawissa Creek Restoration Association and Kevin Anderson of National TU on The Catawissa Creek Access Coalition. We were unable to have our regular monthly membership meetings in September, October and November due to the catastrophic flooding in the Bloomsburg area. FEMA took over our meeting room for their flood assistance operations. Our updated bylaws were to be finalized and sent in at our Dec. 15 meeting. We are in the second year of our first TIC project at Central Columbia Middle School and we are in the process of trying to start our second TIC program at Berwick Area Middle School. We held a fly tying class for seven children and three adults at the Berwick Middle School's Conservation Club on Nov. 8. We are planning for a Marcellus Shale presentation on April 19. We are planning and organizing for a CCC training session on March 10.

God's Country Chapter #327

Dr. Peter Ryan

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B.J. Lowther, our new secretary, has been working on "revised" bylaws, which are now completed, approved and submitted to national. Bob Volkmar and Pete Ryan attended a meeting in October hosted by Hancock Forest Management, one of the largest private forest landowners in Pa. We learned about how their company operates and it was very informative. Dave Sewak attended our October chapter meeting and updated us on his work with the Coldwater Conservation Corps as well as the Sportsmen Alliance group. We saw the efforts of our chapter members that serve on the Potter County Water Quality Committee of the Marcellus Gas Task Force come to fruition. Money from a Colcom Foundation Grant was used to buy citizen volunteer stream monitoring kits through ALLARM, as well as in-stream data loggers, one of which has already been installed. Chapter member Loren "Fitz" Fitzgerald has been elected president of the Upper First Fork Watershed Association and continues his efforts to organize and train citizen volunteer stream monitors. Chapter members continue to do stream monitoring. At the request of Katy Dunlap, we submitted photos of some severe E&S problems at pipeline sites in northeast Potter County. She used these photos as part of her testimony in front of the Senate's Energy and Natural Resources Committee regarding the problems of new pipeline construction caused by Marcellus development. Bob Volkmar hosted a reporter from the New York Times and Pete Ryan had an extensive interview with a reporter from the Philadelphia Inquirer. Everyone wants to know how God's Country is being affected by the onslaught of Marcellus Gas drilling and we are happy to give our views. Plans for our Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing event in May 2012 are underway. Dave Sautler and Pete Ryan attended a meeting at the McKean County Legion Riders Post 976 in Crosby and received a generous donation to Healing Waters. As a fundraiser for this event, we are selling raffle tickets with the prize being a print of Congressional Medal of Honor recipient Corp. Jason Dunham of nearby Scio, NY. He is the first marine since Vietnam to receive this prestigious award and is duly honored for sacrificing his life to save three of his fellow marines in Iraq. His family has graciously donated the print to our chapter to be used as a fundraiser for Healing Waters.

R.B. Winter Chapter #127

Robert Laubach

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Our October meeting featured Rebecca Dunlap, manager of TU's Eastern Abandoned Mine

Program, who spoke on the condition of the Upper West Branch of the Susquehanna and its tributaries. It was interesting to hear that there is now aquatic life as far down river as Renovo. Our November meeting featured PGC officer Dirk Remensnyder, who brought members up to date on current game laws. Our December meeting featured John Shaner, field rep for the Hardy/Grey Co. He discussed the history of wet flies (originally called Spiders) from their beginning in England to the present. Our spring banquet is set for March 28. Our 10-week fly tying course started on Jan. 9. Our TIC project at Mifflinburg Middle School is going great with a large survival of eggs.

Spring Creek Chapter #185

Judi Sittler

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Website: www.springcreektu.org

Our chapter has been approached by several scout troops asking us to give fly fishing and conservation instruction to their members. Several of our members are working on developing instruction for a Girl Scout troop which will include fly tying lessons and a field trip to a local pond for some fly fishing experience. Al Phillips continues to bring in outstanding presenters for our monthly meetings. Hanna Stout, a Penn State doctoral candidate, presented her research project which is attempting to re-introduce Green Drakes to Spring Creek. It could take 10 years to get results that are long lasting. Our annual banquet is March 24 at the Ramada Inn in State College. Jim Purtell is once again our banquet coordinator. He is hoping to have some of us exchange banquet attendance with the Penns Creek Chapter. It's a good way to spread good will and get different ideas for new banquet activities. We are also looking into other ways of long-range funding sources so we don't have to rely so heavily on the banquet. We have formed a Conservation Committee that will be working on a "wish list" of projects for future stream work and youth and community education. The committee will also be compiling a "grants calendar" which will indicate when various grant applications open and when they close. These two organizational tools will help us stay on top of projects we hope to accomplish as well as funding sources we can pursue to achieve our goals.

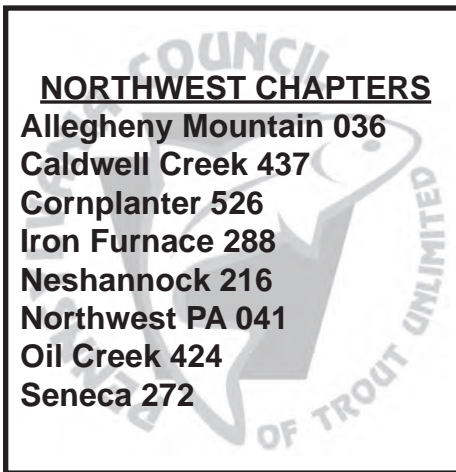
Tiadaghton Chapter #688

Bill Paulmier

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In late October, we held our second "Stand Down on the Water" program at Tom and Bonnie Huzey's camp on Pine Creek. This program gives veterans a full weekend of fly fishing and fly tying, plus a Friday night dinner at the Log Cabin restaurant right on Pine Creek. The rest of the meals are home cooked and provided by

chapter members. We had just four vets this year, but a thank you goes out to all veterans for their service. Also, thanks to all who donated money and items for our program, and to Ed Vandegrift, the chairman. We sponsored four TIC projects in Tioga County. All have gotten their fish and are doing well. Elections were held in November. Officers are Bill Paulmier, president; Larry Harris, VP; Kevin Hoferer, treasurer; and Carolyn Bair, secretary. Even after heavy storms in fall and lots of high water on Asaph Run outside of Wellsboro, the vane deflector dam we installed in July is doing well. A deep new pool is forming. This was our third project on this stream. We are also monitoring three Tioga County streams. Straight Run and Canada Run flow into Pine Creek, and Jemison Creek feeds Crooked Creek. Monitoring will begin on the Cowanesque River soon. All have been subject to some nearby or upstream Marcellus gas drilling activity. This winter we are hosting three sessions of "Flies and Lies" at the Community Center in Wellsboro. These are casual Saturday mornings where people can come in and learn to tie flies, swap materials, or swap flies with each other. New this year, one session will have a membership drive where we will be highlighting our annual programs and conservation efforts. We will be on hand for the Morris Gun Show in early March to recruit members and sell our major annual fund raising "Blast N Cast" raffle tickets. Winners will be drawn at our banquet on March 31.



NORTHWEST CHAPTERS
Allegheny Mountain 036
Caldwell Creek 437
Cornplanter 526
Iron Furnace 288
Neshannock 216
Northwest PA 041
Oil Creek 424
Seneca 272

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Mark Hanes

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Clarion, PA 16214

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

Election of officers was held and there were no changes. Joe Fieo was elected to replace Orwin Srock who retired after serving many years on the board of directors. The chapter held its annual reorganization meeting on Nov. 2. Our 46th annual banquet is March 31 at the DuBois VFW. The chapter gave a presentation to a group of concerned citizens about a deep well disposal injection well being proposed just outside of DuBois. Dave Sewak was at the chapter meeting in November to talk about what was happening around the state with Marcellus and other injection wells in the northwest part of the state. Kim Bonfardine continues to work on our stream monitoring through the PATU CCC. The chapter is going to explore the possibility of working with Iron Furnace Chapter on a joint project on the North Fork of Redbank Creek. We plan on having our weekly fly tying roundtable again this year and continuing our fly fishing club at the DuBois High School, as well as starting one in the Brockway School District. The chapter invited Paige Felice, the outreach coordinator from PATU, to make a presentation to the Brockway School on habitat projects that they can be involved in. Chapter youth coordinator Eric Wilson checked in with all our schools to make sure we are ready to go with our TIC programs. The chapter currently supports six schools in three counties.

Caldwell Creek Chapter #437

Tom Savko

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Elected officers include Tom Savko, president; Bob Zanotti, VP; Jack Urban, secretary; and Tom Mack, treasurer. We had members attend the CCC training in North East in preparation of monitoring local watersheds that could be affected by the injection of frack waste in our area. We are keeping abreast of the progress of two approximately 30-year old Medina natural gas production wells which are located near Bear Lake, in northwestern Warren County. They have been permitted for use as class 2D injection wells for the disposal of Marcellus high volume slick water frack fluids among other things, and these wells are in questionable geology in the headwaters of the Brokenstraw Creek watershed. The initial pressure tests failed and required the replacement of over 3,000 feet of 4½ inch casing that was reattached to 1,000 feet of old casing in the old cement/fractured production area of the wells. Both wells have now met the EPA required pressure test. The only hold up is an appeal that was filed with the EPA and is still pending. There will be additional holding tanks unloading and pumping sites from nearby secondary roads, all with run-off implications. In addition, they are working right-of-way agreements for approximately a five-mile pipeline from the Columbus, PA vicinity to the injection wells.

Continued on next page...

This will allow them to bring this frack waste in by railcar and convert additional old wells in the immediate area for this purpose and develop this area as an injection field. Our annual fly tying classes will be held at the Corry Higher Ed weekly from early March to mid-April.

Cornplanter Chapter #526

Troy McDunn

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September began with CCTU members participating in the 3rd annual Allegheny River Clean Up. Regular monthly meetings featured a program by chapter members sharing 2011 spring and summer fishing photos and stories. The chapter's in-stream habit improvement work on Morrison Run was held on Sept. 24. The construction went nicely under the direction and guidance of Mark Sausser from PFBC. Teamwork between chapter members, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy and PFBC made the project go extremely well. We completed three habitat devices (one toe log framed stone deflector, one single log vane deflector and one multi-log vane deflector). Now in our third year of constructing habitat devices, we understand what needs to be done and how it is completed. This in-stream habitat work provides us a great opportunity to give back to the environment by making improvements to the fishery. Marcellus Shale stream monitoring sites have been selected in our area so teams can collect baseline data at each site pending landowner's permission. Also during September, CCTU had a display at the Warren Public Library showcasing the chapter's projects, educational programs and community involvement. From Oct. 19-21 the chapter finally saw the removal of the low head dam and bridge replacement on Morrison Run. Although we had

no hands-on involvement with this project, its completion is still very exciting for the chapter. We had a few years of planning, grant writing and cooperation with various partners, agencies and private landowners. A permission access letter was written by Jean Gomory and sent to the landowners so Marcellus Shale water monitoring can begin once permission is granted. Regular monthly meeting had two short programs. One was a photo slide show by Mike Fadale on the dam removal project on Morrison Run. The second was a fly tying demo on the articulated streamer by Bob Stanton. Nov. 16 was the CCTU annual meeting and election of officers. Officers include Troy McDunn, president; Bob Stanton, VP; Bill Bunce, treasurer; and Rob Arnold, secretary. Board members are Tom Buser, Gary Candreia, Gary Kell and Travis Larson. Our regular monthly meeting program was a winter fishing round table by CCTU members and featured flies, lures, tips and tactics for winter fishing. Throughout the year, CCTU members participated in a wide variety of conservation efforts. Many of the chapter's activities received outstanding press coverage highlighting the chapter's projects, programs and community involvement.

Iron Furnace Chapter #288

Mark Hanes

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Website: www.ironfurnacetu.org

Chapter bylaws were passed at the December meeting and have been sent to National. Our annual banquet is March 31 at St. Joseph Church in Lucinda, PA. Work was done along with local Boy Scout Troop No. 62 to repair the deflector at the FFO project on North Fork in Brookville. Roughly 25 scouts, along with some parents and scout

leaders, turned out to help. The event was a great success and plans are already in the works to do additional projects with the troop. Plans are in the works for a stream cleanup and tree planning on the chapter's Piney Creek property in conjunction with Clarion University Bios Club on April 21. We hope to set up more events with the chapter and club in the future. Bruce Dickson, our Marcellus Shale coordinator, is still monitoring streams. Plans are also being looked at for doing more work along with Allegheny Mountain Chapter in the North Fork Watershed. Fly tying classes will be held on Feb. 18, 25, and March 3. The class is limited to 16 students of all ages. Plans are in the works for a veterans services fly fishing outing,

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2011 Little Juniata Collectible Patch



The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited is offering a special set of collectible patches, to individuals as well as to TU chapters. By George LaVanish of Wilderness Editions, this is the fifth and final patch in this series. The 2011 patch features the Little Juniata River. The set includes one 6-inch and one 4-inch patch. Sales are first-come / first-served, as PATU's quantities are limited.

Mail this form or send same info to: George Kutschel, 107 Simmons St., DuBois, PA 17104; 814-371-9290; e-mail maksak@comcast.net. Make checks payable to Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited. Include tax-exempt certificate, if your chapter is eligible.

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+ Shipping
@ \$1.25/set: \$ _____

+ Pa. Sales Tax
@ \$1.64/set: \$ _____

Total enclosed: \$ _____

Name: _____ Chapter (if applicable) _____

Mailing address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

tentatively set for June 9. We held our annual TIC event at Keystone High school in Knox on Jan. 23.

Neshannock Chapter #216

Jeff Kremis

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Website: www.neshannock-tu.org

Bill Melaro joined the board in November, replacing Bob Shuey who decided to step down. Bill previously lived in New York and was involved in a TU chapter there. After moving into the area he became involved in our chapter. We would like to thank Bob for his past years of service, especially with the banquet. Bob owns Neshannock Creek Fly Shop in Volant and has been a huge part of our success at the banquet, and will continue to support that event in the future. Plans are moving along for this year's banquet at the Park Inn Radisson in West Middlesex on March 24. We will be raffling off a flat screen TV again this year along with several fly rods, nice pieces of art, and many other prizes. There will also be two fly tiers demonstrating throughout the night. Tickets for both the TV raffle and the banquet can be purchased at the Neshannock Creek Fly Shop. This summer we will start the second phase of a stream improvement project on Coolspring with the construction of six multi-log vane deflectors. No date has been set yet for this project. We will hold the annual spring cleanup on the Coolspring DHALO area a few weeks prior to opening day. The Deer Creek group will also be continuing their work on that stream. We started our second TIC program this fall with the addition of Mercer School District. Luke Rust, a 9th grade biology teacher, is heading the project. Rick Stephens at Delahunty Middle School in Hermitage is in the second year of the TIC program with his 5th grade students. Although he had some problems with his chiller, everything is back up and running, and over 200 little brookies are doing well. We will again hold a youth fishing derby on Wolf Creek in Grove City this spring and have a youth and handicap fishing area on Deer Creek to introduce the fun of fishing to the kids of the area.

Oil Creek Chapter #424

Gary Ross

814-337-6931, info@oilcreektu.org

Website: www.oilcreektu.org

Chapter elections were held on Nov. 16, 2011. Current officers maintained their positions. Directors Suzan Senko and Linda Wilson were elected for another term. Walt Zinno has been serving in the late Pete Straub's director position and was elected to a full three-year term. Members and directors reviewed a draft of updated bylaws submitted by the Bylaws Committee. After some discussion, it was agreed to make a slight revision

to the section on term limits for clarification. The revised bylaws were approved by membership and the board. They were submitted to Council and have been posted on OCTU's website. On Oct. 19, Bill Black of the Venango Archeology Chapter presented a program and slide show on an archeological dig on the site of Fort Machault in Franklin, which dated to the 18th century. Drake Well Inc. would like to do a program on the history of the oil industry at one of our upcoming meetings. We are also planning on a program on steelhead. Our annual Christmas dinner and party was Dec. 14 in conjunction with our meeting. Eighteen people attended. Chris Oblich, science teacher at Meadville Middle School, and principal Scott Lynch presented a program on their TIC program. Our annual fund-raising banquet is March 31. We also are having a special raffle that night for a premium fly rod and other items. Tickets are available from OCTU members. The Venango Conservation District is finishing up stream bank initiative grants for Venango County. There are 12 projects. The Chapter, in conjunction with the Conservation District and PFBC, are planning for possible further improvements on Little Sandy Creek. There is a need for habitat improvement upstream from the trestle pool. We are planning to sponsor two students for the Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Camp in 2012. Walt Zinno and Vaughn MacGregor taught fly casting at the Watershed Day held Oct. 13 at Titusville Middle School. About 120 students got a chance to try fly casting. Our TIC classrooms received eggs and are all up and running. Student Corry Lautenschlager is doing an Eagle Scout project, installing tube receptacles to discard fishing line at access areas. OCTU is providing some financial assistance for the waste receptacles.

Seneca Chapter #272

Dave Mensch

814-596-5256, itiffies@gmail.com

Seneca Chapter held its annual member/guest banquet Oct. 20 at the Port Allegany Career and Technical Center. Culinary Arts students served a fantastic buffet dinner. All past officers were re-elected to new terms, and Heather McKean, Tom Hughes and Bill Daisley were elected to serve three-year terms on the board of directors. On Oct. 24 we held an aquatic macroinvertebrate identification class for stream monitors. Dave Mensch led the class using photographs and specimens collected from area streams. Our annual fly tying class started Feb. 7 and runs six weeks. Classes are in the biology lab at Port Allegany High School from 7-9 p.m. Tuesdays. Classes have something for all expertise levels, and all materials and tools are provided. Students can tie three dozen or more flies over the six classes.

COUNCIL
SOUTHEAST CHAPTERS

Bucks County 254
Delco Manning 320
Little Lehigh 070
Perkiomen Valley 332
SE Montgomery Co. 468
Tulpehocken 150
Valley Forge 290

OF TROUT UNLIMITED

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Fred Gender

E-mail: afgender@ptd.net

Phone: 570-704-8764

Bucks County Chapter #254

Ed Harrington

215-260-6640, edlickflyfish@comcast.net

Website: www.buckstu.org

Annual elections were held in December. Rich Weber was elected treasurer for a three year term. We held our annual conservation fundraiser auction in January. Chapter members donate items, fishing-related or not, that we auctioned off to raise money for our streamside projects. Our annual banquet is March 24 at the Pinecrest Country Club in Montgomeryville. In the Cooks Creek Watershed the volunteer portion of our culvert survey has been completed. Funded by an Embrace-A-Stream grant, this is the first watershed-scale culvert survey to be undertaken in Pennsylvania. After receiving training by our consultant for the project, Princeton Hydro, chapter members and Cooks Creek Watershed Association members spent the summer and fall documenting the state of each bridge and culvert in the watershed (97 in all), to identify those that are blocking fish passage. From the data collected, Princeton Hydro will develop a prioritized list of culverts in need of retrofitting and conceptual retrofit plans for the highest priority culverts. We will then use this information to seek funding to implement the retrofits. In the Mill Creek Watershed we had two tree planting workdays on Watson Creek. At the Lindquist Farm we planted 120 additional trees, and at the Covenant Church property we planted 100 trees as part of our ongoing effort to reforest approximately two acres. The chapter also continued stream temperature monitoring in the Mill Creek Watershed that was begun in 2010. Twelve automated temperature loggers were placed throughout the watershed in July and were

Continued on next page...

set to record water temperatures every 30 minutes. Loggers were collected in October and data from them will be analyzed over the winter months.

Perkiomen Valley Chapter #332
Chaz Macdonald
610-730-4956, chazmac1949@rcn.com
Website: www.pvtu.net

Elections were held on Sept. 20. Secretary and treasurer remain as is. Chaz Macdonald is president. Bylaws passed unanimously. Dam removal at the American Legion originally slated for last November was moved to the spring, and bank restoration will take place this summer. For Earth Day on April 21, the chapter will be removing debris from project areas damaged by flooding.

SE Montgomery County Chapter #462
Richard Terry
215-675-1536, rtroadrash@msn.com
Website: www.tu468.org

As usual, we had planned to have our annual picnic at Lorimer Park in September, only to have to cancel it due to rain and gravel deposited in the park due to high water. Having Irene and the following storm played havoc with the stream and surrounding area. There are two schools participating in TIC that received their delivery of eggs. Both schools had a normal survival rate from the delivery and the kids are looking forward to another year of raising trout. A fall stocking of 200-plus nice size rainbows was in November in the Pennypack where it flows through the Pennypack Land Trust. A chapter trip for several members took place at the Salmon River for steelheads. This proved to be a learning experience and will become an annual event. The fishing was not easy at the start, but by the time we left several had gotten into fish. We even had a member join the swim club there.

Valley Forge Chapter #290
Pete Goodman
610-827-7619, peteg@bee.net
Website: www.valleyforgetu.org

We submitted revised, pending bylaws to our regional VP on Dec. 20. Upon notice that the bylaws conform to the national model we will approve them. Our annual fall fundraiser, the "Clean Streams Raffle," was completed with tickets being drawn at our December meeting. The publishing of our book, "Trout Tales and Watershed Heroes," has been quite successful. Books are available through the "Contact the Chapter" section of our website, board members, local fishing shops and Amazon.com. Our largest annual fundraiser, the

Trout Show will be March 29 at Valley Forge Middle School. Featured speaker is Dave Hughes. The chapter has stayed on top of developments as Tredyffrin Township prepares the reconstruction of the Crabby Creek sanitary sewer line. The fast track has been delayed due to the township not having its Act 537 Plan approval from DEP. This approval is in the works but will push back the project a couple of months. This will be an extensive project with the potential to do major damage to a sub-watershed where we have spent \$700,000 to improve its condition. We are still working with the township to try to affect how the work will be done. In a somewhat related meeting, a representative of the Chester County Conservation District and several chapter members met with the Valley Creek Trustee Council to see if there was interest in providing grant funding for the recommended stream stabilization in Crabby Creek. The council provided what they would need to present in order to decide on funding. A planning meeting is scheduled in January to create a further presentation to VCTC. The PA Turnpike Commission (PTC) submitted their NPDES application in November for the Widening Project (MP320 to MP326) that occurs in the Valley Creek watershed. We have done a preliminary review and have discussed the application with a number of involved parties and our environmental consultant. We believe that the current design does not meet the anti-degradation laws of the Pennsylvania Code for an exceptional value stream. We continue participation in Chester County Marcellus Shale Coalition. This group has many partners and is great source of information. One of its focuses is on the Williams pipeline crossing of the East Branch of the Brandywine River. This is an issue in which State Sen. Andy Dinniman is very interested. We are working with him and others on this issue. We are working on the Keeper of the Stream partnership with Valley Forge National Historical Park. This program will put volunteers throughout the entire Valley Creek watershed. The volunteers will sign up for certain stream sections or "beats" to monitor at least four times per year. This will give us the eyes on the ground and stream to watch out for problems. The program will include training and reporting protocols.

SOUTHCENTRAL
CHAPTERS

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

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Fred Bohls
3519 Ada Drive
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050
E-mail: fcfp@ix.netcom.com
Phone: 717-732-5050

Adams County Chapter #323
Dave Swope
717-624-8134,
swopeda624@embarqmail.com
www.adamscountytu.org

The following items have been approved for 2012: Nominations and election of officers; annual chapter budget; chapter banquet March 24; chapter updated bylaws approved; donations to PATU, Rivers Conservation Program and Reel Recovery; and guest speakers for chapter meetings scheduled in January and February. The chapter is excited about building new partnerships in the TIC program. We now have five schools participating. The chapter participated with the Adams County Land Preservation fundraiser. The stream committee has finalized the planning, designing and permitting for five wooden log deflectors for early 2012 in Gladys's Meadows section of the Conewago Creek. Materials are in place to begin this stream restoration project in the summer of 2012. On Oct. 5, the chapter participated with the PFBC in the fall stocking of the Catch and Release, Fly Fishing Only section by float stocking this 1.1-mile stretch with rainbow trout. Our stream committee has scheduled a stream survey of Latimore Creek and water analysis at the headwaters of Mountain Creek. Some new equipment has been purchased for the TIC program.

Codorus Chapter # 558
Tom Feninez
717-817-8446, tom@codorustu.org
Website: www.codorustu.org

Our chapter has been working on updating our bylaws as requested by TU and Council. We are anxiously awaiting the start of our first Growing Greener project, which has finally reached the final stages of permit approval. We anticipate construction beginning during the first quarter of 2012. We have also submitted a second project and hope it will be selected to receive funding as well. The Jefferson Borough/Codorus Township sewage treatment plant is now online and discharging into the Codorus watershed. We are obviously concerned about its potential impact on the fishery and we hope to establish a program to monitor water quality and fish and insect life. We've been getting some great feedback from our first TIC project, and hope to continue and/or expand our efforts in 2012. We will also be looking for a local candidate to represent our chapter

at 2012's Youth Conservation Camp. The chapter is developing plans to install and maintain wader wash stations along the Codorus. We know of anglers in our area that also fish in Maryland's nearby Gunpowder River, where Didymo is present. We believe that having wader wash stations present would be a prudent preventive measure to protect the Codorus. This may become a senior project for a local student that actively participates in our chapter.

Cumberland Valley Chapter #052

Justin Pittman

717-360-8823, flyfishing80@gmail.com

Website: www.homestead.com/cvtu

The chapter held its annual introduction to fly fishing class at the Army War College. We also had speakers at both October and November's membership meetings. We did not have a December members' meeting. We have also been preparing for our two major fundraising projects in February and March. Our winter fly tying classes at South Middletown High School started in January. We reviewed different grant applications and prepared for the Eastern Outdoors and Sportsman Show. Next is the Limestoner Conservation Banquet on March 17 at the Letort View located on the Army War College property. We also established a new development committee that will oversee all fundraising planning and new fundraising ideas. The Sportsman Show and Limestoner are our two biggest events, so there is a lot of planning that goes into these. We had a work party on the Letort on Oct. 1 to rake spawning beds. We are also preparing for the final phase of the sinkhole project on the Letort, however work can't be done until after June 15, using volunteers with donated materials and equipment.

Doc Fritchey Chapter #108

Ed O'Gorman

717-921-2212, edogorman@comcast.net

Website: www.dftu.org

We have begun planning for the 2012 annual conservation banquet on March 24. This year our banquet will be held at the Wildwood Conference Center on the campus of the Harrisburg Area Community College. We are looking forward to hosting our event at this new venue which will have more space for guests and activities. Our crews continue to maintain diversion wells on Stony Creek, where high water has created some additional maintenance needs over the past year. At our November meeting we heard from WCO Michael Doherty who is planning a tree planting effort to offset the impact of hemlocks lost to the wooly adelgid. The chapter will assist his effort to plant seedlings during the spring. Our advanced fly tying class held at the Harrisburg Gander Mountain store in November and December was a success with about 12 participants and numerous chapter members assisting with instruction. After several months of design and planning, the chapter's new website went live in December, and everyone seems pleased with the results.

Donegal Chapter #037

Wayne Boggs

717-733-2365, troutwisperr@gmail.com

Website: www.donegaltu.org

After being rescheduled due to flooding, we held our annual fishing derby for the local chapter of Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Participants had two hours to fish followed by a picnic lunch. Chapter

volunteers served as guides. Our education chair graciously provided his pond for the event. Our September meeting featured Dave Sewak, who spoke about Marcellus Shale in PA. He gave a very neutral and detailed presentation which was very well received by 40 members. Questions kept him for almost another hour after he had completed his presentation. Devices we installed on Fishing Creek this summer have held through flooding and are doing what they were designed to do. All devices we installed on Climbers Run last fall held, but several new areas have appeared due to the unusually heavy flow. US Fish & Wildlife, the original work crew, will work on these newly impaired sites. DTU will be planting more trees and grass to replace what was washed out. Design work for four new projects in the Conowingo Watershed is almost completed and we have applied for grant money to do the restoration. We expect design work for Charles Run, a tributary of Donegal Springs Creek, to be done this fall with work commencing next summer.

Falling Spring Chapter #234

Tio Paci

717-597-7587, paci@innernet.net

The chapter will host our 38th annual banquet on Sept. 22. For members in our chapter, please make sure that your email address is updated in the TU website so that you can receive more details about our chapter and the banquet. Bill Bashor began hosting our eight-week fly tying class the first week in January. The chapter received approved plans for a stream habitat improvement project from PFBC that will include a 100-yard stretch of the stream from the bridge on Falling Spring Road downstream to the bridge on Springview Drive. The property is owned by Curtis Frey and Carl Helman with public access on the stream. The project will include stone deflectors and log deflectors that will increase the velocity of the stream to purge siltation buildup above an old waterwheel. The chapter is planning to start the project this spring with cooperation from the landowners and Guilford Township.

Muddy Creek Chapter #575

Fred Hess

717-650-6556, muddycreektu@comcast.net

Website: www.muddycreektu.org

Officer elections were held at the October membership meeting and the newly elected directors met in early December to discuss committee leadership roles, 2012 fundraising and chapter strategic planning. We operate a native plant nursery where a variety of plants and trees are cultivated from cuttings and seedlings. These plants are then transplanted to improve riparian buffers

Continued on next page...



Purchase a Quality PATU Fly Rod for 100 Bucks!

State Council is offering for sale custom-built fly rods in two sizes; 9-foot, 5-weight, 4-piece and 6½-foot, 3-weight, 3-piece configurations for just \$100 each + tax and S&H, which includes a nylon-covered hard tube case. These rods are built on medium-fast olive green blanks with gold wraps over smoked chrome guides. The reel seat fitted to the half wells style cork grip is of graphite construction with double locking rings. Each rod carries the inscription "PA Council of Trout Unlimited" and the PATU logo is embroidered on the case. These rods are currently on backorder due to unanticipated demand, with a projected availability date of February, 2011. Order today to guarantee your delivery, or if you're planning to order as a gift, a gift certificate can be furnished upon request. Council reserves the right to limit quantities on individual sales. Send your order specifying rod size to: George Kutskel, 107 Simmons Street, DuBois, PA 15801, and include a check payable to "PATU" for \$116 (\$100 + \$6 sales tax + \$10 shipping & handling).

in the watershed. A November workday resulted in TU members replacing tree tubes and staking trees that we planted in Felton along the North Branch in 2010. Numerous tubes and tree stakes were either damaged or washed away during September's flooding. The chapter recently held two community outreach events. The first was the Red Lion Street Fair where chapter members manned a display of our stream restoration projects and conservation efforts. Bottled water and chapter merchandise was sold. This annual event provides good exposure in the community. The second event was our open house and Landowner Appreciation Day which was held on the nursery grounds. The public and all landowners in the Muddy Creek Watershed were invited. Objectives included sharing knowledge with and educating the general public on stream restorations and improvements. Planning is underway for our third open house next year, along with the possibility of another event to be held streamside next spring. The objective of both events would be to educate the public on our conservation efforts, expanding our membership and fundraising. We raised money through the sales of fishing equipment, chapter merchandise, food and fly tying material.

Penns Creek Chapter #119

Gary Parzanese

717-242-3451, gparzanese@firstenergycorp.com

New officers were elected in October, with existing officers continuing: Gary Parzanese, president; Kevin Lutz, VP; Denny Peiffer, treasurer; Dottie Peiffer, secretary; and Larry Winey, education coordinator. The chapter's financial report has been submitted to National and reviewed and approved at our November meeting. We completed and approved new bylaws at our winter social. They were submitted to Fred Bohls for approval. Chapter member James Warner is

working on a new website for the chapter. During our October meeting, chapter member Owen Welch did a presentation on his trip with the US Youth Fly Fishing Team. The team returned with their first medal – gold – which Owen had on display. The chapter banquet on March 24 will feature John Arway, executive director of the PFBC. TIC programs are in full swing. Larry Winey reported all three are doing well. An issue with one of our chillers has been resolved.

SOUTHWEST CHAPTERS

Arrowhead 214
Chestnut Ridge 670
Forbes Trail 206
Fort Bedford 291
John Kennedy 045
Ken Sink 053
Mountain Laurel 040
Penn's Woods West 042

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Chuck Winters

1898 Old Route 22

Duncansville, PA 16635

E-mail: wintershs@aol.com

Phone: 814-943-4061(w); 814-932-8841(c)

Arrowhead Chapter #214

Jerry Potocnak

724-295-2718, potatoes@consolidated.net

Arrowhead's primary fundraising activity is the annual banquet held in mid-March of each year at the C.U. Club in Ford City. The chapter has partnered with Verizon Communications and the chapter will receive funding when members purchase either new cell phone/Fios contracts with Verizon and/or renegotiate existing cell phone/Fios agreements with this company. The chapter recently lost the services of its 28-year treasurer David Gallaher. Dave will be sadly missed by his fellow officers and nearly 300 chapter members. Several chapter members have registered for the upcoming Keystone Cold Water Conference. This year's banquet will be held in March. Several chapter members plan on assisting with the third annual Wayne's Cold Water Kids outing in April at Harpster's Evergreen Farms in Spruce Creek.

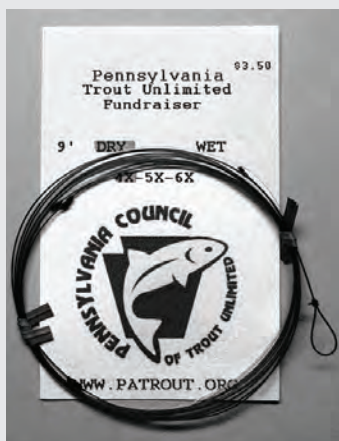
Chestnut Ridge Chapter #670

Scott Hoffman

412-264-8701, smh_1959@yahoo.com

The chapter submitted a Capacity Building Grant application. If selected, the chapter anticipates the grant will be used to assist us in improving communications with members such as continually publishing quarterly newsletters, launching a new and improved website, participating in various social media, developing means and methods to engage new/existing members, leadership training and preparing a strategic plan. Our 17th annual fundraising banquet is March 24 at the Uniontown Holiday Inn. A Critical Water Planning Area is in the process of being written for Laurel Hill Creek. It will include the following: Surface and ground water quality and quantity assessments; surface and ground water interaction model; IFIM (Instream Flow Incremental Methodology) Study; Multi-Municipal Land Use Plan; Restoration and Protection Plan which

HIGH QUALITY LEADERS FOR AS LITTLE AS \$3 EACH!



Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited is offering the opportunity for individuals or chapters to purchase high quality hand-knotted tapered leaders in an assortment of types and sizes. These leaders feature Maxima material of several different types and are the very same leaders that retail for about 5 bucks in several leading fly shops.

DRY FLY LEADERS

Available in 9-foot lengths, featuring Maxima Chameleon hard butt and next 3 sections, with Maxima Ultragreen softer mid-sections and 24 inch tippets. Available with 4X, 5X or 6X tippets.

WET FLY LEADERS

Available in 9-foot lengths, featuring two droppers tied with mason hard knots and Maxima clear tippet sections. Available with 4X or 5X tippets.

HOW TO ORDER

Individuals: These leaders can be purchased for \$3.50 each or in minimum quantities of 10 for \$3.00 each. Chapters: Can order 10 or more leaders at \$2.50 each, payable by chapter check.

Send your order, along with a check payable to "PATU" to George Kutskel, 107 Simmons Street, DuBois, PA 15801. Please be sure to add 6% sales tax and specify type and size required.

will include alternatives and solutions for water withdrawals; Education and awareness. The plan must be completed by June 30. DEP has failed to respond to numerous inquiries on the status of the Jonathan Run Project and its investigation of an illicit discharge on Glade Run in an area that was mined by Purco. DEP has received the certified letter sent by the chapter requesting a meeting to discuss the status of the Jonathan Run Project and the Glade Run investigation. We are currently waiting for a response from DEP. We anticipate collecting samples this spring to document the water quality from the passive AMD treatment system that began treating water in the spring of 2009 on Morgan Run. The Western Reserve (Ohio) chapter of Trout Unlimited submitted an Embrace-a-Stream grant for additional alkaline sand and monitoring on Glade Run, Big Piney and Little Piney. Later this spring, a Huplits Grant from the PA Chapter of Sierra Club will fund the purchase of alkaline sand and monitoring on Glade Run and its tributaries. The chapter will host a second Coldwater Conservation Corps Marcellus monitoring training on March 31 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Uniontown Knights of Columbus.

Forbes Trail Chapter #206

Monty Murty

724-238-7860, mmurty@verizon.net

Website: www.forbestrailtu.org

Our annual meeting was Sept. 21, where members approved changes to the board of directors. New officers were elected in November: Monty Murty, president (final two-year term), Scott Minster, VP (moved from secretary); and Lyle Farr was elected secretary-treasurer (moved from Treasurer). Forbes Trail now has a three-officer governance structure. Our October program "Visualize the Best Fly Fishing on the Planet" featured fly fishing action videos by nationally recognized angling and outdoor photographer Todd Moen. "Up Jeep Creek," "Casting in the Wind" and "The River of No Return" show the adventure of fly fishing and the importance of coldwater conservation. Students from St. Vincent were encouraged to attend and to consider starting a fly fishing club with help from Forbes Trail Chapter of TU. Our November program was a steelhead fly casting video by Lefty Kreh and featured steelhead leaders with built-in indicators, new egg materials and tying techniques, mentor heads-up on safety & security. Our December program was a Marcellus Shale update from Dave Sewak. The chapter submitted a grant to the Pittsburgh Foundation to fund 2012 education activities. We briefed the local school board and received the stream access approval necessary to complete Mill Creek, Westmoreland County stream habitat improvement project in summer 2012. St. Vincent College students toured a number of the chapter's trout stream habitat improve-

ment sites, and returned to their classroom for a presentation on TU by chapter members. Four TIC programs are underway. Chapter members presented all-day "what is TIC" programs at Greater Latrobe Junior High and Ligonier Valley Middle School. The chapter completed the 2011 First Cast Youth Group program with a steelhead fly fishing trip to Elk Creek. The chapter now has more than 400 members. Our challenge is to attract an increasing number of them to the enjoyment and personal rewards of our meetings and events. In 2012 we will complete a major new trout habitat restoration project that advances our Mill Creek Coldwater Conservation Plan. We will identify and write guides to "our Top 10 streams" to encourage fly fishing tourism along our portion of Pennsylvania's Laurel Highlands. We will introduce new groups, college-age young people and women to TU. We will continue our award-winning First Cast Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing course and our TIC programs. We will again sponsor TU's Coldwater Conservation Corps training of volunteer stream stewards to monitor trout streams near Marcellus Shale drilling sites.

Fort Bedford Chapter #291

Derrick Miller

814-276-3606, patrouchaser@yahoo.com

January marks the start for our annual free public fly tying course. FBTU has asked for help from Council to reach out to its members for more involvement within the Chapter and to discuss the future of FBTU.

John Kennedy Chapter #045

Jerry Green

814-934-7046, jgreen51@embarqmail.net

We are gearing up for this year's sports shows and will have a booth at the Outdoor Times and the Jaffa Sportsman's shows. Both are in February, and we will be raffling off several rods and selling flies. We will be assisting the Little Juniata River Association in completing another stream bank restoration project on the upper reaches of the Little J the summer. Three sites have been identified and PFBC habitat management division personnel are working on site designs. The Sandy Run Wetlands purchase has been approved, and the deeds have been recorded. We can now move forward with several projects identified by PFBC and initially approved by representatives of DEP and the Army Corps of Engineers. These projects include dam removal, removal of invasive plant species and spawning habitat improvement in Sandy Run, which runs thru this 52-acre parcel. We are hoping to get plans for a project on Clover Creek for next year, and are still working on being involved in a wetlands project involving the American Legion Park in Hollidaysburg and the

Sheetz Corp. We purchased water testing equipment and began monitoring in January on Olde Town Run, Brush Run, Halter Creek, Beaverdam Branch of the Juniata and Frankstown Branch of the Juniata. We will be doing annual macro surveys and quarterly stream flow measurements as well as water quality testing. Our four TIC aquariums are off to a good start with all the fry out of the hatching baskets.

Ken Sink Chapter #053

Eli Long

724-422-9884, eli.long@gmail.com

We opened our new program year in October with a presentation on our recently completed Coldwater Heritage Plan for Two Lick Creek. Board leadership elected includes Eli Long, president, Jeff Uschak, treasurer and Deb Hegginstaller, secretary. In November, we were fortunate to have Eric Stroup talk about his experiences as a fishing guide and do a slideshow about his common sense approach to fly fishing. December brought our holiday celebration, and a chance to hear from our sponsored attendees of the past summer's Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Camp and Penn State Outdoor Leadership School. Don Bastian was our featured speaker in January.

Penns Woods West Chapter #042

Walter Reineman

412-999-8292, walterr28@hotmail.com

Website: www.pwwtu.org

Our newsletter, Hatches and Rises is online at www.pwwtu.org. It was reluctantly decided that the expense of mailing over 1,000 copies per issue would be better spent elsewhere. We had our Great Fly Sale at the Jan. 9 meeting. This year's sale memorializes Joe Kline, who for years was the driving force for this fundraiser. Our speaker for the meeting was chapter member Dr. Mike Ginsberg who talked about fishing in New Mexico, specifically the San Juan River. On Feb. 13, meeting Harold Harsh will be discussing the fishing on North Branch of the Potomac River. Plans are underway to celebrate the chapter's 50th anniversary. We continue to do multiple projects on our local Pine Creek. The incredible silt load deposited from the dredging of North Park lake is still an issue on the creek, but continues to improve with each high water event. Our annual Cabin Fever show is March 4 at the Sheraton Four Points in Cranberry, just north of Pittsburgh. Family Tyes will be presenting their youth program. Our annual free fly fishing seminar is scheduled for March 10 at St. Bede Recreational Center in Point Breeze.

Award established in honor of noted conservationist

The Pennsylvania Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp, Inc., is proud to announce the creation of the Dr. Robert J. Behnke Award. The award will be presented annually to graduates of the Pennsylvania Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp or any other youth camp modeled after the Pennsylvania camp, who have gone on to further the cause of coldwater conservation.

Behnke is professor emeritus of Fisheries Conservation and Wildlife Biology at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colo. He is the author of more than 200 articles and papers regarding fish and fisheries and has served on numerous advisory boards for state and federal agencies. He authored two books, "Trout and Salmon of North America" (The Free Press, New York, 2002) and "About Trout" (The Lyons Press, Guilford, CT, 2007) as well as numerous technical publications and articles

in magazines and periodicals. Behnke has contributed the About Trout column to "Trout" magazine since 1983.

Behnke came to the Pennsylvania Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp in the camp's second year, 1996, at the behest of camp founders Dr. Jack Beck and Inky Moore to speak to the students as the camp's keynote speaker. His continued presence at the camp, providing his knowledge on trout biology and salmonids around the world provided the students with world class insight about trout and salmon.

The recipient of the award must have:

- Gone on to higher education and completed a bachelor's degree in Fisheries Biology, Ichthyology, Limnology, Marine Biology, Ecology, Biology, the Natural Sciences or Science Education.
- Obtained an advanced degree in Fisheries Biology, Ichthyology, Limnology, Marine Biology, or Aquatic Ecology or the Natural Sciences.
- Gone on to teach one of the natural sciences at the elementary, secondary, college or graduate school level.
- Gone on to a career in one of the

fields of Fisheries Biology, Ichthyology, Limnology, Marine Biology, Ecology, Biology or the Natural Sciences.

- Returned to a youth conservation camp to serve as a board member for the camp

- Returned to teach at a youth conservation camp.

Any person may nominate a camp graduate for the award. Provide a letter of introduction that includes the nominee's name, address, phone number and email; the camp the nominee attended; the year the nominee attended the camp and the reason for nomination. Provide any additional documentation such as professional papers, news clippings, magazine articles, transcripts and other pertinent information.

Mail the nomination to: Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp, PO Box 71, Boiling Springs, PA 17007; Attn: Award. Nominations for the 2012 award will be accepted until May 25, 2012.

The camp for students from age 14-17 runs June 17-22, 2012 at the Allenberry Resort in Boiling Springs, Cumberland County. Visit the camp's website at www.riverscamp.com for more information.



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