



ADAMS' ANGLERS



MARCH/APRIL 2016
ISSUE 19, VOLUME 2

MISSION

To conserve, protect, and restore North America's Cold Water fisheries and their watersheds.

VISION

By the next generation, Trout Unlimited will ensure that robust populations of native and wild Coldwater fish once again thrive within our local area, so that our children can enjoy healthy fisheries in their home waters.

Inside this issue:

| | |
|---|---|
| Chris Wood | 1 |
| ACTU Online Store | 1 |
| President's Message | 2 |
| Chapter Contacts | 2 |
| Bountiful Bob's Creek | 3 |
| Gettysburg Middle School Fly Fishing Club | 4 |
| Special Offer | 4 |
| PFBC Adding Wild Trout Streams | 5 |
| Chapter Calendar | 6 |

NEXT MEETING:

**Tuesday,
March 15
@ 7 pm
Speaker Topic
Rivers
Conservation
Camp**

SAVE THE DATE, Mark Your Calendar - Meet Chris Wood

Adams County Trout Unlimited is pleased to announce National Trout Unlimited President and CEO, Chris Wood, will be the guest speaker at the April 19, 2016, meeting.



Prior to joining Trout Unlimited in September 2001, Chris Wood served as the senior policy and communications advisor to the Chief of the U.S. Forest Service where he helped protect 58 million acres of publicly owned land. Chris began his career as a temporary employee with the Forest Service in Idaho and also worked for the Bureau of Land Management. He is the author and co-author of three

books including, Watershed Restoration: Principles and Practices (AFS 1997), From Conquest to Conservation: Our Public Land Legacy (Island Press, 1997), and My Healthy Stream: A handbook for stream side owners (TU and ALF, 2013).

The meeting will begin at 7 pm. Don't miss this opportunity to meet Mr. Wood. Due to the special speaker opportunity, the April Board meeting has been postponed.

ACTU Online Store



ACTU is pleased to announce the official launch of the chapter's online store. Powered by JAMCO, be sure to check out all the great items now available with the chapter's new logo. Visit:

http://shop.jamcoembroidery.com/Adams_County_Trout_Unlimited.

Items can be shipped directly to you, or you can save shipping costs by picking up the items at a chapter meeting.



President's Message By: Dean Stum

Has anyone seen robins yet this year? I saw my first 3 robins last Saturday. For me, that means regardless of what the weather forecast is for the next few days or weeks.....spring is not far away!

Just as spring awakens the earth, so too does it "awaken" trout unlimited chapters across the country. To date, the board has been working on several projects; some that occur every year, and some new ones. By the time this newsletter hits the street, some trout stockings will already have occurred. Saturday, March 12, is the float stocking on the fly fishing catch and release section of the Conewago. Volunteers will be at the Russell Tavern bridge at 11:15 am anxiously awaiting the arrival of the Fish Commission's stock truck. Contrary to last year, the stream should be in prime condition and the weather very cooperative.

The Latimore Creek fish derby will be held the first Saturday in May, and the chapter will once again participate in the SOY outing held in June. If you have never attended one of these events, and would like to help out, please contact me or one of the other board members.

A new event, "Women, Wine and Waders" will kick off beginning March 20th. Seventeen women have signed up for this 5 series event, culminating with a day on the stream to put their new found skills to work! Our stream coordinator, Larry Hartlaub, will be meeting on March 24th with Fish and Boat and the Army Corps of Engineers to get things rolling for this year's stream projects. With new permits being required for any and all work to be done, the process is more involved and will take longer than in past years. Please be patient.

Please bring all tickets (sold and unsold) to the March meeting for turn in. The drawing is held on April 15. Tickets must be received by PA Trout by April 1. If you or someone you know would like a ticket, please bring the money or a check made out to "PA Trout" to the meeting. Tickets are \$5.00 apiece. There will be tickets available at the meeting for sale.

As a reminder, Rod Cross will be speaking at the March 15 meeting. He will talk about the Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing school, and answer any questions you may have. The meeting is open to anyone interested in more information; bring your son/daughter, grandson/granddaughter, niece/nephew, and neighbor! We will have applications available at the meeting; application deadline is March 31. See you at the meeting.

Chapter Officers, Directors, and Committee Chairs

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PR Coordinator: Catherine Wallen | (717) 357-1388 | mom2bbensor@yahoo.com

Stream Coordinator: Larry Hartlaub | | lhartlaub@centurylink.net

Family/Women Coordinator: Vacant | |

Fundraising Coordinator: Vacant | |

Nominating Chair: Vacant | |

If you are interested in more information about any of the vacant positions, please contact Dean Stum.



Bountiful Bob's Creek

By: Chris Plesic

I feel in love with Bob's Creek accidentally. I had honestly never heard of it, at least not until my wife booked a cabin in Blue Knob State Park. The catch to all of this is that we booked the cabin so that we would have a place to stay for the Blue Knob Fire Company Annual ATV Poker Run. When my wife, Becky, booked the cabin the woman from the office asked if we fished because Pavia Sportsmen's Club just stocked the creek. When Becky told me this, I honestly got those night-before-



Christmas butterflies that you get when you are a kid...that is what trout fishing does to me. I'm thinking, this is great because I get to ride my RZR and fish all weekend. So, the time finally came and the big day was here. We loaded up the atv's and fishing gear, and headed northwest. The 3 hour ride went fast and conversation about trout fishing and atving seemed to fill the time nicely. My wife and I were both blessed with the gift of gab, which is really nice for those long trips. We arrived at the park and checked in at the office, got the key and headed up to the cabin. The cabin was very spacious and had all of the comforts of home. We settled in and I took off to go fishing. I had to see this Bob's Creek for myself, after doing a little research on it. Becky decided to stay at the cabin for a little R&R and some hiking. I pulled out of the drive and proceeded to Monument Road. In just a short drive, I found the section that I wanted to start my fishing. I parked in a little lot, got my gear

and started off. But before I jumped right into fishing, I saw a sign. I was parked at a trailhead that goes back to The Lost Children of the Alleghenies Memorial. It turns out that in 1856 two little boys, ages five and seven, wandered off to find their father who was squirrel hunting and they got lost and froze to death. The mother thought the father knew that they were coming. For a little while fishing did not seem so important and I thanked God for my little girl and tried to imagine such a situation and the horror those parents must have felt. I encourage you to research

the story if you have never heard of it. Alison Krauss sang a song about it called, "Jacob's Dream." It is an extremely haunting song and tells the story well. So after my short meditation, I could not help but to hear Bob's Creek calling. The creek is narrow and shallow, but as you keep moving downstream it opens up and picks up in depth and volume. The section from the monument down to the ball field is where you will find a healthy population of native brook trout and wild browns. It is a small freestone stream that meanders down through a large hollow. The locals ask that you release the fish in this section of the creek, even though there is not a special regulation; I admire that about those fishermen. They know about the natural reproduction and support it. Anglers have to realize that management starts and ends with you. It is the same in hunting. You pull the trigger and in fishing you cast the line.



So it is up to us to make good choices and to be good stewards of what God has given us. Ok, this concludes my sermon. Now back to Bob's. This creek never gets really big. In fact, it is small. It does have a nice combination of riffles and pools. There are some nice holes with some cliffs and big rocks along the banks. It is stocked heavily by the Fish Commission and a local sportsmen club. Another plus to fishing Bob's Creek is it holds brooks, browns, and rainbows; so there is a good variety of species. I have fished from the Memorial down to Pavia. My favorite section is along Monument Road, but it is good fishing all of the way down to Pavia. I encourage you to go pay Bob a visit. It is truly a hidden gem of the Alleghenies. There is great lodging, hiking, and history. Plus, you can always go the weekend of the ATV Poker Run for added pleasure. If you are fly fishing, I recommend a 7', 3 or 4 weight or smaller. I used egg patterns for the fresh stocked rainbows. The wild fish tended to like the size 18 pheasant tail and hare's ear with no bead and the 20 midge pupa. I also had some hits on a pink San Juan worm. Go experience bountiful Bob's Creek for yourself. We already have a cabin booked for May 2016. This will be our fourth trip and we haven't been disappointed yet. Explore the haunting history and take in the breathtaking beauty. I cannot guarantee you will catch fish, but I will guarantee this place will leave an imprint on your soul and you will reflect on the experience often.

Gettysburg Middle School Fly Fishing Club

Justin Klinger, a teacher at Gettysburg Area Middle School, recently started and advises for a fly fishing club at the middle school. Mr. Klinger contacted the chapter to see if we would be able to provide equipment to help get the club going. With equipment setting in storage, it was a great reason to knock off the dust, and set forth in motion what will hopefully become the next generation of fly fishers and conservationists! The following update was recently sent by Mr. Klinger and we wanted to share it with everyone.

I wanted to give you an update on our fly fishing club at the middle school, as well as see if there were any opportunities this spring to partner with TU on any projects. I have several kids who would be very interested in helping out to stock, clean up litter along a stream, do some plantings, or help with any other projects you guys might have in the works. Let me know if there is anything coming up this spring that you could use some extra manpower for. As far as the club goes, we have a solid core group of around 15 kids who come almost every club day, as well as some kids who come as they are able. We have been busy tying for the last few sessions. So far the students have

learned the wooly buggie, the foam beetle, Walt's worm, and pheasant tail nymph. We will soon be getting into some more "technical" ties including the elk hair caddis (stacking hair is tough for a middle-schooler!) and a hopper, and some more simple patterns like the green weenie and san juan worm.

The rods and reels you loaned us have been put to good use. We started this fall learning a few basic casts (overhead cast, roll cast, and bow and arrow cast), and the kids really enjoyed getting their hands on the gear. They all got a chance to practice using your equipment, and some have really come along in their ability. It's cool to see a 7th grader shoot a fly into a hula hoop from 30 feet!

A few weeks ago when the weather was unseasonably warm, we took the opportunity to go outside to practice a specialized cast. I showed them a video clip of Joe Humphries explaining his extended bow and arrow cast, and we walked through how to coil the line and hold it properly. I was honestly expecting quite a few tangles when they finally got to try it, but they got the hang of it pretty quickly. That seems to be a favorite cast of many of them.

We've also taken some time to discuss some conservation topics including

proper catch and release techniques. The kids really got into identifying what you *shouldn't* do to a fish if you are going to release it, and many came up with great ideas. We also learned how to identify redds and what spawning fish look like. I showed them a picture of a stream section that had several trout paired up, as well as several older redds that had already been used. Surprisingly, many kids were unaware that we have many streams in PA with natural reproduction, let alone what a redd or spawning pair look like. They got good at spotting the redds by the end.

I'm really looking forward to warmer weather, as it will again open up our opportunities to get outside and do many more activities. I wanted to take the opportunity to again thank you for allowing us to use your equipment. I know our kids are learning a lot, and it wouldn't be possible without your donation. Please let me know if there are any opportunities to partner this spring. I look forward to speaking with you soon.

Special Offer to TU Chapters

The Yellowstone cutthroat in the upper Yellowstone River region are making a significant come-back. As Wyoming outfitters, Dave & Daronda Hettinger, are offering one-third off their 2016 Yellowstone exploratory fishing trips. For details please view their website (<http://www.hettingeroutfitting.com>) and click on Yellowstone Fishing Camp and our newsletter: Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout.

Do you shop on Amazon? If so, you can now make a donation to ACTU every time you shop through Amazon Smile. There is no additional cost to you and Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase to ACTU.

Visit <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-2222233>

for more information.

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Winter Weather Cancellations

In the event of winter weather causing a meeting cancellation, notifications will be:

- Sent via email
- Posted to ACTU Website
- Posted to ACTU Facebook Page

PFBC is adding Wild Trout Waters at an unprecedented rate

From The PA Outdoor News By Mark Nale - Northcentral Correspondent

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission has been adding streams and stream sections to Wild Trout Waters and Class A Wild Trout Stream lists at an unprecedented rate. Their most recent meeting continued the trend. On January 21, the commissioners gave final approval for 99 new streams to be added to the Wild Trout Streams list. They also delineated 37 new stream sections as Class A Wild Trout.

According to agency Press Secretary Eric Levis, an additional 69 stream sections had been added to the Class A list, along with 201 streams placed on the Wild Trout Stream list during the previous three Commission meetings - May, July and September, 2015. That totals 300 new wild trout waters and 106 new Class A stream sections approved during the past year.

"The Commission is making great inroads and certainly moving in the right direction," commented Charlie Charlesworth, president of the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited. "Pennsylvania is now second only to Alaska in the miles of trout streams." Although the number of streams officially recognized as having naturally-reproduced trout is growing, most anglers do not understand how streams make the lists or the importance of the designations.

The streams nominated for Class A status get surveyed by agency biologists or, in the case of Wild Trout Waters, often by college and university biologists working as a part of the commission's Unassessed Waters Initiative. Based on these surveys, the streams approved in January in both categories had previously been published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* in November, 2015.

According to agency executive director John Arway, any streams identified as containing a population of naturally-reproducing trout can be afforded greater protection under the law. The environmental significance of these designations is what drives the identifi-

cation of streams as holding wild trout. Wild Trout Waters have naturally-reproducing populations of brook, brown or rainbow trout. That is, they hold a year-round population of wild trout without stocking. There is no minimum number of wild trout required for this designation.

Class A Wild Trout Streams are a different story. To become Class A, a stream must have naturally reproducing trout and also must be proven to carry an excellent population.

Geographically, the new Class A streams stretch from Erie to near Philadelphia and include waters in over 35 different counties. However, most of these streams are in the central part of the state. The majority are newly identified streams, but several are just extensions of streams that already include Class A water.

Class A wild trout water still makes up only a small percentage of the total miles of Keystone State trout streams. A detailed process, with specific criteria, is used to identify Class A Wild Trout Streams.

Every summer, biologists from the commission survey Commonwealth streams to assess their quality. Instead of fishing rods, agency survey crews use electroshocking apparatus to locate trout. On a small stream, a biologist wearing a backpack generator slowly wades up the middle of the stream. Wire leads are attached to a pair of insulated poles that have a 12-inch-diameter metal ring on the bottom end. Mild electric current enters the water from the circular probes and temporarily stuns trout so that they can be netted and processed. With few exceptions, Class A streams are usually not stocked because natural reproduction supplies plenty of trout. To make the list, biologists must locate at least 40 kg/ha (35.6 pounds/surface acre) of wild browns or a mixed population of wild brook and brown trout (the figure is a lower 30 kg/ha for native brook trout streams).

Unless you are a fisheries biologist, these figures probably mean little. It is

best to think of a healthy wild trout population as a pyramid, with young-of-the-year trout making up the wide base of the pyramid and the largest and oldest trout at the apex. Healthy wild trout streams should always have many small trout.

Using average weights of Pennsylvania wild brown trout for June, a hypothetical Class A wild brown trout population (35.6 pounds or 40 kg) in a one-mile section of a stream measuring 20 feet wide (one surface acre) might look like this:

| Length | Number of trout |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 16 inches..... | 1 |
| 14 inches..... | 8 |
| 12 inches..... | 35 |
| 10 inches..... | 60 |
| 8 inches..... | 85 |
| 6 inches..... | 110 |
| 2.5 inches..... | 400 |

Keep in mind, these are minimum standards and the population is generalized. Most of the 37 stream sections approved on January 21 sport over 50 kg/ha of trout, four are over 60 kg/ha, and one stream has more than five times the minimum number of naturally reproduced trout required to be included on the Class A list.

According to Charlesworth, these are the best of the best trout streams in the state, and it is a testament to our clean water laws that the list is growing.

"The Lackawanna River just would be a trout stream without our clean streams laws," Charlesworth said. "Although water quality is improved, we in Trout Unlimited have a lot more to do - reclaiming more polluted streams."

Charlesworth is pleased with this progress; however, he claimed that hundreds of streams are still awaiting official commission approval. He expressed the desire that it would all happen more quickly. (continued on page 6)

Chapter Calendar of Events

March 2016

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-------------------------|-----|--------------------|-----|---|-----|----------------------------|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 Conewago Float Stocking |
| 13 | 14 | 15 Chapter Meeting | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 Women, Wine & Waders | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 Mentored Youth Day |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 Rivers Conservation Application Deadline | | |

April 2016

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-------------------------------|-----|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 Opening Day Trout Season @ 8 am |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 Women, Wine & Waders @ 2pm | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 Women, Wine & Waders @ 2pm | 18 | 19 Chapter Meeting | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 Women, Wine & Waders @ 2pm | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

Upcoming Events

- March 12 - Conewago Float Stocking
- March 15 - Chapter Meeting @ 7 pm
- March 20 - Women's Event @ 2 pm
- March 26 - Regional Mentored Youth Day @ 8 am
- March 31 - Registration Deadline for [Rivers Conservation Camp](#)
- April 2 - Regional Opening Day of Trout @ 8 am
- April 9 - Statewide Mentored Youth Day @ 8 am
- April 10 - Women's Event @ 2 pm
- April 16 - Statewide Opening Day of Trout @ 8 am
- April 17 - Women's Event @ 2 pm
- April 19 - Chapter Meeting @ 7 pm
- April 24 - Women's Event @ 2 pm
- May 1 - Women's Event @ 2 pm
- May 7 - Fishing Derby @ 8 am
- May 17 - Chapter Meeting @ 7 pm
- May 29 - Fish for Free Day
- June 4 - SOY Field Day @ 8 am
- June 11 - Family Picnic; Pine Grove Furnace State Park
- June 21 - Board Meeting @ 7 pm

Stocking Dates will be announced by the [Fish and Boat Commission](#).

Monthly chapter and board meetings are held at the **Adams County Conservation Building** on [670 Harrisburg Road](#), across from the Adams County Bank.

PFBC is adding Wild Trout Waters (continued from page 5)

Fisheries biologist Bob Weber, who heads the agency's Unassessed Waters Initiative supports Charlesworth's contention.

"As of January 27, there are 630 streams already identified as having wild trout, but are awaiting approval," Weber noted in an email. It is ex-

pected that more streams will be approved at the Fish and Boat Commission meeting scheduled in March.