‘Highway Robbery’

By John A. Arway
Executive Director
Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

(Manager’s Note: This article also appeared in a recent Pennsylvania Angler & Boater magazine and is reprinted with permission.)

My dad always taught me that if you borrowed something, you should always return it in a better condition than when you received it. Unfortunately, this isn’t the case for some of our Commonwealth property that is being borrowed and, in some cases, outright stolen without compensation.

The Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission (PFBC) is a Commonwealth agency with the responsibility of protecting, conserving and enhancing our Commonwealth’s fish and aquatic resources and providing fishing and boating opportunities. Consistent with our State Constitu-

Coldwater Heritage Partnership awards $60,000-plus in grants

The Coldwater Heritage Partnership recently announced that over $60,000 in grants have been awarded to local organizations to protect and conserve Pennsylvania’s coldwater stream habitats. The Coldwater Heritage Partnership is a cooperative initiative amongst Pennsylvania Trout Unlimited, the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, and the Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds.

This year the Coldwater Heritage Partnership awarded planning and implementation grants. Organizations funded by a planning grant will be responsible for creating a Coldwater Conservation plan that:

- Gathers existing data about the coldwater ecosystem;
- Identifies potential impacts,
“Our streams, rivers and lakes are being taken advantage of, and we should demand just compensation.”

In 2003, it was estimated that over 10 billion gallons per day were being withdrawn from surface and ground waters. Activities such as power plant use, bottled water withdrawals, Marcellus natural gas well drilling and other industrial activities take water directly from our streams, lakes and rivers, and it is not returned. These water uses are called consumptive uses. Water is evaporated out of large smokestacks, shipped away in plastic bottles or left deep underground to possibly never be seen again.

Water is literally being taken without compensation, and it makes me mad. It should also make you mad, because it is your property, too.

It has an impact on our aquatic resources and your quality of life. We currently share revenue with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for the sand and gravel extracted from the riverbeds of the Allegheny and Ohio Rivers, because that material is also Commonwealth property. It is submerged lands under navigable water, and the Commonwealth gets compensated for its value through a royalty fee. We have a law that requires it. We use that money to fund programs consistent with our mission. Shouldn’t we have a similar law and the same hold true for the water that we all own?

The second part of this story applies to the billions of gallons of water that is being borrowed by industry every day for industrial processes and is returned to our streams in a degraded condition.

This has occurred for centuries in Pennsylvania and around our country. It is legal to do this and industries receive a permit called a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit from DEP, which protects our water resources against pollution and allows degradation. Now, this may not seem like a big deal to some, but how would you feel if someone borrowed your car and then returned it with a dented fender? The car would still be functional, but it would be damaged. You would certainly expect the person who borrowed it to pay for the damage.

This is exactly what I expect industry to do for the water we allow them to use, but they degrade.

Our streams, rivers and lakes are being taken advantage of, and we should demand just compensation.

Some of this cost is currently being born by many of us when we pay our water bills. When this degraded water flows downstream and enters the pipe of a public water supply, the additional treatment that is necessary to treat the water to drinking water standards is passed on to the public that pays to drink it.

I agree with my dad, and I will fight to find a way to get compensated for the damage being caused to our water resources. This is one of my ideas that I told you about to generate alternative funding for conservation programs and perhaps lower the cost of your fishing license, but I need your help.

Speak out, and let your elected officials know that you are mad too and expect to be compensated for the damages I have discussed in this article. The fish are depending on it.
Lehigh County: $6,000 to carry out a watershed and stream assessment for the Trout Creek Watershed.

Clearfield County Conservation District, Clearfield County: $6,038 to create a coldwater conservation plan for Snyder and Spring Run, which will provide invaluable baseline water quality data for these streams as Marcellus Shale gas well drilling activity increases in the area. The plan will also identify possible future projects and educate the public about this very important natural resource.

Somerset County Conservation District, Somerset County: $5,628 to assess the Whites Creek watershed in order to obtain baseline data on the watershed that will assist in ecologically safe future development.

Trout Unlimited Eastern Abandoned Mine Program, Clinton and Centre Counties: $6,000 to determine the extent and causes for the apparent declines in brook trout populations in Wolf Run and Eddy Lick Run.

Columbia County Conservation District on behalf of the Briar Creek Association for Watershed Solutions, Columbia County: $5,788 to conduct physical biological and chemical assessment and use known data to generate a plan for conservation action on Briar Creek.

Allegheny Mountain Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Clearfield and Jefferson Counties: $3,260 to perform a comprehensive analysis of the Irish Run watershed in order to create a conservation plan.

Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation, Luzerne County: $6,000 to conduct a preliminary coldwater heritage conservation watershed assessment plan and project implementation recommendation plan for Solomon Creek, that will lead to future enhancement projects related to the native brook trout populations within the watershed.

Besides offering grants, the Coldwater Heritage Partnership works to provide technical and educational assistance to organizations interested in protecting coldwater ecosystems. For additional information, please contact Samantha Kutskel at 814-359-5233, or visit the Coldwater Heritage website at www.coldwaterheritage.org.

PA COUNCIL OF TROUT UNLIMITED

2011 COMMITTEES

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PA COUNCIL OF TROUT UNLIMITED

Minutes of the March 26, 2011
Executive Committee Meeting
PFBC Stackhouse Training Center
Bellefonte, PA

Officers in attendance: Ken Undercoffer, Brian Wagner, Rick Carlson, George Kutskel, Bob Pennell, Jack Williams, Greg Malaska, Tom Buser, Fred Bohls, Fred Gender, Chuck Winters.

Others in attendance: Kevin Anderson, Dave Sewak, Becky Dunlap, Shawn Rummel, John Arway, Leroy Young, Samantha Kutskel, Greg Grabowicz.

President Undercoffer convened the meeting at 10:07 a.m. Minutes of the Jan. 8, 2011 EXCOM meeting previously distributed were approved on a motion by Wagner/seconded by Bohls. Williams noted that the word “criteria” should be substituted for “mandates” in the report on NLC activities.

A motion by Carlson/seconded by Williams was approved to accept PATU’s proposal to host the 2012 TU Annual Meeting. North Carolina was chosen instead.

A motion by Bohls/seconded by Wagner was approved to receive and file the March, 2011 Treasurer’s Report submitted by G. Kutskel. Kutskel reported that $16,902 had been received in donations as a result of the year-end appeal letter sent to all PA members.

Awards Committee: Pennell reported that Frank Viozzi will submit an article on this year’s awards for the next issue of PA Trout.

Development Committee: G. Kutskel emphasized the need to hire an executive director, initially as a part-time position with the possibility of becoming full-time. Carlson suggested that the position should not be advertised as part-time, but rather that the time commitment should be negotiated with the successful applicant. A motion by Kutskel/seconded by Carlson was approved to proceed with contacting National TU for guidance on developing a job description for approval by EXCOM.

Kutskel reported that this year’s Trout in the Classroom raffle tickets would be sent to regional VPs for distribution to their chapters. Chapters will split the proceeds 50/50 with Council for all ticket purchases over their initial purchase of $100 in tickets.

Communications Committee: Pennell reported that the committee has decided to reduce the price of a yearly subscription to PA Trout from $10 down to $5, and future advertising rates would be reduced by 20%. The committee also has plans to develop social media links (Facebook, Twitter, blogs, etc.) to broaden our audience and improve our position on internet search engines.

Membership Committee: Malaska reported that he now has four regional committee reps in place, and is looking for representation in the Northcentral and Southeast regions.

Youth Committee: G. Kutskel pointed out that the statement in the committee report about “holding teacher workshops relative to the TIC program participants” is in error because our agreement with PFBC precludes this.

Delaware River Committee: Pennell advised that Lee Hartman has scheduled meetings with PADEP on April 13 and NJDEP on March 30 to request reassessments of the Delaware watershed safe yields. Undercoffer agreed to contact Lee Hartman to suggest that he include Katy Dunlap and Dave Sewak in his communications.

Legislative Committee: Bohls reported that he is working with Katy Dunlap on putting together a coalition of sportsmen’s groups.

Stream Access Committee: After considerable discussion about the use and application for the proposed access brochure, Kevin Anderson agreed to work with Winters to coordinate efforts with National TU before submitting a revised draft of the brochure for EXCOM approval. Carlson suggested that National TU should develop a standardized brochure with specialized applications for individual states.

Trout Management Committee: Undercoffer announced that he is now serving as co-chair of the committee, particularly as it relates to his efforts with the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture.

PFBC Presentations: John Arway explained that his position on allowing water withdrawals by gas drillers at PFBC access sites is intended to increase revenue by charging fees for consumptive use, and is looking to TU chapters and other sportsmen’s groups for widespread support. A motion by Bohls/seconded by Williams was approved to support the water withdrawal concept as proposed by Arway in his “Highway Robbery” article recently published in PA Angler & Boater.

Leroy Young presented an update on PFBC’s Trout Plan, and Undercoffer requested in the future that full explanations of surveys and studies, not just the results, be made available to the public as part of their reports. Young will be scheduled for a presentation at the fall membership meeting.

National Leadership Council: Williams emphasized that both chapter and Council bylaws must be updated by year-end (December 31). Regional VPs are responsible for ensuring that their chapters meet this deadline. Pennell will send out the National TU Model Bylaws information to regional VPs for dissemination to their chapters. Pennell will also investigate whether Council’s strategic plan has been finalized for submittal to National TU. Chapters will be requested to submit information to National TU pertaining to AMD-related projects completed in the last five years, those underway, and those in the planning stage.

National TU Presentations: Kevin Anderson, who serves as Chesapeake Land Protection Coordinator, explained his role in acting as facilitator for obtaining easements in conjunction with local TU chapters (there are 74 chapters in the

See MINUTES, next page
The 2010-11 school year is coming to an end, and with that comes the end of another year of Trout in the Classroom.

I have had the opportunity to visit a few chapters over the last few months to present TIC, and to see what they have been up to. I’ve heard a lot of great activities going on throughout the state that are getting youth active in TU. A few I would like to highlight are:

- **Iron Furnace TU** holds a TIC night where members and parents are updated and informed about the TIC program through the participating students.

- **Hockendaqua TU** has a stream clean up day with the students and conducts first cast programs.

- **Allegheny Mountain TU** helps with a watershed day teaching students about the importance of coldwater conservation. Examples of some topics are: stream habitat, acid mine drainage and macroinvertebrates. They also have an after-school club for students to engage with the chapter.

- **Forbes Trail TU** has a youth group that meets twice a month to discuss topics like stream ecology and macroinvertebrates.

These are just a few of the programs I have had the opportunity to hear about. If your chapter has a youth event they would like highlighted in PA Trout or on the TIC website www.patrouintheclassroom.org, please send me an email with detailed descriptions of the event. I would like to thank everyone who is involved in the TIC program for making this program a success.

I also want to remind everyone that End of Year and Financial reports are due June 11. All classrooms need to register by June 11 for the 2011-12 school year. The TIC workshop will be held June 24-25. If you have not been to training please plan to attend. All new teachers will need to attend on June 24.

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**MINUTES**

*from previous page*

Chesapeake watershed).

Dave Sewak presented an overview of his activities as Marcellus Shale Field Organizer and talked about his plans for the months ahead, including participation in the Sportsmen Alliance for Marcellus Conservation meeting planned for June 4 in Johnstown.

Becky Dunlap and Shawn Rummel of TU’s Lock Haven office presented an update on their activities with the Eastern Abandoned Mine Program.

**Regional Reports:** Gender reported that the Little Lehigh Chapter has sent a check representing their treasury balance for Council to hold temporarily until disposition of the chapter is resolved. Malaska reported that the Western Pocono Chapter has planned a member/guest fund-raiser for April 9 to attract members and evaluate the future disposition of the chapter.

**Coldwater Heritage Partnership/Trout in the Classroom:** S. Kutskel announced that 10 CHP grants had been approved (three for implementation and seven for planning). Discussion on hiring an AmeriCorps volunteer to assist with Trout in the Classroom resulted in decision to hire a full-time rather than part-time person. Ideas are being sought for programs for the fall annual membership meeting. Bohls suggested that the Donegal Chapter be invited to do a presentation on strategic planning. On a motion by Malaska/seconded by Buser, approval was given for S. Kutskel to attend a class to obtain certification as a cook (a PFBC requirement for using the Stackhouse kitchen).

The meeting was adjourned at 4 p.m. on a motion by Gender/seconded by Malaska. The next EXCOM meeting is scheduled for Sunday, June 26 at the Stackhouse Training Center.

-- Bob Pennell, PATU Secretary
I am pleased to announce that Samantha Kutskel has been chosen as the new Coldwater Heritage Program (CHP) leader. Samantha is a graduate of Mansfield University of Pennsylvania with a Bachelor of Science degree in Fisheries Biology. Prior to taking on the CHP program, she was an intern in the AmeriCorps program, administering the Trout in the Classroom (TIC) program for PATU.

Before coming to PATU, Samantha had several part-time positions: Trout Unlimited and Clinton County Conservation District intern, Idaho Department of Fish and Game Fisheries Technician, and Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission Fisheries Bioaide conducting fish surveys in rivers and streams.

Since taking over the CHP Position Samantha has chaired committees to select the TIC and CHP grant recipients for 2011 and is now working on organizing the 2012 Coldwater Conference. I’m sure she will be a great asset to PATU and the CHP program.

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According to the PFBC: “The listing of a stream section as a wild trout stream is a biological designation that does not determine how it is managed.”

It does, however, give Exceptional Value protection to its wetlands. This is very important in preserving and protecting our wild trout waters from degradation. PATU almost always supports adding streams and stream sections to the Wild Trout list. The PFBC is recommending the addition of 99 new waters, adjustments in the limits of eight, and removal of 16 waters from the list.

It seems some coal companies and a lot of our state politicians aren’t too happy with this proposal. The PFBC has received letters from the PA Coal Association, Rosebud Mining Co., Rep. Pyle, and 45 other state representatives expressing concerns about adding an additional 99 waters to the Wild Trout list.

I attended the PFBC Commissioners meeting on April 11 and offered the full support of PATU for the proposal. Representatives from the coal mining industry also testified. Not surprisingly, they were against it. Their major complaint seemed to be that they had not received enough notice about the proposal and hadn’t had time to evaluate its effects.

Commissioner Sabatose, a member of the Fisheries Committee, felt that this...
proposal should be tabled for 30 days for additional comments and consideration. It will then be voted on by the Fisheries Committee and submitted to the Board of Commissioners for a final vote at the next Commissioners’ meeting. Hopefully, the objections will subside and this will be passed by the Commissioners.

If anybody wants to discuss this in more detail, just contact me at kcoffer@atlanticbb.net. Even better, contact your area PFBC Commissioner and express your opinions about this matter.

* * *

I attended a meeting with Scott Perry, DEP, in Harrisburg to learn about the management plans of the new administration for the Marcellus drilling effort. I did not leave the meeting with the feeling that the DEP has been given the essentials needed to properly assure that Marcellus drilling does not seriously damage our forests and waters. The current government mood in Harrisburg seems to be one of supporting the drilling companies and if the environment has to pay a price, so be it. That’s my opinion. You can take it for what it’s worth.

* * *

I participated in a National TU teleconference held to discuss the possible ramifications of a recent decision by a West Virginia circuit court that threatens to make discharges from AMD remediation projects subject to the regulations of the Clean Water Act.

If taken literally as written, this decision could mean that discharges from our various AMD remediation projects are in violation of the act. They do not and cannot remove manganese which, although harmful, is not in most cases serious enough to threaten most aquatic species.

This decision, apparently, was made with little or no thought put into its effect on efforts by conservation organizations like TU to clean up already damaged water resources.

National TU is talking to the DEP and the EPA in order to express our concerns about this decision and try to get some sort of agreement that discharges from AMD remediation projects would be excepted. Time will tell how this all works out. In the meantime, PATU will keep up with this issue and may, sometime in the future, ask for support to see that this decision does not impede Pennsylvania’s massive AMD clean-up effort.

**2011 PATU Fall Membership Meeting and Pig Roast**

The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited will be holding its annual Fall Meeting and Pig Roast Sept. 30 to Oct. 2 at the H.R. Stackhouse School located at Fisherman’s Paradise along Spring Creek, just outside of Bellefonte. A great group of presentations and workshops are being planned for this year. Please mark your calendar. It’s an event you don’t want to miss!

For more information, please check out the next issue of PA Trout and our website: www.patrout.org.

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**2011 Calendar**

*June 25-26:* Committee meetings TBD - Saturday; EXCOM meeting - Sunday, PFBC Stackhouse Training Center, Fisherman’s Paradise, Bellefonte, Pa.

*September 30-October 2:* Annual membership meeting - Friday, Saturday; EXCOM meeting - Sunday. PFBC Stackhouse Training Center, Fisherman’s Paradise, Bellefonte, Pa.

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**BACK THE BROOKIE PLATE - ORDER FORM FOR INDIVIDUAL ORDERS ONLY**

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

Name: ____________________________________________

Mail Address: ____________________________________________

City: __________________________ State: _________ Zip:________________

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Send form and check (payable to “PATU”) to: Samantha Kutskel

PATU - P.O. Box 5148

Bellefonte, PA 16823

www.patrout.org
The 2011 Pennsylvania Trout Unlimited Awards will be presented at the annual meeting in October. Now is the time to nominate those Chapters and individuals who have done outstanding work for Trout Unlimited.

Please submit nominations by July 31.

The awards are as follows:

- Edward Urbas Award for Best Chapter
- Best Small Chapter for chapters with 100 or fewer members
- Best Chapter Project
- Dr. John A. “Doc” Fritchey Award for outstanding Coldwater Conservationist (TU member)
- Outstanding Professional Coldwater Conservationist
- Best Chapter Website
- Samuel Slaymaker Award for Best Chapter Newsletter
- Dr. Jack Beck Award for Outstanding Youth Outreach (chapter or individual)
- Inky Moore Award for Outstanding Service to Council
- Ken Sink Memorial Award for Long-term Service to Council.

Many chapters are involved in projects and issues that would not be completed without the efforts of individuals committed to TU’s mission.

Listed below is the nomination form. Please copy and circulate it at your meetings. Forward the information to Gerry Miller, awards chair. He will contact the nominator with any questions. Should you run out of space on the form, feel free to continue on a separate page.

The nomination form will also be posted on the PATU website for download. Printed copies can be mailed to: Gerry Miller, 306 Baumgardner Drive, Harrisburg, PA 17112. Call 717-583-2087 with any questions. Completed forms can be emailed to: fourquartets@verizon.net.

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited
2011 Awards Nomination Form

Fill out, clip and mail this nomination form to: Gerry Miller, 306 Baumgardner Drive, Harrisburg, PA 17112. You may also download it from www.patrout.org and mail to the same address. Scanned submissions can be emailed to: fourquartets@verizon.net. Call him with questions at 717-583-2087. The deadline for nominations is July 31.

Your Name: ___________________________________________ Email: _______________________________________

Telephone Number(s):____________________________________

Name of Chapter/Person You Wish To Nominate: __________________________________________________________

Check one:

- Edward Urbas Best Chapter
- Best Chapter Project
- Best Small Chapter (100 or fewer members)
- Dr. Jack Beck (Outstanding Youth Outreach)
- Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist, TU Member (Doctor John A. Fritchey Jr. Award)
- Outstanding Coldwater Conservationist, Professional
- Inky Moore Outstanding Contributions to PATU’s Conservation Mission
- Ken Sink Memorial (not presented every year)
- For An Individual who has made long-term Significant Contributions Through Their Work With State Council
- Best Chapter Website
- (Contact Bob Pennell: rpennell37@comcast.net)
- Samuel Slaymaker For Best Newsletter
- (Send copies of at least 3 recent issues or email to Brad Isles at bisles@live.com)

WHAT PARTICULAR CHARACTERISTICS, ACCOMPLISHMENTS OR ATTRIBUTES MERIT CONSIDERATION OF THIS INDIVIDUAL OR CHAPTER FOR THIS AWARD?

____________________________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________________________

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(Continue on a separate page if necessary.)
PFBC announces hotline to report pollution incidents

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) recently introduced a new toll-free hotline for the public to report suspected pollution incidents or fish kills.

The number – 1-855-FISH-KIL (1-855-347-4545) – provides the public with a way to quickly alert PFBC staff to suspected environmental incidents, according to Board President William Worobec.

“Timely notification is the number one critical factor in dealing with suspected pollution cases and protecting our aquatic resources,” he said. “The sooner we know about an incident, the sooner we can evaluate it and, if necessary, implement a response plan. As more time passes between an incident and our evaluation, we reduce our chances of clearly indentifying the source of the suspected pollutant.”

Worobec emphasized that the number is to be used only for reporting suspected cases of pollution or fish kills and is not meant for general inquiries related to license sales, boat registrations or other agency issues.

Calls using the hotline will be directed to the PFBC’s Bureau of Law Enforcement in Harrisburg, where staff will answer calls from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Calls received after hours or on weekends will be sent to a voice mailbox where the caller can leave a message. PFBC staff will review voice messages and respond as soon as possible.

If someone spots a suspected incident and believes it is an immediate threat to public safety or the environment, they should dial 911 or the Department of Environmental Protection’s emergency number.

Start a response plan. As more time passes between an incident and our evaluation, we reduce our chances of clearly identifying the source of the suspected pollutant.”

By the time most of you read this the banquet season will be done until next year for the most part. We hope that your chapter fund-raisers were a success, and for those that attended our workshop that it made a difference in your bottom line.

Here with Council it seems that the fund-raising never ends. The Development Committee just wrapped up our first ever appeal, and while we did not raise as much as we had hoped, we still received enough that we are in the process of looking at hiring additional staff. That could help in running Council rather than relying on things getting done when time permits. It would also aid in recruiting quality candidates to serve as Council officers. With all that is happening around the state it is very difficult to ask someone to work full time as a volunteer.

As of this newsletter we do not have someone in line to become the next Council president, and when people have been asked their first comment is “I don’t have the time because I still work.” We are looking to find someone who could be considered our “Executive Director” on a part time basis.

We need to work out some more details before we can solicit candidates. Also, note the quotation marks. For the time being this is what we are calling the position. As the details become clearer and we see how much interest there is then we may call it something else.

What we could really use are more people to participate. I’m sure that we have some members who could add real value to this committee, as well as many of the others that we have. I’m always asked how to get on one of the committees. That’s easy, just show up. With our new website being updated regularly everyone has an easy way to see what committee is meeting and when. Please consider being a more active member of your TU.

Our Trout in the Classroom raffle kicked off in late April. This year we are doing things a little differently. First off, regional VPs will deliver the tickets to chapter presidents. Each chapter is asked to sell or buy $100 worth of tickets. Any tickets sold by the chapter after that, the proceeds will be split 50/50. We have some great prizes this year, and because chapters need to help find a match on some grants, this should be a winner for everyone.

Keep in mind that ALL money raised by Council in this raffle is used to help fund our outreach coordinator, without whom the TIC program would not be nearly as successful as it is.

Treasurer’s Report
by PATU Treasurer George Kutskel

Frank Viozzi

Dr. Frank Viozzi, who had chaired Council’s Awards Committee for the past several years, passed away unexpectedly on May 2 while turkey hunting at his McKean County camp. Frank had retired in 2000 from a career in medicine, during which he served as Assistant Medical Director and Interim Chief of Medicine at Geisinger Medical Center in Danville during the 1970s and 1980s.

Shortly after his retirement, he became active in Trout Unlimited and served two terms as president of the Doc Fritchey Chapter in the Harrisburg area. Frank’s leadership inspired many to become actively involved in TU activities, and he was especially concerned with engaging youth in learning about outdoor sports and coldwater conservation issues.

Frank was an outstanding individual who epitomized good sportsmanship, whether it was fishing, hunting, or just living his everyday life.

His gentle, yet persuasive, qualities will not be forgotten by those who were fortunate enough to have known him and spent time with him on the stream or in the field. He will be greatly missed. His family has requested that any memorances in his honor be sent to the Doc Fritchey Chapter, P.O. Box 6592, Harrisburg, PA 17112.

Obituary
PATU members teach casting in new high school course

By Bob Ballantyne
Tulpehocken Chapter of PATU

Five TU members from three different chapters in the southeastern region of the state teamed up on Friday, April 15 to teach fly casting to a group of 24 students at Boyertown Area Senior High School in Boyertown, Pa. The instruction was part of a new course within the school’s Fitness and Wellness Department (formerly Health and Physical Education) and was designed by fitness instructor Adam Lieb, a five-year veteran of the faculty.

Participating were Bob Ballantyne, who is retired from teaching biology and physiology at the high school, along with fellow TU members Scott Lechki, David Macaleer, Ken Tietjens and Ron Weidner. Lechki and Weidner are members of the Tulpehocken Chapter, while Macaleer belongs to the Valley Forge Chapter and Tietjens to the Perkiomen Valley group.

The session was held indoors in one of the school’s gymnasiums because of wind conditions. The class was divided into five groups of four to five students each and each group was coached by a volunteer, several of whom added to the equipment by bringing a flyrod of their own.

Three days prior to the casting session Ballantyne spoke to the class using a PowerPoint program titled “The How and Why of Fly Tying.” Using a Joe’s hopper as an example, a series of slides were presented illustrating the tying of that fly. Following that another series of pictures were used to take the students on a pictorial excursion into fly fishing in Yellowstone National Park.

The official title of the course of study is Outdoor Education. The students had previously experienced beginning training in activities such as snow shoeing, winter safety, cold weather activities, orienteering, and were to experience an overnight hiking trip later in the spring which will include outdoor cooking. The school had received a grant from the Highmark Healthy High 5 Foundation to obtain some materials and equipment for the course. Ten fly rods were included in the purchase.

The flies used during the session had the hooks removed as a safety precaution.

According to Lieb, such courses are part of what he called “the future of physical education.” Lieb holds a teaching degree from East Stroudsburg University and a master’s degree in exercise physiology from West Chester University. His student teacher and a school administrator who were experienced fly anglers also assisted in the instruction.

The volunteers all enjoyed the roles they played, perhaps summed up by Tietjens’ comment: “I got as much out of this as the kids did. It was really fun.”

Book on Pa.’s Spring Creek available for purchase

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

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

The author is a former partner of a State College fly shop and one of the first to become a Federation of Fly Fishers certified casting instructor in the eastern U.S. Dan teaches fly fishing and fly casting, with over 2,500 students to his credit.

Dan also authored the “Penns Creek River Journal” and compiled the book, “George Harvey: Memories, Patterns and Tactics.” To quote Joe Humphreys: “Fly Fishing Pennsylvania’s Spring Creek is a ‘must read’ for anyone interested in fishing and conserving Spring Creek.”

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

The Fishery of Spring Creek / A Watershed Under Siege

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

The 88-page document which tracks the former decline and rise of this well-known trout fishery can be read by visiting: http://www.patrout.org/Content/20110407221507156.pdf.
Tiadaghton Chapter of Trout Unlimited was fortunate to be given a $500 donation from the Arnot Sportsmen Club of Tioga County this past March. The chapter thanks Ron Signor and his group for their generosity.

One of the nice things about their donation was there were no strings attached as to how the money should be spent. We had been previously approached by the Pine Creek Headwaters Protection Group requesting that our chapter make a donation to them which would in turn be forwarded to Lycoming College in Williamsport for the “Un-assessed Streams Program” sponsored by the PFBC. Chapter President Bill Paulmier suggested using the Arnot donation for this project at our March board meeting and possibly adding $500 additional dollars from the chapter. A motion was made and it passed unanimously.

Wanting to get more information about the program, Jere White and I attended a public meeting hosted by the Susquehanna TU Chapter at Lycoming College on April 13 with approximately 70 people in attendance.

Following our arrival, introductions were made and PFBC President Bill Worobec and Executive Director John Arway gave opening remarks. Arway commented that this program was conceived by Worobec, who donated $500 to start the program. Arway also stated that this program has brought many diverse conservation groups together speaking with one voice for the protection of our streams and wetlands in the face of the Marcellus Shale gas well development.

Bob Weber, a PFBC biologist, was introduced and he discussed the program in detail. Weber stated there are 86,000 miles of flowing streams in PA and only 22,000 miles have been assessed by state agencies. Currently there are 12,800 miles of known wild trout water that have been classified as CWF, or Cold Water Fisheries.

The PFBC realized they needed more help in assessing unknown streams due to the quantity and lack of staffing. They also sensed the urgent need due to the nearly statewide activity by the oil and gas industry. He believed there were many un-assessed streams that are potentially HQ-CWF and may possibly be Exceptional Value Class-A wild trout fisheries that require special protection. Worobec contacted Dr. Mel Zimmerman, director of the Clean Water Institute at his alma mater, Lycoming College, and the program was born.

It was agreed that after training in proper assessment techniques utilized by PFBC, that students under the direction of Zimmerman would be able to help. Weber said he was nervous about giving up the assessment reigns to people outside the commission but after working with Zimmerman and the students in the field, he found they were very capable and performed well. The program was also extended to students at Kings College in the Wilkes-Barre Scranton area. Last year the two colleges assessed 307 streams. Of those sampled, 169 streams had “wild trout” populations and 99 of those may be classified as Class A.

Streams chosen for assessment were cited due to Marcellus Shale activity in their area. If the streams are found to be “HQCWF”(High Quality Cold Water Fisheries) or can be classified as “EV” (Exceptional Value) they will have greater importance during the permitting process by DEP should oil and gas development be initiated in the watershed.

Zimmerman stated that his group plans to evaluate many more streams in 2011 than they did in 2010 now that his team trained and ready to go. When school ends in May they will commence sampling activities. Their focus will be streams in the Upper Pine Creek Basin, including the West Branch of Pine and tributaries to Marsh Creek that flows into Pine Creek just upstream from the PA Grand Canyon.

Weber is now continuing his sampling efforts and putting all of the collected data into an accessible storage system that he hopes to complete in the near term. He asks that PA fishermen supply any additional information regarding un-assessed waters we may have to him through Dave Sewak, Trout Unlimited’s Marcellus Shale project coordinator.

The program is being expanded to include several state universities due to the rapid growth of oil and gas development. Donations are needed to help with operating costs and the small wages that are paid to the students. Donations can be made through Lycoming College or directly to the PFBC.
Trout in the Classroom Raffle tickets now available for purchase

The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited is offering chapters and individuals an opportunity to help support our highly successful Trout in the Classroom program by purchasing raffle tickets for four great prizes:

1st Prize – Wyatt Dietrich Custom Built 7’2” 5wt. Bamboo Rod with Leather Case

2nd Prize – Framed Ned Smith “Greenbrier Grouse” Conservation Edition Print

3rd Prize – Charbroil 4-Burner 40,000 BTU Stainless Steel Grill

4th Prize – $200.00 Cash Card for a Store of Your Choice.

Our Trout in the Classroom programs are currently supported by local chapters in nearly 200 schools across the Commonwealth. The task of supporting these programs has grown proportionately with the dramatic increase in the number of schools now participating. It costs Council more than $12,000 a year to provide the services of a TIC coordinator to work with our chapters to ensure the success of the program statewide. We cannot do this work solely with volunteers.

We hope that every PATU member values this program highly enough to participate in this year’s raffle. The tickets are just $5.00 each, or 5 tickets for $20.00. Send your check payable to “PA Trout” to George Kutskel, 107 Simmons Street, DuBois, PA 15801. The ticket drawing will be held during our Annual Membership Meeting on October 1.

Subscribe to PA Trout

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

Name__________________________________________

Street or P.O._____________________________________

City, State & Zip___________________________________

Subscription rate is $5.00 per year (4 issues)

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

What you need to know to receive PA Trout newsletters

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

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

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

2. If you are a current PATU chapter member, you will automatically receive a notice by email when each new issue of PA Trout is posted at www.patrout.org, provided that your email address on file with National TU is current. If not, then you should log on to www.tu.org and update your email address as follows: Click the “Member Login” box and enter your username and password which opens the “Welcome to My TU” page. Click “Edit Profile” and then click on “Account” tab where you will enter your email address.

3. If you do not have access to the Internet and/or you would prefer to receive a printed copy by mail, you can subscribe at a cost of $5.00 per year (4 issues).

Please note that this is a reduction in the previously announced cost of $10.00 per year. Those who have previously paid $10.00 will automatically receive a one-year extension on their subscriptions. Just send your check payable to “PA Trout” to George Kutskel, 107 Simmons Street, Dubois, PA 15801.

4. A limited number of printed copies for distribution to other organizations will be available at no cost to chapters on a first come/first served basis. Send requests to Samantha Kutskel, PATU, P.O. Box 5148, Bellefonte, PA 16823, or by email to c-skutskel@state.pa.us.
The Monroe County Environmental Education Center’s Fly Fishing Seminar was March 12. Brodheads Chapter provides instructors and begins for the seminar each year. It begins with a film. Then using the entomology PowerPoint presentation on our website and actual samples with matching flies, Will Daskal shows the participants how to “match the hatch.” Tom Battista demonstrates what equipment you need to get started fly fishing, and the group is taken outdoors to try casting. Board members tie flies to be given as door prizes during the presentations.

Forks of the Delaware Chapter #482
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Mike Recine attended the northeast regional meeting held at Cabela’s on Feb. 18. Ryan Rush attended a February meeting in White Haven for the unveiling of the 2011 Francis E. Walter Dam – Lehigh River Release Plan and Schedule. Chapter meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month, except July and August, at Stockertown Rod & Gun Club at 7 p.m. The chapter held a successful eight-week fly tying class ending in March. Thanks to Joe Baylog, Brian Kress, Dave Hess, Jere Haas, Bill Heffner, Dave Kubich, Jessica Lettich and Steve Pacovich. The 9th annual Spring Event was held March 26. It is a joint fund-raiser with neighboring chapters. Michael McAuliffe, owner, lead guide, lecturer and instructor for Rise Form Guides was the featured presenter. The chapter received results from an electro-fishing survey of the Bushkill Creek that was contracted with Aquatic Resources Consulting. The report can be found at www.forkstu.org. A macro-invertebrate study will be undertaken this spring. The chapter had a fly tying demonstration at the 8th annual Sportsmen’s Night at Grace Bible Fellowship Church Jan. 28-29. Thanks to Jere Haas. The chapter participated in the Adventures in Agriculture expo at Palmer Park Mall Feb. 11-13 with an educational display. Norm Benton, Thom Beverly, Karl Loser and Brian Wagner tied flies. The chapter conducted its Adopt-A-Highway cleanup on March 16, led by clean-up coordinator Karl Loser. The “road crew” included Brian Kress, Steve Pacovich, Forrest Freeman, Thom Beverly, Brian Wagner and Joe Velopoleac. The chapter planned a stream clean-up on Martins Creek in Northampton Borough in March.

Hokendauqua Chapter #535
Dale Steventon

The Hokendauqua Chapter completed its 26th annual fly tying course. Thirty-three adults and 18 youths 16 and under attended eight Saturday classes this year. Thirty-five anglers signed up for the chapter’s annual trip to the West Branch of the Ausable River in New York. Director Phil Hublitz has a three-day trip planned in June for disabled veterans. The vets will stay in a B&B in Benton, PA, and fish that area’s streams. Janet Reichelderfer, the chapter’s TIC teacher from Catasaqua High School, had another successful year. Students released trout into the Hokendauqua Creek in Northampton Borough in March. They also planned a stream bank cleanup for March 28 with the help of TU members. The chapter planned a second stream cleanup day on April 30. On March 15 lifetime member John Mauser and board members meet with the southeast region engineer for the PFBC on a bank stabilization project in Kievidersville.

Monocacy Chapter #491
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Efforts to utilize talent and resources from other local chapters in “program swaps” was evident in Dale Ott’s January presentation “Montana Trout.” Dale is from the Hokendauqua Chapter. Jeff Shafer, a member of our chapter, in turn presented one of his programs for their chapter. Chapter member Bob Signorillo arranged to have friend and Candlewood, Conn., chapter member Tony Ballato present his program “Clearwater Lodge – Alaska 2010” at February’s meeting. Bob has presented to that chapter in the past. Thank to Dale, Jeff, Tony and Bob for their efforts and talent. The 9th annual Spring Event sponsored by the Forks of the Delaware, Hokendauqua and Monocacy chapters of TU was March 26 at Stockertown Rod and Gun Club. Michael McAuliffe from Rise Form Studios presented “12 Months Fishing our Freestone Streams.” The program focused on the upper South Branch of the Raritan River, NJ. Annual stream clean-up is April 23. The effort of the City of Bethlehem to remove a dam on the Monocacy in Johnston Park is being monitored. This site will be the focus of future riparian restoration efforts. Jeff Shafer presented a slide show on fishing the Monocacy in late March. The program was followed by a fly tying session focused on early season patterns. Thanks to Greg Malaska, Northeast Region VP, George Kutskel, PATU treasurer, Samantha Kutskel, TIC coordinator, and the other chapter representatives for an
In January, Greg Malaska, the Northeast Region VP, met with the chapter and discussed various topics including Marcellus Shale drilling and the role of the chapter’s involvement in water monitoring. A night of fly tying was held with the chapter’s own tyers. In February, Secretary Manny Vidal and President Matt Wishneski attended the Stan Cooper Chapter meeting. SCTU held an evening with Project Healing Waters’ Heide Baut. The chapter sent Treasurer John Lazar and Wishneski to Cabela’s for a leadership training workshop. The annual banquet was held at Lukan’s East Mountain Inn & Suites, Wilkes-Barre. Chair of this year’s banquet was Heide Cebick. Past chapter meetings featured Don Baylor’s presentation: “TROUT: Streams; Past, Present & Future;” Heide Cebick presenting Project Healing Waters; and George Douglas, publisher of Kype Fishing Magazine presenting “Fish Like A Guide.”

Wyoming Valley Fly Tyers meets the third Tuesday of each month and is open to anyone interested in the art of fly tying. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own vises and materials. Project Healing Waters continues to meet with veterans on a monthly basis at the VAMC in Wilkes-Barre. This past holiday season they held a party to honor our veterans and participants received fly fishing gifts. The chapter continues to reach the public and members through timely website and e-bulletin updates. Philip Mancini is our webmaster and Mike Matso and Kim Mancini are the e-bulletin editors. The website address is www.sctu.org, and those interested in receiving the e-bulletin can sign up by visiting our website www.sctu.org or by emailing KimLMancini@verizon.net. The chapter’s conservation banquet was April 9 at the East Mountain Inn & Suites, Wilkes-Barre. Chair of this year’s banquet was Heide Cebick. Past chapter meetings featured Don Baylor’s presentation: “TROUT: Streams; Past, Present & Future;” Heide Cebick presenting Project Healing Waters; and George Douglas, publisher of Kype Fishing Magazine presenting “Fish Like A Guide.”
Mercer Chapter #038
Brian Yeager
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188 Memorial Park Ave., Elysburg, PA 17824

Election results were: Brian Yeager, president; Wayne Michael, vice president; Robert Christ, treasurer; and Frank Misiti, secretary. Our two annual trout stockings were on April 29 and May 14. In depth discussions and planning for the chapter’s 2011 proposed budget are ongoing. Initial planning for a CCTU-sponsored fly casting clinic to be held sometime in June is underway. Recent meeting programs included Mike Zenzel, Columbia County representative for the PA Federation of Sportsmen Clubs, who made a presentation on the organization and requested that CCTU join the federation; Ed Wytovich of the Catawissa Creek Restoration Association (CCRA) who made a presentation on the proposal to organize a coalition whose goal would be to gain and maintain access to the Catawissa Creek and its tributaries for recreational purposes; and Dave Sewak, PA Marcellus Shale field organizer for National TU, who made a one-hour presentation regarding Marcellus Shale drilling in PA, and the Coldwater Conservation Corps (CCC). Our TIC program at Central Columbia Middle School is going as well as can be expected. Jen Fisher reported on Jan. 14 that she was down to about 200 fish. On Jan. 24 that total dropped to about 30. We visited the school on March 2 for a tour of the program. As of that visit they were down to four very strong swimmers. They were to be released in April. We had 10 students sign up for the fly tying classes. They were held for five consecutive Wednesdays from Feb. 9 to March 9 at the Columbia County Conservation District Ag Center (except the March 2 class that was held at Fishing Creek Angler fly shop in Benton.) CCTU had a booth again at the annual Early Bird Sports Expo held at the Bloomsburg Fairgrounds from Jan. 27-30. Fly tying demonstrations and instructions were provided by our resident fly tying instructor, Robert Christ. Displays were set up to show the expo attendees what we are about, what we have done, and what we are doing. A 50/50 raffle and a quarter drop was held for the length of the expo. CCTU again presented three 45-minute fly tying lessons at the Bloomsburg Middle School on May 6.

God’s Country Chapter #327
Dr. Peter Ryan
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820 Rt. 49, Coudersport, PA 16915

At January’s meeting, B.J. Lowther was elected chapter secretary, taking much of the burden off the president. Leadership activities saw several chapter members serving on a subcommittee of the water quality committee of the Potter County Marcellus Task Force. Loren Fitzgerald has taken the lead in forming a citizens’ water monitoring group, “Potter County Waterdogs,” with help from this committee, commissioners, conservation district and Penn State Cooperative Extension. The plans is to receive some grant funds to train and equip volunteer citizen monitors as well as purchase in-stream monitoring equipment. Our Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing event is May 24-27. David Saultier had spoken to many American Legion Posts in the area who have made financial contributions as well as providing a huge motorcycle escort for our visiting disabled veterans. After giving a presentation on Project Healing Waters to the Coudersport Rotary Club, they decided to have a rod raffle with all proceeds donated to our event. Letters of solicitation went out to area businesses asking for their support as well. There are six chapter members monitoring headwater streams in areas of concern with Marcellus drilling. Four chapter members helped with Seneca Chapter’s fly tying program in February and March. Plans are being made to have a “Youth Learn to Fly Fish” outing this summer for kids 12 to 15 years old.

Jim Zwald Chapter #314
Rick Leviski
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509 Light St., St. Marys, PA 15857

On March 29, Jeffrey Deitrich presented his findings on the Wild Brook Trout Enhancement Area Regulations the PFBC established about six years ago. We are sending three students from our local high school to Wayne’s Cold Water Youth Outing in Spruce Creek. Two of our members will be going along to guide. Rick Leviski replaced Gary Pauline as chapter at the January meeting. Due to the economic conditions of the last few years we do not have a fund-raising event planned at this time. Several members are monitoring streams in Elk and Cameron counties. Stanley Hastings is currently checking 20 plus streams in two counties. Several of our members underwent training on the use of this equipment last summer.

Lloyd Wilson Chapter #224
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Website: www.lwtn.org
14 Valley View Rd., Lock Haven, PA 17745

Directors have been working on revising our by-laws and had them finalized prior to the May meeting. At the February meeting, members heard a presentation by Chris Haser, vice president of the Spring Creek chapter, on the US Youth Fly Fishing Team. A youth event will be held in the State College area June 21-22. Volunteers are needed. On Feb. 26, our chapter hosted the PATU Coldwater Conservation Corps training session for monitoring Marcellus Shale activities. Dave Sewak from National TU and a group from AL-LARM (Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring) from Dickinson College did an excellent job of presenting information on gas extraction and the hands-on lab work to do the monitoring. There were 20 people in attendance. Our annual five-session fly tying course started in March with 24 people attending. The chapter purchased $100 worth of fly tying material and sent it to soldiers on active duty in Iraq. Our TIC project in the Jersey Shore Middle School had some problems with water chemistry, but solved those and tended to about 20 fingerlings that appeared to be doing well. Our TIC project at the Central Mountain Middle School had about 200 fish to be cared for.

Raymond B. Winter Chapter #124
Robert Laubach
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1535 Green Ridge Rd., Mifflinburg, PA 17844

The chapter meeting in January featured Dave Sewak, who gave an update on Marcellus Shale activities. In February, aquatic biologist Mike Bilger gave a presentation on Ecoanalysts’ study of macro-invertebrates on the lower end of Penns Creek. March featured Jeff Deitrick, who gave results of his seven-year study on the effect of special no-kill regulations on several north central headwater streams. His studies indicated no change in size or numbers of brook trout. Our annual fund-raising banquet was March 25 with George Daniels as speaker. The chapter float-stocked the C&R FFO stretch of White Deer

Continued on next page...
Creek on March 24 assuring that trout were distributed throughout the special regulations area. A successful 10-week fly tying course concluded March 14. Jim Wagner was the instructor. Several students became chapter members. TIC in Mifflinburg School went well with little fingering loss. A fly tying seminar was held by chapter members at “Snofest,” held at R.B. Winter State park in February.

Spring Creek Chapter #185
Judi Sittler
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Website: www.springcreektu.org
108 Gas Light Circle, State College, PA 16801

The board adopted updated bylaws in the first quarter. We used the National TU template to guide our decisions on the new version. The final version will be put on our chapter’s section of the National TU website. Our secretary, Bob Eberhart, is the ultimate detail guy on this job. The annual Stream Clean-up Day for us coincided with the National TU Stream Clean-up Day. In recent years our chapter has joined our local ClearWater Conservancy in a widespread clean-up day which is much bigger and better organized than our single chapter could put together. Not only do we have many “boots on the ground” hand-picking trash along streams, but there is heavy equipment employed to clean out old dump sites filled with tires, refrigerators and more. Chris Haser and Bob Vierck are our point men on this project. Our April general membership meeting featured Dave Sewak, the TU Marcellus Shale field organizer. Related to the Marcellus Shale issue, our chapter voted to fully endorse the PATU White Paper on Marcellus Shale. Board member Bob Donaldson did a good job preparing and presenting the issues we needed to consider when deciding our position as a chapter. We sent a copy of the White Paper, along with our endorsement of the paper, to state legislators. Our annual banquet this year honored two men who have given countless hours and excellent service to our chapter. Joe Boston was the chapter member instrumental in tracking down several important grants which pulled together a $500,000, three-year, habitat improvement project on Spring Creek. This project won us the PATU “Best Chapter Project” award. Since the “trophy” was an engraved fly box, we thought it fitting that we award this box to Joe at our annual banquet. We also award the “Order of the Sulphur” to a member who has tirelessly contributed to our chapter. This year it went to Al Phillips, who has been our general meeting coordinator for the past five years. This guy is good at making sure that we have presentations of interest to our membership. He sees to the technology needed for the presentations, gives notice to our members well in advance, makes sure the right rooms are reserved and sees that every other detail of a well-run general meeting is taken care of. Every chapter should have at least 10 people like Al. We are assisting ClearWater Conservancy in an event to further their efforts in obtaining a piece of property adjoining Rothrock State Forest called Galbraith Gap. The event is billed as “A Day on Spring Creek with PSU Legends.” The “legends” are four men who have taught or are teaching fly fishing classes at Penn State: Joe Humphreys, Vance McCullough and Mark Belden, all of whom taught the classes started by George Harvey. Gregg Hoover is the fourth legend and is the faculty advisor to the fly fishing club at PSU. He is also an expert entomologist. We will also be partnering with the ClearWater Conservancy to move forward on a stream restoration project on Spring Creek in the Oak Hall area.

Tiadaghton Chapter #688
Bill Paulmier
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105 Harvey Ave., Westfield, PA 16950

The chapter had three sessions of “Flies and Lies” this past winter that were open to the public and very well attended. We had fly tying demonstrations and taught some people how to tie for the first time. Some dropped in to learn more about our conservation efforts and support of the TIC program, now at four schools in the county. We also had a booth at the Morris Gun Show and sold raffle tickets for our Blast N’ Cast fund-raiser. The raffle was held at our banquet in late March. Dwight Landis, author of “Trout Streams of Pennsylvania,” was our featured speaker. Also, Dave Sewak, National TU’s Marcellus Shale field organizer, gave a timely short talk “The Marcellus Play in Pennsylvania” covering Marcellus development, concerns, the Coldwater Conservation Corps, and TU’s plans for the future. Our annual road clean-up along Route 6 adjacent to Pine Creek was held in April. The chapter planned to hold its fifth “First Cast” event on May 14 at the Stoney Fork Campground outside of Wellsboro. Plans are underway for our Woman on the Water Program traditionally held in June. We are continuing to monitor three streams: the Asaph, Straight and Canada Run. We hope to add a few more this year. Steve Hoover of DCNR attended our March meeting to discuss locating and eradicating Mile-a-Minute weed, an invasive plant species discovered on Pine Creek. Our chapter will be setting up dates to work with DCNR on this threat. On July 8 we will be continuing our conservation efforts on Asaph Run with another dam project. This year we received a large donation from Arnot Sportsmen Inc. and we appreciate their ongoing support.

The chapter hosted PATU CCC training on Jan. 29 and despite a snowstorm 29 people attended. Kim Bonfardine agreed to be the chapter’s Marcellus coordinator. We will be monitoring several streams in the Brockway and Ridgway area. We are also monitoring several streams in the Moshannon State Forest. Dave Sewak was our speaker for our monthly meeting in January to give an overview of Marcellus drilling. We had a good turnout of non-members who later joined and took the training. While January was all Marcellus, February was Trout in the Classroom. Our February meeting had several teachers involved in TIC who attended as well as PATU TIC coordinator Samantha Kutskel. She gave a presentation on how we, as a chapter, could work with the teachers as well as activities that we could do. She showed the TIC trunk plus all the great info that we could use. Teachers Rich McClelland and Kyle Norman discussed how TIC is being used in their classes. Recent developments in the standards for graduation have come about and students need community service hours to graduate. We talked of ways that both the students and our chapter could benefit. Brockway students will be helping with our environmental day with the DuBois Middle School in May to help with their volunteer hours. At our March board meeting we made plans for the Environmental Field Day for the DuBois Middle School on May 27. We hosted several stations including macroinvertebrates, habitat and AMD with help from National TU.

Northwest Chapters
Allegheny Mountain Chapter #036
George Kutskel
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Website: www.amctu.org
107 Simmons St., DuBois, PA 15801

The chapter planned to hold its fifth “First Cast” event in June. We are continuing to monitor several streams: the Asaph, Straight and Canada Run. We hope to add a few more this year. Steve Hoover of DCNR attended our March meeting to discuss locating and eradicating Mile-a-Minute weed, an invasive plant species discovered on Pine Creek. Our chapter will be setting up dates to work with DCNR on this threat. On July 8 we will be continuing our conservation efforts on Asaph Run with another dam project. This year we received a large donation from Arnot Sportsmen Inc. and we appreciate their ongoing support.

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Allegeny Mountain Chapter #036
George Kutskel
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More than 350 students are reached that day. We are also planning our release day for the other schools. Eric Wilson has started a fly fishing club with the help of Rich McClelland at the DuBois High School. This is an after school event and has about six students currently participating. DuBois Area Catholic Schools are looking at a possible “First Cast” program for the next school year. The chapter had a booth at the Central PA Sportsmen’s Show on March 25-27 at the Clearfield Fair Grounds. The chapter’s 45th annual banquet was April 9 at the DuBois VFW. Board member Kelly Williams is working on our GP1 permit for work on Wolf Run this August. Stout Unlimited lost a real treasure in February. Dr. Colson Blakeslee passed away after a brief illness. Doc was the recipient of Distinguished Service Award from National TU two years ago, as well as from PATU. Dr. Blakeslee was responsible for adding many acres to our state forest system, as well as being a leader in trying to clean up many of the acid mine discharges around the state, using innovative ways to accomplish them. He was chapter president when he went after PennDOT to stop the new road along the First Fork of the Sinnemahoning Creek back in the late ’60s. While he lost the battle, he won the war as a result PennDOT was required to do environmental impact studies before building or moving roads. He will be sorely missed.

Caldwell Creek Chapter #437
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The chapter hosted a Marcellus Shale presentation by Dave Sewak on Feb. 24 with approximately 24 in attendance. We are very concerned about proposed drilling into Utica Shale (approximately 6,500 feet deep) on headwaters of Twenty Mile Creek near North East, PA. Twenty Mile Creek, east of Erie, is one of the better steelhead fisheries in the state. Thanks to Tom Mack of the Caldwell Creek chapter for making the arrangements for this well-attended meeting. All four TIC classes were doing well at last report. Several chapter members planned to attend CCC training in Lucinda for making the arrangements for the classes. Each student left the class with a basic understanding of streamside insect and water quality sampling.

Iron Furnace Chapter #288
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Cold Water Conservation Corps training sponsored by the chapter was March 19 at St. Joseph’s Church in Lucinda. A good turnout was expected as the chapter looks to be leaders when it comes to one of the bigger threats from Marcellus Shale gas drilling. Plans to plant trees on our property in Limestone along the banks of the Piney Creek delayed harvest area were also made. Due to liming efforts by the North Fork Watershed Association on North Fork Creek in Jefferson County, stocking of trout in the stream has been expanded. The hard work by this group has really been showing some great improvements to the stream. Iron Furnace chapter is happy to support their great work. Yearly fly tying classes were once again a great success. Mark Hanes was head instructor again and 15 to 20 members of all ages attended the classes. Each student left the class with a basic knowledge of fly tying and a fly tying kit of tools and materials to get them started. This is always well received by the community and something many members look forward to helping out with on a yearly basis. Next year’s classes should only continue to get better. Special thanks to the members that came out to and graciously donated their Saturday mornings to a good cause. Trout in the Classroom reported no major problems with the trout. The chapter’s efforts with the meeting and presentation at Keystone High School were highlighted on the front page of the Clarion News.

Neshannock Chapter #216
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At the January meeting we held our election of officers. Long-time board member Nick Lopriore was re-elected to another three-year term. Also, Jim Kearney was elected to serve on the board. Jim replaces Bill Fay who chose not to continue on the board due to other commitments. Thanks Bill, for all your past years of service to the chapter. Our annual banquet was March 26 at the Radisson in West Middletown. There were two guest fly tyers, silent auctions and many nice raffle prizes. Our annual pre-season cleanup of the DHALO area on Coolspring Creek was April 9. We did a general cleanup of the project and trail maintenance as needed along with Adopt-A-Highway trash pickup along Scrubgrass Road. Mark Sausser from the PFBC recently conducted an assessment on the DHALO area of Coolspring, and is working on plans for future stream improvement projects. The first phase of these projects will take place this summer and will be in the “Glory Hole” area of the stream. We will be constructing several in-stream rock deflectors that will prevent more stream bank erosion in the area and should eventually create a deeper hole to return the area to the prime fishing spot that it was named for. No dates for the workday or days needed to complete this project have been set, but will probably be in the July or August timeframe. The other project we have been working on is the mud sill on Big Run in New Castle and it is 95 percent complete. There may be a need to have some more stone added at a later date but we will wait and see how it looks after the spring runoff and decide what to do then. I would like to thank the following companies and people for their help on this project. First there is Quality Aggregates, Jeff Ankrom, owner, of New Castle who donated 20 tons of limestone. Second is McClymonds Trucking of Portersville, Mark McClymonds, owner, who donated the transportation of the stone to the project, and last but not least, Tom Weingartner, owner of Weingartner Florist in New Castle and property owner on the project, who used his tractor to move the stone down to the stream. Tom should also be thanked for keeping his property open to a youth fishing area that is used by many local children during trout season. If you are not already on the email list to be notified about workdays and would like to help, just send your email address to me at bentley48@neo.rr.com and I will send you updates about upcoming workdays, or you can call me at 724-588-4378 and leave a phone number.

Continued on page 19
Valley Forge newsletter morphs into ‘Trout Tales’

As a general rule, it’s a common understanding that fishing tales are part truth, part lie and a whole lot of embellishment thrown in just to make things a little more exciting.

So it should be no surprise that “Trout Tales and Watershed Heroes: the greatest stories from the first thirty years of Banknotes” follows that mantra perfectly.

The book is an entertaining, historical recollection of the events, characters and, of course, fishing tales, that helped to build the foundation of Pennsylvania’s Valley Forge Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

The stories found in “Trout Tales” were compiled from archived copies of the chapter’s newsletter – “Banknotes” – by VFTU members Jim Clark and Tom Prusak, and edited by Thomas E. Ames. Illustrations and original artwork from fellow members Todd Henderson, Andy Leitzinger and the late Carl Dusinberre are scattered throughout the book’s 219 pages.

The book is divided into four parts: “Home Waters;” “Flies, Ties and Outright Lies;” “Near and Far;” and “Watershed Heroes.” Upon introduction to each part, the reader is able to draw a personal meaning from its title. From there, the book grows into a record of individual experiences, missives on the art of fly tying, and accounts of fishing in distant, exotic locales.

Any conservationist will enjoy the stories based on watershed health and preservation.

While VFTU members will no doubt recognize the people, places and tales in the book, the quality of its selected stories are enough to keep the attention of readers unfamiliar with the Chester County, PA chapter and its inner workings.

In keeping with Trout Unlimited’s mission of conserving, protecting, restoring and sustaining Pennsylvania’s coldwater fisheries and their watersheds, proceeds from the book will support VFTU youth programs and education.

Trout Tales and Watershed Heroes: the greatest stories from the first thirty years of BANKNOTES (Volume 1) can be ordered on Amazon.com. The cost is $15 plus shipping and handling.

– Brad Isles, PA Trout Editor

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The Kengersky Agency
1-800-921-PATU (7288)
number and I will call. The Deer Creek group is planning their next project which will on the Custalotagatow Boy Scout Camp near Carlton. Phase 1 will be rehabilitating and enhancing a critical pool to be used for a handicapped accessible trout fishing area that the Boy Scout Camp will be planning in the next three to five years. A workday will be held on Aug. 27. We finished up our first year in the TIC program at Delahuntly Middle School in Hermitage. The 6th grade students of Rick Stephens were very enthusiastic about the program, the scheduled trout release in April and visit to Munnell Run Farm. We are also planning on starting another TIC program in the Mercer School District beginning this fall.

Northwest PA Chapter #041
Jim Pfenderl
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3155 W. 23rd St., Erie, PA 16506

Five members of our chapter attended the Marcellus Shale program presented by Dave Sekaw and sponsored by the Caldwell Creek Chapter. We hope that PATU or National TU are doing something to move Senate Bill 1215 and House Bill 2766 forward. These bills address two critical issues with hydrofracking: the exemption of fracking from the Clean Water Act, and non-disclosure of the fracking fluid chemicals. It is my hope that PATU and/or National will put out an Action Alert to inform members about these bills to put pressure on our representatives to move these bills forward. Passage of these two bills would go a long way to ensure clean water.

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

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SE Montgomery Co. 468
Tulpehocken 150
Valley Forge 290

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT
Fred Gender
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Phone: 570-704-8764

Bucks County Chapter #254
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The chapter’s annual fund-raising banquet in early March was well attended and the new venue was well received. Many great prizes were available, the food was excellent, and the auction antics were some of the best yet. The chapter was awarded an Embrace-A-Stream Grant for $4,250 to perform a culvert survey of the Cooks Creek watershed to identify culverts that are impeding fish passage. Chapter members and Cooks Creek Watershed Association members will be trained in the use of the culvert assessment protocol developed by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. After the training, we will then assess approximately 100 culverts in the watershed. From this assessment, a prioritized list of culverts will be developed and conceptual plans for retrofits of at least three culverts will be developed. We will then use this data to seek funding for retrofitting the highest priority culverts. To the best of our knowledge this will be the first watershed-scale culvert survey performed in Pennsylvania. The chapter was honored to receive the Land Ethics Award presented by the Bowman’s Hill Wildflower Preserve on Feb. 17. The award recognizes the chapter’s Lindquist Farm Project on Watson Creek in which a dam was removed, 450 feet of stream bank was stabilized, large woody debris was placed in the stream channel and more than 1,000 native trees and shrubs were planted in 1,500 feet of restored riparian buffer. The Land Ethics Award recognizes individuals, organizations, government agencies and businesses that have made significant contributions to the promotion of native plants and have exhibited a strong land ethic while promoting sustainable designs to protect the environment.

Delco-Manning Chapter #320
David Wharton
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Chapter: P.O. Box 183, Media, PA 19063

The chapter held its annual banquet on Feb. 26. The event was an overwhelming success and one of our best attended in years. The chapter continues to work with CRC Watersheds on projects to improve Ridley Creek. Various projects are scheduled for spring, and our annual stream cleanup on the catch and release section of Ridley Creek was scheduled for early May. The chapter also assisted with the PFBC spring stocking on Ridley Creek. The chapter conducted its annual winter fly tying classes, which were well attended. Instruction was provided by some of the chapter’s best fly tyers. Attendees learned various new and existing patterns and tying techniques. We also provided tying instruction to the Delaware County Field and Stream Association who held an event to introduce their members to fly tying.

SE Montgomery County
Chapter #462
Richard Terry

Continued on next page...
Over the winter we had had fly tying classes on Tuesday nights that were well attended. We also had some great speakers at our monthly meetings at the Nature Center. For those in the area, check out the website www.tu468.org for future speakers. Guests are always welcome. In March, a spring trout stocking took place in the Pennypack, in the section that runs through the Pennypack Trust area. Hopefully water levels will be back up to where they should be. The fall and winter saw a stream level that was low, as did most of the southeastern part of the state. We had a booth at the Fly Show in the Valley Forge Convention Center and did extremely well with the sale of raffle tickets that will benefit our youth programs. The new brochure from TU came in handy explaining to future members how to join. Our annual banquet was March 19 at the Willow Grove Moose Facility. There were some great bucket and silent auction prizes available for those that attend. We had two sets of Trout in the Classroom tanks and both did well. The kids really enjoyed the project, and even created some great PowerPoint presentations.

Valley Forge Chapter #290
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The chapter is looking into updating our bylaws to be parallel to the National TU model. The Victory Brew Pub meeting grossed $850 on raffles and a great time was had by all. The Fly Fishing Show at the Valley Forge Convention Center was very successful from our point of view. Including the main raffle item, a loaded Umpqua Guide box loaded with flies, we grossed over $1,500. It also gave us great visibility and advertising for our Trout Show and Fly Fishing School. The show was March 31 and featured a presentation by Ed Engle. Several chapter members did a stream walk with our reconstruction team for Crabby Creek and now have a better understanding of the extent of restoration that is required to stabilize the stream. We also learned that the township approved the go-to bid for sewer design services for the line along the creek. Our negotiations with the PA Turnpike continue over the stormwater issues involved in the Turnpike’s widening project from the Route 29 Slip Ramp project to the Valley Forge interchange. The chapter’s involvement with the Chester County Marcellus Shale Coalition continues. The coalition is looking at having a large rally to publicize the issues surrounding the Marcellus play. Also, Dave Siewak presented to the Open Land Conservancy of Chester County on March 24.

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT
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Adams County Chapter #323
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swopeda624@embarqmail.com
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The ACTU Board met on April 13. There was a discussion on easements and public access and its importance in the future of fishing in the Commonwealth. Membership approved updated chapter bylaws. This will be the sixth consecutive year for the member incentive program. The chapter provided group leaders for the Children’s Water Festival at Gettysburg College on May 24. Chapter members helped the PFBC stock the regulated section of the Conewago Creek on Feb. 15. The chapter’s banquet was March 19. Chapter members will conduct a fly tying station for Southcentral Outdoors for Youths on June 4 at McSherrystown Fish and Game Assoc. The chapter president and a trustee spoke to Gettysburg High School TIC class on the history of ACTU, partnerships, purpose of the TIC program and “how trout are so much more than just a fish.” The chapter partnered with two high schools and Strawberry Nature Center with Trout in the Classroom, and an outing took place on April 18 and included stations in fly tying, fly casting, vernal pools, macros, water chemistry and releasing of the trout. Another Adams County school applied for the TIC program, and another applied for a Coldwater Heritage Grant. ACTU sponsored a fish rodeo partnership with the Yellow Beeches Co-op on May 7 at the Latimore Fairgrounds. A stream survey presentation involving the chapter stream restoration work followed. A June date has been established to perform a stream survey with PFBC Habitat

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

Codorus Chapter #558
Tom Feninez
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Website: www.codorustu.org
P.O. Box 194, Spring Grove, PA 17362

We completed and submitted an application for our candidate for this year’s Rivers Conservation Camp. We are still in the process of pursuing several grant applications. We are trying to secure funds for several projects involving stream improvement, water quality monitoring and a land acquisition opportunity. The chapter recently received a Growing Greener grant for a proposed stream restoration project. Planning is underway to restore roughly 480 feet of severely damaged stream bank in the Codorus’ Trophy Trout section. Work is tentatively scheduled to commence later this summer. This will easily be our largest stream improvement project to date. We would like to thank the Watershed Alliance of York for their help and cooperation in securing the grant funds. We conducted our annual stream cleanup on April 9. We have identified some possible opportunities for Trout in the Classroom projects, and we’re hoping to approach local teachers in the very near future.

Cumberland Valley Chapter #052
Chet Hagenbarth
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Chapter: P.O. Box 520, Carlisle, PA 17013

Our annual fly tying classes began in January, lasted for eight weeks and were well attended. Classes included both basic and advanced. Member Alan Stanbury planned and supervised the event and did an excellent job. We annually sell flies at the Eastern Sports and Outdoor Show and we did so this year in early February at the farm show complex. Those of you that were able to attend saw our newly designed booth which was well received and greatly contributed to a successful event. The new booth was designed and constructed by members Steve Parker and Don Albright. On March 19, we held our annual Limestoner banquet at the Army War College. It was chaired by board member John Leonard who did an excellent job. It is our main fund-raiser which allows us to do those things the chapter deems to enhance the cold water environment. We give a Limestoner award at the banquet and this year it was given to the Clean Air Board for their work in combating acid rain and reducing mercury contamination which greatly affect water quality. In 2007 we completed a project eliminate substantial loss of water from the Letort into a sink hole in the fly fishing catch and release area. It involved filling and placing some 500 sand bags along...
with locating and filling the underground cavern. Another sinkhole is developing just downstream from the previous location. Board members Gene Giza and Mike Danko have made several visits to the site and are planning a short term fix to be followed by a long term solution, and we hope to avoid a major undertaking.

Doc Fritchey Chapter #108
Ed O’Gorman
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P.O. Box 6592, Harrisburg, PA 17112

Our annual conservation banquet was April 9. On April 16 we cleaned up the special regulations area on Manada Creek, and serviced our “Adopt a Highway” stretch of State Route 325 on April 23. This is the stretch of road that parallels the special regulation water on Clarks Creek. As always, spring rains kick the Rausch creek diversion wells into high gear. The work crew meets at the wells every Sunday morning to keep them fully stocked with limestone, and they are always happy to have an extra set of hands. In early February, we met with the Twin Valley Conservation group, the watershed group for the Powells and Armstrong watersheds in the Halifax area. The group has, over the past several years, done substantial research and evaluation of the watersheds, and has developed a good understanding of the issues impacting these streams, and strategies that will be helpful in restoring and protecting them. The first project they hope to undertake is a complete rehabilitation of the Children’s and Handicap Fishing access on Powells Creek. This area has significant issues with sedimentation and is listed as “impaired” by DEP as a result of excess sand and gravel deposits. At our February meeting the board decided to support Twin Valley with the first phase of this project. This support involves a meaningful financial commitment, as well as the commitment of volunteers when the project gets rolling, hopefully this summer. At the beginning of March chapter members on our education committee started their weekly fly tying classes, which this year includes both youth and adult students. In early April, chapter members took three young men to participate in Wayne’s Coldwater Kids fishing event in Spruce Creek, where the goal was to provide the youngsters with a quality fly fishing experience based on the good fishing on Spruce Creek that is enhanced by education and guiding from knowledgeable fly fishing adults.

Donegal Chapter #037
Wayne Boggs
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Chapter: P.O. Box 8001, Lancaster, PA 17604
Ned Bushong was added to the chapter’s board as Member at Large. Ned will serve as our education chairperson. We planned a swap meet for the April meeting. Our May meeting was a picnic and guided tour of several of our projects on the Conowingo Creek in southern Lancaster County. Members worked diligently to secure items, program ads and donations for the banquet/fundraiser on April 2. Bob Kutz, conservation chair, secured a $10,000 grant from PPL. We will be using the grant to repair two impaired sites along Scalpy Hollow Road on Fishing Creek. We will be coordinating with the township, Friends of Fishing Creek, DEP and Lancaster County Conservancy, which owns the property. We have received a $295,000 grant to do the design work on two major projects on the Conowingo Creek. We may be able to start working on it this year. Trout in the Classroom went well in the six schools we had involved. At the request of the instructor, we replaced a filter for the circulator at Ephrata High School. This project was a very engaging learning experience for the kids.

Falling Spring Chapter #234
Tio Paci
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202 S. Ridge Ave., Greencastle, PA 17225

Our chapter meets the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Norlo Park in Chambersburg. We were very pleased to have Dave Sewak as our guest speaker in February. In March Samantha Kutskel gave a wonderful presentation on Trout in the Classroom. We will be sponsoring two TIC programs this fall in the Chambersburg Area School District. January and February brought out our vises for our eight-week fly tying class. Bill Bashor did another outstanding job. On April 10 we met at Springview Drive in Chambersburg for our bi-annual streamside clean-up. Planning has started for our 37th annual banquet to be held Oct. 1. Keep an eye out for more details. The Falling Spring Chapter is sponsoring its annual Falling Spring Invitational Fly Fishing Outing for Wounded Warriors in May. As in the past, we will host 10-12 Wounded Warriors from Walter Reed Army Medical Center for a day of fly fishing on the Conococheague Creek and a BBQ lunch cooked by competition-seasoned BBQ teams. Each Wounded Warrior is accompanied in the water by an experienced fly fisherman and it proves to be a most rewarding experience for both the Wounded Warriors and the volunteers. This outing is only possible because of the generous support from Chambersburg area businesses and individuals that donate their time and resources.

Muddy Creek Chapter #575
Maurice Chioda
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Website: www.muddycreektu.org
771 St. Johns Place, Dallastown, PA 17313

MCTU held a public forum for the Marcellus Shale presentation by Dave Sewak and 71 people attended. The chapter is selling portable fly boxes donated to us by our friends in Lancaster County. Members cleaned up the handicapped fishing area on Toms Run, including the repair of the side walk and parking area damaged by flood waters over the years. Trout in the Classroom had an expected release date in late April. The Pine Run stream restoration project continued with surveying and permitting by the contractor. Live stakes and branch packs have been harvested for riparian buffer plantings and stock for our native plant nursery.

Penns Creek Chapter #119
President: Gary Parzanese
Phone: 717-242-3451
Email: gparzanese@firstenergycorp.com

Due to inclement weather our January meeting was canceled. At our February meeting, information on a Youth Fishing Day being hosted by Wayne Harpster at his Evergreen Farm along Spruce Creek was discussed. Two youths from our chapter expressed interest and were accepted to attend the event. The Penns Creek Conservation Association hosted a viewing of the film “Gasland” on March 11. The film is a documentary on issues involving Marcellus Shale. A letter from Pa. Clean Ways was received requesting financial assistance from our chapter. The chapter has worked with Pa. Clean Ways in the past and a donation was made to the group to offset dump fees. The chapter’s banquet was March 26 with George Daniel as guest speaker. More than 215 tickets were sold. A stream cleanup was scheduled for April 9 along Kish Creek. The chapter’s three TIC programs progressed during the spring. Equipment issues at Lack-Tuscarora Elementary School resulted in most of the fish dying. Fish from a second TIC site were donated to the elementary school to make up the difference. After the equipment issues were resolved, things went well. Release date for Lack-Tuscarora and for Juniata High School was set for May 19 at Guss State Park, in the Licking Creek area. Due to financial concerns the chapter has agreed to help pay for the transportation of the students to the release site. Larry Winey will be offering a fly tying class this June at the Juniata Presbyterian Church, and a date for the Shade Mountain Wild Turkey Federation Youth Field Day is Aug. 13. The chapter has been involved in this event for many years, reaching as many as 80 youths on the day of the event.

Continued on next page...
participated in the 2nd annual Wayne’s Cold Water Kids youth outing in Spruce Creek in April. Three local youths experienced mentored fly fishing on Spruce Creek as well as informative presentations by Greg Hoover and Joe Humphreys. The chapter also expected to have an applicant for the 2011 Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp in Boiling Springs this June.

Chestnut Ridge Chapter #670
Dave Gilpin
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Website: www.crtu.org
1214 S. Pittsburgh St., Connellsville, PA 15425

In our continued effort to reach out to different geographic regions of the chapter, the monthly membership meeting on April 13 was held at the Washington Gander Mountain store. Range Resources was scheduled to present on Marcellus Gas development. Laurel Hill Water Resources Plan – In December of 2010, Laurel Hill and Back Creeks were designated by the DEP as critical water planning areas. This designation was the first in the state, and DEP plans to use Laurel Hill as the template for future critical water plans. The electroshocking of Back Creek revealed a robust population of native brook and brown trout which contrasts with the low nutrient level and low alkalinity (20-40 ppm). Also, on a percentage basis, more water is being withdrawn from Back Creek than Laurel Hill. This makes the native trout population even more remarkable and begs the question how long will this last? Jonathan Run – According to the DEP, Purco Coal Company is legally responsible for only one discharge, although there are other seeps degrading the water quality of Jonathan Run, an exceptional value stream. In return for less stringent NPDES limits for treating the discharge, Purco would be responsible for perpetual in-stream alkalinity addition to address the other seeps. DEP anticipates a project completion date of February 2012. Morgan Run – Sampling is anticipated this spring to monitor the upper and lower AMD treatment system and establish the water quality of other acidic seeps so that they may be addressed. Glade Run – Alkaline sand addition and monitoring will occur this spring. A Growing Greener Plus grant will fund these efforts. The chapter has secured grants to cover the alkaline sand addition and monitoring this fall. Sampling is anticipated this spring to monitor the alkaline drain treatment system. In September of 2010 the DEP received a report of the illicit discharge on Glade Run in an area that was mined by Purco. This discharge was eerily similar to the discharge the chapter discovered on Jonathan Run. Recall that Purco tried to deceive the DEP by piping the discharge from Jonathan Run onto state game lands. According to the DEP, the Glade Run discharge is still under investigation. A chapter member has volunteered to be the chapter’s Marcellus coordinator. Three youths were selected to attend the youth day at Harpster’s on April 3. On May 24, the chapter attended the Fayette County Water Festival where approximately 1,000 middle school students were exposed to coldwater conservation and fly casting. The approximate release for Trout in the Classroom projects was at the beginning of May. Forbes Trail Chapter #206
Monty Murty
724-238-7860, mmurty@verizon.net
Website: www.forbestrailitu.org
P.O. Box 370, Youngstown, PA 15696

The New Year came in like a lion for Forbes Trail. Our chapter volunteers kicked off the 2011 First Cast Youth Group in January. Our new trout anglers were anxious to try out their Woolly Buggers on opening day. The program runs through June, then breaks for summer before ending with a Steelhead trip to Erie in November. We hosted the first southwest regional Coldwater Conservation Corps training at Winnie Palmer Nature Reserve on the campus of St. Vincent College in Latrobe. New this year, we are partnering with the Ligonier Valley YMCA to present a special fly fishing events.

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www.patrout.org
course tailored to the needs of women new to the sport. The course will help women students discover that fly fishing for trout is more interesting, approachable and available to them. They will learn about fly fishing equipment and where to get competent assistance with finding equipment that fits. They will become technically prepared to fish with a more experienced fly fishing partner, and gain the confidence to take a guided fly fishing trip or fly fishing vacation. In keeping with the mission of Trout Unlimited, the course will emphasize the need to protect cold water streams and their watersheds. In keeping with the mission of the Y, the course will emphasize the role fly fishing can play in the enhancement of spirit, mind and body. Our four Trout in the Classroom projects are doing as well, and we are using TIC students to assist with stream monitoring for the effects of Marcellus Shale drilling. We included our TIC teachers in the CCC training and they have included the PATROUT/ALLARM monitoring protocols into their curricula. Committee chairs provide status reports and take member questions as a regular part of meetings. Recent programs included a bamboo rods and antique tackle show-and-tell, where members brought in and displayed their bamboo rods, antique creels and other “interesting” tackle. Bamboo rod maker Russ Gooding, president of Golden Witch Technologies, narrates a video produced and aired by the Pennsylvania Cable Network that shows a raw culm of bamboo progressing through the Golden Witch rod shop to a finished rod. In February the chapter held its annual fly tying round table. All were invited to bring along their vices and share their tips and tricks. The chapter’s ace tyers demonstrated tying their favorite patterns, including a demo of Czech and Polish woven nymph tying. In March Greg Kassimer helped us tune up our techniques about entomology and other related issues on trout waterworks area on Upper Twolick Creek. Details are being worked out. Two members from the chapter and our local WCO from the PFBC visited the school involved with our TIC program to talk about entomology and other related issues on trout behavior. The class lost some of their young trout due to a power failure, but still had close to 200. Our annual fund-raising banquet was April 2. At our monthly meeting in March, we had Dave Sewak do his Marcellus Shale demonstration, followed by members of the local conservation groups discussing the impact of drilling on our local waters and demonstrating the data loggers that we as a chapter are helping to sponsor. Our membership meeting May was at Little Mahoning for its annual stream survey. We have been in contact with Project Healing Waters, and plan on working with them to host an event here locally. Our annual fly tyers classes are winding down and was followed by a free two-week youth class. We will be supporting the area youth events that will be held later through spring and summer by the various sportsmen’s groups.

John Kennedy Chapter #045
Jerry Green
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Our by-laws were updated and adopted at a special meeting in January. Our annual banquet will be held Aug. 27 at the Newry Lions Club Park. We are looking at stream projects on Halter and Plum creeks, Canoe Creek and on the headwaters of the Little Juniata. We are presently looking for volunteers for several water monitoring teams to work with the Blair County Conservation District’s monitoring program. On April 19 we will be presented a special program at the Longer Elementary School’s “Science Day.” We are working on the Sandy Run wetlands project for an option to purchase agreement with the owner, and all other agreements between PFBC, IKTU and the Blair County Conservation District are signed. Fly tying classes ended April 2. On average, we had about 14 people attend beginner classes and six attend advanced classes.

Ken Sink Chapter #053
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124 E. Brown St., Blairsville, PA 15717

The Ken Sink chapter has been awarded a Dominion grant that will be used to fund the first KSTU youth conservation day. Plans are being made to have it in early June at the AMD site at the waterworks area on Upper Twolick Creek. Details are being worked out. Two members from the chapter and our local WCO from the PFBC visited the school involved with our TIC program to talk about entomology and other related issues on trout behavior. The class lost some of their young trout due to a power failure, but still had close to 200. Our annual fund-raising banquet was April 2. At our monthly meeting in March, we had Dave Sewak do his Marcellus Shale demonstration, followed by members of the local conservation groups discussing the impact of drilling on our local waters and demonstrating the data loggers that we as a chapter are helping to sponsor. Our membership meeting May was at Little Mahoning for its annual stream survey. We have been in contact with Project Healing Waters, and plan on working with them to host an event here locally. Our annual fly tyers classes are winding down and was followed by a free two-week youth class. We will be supporting the area youth events that will

Fort Bedford Chapter #291
Derrick Miller
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The chapter completed its 15th year of its free fly tying classes on March 19. Members participated in the 11th annual Bob’s Creek Cleanup with the Bob’s Creek Stream Guardians on April 9 and the Yellow Creek Coalition cleanup on Yellow Creek on April 30. The chapter participated in Earth Day events on April 16 hosted by REI at Shawnee State Park. We are in the early planning stages of our 3rd annual Fund-raising Banquet held with the John Kennedy Chapter.

John Kennedy Chapter #045
Jerry Green
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605 Walnut St., Roaring Spring, PA 16673

Our by-laws were updated and adopted at a special meeting in January. Our annual banquet will be held Aug. 27 at the Newry Lions Club Park. We are looking at stream projects on Halter and Plum creeks, Canoe Creek and on the headwaters of the Little Juniata. We are presently looking for volunteers for several water monitoring teams to work with the Blair County Conservation District’s monitoring program. On April 19 we will be presented a special program at the Longer Elementary School’s “Science Day.” We are working on the Sandy Run wetlands project for an option to purchase agreement with the owner, and all other agreements between PFBC, IKTU and the Blair County Conservation District are signed. Fly tying classes ended April 2. On average, we had about 14 people attend beginner classes and six attend advanced classes.

Ken Sink Chapter #053
Dan Cardellino
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124 E. Brown St., Blairsville, PA 15717

The Ken Sink chapter has been awarded a Dominion grant that will be used to fund the first KSTU youth conservation day. Plans are being made to have it in early June at the AMD site at the waterworks area on Upper Twolick Creek. Details are being worked out. Two members from the chapter and our local WCO from the PFBC visited the school involved with our TIC program to talk about entomology and other related issues on trout behavior. The class lost some of their young trout due to a power failure, but still had close to 200. Our annual fund-raising banquet was April 2. At our monthly meeting in March, we had Dave Sewak do his Marcellus Shale demonstration, followed by members of the local conservation groups discussing the impact of drilling on our local waters and demonstrating the data loggers that we as a chapter are helping to sponsor. Our membership meeting May was at Little Mahoning for its annual stream survey. We have been in contact with Project Healing Waters, and plan on working with them to host an event here locally. Our annual fly tyers classes are winding down and was followed by a free two-week youth class. We will be supporting the area youth events that will be held later through spring and summer by the various sportsmen’s groups.

Mountain Laurel Chapter #040
Randy Buchanan
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Election results were: Randy Buchanan, president; Gary Cooper, vice president; Dave Maher, secretary and Pat Buchanan, treasurer. Board Members are: Butch Kercheneske, Mark Lee, Jasim Hassan, Dave Wright, Len Lichvar and Dave Sewak. Sewak gave his Marcellus Shale presentation on Feb. 8. On April 12, Chuck Furimsky gave a presentation “From the Bighorn to Bavaria and some spots in between.” Michael Mauri, a fly fisher and caster from Germany, presented to the chapter the week of May 9. The annual Mountain Laurel Chapter banquet was held March 19 at the Holiday Inn Johnstown. The chapter conducted cleanups on Yellow Creek on April 30 and Clear Shade Creek on May 7. Workdays on Bens Creek and Yellow Creek will be announced at a later date. Winter fly tying instruction saw 15 students trained by chapter members on the fine arts of tying. Eight schools are now part of the MLTU Trout in the Classroom program: North Star East Elementary School, Berlin HS, Shade HS, Forest Hills Middle School, Conemaugh Twp. Intermediate School, Penn Cambria Middle School (two programs – grades 6 and 7) and St. Bendict (Richland). Trout releases were scheduled for May.

Penns Woods West Chapter #042
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1615 Powers Run Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15238

The chapter hopes to have three TIC programs in place by next school year. We feel TIC has paid great dividends in getting students and their parents involved in either TU or conservation activities in general. The chapter’s Cabin Fever event was a resounding success. More than 40 vendors, along with Family Tyes and speakers Greg Hoover, Rob Reeder, Ed Nagle and Dave Sewak, helped bring 750-plus attendees through the door. Proceeds will be used for work on our local Pine Creek and for monitoring Marcellus Shale activity. Our spring Fly Fishing Seminar at St. Bede’s Church was a success, introducing techniques and conservation ethics to more than 25 eager students. Our annual bus trip is scheduled for the Little Juniata in late May. We continue to partner with the Allison Park Sportsmen Association with both their spring cleanup and stocking, and with our fall habitat improvement projects. We are currently attempting to secure grants for runoff and stream bank erosion control.
9th Annual PA FLY FISHING HERITAGE DAY

June 18, 2011 / 8:30 - 4:00 @ The Meadow at Allenberry Resort Inn - Boiling Springs, PA

- Fly Casting Instruction and Demos – professional instructors Frank Angelo, Bobby Clouser, Ed Jawrowski, Emily Zeiders, Bob Clouser, and others
- The Colonial Angler - Fly Fishing in the 1770s by Ken Reinard
- Trials and Tribulations of Professional Guides - Tom Baltz, Brian Shumaker, and Gene Giza
- Wet Fly Techniques – Wet Fly Waterguides
- Fly Fish the Upper Delaware – Paul Weaver
- Fly tying – Watch and learn as notable fly tiers demonstrate their favorite patterns
- Bamboo, graphite, fiberglass fly rod sales; reels, artwork, books, video sales
- Bart the Reel Man, Jerry Girard, and other vintage equipment vendors
- The ever popular FISH SWIM RACE: $500 cash prize!

Registration Fee: $12 (includes lunch buffet) due by June 15 / Purchase at the Door: $7
FREE registration for KIDS 15 years old and younger / Pre-Register Youth for Lunch: $6

For more information or to register online: www.paflyfishing.org / (Directions: www.allenberry.com or 717-258-3211)

9TH ANNUAL PENNSYLVANIA FLY FISHING HERITAGE DAY PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

Name: ____________________________  Adult Attendees: $12 each  x ________ = $ ________
Addr: __________________________________  Youth (age ≤15) Lunches $6 each  x ________ = $ ________
Addr: __________________________________  Fish Swim Raffle Tickets $10 each  x ________ = $ ________
City: ____________________________  TOTAL = $ ________
State: ____________  Zip: ____________  Make Checks Payable to and Mail to:
Phone: ____________________________  PFFMA, 1240 North, Mountain Road, Harrisburg, PA 17112
Email: ____________________________  Confirmation by email only, or call 517-599-8645

Pre-registration due no later than June 15
Fish Swim Raffle Tickets will be mailed to you

More information and registration details are available online at www.paflyfishing.org.