

Susquehanna Ripples



Newsletter of the Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited #044

February 2021

February Monthly Meeting with the PA Fish & Boat Commission

The Susquehanna Chapter TU will be holding its February 10th monthly meeting on Zoom at 7 pm.

The meeting theme will be "What's New at the PA Fish and Boat Commission in 2021." Tim Schaeffer, Executive Director; Eric Hussar, Commissioner; Jason Deter, Fisheries Manager; and Jake Bennett and Darrell Miller, WCOs for our area are scheduled to participate. We are fortunate to have the opportunity to hear directly from the top people at the PF&BC to update us on the news, programs, important issues, and developments that the commission is working on in 2021 including those impacting our local streams.

The Zoom link and information on how to participate in this meeting has been sent to the Chapter members and interested parties with this newsletter. If you would like to participate in the meeting and did not receive this information, please send your request to us at susquehannatu@gmail.com and include your name and any agency or group that you may be representing.

There will be an opportunity for you to ask questions and make comments. This is a great opportunity for you to speak directly with the top officials in the Fish and Boat Commission and to interact with the WCO's for our area.

-Walt Nicholson

Drone footage of flooding impact

After the Christmas 2020 snow storm and rain / thaw a week later the Loyalsock approached 13 feet at USGS gauge in Loyalsockville. Flood stage is 12 feet. Drone footage shows the impact at Lycoming Biology Field Station just below Loyalsockville.



You can watch the video here:

[Loyalsock Creek Project - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PcBWU2tE-6E&feature=youtu.be)

[s://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PcBWU2tE-6E&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PcBWU2tE-6E&feature=youtu.be)

Donations Received

H. J. Wilkinson	\$125
Dan Gandy	\$ 90
John Merrifield	\$ 90
Don Daughenbaugh	A large collection of fishing and fly tying books

The Chapter would like to thank the above individuals for the generosity and commitment to our Chapter

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Don Bastian

We were saddened to hear of the death of our friend Don Bastian on January 29, 2021. Don was a great friend, husband, father, and teacher. His love for fly tying and fishing made his name known in the angling community and he touched many people. His legacy will continue on through the people he taught and interacted with. Don served our Chapter in many capacities including President, Vice President and was a recipient of the Order of the Tie. His love of fly tying and fishing was overshadowed by the love he had for Mary and his family. The Susquehanna Chapter gives our deepest condolences to his wife Mary, his children, and to the entire Bastian family. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Fly of the Month



Bastian's Floating Caddis Emerger

Hook: Daiichi 1180 - Standard Dry Fly Hook - 14
Shuck/Wing: 8/0 UNI-Thread Waxed Midge - Camel
Shuck/Wing: Sparkle Emerger Yarn - Cream
Body/Head: Nature's Spirit Snowshoe Rabbit Foot Dubbing - Brown
Ribbing: Mirage Tinsel - Opal - Small
Shell: Rainy's Evazote Foam - Black - 1/8"
Soft Hackle: Whiting 4B Hen Cape - Black
Soft Hackle Alternate: Nature's Spirit Starling Skin

Don created this fly in 2006, a revised fly that began in 1996 with his original Hatching Caddis Adult pattern. It has been field-tested in Pennsylvania; on Penn's Creek, Big Pine Creek, and Spring Creek. He used it successfully on the Beaverkill in New York, and Montana's Madison River, and his brother has used it on Maine's Penobscot River for land-locked salmon. It has also proven itself as a very effective still-water fly.

The brook trout at the top of page 1 was caught on Boulder Mountain in Southern Utah. The picture was taken by Jason Morrison and was featured in the 2014 Trout Unlimited Calendar for the month of April. The picture is used with his permission and we thank Jason for allowing us to use it.

President's Message

From Charles Knowlden
President, Susquehanna Chapter
of Trout Unlimited

February 2021



Your officers and directors have been working diligently to continue to provide information to the membership and services to protect the cold water fisheries in our area. The January ZOOM meeting summit included reports from various agencies and individuals who are continuously looking after the environmental impacts to these streams and indicated what we can do to insure the future sustainability of this resource for future generations. Reports of this meeting and efforts of these agencies are included in this edition of the Ripples.

The drawing for the raffle of fishing equipment for the benefit of our chapter's Veterans Service Partnership has been postponed from the February 10th meeting to the March 10th meeting. This decision was made by the Board of Directors due to the fact that we have ongoing problems with timely mail delivery. We have been receiving ticket stubs and money that have been postmarked three to four weeks earlier. This will allow enough time for you to return your stubs and be included in the drawing. Any money received after the March 10 date will be returned to the sender. Text me with any questions about whether we have received your stubs to (570)971-1296 or e-mail me at: cjknow@comcast.net. There are still tickets outstanding and some available. Please return your stubs and money as soon as possible so that we can adequately fund this project.

The next two meetings will also be held as virtual meetings utilizing the ZOOM platform. We would like to thank Rachel Kester of PA TU for acting as host for the meetings. Instructions on how to register to participate in the meetings are found in this issue of the Ripples. Once you register, log-in information will be given to you. Again, we are limited to 100 participants for each meeting. We had about 40 participants at the last meeting which I feel was a good response for our first ZOOM meeting. The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission will be providing the program for our February meeting. We have a new WCO for Lycoming County. His name is Darrell Miller and he will be introduced by Tim Schaeffer. Please join the meetings. For those of you not familiar with ZOOM, it is a relatively simple app that you can download to your smartphone or tablet. Then you can simply click on the link provided in the emailed edition of the Ripples and follow the prompts.

Our fly tying program that usually begins in February will take on a different look. Walt Nicholson put together for this issue of the Ripples lists of places that you can access via computer or smartphone to get step-by-step instructions on fly tying. There are some great examples of easy to follow videos to tie flies on these sites. He has also included local places to acquire fly tying materials. Since social distancing is still encouraged, this is a great time to get caught up tying flies. Since the first day of trout season has been moved up to April 3rd, you don't want to wait until the last minute to fill your fly boxes! Again, if anyone has any suggestions for programs or activities that we should pursue, please let one of the officers or directors know.

DEPUTY WATERWAYS CONSERVATION OFFICERS

The Fish and Boat Commission is always looking for individuals willing to serve as DWCO's. These individuals are an important part in the enforcement, protection, and conservation of our fisheries. The following is taken from the PFBC website

The Deputy Waterways Conservation Officers work with Waterways Conservation Officers (WCO) to enforce fish, boat, and environmental rules and regulations. Weekend hours are a must!

To apply, you must be a Pennsylvania resident, 21 years of age, reside within the district of the WCO with

whom you interviewed, have full use of all limbs, 20/20 vision (or correctable to) with correct color vision, able to use firearms with each hand, be physically able to perform CPR, swim, engage in physical exercise, and have no criminal record.

Interested persons must contact the Waterways Conservation Officer (WCO) within the district they would like to volunteer or contact the appropriate Region Manager. View regions on our region directory page. If you are unsure of the WCO or Region Office, please call the Bureau of Law Enforcement at (717) 705-7861.

You will be required to submit a written resume to the Region Manager for review.

PFBC ANNOUNCES CHANGES TO 2021 TROUT SEASON AND STOCKING

During its quarterly business meeting held virtually on January 25, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) announced several changes to the upcoming 2021 trout season, including opening day dates and stocking operations.

These changes, effective immediately, include consolidating the 2021 season into a single, statewide schedule for all Pennsylvania counties; beginning trout stocking operations earlier than usual; reinstating limited volunteer opportunities for trout stocking operations; and releasing a schedule of trout stocking dates and locations. All changes were made by the PFBC in consultation with the Office of the Governor, Pennsylvania Department of Health, and Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to address ongoing public health concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic while preserving the opportunity to enjoy the fun and recreational health benefits of fishing.

For the 2021 trout season, the PFBC will operate under a consolidated statewide schedule for all counties. Under this revised plan, **a single Statewide Mentored Youth Trout Day will occur on Saturday, March 27, and a single Statewide Opening Day of trout season will take place on Saturday, April 3.** As a result of this consolidation, separate regional mentored youth and opening days will not occur. Anglers are also reminded that because the mentored youth days were cancelled in 2020, all Voluntary Youth Fishing Licenses purchased last season remain valid and will be honored during the 2021 season.

"Thank you to the anglers and boaters of Pennsylvania for their understanding as we continue to experience these changes together

and get back on the water in 2021," said Tim Schaeffer, PFBC Executive Director. "The move to an earlier statewide schedule for trout season ensures that we can preserve our cherished fishing traditions while reducing the amount of travel across multiple opening days. We wanted to give anglers as much time and information as possible to plan ahead, and we think they will especially like having the stocking dates and locations available at their fingertips again this year on our FishBoatPA mobile app and website (www.fishandboat.com). Starting two weeks earlier gives trout anglers statewide two more weeks to enjoy everything that comes with this special time of year. We appreciate the cooperation of the anglers as we prepare for the safest season possible and encourage them to enjoy their local waters."

To prepare for the consolidated statewide trout season schedule, **the PFBC will begin pre-season trout stocking operations on February 15, 2021**, approximately two weeks earlier than in previous seasons. This change will allow hatchery staff to deliver trout to many waters ahead of the Statewide Mentored Youth Trout Day and, weather permitting, all waters prior to the Statewide Opening Day. Due to this change, all streams that are designated as Stocked Trout Waters will be closed to angling when stocking begins on February 15. To provide for additional angling opportunities during this time, trout which are stocked in lakes, reservoirs, and ponds during the pre-season will be open to catch-and-release angling but may not be harvested until Statewide Mentored Youth Day and Statewide Opening Day.

In addition, fishing will be closed on the Lake Erie Tributaries and Presque Isle Bay from 12:01 a.m. on April 2 until 8:00 a.m. on April 3. This temporary modification to the trout season, size, and creel limits will mirror regulation changes that occur annually in the Lake Erie region prior to the regular

Statewide Opening Day and are designed to protect against the over-harvest of steelhead.

To achieve the highest quality stocking operations, **the PFBC will be reintroducing limited volunteer opportunities in 2021.** However, to protect the safety of PFBC staff and the public, volunteer opportunities will not be available to the general public. Instead, volunteers will be recruited from an existing pool of individuals who have traditionally assisted with float stocking and bucket carrying organized through local conservation organizations, schools, and other groups. All volunteers selected will be required to wear personal protective gear, including masks and gloves, and practice social distancing while participating in stocking operations.

"We appreciate the feedback we received from many anglers who were disappointed last season because we suspended volunteer stocking help due to pandemic. While we welcome the day when we can all return to normal, we think that offering these limited volunteer opportunities this season is a big step in the right direction," said Richard Lewis, President of the PFBC Board of Commissioners. "With the help of these experienced volunteers, we will be able to most effectively spread the trout out throughout the streams to provide the best opening day experience for all anglers as well as sustained fishing throughout the spring."

Above copied from PFBC ANNOUNCES CHANGES TO 2021 TROUT SEASON AND STOCKING OPERATIONS DURING QUARTERLY MEETING (pa.gov)

**LIFE JACKETS
ARE
REQUIRED
NOVEMBER 1,
2020 TO APRIL
30, 2021**



**Susquehanna Chapter
Trout Unlimited
Annual Watershed
Summit
January 13, 2021**

Virtual Zoom Meeting

Summary Notes

Attendees: About 40 logged in.

SCTU President Charlie Knowlden convened the sixteenth annual Watershed Summit at 7:00 PM and welcomed the attendees. Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the meeting was held online on Zoom rather than in-person. He introduced Rachel Kester, PATU Program Director, and thanked her for facilitating the Zoom event.

Rachel Kester then explained the Zoom meeting procedures, including the Chat function that enables the participants to type in questions during presentations. She also announced that the Cold Water Heritage Partnership Grant is open for applications until February 15th, and encouraged participants to apply.

SCTU Vice-President Walt Nicholson stated that the purpose of the meeting was to learn about the volunteer efforts and accomplishments of our area's watershed groups, conservation organizations and agencies during 2020 and their upcoming plans to help preserve, protect and enhance our area streams and watersheds. Walt introduced the State/local officials in attendance, including State representative Joe Hamm and also John Clune of USGS. John Clune stated that the USGS has established two new stream gauges in Columbia County, is helping jurisdictions with their Watershed Improvement Plans (WIP), is compiling stream temperatures, and is working on two groundwater studies in Clinton and Potter Counties and a geomorphic

study of Turtle Creek in Union Co.

Following are highlights from each presentation. The slide presentations for each may be found on the SCTU website at <https://susquehannatu.com>.

**Dr. Jonathan Niles, Susquehanna
University Fresh Water Research
Institute**

- The Susquehanna University Fresh Water Research Institute was able to complete field research under COVID guidelines, including working in collaboration with NPC, DEP, PFBC, and Conservation Districts to monitor BMP's and bank stabilization structures at 30+ sites. Preliminary findings are that stream deflectors result in increase in minnow populations that need clean gravel to spawn.
- Unassessed Waters Initiative – sampled 88 sites for wild trout as requested by PFBC. The “low lying fruit” wild trout populations have already been identified and the research team has been surveying streams that are farther away and marginal for wild trout. Wild trout were only found at 15 of the 88 sample sites. No trout were found on the South Branch of Towanda Creek in Bradford County despite extensive sampling. Six sites had wild rainbow trout, including Lititz Run in Lancaster County; eight sites had only wild Brook Trout (Shermans Creek), and one site had only wild Brown Trout (Cocolamus Creek).
- Evaluated existing conditions for trout on Plunketts Creek at SGL 134 as part of the Plunketts Creek berm removal study. Found that the stretch provided good young of the year brown trout habitat, although it dried up later in the summer. They also established a baseline for sediment sizes and habitat prior to the berm

removal.

- Continued long-term Brook Trout population studies in the Loyalsock Creek Watershed. Major flood events have had a significant impact on trout populations, with the October 2016 event resulting in the loss of all eggs in the redds and a depression/slow recovery of all age classes of the trout population in Dry Run (trib to Hoagland Branch). The summer 2011 floods, on the other hand, temporarily reduced the adult class but resulted in a substantial increase in young of the year and subsequent adult populations. Weed Creek had the same population trends as Dry Run but not as extreme – the hypothesis is that it is not as incised and may have better access to its floodplain.

**Lycoming College Clean Water
Institute (CWI)**

Dr. Robert Smith, Research Associate, introduced the other staff of the Institute. Dr. Mel Zimmerman, Director; Dr. Peter Petokas, Research Associate; Emily Bohlin, M.S. Postdoc; and Dr. Leslie Rieck, Postdoc.

- CWI field work was limited because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Waterdale Environmental Center and Hiawatha floating classrooms were cancelled.
- Completed 15th year trophic study of Rose Valley Lake
- Continued to participate in the PFBC unassessed waters initiative – completed 39 assessments. Continued to monitor the LCCD Wolf Run streambank stabilization and non point runoff reduction project including water chemistry, macro-invertebrate and fish surveys. Found a good population of large adult brown trout.

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- As part of their Urban stream ecology & College-Community stormwater partnership, convened the 5th symposium on Urbanization and Stream Ecology. Urban water quality monitoring started. Developed a manuscript about MS4 misunderstandings and moving toward effective stormwater management for small municipalities. Developing a predictive model for potential MS4 stormwater projects
- Researching the use of forest stream canopies and riparian forests by adult stream insects.
- Dr. Petokas gave a Hellbender research update. Conducted physical and DNA surveys of Sinnemahoning Creek but found no Hellbenders. Crayfish food supply is good in the First Fork. Bennett Branch is impaired. Installed artificial concrete habitat structures and will stock with 156 3 ½ year old Hellbenders raised at the Bronx Zoo. New technology enables tags to be read even when the Hellbenders are under rocks – they found one that was 30 years old!

Richard Glinski, PA DCNR Loyalsock State Forest District

Rich Glinski, District Forester for the Loyalsock State Forest District, gave an update on the forest road repairs from the extensive damage caused by the Oct 2106 and summer of 2011 flood events.

- DCNR has acquired a railroad grade along Pleasant Stream and 2.5 miles of the road will be relocated – project has been contracted out. Expected to be completed by July 30, 2021.
- A new road has also been constructed along Mill Creek.
- A number of roads will be renamed to match up with their destinations. For example, the new Pleasant Stream Road will be called the “Masten Road.”

Northcentral PA Conservancy (NCPC)

The Northcentral PA Conservancy is a land trust devoted to conserving the working farm and forest lands and watersheds in Northcentral PA.

- Renee Carey, Director, stated that 2020 was the 30th anniversary of the Conservancy but a very different year due to the Coronavirus. For example, the Turtle Creek project had to be temporarily shut down due to the lockdown in March.
- Renee summarized progress on the floodplain restoration project on SGL 134 near Camp Mountain Road north of Barbours. The Susquehanna University Fresh Water Research Institute completed baseline stream studies. Approximately 500’ of stream bank was stabilized, including log work and tree plantings, with the tree roots serving as “rebar”. The final phase will be to reconnect Plunkett’s Creek to its floodplain by removing an 1840’ long 16,000 cubic yard earthen berm that was installed in 1950.
- Maintenance work was done on the Wallis Run project that was impacted by the 2016 flood. Additional erosion occurred after the project design, so more maintenance will be needed.
- Improvements were made to the Avis canoe launch, including geo-cell stabilization, using funding from Clinton County Tourism/Recreation Grant Program and the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy Canoe Access fund. The property was transferred from a private property owner through the Conservancy to the Bureau of Forestry.
- The Conservancy works with property owners, PAFBC, DEP, the County Conservation Districts and others on stream improvement projects by administering a Growing Greener grant program; including stream bank

stabilization, riparian fencing, manure management, farm conservation plans, and other projects. The Northcentral Stream Partnership impacted over 10,740 feet of stream bank in 2020. Over 415 log/rock structures were installed. Two stream crossings were built, and fencing was installed at one farm. Four buffers were planted.

- The Conservancy purchased the Bar Bottom Hollow Tract on Loyalsock Creek, a 112 acre inholding adjacent to the Loyalsock State Forest, on June 20, 2020, and has conveyed it to the Bureau of Forestry. Bar Bottom Hollow is an exceptional value stream with a number of beautiful waterfalls, and the parcel has significant ecological and scenic values.

Shawn Rummel, PA Trout Unlimited, Eastern Brook Trout

SCTU received a PATU Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) that involves the TU Lock Haven office gathering data and creating a plan for potential AMD related conservation projects in the upper Loyalsock Creek watershed, in cooperation with a number of partners. The goal is to improve the water quality in order to achieve consistent wild trout status for this section of the Loyalsock.

- Shawn Rummell presented preliminary results of the fish surveys. Trout were found at the intersection of the Loyalsock and Rt 220 but not enough to qualify for wild trout status. No trout were found below the White Ash B discharge, a limited number of trout were found at an upstream sampling site below White Ash A.

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- Macroinvertebrates, an indicator of long term stream ecological status, have been surveyed but the samples are still being analyzed.
- There is an aquatic organism passage barrier at the mouth of Birch Creek tributary. Birch creek has a wild trout level population near its junction with the Loyalsock (well downstream of the Lewis treatment facility).
- Low tunnel discharge made MD assessment difficult, and heavy localized rain before sampling masked AMD impacts. One sampling event cannot capture a dynamic system.
- Mine discharges are less severe than when the systems were built due to natural attenuation. White Ash B should be the priority for improvements as it is maintainable (not buried) and expandable.

Loyalsock Creek Watershed Association

President Marc Lewis summarized activities undertaken or supported by the Association:

- He was appreciative of the high level of expertise and work of his board members.
- The LCWA funded work from EPCAMR (Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation) to monitor upper Loyalsock Creek water quality and the effluent from 2 abandoned mine discharge treatment systems,
- Monitored the SRBC-approved gas industry water withdrawals for compliance and potential impact on Loyalsock Ck,
- Sponsored the Memorial Day Rose Valley Lake Cane Pole Derby,
- Helped support and facilitate the Bar Bottom property acquisition for the NPC & PA DCNR,
- Supported and used provisions of state legislation which facilitates removal of old coal refuse

culm piles near Mildred which have caused water quality impairment,

- Set up an endowment fund to support conservation education camp scholarships,
- Continued working on two potential public canoe/kayak access areas on Loyalsock Ck.
- Encouraged work to improve the reliability of the Lycoming County Flood Warning system gages on Loyalsock Creek.

Lycoming Creek Watershed Association (LCWA)

- President Mike Ditchfield stated that meetings have been lightly attended but he hopes that attendance will increase at COVID compliant outdoor meetings as the weather warms. He joked that “we need a good flood” to spur interest.
- A multi log vane replacement at the Sheshequin Campground was completed using mitigation funding from the Duke Energy windmill project.
- They are working with Larry Brannaka of USGS on the large Midway streambank stabilization/flood damage reduction/sediment reduction project. Unfortunately, they didn’t get a Growing Greener grant. Coordination is needed with Union Township officials who are anxious to spend their grant money.
- LCWA is participating in the Lower Lycoming Hazard Mitigation Team, MS4, and Watershed Implementation Plan/Countywide Action Plan
- Working with the LCCD on the Mill Creek fish habitat projects in Hepburn Twp.
- Lycoming Creek anglers have recovered from the flood damage to the hatchery and are doing well with their stocked trout.

Lycoming County Conservation District

Walt Nicholson congratulated District Manager Mark Davidson on his retirement after 30+ years of service, and introduced the new District Manager, Greg Bonsall. Greg previously worked at Union County Conservation District. Carey Entz-Rine, Watershed Specialist, summarized projects completed this year:

- Hepburn Twp. Mill Creek Fish Habitat Projects
- Plunketts Creek Fish Habitat Project at Proctor Game Farm
- Wolf Run – Artley Farm County Farm Best Management Practices (BMPs)

The District is currently working on the following projects:

- Hughesville Well House Riprap Repairs
- Loyalsock Creek Restoration Project (Keebler Farm Road Area)
- Midway Project on Lycoming Creek
- Wolf Run Farm BMPs
- Pine Run Restoration Project
- Keystone 10 Million Tree Partnership
- Dirt and Gravel Road Program – they received \$1.8 million in requests and were able to allocate \$500K for projects

Sullivan County Conservation District

Walt Nicholson introduced Gloria Norcross, the new Watershed Specialist. He said that we all appreciated the work of her predecessor, the late Corey Richmond, and looked forward to working with her.

- Gloria reported that there were no in-person events this year due to the Coronavirus. She has been attending local watershed Association, Northcentral PA Conservancy, and EPCAMR meetings.

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- There is interest in the community in watershed and stream projects, many in relation to flooding involving private property.
- The Conservation District partnered with the Eagles Mere Conservancy to give presentations about the geology, ecology, and preservation of the lake.
- Made use of the Envirothon kit and Enviroscope model at the Conservancy and in a presentation about the environment and careers with the Trehub Center in Dushore.
- Conducted a bridge building contest using popsicle sticks and rocks to educate students about the potential impact bridges have on a stream
- Reinstated partnerships with EPCAMR and various organizations involved with AMD sites and conducted tours of the systems.

Wrap Up and Thank You

Several questions came up about stream gauges on Lycoming and Loyalsock that failed to work properly during the Christmas Eve event. Nobody had an answer; follow up is needed.

Walt Nicholson invited the participants to the next SCTU virtual Zoom meeting on February 10, 2021, with the PA Fish & Boat Commission. Speakers will include Tim Schaeffer, Executive Director; Eric Hussar, President, of the Commission; and Chad Lauer, Waterways Conservation Officer. There will also be a more detailed presentation about the results and recommendations of the Upper Loyalsock AMD remediation project at a future meeting.

Walt thanked the presenters and attendees for participating. He said that it was an unprecedented year due to the Coronavirus pandemic, but that it was gratifying that the agencies and groups continued to forge ahead and do beneficial work.

Regrettably, due to the virtual Zoom meeting format there was no after meeting camaraderie and cookies.

The Watershed Summit concluded at 9 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin McJunkin, Secretary



Thank you to our Watershed and Conservation Groups

The Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited would like to thank everyone who works to protect and preserve our watersheds and waterways. Not everyone enjoys the sport of fishing, but most everyone enjoys the great outdoors.

It is evident by the reports given at the January watershed summit that there is tremendous work and effort going into our region. Every individual and agency involved is doing tremendous work and their efforts are benefiting the entire region.

Whatever your interests, your work is valuable and beneficial to all things. Whether you work to help one species of animal, plant, an area of land, or an entire waterway, everything in that area will benefit from your efforts.

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. North 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 contact them to see how you can help them. They are always looking for members to help with their missions. Whatever time you can contribute, or any amount of money that you can give will be appreciated. Every little bit helps to make North Central Pennsylvania a better place.

Thank you all again!!!!



Brooke Trout Video

Michael Kinney is an outdoor photographer / videographer who has captured many beautiful images. One of his latest is of brooke trout swimming in a mountain stream in the West Branch Susquehanna Watershed.

This video will surely get you excited about getting out and doing some fishing. The video is about 3 1/2 minutes long.

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=2215255848607822&id=100003702843910

Susquehanna Chapter TU Fly Tying Goes Virtual

Fly Tying Resources on the Internet

Due to the Covid pandemic, Susquehanna TU will not be holding an in-person fly tying instruction course this year. To assist our members and interested anglers learning to tie fishing flies, we offer the following on-line resources:

An excellent beginner fly tying on-line course from the Broadheads Chapter of Trout Unlimited is available on YouTube. Its 12 segments cover fly tying tools and the basic techniques for tying 11 standard useful fly patterns. It can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DB6tss3hGZc>.

For more instructional information on many more fly patterns, useful tips and techniques, you can click on Orvis's *Fly Fishing Learning Center* website at <https://howtoflyfish.orvis.com/> and choose *Fly Tying Videos* on the menu bar. You can choose various fly patterns to tie. (When on a given fly video, click on *Vimeo* to go to full screen). The Orvis site also has good instructions on equipment, casting and fishing techniques.

A favorite television series on PBS was "*Fly Tying: The Angler's Art*" produced by KWSU. Links to series episodes can be located by Googling the series name. The episode with Dave Whitlock tying warm water and salmon fly patterns can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i4xK6D4EffA>. Dave Whitlock also has a Master Series on advanced fly tying which can be found at <https://davewhitlock.com/fly-tying/>.

Additional names to check out on Google, YouTube and Vimeo would include Charlie Craven, frequent contributor to *Fly Fisherman* magazine, and local notable anglers and tiers George Daniel and our own Dave Rothrock who are producing excellent videos and articles on fly tying and innovative fly patterns and angling techniques. There are a very large number of websites and YouTube videos available for learning how to tie all types of fishing flies. One can just Google "Fly Tying Instructions" and dozens of sites will pop up.

Also posted are the files for our Susquehanna TU 2020 Fly Tying Course Manual, Appendices, and pictures of the flies covered in the course. The Appendices contain a wealth of information about flies, fly tying, and fly fishing which is difficult to find in one place.

Susquehanna TU has dozens of books on fly tying and fly fishing which will soon be available to check out or purchase. Fly tying materials and equipment can also be obtained in our area at the Slate Run Tackle Shop at Wolfe's General Store in Slate Run and Blue Heron Sports in Milton. Additionally, we have supplies of certain fly tying materials. If you have a specific need, please contact us at susquehannatu@gmail.com.

Walt Nicholson

On our website, there will be a tab that contains information on fly tying including the fly tying manual that we used in 2020

Some Historically Important Fly Tying Books (American):

The Founding Flies, Mike Valla, Stackpole Books (2013)

A Book of Trout Flies, Preston J. Jennings, Crown Publishers (1935, reprint 1970)

The Compete Fly Tier, Reuben R. Cross, Freshet Press (1936, reprint 1971)

Trout, Ray Bergman, Alfred A. Knopf (1938, reprint 2nd Ed. 1962)

Practical Fly Fishing, Charles M. Wetzel, Christopher Publishing House (1945)

A Modern Dry Fly Code, Vincent C. Marinaro, Crown Publishers, Inc. (1950, reprint 1970)

Matching the Hatch, Ernest G. Schwiebert, Jr., The Macmillan Co. (1955)

Flies, J. Edson Leonard, A. S. Barnes and Co., (1960)

Selective Trout, Doug Swisher and Carl Richards, Crown Publishers (1971)

The Soft-Hackle Fly, Sylvester Nemes, The Chatham Press (1975)

Learning From the Water, Rene' Harrop, Stackpole Books (2010) [Western spring creek focus]



Raffle to Benefit the Chapter's Service Partnership Program

Our raffle fund-raiser for the Chapter's Service Partnership is now underway. The proceeds will be used to provide materials for our rod-building and fly tying classes for our veterans and first responders. We had 1000 tickets printed for the drawing to be held February 10, 2021 at the end of our regular meeting and we still have tickets available.

If you would like tickets, or need more tickets, submit a request by email to the Chapter at susquehannatu@gmail.com, boblaker@comcast.net, or cjknow@comcast.net.

Tickets are \$5 each or 5 tickets for \$20. Please consider purchasing tickets for yourself and selling some to you friends. The Service Partnership serves and engages those individuals in the Military, Police, Fire, EMS, the Medical Fields, and their families and shows them the healing power of water through fly tying, rod building, casting instruction, and fishing outings.

The prizes are:

1st Prize - Orvis Green Mountain 8 1/2' fly rod with Orvis reel (8wt) with vest loaded with flies and a landing net

2nd Prize - Orvis Green Mountain 8' fly rod with Martin Classic Fly reel (6wt)

3rd Prize - Orvis Limestone Special 8 1/2' fly rod (6wt)

4th Prize - Orvis small stream fly rod 7' (4-5wt)

5th Prize - E. Hille Lamiflex Fly Rod 6' (4wt)

6th Prize - E. Hille Lamiflex Graphite 7' spinning rod (1/4 - 3/4 oz lure weight)

7th Prize - Browning Gold Medallion 9' fly rod (8-9wt)

We would like to thank everyone who has bought tickets and supporting the Service Partnership Program

There are still a few tickets remaining. If paying through the mail, we will not accept any tickets or money if not post-marked on or before February 10, 2021. We will accept money and tickets if hand delivered to us any time up until the meeting on March 10, 2021





Article By Dan Zazworsky on Charles "Charlie" Charlesworth Named 2021 Conservationist of the Year - Flylords Mag Photo Cathy Beck

To Pennsylvanian trout anglers, the name Charles Charlesworth is a familiar name. Charles was just named Fly Fisherman Magazine's 2021 Conservationist of the Year for his work restoring PA's trout waters. Charles has served as the president of Pennsylvania's Trout Unlimited Council and currently serves as a commissioner for the state's Fish and Boat Commission.

According to the announcement article penned by Barry Beck, Mr. Charlesworth received the award for his lifetime of conservation service and work, as well as several of the large river restoration projects he helped spearhead.

You can read the full article by Barry Beck on FlyFisherman.com, here!

The Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited would like to congratulate Charlie for receiving this award. It is well deserved and thank you for your dedication to the great outdoors.

Recipe of the Month



Southwestern Fried Perch

Ingredients:

- 1 envelope taco seasoning
- 1 lb. lake perch fillets
- 1 egg
- 1/2 C. yellow cornmeal
- 1/4 C. all-purpose flour
- * 3 Tbsp. vegetable oil

Directions:

Place taco seasoning in a large resealable bag; add perch fillets, one at a time, and shake to coat. In a shallow bowl, lightly beat the egg. Combine cornmeal and flour in another shallow bowl. Dip fillets in egg, then coat with cornmeal mixture. Place in a single layer on a plate; refrigerate for 15 minutes.

In a large skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat. Fry fillets for 2-3 minutes on each side or until fish flakes easily with a fork. Yield: 4 servings.

Above taken from Midwest Hunting & Fishing (midwesthuntfish.com)

When the November 18, 2020 raffle letter was sent out informing, there was a space at the bottom for comments. The following were the replies that we received:

- * Great Work guys
- * Any fishing program
- * Fishing and traveling
- * Joe's cookie recipe
- * Continue the good programs
- * More women and youth programs
- * Partnerships with the local colleges
- * Stream clean ups
- * A mentor program where a more experienced angler takes an inexperienced angler under their wing and helps them develop
- * A fishing buddy program where you can call up someone to go fishing
- * More youth involvement
- * Articles and stories about Loyalsock Creek, Lycoming Creek, and Pine Creek
- * Projects of any kind to get us more proactive



Susquehanna Ripples
Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited
PO Box 1132
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Since 1964, the Mission of the Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited is to work to conserve, protect and restore Central Pennsylvania's Coldwater fisheries and their watersheds

Upcoming Events

**November 1, 2020 through
April 30, 2021**
Mandatory Life Jacket
Requirement

February 6 - 14, 2021
CANCELLED -Great American
Outdoor Show in Harrisburg

February 10, 2021
Chapter Meeting via Zoom with
representatives of the PFBC

March 1, 2021
Stocked trout waters closed to
fishing

March 6 - 7, 2021
The Fly Fishing Show - Lancaster,
PA

March 10, 2021
Meeting/ Zoom on Upper Loy-
alsock AMD Study – (tentative)

March 27, 2021
Statewide Mentored Youth Trout
Day

April 3, 2021
First Day of Trout Statewide

April 14, 2021
Chapter Meeting

May 1, 2021
Opening day of Walleye

May 22 - 28, 2021
National Safe Boating week

June 12, 2021
Opening day of Bass

July 4, 2021
Fish for Free Day

September 7, 2021
Extended Trout Season Begins

Chapter meetings held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month and are open to the public and begin at 7:00 pm (unless otherwise noted). Meetings are held at the **Covenant Central Presbyterian Church, 807 W 4th St, Williamsport, PA 17701**, in the Fellowship Hall (unless otherwise noted). Parking is at the rear of the Church and enter off of Campbell Street.

No meetings are held in May, June, July, August or December

The **Susquehanna Ripples** is the official newsletter of the Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited. It is published 8 times a year: January, February, March, April, June/July, September, October, and November. Please consider submitting something of interest to our readers; a story, stream report, recipe, photograph, gear review, etc. Submissions received will be placed in the next available issue. All submissions can be sent to susquehannatu@gmail.com or boblaker@comcast.net.