

# Susquehanna Ripples

Newsletter of the Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited #044

February 2014

## *Celebrating 50 Years 1964—2014*



### **2014 Fishing Season to be Topic at February Meeting**

Emmett Kyler, Waterways Conservation Officer in the Northcentral Region of the PA Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) will be the featured speaker at the monthly meeting of Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited. Officer Kyler will provide an update of fishing opportunities, regulation changes, and PF&BC programs and initiatives for the 2014 PA fishing season as well as fielding any questions you may have about fishing and boating in our area.

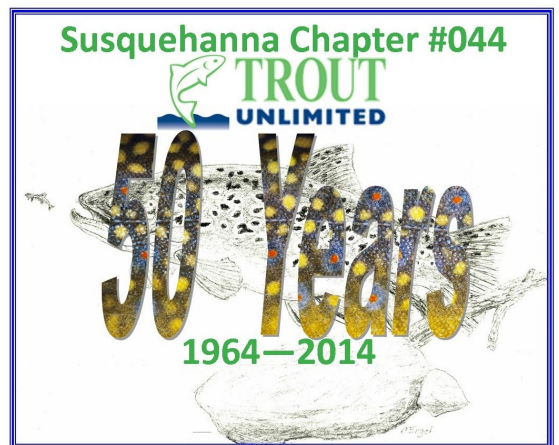
The public is welcome to attend this program at the First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall at East Third and Mulberry Streets in Williamsport on February 12, 2014 at 7:30 pm.

### **Penn College Outdoor Show**

On Saturday February 15, 2014, Penn College will be having its first Outdoor Expo from 10 am - 5 pm at the Penn College Field House and there is a \$5 admission fee. The Chapter has been given space at this event and we will have educational material available explaining the goals of TU and what we do. We will also be using this opportunity as a fund raiser and will be offering for sale selected items that have been donated to us over the past year. We are continually looking for items to sell. With fishing season just around the corner, please consider donating some of your fishing related items to the Chapter. We are also looking for help in setting up and manning the table throughout the day. If you can help in any way, or for any amount of time, please let us know. As always, anything you can do will be appreciated.

### **Anniversary Banquet to be April 5, 2014**

The 50th Anniversary celebration of the founding of the Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited is scheduled for Saturday April 5, 2014 from 6 pm - 10 pm. This celebration will be held at 33 East Restaurant, 33 East 3rd Street in Williamsport. The evening will start at 6 pm with a cash bar and reception followed by dinner. After dinner, we will be having presentations, stories (some of which may have a ring of truth), drawings for great prizes, and honors for our Chapter Founders. All through the evening there will be displays of events in our history. Our speaker for the event will be Ken Hunter (local artist, author, and outdoorsman). Please plan to attend this entertaining evening, to see old friends, make new ones, and here where we are headed. More details, with reservation details will be sent in February. See you there.



## About our Heritage

Many seasons have passed since Theodore Gordon fishing Young Woman's Creek and much has been written in reference to our local waters. Pennsylvania has been a mecca for trout fishermen since the early nineteenth century.

Charles Lose, in his "Vanishing Trout" created a realistic window into the past. He wrote of fishermen taking to the mountains where "Their backs will straighten, their shoulders will square, and they will be filled with new courage, a courage born of mountain and stream." Dr. Lose could make what he was writing about so interesting that every reader, no matter how far from being a fisherman, can have a good time following the flowing words.

Henry Van Dyke visited our area. His "Little Rivers" description of the stream he fished leaves little room for doubt. "There are long, straight sloping troughs through which the water runs like a mill race. There are huge basins into which the water rumbles over a ledge, as if some one were pouring it very steadily out of a pitcher, and from which it glides away without a ripple, flowing over a smooth pavement of rock." You may have guessed this to be Rock Run above Ralston.

There have been other famous men who fished our streams. Presidents and Generals. U. S. Grant's trip to Westport in 1873 is well established in folklore but that is a long story, to be told at another time.

Gifford Pinchot, the progressive governor of Pennsylvania who was an advisor to Theodore Roosevelt, loves his float trips on Pine Creek. Perhaps this is where he perfected some of his conservation philosophy. He frequently shared his good supply with streamside fishermen.

I have a fondness for a little known book, "Bodines, or Camping on the Lycoming, 1879", by Thad S. Updegraff. He wrote of Pleasant

Stream and of a strange encounter. Fishers frequenting remote streams have all met Shorty, a newcomer to the pool who "presented himself mysteriously and unannounced". He exclaimed, "Oh, if you'r'n want a fire, one that'll cook yer fish and toast yer shins too, jest cum this way, and I'll show ye'un. Ye see, I allers starts my fires jest ov the stream a ways, so I won't be bothered with nobody that happens along."

Trout anglers have a strain of romanticism and can imagine these men of yesteryear with a feeling of closeness as we cast to the beat of long gone drums. When the evening mists settle on our favorite pool, legends seem to form. Are these ghosts shaped by a boulder, or old stump, in the distance? Are you absolutely sure?

*The above article was written by one of our Chapter Founders, Bob Rinn in 1982. This article originally appeared in the Susquehanna Ripples in the Winter 1982 edition*



This drawing was done by Susquehanna Chapter member Harold Lutz in 1982 and originally appeared with this article.

## Contact Information

### Officer and Directors

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Email: walt.nicholson10@gmail.com

Secretary: Walt Nicholson

Treasurer: Bob Baker  
Email: boblbaker@comcast.net  
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### Board of Directors

Jim Latini  
Kevin McJunkin  
Joe Radley  
Scott Rupert  
Bob Spencer

### Chapter Advisors

Bill O'Connor  
Bob Rinn

Newsletter Editor/Webmaster  
Bob Baker

[susquehannatu.wordpress.com](http://susquehannatu.wordpress.com)  
[susquehannatu@gmail.com](mailto:susquehannatu@gmail.com)





The first fly tying class held by the Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited. This picture was taken in March 1966 and the class was held at the Williamsport YMCA. Charles W. (Bill) O'Connor (center white shirt and tie) instructed 20 students. The class was held for 2 hours a week for 10 weeks and each student paid \$10 for the class.



### **Fly Tying Class's to be held**

The Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited will hold fly tying classes for six weeks on Tuesday evenings starting on February 18 to March 25 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the social hall of the First Presbyterian Church, 102 E. 3rd Street in Williamsport. There will be no cost for the course, which is open to the public. This year we are planning both introductory and more advanced classes with many of those sessions accommodating particular interests of the participants. Instructors will include experienced tiers from our area. Youth 10 years and older are welcomed (under 15 yrs should be accompanied by an adult).

Anyone interested may register by sending an email to the Chapter at [susquehanatu@gmail.com](mailto:susquehanatu@gmail.com), or calling Walt Nicholson at (570) 447-3600.

Deadline for submissions for the March 2014 issue of the Susquehanna Ripples is February 21, 2014. Please submit information to Bob Baker (see page 2 for contact info). March will be our special Anniversary issue and ask that you consider contributing something for this special issue. Any thoughts, memories, pictures, stories or anything related to the last 50 years is appreciated.

**Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited  
Treasurer's Report for October 1, 2013 thru December  
31, 2013**  
Submitted by Bob Baker, Treasurer

#### **Checking Account**

Beginning Balance October 1, 2013	\$5,164.40
Deposits:	

Total Deposits	\$0.00
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#### **Expenses:**

Bob Baker (October Ripples)	\$164.17
Bob Baker (November 2013 Ripples)	\$137.35
Bob Baker	\$140.31

Newsletter (1/14)	\$86.40
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labels and mail seals	45.97
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Sales Tax	7.94
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bulk mail permit renewal)	\$200.00
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First Presbyterian Church	\$100.00
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Total Expenses:	\$741.83
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Checking Account Balance	\$4,422.57
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#### **Savings Account**

Beginning Balance October 1, 2013	\$6,577.53
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#### **Deposits:**

Dividend October 15, 2013	\$0.29
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Dividend November 15, 2013	\$0.27
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Dividend December 13, 2013	\$0.25
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Total Deposits:	\$0.81
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Savings Account Expenses	\$0.00
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<b>Savings Account Balance:</b>	\$6,578.34
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Checking Account Total	\$4,422.57
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Savings Account Total	\$6,578.34
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<b>Total Money in Bank</b>	<b>\$11,000.91</b>
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### **Support for our Watersheds and Conservation Groups**

The Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited would like to thank all the Watershed Organizations and Outdoor Conservation Groups that work hard to protect our resources. We know the amount of work that you do and that this work is done with limited resources (financially and manpower). We applaud you for everything that you have done and look forward to continuing our relationship and working with you in the future. Central Pennsylvania is a much better place because of your efforts and we can not thank you enough.

If you do not belong to any of these groups, please consider joining one (or more) of them. Please contact them with your support because they need your help to continue meeting their goals.

Black Hole Creek Watershed  
Association  
35 South Main Street  
Montgomery, PA 17752-0125

Larry's Creek Watershed  
Association  
PO Box 64  
Trout Run, PA 17771

Muncy Creek Watershed Association  
PO Box 47  
Muncy, PA 17756-0047

Consolidated Sportsmen Of Muncy  
Creeks  
660 Clarkstown Rd  
Muncy, PA 17756

Loyalsock Creek Watershed  
Association  
PO Box 216  
Montoursville, PA 17754-0216

North Central Pennsylvania  
Conservancy  
330 Government Place  
Williamsport, PA 17701

Department of Environmental  
Protection  
208 West Third Street, Suite 101  
Williamsport, PA 17701

Lycoming County Conservation  
District  
542 County Farm Road, Suite 202  
Montoursville, PA 17754

Pine Creek Preservation Association  
PO Box 11  
Waterville, PA 17776

Greater Nippenose Valley Watershed  
Association  
PO Box 36  
Antes Fort, PA 17720-0036

Lycoming County Planning  
Commission  
48 W. 3rd Street  
Williamsport, PA 17701

Pine Creek Watershed Council  
118 Main Street  
Wellsboro, PA 16901

Lycoming College Clean Water  
Institute  
700 College Place  
Williamsport, PA 17701

Lycoming Creek Anglers Club  
2079 Blair Street  
Williamsport, PA 17701-2871

Rose Valley / Mill Creek Watershed  
Association  
PO Box 159  
Trout Run, PA 17771

Lycoming Creek Watershed  
Association  
PO Box 173  
Trout Run, PA 17728

Susquehanna Greenway Partnership  
201 Furnace Road  
Lewisburg, PA 17837





The USA Ice Team was reformed in 2008 with the sole purpose of fielding a national team, comprised of the most accomplished tournament ice anglers in the United States, that could represent the US

in world competitions and become the country's ambassadors of American ice angling abroad. Currently the team competes annually in the World Ice Fishing Championship (WIFC). In just its second attempt on the world stage, the USA Ice Team beat ten other countries to take home the gold in 2010.

The World Ice Fishing Championship (WIFC) is a well established, highly competitive international sporting event. Similar in many ways to the Olympics, teams from typically 10-15 countries come together at the WIFC to compete for the championship title in both team and individual events. Past participants include Sweden, Russia, Poland, Latvia, Lithuania, Ukraine, Finland, Canada, Belarus, Bulgaria, Estonia, Kazakhstan, Slovakia, Norway, Iceland, Czech Republic, Moldavia, and Romania. Each team consists of five fishers with one alternate, a captain and a coach. Most teams will also bring support personnel, trainers and managers.

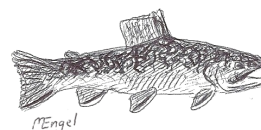
The WIFC is not your typical ice fishing tournament. It is a true test of one's skill, determination and endurance. FIPS-ed, the governing body of the WIFC, has established rules to this end. For instance, power augers or electronics of any kind are not allowed. The fishers must rely on intuition, research, stamina and experience to find and catch fish. They must use physical power and skill when drilling through thick ice with hand augers. In addition, on-ice time prior to the event is limited to only three days. Competition zones will be utilized during the event, each zone including one fisherman from each country per zone, and fishers will not be allowed to fish inside these zones prior to, or outside the official tournament times of 9:00am to 12:00pm each day.

The WIFC crowns its Champion following an often grueling two-day competition. Placement is based on the total weight of fish caught by each team on each day. Each fisher is given a number according to his or her placement for the day, and each day's numbers will be added determining the winner with the lowest number. Ties will be broken by the fisher with the heaviest weight from both days.

In 2013, the US Ice Fishing team finished in 4th place behind Russia (1st place), Finland (2nd place), and Lithuania (3rd place).

Open trials for the 2015 Ice Fishing team will be held March 14 - 16, 2014 in Rhinelander, Wisconsin. The top 10 finishers will make the 2015 USA Ice Team and compete in the World Championships preliminarily scheduled for Finland. Information above copied from their website at <http://www.usaiceteam.com/>.

## Recipe of the Month



### Smoked Trout Cracker Spread

- 1 1/4 lbs smoked trout
- 3 sticks butter
- 1 tbl. lemon juice
- 1/3 cup heavy cream
- 1/8 tsp cayenne pepper

Melt butter in saucepan. Blend all ingredients in food processor and place in large bowl. Cover bowl and refrigerate 8 hours. Serve with crackers

From 2012 Fishing Highlights V. M. Beck, Rockville, MD

### Fish Commission to bring back Fishing License Button in 2014



The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission is bringing back the fishing license button. They have indicated that there has been a high amount of interest in these and that they will be a sought after item from not only anglers, but collectors as well.

The buttons were offered by the PFBC in the 1930s, 1940s, 1950s, and again in 1974 and 1975. Each custom button will measure 1 3/4 inches (same as past, vintage buttons) with a high-quality pin-back design and feature the angler's customer identification number (CID), same as the number displayed on a paper license.

Anglers need to display only the button when fishing, as long as they are carrying a valid paper license. The purchase of an annual or multi-year Resident, Non-Resident or Senior Resident fishing license is required in order to purchase a license button. The button is an optional purchase for anglers and will be \$5 each.

As an annual button, the color and date on the button will change each year.

## TU is for Everyone

Every once in a while I hear someone say that they don't belong to trout unlimited because they don't fly fish. It bothers me when I hear this and would like this misunderstanding, or misconception, to change.

I have been a long time member of Trout Unlimited and when I first became active in the Chapter as Treasurer, I was hesitant about letting others know that I did not fly fish or know anything about it. I thought that I would be cast as an outsider and not accepted but I found this thinking to be very wrong. I have always, and still do, like to fish with worms, lures and on occasion use flies with my spinning gear. I am slowly learning to fly fish but at this time, I prefer my spinning gear.

When others found that I had no fly fishing experience, it did not matter to them. The majority of TU members do fly fish and prefer this type of fishing, but TU is not a fly fishing organization. I have found many members who prefer spin fishing over fly fishing and that we all have many things in common: we love fishing, we all have stories to tell, we are concerned about clean water and our watersheds, and we have a deep respect for the outdoors.

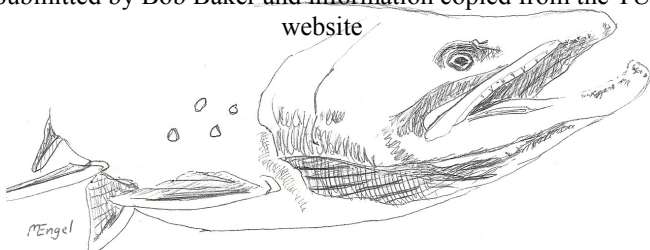
"TU is first and foremost a conservation organization, and we definitely need the help of all types of anglers and non-anglers as well to achieve our coldwater conservation mission. It's true that the majority of our members are primarily fly anglers, which is why this is emphasized in our publications and mail campaigns, but we certainly want to hear from spin anglers as well. Our philosophy at TU is that it's a big tent, and there's certainly room for fly anglers, spin anglers, and lots of other people as well. Our love of cold clean water, and preserving it for future generations, is what should bind us together not the type of angler, or bait or fly that one prefers to use."

Please help spread the word that Trout Unlimited is for everyone who loves fishing and the great outdoors. Encourage individuals to join TU so that our goals can be met and that we will continue to see results in our efforts.

The Susquehanna Ripples will start to offer a monthly lure / bait recipe, or other information of importance to spin fishermen.

As always, we welcome, and encourage, your comments and suggestions. This is your Chapter and we want to provide you with the programs and information that you want.

Submitted by Bob Baker and information copied from the TU website



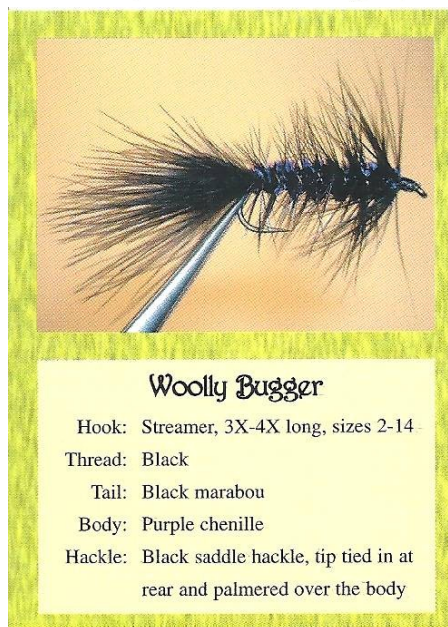
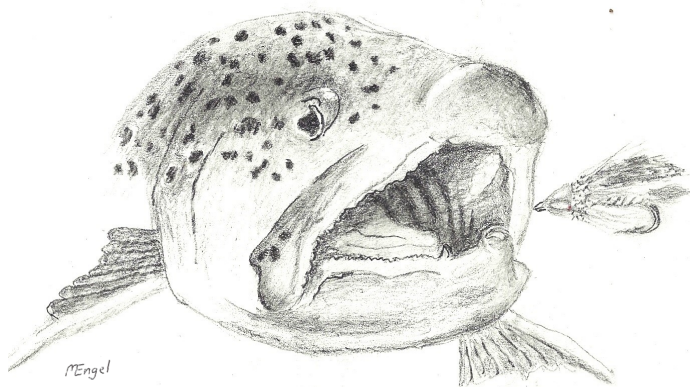
## Peanut Butter and Sardines Trout Bait Dough

Ingredients:

- ½ c. corn meal
- ½ c. flour
- ¼ c. corn syrup clear
- 1 c. water
- 2 tbsp. peanut butter
- ¼ c. marshmallow fluff
- Food coloring
- 1 can sardines
- Cotton balls

1. **Combine water, corn syrup, food coloring and peanut butter** in sauce pan. Bring to a boil, turn to low.
2. **Mix** corn meal and flour in bowl and add to sauce pan. Cook on low till thick.
3. **Puree** sardines and marshmallow fluff and stir in mixture.
4. **Cool, stir in cotton balls** to help bait stick together.
5. **Make dough ball** and tie on hook.

<http://www.mademan.com/mm/trout-bait-recipe.html>



### Woolly Bugger

Hook: Streamer, 3X-4X long, sizes 2-14

Thread: Black

Tail: Black marabou

Body: Purple chenille

Hackle: Black saddle hackle, tip tied in at rear and palmered over the body

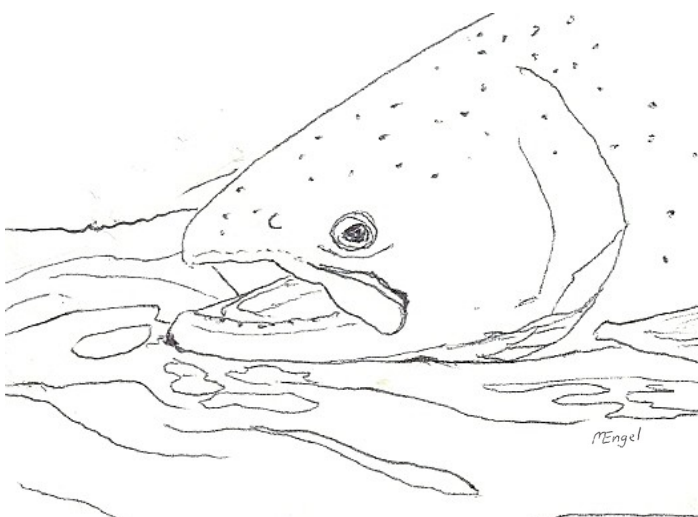
Fly Pattern Trading Cards by 'Toppin' the Waders Trading  
www.flyshack.com



## Ice Fishing Season Is Here

Ice fishermen were recently spotted on Rose Valley Lake. The Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited would like to remind you to be safe while out on the ice

- Let others know where you will be and when you will return
- Wear layers of clothing including a hat and gloves
- Make sure the ice is at least 4 inches thick before going out on it. If there is any doubt as to the thickness of the ice, stay off it
- Always take / wear a life jacket or flotation device with you
- If you get cold, end your fishing day and go get warm
- If you fall through the ice, don't panic.
- Always carry an ice awl with you to help you get out of the water if you should fall through
- Have fun and enjoy the solitude and beauty  
(picture of ice fishermen provided by Bob Baker)



## Make a set of ice rescue claws

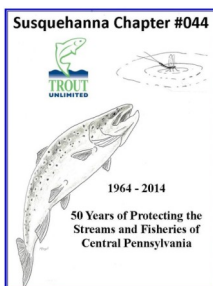
1. Get two 4" pieces of wooden doweling the size of a broom handle or a little larger. Whatever material you select, it should float in case you drop the claws while struggling.
2. Drive a stout nail into one end of each dowel. This should be a hardened 16 penny or larger concrete nail.
3. Use a file to sharpen the nail heads to a point.

Drill a hole into the dowels (in the end opposite the nail) and tie a length of strong cord through the hole so a pick is on each end "jump-rope" fashion. You may also drill a hole in the ends alongside the nails so the nail on the other pick can nest in the hole, keeping both points covered. Keep the picks in your pocket for quick emergency access if you or a companion do break through.



## ICE THICKNESS SUPPORT

<i>ice thickness</i>	<i>can safely support</i>
<b>4 inches</b>	<b>200 pounds</b> <i>(one person and gear)</i>
<b>5 inches</b>	<b>800 pounds</b> <i>(one snowmobile)</i>
<b>7 inches</b>	<b>1,500 pounds</b> <i>(group of people)</i>
<b>8 inches</b>	<b>2,000 pounds</b> <i>(one car)</i>



The Susquehanna Ripples  
Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited  
PO Box 1132  
Williamsport, PA 17703 - 1132

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Williamsport, PA 17701  
Permit No. 159

## Upcoming Events

### February 12, 2014

Chapter Meeting, Emmett Kyler, Waterways Conservation  
Officer of the PA Fish and Boat Commission will be speaker

### February 15, 2014

Penn College Outdoor Expo  
10 am - 5 pm at the Penn College Field House.

### February 18, 2014

Fly Tying Class at First Presbyterian Church at 7 pm

### February 25, 2014

Fly Tying Class at First Presbyterian Church at 7 pm

### March 4, 2014

Fly Tying Class at First Presbyterian Church at 7 pm

### March 11, 2014

Fly Tying Class at First Presbyterian Church at 7 pm

### March 12, 2014

Chapter Meeting

### March 18, 2014

Fly Tying Class at First Presbyterian Church at 7 pm

### March 22, 2014

Regional Mentored Youth Fishing Day for SE/SC Pennsylvania

### March 29, 2014

Opening Day of Trout for the SE Counties of Pennsylvania

### April 5, 2014

Anniversary Banquet at 33 East. 6 pm thru 10 pm

### April 5, 2014

Statewide Mentored Youth Trout Day - Statewide

### April 9, 2014

Chapter Meeting

### April 12, 2014

Statewide Opening of Trout

### Chapter meetings

Held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month and are open to the public and begin at 7:30 pm. Meetings are held at the First Presbyterian Church of Williamsport in the Fellowship Hall (unless otherwise noted), 102 East 3rd Street, Williamsport. Parking is in the rear of the Church along Mulberry Street. No meetings in May, June, July, August or December