



FROM OUR PRESIDENT

FISH TALK

What an honor it is to become Adams County Trout Unlimited's first female President. Never, when I married Dave in May of 2007 did I ever see myself filling this important role. Yes, I enjoy fishing in our county, participating in TU's various activities, and even getting wet during our workdays on the Conewago or those brisk early days of fishing season. My husband says "I'm a keeper!", so please don't throw me back in just yet.

On Tuesday, October 17, 2017, in the Hoffman Conference Room at HACC, the chapter celebrated the beginning of our four decades of fellowship centered around our local fish and streams. The initial insight and the desire of the hearts of a few great men, initiated the plan to register Adams County as a chapter of Pennsylvania and National Trout Unlimited.

You might remember that I wrote my first article for the Newsletter on last year's Fall Stocking from a caterpillar's point of view. I am more comfortable behind a camera, but, this year I took the plunge. Deb Wentling, a new member, and I, also accompanied by several Gettysburg College students, successfully floated the 300 brown trout down the one mile stretch of the Fly area on October 3, 2017. This first experience for us brought joy to our hearts and put smiles on our faces which were captured on many pictures and videos that the students took for their Five Rivers Fly Fishing organization. But, I especially gained a lot more respect for our more seasoned and surefooted veterans who guided us and volunteer faithfully year after year to navigate the constantly changing bottom of the creek and weather. This tenderfoot, fell in three times! But, I am sure I will return for many more adventures with our great volunteers. Won't you join us?

Just like water, if we are not moving, we become stagnant. It is my desire as we enter into our fifth decade to expand our borders into our community. I hope the chapter will visit the TIC classrooms, HACC, and the Gettysburg College.

Did you know that ACTU proudly holds the title of the second largest chapter in Pennsylvania in the TIC Program with 11 aquariums?

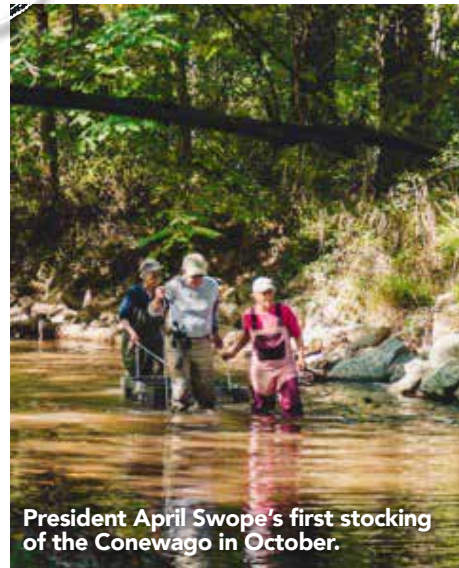
So, looking ahead, I currently have 5 new speakers already planned for 2018. Your new ACTU officers are Hank Rajotte, Vice President; Howard Hellyer, Secretary; and Brandon Harman, Treasurer. Your Board of Trustees include Dean Stum, Chairman, supported by Richard Lewis, Buzz Dittenburn, Larry Hartlaub, and Tyler MacGillivray.

I believe that God will open many new doors for us as our hearts remain united in restoring and conserving our waterways and educating our youth about His amazing Creation.

Wandering, wading, and stepping out onto new paths, both in and out of the water, I look forward to seeing you face to face as we get together for our chapter meetings, our many ACTU events, or just crossing your path with one on our line or in our net this coming year.

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

April Lee Swope



President April Swope's first stocking of the Conewago in October.



Mr. Rodgers receives a generous Christmas gift from the ACTU chapter.

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Educating our youth on conservation



FROM MUDFLATS TO NATIVE BROOK TROUT

The Conococheague Restoration Project powerpoint was presented to the Gettysburg College Fly Fishing Club and students on November 16, 2017 by Richard Lewis, plus Dave and April Swope. This restoration project partnership was formed by Philip Bietsch while working with DCNR at Michaux Forest in Caledonia, Adams County. The project is the essence of grassroots organizations working together for the betterment of protecting this natural resource of water. The Birch Run Reservoir was removed in 2003, and, after many years, the sediment from the lake had vanished downstream leaving only rock due to the strong currents created by the quick decline in the elevation of the streambed.

When first designed, this restoration project was to receive 24 habitat devices over a four-year term. But, with the 14 joining partners we were able to reduce that process to a two-year plan, while adding a tree planting program and an extensive water quality study to use as a future guideline in stream protection.

The project enhanced native Brook trout habitat, increased water quality, decreased stream velocity, provided future overhead cover, repaired the riparian buffer, and initiated long-term physical and biological monitoring on this section of the Conococheague stream.

This project benefited the entire South Mountain Region and many generations to come.

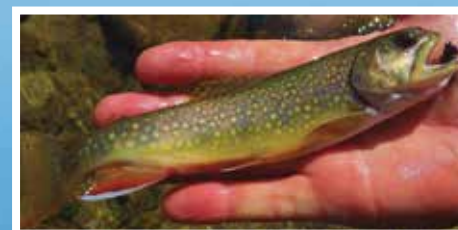


The group explained the financial backing included grants from Pennsylvania Trout Unlimited and South Mountain Partnership plus a donation from the National Capital Trout Unlimited Chapter in Washington, D.C.

Four Trout Unlimited chapters worked together to design, survey, write grants, add news articles, apply for permits, and install the 24 devices in this one mile of stream for the protection of wild Brook trout with the assistance from Gleim Contractors of Carlisle, Pa.

During and after the presentation, many questions were asked concerning the designs, permitting, volunteers hours, red tape involved in the project, hardships to overcome, after installation results, how long will the devices last in water, and who is responsible in the future for this project? The program ended with the u-tube video of a fly fisherman catching native Brook trout in this restored section of Birch Run just 2 weeks after its completion.


The group enjoyed pizza and drinks, and, Tyler MacGillivray presented ACTU with several items from Costa in appreciation for our presentation.



Huntsdale Hatchery Open House

What do you suppose goes through a young child's mind when viewing a raceway of beautiful golden Rainbow trout? Looking back to a sunny October 22, 2017 afternoon, my family attended the first Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission Open House at the Huntsdale Hatchery which opened in 1933. This was an awesome display of the improvements in stocking trout in Pennsylvania streams since the 2002 Trout Summit-Larger trout, but less.

Today, I asked my great grandson, Camdyn, what part of the Open House he would remember the most? Would it be the trout, or the snakes, turtles, removing fish eggs from the breeder trout, feeding the trout, painting his own picture of a trout, or, maybe, the refreshments? Camdyn replied that he loved feeding the fish by broadcasting. He also liked climbing on the trout truck while viewing the various sized fish in the tanks. Camdyn agreed that it was a swell day and everything was good to see. But, the snakes were scary and he didn't want to get too close to them, and the turtles were easier to handle.

We talked to the fish culturist about removing the fish eggs and milking the male's to fertilize the eggs and saw first hand how that process takes place. We ended our tour inside the building where Camdyn noticed all the pictures and educational information that was available and snatched copies to take home to show his mother. "These articles will help me explain the Open House better", he said. 




Camp Michaux Self Guided Walking Tour

Bunker Hill Farm, Pine Grove Furnace CCC Camp, Church Camp Michaux

The Camp Michaux Recognition and Development Project is a cooperative effort of the Cumberland County Historical Society and the Michaux State Forest. It has been financed in part by a grant from the Community Conservation Partnerships Program, Environmental Stewardship Fund, under the administration of the Department of Natural Resources, Bureau of Recreation and Conservation.

Richard Lewis and Dave Swope were invited as part of a tour taken place along Toms Run in Michaux Forest. Toms Run is nestled in the ridges of the South Mountain, two miles northwest of Pine Grove Furnace State Park. Research proves Toms Run played a major part of history over many years which provided water for Bunker Hill Farm history in 1787 and was still being farmed in 1924 until the overpopulation of deer threatened agriculture in the region. Pine Grove Furnace Civilian Conservation Camp was created in 1933 to provide training for young men and the Bunker Hill Farm was selected as one of the sites. Over nine years men built roads that lead to the camp today, installed telephone poles, while continuing improvements at the camp. Pine Grove Furnace POW Interrogation Camp was established in 1942 to house prisoners of war. Two compounds were installed with guard towers to house war prisoners and numerous buildings for interrogated operations. This camp was closed in 1945 and reverted back to the Commonwealth. This land on which it was located was part of Michaux State Forest named after Andre Michaux, a French naturalist sent to North America by French government in the 18th Century. He was commissioned to study plant life of the Appalachian region and gather plants for the Royal Gardens. Pennsylvania recognized his contributions of understanding plants of the region and named the forest for him. In 1947, Camp Michaux was leased by United Presbyterian Church and the Boy Scouts of America. The groups ran summer church camps until 1972. The Appalachian Trail held its annual meeting at the site for 16 years. The churches were responsible for maintaining the buildings and grounds. In early 1970, one of the winterized building on the site burned due to a malfunctioning furnace and that the State would not replace. In 1972, the Camp was closed. Today only foundations remain along with the everlasting Toms Run. Toms Run had to dams and a swimming pool built by Camp Michaux. These surviving ruins and structures make a fairly accurate analysis of the site possible.

Toms Run had a pump house to include two dams and a reservoir built by Camp Michaux and was divided into two channels a hundred yards West of the reservoir. The North Channel brought water into the reservoir; the southern channel ensured water remained in Toms Run even in times of drought conditions. Recently Toms Run has taken on a new look with a restoration project in which our true purpose of our tour was revealed. Viewing the newly restoration plan included the removal of the two dams and the relocation of one channel in Toms Run. Fish passage played a major role in the reconstruction plans. Although relatively a small brook trout habitat the water quality was pristine and water temps great for trout reproduction.

This tour provided us with a great history lesson on another section of Michaux State Forest and what it has to offer to the history community. I hope Richard and I have provided the group some incite on our thoughts of restoring Toms Run as the restoration project continues downstream. 


Trout In The Classroom Program

On September 26, 2017, Hank Rajotte, April and Dave Swope met with Adam McClain (Adams County Watershed Specialist and Trout In The Classroom Program Committee Chairman) and numerous school teachers enrolled in the program to discuss upcoming issues and any problems associated with last year's release program.

After a brief introduction, a few teachers discussed water issues, when to clean the tank, and how much water to add. Adam answered knowledgeably, then inquired if the teachers wanted to make any additional changes in the program. Due to the weather conditions during the last release date, concerns for the students getting too cold and wet during the event were discussed and a possible solution was proposed. The topic was to offer an additional pavilion or tent to accommodate the larger crowd of students to help keep them dry and warm.

Adams County Watershed Alliance is looking to build partnership in a restoration project at Strawberry Hill which will face completion in Fall of 2018. The Adams County Conservation District is proposing a new restoration project at Strawberry Hill. This restoration program will include installing different types of habitat and stream protection devices that may be utilized as an educational tool for those visiting Strawberry Hill Nature Reserve.

ACTU has made it known that the chapter would be willing to schedule a visit to speak at the schools on the chapter's history, stream work projects, activities within the chapter, and, all of the partnerships throughout the 40 years of conservation.

All teachers were encouraged to send an article for the chapter's newsletter or from the students. Each teacher was invited to our chapter meetings to speak on their progresses. 



Wildlife Conservation Officer PFBC educates TIC students on enforcement rules of fishing.



Guest speakers included BJ Small, John Arway, Richard Lewis.


Wild Trout Sportsmen Forum

Three local TU chapters including Adams County, Franklin County and Cumberland County hosted a "A Sportsman's Forum" Protecting PA's Wild Trout at Monroe Fire Hall in Mechanicsburg on September 20th. The moderator was Dave Kinney, TU's Mid-Atlantic Policy Director. Guest speakers included John Arway Director of the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission and two newly local appointed Fish and Boat Commissioners, Richard Lewis and BJ Small. Adams County was represented by President Dean Stum, President nominee April Swope, Dave Swope and Richard Lewis.

A fairly large group of anglers listened to opening remarks from the speakers and their backgrounds in pursuing being elected as Commissioners and what they will bring to the table in respect to new ideas. Many hurdles were discussed which will require good leadership, bringing a tighter bond between the board by working together with new ideas and adding a broader scope of success. The need to increase the percentage of publicity and reaching the community will need to be increased by 10 percent. Finding funding will play a major role in doing just that.

Questions from the audience: The broader plan in the protection of wild trout streams, better enforcement in protection of trophy trout. Pa. Fish and Boat Commission Kris Kuhn discussed the fairly new slot program to the group in protecting larger trout. Another question was the stream initiative on classifying wild trout waters? Since 2010 this program has made great strides on many streams being reclassified as Class A waters protecting wild trout. Much more work is continuing throughout the Commonwealth. No hatchery trout or Cooperative Nursery trout may be stocked in any Class A designated as wild trout waters. Presently approved trout waters are called stocked waters. Many of us are from the old school of technologies and we once in a while need to have technical terms made for us.

Of course, Senate Bill 30 presently tied up in the House of Representatives after passing in the Senate on a vote 47-2 twice, needs to be addressed to our Representatives to prevent more cutbacks in the fishing programs without a fishing license increase. Last fishing license increase was in 1999. More cuts in the fish program will be addressed at their PFBC meeting in September.

With our two new local Pa. Fish and Boat Commissioners having many hurdles on their list, in just a short time of being commissioned by the Governor, I think they held their ground and did a splendid job in support of their new endeavors in protecting and supporting the strategic plan of the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission. 

A Great Family Activity!

May 5th

12^{and under}

**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



FREE ADMISSION

**OPEN TO THE
PUBLIC**



REFRESHMENTS

**SILENT & LIVE
AUCTIONS**

FAMILY NIGHT and ANNUAL FUND RAISER

Saturday, February 10, 2018 6:00pm to 8:00pm



featuring **Critters Beyond Your Back Door**

Live animal, bird & reptile presentation by

Jack Hubley

This is a free event open to the public and refreshments will be available. Please come, bring your children and/or grandchildren. Many great silent auction prizes and two outstanding live auction prizes will be auctioned with all proceeds to fund the Adams County Trout In The Classroom Program, stream restoration projects, the Latimore Youth Fishing Derby, and other ACTU Chapter conservation activities.

Jet Boat Fishing Trip



Western Guide Boat Float Trip



Enjoy an eight-hour Susquehanna or Juniata River Smallmouth Bass fishing trip for one or two anglers on a comfortable jet boat with Rivers Grove of Rivers Guide Service. All spinning tackle is supplied, or you can also bring along your fly tackle.

Enjoy an eight-hour Juniata River Smallmouth Bass float fishing trip for one or two anglers on a western style guide boat with Eric Richard of Coveted Waters Guide Service. Bring along your own spin fishing or fly fishing rods for this unique fishing trip.



April Swope presents Adam McClain a framed stream map.



Dean Stum presents Richard Lewis the David A. Swope Merit and Recognition award.



Dean Stum presents Larry Hartlaub with the Adopt-a-Stream award.

CELEBRATING YEARS 40

Forty years ago, a small group of fishermen and outdoorsmen came together to discuss the need to protect the trout waters in Southcentral Pennsylvania along the banks of the Conewago Creek watershed. These conservationists felt that trout were a special gift and they wanted to educate the public on the many dangers facing trout habitat and the need to protect our waterways. The Conewago Creek needed major fishery habitat improvement work to restore it to a quality Trout stream. The Chapter's formation in 1977 was spearheaded by Larry Hartlaub, the first President, who recently became active in the Chapter again as the Chapter's Stream Coordinator. Some of the other founding members of the Chapter were Sparky Albright, Len Andrews, Fred Foltz, Gus Gentzler, Dan Herrick, Jess James, Ed Keyser, George Lower, Dean & Dick Simpson, and Charlie Weikert.

We continue to thank these men for their vision, dedication and commitment to Adams County water quality and fish habitat. They laid the foundation for our Chapter to build on for over forty years. Today, in this milestone year, we salute those founding members and thank them for coming together to protect the streams and water resources of Southcentral Pennsylvania by forming this now historical Trout Unlimited Chapter.

When the Chapter was founded there were no graphite rods or breathable waders. You could purchase a fishing vest for \$5.95, hip boots for \$12.00 or chest waders for 20 bucks. If you tied your own flies, you could buy 100 hooks for \$2.00. These low prices were reflective of wages back then. One thing has changed – there weren't nearly as many fishermen then as there are now. One thing that hasn't changed is the need to keep working to protect and maintain our waterways and keep them safe and productive for the future. Our Chapter mission to conserve, protect, and restore cold water fisheries and watersheds for future generations has continued throughout all these years.

Now after four decades of Conewago Creek restoration work under the direction from the PFBC Habitat Division's Cooperative Habitat Improvement Program the results of our volunteer efforts have been noted nationally, statewide, and locally. In 2005, Steve Moyer TU's VP of Conservation Programs explained it best, "Two distant chapters working together on a successful, shared restoration project is the essence of TU's grassroots conservation work". Northern Virginia TU Chapter members Burt Weisman, Rob Rosenthal, Jay Lovering, Mike Daly, Suzanne Malone, and others from ACTU, Rick James, Mel Brown, Dean Simpson and Dave Swope came together to form a joint ACTU/NVTU Conewago Creek Restoration Project.

Today after more than 40 years of teamwork between these two TU Chapters, PA Fish & Boat Commission, Knouse Foods, and Mr. Wayne Rodgers the property owner, we can see not only the results of our stream habitat improvement work but also picnic under a pavilion named Gladys Meadows and sit on a Memorial Bench recognizing the passing of those members that participated in this outstanding restoration project.

So here we are October 17, 2017 proud of our Chapter's accomplishments and still focused on our mission of "conserving, protecting, and restoring cold water fisheries and watersheds for future generations".

And, we are ready to meet the environmental challenges and to seize the opportunities to improve the quality of Adams County's watersheds over the next forty years!



Gettysburg College fishing club students.



The 40th year anniversary cake was enjoyed by all.



April Swope and Dean Stum with guest speaker PFBC Commissioner B J Small.

CHAPTER MEETINGS 2018

January 16

Chapter Meeting 7pm Guest Speaker Justin Klinger

February 20

Chapter Meeting 7pm Guest Speaker Rob Shane

March 20

Chapter Meeting 7pm Guest Speaker PFBC Amidea Daniel

April 17

Chapter Meeting 7pm Guest Speaker Tyler MacGillivray

May 15

Chapter Meeting 7pm Guest Speaker Eric Richards

June 19

Chapter Picnic Rodgers Pavilion 6pm

July 17

Chapter Meeting 7pm

August 21

Chapter Meeting 7pm

September 18

Chapter Meeting 7pm Nominations of Officers

October 16

Chapter Meeting 7pm Elections of Officers

All Chapter Meetings held at
Adams County Conservation District Building

EVENTS

February 10

Jack Hubley Program
6 - 8pm

May 9

Trout In the Classroom
Release
9am-2pm Middle School

May 11

Trout In the Classroom
Release
8am-2pm High School

June 2

Southcentral Outdoors
for Youth
East Berlin Fish and Game
7:30am

CONEWAGO PRESEASON STOCKING



March 10
April 18

TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM RELEASE



May 9 Middle School 9am-2pm
May 10 High School 8am-2pm

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 8 issues per calendar year. Cost of the ads are \$100 business card and \$150 half page and whole page ad \$300. Call 253-6680 to advertise in the newsletter.



VOLUNTEER FOR
SPRING STOCKING



ACTU BOARD MEMBERS

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

www.adamscountytutu.org