

# Pennsylvania TROUT



Winter 2018

Publication of the Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited

www.patrou.org

## Perkiomen TU leads restoration project on namesake creek

By Thomas W. Smith  
*Perkiomen Valley TU President*

The Perkiomen Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited partnered with Sundance Creek Consulting, the Montgomery County Conservation District, Penn State Master Watershed Stewards and Upper Perkiomen High School for a stream restoration project on Perkiomen Creek, which was carried out over five days in See **CREEK**, page 7



Contributed Photo

Volunteers work on a stream restoration project along Perkiomen Creek.

## Students to research brookies on Route 6 trek

By Charlie Charlesworth  
*PATU President*

In summer 2018, six college students from our PATU 5 Rivers clubs will spend a month trekking across Pennsylvania's U.S. Route 6. Their purpose will be to explore, do research, collect data and still have time do a little bit of fishing in the northern tier's famed brook trout breeding grounds.

They will be supported by the PA Fish and Boat Commission, three colleges including Mansfield, Keystone and hopefully See **TREK**, page 2

## Public votes Loyalsock as PA River of the Year

By Pennsylvania DCNR

Home to legions of paddlers, anglers, and other outdoors enthusiasts in north central Pennsylvania, Loyalsock Creek has been voted the 2018 Pennsylvania River of the Year.

The public was invited to vote online, choosing from among five waterways nominated across the state. Results were

See **RIVER**, page 2



pariveroftheyear.org Photo

Loyalsock Creek was voted 2018 Pennsylvania River of the Year.

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# Pennsylvania TROUT

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## RIVER

from page 1

announced jointly in January by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) and the Pennsylvania Organization for Waterways and Rivers (POWR).

Other waterways nominated were: Connoquenessing Creek, Lackawanna River, Little Juniata River and Lower Susquehanna River/Susquehanna Riverlands.

“There are winning qualities in all five of these waterways that their supporters recognize and respect,” said DCNR Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn. “The number of waterways nominated, coupled with a vote tally that increases every year, showcases both the unique diversity of Pennsylvania’s rivers and the strong community allegiances that protect and enhance them.”

A total of 15,061 votes were cast, with the Loyalsock receiving 6,100; Connoquenessing Creek; 5,381; Lackawanna River, 1,676; Lower Susquehanna/Susquehanna Riverlands, 1,113; and Little Juniata, 791.

“This annual honor highlights our state’s wealth of rivers and streams, and recognizes the core of dedicated folks who fight to protect them,” Dunn noted. “Public awareness of the Loyalsock’s value will be increased and initiatives along the waterway river will be underscored. Both serve economic revitalization by enhancing access to the stream; increasing tourism; and providing additional land and water-based recreational opportunities for area residents and visitors alike.”

DCNR and POWR will work with the Middle Susquehanna RIVERKEEPER® Association Inc. to create a free, commemorative poster celebrating the Loyalsock Creek as the 2018 PA River of the Year. As applicant for the honor, Middle Susquehanna RIVERKEEPER, will receive a \$10,000 Leadership Grant to help fund year-long River of the Year activities.

“The Pennsylvania 2018 River of the Year competition truly showed the depth of the region’s ‘Loyalsock Love,’” said Middle Susquehanna RIVERKEEPER® Association Executive Director Carol Parenzan. “We are grateful to those who voted and encouraged others to vote as well, and we thank our lead partner – Loyalsock Creek

Watershed Association – for its unending commitment and unlimited loyalty to this precious waterway, flowing from the Endless Mountain region of Pennsylvania to the West Branch Susquehanna River.

“In the past, Loyalsock Creek was a hidden gem, nestled in the mountains north of Williamsport and enjoyed by area residents and visitors to the 64-mile-long waterway and its watershed. Today, with this recognition, we are ready to share this timeless treasure with the rest of Pennsylvania and beyond. For many years, paddlers have danced with her whitewater during spring runoff and families have created camping memories along the shores of the ‘Sock at Worlds End State Park.’”

Noting the Loyalsock boasts a quality trout fishery and is home to the rare Eastern hellbender, Parenzan said the association plans an ambitious schedule of events and programs to showcase its attributes to the public throughout the year. Information will be posted at [www.MiddleSusquehannaRiverkeeper.org](http://www.MiddleSusquehannaRiverkeeper.org), as well as Facebook pages for Middle Susquehanna Riverkeeper, Loyalsock Creek Watershed Association, and other supporting organizations and agencies throughout the region.

Loyalsock Creek flows through Worlds End State Park, a highly popular destination state park encompassing 780 acres, and Loyalsock Trail, a well-treked 59-mile trail providing vistas overlooking the stream below. Extraction of coal, lumber and natural gas all have presented conservation challenges, both past and present, to the waterway. Also, erosion and sedimentation issues continue to be addressed by government and private agencies and organizations.

In cooperation with DCNR, selection of public voting choices was overseen by the Pennsylvania Organization for Watersheds and Rivers, an affiliate of the Pennsylvania Environmental Council. POWR administers the River of the Year program with funding from DCNR. Presented annually since 1983, the 2017 River of the Year designation was awarded to the Allegheny River in southwestern Pennsylvania.

To learn more about the River of the Year program, the nominated waterways, and past winners visit [www.pariveroftheyear.org](http://www.pariveroftheyear.org).



# Keystone Coldwater Conference Sponsors

## Brook Trout (\$2,500)

Aquatic Resource Restoration

## Brown Trout (\$1,000)

PA Environment Digest, Crisci Associates  
Western Pennsylvania Conservancy

## Rainbow Trout (\$500)

Chesapeake Bay Foundation  
Earth Conservancy

## Student Poster (\$100)

Pennsylvania Outdoors Writers Association

TU Chapters are invited to sponsor the 2018 Keystone Coldwater Conference.

A \$100 contribution helps provide a college student the opportunity to attend and present their research at the conference. Sponsorship forms can be found on the website under the SPONSOR tab.

Contact Program Director Tali MacArthur at [c-tmacarth@pa.gov](mailto:c-tmacarth@pa.gov) for information.

## REGISTRATION IS OPEN!



**KEYSTONE  
COLDWATER  
CONFERENCE**

The 2018 Keystone Coldwater Conference is Feb. 23-24, 2018 at the Ramada Inn Conference Center in State College, PA.

The conference theme is:  
*Coldwater Resource Conservation and  
Education: Rising to the Challenges;  
Embracing Opportunities.*

**Registration, sponsorship details and  
more information and can be found at  
[www.coldwaterconference.com](http://www.coldwaterconference.com).**

## TREK

from page 1

the University of Pittsburgh-Bradford, National TU staff, and a plethora of TU chapter members from across the top of Pennsylvania.

When departing from each of those colleges, they'll be given assignments by a committee set up in that region for data collection and research. The students will start at Keystone College and begin their trek on the New Jersey border, moving west until they receive their next set of instructions from the committee at Mansfield.

They will repeat the process heading west to Bradford. In the final week they will head back to Keystone College to present their data and findings

The committees at each location will include chapter volunteers, fisheries professionals from PFBC, full time National TU staff, professors from each college and a member from PATU Council.

This endeavor will be funded by sponsors and donors, which includes a major portion from PFBC.

It is our hope that these students will be able to use this project for an internship and also to help develop their capstone projects for graduation.

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# Headwaters

A message from PATU President Charlie Charlesworth

This isn't just the start of a new year. This is the start of a whole new attitude. So many great things happened in 2017, and I can see even more opportunities presenting themselves in 2018. Council now has all of our executive offices filled, along with all of our committee chairs.

Our committee chairs are not just committed, but are also excited about what lies ahead. Our Diversity (formerly Women's) Initiative Co-chairs Kelly Williams and Amidea Daniel have just about completed recruiting committee members statewide to provide guidance and assistance to local chapters in our quest to attract a more diverse base of female and minority chapter volunteers.

Our Youth Education Chair Judi Sittler has been busy keeping all of our TU Teens camps and summits filled with young people eager to learn about TU, and how our mission supports coldwater conservation. Judi is hard at work developing more college clubs to add to TU's 5 Rivers program, and she is also committed to ensuring that

both our Collegiate Fly Fishing Championships and the PA Route 6 Brookie Odyssey become a huge success. Judi, Kelly and Amidea have combined their committees' efforts to put together a program with the Pennsylvania Girl Scouts which, when it is up and running, will be one of the largest such programs in the country. The Girl Scout program is called "Stream Girls."

The Membership and Environmental committees are running on Hi-test. If you need assistance with attracting new members or keeping track of your membership, don't hesitate to contact Russ Thrall. Jeff Ripple has his finger on the pulse of every environmental issue facing TU. If you need guidance or have environmental questions, Jeff is eager to work with you.

If you have not done this in a while, or even if you have never done it, please take the time to log on to [www.patrou.org](http://www.patrou.org). Check out all the activities and events on the horizon. There are a number of activities coming up even before the trout season gets into high gear. There are two PATU



regional trainings planned, and the TU National Northeast Rendezvous in Lake Placid is taking place right on the famous Au Sable River.

I know I still have some steelhead fishing to do. I'll see some of you on the Erie streams and hope that the weather cooperates up in Pulaski, NY on the Salmon River. If you want to take me fishing, or you just want to bust my hump, get in touch with me at [ffnepa@epix.net](mailto:ffnepa@epix.net).

## Fishing shows are a great cure for the winter blues

By Charlie Charlesworth  
PATU President

Pennsylvania has been graced with the presence of many different outdoor trade shows that give us all something to look forward to during these gloomy and cold winter months.

The shows give us an opportunity to check out the newest in tackle, tying products and clothing. They also give us a chance to meet with old friends and take lessons from experts in their presentation rooms. Some of us are able to hold constructive meetings, like the Delaware River Coalition meeting at the Fly Fishing Show held at the New Jersey Convention and Exposition Center in Edison, NJ – the former Somerset show.

For a long the Pennsylvania version of the Fly Fishing Show was held in Fort Washington, Pa. just north of Philadelphia. Several years ago it moved to Lancaster. The Furimskys, owners of that show, were

very kind to our college clubs in Pennsylvania by having a "5 Rivers Day." The clubs were given a booth space and all 5 Rivers members were given a reduced entry price. This year's show is March 3-4 at the Lancaster County Convention Center.

One of the newest events is the Fly Fishing and Wing Shooting Show, on Feb. 24 and 25 at Split Rock Resort, Lake Harmony, in the Poconos. This is billed as the only fly fishing and wing shooting show in the east. Much has been done for local chapters, offering free booth space in the non-profit area and special consideration to our TU youth programs in a separate demonstration area called the "Youth Discovery Zone." This is where our 5 Rivers clubs and our TU Teens will put on casting and fly tying demonstrations. Learn more at [www.FlyFishingWingshootingExpo.com](http://www.FlyFishingWingshootingExpo.com). The show also offers discounts to veterans from our VSP programs.

In the western portion of the state, we

also have the big Lake Erie Steelhead Festival (which is to be determined). The 33rd annual Allegheny Sport, Travel, and Outdoor Show in Monroeville, just outside of Pittsburgh, is Feb 16-18. The Penn's Woods West chapter hosts its annual Cabin Fever Expo on March 4 at the Double Tree by Hilton in Cranberry Township, Pa.

Help protect and improve the Little J  
Join the  
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Free River Tour  
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# Treasurer's Report

by PATU Treasurer George Kutskel

I would like to start off by thanking all who participated in the TIC Sweepstakes.

All proceeds after the winners are paid will be used to help fund this year's Trout in the Classroom grants.

Last year we were unable to fund all requests, and lowered the amount given in some cases. Many of our schools rely on this to help fund educational field trips and replace worn out equipment.

Our Annual Appeal is still going on, so if you have not yet made a contribution there is an opportunity to do so.

Again, we would like to say THANK YOU to those who have helped out.

Banquet Chairs take note: We have some items that may be of help in your fundraising events. We have the Loop Fly Rods in 9-foot, 5-weight, and rod and reel cases, along with some other items that may be used at your banquet.

If you are interested, please call me at 814-371-9290 to get current availability and learn how to order.

These items are on a first-come, first-served basis so don't wait too long.



## TIC Sweepstakes Winners

**1st Prize:** \$500 to Timothy Hourihan of Wynnewood, PA

**2nd Prize:** \$250 to John Hopkins of Wallingford, PA

**3rd Prize:** One Night Stay at The Nature Inn to Gerry Huggler of James Creek, PA

**4th Prize:** \$50 to John Hopkins of Wallingford, PA

**5th Prize:** \$50 to Pete and Judy Goodman of Malvern, PA

**6th Prize:** \$50 to John Hopkins of Wallingford, PA

Thank you to all who contributed to the TIC Sweepstakes Fundraiser!

## Chapter Donations

The following chapters have made a commitment to PATU within the last 12 months.

### **Exceptional Value \$1,000 or more**

- Cumberland Valley
- Mountain Laurel

### **High Quality \$500 to \$999**

- Adams County
- Allegheny Mountain
- Doc Fritchey
- God's Country
- John Kennedy
- Neshannock
- Penn's Woods West
- Neshannock

### **Brook Trout \$250 to \$499**

- Donegal
- Schuylkill County

### **Wild Trout \$100 to \$249**

- Hokendauqua
- Spring Creek

Want to see your chapter listed? Please contact your chapter leaders and tell them!

### **In Memory of:**

Kurt Dudt

Joseph Kenzic

The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited has more than 14,000 members in nearly 50 chapters statewide, with one common goal: The conservation and enhancement of Pennsylvania's coldwater streams and fisheries, specifically our wild trout resources. Trout Unlimited is an IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, functioning for charitable, educational and scientific purposes. Donations are deductible to the extent provided by law. For information on advertising in PA Trout, call 814-692-5232, or email bisles@live.com. See pages 2-3 for Council contact information, officers and committees. For listings of Regional VPs and Pennsylvania TU chapters, and their contact information, see pages 11-20.

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



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# Q&A: How to become a stream advocate

By David Kinney  
TU Mid-Atlantic Policy Director

Russ Collins is president of the Doc Fritchey chapter outside Harrisburg and PATU's regional vice president for South Central Pennsylvania.

Since I started organizing efforts in the Mid-Atlantic, I've suggested that people think of advocacy as an important element of the TU volunteer job description. I ask people to do the easy stuff – sign on to Action Alerts and write letters – and then consider doing the harder work of getting to know their elected officials and inviting decision-makers out to see the good work you do.

In this light, Russ is a model stream advocate. He's taken the work to heart, and has impressed me by building strong relationships with his state lawmakers.

He's proof that this stuff works. In the fall, when a Fish & Boat controversy came up in Harrisburg, his lawmaker picked up the phone and called Russ to ask what he thought. That's exactly what we want: the chance to make our voices heard when it matters.

Not long ago, I asked Russ to tell me a bit about how he approaches this advocacy work.

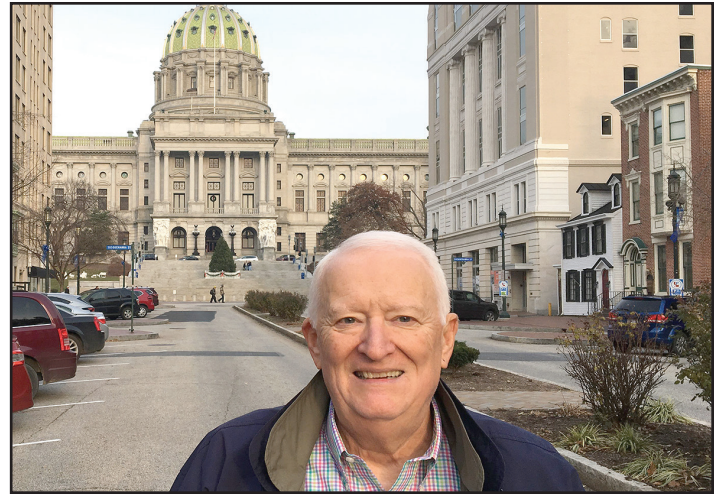
**Q: Over the past year, you've become more active in advocacy efforts. Talk about what's sparked your interest in this?**

I thought I could make some little difference. On occasion, at some of our chapter meetings, we've had presentations from Pennsylvania Environmental Defense Foundation, Fish & Boat, and so on. Many of the issues they raised involved legislation at the Statehouse and how it affected TU's mission. One issue involved a bill to weaken state requirements on riparian buffers, which seemed totally inappropriate to me, and I started calling and writing letters to various legislators on that issue.

**Q: So you've made it your mission to meet with each of the lawmakers within your chapter boundaries. How is that going? How have you gone about building relationships with these public officials?**

In my previous career as a financial consultant, I made a point of keeping the lines of communication with my clients open and strong, and the best way I found to do that was to meet with them personally, as often as possible. I am working to apply the same idea here. I have met with three of the four state lawmakers in Doc Fritchey's territory, and have had a good reception from most. If given the time, I try to appeal to their better instincts. I do my best not to be confrontational. I've gotten to know their staff, and that makes it easier when I call to ask for a bit of their time. I usually have breakfast with my local representative, Frank Ryan, once a month, and I've taken him out to a project area to show him a before-and-after picture of stream improvement projects.

**Q: You and your representative don't see eye-to-eye on a number of issues that are important to TU's mission. How have you navigated what could turn into potentially argumentative conversations?**



Russ Collins

Basically, I don't discuss politics, but instead talk about why our mission is important. I talk about clean water, and ask them if they feel it is important to them – it usually is – and then I can branch off to describe how clean water policies are critical to what TU does.

**Q: What advice do you have for other conservation-minded TU volunteers who might want to become advocates for TU's policy goals?**

Get to know the decision-makers in as non-confrontational a manner as possible. When you're given a meeting, get to the point (after a bit of schmoozing). Read the communications they put out. Get them out to a chapter event, banquet, or social. And try to get them out fishing if you can.



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## Pair from PA recognized among top conservationists

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited President Charlie Charlesworth and Mountain Laurel TU board member Len Lichvar were among the top 10 finalists for *Fly Fisherman* magazine's Conservationist of the Year title.

Sandy Moret of Islamorada, Fla., earned the top honor for 2018. He received a \$5,000 check in his name made out to the nonprofit environmental group of his choice.

Charlesworth and Lichvar among the top finalists out of more than 50 nominations.

Charlesworth was recognized for founding the Keystone TU Teens Summer Camp and extensive work on major trout habitat projects on the Lackawanna River, a Class A wild trout stream with special regulations. In addition, he helped build the Sweeney Beach Environmental Center through fundraising, direct effort and organizing volunteers. He also won the Pennsylvania Environmental Council's Thomas P. Shelburne Award for Environmental Excellence.

"Knowing that the youth of today will be the future of our environment and the future of fly fishing makes me want to work that much harder," Charlesworth said. "I've never done it for the recognition, but when you do get recognized it sure does feel good. It makes you want to go out and do even more."

Lichvar, who is also a commissioner with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, is chairman of Stonycreek-Conemaugh River Improvement, the Somerset County Conservancy and a member of the Somerset Lake Action Committee, and Land Committee of the Jenner Rod and Gun Club that manages over 1,000 acres of land open to public recreation.

He has served as a Hunter-Trapper Education Course instructor for the Pennsylvania Game Commission for 25 years. He's been an outdoor writer for decades and most recently co-authored the new book, *Keystone Fly Fishing*.

### WANTED

## PA Trout Advertising Rep

Our quarterly newsletter, *PA Trout*, needs a part-time advertising sales representative to solicit ads for our quarterly publication.

Candidates must have experience and the drive to work on their own and will be paid quarterly on a commission basis.

If this position is of interest to you, please contact Bob Pennell at [rpennell37@comcast.net](mailto:rpennell37@comcast.net) or by phone at 717-236-1360 for more details on the job responsibilities and compensation.

## EXCOM Actions

### Actions taken by EXCOM since Sept. 23, 2017

**October 5:** Approved sending a letter to the PA House of Representatives opposing their proposed resolution to suspend the Delaware River Basin Commission's opposition to fracking in the Delaware River Basin.

**November 12:** Approved signing on to letter to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers prepared by the National Wildlife Federation regarding the blocking of Asian carp migration into the Great Lakes.

**November 28:** Approved the election of Russ Collins to the position of Southcentral Region VP.



Contributed Photo

Stream bank stabilization along Perkiomen Creek.

## CREEK

from page 1

mid-October.

Designed by Karl Lutz, a retiree from the PA Fish and Boat Commission, included stabilization of the stream banks, enhancement of the riparian buffer, restoration of a natural, stable stream channel and the creation of aquatic habitat along the property of the American Legion, Post 192, in Palm.

These project included embedded logs and root balls, as well as the placement of two large rock deflectors along the opposite stream bank. Numerous large boulders were positioned mid-stream to help break up the uniform water flow and add habitat.

Volunteers from PVTU and MCCD provided the manual labor for the removal of invasive species and the disturbed areas were then planted with native seed and covered with straw matting, to aid in the restoration. The work required extensive use of heavy equipment provided by Dave Schneck, Inc.

The planting of live stakes and container trees will conclude this spring.



# PA Council of Trout Unlimited

Minutes of the Jan. 7, 2018  
Executive Committee Meeting  
Hampton Inn – Lamar, PA

**Officers Attending:** Charlie Charlesworth, George Kutskel, Bob Pennell, John Leonard, Brian Wagner, Greg Malaska, Ken Undercoffer, Jim Lanning, Chuck Winters, Russ Collins, Robert Hughes

**Others Attending:** Tali MacArthur, Russ Thrall, Judi Sittler, Amidea Daniel

**President's Report:** The meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m. by President Charlesworth who referenced his written report as previously submitted. A motion was seconded and carried to approve the minutes of the September 23, 2017 meeting as previously distributed to EXCOM.

**Treasurer's Report:** A motion was seconded and carried to receive and file the Budget Report dated August 31, 2017, as previously distributed to EXCOM. Kutskel will work with Collins to investigate an instrument for investing a \$155K donation made to Council. Kutskel reported that as of 1/5/18 a total of \$10,328 has been received from our Year-end Appeal, and \$5,499 has been received for the TIC Sweepstakes. Kutskel presented an overview of Council's participation in the development of the Coldwater Heritage Partnership (CHP).

**Financial Reviewer's Report to EXCOM:** Leonard's review of Council's expenditures for the months of October, November and December, 2017 found no irregularities, with everything well-documented.

**Financial Resolutions Adopted by EXCOM:**

**MOTION 1** - DEVELOP AND SOLICIT REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR ACCOUNTING FIRM TO HANDLE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REVIEW/AUDIT AND PREPARATION OF 990 FORM. APPLICANT MUST HAVE EXPERIENCE WITH NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS.

**MOTION 2** - PRIOR TO ADOPTION, THE ANNUAL 990 FORM MUST BE

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY EXCOM.

**MOTION 3** - PRIOR TO FINAL SUBMISSION OF PATU'S ANNUAL FINANCIAL REVIEW/AUDIT, THE PREPARER MUST GIVE A PRESENTATION TO EXCOM SUMMARIZING THE PREPARER'S FINDINGS AND BE AVAILABLE FOR QUESTIONS FROM EXCOM MEMBERS. THE PRESENTATION MUST BE IN PERSON AT AN EXCOM MEETING OR VIA ANY MEDIUM THAT ALLOWS FOR LIVE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS IN REAL TIME, FOR EXAMPLE, GO-TO-MEETING.

**MOTION 4** - ADOPTED WHISTLEBLOWER /CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY.

**MOTION 5** - ADOPTED DOCUMENT RETENTION POLICY.

**MOTION 6** - EXCOM MUST REVIEW AND APPROVE ANY APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES, THE FOUNDATION FOR PENNSYLVANIA WATERSHEDS, AND ANY APPLICATION THAT REQUIRES A MATCH, CASH OR OTHERWISE, FROM PATU.

**MOTION 7** - ALL PERSONS RECEIVING COMPENSATION FROM FUNDS IDENTIFIED IN THE PATU BUDGET FOR SERVICES PROVIDED TO PATU, OTHER THAN THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR, SHALL PROVIDE MONTHLY REPORTS TO EXCOM PRIOR TO THE QUARTERLY MEETING SUMMARIZING THEIR EFFORTS.

**MOTION 8** - WITHDRAWN.

**MOTION 9** - THE CHECK SIGNATORIES FOR PATU FOR THE REMAINDER OF FISCAL YEAR 2017-18 SHALL BE:

PA COUNCIL (S&T BANK) – GEORGE KUTSKEL & BOB PENNELL  
CHP (S&T BANK) – GEORGE KUTSKEL & BOB PENNELL

PACOUNCIL (PNC BANK) – GEORGE KUTSKEL & KEN UNDERCOFFER  
CHP (PNC BANK) – KEN UNDERCOFFER



**Proposal for Redesign of [patrou.org](http://patrou.org) Website:**

After reviewing Quarter-Note Systems' proposal to migrate website content from Sitefinity to WordPress, Pennell, Hughes, MacArthur, Thrall and Brad Isles were appointed as a committee to further review alternative plat-

forms to accomplish this task at a reduced cost.

**Trout in the Classroom (TIC) Sweepstakes Drawing:** First Place (\$500) – Tim Hourihan; Second Place (\$250) – John Hopkins; Third Place (1 night at Nature Inn) – Gerry Huggler; Fourth Place (\$50) – John Hopkins; Fifth Place (\$50) – Pete & Judy Goodman; Sixth Place (\$50) – John Hopkins.

**Approval of Proposed PATU Biosolids Policy:** Action was tabled pending further review by EXCOM.

**Redesign of PATU Display Booth:** Charlesworth will evaluate the current display and investigate pricing for an upgrade, to be presented at the March 24 EXCOM meeting.

**National Leadership Council Report:** Report submitted. Wagner announced that he is now chairing the Climate Change workgroup for National TU. He also reminded the Regional VPs that one of his roles as Council's NLC Representative is to act as a liaison between chapters and National TU staff and assist chapters with issues that may require attention by National staff.

**Program Director Report:** Report submitted. MacArthur announced the chapter recipients of Forever Wild Mini-Grants for 2018; Shehawken (\$1,500), Doc Fritchey (\$1500), Chestnut Ridge (\$1,500) and Tulpehocken (\$500), to be awarded at the Keystone Coldwater Conference on February 24. Grants of \$5,000 from the S. Kent Rockwell Foundation and \$500 from the NOAA Environmental Education Task Force were received to support the TIC program.

**Committee Reports:** The following committee reports were received and filed (except as noted) with no specific action

**Continued on next page...**



# Rivers Conservation Youth Camp accepting applications

Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp

The Cumberland Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited is holding the 24th annual Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp June 17-22, 2018.

The camp will again be based at Messiah College, Grantham, Pa. The Camp begins on a Sunday and ends the following Friday.

The highly structured curriculum is based on college level classes. Students are instructed in ecology, aquatic biology, geology, hydrogeology, erosion and sedimentation control, ichthyology, riparian corridor protection, watershed management, entomology and much more. Students also participate in a hands-on stream habitat improvement project.

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

Admission will be limited to 32 selected qualified students, ages 14 to 17. Applicants must have been born between



June 22, 2000 and June 17, 2004. The 32 students will be selected through an application process where they must state why they want to attend the camp.

Camp tuition is \$550 per student. All meals and accommodations are included for the residence camp. A student doesn't have to be an accomplished fly fisher or a budding aquatic biologist to attend. The student only needs to be highly motivated and willing to learn.

The Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp was founded in 1995 through the efforts of the late Dr. John R

“Jack” Beck and the late Enoch S. “Inky” Moore, Jr., Pennsylvania Fish Commissioner. Their goal was to select teenagers each year who were leaders in their class.

The thought is that today's leaders in high school become the leader of tomorrow's communities. In a few short years, they will be the bankers, lawyers, realtors, municipal officials and the leaders in their communities. If the camp can implant a kernel of knowledge in today's students about the importance of clean water, when those students become the decision makers in their communities it may have a positive impact on how water resources are used.

All applications for *early* acceptance must be received no later than March 31, 2018. Applying via our website is preferred. For more information, or to apply, visit [www.riverscamp.com](http://www.riverscamp.com). Be sure to watch the 2017 camp video while you're there.

Questions may be submitted at the website or via email to [riverscamp@gmail.com](mailto:riverscamp@gmail.com).

## ...Continued from previous page

items noted.

- EVP Greg Malaska  
Delaware River  
Diversity Initiative  
Membership  
Trout Management  
Veterans Service  
Youth Education
- EVP John Leonard  
Awards (no report)  
Environmental  
Communications  
Development

**Regional Reports:** The following regional reports were received and filed (except as noted) with no specific action items noted.

- **Northcentral Region** – All eight chapters submitted report.
- **Northeast Region** – All 10 chapters submitted reports.
- **Northwest Region** – Six of nine chapters submitted reports; Northwest PA, Caldwell Creek and Cornplanter

did not report.

- **Southcentral Region** – All eight chapters submitted reports.
- **Southeast Region** – All seven chapters submitted reports.
- **Southwest Region** – All seven chapters submitted reports.

Collins will develop a new “fillable” chapter report template to be distributed for the next reporting period. Each quarter, a Regional Vice President will provide a “chapter story” to be published in *PA Trout*

to share ideas for activities, etc. with other chapters. The regional sequence will be NC, SW, NW, NE, SC and SE.

**New Business Items:** A Budget Committee is to be formed at our March 24 EXCOM meeting.

The Development Committee will investigate the feasibility of developing a special PA Conservation License Plate featuring a brook trout image.

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent at 11:05 a.m.

– Bob Pennell, Council Secretary



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# Hughes elected as NE Regional Vice President

Robert E. Hughes, executive director of the Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation (EPCAMR) was elected at the PATU Annual Fall Meeting to represent the northeast region TU chapters on Council.

Robert's other professional positions have included working at the Luzerne Conservation District as the Abandoned Mine Land program manager, Schuylkill Conservation District as the Regional Abandoned Mine Land regional coordinator, and as the assistant director of the Pennsylvania Environmental Council's NE Regional Office, among others.

He has over 22 years of experience in the restoration of past mining impacted watersheds throughout north east and north central Pennsylvania, grant management, grant administration, community organizing, capacity building and coalition building. He is passionate about mine drainage (AMD), mine reclamation, environmental education, watershed restoration, and trout and wildlife habitat improvement efforts across PA.

Robert graduated from Penn State University in May 1995 with a bachelor's degree in Environmental Resource Management and a concentration in water pollution control technologies and hydrogeology. He was born in Wilkes-Barre, PA on the day of the historic Agnes Flood, June 23, 1972, and now lives in Nanticoke, PA with his wife of 24 years, Tara, three children, Hayley, Dawson and Ethan, and a grandson, Lincoln James.

Robert became a Board Member of the Stanley Cooper Chapter in 2016, however, has been involved with the chapter on many projects and as their guest speaker on a number of occasions since 1997, when he began working in Bowman's Creek watershed on limestone sand dosing projects to improve the trout waters of their home watershed.

As RVP, Robert plans to help ensure greater representation and improved com-



**PATU Northeast Region VP Robert Hughes**

munication across the NE region and at the state and national levels. In his capacity as executive director of EPCAMR, he has had the chance to partner and work with many chapters within the NE region. He will use the relationships built during those interactions to maintain open and honest lines of communication.

"I've worked, fished, completed coldwater heritage conservation plans, assessed, electro-shocked, stocked, created habitat, removed dams, floated, and hiked many of the watersheds in the region already in my 25-plus year career and believe that I have a wealth of experience and knowledge to cross-reference and share among the chapters," Hughes said. "I look forward to inviting the chapters to a regional meeting at the EPCAMR office to discuss any and all issues, concerns, ideas, and successes. I will also look to make it to at least one of each of the chapter meetings to introduce myself personally and get to know the membership and their concerns first-hand.

"Just from attending the annual PATU meeting, I've come to understanding that streamlining the communication channels between chapters and PATU and the flow of information, events, programs, training opportunities, grants, and workshops are what some of the chapters are interested in right away. I will try and work on that right away and hit the ground running aside from

reminding them about their quarterly reporting duties and reports back to PATU on their respective financial responsibilities."

Additionally, Robert has a strong personal desire to get more underserved youth involved in outdoor recreation and access to public streams and waterways that could lead to the contemplative nature of fishing and the solitude that feeds the soul.

"Our youth need to be educated first on the historical nature of our watersheds and why the brook trout is our native species and an indicator of water quality before they can truly appreciate the joys of fishing, the catch and the release, and hopefully a sense of environmental stewardship that they can become involved with in their youth and as they get older," he said.

Robert looks forward to learning more about the governance of PATU and to fulfilling his duties to each chapter and to Council.

"I'm looking forward to traveling around to see some of the higher quality rivers and streams that I am not so used to seeing on a daily basis in my work in orange-colored, AMD-laden, iron-filled, mining impacted streams of the Coal Region," Robert said.

Robert can be reached at [rhughes@epcamr.org](mailto:rhughes@epcamr.org), by phone at 570-371-3523 (w) or 570-239-3909 (c); Bobby Hughes on Facebook or on LinkedIn at <https://www.linkedin.com/in/robertehughes>.



# Collegiate fly fishing competition set for April

By Charlie Charlesworth  
PATU President

Since the inception of the Trout Unlimited 5 River programs, Pennsylvania has seen rapid growth in the number of clubs popping up on college campuses.

These groups are involved with so much both on their own campuses and in their local chapters, providing new and unique ways for chapters to target young and old alike.

This year, thanks to the hard work of individuals in both Juniata College's and Mansfield University's 5 Rivers programs,

a collegiate fly fishing competition will be held within the state. This is the first event of its kind for the state of Pennsylvania.

The competition will be held just outside of Bellefonte, on the famous Spring Creek.

It begins the evening of Friday, April 6 and runs until Sunday, April 8 with the competition taking place all day Saturday. This event will not only serve as a fun weekend of competition for 28 of the state's finest young men and women, but will also be a venue to promote the foundation that Trout Unlimited stands on – collecting like-minded conservationists, sportsmen, and future leaders in one location to share their ideas.

This gives new and old club members valuable information to take back to their local chapters to strive for continued growth.

With such a strong mission behind this event, the Fish and Boat Commission wanted to ensure it will be the best it can be and has generously provided funding. Because of this, there is no cost to the 28 students participating.

Those interested in being involved in the event should contact Ryan Heisler at [heislre14@juniata.edu](mailto:heislre14@juniata.edu) with "Volunteer" in the subject line.

Interested competitors should contact Dan Collins at [collinsdl23@manfield.edu](mailto:collinsdl23@manfield.edu).

## **NORTHEAST CHAPTERS**

**Brodhead 289**

**Forks of the Delaware 482**

**Hokendauqua 535**

**Lackawanna Valley 414**

**Monocacy 491**

**Pike-Wayne 462**

**Schuylkill County 537**

**Shehawken 81**

**Stan Cooper Sr. 251**

**Western Pocono 203**

near the Monroe County recreation fields. We assisted with the Major Paul Syverson Veterans Sanctuary for Project Healing Waters event on Oct. 14 at Glenn's Pond, Sciota. At our Oct. 11 meeting, we welcomed Abby Jones, staff attorney for PennFuture, who outlined the organization's goals and opportunities. Our November meeting highlighted the Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge. In December, we hosted our "Pies and Flies and Advocacy" event. In addition to sharing techniques and patterns, we presented and provided online opportunities for our members and guests to comment to their representatives and senators on issues of concern. We are holding a fly-tying round robin on Feb. 14 at 7 p.m. at the Monroe County Conservation District Offices, Bartonsville. Our annual spring banquet is March 23 at the Stroudsmoor Country Inn, Stroudsburg.

dewatering event had occurred prior on Nov. 25. While this is a complex situation involving electrical supply, quarry pumping, sinkholes and a PennDOT bridge, we need to find solutions to keep water in this section of the creek. Brook trout eggs arrived for our TIC programs at Nazareth, Wind Gap and Bangor middle schools and Easton High School in early November. Our spring event with presenter Dave Rothrock is 9 a.m. March 10 at East Bath Rod & Gun Club.

## **Hokendauqua Chapter #535**

**Art Williams**

**610-266-1788, [awilliams1947@hotmail.com](mailto:awilliams1947@hotmail.com)  
<http://hokendauqua.tu.org>**

Our TIC program at Catasauqua High School received its eggs in the fall. We are now affiliated with another school in the Southern Lehigh School District. In December, we helped and participated in organizing a program with the other TU chapters from the Lehigh Valley. It consisted of speaker Adam Nidoh who talked about fishing the Lackawanna River and general concerns about current events related to streams in the valley. Our fly tying class runs Saturday mornings until Feb. 24 at Northampton Middle School.

## **REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT**

**Robert Hughes**

**394 E. Washington St.**

**Nanticoke, PA 18634**

**Email: [rhughes@epcamr.org](mailto:rhughes@epcamr.org)**

**Phone: 570-239-3909**

**Brodhead Chapter #289**

**Todd Burns**

**610-704-4549, [tgburns@rcn.com](mailto:tgburns@rcn.com)  
[www.brodheadtu.org](http://www.brodheadtu.org)**

On Sept. 30, we learned our proposal for multiple habitat improvement devices on Cherry Creek within the Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge was selected to receive \$8,500 in Embrace-A-Stream grant funding. We also raised \$3,424 during the TU-Orvis Challenge from Nov. 6-12. Members noticed discharge solids and algae/fungal growth outside the effluent pipe at Pleasant Valley Manor on McMichaels Creek and reported the issue to DEP. This site is approximately a half-mile upstream of our habitat improvement work

## **Forks of the Delaware Chapter #482**

**Joe Baylog**

**610-751-9116, [baylogj@gmail.com](mailto:baylogj@gmail.com)  
[www.forkstu.org](http://www.forkstu.org)**

The chapter received a \$1,000 Embrace-A-Stream grant for a stream restoration project on Bushkill Creek. We raised another \$1,290 and unlocked an additional \$850 through the TU-Orvis Challenge. We participated in a joint fall fly fishing event with the other Lehigh Valley chapters on Dec. 12 at East Bath Rod & Gun Club. Guest speaker was Adam Nidoh presenting "Fly Fishing the Lackawanna River for Big Browns." On Dec. 9, chapter president Joe Baylog organized about 25 concerned anglers to witness the dewatering of the Bushkill Creek in Tatamy when scheduled PPL electrical maintenance forced the shutdown of Buzzi Unicem's quarry pumps for several hours. The goal was to raise awareness of this dewatering issue every time there is a disruption in the normal pumping regimen, which results in a fish kill. PFBC personnel were also on hand. Another

## **Lackawanna Valley Chapter #414**

**Adam Nidoh**

**570-489-1650, [info@agoutfitters.com](mailto:info@agoutfitters.com)  
[www.lackawannavalleytu.org](http://www.lackawannavalleytu.org)**

The chapter is continuing work at Sweeney Beach Recreational Area along the Lackawanna River. We also participated in a water sampling with PFBC. Upcoming events are our pancake breakfast on Feb. 10 at Applebee's, Dickson City; a chapter meeting on Feb. 21 at 2000 Dorothy St., Scranton; and the Sportsmen's Flea Market on March 24.





## Monocacy Chapter #491

Erik Broesicke

610-909-2652, [monocacytu491@gmail.com](mailto:monocacytu491@gmail.com)

[www.monocacytu.org](http://www.monocacytu.org)

Planning for the 2018 Fly Fishing Film Tour in March is underway. Tickets can be purchased at [www.steelstacks.org](http://www.steelstacks.org). There will be two showings along with some great raffle prizes. Monocacy TU members participated in a planting at Illicks Mill in October to cap off the restoration project in the park. Project highlights include the removal of dangerous railroad ties that lined the bank, re-grading the banks, plus a number of instream rock weirs to direct water flow to the main channel. Tim Flagler from Tightlines Flyfishing will speak at our Feb. 27 meeting at 7 p.m. at the DAR Log Cabin. Our spring event is March 10 beginning at 8 a.m. at East Bath Rod and Gun Club. Our stream cleanup is April 21 at 9 a.m. at Illick's Mill. The Bugs and Dogs Family Picnic is at 6 p.m. April 22 at Illick's Mill.

## Pike-Wayne Chapter #462

Tony Capitano

570-676-9994, [tcapit2@verizon.net](mailto:tcapit2@verizon.net)

[www.pwtu.org](http://www.pwtu.org)

In October, the Orion Pipeline crossed the Lackawaxen River. Attempts to use a covert dam and horizontal/vertical drilling for the crossing failed. A wet crossing was completed resulting in a considerable disturbance of sediment into the river. A 36-inch pipe was buried five feet below the riverbed. Burlap barriers were placed covering the ground disturbed by the crossing. Pike County Conservation District has been monitoring the project. In November, NE Regional VP Robert Hughes attended our monthly meeting. On Dec. 12, he visited with Alex Zidok, host of the TV program "Out in the Open" at the Pocono Mountains Visitor's Center in Hawley. They recorded two shows, one on EPCAMR ([www.epcamr.org](http://www.epcamr.org)) and the other on his role as VP. Discussion was

held on the Delaware River Basin Commission proposed ban on fracking in Wayne and Pike counties. On Nov. 30, the DRBC recommended a continuance on the ban, but raised concerns with the removal of water from the Delaware, or tributaries, and the discharge of waste water. The chapter planned to attend an open forum on Jan. 23 in Waymart. Our annual banquet is April 7 at Lukan's Farm Resort, Hawley.

## Schuylkill County Chapter #537

John Bondura

570-640-5300; [jgbond@verizon.net](mailto:jgbond@verizon.net)

[www.schuylkillcountytu.org](http://www.schuylkillcountytu.org)

The Schuylkill River near Cressona and Schuylkill Haven is a focus of our stream clean-ups. We assisted Cabela's with its first National Baptist Camp (NBC) held at Blue Marsh Lake. Inner-city kids spent the day learning fishing, camping and other outdoor skills. We also helped Boscov's this year with its People Helping People campaign. We set up in their toy department and tied flies for four hours, giving a fly to anyone who wanted one. We assisted Hawk Mountain with its Cub Scout Adventure Day at the Scout Reservation on Oct. 14 and 28. We have all dates for our January, February, and March fly tying classes. We are also continuing our Fly of the Month program. We plan on starting a newsletter in 2018, and we have been working on our website content.

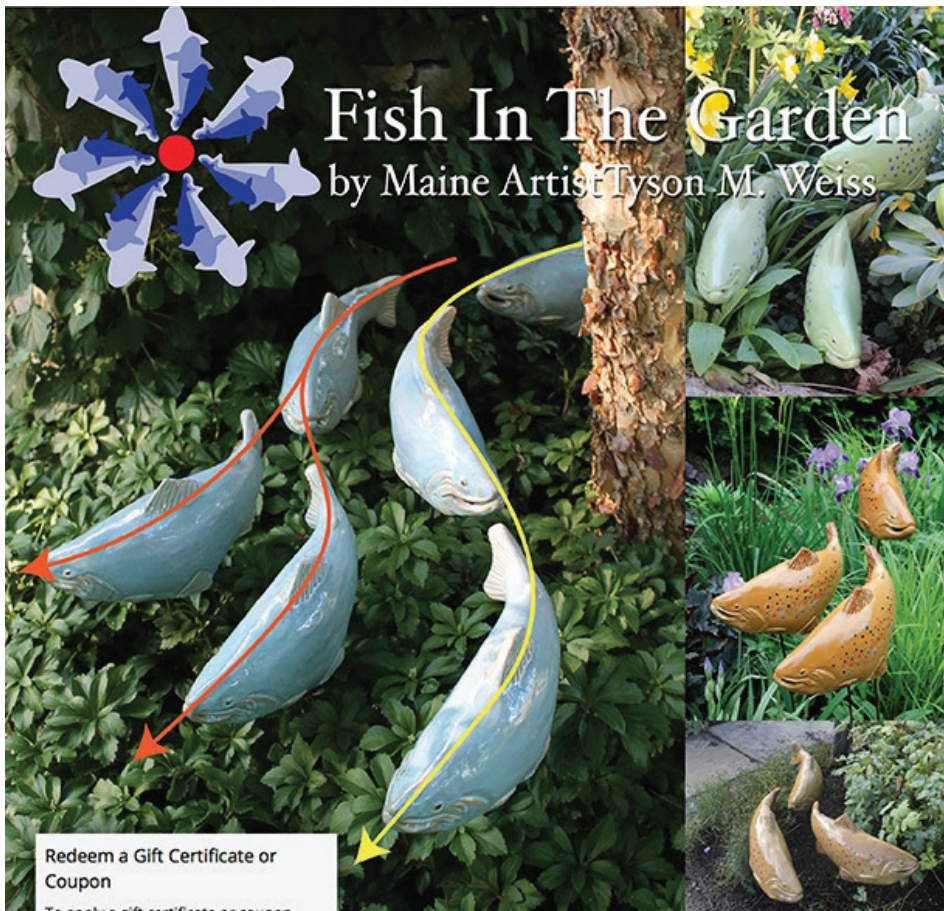
## Shehawken Chapter #81

Fred Gender

570-704-8764, [shehawkentu@gmail.com](mailto:shehawkentu@gmail.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/Shehawken-Trout-Unlimited-811023349070239/>

Shehawken Trout Unlimited was founded at the start of this fiscal year, October 2017. The chapter was formed from zip codes primarily in Wayne County with one in Susquehanna County. The focus of the chapter is the coldwater ecosystem of the Upper Delaware River and its tributaries. We have established the third Thursday of the month as a meeting date with general meetings beginning in March. Location and time are to be determined, but will be announced on our Facebook page. The chapter has partnered with the National Park Service in establishing an "Adopt an Access" program and adopted the Buckingham access. Shehawken TU has applied to become a member of the Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed and in January the chapter planned to participate in a coldwater conference along with the Pinchot Institute of Conservation and Friends of the Upper Delaware River. Chapter leadership has met with neighboring chapters in PA and NY in an effort to foster a cooperative spirit in protecting our waterways. Shehawken TU has applied for a PA State Council "Forever Wild" grant in order to expand data collection on wild trout population dynamics.



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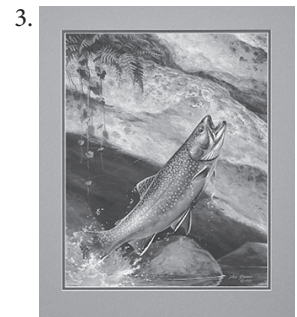
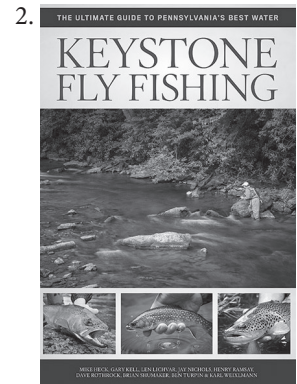
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|              | Item Description  | Price    | Qty.            | Total   |
|--------------|---|----------|-----------------|---|
|              | "Back the Brookie" License Plate  | \$25.00  |                 |   |
| 1            | Ball cap w/logo (circle) Khaki Navy Camo  | \$15.00  |                 |   |
|              | Large Waterproof Fly Box (6"x4"x1")   | \$25.00  |                 |   |
|              | Custom Fly Leaders  |          |                 |   |
|              | Dry Fly – 4X Tippet   |          |                 |   |
|              | Dry Fly – 5X Tippet   |          |                 |   |
|              | Dry Fly – 6X Tippet   |          |                 |   |
|              | Wet Fly – 4X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers   |          |                 |   |
|              | Wet Fly – 5X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers   |          |                 |   |
|              | Subtotal – Leader Quantity (1 to 9)   | \$5.00   |                 |   |
|              | Subtotal – Leader Quantity (10 or more)   | \$4.50   |                 |   |
|              | Dan Shields' <i>Fly Fishing PA's Spring Creek</i> Book                                | \$20.00  |                 |   |
|              | "More of CVTU's Favorite Flies" Book  | \$22.00  |                 |   |
| 2            | "Keystone Fly Fishing" Book   | \$30.00  |                 |   |
| 3            | Ned Smith "Sting of the Hook" Print – Unframed  | \$148.40 |                 |   |
|              | Ned Smith "Sting of the Hook" Print – Framed  | \$259.70 |                 |   |
| 4            | Little Juniata Patch 2011 – 4"  | \$6.00   |                 |   |
|              | Little Juniata Patch 2011 – 6"  | \$10.00  |                 |   |
| 5            | Kinzua Creek Patch 2010 – 4"  | \$6.00   |                 |   |
|              | Kinzua Creek Patch 2010 – 6"  | \$10.00  |                 |   |
|              | PATU Decals – 3"  | \$3.00   |                 |   |
|              | PATU Travel Rod Case  | \$50.00  |                 |   |
|              | Fly Fishing Practice Casting Game   | \$25.00  |                 |   |
|              | Custom 9'0, 5-wt., 3-piece Fly Rod  | \$175.00 |                 |   |
|              | Adult TIC T-shirt (circle size) S M L XL  | \$17.00  |                 | Limited sizes, colors and quantities. Call Tali MacArthur at 814-359-5114 for availability. |
|              | Adult TIC T-shirt (circle size) 2XL 3XL   | \$20.00  |                 |   |
|              | Youth TIC T-shirt (circle size) M L   | \$17.00  |                 |   |
|              | Official PATU T-shirt (circle size) S M L XL  | \$20.00  |                 |   |
|              | Official PATU T-shirt (circle size) 2XL 3XL   | \$23.00  |                 |   |
| <b>Note:</b> | 6% sales tax (where applicable), shipping and handling costs included in unit prices. |          | <b>Total \$</b> |   |



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...Continued from page 13

## Stanley Cooper, Sr. Chapter #251

Scott Brady

570-479-6106, jsbrady@bradygrabowski.com

www.sctu.org

The SCTU banquet is April 7 at the Best Western Plus Genetti Hotel, Wilkes-Barre. Manual liming has begun for the Bowman's Creek roadside and stream cleanup. The Bowman's Creek Watershed Association, in partnership with the Luzerne Conservation District Watershed Specialist John Levitsky and SCTU are revitalizing Bowman's Creek where Mountain Spring Lake was before the destruction of the dam. The headwater stream now flows freely through the former dam area that is loaded with stumps. EPCAMR completed the construction of the Solomon Creek trout habitat improvement and dam removal in Ashley Borough in partnership with the PFBC, PennDOT, Luzerne Conservation District, Ashley Borough, SCTU and River Logic Solutions, LLC. Four double-throated cross-vanes were installed and a floodplain bench. The dam has been removed and along with nine check dams. The road into the park was improved, and streambank slopes were cut back to a 2:1 slope for easier access for families, children and fishermen/women. A fish survey will be conducted in the spring. EPCAMR is conducting a culvert assessment in the Abraham Creek watershed and developing a coldwater conservation plan with recommendations for trout stream improvements and aquatic connectivity, as well as streambank stabilization and watershed implementation projects. National Lands Trust monitoring equipment is being used to survey the watershed. In conjunction with EPCAMR, we're in the second year of raising brook trout to be released into the Solomon Creek watershed in the Wyoming Valley. Another TIC program started at the Lake Noxen Elementary School in the Lake-Lehman School District; our adult fly fishing camp is May, followed by our youth fly fishing camp in June. Brews and Bugs events are the fourth Tuesday of the month at Sabbatini's Pizza, Exeter, starting at 6:30. Project Healing Waters events are the first Wednesday of each month. A women's fly fishing camp is being planned for June 2018. The Split Rock Fly Fishing and Wingshooting Expo is Feb. 24-25 at Split Rock Lodge, Lake Harmony. Visit [www.flyfishingwingshootingexpo.com](http://www.flyfishingwingshootingexpo.com) for info.

## Western Pocono Chapter #203

George Hludzik

570-788-2121, grhlaw@ptd.net

WPTU and Brodhead TU members met with Tobyhanna Township officials to discuss possible stream improvement projects on Tobyhanna Creek. In November, retired U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist Ed Perry spoke about global warming and climate change and how it directly affects fish and wildlife. Prior to the meeting, he

and WPTU volunteers gave a brief talk to students of the Hazleton Area STEM School and its TIC program. We followed up with NE Regional VP Robert Hughes in regard to his interest in seeking out isolated native brook trout populations in headwater streams within the coal region that may be disconnected from downstream movement and aquatic connectivity to lower reaches of streams due to past mining practices or other impediments such as bad culvert placements, huge scour pools and bridge obstructions or dams. Our annual summer picnic will be at Austin Blakeslee Park on Tobyhanna Creek, Blakeslee, on a date to be announced.

## NORTHCENTRAL CHAPTERS

**Columbia County 038**

**God's Country 327**

**Lloyd Wilson 224**

**Penns Creek 119**

**Raymond B. Winter 124**

**Spring Creek 185**

**Susquehanna 044**

**Tiadaghton 688**

## REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

**Jim Lanning**

**905 Saxton Drive**

**State College, PA 16801**

**Email: [jlanningvsp@gmail.com](mailto:jlanningvsp@gmail.com)**

**Phone: 814-238-2086**

## Columbia County Chapter #38

**Erick Lewis**

**814-621-8126, [ealewis@geisinger.edu](mailto:ealewis@geisinger.edu)**

The chapter applied for the adoption of a section of Route 487 in Orangeville for roadway cleanup adjacent to Fishing Creek and our TU access site. Jeff White and Bob Lewis from The Delaware River Club presented a seminar called "Delaware 101" to chapter members and guests on Nov. 8. The seminar included fishing tactics, casting principles, entomology and fly selection. The Early Bird Sports Expo - Chapter Membership Drive & Fundraiser was Jan. 26-29 at Bloomsburg Fairgrounds. Chapter members made a trip to The Fly Fishing Show in Edison, NJ on Jan. 28, and are planning to do the same for the Lancaster show on March 4. Upcoming chapter meetings are Feb. 14 and March 14 at the Columbia County District Conservation Office, Bloomsburg. We're also holding a chapter fishing trip to Spring Creek on March 25.

## God's Country Chapter #327

**Dr. Peter Ryan**

**814-274-8718, [drflyfish@yahoo.com](mailto:drflyfish@yahoo.com)**

Chapter members attended JKLM Energy monthly "stakeholders" meetings in October, November and December. The last meeting was most informative as the cause of the Borrous Road well pad spill and resultant violation and remediation were explained in detail. Bob Volkmar and Pete Ryan attended the monthly Potter County Conservation District meetings as well as the October and December Potter County water quality meetings where the preliminary results of the USGS county-wide groundwater characterization study were explained as well as the completion of the Triple Divide Coalition project to install monitoring instruments on all the public water supplies in the county. Pete and Bob also attended the Nov. 3 Three Rivers Quest meeting at Kinzua State Park. Bob presented the data from his stream monitoring as part of the 3RQ program in the Upper Allegheny River and Oswayo Creek. Pete represented GCTU at the Nov. 6 Galeton Community meeting to discuss the problems with and possible solutions to the Galeton Dam and Berger Lake issues. The dam on Pine Creek and resultant lake were originally designed and built in the 1960s to provide recreational opportunities to area residents and tourists. The water depth is 1½ feet and the lake is full of sediment and provides no swimming, boating and only minimal fishing opportunities. Pete testified that the lake is a cause of thermal pollution to Pine Creek and prevents upstream and downstream migration of fish and important aquatic species. This was an "informational and local opinion gathering" meeting with no resolution expected for several months. Chapter members participated in the Upper Allegheny Watershed Association Route 6 highway cleanup on Oct. 20 as well as attending the bi-annual UAWA meeting Oct. 23 chaired by GCTU member and UAWA president Frank Weeks. Members helped with the Pennsylvania Environmental Council sponsored cleanup of an illegal dump site in Roulette on Oct. 30. The chapter's 2018 PHWFF event will be held May 22-25.

## Lloyd Wilson Chapter #224

**Bill Bailey**

**570-748-6120, [wbailey@kcnet.org](mailto:wbailey@kcnet.org)**

**[www.lwtu.org](http://www.lwtu.org)**

We had a successful annual banquet/raffle on Nov. 3. Scott Koser of the Clinton County Soil Conservation Office gave a fine presentation of the AMD remediation work that was done on Tangascootac Creek. Chapter members helped pack food and eggs for TIC. The program at Jersey Shore High is up and running with about 300 fry surviving. We purchased a filtration system for the program at the Renovo Elementary School as they want to put up a second, larger tank in the lobby for all the students, faculty, and guests to enjoy.

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## **Penns Creek Chapter #119**

**Joe Dunmire**

**717-899-6085, jhjazzbo@hotmail.com**

Fly tying and fly fishing classes at Mifflin County High School, and Juniata Valley YMCA began in January. Don Double presented a program on streamer fishing, presentation and streamer design in November. Also in November, Dan Dunmire from MCCD gave an update on projects and issues affecting local waterways, most notably the Upper Kish watershed. Aquatic Insect Index of Biotic Integrity and Aquatic Life Use numbers show continued impairment over a three-year period. Challenges come from intensive agricultural use. The Hungry Run watershed is showing slight improvement after completion of MCCD projects there. Chapter representatives attended a meeting in December of the entities involved in the Kish Park project. This is a combined effort of PFBC, MCCD, Derry Township and Penns Creek TU. The project calls for six stone deflectors, four multi-log deflectors with J-hooks and three multi-log deflectors. We are hopeful work can commence in 2018. Another project is the USFW work on Musser Run, another Class A wild brown trout stream. Plans call for 6,000 feet of stream to be improved. We are hopeful this too will happen in 2018. Our TIC projects are up and running. December's meeting was our winter social at the home of Dottie and Denny Peiffer. Upcoming events are chapter meetings at 7:30 on Feb. 14 and March 14 at the Library, and our annual banquet at Belleville Mennonite School.

## **R.B. Winter Chapter #124**

**Bob Laubach**

**570-966-3379, oldfrstr@dejazzd.com**

Our October meeting featured PGC WCO Dirk Remensnyder discussed current activities within the Game Commission. The November meeting featured Corey BeVier from the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership discussing current and proposed SGP projects. And our December meeting featured Rod Rohrbaugh presenting a program on trout fishing in Pennsylvania. Our TIC programs are up and running. The chapter's 10-week fly tying class started Jan. 8 at Christ Lutheran Church, Lewisburg. Winterfest is Feb. 11 at R.B. Winter State Park. Upcoming meetings are Feb. 17 at March 16 at the Lewisburg Hotel.

## **Spring Creek Chapter #185**

**Bob Vierck**

**814-350-3702, pres@springcreektu.org  
www.springcreektu.org**

We represented TU at Spring Creek Watershed Association and at Spring Creek Watershed Commission meetings. We also met with area legislators to discuss pending legislation. SCTU supported and attended the installation of founder Joe Humphreys into the first class of the Centre

County Sports Hall of Fame. A John Deere Gator was donated by Dan Hawbaker, president of G.O. Hawbaker to the Veterans Service Program. It will help transport people and material in support of our fishing events. General meetings included presentations by Henry Ramsay, author of "Eastern Hatches and Streams of PA" and Bill Anderson, president of the Little Juniata River Association. We conducted our annual redd count survey along the length of Spring Creek and most of Slab Cabin Run. We also conducted a site evaluation of the Kissinger Meadow to assess a future stormwater abatement project with US Fish and Wildlife, College Township, University Area Joint Authority and the ClearWater Conservancy. Stewardship work days were held at riparian planting sites including McCoy Dam, Oak Hall and Fisherman's Paradise. We held a stream cleanup at the Fence King property on Bald Eagle Creek and did water quality testing on Buffalo Run. Members assisted in packing brook trout eggs for shipping to over 350 TIC classrooms. We joined with the Penns Creek and R.B. Winter chapters to do a Boy Scout and Cub Scout fishing event at Black Moshanon. Our women's group held fishing events at "The Distillery" and Fisherman's Paradise. We received National Fish and Wildlife grants for two sites on Spring Creek and one on Slab Cabin Run. Total value of the projects is \$161,340, with \$160,700 provided by NFWF and \$100,640 in matching funds. Upcoming chapter VSP intermediate fly tying courses are Feb. 3, 10, 17 and 24 at South Hills School of Business & Technology, State College. Our VSP Winter Class - Introduction to Fly Tying classes are Feb. 10, 17, 24 and March 2 and 10. Our next general meeting is March 1 at Comfort Suites State College. And our VSP Opening Day is March 25 at Fisherman's Paradise.

## **Susquehanna Chapter #044**

**Walt Nicholson**

**570-447-3600; waltnicholson10@gmail.com  
http://susquehannatu.wordpress.com**

Chapter members are sorting donated fly tying materials and fishing tackle for a spring fundraiser. We continue to participate in volunteer stream monitoring. We completed the Rock Run Coldwater Conservation Plan and gave a report at the November Chapter meeting. Chapter directors appropriated \$1,000 for backup equipment for the TIC program, and will assist with an environmental field day in conjunction with some of the trout releases. Fly tying lessons started Feb. 6 and continuing for eight weeks. We are exploring a CHP implementation grant to follow up on the Rock Run conservation plan. We are still looking for assistance in locating veterans who might participate in Project Healing Waters or our public fly tying nights. Upcoming meetings are 7 p.m. Feb. 21, March 14 at Covenant Central Presbyterian Church, and April 11 at Lycoming College.

## **Tiadaghton Chapter #688**

**Jere White**

**570-662-2167, whitesgordonsetters@gmail.com**

Galeton Borough is doing a feasibility study to remove or replace the dam in Galeton across Pine Creek. Removal is a possibility with either the streambed left to its own or a kayak course installed. The other option is an upgrade to the dam that would include a fish ladder. Our annual Flies and Lies events will be held at the Wellsboro Community Center on Feb. 10 and March 17 from 9 a.m. to noon. On Feb. 24, the chapter will present "the art of wet fly fishing" with Dave Allbaugh from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. It will be held at the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hospital board room. Our annual spring banquet is March 24 at the Penn Wells Hotel.

## **NORTHWEST CHAPTERS**

**Allegheny Mountain 036**

**Caldwell Creek 437**

**Cornplanter 526**

**Iron Furnace 288**

**Jim Zwald 314**

**Neshannock 216**

**Northwest PA 041**

**Oil Creek 424**

**Seneca 272**

## **REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT**

**Ken Undercoffer**

**1510 Village Rd.**

**Clearfield, PA 16830**

**Email: kcoffer@atlanticbb.net**

**Phone: 814-765-1035**

## **Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036**

**George Kutskel**

**814-371-9290, maksak@comcast.net**

**www.amctu.org**

Our annual fundraiser is April 7 at the Falls Creek Eagles. We received word that the removals of the dams on the Callen Run watershed are proceeding. Along with Iron Furnace, we are working with the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy to reconnect this watershed. We received word that the re-mining of the Fran Contracting site has begun. There have been some environmental concerns that were found by National TU staff working in the area. We are looking to do a culvert assessment in the spring so we can begin to make sure of aquatic passage. We hosted a Sportsmen Forum at the Clarion Hotel in DuBois along with the Iron Furnace and Jim Zwald chapters. John Arway and William Brock, along with the fishery biologist from the two regions, were on hand to talk about wild trout and the need for license fee increase.



We are working with DuBois Middle School to set up their data loggers that they received thanks to a grant from DEP. They will be monitoring the Sandy Lick and Beaver Run in DuBois. We are again working with the Fly Fishing Club at DuBois Middle School. Our fly tying classes started in late January. We have several family fishing days planned for 2018. Upcoming meetings are Feb. 20, March 20 at Penn State DuBois.

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### **Caldwell Creek Chapter #437**

**Tom Savko**

814-664-2124, [tksavko2@verizon.net](mailto:tksavko2@verizon.net)

No report.

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### **Cornplanter Chapter #526**

**Troy McDunn**

814-723-3759, [hdpartsman@verizon.net](mailto:hdpartsman@verizon.net)

[www.facebook.com/pages/Cornplanter-Chapter-Of-Trout-Unlimited](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Cornplanter-Chapter-Of-Trout-Unlimited)

No report.

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### **Iron Furnace Chapter #288**

**Mark Hanes**

724-464-7320, [m\\_d\\_hanes@yahoo.com](mailto:m_d_hanes@yahoo.com)

[www.ironfurnacetu.net](http://www.ironfurnacetu.net)

Our annual banquet is April 7. We are working on a time to get the deflector fixed at Walter Dick Park, in the fly fishing only section on the North Fork of Redbank Creek. We are hoping it will happen in June. The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy is in the process of applying for grants to fund work for the John's Run fish passage. National Fuel has agreed to allow access to remove the dam. The other dam at the site of the former pump station is also slated to be removed. A search for funding is underway. The project will include ensuring Heath Township Sportsman's Club will be able to get water for its fish. All of our TIC programs have reported they have fish swimming in their tanks.

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### **James Zwald Chapter #314**

**Murray Neepser**

814-834-3472, [mneepser@zitomedia.net](mailto:mneepser@zitomedia.net)

The chapter completed its year-long study of the West Creek tributary to Driftwood Branch of the Sinnemahoning. Data has been compiled and a report developed by Jeff Reem and Associates. Several chapter members participated in a large wood restoration project in the Allegheny National Forest in the Pig's Ear area. The chapter supports nine TIC projects within Cameron and Elk county schools. The chapter is seeking grants for two projects. One is for an assessment of Middle Fork tributary of the East Branch of the Clarion River. This study is to determine the impact of culverts, sedimentation and other activities related to Marcellus Shale development. Additionally, the stream will be assessed to determine whether large woody debris structures could enhance natural

reproduction which takes place there. The second grant is to begin remediation to four sites requiring Acid Mine Remediation, particularly during high water events on the West Creek tributary of the Driftwood Branch of the Sinnemahoning. The chapter is being support in writing grants for this project by Elk County Conservation District and the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy.

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### **Neshannock Creek #216**

**Jeff Kremis**

724-588-4378; [jjkremis@gmail.com](mailto:jjkremis@gmail.com)

[www.neshannock-tu.org](http://www.neshannock-tu.org)

Our annual banquet is March 24 at the Park Inn by Radisson in West Middlesex. The North Deer Creek group constructed a pavilion at the Youth and Handicap fishing area that will be a great help with their opening day activities on Deer Creek. Again this year, the area has been designated for youths and those with special needs only for the first month of the trout season. We will be holding a spring cleanup workday in the Coolspring DHALO area. Also last summer, Mark Sausser and Cameron Englehart from PFBC visited several areas on Neshannock Creek that are in need of restoration and streambank stabilization projects. We have received the plans and are starting to work on cost estimates and to secure funding. One is in Mercer County in the area of Plantation Park Campground, and there are two projects planned in Lawrence County on the special regulation area of the Neshannock. Our five participating TIC schools are reporting a good start to their programs this year. Upcoming board meetings are Feb. 26, March 26 and April 23 at 6:30 p.m., also at Munnell Run Farm.

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### **Northwest Chapter #41**

**Erik Cronk**

814-490-4632, [ecronk@cronkinsuranceinc.com](mailto:ecronk@cronkinsuranceinc.com)

<http://nwpachaptertu.blogspot.com>

No report.

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### **Oil Creek Chapter #424**

**Gary Ross**

814-337-6931, [info@oilcreektu.org](mailto:info@oilcreektu.org)

[www.oilcreektu.org](http://www.oilcreektu.org)

OCTU's annual Christmas dinner was held at Dawndi's Restaurant on Dec. 20. Our 35th annual fundraising banquet is April 7 at the Quality Inn at Franklin. We may do a streambank stabilization project on a property on Two Mile Run. The landowner wants to keep the property open for public recreation. This is just a possibility and no details have been worked out yet. We are assisting the Venango Conservation District in replacing its electro-shocker to help enable them to make stream surveys. All TIC classrooms received their eggs in the fall. Upcoming chapter meetings are Feb. 21 and March 21 at King's Restaurant in Franklin.

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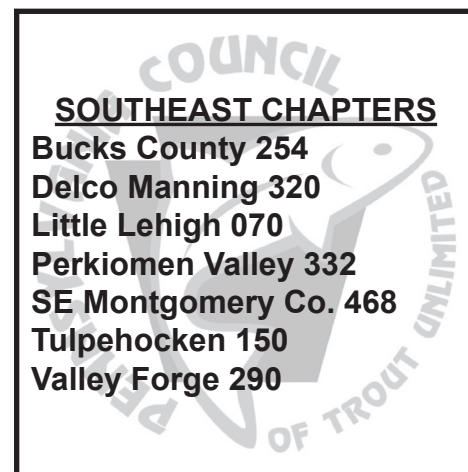
### **Seneca Chapter #272**

**Chase Howard**

814-598-3449, [chaserhoward@gmail.com](mailto:chaserhoward@gmail.com)

[www.facebook.com/SenecaTroutUnlimited](http://www.facebook.com/SenecaTroutUnlimited)

The chapter will host the 2018 Fly Fishing Film Tour on Feb. 24 at the Coudersport Theater. Our annual banquet is April 21. Several chapter members volunteered for a brook trout redd survey in the Allegheny National Forest. The chapter received an Embrace-A-Stream grant for a habitat restoration project on Kinzua Creek. Planning will take place this winter and the project will be implemented this summer. Fly tying classes are Feb. 20, 27 and March 6, 13 for beginners and intermediates. An advanced class will be offered March 20, 27 featuring Dominic Petrucci of Streamer King Flies, who will teach how to tie predator flies. All classes are at St. Josephs Episcopal Church, Port Allegany. We applied for a Coldwater Heritage Partnership Planning Grant for Skinner Creek near Port Allegany.



### **REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT Open**

#### **Bucks County Chapter #254**

**Dan Weaver**

215-219-8574, [dweaver@ransome.com](mailto:dweaver@ransome.com)

[www.buckstu.org](http://www.buckstu.org)

Our annual banquet is March 24, 2018 at Spring Mill Country Club. We had a riparian buffer planting event on Silver Creek in Springtown on Nov. 11. Chapter meetings are the first Thursday of each month at Buckingham Township Building. In January, we held a chapter swap meet. In February, National TU's David Kinney and Rob Shane will walk about what TU is doing in Delaware River Basin and beyond. Our chapter picnic is June 7 at Aquetong Creek, Solebury Twp.

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### **Delco Manning Chapter #320**

**David Wharton**

610-583-2920, [davidwharton@verizon.net](mailto:davidwharton@verizon.net)

[www.dmtu.org](http://www.dmtu.org)

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We assisted PFBC with fall stocking on the DHFFO section of Ridley Creek in October. We also stocked 225 trout on the same water Nov. 25. A group of members removed a hazardous piece of debris in the FFO section.

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#### Little Lehigh Chapter #070

Scott Alderfer

610-390-6219, [salderfer@gmail.com](mailto:salderfer@gmail.com)

[www.lltu.org](http://www.lltu.org)

We are planning for riparian buffer restoration activities this spring. Wildlands Conservancy received a significant riparian buffer grant from DCNR and we will be assisting with plantings. This is in addition to a planting we will be doing through a PPL grant that our chapter was awarded in the fall for nursery stock and will be delivered in the spring. This award will be used for additional buffer restoration on Little Lehigh Creek. Our fourth TIC school, eighth grade at Hillside School in Macungie, is up and running.

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#### Perkiomen Valley #332

Thomas W. Smith

215-513-9709, [twsmith623@comcast.net](mailto:twsmith623@comcast.net)

[www.pvtu.org](http://www.pvtu.org)

The chapter sent letters to all members appealing for assistance with reorganization and attendance at our annual meeting. Phone calls and other efforts were made to contact members and non-members alike. Two people joined TU as a result of our campaign, attended the annual meeting and are now part of our leadership team. The chapter began the evaluation process for our next stream restoration project. We are working to develop our chapter website, including a new chapter logo that is in compliance with TU standards. The chapter continues to support six schools in the TIC program. In December, our conservation chairman presented an overview of the projects PVTU has been involved with in past 20 years, including photos of most recent one, and simultaneously conducted a member's discussion concerning the presence of wild trout in the watershed. Glen Quinn, superintendent of the Upper Montgomery Joint Authority spoke at January's meeting and discussed the impact the local sewer authority has on the quality of the region's water. Upcoming meetings are Feb. 12 and March 19 at Upper Perkiomen Valley Library, Red Hill, PA.

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#### SE Montgomery County Chapter #468

Richard Terry

215-675-1536, [rtroadrash@msn.com](mailto:rtroadrash@msn.com)

[www.tu468.org](http://www.tu468.org)

Our annual banquet is March 10 at Pennypack Nature Center. One hundred and twenty-five trees were planted in a meadow that is part of the Pennypack Trust that will be known as "Wilson's Woods" in recognition of restoration work

completed by member Mike Wilson, who passed away last spring. A fall stocking took place in the Pennypack that runs through the Pennypack Natural Land Trust.

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#### Tulpehocken Chapter #150

Brenda Bittinger

610-704-4676, [b.bittinger@gmail.com](mailto:b.bittinger@gmail.com)

[www.tullytu.org](http://www.tullytu.org)

We expanded our TIC project at Inner-City Reading. We submitted a Forever Wild Grant application. Ed Ulmer recently spoke to the chapter about tick education, as did a representative from the Penn State-Berks Watershed Stewards Program. We are organizing a 5K Walk/Run Fundraiser for the spring in the Reading area.

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#### Valley Forge Chapter #290

Pete Hughes

610-827-9239, [phtrout@comcast.net](mailto:phtrout@comcast.net)

[www.valleyforgetu.org](http://www.valleyforgetu.org)

Valley Forge TU now has a mobile app available free for iPhone or Android devices. It was developed to assist in communications to our members. The remaining infiltration trench projects in the Crabby watershed (Dayleview Drive, Hilltop Lane and Friendship Drive) were bid by Tredyffrin Township. Our experts are working to provide reports that the stormwater controls proposed by the PA Turnpike Commission are inadequate to protect Valley Creek. We are still talking with the National Parks Conservation Association, our partner in the appeal pertaining to their proposed settlement offer. We are hopeful but not overly optimistic that a settlement could be negotiated that would allow the turnpike expansion but would protect Valley Creek. One of the last lots of any size in the Crabby Creek drainage had a terrible townhouse development proposed by a local developer. The lot runs along Howellville Road and has a tributary of Crabby Creek running pretty much through the center of the property parallel to the road. We testified at one of the projects presentations that the stream was a viable tributary and flowed constantly, its source being a spring in the Field of Dreams. The Howellville Road project has been withdrawn. VFTU is supporting the Bishop Tube Community Group that has pulled neighbors together to oppose a plan that would only partially clean up the highly-contaminated site and force 225 townhomes into a limited space with steep slopes and marginal access. The township initially seemed to support the development. There was a township-sponsored information meeting in which DEP made a presentation and the community group was essentially blocked from presenting its view. That presentation by the community group was eventually made. In the fall, a sinkhole again opened up in West Valley Creek and dewatered the stream below the sinkhole. Once again, Hansen Quarry repaired the sinkhole very promptly.

A professor of hydrogeology at West Chester University, along with students and volunteers have been monitoring the stream flow both upstream and downstream of the sinkhole area. Our nine TIC schools are doing well. Very few eggs were lost and most schools have very good numbers of fry. Our Spring Trout Show is March 17 at Great Valley High School. Our monthly meetings are the second Thursday of each month from September through May at Chester Valley Grange, Malvern. PHWFF – Coatesville is each Wednesday at Coatesville VA Hospital, Building 5; PHWFF – Royersford meets the second, third and fourth Monday at Royersford VFW; and PHWFF – West Bradford meets the first and third Mondays at West Bradford Firehouse.

#### **SOUTHCENTRAL CHAPTERS**

**Adams County 323**

**Codorus 558**

**Cumberland Valley 052**

**Doc Fritchey 108**

**Donegal 037**

**Falling Spring 234**

**John Kennedy 045**

**Muddy Creek 575**

#### **REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT**

**Russ Collins**

**1167 S. Forge Rd.**

**Palmyra, PA 17078**

**Email: [russthepres@dftu.org](mailto:russthepres@dftu.org)**

**Phone: 717-580-3958**

#### **Adams County Chapter #323**

**April Swope**

**717-778-1876, [hey3hallelujah@gmail.com](mailto:hey3hallelujah@gmail.com)**

**[www.adamscountytu.org](http://www.adamscountytu.org)**

The chapter hosted a 40th year celebration with PFBC Commissioner B.J. Small as guest speaker. We performed a stream walk view of Toms Run with DCNR. The chapter is partnering with ACCD and Strawberry Hill on a new restoration project. Three TIC release dates are scheduled for May for our 11 participating schools. Upcoming meetings are Feb. 20 and March 2 at the ACCD building, Old Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg.

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#### **Codorus Chapter #558**

**Tom Feninez**

**717-817-8446, [tom@codorustu.org](mailto:tom@codorustu.org)**

**[www.codorustu.org](http://www.codorustu.org)**

We recently learned that invasive New Zealand mud snails have been confirmed in the nearby Gunpowder River in Maryland. Since many an-



glers fish both the Gunpowder and the Codorus, we are planning an extensive educational campaign to hopefully prevent the spread of the snails to the Codorus. We are planning our second annual open fly tying event for late February. We are waiting for news on two Exelon grant applications we recently submitted. Upcoming monthly meetings are Feb. 14 and March 14 at the Spring Grove Rec. Center.

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### **Cumberland Valley Chapter #052**

**Justin Pittman**

717-360-8823, flyfishing80@gmail.com

www.pacvtu.org

Our annual Limestoner Banquet is March 16. We have been approved for two grants and will be completing a project on the Yellow Breeches in June. Our TIC program continues to grow and we started fly tying classes in January. We had monthly speakers in October and November and at our November meeting we gave a monthly recap of the year and what the chapter spent money on, and asked for feedback for the upcoming year.

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### **Doc Fritchey Chapter #108**

**Russ Collins**

717-580-3958, rwarrencollins@gmail.com

www.dftu.org

Our annual banquet is scheduled for March 24 at the Holiday Inn in Grantville. We are working to finalize a restoration project for Lower Snitz Creek for \$174,000. Construction is scheduled to begin in late February. A major component of the financing is a grant from PFBC, and a very generous donation of in-stream boulders from Pennsy Supply. The chapter is also working with watershed agencies in our footprint to apply for riparian buffer grant money from Pennvest. This potential grant money of at least \$365,000 can be shared by any number of chapters in the state and Doc Fritchey would serve as the coordinator for multiple planting projects on our streams. We have seven classrooms participating in TIC. Rick LaTourous is spearheading a fly tying class starting in February at Wildwood Park in Harrisburg.

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### **Donegal Chapter #037**

**Joy McMaster**

717-781-9783, joy.a.mcmaster@gmail.com

www.donegaltu.org

The chapter participated in the Lancaster County Community Foundation Extra Ordinary Give and we received \$5,600 in donations over the 24-hour period. Our spring banquet is April 7 from 4:30-8:30 p.m. at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Lancaster. Stream restoration was completed on a section of Fishing Creek. Construction was also finished on a section of Peters Creek. Planting was done at both sites and at Drumore Township Park, which is also on Fishing Creek. DTU's nursery provided plants for Lancaster City, East Petersburg, Chesapeake Bay, Farm Land Trust

and Stroud Research Center to complement use for our own work. We have 18 classrooms in TIC this year. Bill Nolan, our VSP coordinator, attended TU's Train the Trainer week in Sun Valley, Idaho, and brought back information that he is more than willing to share with other chapters. Lancaster County Conservancy held a Bio-Blitz on its newly-acquired property on Steinman Run. We received a grant for design and permitting the Phillips project on Conowingo Creek. This is completed and we are now preparing to apply for a Growing Greener grant for construction. DTU received a construction grant of \$254,282 for two projects within the Conowingo Creek watershed. We hold veterans fly tying classes the first and third Thursdays of the month from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at American Legion Post 34, Lancaster. Winter fly tying is from 9 a.m.-1p.m. Feb. 10 and March 10, at Stauffers of Kissel Hill Grocery Store, Lititz. Upcoming chapter meetings are from 7-9 p.m. Feb. 21 and March 21 at the Farm & Home Center, Lancaster.

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### **Falling Spring Chapter #234**

**Warren Christman**

717-860-6414, l.christman@innernet.net

We held a trash pickup on Falling Spring Road. There is a new tank for our TIC program at Cumberland Valley Christian School. Fly tying classes started Jan. 10 at Norland Community Center.

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### **John Kennedy Chapter #045**

**George Baker**

814-942-5623, george@myfiorebuickgmc.com

www.tu.org/connect/groups/045-john-kennedy

The Jaffa Sports Show is Feb. 23-25. We are in the planning stages for a Kelso Run stream project. We have five schools in the TIC program. A free, eight-week fly tying class began Jan. 13. We are donating fly tying kits to Spring Cove Area School District Middle School's fly tying program in memory of Lynn Hildebrand. We are participating in the Blair County Women Take Aim Day in May. Our next meeting is March 6.

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### **Muddy Creek Chapter #575**

**Beth Boyd**

717-404-7642, ycpnurse@gmail.com

www.muddycreektu.org

We hope to collaborate with another TU chapter and explore the possibility of a joint fundraising event. The chapter has been asked to renew its partnership with the York County Conservation Group, specifically to continue work at the Bonham Wildlife Sanctuary. Our three TIC projects are up and running and having great success. We had chapter members assist with the initial setup, and they completed a few classroom visits. Chapter meetings are the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Meadows at Dallastown.



## **SOUTHWEST CHAPTERS**

**Arrowhead 214**

**Chestnut Ridge 670**

**Forbes Trail 206**

**Fort Bedford 291**

**Ken Sink 053**

**Mountain Laurel 040**

**Penn's Woods West 042**

## **REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT**

**Chuck Winters**

**1898 Old Route 22**

**Duncansville, PA 16635**

**Email: wintershs27@gmail.com**

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

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### **Arrowhead Chapter #214**

**Jeff Wasson**

724-664-0216, jeffreyjwasson@gmail.com

www.arrowhead214tu.org

Our annual banquet is March 24. The chapter's restoration project on Huling Run is almost complete. We have seven TIC programs.

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### **Chestnut Ridge Chapter #670**

**Dale Kotowski**

724-747-1513,

pheasantfarmflycasters@hughes.net

www.chestnutridgetu.org

The chapter closed 2017 with a Christmas party for members at the Knights of Columbus in Uniontown on Dec. 13. CRTU will host its annual banquet at the Park Inn by Radisson in Uniontown on March 24. The need for a broad monitoring and assessment of the Youghiogheny River was identified at the 2016 Yough River Symposium. As a result, a partnership was formed between CRTU, Drs. William Kimmel and David Argent of California University of Pennsylvania, the DCNR staff at Ohiopyle State Park and the Environment team at Carmichaels Area High School. A comprehensive survey of the Youghiogheny River was completed last fall. Sampling stations were established at the main stem confluence of 20 tributaries with sampling occurring 50 meters above and below the mouth of each of the tribs. At each site, electrofishing was completed, macroinvertebrate kick net sampling was done, and measurement of water temperature, pH and specific conductance was performed. Sample analysis was to be completed in December and January

**Continued on next page...**



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with the preparation and submission of the final report to follow. The symposium also created a partnership with Ohio State Park, DCNR and Friends of Ohio State Park to treat and protect hemlock trees along Meadow Run, a Youghiogheny tributary, from the woolly adelgid. We have 24 schools in the TIC program. Release days on several of the tributaries in the Youghiogheny drainage are being planned. Fly tying classes for veterans and active duty military personnel began in January, in partnership with Allegheny County Project Healing Waters. We have applied for a PATU Forever Wild mini-grant and the Dominion Energy Watershed mini-grant that is administered through the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy for stream restoration work on Dunbar Creek, a tributary to the Youghiogheny River in Fayette County.

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**Forbes Trail Chapter #206**

**Monty Murty**

**724-238-7860, mmurty@verizon.net**  
**www.forbestrailltu.org**

The chapter's conservation committee is responding to the recent discovery of gill lice in native and stocked brook trout populations in Linn Run, Westmoreland County. We are working with our local citizen-science partner the Powdermill Nature Reserve of the Carnegie Museum of Natural History to develop a more accurate and quick way to sample streams for the presence of the lice. Powdermill Nature Reserve is using its new DNA lab to develop gill lice-specific DNA barcoding technology that, if successful, will be of great benefit to trout conservation. Our chapter will present its signature Youth Conservation and

Fly Fishing program again in the spring of 2018, our 12th year. We have applied for a grant to develop and deliver a more conservation-focused veteran's trout angling program in 2018. This year marks our chapter's 45th anniversary and we are planning a fund-raising celebration. We are again holding bi-weekly fly tying social lunch meetings at a local restaurant in addition to our regular monthly meetings. Beginning February 2018 our chapter meeting night will change from the third Wednesday of the month in which a meeting is held, to the first Wednesday of that month.

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**Fort Bedford Chapter #291**

**Guy Stottlemeyer**

**814-207-1930, gmstottlemeyer817@gmail.com**  
**www.fortbedfordtu.org**

FBTU's winter raffle features four prizes on a \$10 donation ticket. At the top is an ATI 20 gauge O/U shotgun, followed by a TFO rod and reel. Third prize is two \$50 gift certificates for Horn O Plenty restaurant, and fourth prize is \$50. Winning tickets will be drawn March 17. Members planted trees, shrubs and grasses at the site of the most recent habitat project on Potter Creek. Fly tying classes began Jan. 16 and run to March 17.

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**Ken Sink Chapter #053**

**Roger Phillips**

**724-639-9715, rphillips32@yahoo.com**  
**http://kensink.blogspot.com**

Members assisted the Indiana County Conservation District with its Envirothon. In November, licensed guide, writer and professional fly tier/designer Stephen Nymick spoke about fishing the streams and tributaries of western New York for

steelhead, browns and salmon. Board members from the Blacklick Creek Watershed Association, Indiana County Parks, Evergreen Conservancy, PFBC, Pa. Senior Environmental Corp., Indiana County Conservation District spoke about each organization's mission at our December meeting. Meetings are 7 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month.

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**Mountain Laurel Chapter #040**

**Randy Buchanan**

**814-467-4034, prbfish4fun@aol.com**  
**www.mltu.org**

We conducted two free fly tying classes in January at the Richland Municipal Building. Our next meeting is March 1. We will have a display at Bottle Works, Cambria City on March 3. Our banquet is March 24 at the Holiday Inn, Johnstown.

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**Penn's Woods West Chapter #042**

**Dale Fogg**

**724-759-1002, dalefogg@comcast.net**  
**www.pwwtu.org**

We will have a table at the Allegheny Outdoor, Sport & Travel Show in Monroeville Feb. 16-18 to promote the chapter and PATU. This is an interesting venue in that there are very few conservation groups represented. Our Bar Flies events are the third Monday evening of the month. Cabin Fever is Sunday, March 4, at the Double Tree by Hilton, in Cranberry Township, just north of Pittsburgh. There will be over 50 vendors, a flea market, rod and bucket raffles, tying and casting demonstrations, and youth programs. Admission is \$10. We have three strong TIC programs, with more in the pipeline.