



## FROM OUR PRESIDENT

### FISH TALK

As I look out the window on this nice Spring day, reminiscing on my childhood growing up on the farm, I remember how much I loved this time of year. The hours I would spend outside, walking down the old grass road, listening to the birds, watching for deer, rabbits, or squirrels, jumping the little streams from bank to bank or searching for small tadpoles in the cool flowing water. I was encouraged by the new buds on the trees, delighted in the beauty and scent of the newly arrived flowers, the kiss of the sun on my face, and, a warm breeze in my hair. They were the simple joys of life back then. What is your story?

We are doing a few new things this year.

ACTU has a new Women's Initiative Leader named Marybeth Norton.

We have ordered 72 Port Authority Embroidered tan Real Tree Camouflage caps including a bass on the side, plus our ACTU logo and golden trout on the front, for Justin Klingler's Gettysburg Middle School class and the Youth class of Heritage Assembly of God, NextGen, who enjoy fishing and practice their skills in a local pond each year.

Our Chapter rose to the occasion when asked to donate to a school in Adams County toward their sixth grade camp in May, and we took pictures of two TIC aquariums this Spring.

We are still receiving donations for our many yearly activities, such as two 60' poles, planed 2" boards from Joe, plus two 5 pound boxes of 31/2" screws from our ACTU member, Jack Cashman, for the Latimore Fairgrounds bridge project.

We have met with our new State Representative Torren Ecker, new PFBC Executive Director Tim Schaeffer, and our new PFBC Director Michael Nerozzi.

We had a few new attendees during our Spring Stocking including Torren Ecker and his son, several new members, and 6 teenagers from Michelle Miller's Biglerville TIC class.

I look forward to joining you at our monthly ACTU meetings beginning at 7pm at ACCD on the third Tuesday of the month.

Casting out a little farther, your ACTU President and co-volunteer,

*April Lee Swope*



President April Swope accepts ZooAmerica donation from Joe Hastings, President of Green Springs Sportsmen Club.



New chapter hat for 2019

## WHATS INSIDE

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Continued Activities to get our youth involved in ACTU

**8** Restoration Project  
Mountain Creek Restoration 3 years later





# HEIDLEBURG FISHING SHOW

The 4th Annual Heidlersburg Fishing Show was a great success on February 23 and 24, 2019. Friday night started with a delicious dinner for all vendors who decided to setup that evening. Saturday, many early morning risers had a first-hand opportunity to find some great bargains. You name it, in the fishing industry, it was at this event. About 70 vendors participated. We made some new friends, and many old friends came by like Justin and Tony,

Gary, Eric, Marybeth, and our hosts from the Fire Hall. Special thanks to Hank (committee chair).



## A LETTER TO THE MEMBERS

Hi all,

*I want to thank Randy, Edna and Buzz Dettenburn, Ed McGlaughlin, Dean Stum, and Dave Swope for participating in the ACTU's attendance at the Heidlersburg Annual Fishing Show. Many attendees viewed our slide show regarding work on the Birch Run Restoration Project. Our photo display of recent activities also brought smiles to several people who recognized themselves in our photos. Some current ACTU members also stopped by our table to chat. Six or seven ACTU membership applications were distributed to interested attendees. We sold books and hats which covered most of our expenses for attending the show. PA fish identification posters (more than 50) were handed out as well as numerous posters depicting the life cycle of the Brook trout. 50+ measuring tapes (5 foot) were also given out. Free Oreo and chocolate chip cookies were appreciated by many youngsters AND a few adults!!*

*Thanks for your support-Hank.*

## OUR ACTU OFFICERS AT WORK WITH PA LEGISLATORS



**Advocacy Day in Harrisburg**  
April 18th L-R Neil Sunday (CVTU)  
Rep. Ecker, April & Dave Swope (ACTU)



**ACTU officers** meet with State Rep. Torren Ecker on issues concerns with PFBC.



**State Rep. Torren Ecker** displays PFBC pin for 2019



# THE SPLASH OF OPENING DAY

The opening day of trout season began on March 30th with the invitation of Spring to many of us. In Adams County alone awaiting anxious angler's casts will be over 30,000 legal sized trout stocked in the eight approved trout streams by the PFBC. Adding to those numbers will be the volunteer efforts of the Adams County Trophy Trout Program ready to commit themselves for the twenty-seventh year adding 1500 torpedoes (as my friend interprets them).

The PFBC stocking program is supported strictly by revenues from both fishing license sales and Trout stamps. This independent agency's program is one of the largest in the nation stocking over 3.7 million adult brook, brown, rainbow and palomino trout to be released in the state. A multi purpose change coming from the 1st Trout Summit in 2002 has the agency gearing up this year for larger trout to be stocked in 2019 which will require reducing the allocations per rearing stations.

Trout season is the main locomotive that generates over 600 million in Pa. economy annually. Many businesses rely on Opening Day into May to carry their business through the year. Stream flow conditions are very good and the Co-op trout are nice this year. Looking forward to some good inseason stockings from the Co-ops and with the PFBC.

Opening day of Trout season generates the "Spring Fling Traditions" of the camping season. Opening day will bring anglers and families to the campgrounds, with memories of just enjoying a warm spring day, giving a chance to separate us from the cabin fever syndrome, wearing our hip boots to wade through knee deep, a time to view Gods creatures, his splendor, to reflect on our good health, to celebrate his many blessings of our great outdoor heritage, our freedoms, to relieve the stress of everyday living and signs of better times ahead.

The many traditions, we associate with opening day are almost more important than fishing. For the writer, the preparation of equipment and memories with my family in the early seventies has long passed but the relationship with trout being so much more than just a fish has enhanced many memories in which I still view and look forward to Opening Day.

Thanks to all those volunteers who realize through their efforts, give all anglers the opportunity to enjoy opening day and for many the enjoyment of those Spring Traditions. Keep in mind, it is a privilege not a right to fish on private property- so respect it. Starting in 2019 four different landowners has posted their Adams County properties and will prosecute trespassers during trout season. No trout has been stocked in these areas.



Dave fishing the Catskill River



Dave's Opening Day catch 2019



L - R Standing: Scott Russell, Daniel Lazenby, Al Poklemba, Brook Rolter, Jim Wilson, ACTU host Dave Swope, Don Grattan. Seated: Tim Biddle

## NVTU FISHING OUTING TO THE CONEWAGO CREEK

On March 28th, I took the opportunity to invite Northern Virginia Trout Unlimited chapter members on a fly fishing outing on the Conewago Creek. We met at the Rockwell Bowling Lanes parking area and split into two groups, one starting from Zeiglers Mill Road at the old sign and the other Rt 34 upstream. I directed half of the group from the top down and Eddie took the other half upstream. After fishing about 3 hours we decided to come together for some fishing stories and a bite of lunch provided by the host.

After only a few fish being caught, some of the guys were in the trees and brush a little bit, we gathered for a group picture. Stories at this point, was the highlight of their trip but after lunch the fish were more anxious to bite and a few bigger ones felt the sting of the hook.

This was a perfect opportunity for the partnership to expand into the future and I am hoping to reach some more of their members next month along with some of ACTU members.





# ACTU KIDS NEWS

## RIVERS CONSERVATION AND FLY FISHING SCHOOL

The purpose of the camp is to educate students in the importance of coldwater conservation. The many classes include principles of ecology, geology, aquatic vertebrate and invertebrate sampling, riparian buffers, hydrology, trout behavior, trout stream entomology, the biology of pollution and the politics of conservation.

The camp also provides hands-on classes in fly tying, fly casting, streamside ethics, the evolution of an angler, wader safety and survival, and streamside botany.

The students will also participate in a watershed restoration project to repair stream habitat. Plenty of time is set aside for the students to fish the world famous Yellow Breeches Creek. The event is being held at Messiah College and celebrates in 2019, the camps 25th year of reaching the next generation.

The camp is limited to 32 selected, qualified students, age 14 to 17. The cost to attend the event is \$550. Tuition assistance is available for qualified students. Annually the chapter has budgeted the funding for this local conservation school and students continuing success.

Congrats to this year student selected to represent Adams County Chapter is Adams County own Chloe Plesic. Chloe is the daughter of Chris and Becky Plesic. She attends Bermudian High School is very active in community and school projects, cheerleading, and very successful in rabbitry. 🐰



**Chloe** displays her large Trophy Trout



**Kids enjoy Mentoring Youth Day** on Tom's Creek. L-R Evan, Colton, Gracelynn McClain



### April presenting check to Conewago Intermediate School

From left to right: (Rear) Conewago Valley School District teachers-Katherine Appleby-camp counselor director, Kristina Peterman-camp director, Jason Crouse-fishing instructor, April Swope-President Adams County Trout Unlimited. (Front) Conewago Valley Intermediate School sixth grade students-Tyler Kelican, Chloe Covington.



**Saint Francis 8th grade TIC** students and teachers



**A Great Family Activity!**

**May 11<sup>th</sup>**



**15<sup>and under</sup>**

**No Entry  
Fee  
Keep your  
Catch**

**Prizes  
Awarded  
Lunch  
Provided**

## **Trout FISHING DERBY**

# **Latimore Valley Fairgrounds**

**7:30am Stocking / 8am-11am Fishing**

**Bait Fishing Only**



**Trout provided by Yellow Breeches Anglers & Conservation Association**

**DIRECTIONS:** Travel North on US Route 15, 2 miles North of York Springs, PA, turn right (east) on Latimore Valley Road. Go to first stop sign (old US 15 or Harrisburg Pike) turn right. Cross bridge, Baltimore Road, turn left. Latimore Creek at Latimore Valley Fairgrounds – Special Regulation Section.

**ADAMS COUNTY TROUT UNLIMITED #323**



**Managing Streams for Future Generations**





# NEW RESTORATION DESIGNS

One clear sunny day in March, I was invited by Richard Lewis on a field trip of sort, heading past the Jig Restoration Project which was completed in 2016, to view a very new type brook trout restoration project on Mountain Creek.

A new stream restoration design with minimum labor hours and a very highly thought process that really works in protecting trout of all species. With this new design, which years ago, was the complete the reverse of our HABITAT teachings. This design is the art of felling trees across and into the stream causing partial blockages and deeper pools, in-depth pockets providing new homes for these elusive species of trout.

The downfalls of this type of design would be a disaster to float stock and while fishing, most anglers would need to carry excess flies and hooks because of the debris left in the stream. Even though most of the stream has a strong sub-strait with very little sediment with plenty of gravity flow causing very strong velocity. These felling trees devices will slow the flow of the stream leaving great habitat for the trout. During high flows the riparian buffer will definitely expand further on both sides of the stream. This will increase bug and aquatic life which is a win/win for all.

The stream has large and heavy vegetation along the shore lines which will have anglers fighting angrily to find a suitable fishing spot.





# LATIMORE FAIRGROUNDS

As you may be aware, the foot bridge has been over turned due to high flows in the kids fishing area. The foundation poles have been broken and the search has been ongoing for replacement poles.

Through various contacts two poles have been located in Littlestown.

On Wednesday April 3rd, two 40 ft poles were delivered and donated to Latimore Valley Fairgrounds for the purpose of repairing the bridge crossing the stream. Unfortunately, these poles were too short. We traded them for a pair of 60 ft poles locally and had them placed across the stream beside the old bridge. (see picture). It has been decided to use cable between the railings. Ash trees will be cut down and cut into 2 inch platform walking boards. Cutting lumber costs to be determined.

If this effort is successful, hopefully, the bridge might be repaired in time for our chapter hosting the fishing derby on May 11. If not completed in time, we will cut a trail at the bridge for accessing the other side of the stream. Workday at Latimore is scheduled for April 22nd at 9AM, then again at 6PM, to install and screw in platform boards for walking across to the far side of the stream. Help is needed.

Special thanks to Jack Cashman for his donation of two 5 lb boxes of 3 1/2 exterior screws to repair Latimore Bridge. Jack is a longtime ACTU member, who answers our chapters call.

The ACTU committee has been very busy organizing this derby event from collecting donations, prizes, refreshments, etc. A time will be allotted at our next meeting to update the members and finalize this event. Looking forward to a beautiful day.



## UPDATES ON TOM'S CREEK ELECTRO FISHING

In normal situations, electro fishing involves three people required to run the anodes upstream in a small floating barge (or on the streambank) w/a gas powered generator or backpacks and to load the aquatic organisms captured. An effective method to determine fish populations. The electric current is directed to both sides of the stream within 400 meters.

The effectiveness using electro fishing is determined by a variable of biological factors using direct current. The purpose is to catch fish and aquatic bugs unharmed in order to determine the health of the waterways.

All organisms are gathered by net and then identification is required along with determining an order of categories. Everything gathered pertains to the health of the stream and is a determining factor for stream reclassifications usually done by Department of Environmental Protection or Pa. Fish and Boat Commission. PFBC has rejected our proposal to have Toms Creek surveyed due to the proposed Mountain removal of the entire Pine Hill.

## BOG TURTLE

A Bog Turtle was found on Pine Hill Mountain along Toms Creek. This discovery should play a vital part on the PNDI search when applying for a permit from the Dept. Of Protection along with the findings from Adam Griffs. The bog turtle is America's smallest turtle, it is federally protected and listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Bog turtles depend on open sunny spring fed wetlands with scattered dry areas indicator of water quality and wetland functions. Their greatest threats includes habitat degradation and fragmentation from land conversion, habitat succession due to invasive exotic and native plants and illegal trade and collecting. Since the findings on Pine Hill Mountain along Toms Creek might cause delaying the proposed mining expansion for months.



Bug Identification on Toms Creek  
ACTU Members Hank Rajotte & Cliff Frost



## CHAPTER MEETINGS 2019

### April 16

Chapter Meeting 7pm

Guest Speaker Adams County Commissioner Jim Martin

### May 21

Chapter Meeting 7pm

Guest Speaker Captain Joel Stewart

### July 16

Chapter Meeting 7pm

Guest Speaker SC Regional Commissioner B.J. Small

### August 20

Chapter Meeting 7pm

Guest Speaker Chloe Plesic- Rivers Conservation School

### September 17

Chapter Meeting 7pm

Guest Speaker PFBC Amidea Daniels  
Nomination of all Officers

### October 15

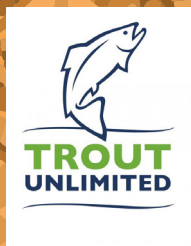
Chapter Meeting 7pm

Guest Speaker PFBC Michael Nerozzi  
Election of all Officers

### November December

No Chapter meeting

All Chapter Meetings held at  
Adams County Conservation District Building



#### ADVERTISE IN ADAMS ANGLER

If you are a business owner and would like to reach 200 members with a common interest in fishing and the environment, consider running your ad in the Adams Angler. There are 4 issues per calendar year.

Cost of the ads are  
\$25 business card and  
\$50 half page and  
full page ad \$100. Call  
253-6680 to advertise.

## EVENTS

### April 15

Conewago Creek

Inseason stocking

12:15 Russell Tavern Bridge

### May 11

Latimore Fishing Derby

7:30am - 11am

### May 14 & 16

TIC Release

Strawberry Hill Preserve

### June 1

Southcentral Outdoors  
for Youth

Littlestown F&G

### June 18

Chapter Picnic

Gladys Pavilion 6pm

RSVP and Covered Dish  
Speaker Rep. Torren Ecker



#### ACTU BOARD MEMBERS

President	April Swope
VP	Hank Rajotte
Secretary	Howard Hellyer
Treasurer	Dave Swope
Board Chairman	Dean Stum
Directors:	Richard Lewis
	Larry Hartlaub
	Charles Dittenburn

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

