

Pennsylvania TROUT



Winter 2019

Publication of the Pa. Council of Trout Unlimited

www.patrou.org



Brad Isles Photo

PATU strongly favors conservation programs and projects that preserve or enhance existing populations of wild trout.

State Council adopts Policy on Trout Management

Periodically, PA Council reviews its various policies to incorporate updates that reflect current views on these guiding principles. The following Policy on Trout Management prepared by the Trout Management Committee was approved and adopted by Council's Executive Committee on Feb. 9, 2019.

Trout Unlimited was founded as a conservation organization dedicated to ensuring that wild and native trout populations are allowed to thrive as nature intended. The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited (PATU) is comprised of

49 local chapters representing over 14,000 members. Our mission is, "To conserve, protect, restore, and sustain Pennsylvania's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds, especially our wild trout resources."

Both PATU and its parent organization, National Trout Unlimited, believe that conservation should be a true partnership between landowners, agencies, municipalities, and all stakeholders.

We work to protect critical habitat, to reconnect degraded waterways, and restore populations of coldwater fisheries.

See **POLICY**, page 2

Comment now to sustain protection of clean water

By Rob Shane
TU Mid-Atlantic Organizer

Clean water starts at the source. Thanks to the 2015 Clean Water Rule, the wetlands and intermittent streams that provide this clean water to our favorite fisheries are protected from short-sighted, thoughtless development. At the end of 2018, however, the EPA proposed revisions of this rule that would dismantle many years of scientific data, ignore overwhelming public support, and defy common sense.

The proposed Waters of the United States rule would strip Clean Water Act
See **WATER**, page 7

Submit comments to the EPA:
[http://standup.tu.org/
stand-up-for-clean-water](http://standup.tu.org/stand-up-for-clean-water)

Keystone/TU Teens Conservation Camp registration opens

Registration for the Keystone/TU Teens Conservation Camp is now open and can be completed at www.flyfishingsummercamp.org.

Camp starts on Sunday, June 23, 2019 and culminates with a family barbecue on Saturday, June 29. Teens ages 14 to 18 with or without experience can register for this

See **CAMP**, page 5

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Pennsylvania TROUT

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POLICY

from page 1

We strive to ensure that our decisions and programs reflect the very best information available.

The following statements communicate PATU's policy on the management of wild trout populations. All Pennsylvania chapters, as well as their individual members, are strongly encouraged to follow these guidelines and to adhere to this policy when representing Trout Unlimited.

PATU strongly favors conservation programs and projects that preserve or enhance existing populations of wild trout and facilitate re-establishment of native brook trout populations in water bodies within their historical range. The goals of these programs are:

- Improvements to water quality
- Habitat improvement
- Re-establishing connectivity within watersheds

PATU strongly believes that conservation efforts should be based on sound science and will support programs and policy decisions that meet these requirements. PATU will make every effort to advance our knowledge of coldwater environs and the trout that reside therein.

In the execution of its mission, PATU will work cooperatively with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, as well

as with other agencies of the Commonwealth, other conservation organizations, county conservation districts, landowners, business and industry, local government entities, and elected officials.

PATU will work to educate its members and others regarding the importance of protecting and enhancing wild trout populations. Conversely, it will advocate against measures that will result in adverse impacts on wild trout.

Given the historically deleterious impacts of human activity on the state's waterways, hatchery trout provide recreational fishing for anglers in a variety of waters. PATU supports the stocking of hatchery trout in waters that cannot support naturally sustaining numbers of wild trout.

PATU defines naturally sustaining as a wild trout population that is able to maintain a stable population in both size and age over an extended period of time, while recognizing the typical year to year variability of wild trout populations.

Further, PATU supports the stocking of fingerlings or advanced fingerlings in waters where this approach would prove successful. Recognizing that not all waters are suitable for sustaining a successful fingerling stocking program, waters possessing the characteristics best suited to this stocking approach could be added to the program and surveys conducted to

Continued on next page...

Actions Taken by EXCOM since Oct. 7, 2018

October 28 – Approved Council to sign on to National TU's letter to the leaders of the US House and Senate requesting reauthorization of the Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) which expired on Sept. 30, 2018.

November 9 – Approved Council to sign on to the letter from the Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed to the US Office of Management & Budget requesting robust funding for the Delaware River Restoration Program in FY2020.

November 14 – Approved hiring the accounting firm of Mauthe, Yutzey, Gabler & Troxell to prepare and file federal and state income tax forms for FY2018.

December 10 – Approved sharing the cost of a meeting room to discuss strategies for managing the Delaware River with the NY, NJ and DE State Councils at the January Fly Fishing Show in Edison, NJ.

December 13 – Approved signing on to a letter to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in support of establishing controls to eliminate the migration of Asian Carp into the Great Lakes.

December 28 – Approved 2019 regional training dates of April 6 for western region at the Nimick Family Education Center of the Loyalhanna Watershed Association in Ligonier, and April 27 for eastern region at the Columbia County Conservation District in Bloomsburg.

...Continued from previous page

determine success or failure.

PATU advocates that no hatchery trout be introduced to any waters holding naturally sustaining native brook trout throughout the entire year. Acknowledging PFBC's classification system of Pennsylvania's wild trout waters, we support cessation of all stocking in Class A, Class B, and Class C waters. Instead, we support actions directed at enhancing those populations. We also recommend periodic resurveying of Class B, Class C, and Class D waters to determine if changes or improvements in habitat or water quality may be appropriate to enhance the wild trout population.

PATU also encourages consideration of the stocking of sterile rainbow trout (triploids) as a potential method of reducing or discontinuing the stocking of hatchery brook, brown, and non-sterile rainbow trout species. This will allow for wild populations of both brook and brown trout to be more accurately assessed, and the chance of introducing species specific diseases will be greatly reduced. Waters should be selected for introduction of triploids for a trial period, and data gathered

for evaluation of the impacts on those waterways and watersheds.

PATU recommends that streams in watersheds that support migratory populations of wild brook or brown trout be managed on a watershed level for the resource opportunities afforded during all seasons of the year. There are sustaining numbers of wild trout in fisheries that are currently classified as Warm Water Fisheries. Two examples are the Frankstown Branch of the Juniata River and Sherman's Creek. PATU believes that wild trout populations existing in entire watersheds such as these are not being documented due to the surveys being conducted only in mid-summer.

These riverine migratory wild trout populations should be identified and then managed on a watershed level to protect these wild trout seeking thermal refuge during the spawning season.

This approach could also set the stage and provide an example for managing trout populations on a watershed level rather than by the current method of utilizing stream segments and determining management decisions based on those sections alone.

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Contact information is available on pages 2-3.

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Headwaters

A message from PATU President
Greg Malaska

“You stink!”

Those were the chilling words spoken by my brother Anthony after I had emptied both barrels of my 12 gauge for the third time. His German Shorthair puppy, Jagger, had done an admirable job of pointing chukars; I just couldn't hit any of them.

The sad reality is that, after 30-plus years of hunting, I could hit a standing pheasant at 40 yards with a bow, but if that same bird took off 10 yards away and I had a shotgun in my hand, I'd be ordering take-out that evening. I had a serious problem and needed to address it.

After letting down Jagger, my brother, and myself, I decided I needed an intervention. The next week, I signed up for a one-day shooting course at Orvis Sandanona in Millbrook, NY. My wife, kids, and I drove up on a rainy Dec. 28, my 47th birthday.

Mary Kay dropped me off at the Orvis facility on a cold Saturday morning and left me there to begin the exorcism (while she and the kids spent their Christmas money at the Poughkeepsie Galleria Mall). With my tail between my legs, I was scared, yet ready to face my demons.

The Orvis grounds and instructors were top notch in appearance and approach. I, along with my three other classmates, met our instructor, Joe Wassi, around 8:45. Joe had taught for decades and after assessing my build, selected a 20 gauge over/under that fit me like a glove (albeit way outside of my budget).

What happened next was both humbling and liberating. In the first 15 minutes, Joe showed me several errors in my gun mount. I quickly learned that every shot I had taken in the last 33 years was destined to fail because I had been mounting my gun improperly, forcing every shot to the left.

After this sobering epiphany, my shooting improved remarkably and, while you won't see me in the Olympics next year, I made significant progress and started gaining the shooting confidence that had eluded me. I still need major “therapy” in the form of regular trips to the shooting clays course, but I am finally ready to deal with this problem. Wingshooting school



was the painful self-assessment/kick-in-the-ass which was necessary. I needed someone to show me a different way and I am eternally grateful to Joe for showing me a better approach.

The takeaway here is that as TU chapter volunteers, we should never stop learning and never stop challenging ourselves to find different ways to strengthen our chapters and protect our streams. Passion only takes you so far.

This discovery led to several important changes in this year's regional trainings.

First, we changed locations. After nine years on EXCOM, I realized that we had never held a statewide event in the northeast or southwest? Why? Doesn't matter. We're a statewide organization and need to provide programming throughout our state, not just a few centralized locations. This year's trainings will be held in Ligonier (Westmoreland County on April 6) and Bloomsburg (Columbia County on April 27). We look forward to working with the Forbes Trail and Columbia County chapters at these important events.

Second, we tweaked the curriculum to better meet the needs of our chapters. Many chapters have great ideas for stream enhancement projects, yet are faced with the same two questions: Where can I find funding and design assistance for our project? We'll provide options at both

trainings.

Third, to allow for more networking amongst chapters, we eliminated breakout sessions. All attendees will hear the same presentations from the same person at the same time in the same place.

Fourth, we will provide hints on improving your advocacy *outside* of the stream. National TU staff will explain how to monitor actions in Harrisburg and Washington and representatives from the PFBC will give us an update on the Commission's plans for 2019.

Lastly, we'll make the most of your time. We'll start at 9 a.m., end at 3 p.m., and feed everyone in between. This schedule will allow for post-event networking, fishing on the Loyalhanna and Fishing Creek, or a head start home.

Change is tough. We can't become addicted to the “that's the way we've always done it” approach. The day we stop challenging ourselves as TU volunteers is the day the trout will suffer. There should never be a consequence to asking, “What about ...”

Our streams will thank us.

See you in Ligonier and Bloomsburg.

P.S. In case you're wondering, during my first “therapy session” at Lehigh Valley Sporting Clays, I shot 42%. Not great, but better than I expected and a testament to the value of a new approach.

Treasurer's Report

by PATU Treasurer

George Kutskel

I would like to start off with a THANK YOU to those of you who have made a contribution to our annual appeal. If you were thinking of making a donation but thought it too late, it's not. You can still send a check or go to our website and make donation.

We still have a small number of fly rods and rod cases that would make great items for chapter fundraisers. These are available on a first-come basis.

We made it through the hectic Annual Financial Report season and with the new fiscal year can take a breather until March of 2020.

The time to prepare for this change is now. Reports will be due on May 15 and, if the past is any kind of indication, this will present a new set of issues. Every year I hear from chapters that their treasurer is off

CAMP

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fun-filled week of learning and developing skills, while establishing lifelong friends at the same time.

Keystone/TUTEens has been in existence for the last six years and is located on the Southern Branch of Tunkhannock Creek on the campus of Keystone College, just minutes from Scranton at the gateway to Pennsylvania's Endless Mountains region.

Instruction includes tackle nomencla-

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 8-16.

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



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
- Penns Woods West
- Valley Forge

High Quality \$500 to \$999

- Allegheny Mountain
- Doc Fritchey
- God's Country

- John Kennedy
- Neshannock
- Oil Creek
- Seneca

Brook Trout \$250 to \$499

- Adams County
- Buck's County
- Donegal

Wild Trout \$100 to \$249

- Hokendauqua

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

hunting in some wild place. Because we are a group with a primary care about trout and fishing for trout is almost a universal pursuit, chapters should make sure they have the data necessary and be prepared to fill the forms out prior to taking off for trout camp or extended vacations.

Now is also a good time to check and

be sure that their leaders are properly assigned on National TU's website. Many chapters failed to keep the list of officers and board members current. This causes delays and other issues that can be kept to a minimum just by reviewing their listing once a quarter or as changes are made to their boards.

ture, casting, fly tying, environmental sciences, team building, plant identification, waterways protection, and a final conservation project.

Boy Scouts can earn merit badges and Girl Scouts can earn Stream Girl patches. The Stream Girls curriculum allows young girls to develop an interest in the outdoors and outdoor sciences, including engineering sciences of water and hydraulics.

The addition of the Stream Girls curriculum now completes our plan to convert from STEM-based education to what National TU refers to as STREAM-based

education – Science Technology Recreation Engineering Art and Math.

Instructors include professionals from the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (Parks and Forestry), county conservation districts, university professors, conservation groups, and volunteers from National TU, Pennsylvania Council and local TU chapters.

Questions or requests for information can be sent to fnepa@epix.net or call Charlie Charlesworth at 570-954-5042.

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PA Council of Trout Unlimited

*Minutes of the February 9, 2019
Executive Committee Meeting
PFBC Centre Region Office, Bellefonte, PA*

Officers Attending: Greg Malaska, Bob Pennell, John Leonard, Monty Murty, Brian Wagner, Brian McGuire, Ken Undercoffer, Russ Collins, Chuck Winters

Others Attending: Ashley Wilmont, Judi Sittler, Russ Thrall, Amidea Daniel, Len Lichvar, Rob Shane

The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m. by President Malaska.

Diversity Initiative: Report submitted. Daniel reviewed the “R3” threats (Recruit, Retain, Reactivate) that represent the challenges facing the PA Fish & Boat Commission, as well as PATU, in attracting and maintaining angler participation. A motion was carried to approve an expenditure of \$1,000.00 to support the Women’s Retreat planned for April 26-28. The remaining \$2,000.00 of the \$3,000.00 that has been budgeted for this fiscal year will be used to support two regional trainings in the fall of 2019.

Trout in the Classroom: Report submitted. Daniel presented an overview of the statewide TIC program that currently consists of 256 with program partners, including 38 TU chapters, and 136 with no known partners. The statewide TIC conference scheduled for July 18 in Harrisburg is being planned by three TIC teachers and four PATU personnel. An estimated \$1,000.00 in PATU funds will be needed in addition to what has already been committed in free services, the exact amount for which is to be presented for approval at our March 30 EXCOM meeting.

Minutes of 10/7/18 EXCOM Meeting: A motion was carried to accept the minutes of the October 7, 2018 EXCOM meeting as previously distributed to members of EXCOM.

President’s Report: Malaska reported that he, along with Len Lichvar and Dave Rothrock, attended a meeting on December 3, 2018, to discuss trout management policies and programs with newly-appointed

PFBC Executive Director Tim Sheaffer and Bureau of Fisheries Director Andy Shiels. Malaska signed and sent a letter in December, 2018, engaging the previously approved accounting firm of Mauthe, Yutzey, Gabler & Troxell to provide auditing services to PA Council.

Program Director’s Report: Report submitted. A motion was carried to approve the current list of Coldwater Heritage Partnership (CHP) grantees as recommended by the CHP Committee. A motion was carried to approve changing the deadline to July 15 for submitting Forever Wild grant applications, with an RFP release in May 15, beginning in 2020. Wilmont explained the relationship of her duties performed as CHP program director, TIC coordinator and PATU program director. Due to increased demands on her time serving in these 3 capacities, the Stroud Water Resource Center has offered a proposal to support and oversee Council’s TIC program. A motion was carried to increase the amount of \$7,000.00 already budgeted this fiscal year for TIC support and enter into a contract with Stroud in the amount of \$8,002.00 to provide TIC support services through the balance of 2019.

National Leadership Council Report: Report submitted. Wagner reported that Joe Greco has volunteered to represent PATU on National TU’s Lake Erie Workgroup. Wagner is focusing his efforts on developing advocacy strategies for National’s Climate Change Workgroup. The NLC is accepting applications to serve as a grassroots trustee from Pennsylvania.

Treasurer’s Report: Report submitted. In the absence of Treasurer George Kutschel, EXCOM members will be requested to submit by email any questions or comments on his Budget Report dated 12/31/18 before approval by an email vote. PATU has received \$18,000.00 from First Energy to support the statewide TIC program as part of the settlement Sunoco reached with DEP to compensate for Mariner East pipeline damages.

Financial Reviewer’s Report: Report submitted. Leonard reported that



his financial review of the treasurer’s records and PATU bank accounts found no irregularities for the months of September through December, 2018. Leonard submitted his resignation as financial reviewer, effective April 15, 2019. A motion was carried to accept Russ

Thrall’s offer to serve as financial adviser, effective April 16, 2019.

Regional Reports:

- ***North Central*** – All eight chapters reported.
- ***Northeast*** – Nine of 10 chapters reported. Shehawken did not report.
- ***Northwest*** – Six of nine chapters reported. Caldwell Creek, Cornplanter and NW PA did not report. Malaska will contact the NW PA Chapter president to review the requirements for maintaining their good standing as a viable chapter.
- ***South Central*** – All seven chapters reported. Falling Spring will hold its annual meeting on March 5. Depending on the outcome, action could be taken by Council to evaluate re-chartering the chapter.
- ***Southeast*** – All seven chapters reported.
- ***Southwest*** – Seven of eight chapters reported. Penns Woods West did not report.

Committee Reports:

- ***Trout Management*** - Report on Gill Lice was submitted. Lichvar reported that a follow up meeting on this subject is scheduled for February 15. (Malaska recused himself from this discussion due to a possible conflict of interest). A motion was carried to adopt the revised Policy on Trout Management subject to further amendment that was drafted and approved by this committee. Collins has prepared a PowerPoint presentation of the policy for use by chapters and other audiences. Shane suggested that additional language

about the educational and economic aspects of trout management should be considered for future policy updates.

- **Veterans Services** – No report submitted. After a discussion about the requirements that Project Healing Waters imposes on becoming a PHW chapter, it was suggested that any TU chapter interested in forming a separate PHW chapter should submit any proposed agreement or MOU to Council for guidance.
- **Development** – Report submitted. Malaska is waiting to receive a recommendation from this committee regarding investment opportunities. This will be a topic for discussion at the March 30 EXCOM meeting.
- **Awards** – No report submitted.
- **Delaware River** – Report submitted. No action items requested.
- **Environmental** – No report submitted. A suggestion was made to change the name of this committee to “Conservation” Committee.
- **Youth Education** – Report submitted. Sittler requested that chapters contact her for guidance in developing STREAM Girls programs for their respective areas.
- **Membership** – Report submitted. Thrall reported that PATU membership now stands at 14,037 members.

Old Business:

Volunteer Recognition Certificates

– Malaska pointed out that a template is available for recognizing outstanding volunteer efforts at the chapter level.

Change in Corporate Name – Malaska confirmed that this is a simple process if we decide that this is something we need to do in the future.

PATU Annual Meeting – Wilmont will check out availability of the Petersburg Fire Hall at Shaver’s Creek for September 14-15. There was also a suggestion that we feature a speaker this year.

PATU Regional Trainings – The training sessions will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and will cover four categories; Fundraising, Technical

Continued on next page...

WATER

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protections from roughly half the wetlands in the United States and 20% of stream miles that run dry for parts of the year, which would permit unchecked pollution in these watersheds, degrade drinking water quality, and harm aquatic species.

Here in Pennsylvania, few know the importance of headwater streams better than TU members. Home to native and wild trout, these waters are the capillaries that feed the Delaware River, Penns Creek, and every other blue-ribbon trout fishery in the Commonwealth. They provide cold water refuge in the summer, spawning habitat in the fall, and nursery grounds for young-of-year trout in the winter and spring. The negative effects from degrading these small streams and wetlands would be felt throughout the watershed.

Aside from fish, we all depend on these small streams to provide clean drinking water to our reservoirs. Gravity is free, and never takes a day off, and as long as our streams remain protected we can count on clean water reaching our homes, businesses, farms, and schools at an affordable cost.

If you receive water in your home from a well, protected wetlands filter out pollutants before water enters underground aquifers and comes out of your faucet clean enough to drink. Protecting our water at the source will undoubtedly be much cheaper than building new infrastructure for municipal water treatment facilities and saddling local communities with the bill.

Pennsylvania’s booming outdoor economy also depends on clean water. According to a report from the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership and Southwick Associates in 2018, hunting and angling supports more than 20,000 jobs in the Commonwealth, generates roughly \$800 million in salaries, and contributes more than \$300 million to state and local taxes.

Our 86,000 miles of streams have had it rough over the past couple hundred years. Logging, mining, oil and gas extraction, pipeline development, and urbanization have already taken their toll. Yet, we still claim more than 15,000 documented miles of wild trout water. As our climate warms

and we lose more forest cover to invasive species such as the spotted lanternfly and the hemlock woolly adelgid, can we really afford to lessen protections for our vital waterways?

Clean water should not be a political issue; it’s a constitutional right for you and me and every Pennsylvanian. With that right, also comes a responsibility to protect it at all costs.

The 2015 Clean Water Rule brought clarity to the 1972 Clean Water Act, defining what bodies of water are covered—including the streams that flow seasonally or only after rains, which account for 60 percent of stream miles in the United States.

The new proposal would unravel those protections. I urge you to stand beside me, make your voice heard, and oppose the administration’s new, weaker Waters of the United States proposal. Tell the EPA that you want to enhance protections for our streams and wetlands, not diminish them. Visit TU’s Action Center at standup.tu.org for information about how to help.

As of Feb. 14, the public comment period is open, and will close on April 15. You can submit comments to the EPA by visiting <http://standup.tu.org/stand-up-for-clean-water>.

Rob Shane is Mid-Atlantic Organizer for Trout Unlimited, based in Monroe County, PA. When he’s not meeting with TU chapters and angling groups in Pennsylvania, he can be found fishing for trout, musky, and smallmouth bass in the Delaware River and Susquehanna Rivers.



Little Juniata River Association

Help protect and improve the Little J

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Little Juniata River Association

Free River Tour

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Assistance, Advocacy and an update from PFBC.

National TU Regional Meeting – This meeting will be held at the Allenberry Resort in Boiling Springs on May 31 through June 2. May 31 will be a hosted fishing day on local streams.

Award to Joe Humphreys – Malaska will present a Lifetime Achievement Award to Joe Humphreys at the Fly Fishing & Wingshooting Expo at Split Rock Lodge on March 2.

New Business:

Keystone Coldwater Conference – Malaska requested that members of EXCOM participate in the planning of the next KCWC to be held in late February, 2020.

PATU Budget Committee – Volunteers are needed to serve on this committee.

Attendance at PFBC Quarterly Meetings – After the PFBC publishes the agenda for its quarterly meetings, a conference call will be held to determine if a PATU representative should attend.

Summer EXCOM Meeting – This meeting will be held at Sinnemahoning State Park on June 22.

Update on Clean Water Rule – Shane emphasized that an email request coming soon from National TU about the revised Clean Water Rule should not be ignored, and that a multitude of responses to the EPA are needed to postpone any action on the proposed changes affecting wetlands and ephemeral waters.

Other New Business:

PATU Participation in PAEE Conference – A motion was carried to participate in the PA Association of Environmental Educators conference at the \$250 sponsorship level.

PATU Committee Structures – Murty requested that a review of our current committee structures and their names be placed on the agenda as an action item for the March 30 EXCOM meeting.

Note: It was decided to table two additional new business items received from Charlie Charlesworth on February 8 which will need further clarifications before proceeding with any action.

The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent at 2:55 p.m.

– Bob Pennell, Council Secretary

NORTHEAST CHAPTERS

Brodhead 289
Forks of the Delaware 482
Hokendauqua 535
Lackawanna Valley 414
Monocacy 491
Pike-Wayne 462
Schuylkill County 537
Shehawken 81
Stan Cooper Sr. 251
Western Pocono 203

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Robert Hughes

394 E. Washington St.

Nanticoke, PA 18634

Email: rhughes@epcamr.org

Phone: 570-239-3909

Brodhead Chapter #289

Eric Baird

570-396-4647, ericrobertbaird@gmail.com

www.brodheadtu.org

Our annual banquet is March 29 at the Stroudsmoor Country Inn Ridgecrest Facility. We are planning on continuing work on Cherry Creek and hope to improve another 2,000 linear feet of stream with the help of the US Fish and Wildlife Service. We also have an additional 500 linear feet of stream improvement permitted for Pocono Creek. That work is in conjunction with the Brodhead Regional Authority and the Pocono Heritage Land Trust. We finished our first redd survey. In November, we partnered with the Pocono Heritage Land Trust to construct around 70 waste fishing line recycling containers that we plan to deploy throughout the Pocono region this spring. We are looking into the potential for additional stream improvements on a portion of McMichaels Creek recently acquired by the Pocono Heritage Land Trust. The chapter supports two TIC programs. We are partnering with the Kettle Creek Environmental Education Center to present an Introduction to Fly Fishing Class on March 16. The chapter is joining with the Brodhead Watershed Association on a Coldwater Conservation Partnership grant to perform the necessary studies for a Chapter 93 re-designation on Mill and Rattlesnake creeks. Our March meeting features Brian Wagner, chair of TU's Climate Change Work Group and past PATU president, who will speak on what TU is doing to about climate change, and Emily Rinaldi, the Pennsylvania lead on the Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed, who will detail the "Our Pocono Waters" campaign. The meeting is March 13 at Kettle Creek Environmental Education Center.

Forks of the Delaware Chapter #482

Joe Baylog

610-751-9116, baylogj@gmail.com

www.forkstu.org

Chapter leaders met with the new Buzzi Unicem Stockertown plant manager in October to discuss quarry operations and possible solutions to dewatering issues. Leaders also sent a follow-up letter to John Stefanko, DEP deputy secretary active and abandoned mines, to set up a stakeholder meeting with DEP (Mines and Water Quality), Buzzi Unicem, PennDOT, Norfolk Southern, Northampton County Conservation District and Trout Unlimited. We received an Embrace-A-Stream grant from National TU for \$4,500 for the Bushkill Creek restoration project. We were able to raise another \$5,578.15 through the Embrace-A-Stream fundraiser and Orvis match. Additional



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Bob Pennell
2319 Valley Road
Harrisburg, PA 17104

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grants for the project have been awarded to our partner, the Bushkill Stream Conservancy, from DCNR and DEP Growing Greener. The chapter received a \$1,000 donation from Roseto Rod & Gun Club for our TIC program. We reviewed the final plan for the Bushkill Creek restoration project between Tatamy and Mill Race Park in Palmer Township. Design and permitting work are being completed by Hanover Engineering. This project is in partnership with the Bushkill Stream Conservancy. The chapter held its Fall Adopt-A-Highway cleanup along Bushkill Drive in October under the direction of Karl Loser. Brook trout eggs arrived at our three TIC schools, Nazareth, Wind Gap and Bangor middle schools and Easton High School in early November. The chapter purchased UV sterilizers for each of our school's tanks. The chapter sponsored a PFBC Family Fly Fishing Program at Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center and the Ballas pond (Bushkill Township open space) in October. Our December meeting featured "Climate Change & Trout," a presentation by Martha Christine, Citizen's Climate Lobby-Lehigh Valley and Brian Wagner, chair of TU's Climate Change Work Group.

Hokendauqua Chapter #535

Art Williams

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

We held a veterans' event at Green-Walk Trout Hatchery. We are looking forward toward spring and another event. The chapter participated in a joint chapter event with three other local chapters. The speaker for the event was Don Baylor, who spoke about Pocono streams. The chapter also had an informational booth at the Walnut Canal Festival featuring a macroinvertebrate display and an interactive chart. The chart is used to show the different types of invertebrates at different stages of their lives. We are now sponsoring three TIC programs. The fourth Wednesday of each month, chapter members assemble for "Ties and Tacos."

Lackawanna Valley Chapter #414

Jacob Bliss

570-833-2091, jacobbliss93@outlook.com
www.lackawannavalleytu.org

We have received two substantial donations from private organizations to be used for stream improvement. Our 5Rivers initiative, the "Keystone Creekwalkers," had a busy fall semester, going on multiple fishing trips including a trip to the Salmon River for Steelhead in November. They also won "Funniest Float" in Keystone College's Homecoming Parade and have completed one stream cleanup on Keystone's woodland campus. The Creekwalkers will be helping with the Fly Fishing and Wingshooting Expo at Split Rock Lodge from March 1-3, and are planning on competing in the Fly Fishing Championship in State College this spring. We have completed the permit application process for a large scale restoration project on Roaring Brook, the largest tributary of the Lackawanna River. We expect to complete the project in summer of 2020. In the coming months we will be selecting a work site(s) and applying for the proper permits. Our TU Teens club is working to establish TIC programs in our area schools. Our women's initiative, the "Fly Girls," were forced to cancel their fall steelhead trip due to unsafe stream conditions. The chapter will have a booth at the J&B Sportsmen's Show on March 23. We plan to hold a streambank cleanup on the Lackawanna on April 27.

Monocacy Chapter #491

Erik Broesicke

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

The chapter continues to be involved with a small project on private property. The landowner has property on both sides of the stream and is interested in improving its habitat. Last fall, he financed the placing of one ton of large rock in-stream. The project will continue this spring with the proposed planting of native plants and

trees in the riparian zone. We are hoping this joint effort of TU, Master Watershed Stewards and the Northampton County Conservation District will serve as a template for other projects in the area. Our next meeting is Feb. 26 with Geoff Reese of the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission at the DAR Log Cabin, Bethlehem. The Fly Fishing Film Tour returns to the Frank Bank Alehouse Cinemas at Steelstacks March 26-27.

Pike-Wayne Chapter #462

Tony Capitano

570-676-9994, tcapit2@verizon.net
www.pwtu.org

Past PATU President Charlie Charlesworth presented a video of the Route 6 Odyssey at a recent meeting. Members volunteered as river helpers for the Casting for Recovery program at Skytop Lodge. We continued our winter monthly meetings at Cora's Bistro in Hawley. Our banquet is April 6 at Lukan's Farm Resort in Hawley. Chapter representatives attended monthly meetings of Pike County Conservation District, and participate in macroinvertebrate sampling and electrofishing in Pike County

Schuylkill County Chapter #537

Brian Lengel

570-573-7076, wetflyguy@yahoo.com
www.schuylkillcountytu.org

We are working with the Schuylkill Headwaters Association on a First Day on the Water program. This year, the event is on the Little Schuylkill River, near Tamaqua. We have seven fly-tying classes scheduled for 2019. We received a grant for stream work on Swipes Valley Run near Pine Grove. Our membership meetings are held at the Pottsville AMVETS on the fourth Tuesday of the month.

Shehawken Chapter #81

Fred Gender

Continued on page 11...



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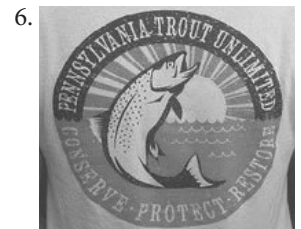
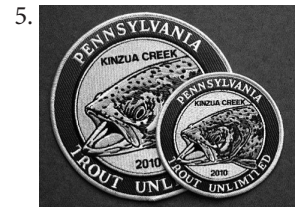
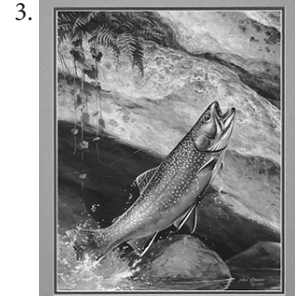
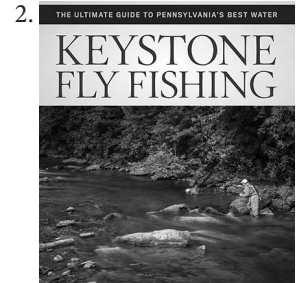


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	Dry Fly – 5X Tippet			
	Dry Fly – 6X Tippet			
	Wet Fly – 4X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers			
	Wet Fly – 5X Tippet w/ 2 Droppers			
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	"Fly Fishing PA's Spring Creek" Book	\$20.00		
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2	"Keystone Fly Fishing" Book	\$30.00		
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5	Kinzua Creek Patch 2010 – 4"	\$6.00		
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...Continued from page 9

570-704-8764, shehawken@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/Shehawken-Trout-Unlimited-811023349070239/>

No report.

Stanley Cooper, Sr. Chapter #251 Scott Brady

570-479-6106, jsbrady@bradygrabowski.com
www.sctu.org

Our banquet is April 6 at the Holiday Inn Wilkes Barre – East Mountain. EPCAMR completed the final design of the informational kiosk for our Solomon Creek Dam Removal and Stream Habitat Improvement Project with Fossil Industries. The kiosk is to be installed in the spring. The dam removal project is complete. EPCAMR continues to work with the Luzerne Conservation District and Dallas Area Municipal Authority to conduct field reconnaissance of the Upper Toby Creek watershed in Kingston Township, Dallas Township and Dallas Borough and note locations that need to be looked at further and sampled for in-stream water quality, as well as stormwater BMPs, stream channel restoration projects, culvert replacements and assessment, riparian buffer projects and trout habitat improvement projects. EPCAMR submitted another CHP assessment grant for \$5,000 for the Huntsville Creek tributary of Toby Creek in December. The chapter is in support of the project. Coldwater grant data collection is ongoing on Shade's Creek. The chapter received five rods from the LL Bean to use in upcoming programs. We have been coordinating with our TIC sites. Our Project Healing Waters program meets the first Friday of each month. The chapter's "Women's Camp" is May 5 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Brews and Bugs is held the fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at Sabbatini's.

Western Pocono Chapter #203 George Hludzik

570-788-2121, grhlaw@ptd.net

www.tu.org/connect/groups/203-western-pocono

Penrose Swamp contains unique mesic till barrens that paradoxically support both wetland and upland plants such as scrub oak, pitch pine and sphagnum moss among others. In addition to specialized plant species and good numbers of wildlife, the area is home to three officially designated native wild brook trout streams that flow into Hazle Creek, a tributary of the Lehigh River. For almost 150 years Hazle Creek, although aesthetically picturesque and capable of supporting wild trout, had been severely degraded by acid mine drainage and industrial pollution. Decrease in mining and containment of toxic pollutants has allowed the stream to cleanse itself and provide wild trout habitat. The area is being looked at for potential future preservation and land protection by Western Pocono TU and others. TU Regional VP and Eastern Pa. Coalition of Abandoned Mine

Reclamation Executive Director Bobby Hughes visited the area in November. Hughes had done extensive studies on a nearby section of the creek a few years ago with EPCAMR and provided technical reports, maps and water quality data to Western Pocono TU. EPCAMR is supportive of the area being considered for further preservation and land protection. Western Pocono TU will continue to monitor the area for future planning.

**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

Bob Volkmar

**443 West Br. Fishing Creek Rd.
Roulette, PA 16746**

Email: rdvolkmar@gmail.com

Phone: 814-544-7174

Columbia County Chapter #38

Erick Lewis

607-621-8126, ealewis@geisinger.edu

The chapter is pursuing collaboration with a sporting club in the Berwick area to host a VSP event. We are also helping to plan an upcoming PATU training in Bloomsburg. We participated in the Early Bird Sports Expo in January. We are working with Columbia County District Conservation Office to plan for grant applications and projects during the spring and summer for Fishing Creek. Upcoming meetings are March 12 and April 9 at 7 p.m. at the Columbia County District Conservation Office, Bloomsburg.

God's Country Chapter #327

C.C. (Craig) Felker

814-544-5063, ccfelker@msn.com

Chapter leaders introduced "lines of effort" where Conservation Activities, Education, Engagement and Chapter Future all point to the mission to Protect, Conserve and Restore for GCTU strategic planning. The chapter received a TIC grant from PATU to cover the cost of bussing the students to and from the Austin-Costello Sportsmen's Club. Out TIC coordinator reported that a very high percentage of the fish have survived in the tank at Coudersport Elementary School.

A recently installed UV sterilizer is keeping the water free of fungus. Upcoming meetings are Feb. 28 and March 28 at Coudersport Public Library.

Lloyd Wilson Chapter #224

Bill Bailey

570-748-6120, wbailey@kcnet.org
www.lwtu.org

We had our annual family banquet/raffle in November. Several chapter members helped pack food and eggs for TIC programs. The chapter purchased a UV sanitizer for the TIC program at the Jersey Shore High School.

Penns Creek Chapter #119

Joe Dunmire

717-899-6085, hjazzbo@hotmail.com

Our annual Winter Social was held on Dec. 15. We renewed our membership to the Penns Valley Conservation Association and purchased a membership in the Juniata County Watershed Association. Our annual banquet is March 9 at 6 p.m. at Belleville Mennonite School. High water in 2018 left us with an unfinished stream restoration project on Kish Creek. Log deflectors that are to be installed have been scheduled for the coming year, if the water ever recedes. Tree planting can take place after the landscaping is done. TIC programs in Mifflin County schools are running well. TIC programs in Juniata County are in flux because of school closures and consolidations.

R.B. Winter Chapter #124

Bob Laubach

570-966-3379, oldfrstr@dejazzd.com
[facebook.com/RBWinterTroutUnlimitedChapter](https://www.facebook.com/RBWinterTroutUnlimitedChapter)

Our November meeting featured PFBC Commissioner Eric Hussar and PFBC WCO Jacob Bennet. Our December meeting featured Mid Atlantic Susquehanna River coordinator Carol Parenzan. River of the Year activities that took place on the Loyalsock Creek this past year were also discussed. Amidea Daniel made a presentation on women's initiatives at our regular monthly meeting on Jan. 16. Fly tying classes are from 7-9 on Mondays through March 18 at Christ Lutheran Church, Lewisburg. Upcoming meetings are Feb. 20 and March 20 at Lewisburg Hotel.

Spring Creek Chapter #185

Lynn Mitchell

717-250-0009, lynnmitchell74@gmail.com
www.springcreektu.org

The chapter continues to receive 10% of the sales proceeds of "Spring Creek White," a new wine release by Mt. Nittany Winery, Centre County. Our 46th annual banquet and fundraiser is March 23 at the Mountain View Country Club, Boalsburg. We completed the first stream improvement project under our recently awarded

Continued on next page...

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\$160,000 National Fish and Wildlife Grant with in-stream work in the Rock Road portion of Spring Creek. The chapter conducted its annual redd count program in conjunction with local PFBC staff. SCTU continues its maintenance efforts at Fisherman's Paradise in Bellefonte. We provided input to planning commission and board of supervisors in Benner Township opposing their planned development, which encroached nearby streams and created small building lots that increased surface runoff. In 2018, the chapter participated in more than 40 youth education programs, which includes public and private schools, Stream Girls, Brookies camp, and collaboration with new PFBC outreach programs. The chapter started the indoor portion off its Veterans Service Program in January at the South Hills School of Business and Technology in State College. Classes include Flyfishing 101 and various levels of fly tying. They run each Saturday through March 9. Our next meeting is March 7 with Dennis Charney discussing "Fishing Spring Creek" at Comfort Suites.

Susquehanna Chapter #044

Walt Nicholson

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

Our November chapter meeting program was about trout stream habitat restoration with large woody material, presented by Nathan Reagle of the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry. The chapter supports the inclusion of stream habitat improvement in the draft Tiadagton State Forest Resource Management Plan and will provide input where additional stream habitat restoration projects using large woody material should be undertaken. The chapter donated \$1,000 to TIC for the purchase of UV sterilizers. Our next meeting is March 13 at Covenant Central Presbyterian Church, Williamsport.

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Rick Nyles Taylor Helbig Dave Allbaugh Dave Rothrock Brian Shumaker
Learn From Our Experience

Tiadagton Chapter #688

Jere White

570-662-2167, whitesgordonssetters@gmail.com

Our Fly Fishing Film Tour fundraiser is March 30 at the Deane Center. The Brookie Odyssey film was screened at the Pennsylvania Lumberman's Museum on Jan. 19. National TU's Kathleen Lavelle, who works out of the Lock Haven office, presented findings from trout population and benthic macroinvertebrate data from four Tioga County brook trout streams during a recent chapter meeting. Data was collected in conjunction with the Pine Creek hemlock woolly adelgid project. Free fly tying classes will be held from 9 a.m. to noon at the Wellsboro Senior Center on Feb. 16 and March 16. Our next chapter meeting is March 5 at Wellsboro Community Center, Wellsboro.

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



Since 1999



Email: kcoffer@atlanticbb.net

Phone: 814-765-1035

Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036

George Kutskel

814-371-9290, maksak@comcast.net
www.amctu.org

Our 53rd annual fundraiser is April 6 at the Falls Creek Eagles. We had scheduled a redd count on Potts Run, but canceled twice due to high water. A Brockway School District student is doing a tree planting along the Clarion River in Clear Creek State Park this spring to assist the chapter and the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. Our TIC schools received their eggs and reports say the fish are doing well. We are again mentoring the DuBois Middle School Fly Fishing Club. We meet once a month and will once again have an outing in the spring. We will have our Environmental Day in May at Camp Mountain Run. We have written a support letter for the WPC in doing a conservation plan on Big Run Creek in Jefferson County. We have worked extensively on this stream in the past and look forward to helping the Conservancy in its efforts on this project.

Caldwell Creek Chapter #437

Tom Savko

814-664-2124, tksavko2@verizon.net

No report.

Cornplanter Chapter #526

Troy McDunn

814-723-3759, hdpartsman@verizon.net
www.facebook.com/pages/Cornplanter-Chapter-Of-Trout-Unlimited

No report.

Iron Furnace Chapter #288

Mark Hanes

724-464-7320, m_d_hanes@yahoo.com
www.ironfurnacetu.net

Our annual banquet is at 6 p.m. on April 6 at St. Joseph's Church Hall in Lucinda. We worked on project proposals at our January board meeting. We are still dealing with access issues in fixing the deflector at Walter Dick Park in the fly area in Brookville. Hopes are to be able to get it done this early summer. Our TIC programs have their fish and are reporting good success. Our yearly fly tying classes are Feb. 16 and 23 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Heritage House in Brookville. We are also holding monthly or bimonthly "Pies and Flies" events at Clarion University.

James Zwald Chapter #314

Murray Neeper

814-834-3472, mneeper@zitomedia.net

In November, the chapter received a \$20,000 grant from the Stackpole Hall Foundation to continue with permitting on the West Creek acid

mine remediation project. Stephanie Stoughton toured the primary acid remediation site on West Creek with DEP Office of Surface Mining to discuss spoil piles located in the project site. Straub Brewery committed to sign on to landowner agreements on their adjacent properties. Jim Zwald continues to support TIC in Elk and Cameron county schools. In January, the chapter hosted PATU Treasurer George Kutsel. Regular meetings are the last Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at St. Marys Middle School Library.

Neshannock Creek #216

Jeff Kremis

724-588-4378, jkkremis@gmail.com

www.neshannock-tu.org

Our annual banquet is March 16 at the Park Inn by Radisson, West Middlesex. We are working on plans for the streambank stabilization project this summer on Neshannock Creek at Plantation Park in Mercer. Dates and times will be posted once they are set by the PFBC. Our cleanup of the DHALO Area on Coolspring is in early April. All of our TIC programs are up and running. We are also supporting a newly formed conservation club at Greenville High School with a fly tying program. We received an Embrace-A-Stream grant in the amount of \$3,000 for the first phase of the streambank restoration project on the Neshannock Creek in Plantation Park. In conjunction with that, we were able to raise an additional \$3,600 through donations during the "Give Where You Fish" campaign. Our Winter Cabin Fever meeting was Feb. 2 at Munnell Run Farm in Mercer. This year's speaker was Sara Mueller from Penn State, who discussed her studies and research on brook trout genetics. In addition, Mario Chance talked about fly fishing for bass on Lake Erie and its tributaries. Upcoming meetings are Feb. 25 and March 25 at Munnell Run Farm.

Northwest PA Chapter #41

Erik Cronk

814-490-4632, ecronk@cronkins.com

http://nwpachaptertu.blogspot.com

No report.

Oil Creek Chapter #424

Gary Ross

814-337-6931, info@oilcreektu.org

www.oilcreektu.org

We had our start-up event for the Veterans' Service Program in October at Oil Creek State Park. It was a good time and we signed up two veterans. We will plan another event for the spring, which may be a better time of year for attendance. We are looking at other possible locations to conduct the spring event. Our annual Christmas dinner was held at Dawndi's Restaurant near Franklin in December. Our fundraising banquet is April 6 at the Ale House in Franklin. Tom Young and Dan Rockwell participated in the annual meeting of the

Venango County Dirt & Gravel Roads Committee in November, and \$441,000 was allocated for Venango County roads. We previously provided a mini-grant to Venango Conservation District to purchase an electro-shocker to help with stream surveys. Electro-shocking was completed on Bullion Run and a tributary to Scrubgrass Creek. There are three sampling sites they would like to do on Pithole Creek. The District is applying for a scientific collector's permit for the entire county to do sampling. They are asking if we could come up with a plan to do electro-shocking on a specific drainage. We currently have six classrooms enrolled in the TIC program. Upcoming meetings are Feb. 20 and March 20 at 6:30 p.m. at King's Restaurant, Franklin.

Seneca Chapter #272

Chase Howard

814-598-3449, chaserhoward@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/SenecaTroutUnlimited

The Fly Fishing Film Tour makes its 4th appearance in Potter County at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 23 at the Coudersport Theater. After the show, head over to the Hotel Crittenden for a "Hackles and Hops" event being organized by the God's Country chapter. The Seneca chapter will hold its annual fly tying classes from 7-9 p.m. on Tuesdays until March 26 at St. Joseph's Episcopal Church. The chapter has been working with The Mayfly Project and McKean County CYS to bring a Mayfly Project program to Pennsylvania for Summer 2019. A watershed mini-grant has been applied for in partnership with the Potter County Conservation District to stabilize streambanks on Sartwell Creek, a tributary to the Upper Allegheny River. Our annual banquet is April 20 at Port Allegheny Fire Hall.

SOUTHEAST CHAPTERS

Bucks County 254

Delco Manning 320

Little Lehigh 070

Perkiomen Valley 332

SE Montgomery Co. 468

Tulpehocken 150

Valley Forge 290

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Brian McGuire

52 W. Princeton Rd.

Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

Email: cbrianmcguire@comcast.net

Phone: 484-270-8505

Bucks County Chapter #254

Joe Mihok

215-589-9531, joemihok@verizon.net

www.buckstu.org

We held an auction at our January meeting to raise funds for the chapter's stream conservation projects. Our 2019 banquet is March 9 at Spring Mill Manor. We are in the planning stages for projects on Aquetong Creek, Watson Creek and Cooks Creek. For the second year we are holding a native tree sale for chapter members. We are having a beginner's fly tying night at our March meeting. We will also be having an Advanced Fly Fishing Techniques clinic in the spring at a date to be determined.

Delco Manning Chapter #320

Fred DeWees

610-547-9403, freddeew4@gmail.com

www.dmtu.org

We are looking at creating a new DHALO section in the county. Three fishing outings were planned and fly tying nights started in January. Our December meeting was on Eric steelhead and January's was a tying night with celebrity tyers giving demonstrations.

Little Lehigh Chapter #070

Scott Alderfer

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www.lltu.org

Funds raised during our fall raffle will primarily go to supporting equipment need of our five TIC schools. We will be working with Wildlands Conservancy on a riparian buffer planting event this spring. The project area will be open space owned by Lower Macungie Township bordering Little Lehigh Creek. In conjunction with the other three Lehigh Valley area TU chapters, we held our annual fall event in early December. The event featured entomologist and author Don Baylor along with door prizes and a raffle.

Perkiomen Valley #332

Thomas W. Smith

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www.pvtu332.org

We finalized the design of our stream restoration project on Hosensack Creek, and prepared and filed an application for a Coldwater Heritage Partnership grant for \$7,812 for this work to be completed in 2019. We also completed a preliminary review and evaluation of a site on Perkiomen Creek, and finalized design of a restoration project on this body of water, too, for future implementation. Chapter representatives met with the Montgomery County Conservation District watershed specialist and Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy executive director, who

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are partners in our stream restoration projects. Chapter representatives also met with the Berks County Conservation District watershed coordinator and reviewed projects on the West Branch of Perkiomen Creek and Pachwechen Run in Berks County. Both are wild trout tributaries of the main section of Perkiomen Creek, and streams on which the chapter has done extensive work in past years. We assisted with setup, introduction of trout eggs and ongoing interaction with Hereford Elementary and Upper Perkiomen high schools. We also contacted and assisted Souderton Charter School Collaborative with its program. TU's Rob Shane spoke on "Protecting Pennsylvania Wild Trout" at our February meeting. Jerry Coviello from Fly Fishers International presented "The Search for Trout: Fly fishing a Few Western Waters" in February.

SE Montgomery County Chapter #468

Richard Terry

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www.tu468.org

Seventy-five trees were planted in a meadow that runs along the Pennypack stream, and a fall stocking took place in the Pennypack that runs through the Pennypack Natural Land Trust. A fly tying class was offered for TU and Pennypack Trust members in January and February. Our annual banquet is March 23 at the Pennypack Nature Center.

Tulpehocken Chapter #150

Brenda Bittinger

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www.tullytu.org

The chapter is working with Berks County Conservation District on a dam removal. We currently have 22 classrooms enlisted in the TIC program. We are recruiting for PFBC's Women's Initiative.

Valley Forge Chapter #290

Pete Hughes

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www.valleyforgetu.org

Three PHWFF programs sponsored by VFTU held Christmas parties and are now in the process of building rods and tying flies. Their first field trip of the year took place in February. VFTU hosted a van full of local students and a teacher from Church Farm School for an afternoon along Valley Creek to pick up trash. The chapter is placing stream monitoring devices in upper Valley Creek to capture pre- and post-development data on a large parcel of land adjacent to the creek. We are pursuing an easement to protect the stream corridor through this parcel. We will also be installing one or more stream monitoring devices in tributaries to upper Pickering Creek prior to planting trout eggs using Whitlock Vibert boxes. Board member

and youth program lead Dave Dickens is teaming up with Stroud Water Resource Center on two efforts to expand educational opportunities for students. Dave will host a meeting with teachers from 10 area schools to educate them about TIC, which could increase the number of schools we sponsor. Dave has also been appointed the Southeast Region lead for the STREAM program for Girl Scouts. Our general monthly meetings are held the second Thursday of each month from September through May at Chester Valley Grange. Monthly board meetings are the first Thursday of the month year round at East Bradford Township Building. PHWFF - Royersford is the second, third and fourth Monday of the month at Royersford VFW, PHWFF - West Bradford is every Monday at West Bradford Firehouse and PHWFF - Coatesville is each Wednesday at Coatesville VA Hospital, Building 5. Our VFTU Trout Show is March 23 at Lionville Middle School with guest presenter Henry Ramsay. We will host the Fly Fishing Film Tour on April 4 at Colonial Theatre Phoenixville, and our Fly Fishing School is May 19 at Paradise Farm Camps Downingtown.

SOUTHCENTRAL CHAPTERS

Adams County 323

Codorus 558

Cumberland Valley 052

Doc Fritchey 108

Donegal 037

Falling Spring 234

Muddy Creek 575

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Russ Collins

1167 S. Forge Rd.

Palmyra, PA 17078

Email: russthepres@dftu.org

Phone: 717-580-3958

Adams County Chapter #323

April Swope

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www.adamscountytu.org

Chapter member Wayne Belt was our speaker on Jan. 15. He is collecting microinvertebrate samples on Tom's Creek. Past ACTU president Dan Herrick spoke and tied flies for membership on Feb. 19. The regulated area of Conewago Creek was float stocked by chapter members and PFBC in the fall. Our next ACTU meeting is March 19 at the ACCD Building, 670 Old Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg.

Codorus Chapter #558

Tom Feninez

717-817-8446, tom@codorustu.org

www.codorustu.org

We're hoping to re-launch an effort to survey a local headwater's watershed for the presence of trout. We've had an initial conversation with our WCO about potentially engaging with the Unassessed Watersheds Initiative or other PFBC resources on this opportunity. We recently learned that an important Growing Greener Project was approved in the Codorus Creek watershed. It will be primarily for design, permitting and other pre-construction activities, but we've offered our services to the grantee and the design team to provide whatever assistance they might need. Our TIC programs are proceeding without any problems and we'll be scheduling and planning our release day events. We were able to quickly identify a candidate to sponsor at this year's Rivers Conservation Camp. We'll be offering our assistance as needed with his registration and we look forward to having him represent us. Our third annual women-only fly fishing clinic has been added to our agenda for 2019. Details to be announced at a future date. We are holding a winter stream cleanup on Feb. 23 on Codorus Creek. Upcoming chapter meetings are March 13 and April 10 at Spring Grove Recreation Center, Spring Grove.

Cumberland Valley Chapter #052

John Leonard

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www.pacvtu.org

Our annual "Limestoner" banquet is March 16 at the Park Inn - Mechanicsburg. The chapter's Yellow Breeches restoration project at the former site of the Wittlinger Dam was postponed until January. We applied for a \$5,000 planning grant for the Letort restoration. We have 13 TIC programs. Upcoming meetings are Feb. 20 and March 20 at Appalachian Brewery, Mechanicsburg.

Doc Fritchey Chapter #108

Russ Collins

717-580-3958, russthepres@dftu.org

www.dftu.org

Our annual banquet is March 23 at the Holiday Inn of Grantville, with John Arway as guest speaker. Our Lower Snitz Project began after significant weather-related delays. As the temperatures begin to warm, the perimeter fencing will be installed, and riparian buffer planting will take place. A joint Hammer Creek Watershed restoration project is in the planning stage between the Donegal and Doc Fritchey chapters, and includes partners from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay and many others. A Coldwater Heritage Partnership planning grant has been applied for. Additionally, two Forever Wild grant applications have been submitted. One will be used

for funding an intern to do stream assessment on a tributary of the Quittapahilla Creek and the second application is for in-stream monitoring equipment to be used in conjunction with the Watershed Implementation Plan on the Quittapahilla. Our six-week fly tying course for beginners begins on Feb. 21 and runs six consecutive Thursdays from 6-8 p.m. Home Waters Day honoring our veterans is June 8. Our Ladies Day is June 9.

Donegal Chapter #037

Tom Hall

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www.donegaltu.org

We have two projects on Fishing Creek in southern Lancaster County. The Bob Herr and Ben Beiler projects cover almost two miles of stream and will limit livestock stream access. The projects will also include buffer plantings. We received an education grant from the Campbell Foundation to be used for landowner outreach, including conservation information packets, public education forums and sponsoring more TIC projects. We are waiting for USFW to complete repairs on several projects on Fishing Creek that were heavily damaged by floods in the fall. We received a grant for \$50,000 from DCNR to support the riparian buffers on three tributaries to Fishing Creek. We are waiting for project design on two sites upstream from Camp Andrews, which we completed last year. We have 21 TIC classrooms in Lancaster County with at least three more coming on board in 2019. Our 40th Annual DTU fundraiser is March 16 at DoubleTree Resort, Lancaster. Women's Introduction to Fly Fishing is April 27 at Hugh Wenger's Farm, Elizabethtown. Upcoming meetings are Feb. 20 and March 20 at 7 p.m. at Farm & Home Center, Lancaster.

Falling Spring Chapter #234

Warren Christman

717-860-6414, 1.christman@innernet.net

We are evaluating several streams in our area to develop a course of action as to their needs, available funding, and general logistics. We are working with the Antietam Watershed Association and Renfrew Institute on the local streams. One of the streams in question is the lower end of Antietam Creek between Waynesboro and the Maryland/Pennsylvania line, which covers approximately 3.6 miles. The other is part of Conococheague Creek near Chambersburg and covers approximately 2.3 miles. We finished our road cleanup along Falling Springs Road in December. We are currently in our 30th year of sponsoring a free fly tying class at Norlo Park in Chambersburg. We have two TIC projects underway at Green Castle Antrim Middle School and Cumberland Valley Christian School. A powerline is scheduled to be installed across several waterways, including Falling Springs, by a company called Transource. We have been working at stopping this incursion into the stream and looking at ways of reducing

the impact this could have on the waterways here locally, especially the Falling Springs meadow section where they intend to cross if approved. Upcoming meetings are March 4, April 1 and May 6 at Norlo Park, Chambersburg. Our Healing Waters Wounded Warrior stocking is May 10, followed by Healing Waters Wounded Warrior Weekend on May 11 on the Lower section of Falling Springs and the Conococheague.

Muddy Creek Chapter #575

Beth Boyd

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www.muddycreektu.org

Our fall fest was held at a new location this year and we had a bigger turn out compared to years past. We are still working to boost attendance at this event to make it more profitable. The chapter will be working with the land owner of our handicap site this winter and next year to repair/restore the entire handicap access and platform. We also hope to meet with the owner of Glenn Rock Farms located in and along the watershed. The farm is currently used by vets to complete court assigned drug and alcohol therapy, but the property sustained heavy damage in the fall. The property has a pond and stream and we hope to explore the option of fly fishing events for the vets after repairs are made. Our co-op also sustained quite a bit of damage and we have a lot of restoration and repair work that needs to be completed. We have stabilized the co-op for the winter and received our fingerings. We continue to form plans and obtain resources to finalize repairs in the spring. Our six TIC classes are up and running.

SOUTHWEST CHAPTERS

Arrowhead 214

Chestnut Ridge 670

Forbes Trail 206

Fort Bedford 291

John Kennedy 045

Ken Sink 053

Mountain Laurel 040

Penn's Woods West 042

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

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Arrowhead Chapter #214

Bill Libengood

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Our annual chapter banquet is March 16 at 10th Street Station in Ford City. The Huling Run project has been completed. Arrowhead TU continues to operate its co-op trout nursery where approximately 5,000 brown and rainbow trout are reared and stocked in our Buffalo Creek DHALO section. The initial stocking occurred in December with subsequent stockings slated for March, April and May. The chapter is currently soliciting proposals and funding options for the rebuilding of our co-op nursery raceway which we hope can be completed in June 2019. Upcoming meetings are a tying night on March 15 at the Slovak CU Club, Ford City, followed by regular meetings on April 19 and May 17 at Mantini Auxiliary Building, Ford City.

Chestnut Ridge Chapter #670

Ben Moyer

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www.chestnutridgetu.org

In cooperation with California University of Pennsylvania, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Pennsylvania Game Commission, Dominion Energy and Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, the chapter completed placement of a cross-vane habitat structure on Dunbar Creek on SGL 51. The structure will create pool habitat while also accommodating trout passage. Work was funded by the Dominion Energy Mini-grant Program, administered by the WPC. We applied for another grant to continue physical habitat improvements on Dunbar. In late November, we placed 220 tons of alkaline sand at our three treatment sites in the Glade Run headwaters, a tributary to Dunbar Creek. This treatment supplements our anoxic limestone drain treatment system on those headwaters. Pennsylvania DEP made note of our work on Glade Run in its narrative that announced its intention to upgrade Dunbar Creek to "Exceptional Value" status. We completed access improvements to our Glade Run treatment sites, in cooperation with the PGC. These initiatives are guided by the Middle Youghiogheny River Conservation Plan, which CRTU authored some 20 years ago. The chapter continues its work nurturing nearly two dozen regional schools in the TIC program, and will again host the Fly Fishing Film Festival on March 8 at the Elks Lodge in Washington.

Forbes Trail Chapter #206

Larry Myers

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www.forbestrailtu.org

Forbes Trail continues to work with Ligonier Valley Middle School's Outdoor Club to teach fly tying and stream conservation practices. The club meets on a bi-weekly basis throughout the winter and spring and will culminate the program

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in May with a local fly fishing field trip. We are also assisting the LVMS 6th grade science class with its TIC program. The chapter's Thursday fly tying group meets at Geo's Restaurant in Latrobe. Chapter volunteers assisted PFBC with packaging fingerlings at the Benner Springs Hatchery on Jan. 16. Two chapter officers participated in the Westmoreland Conservation District's annual Partners Breakfast in December and have been invited to attend monthly agency breakfasts. We are in the early stages of planning another summer picnic as a fundraiser event. As part of the chapter's efforts to assess the damage caused during June's 100-year flood to Linn Run in Linn Run State Park, members assisted Ligonier Valley Middle School with a science experiment where students anchored numerous leaf bags in strategic locations in the stream in November. The bags were to be collected in January and students would examine them in a laboratory setting. If successful, macroinvertebrates would be collected among the leaves and identified. The data could then be compared to TU's historical data for the stream to assess flood damage to the insect population. We received a grant from the Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation to conduct our second annual fly fishing event for disabled military veterans on May 12 at Foggy Mountain Lodge. Upcoming meetings are March 6 and April 3 at Loyalhanna Watershed Education Center, Ligonier.

Fort Bedford Chapter #291

Ryan Schnably
814-494-375,
rschnably@bedfordcountyconservation.com
www.fortbedfordtu.org

Our annual banquet is April 6 at the Bedford

Moose Lodge. FBTU will be planting on Yellow Creek, Potter Creek, Wills Creek in 2019. We are assisting with a bank stabilization and trout habitat project on Potter Creek with Mountain Laurel TU and on Wills Creek with the Bedford County Conservation District DGLVR program. We are planning possible stream monitoring on Shobers Run and Cove Creek, and there is a potential large-scale habitat project and riparian planting on Beaver Creek. We will partner with Keep Bedford County Beautiful on an Earth Day event date. Fly tying classes run Jan. 12 to March 16 from 9:30 a.m. to noon at the Bedford County Conservation District Office. Chapter members are visiting Bedford Elementary and Middle School to talk about macroinvertebrates and streams this spring.

John Kennedy Chapter #045

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

The chapter is planning stream projects on Poplar Run, Plum Creek and Halter Creek. We are also signing up more property owners for the next round of tree planting on Plum Creek. We are planning to host more Family Fish Days at Canoe Creek State Park. Our four TIC schools survived Christmas break, and we will start to schedule release days for each. We will offer fly tying instruction at Youth Field Day on June 2. Additionally, we will present basic fly casting instruction at "Women Aim High."

Ken Sink Chapter #053

Roger Phillips
724-639-9715, rphillips32@yahoo.com
<http://kensink.blogspot.com>

We started our year with Dave Janetski, an assistant professor in Indiana University of Pennsylvania's Department of Biology at IUP talk about "Trout and Salmon in the Great Lakes and Pennsylvania." In November, Josh Miller spoke about his experience coaching the Eastern Region, US Youth Fly Fishing Team. At our annual Christmas party, two students presented. The first talked about her experiences attending the Wildlife Leadership Academy. The other discussed his experience at the 2018 Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp. Fly tying classes ran in January and February. Our annual banquet is April 6 at the VFW in Indiana. We are currently ordering chemicals and equipment to do stream readings and surveys.

Mountain Laurel Chapter #040

Randy Buchanan
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www.mltu.org

Our annual banquet is April 6 at the Holiday Inn Johnstown. The chapter conducted Saturday morning and Monday evening beginners fly tying classes in January and February. We added the Shanksville-Stoneycreek School District to our TIC program, bringing the total to 10 schools. Upcoming monthly meetings are March 7 and April 4 at the Richland Township Municipal Building. We will host a Paint Creek Road litter pickup on March 30.

Penn's Woods West Chapter #042

Dale Fogg
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www.pwwtu.org

No report.