



# FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Hello fellow TUers,

Like the days, this will be a short message.

First let me wish all of you and your families a healthy and bountiful 2022. Our ACTU Chapter is poised for great things:

The Heidelburg Fish Show on Feb. 26-27th has a little of everything for the fisherman. Plan to attend. There are several demos available and if you are into fly tying, supplies are on sale.

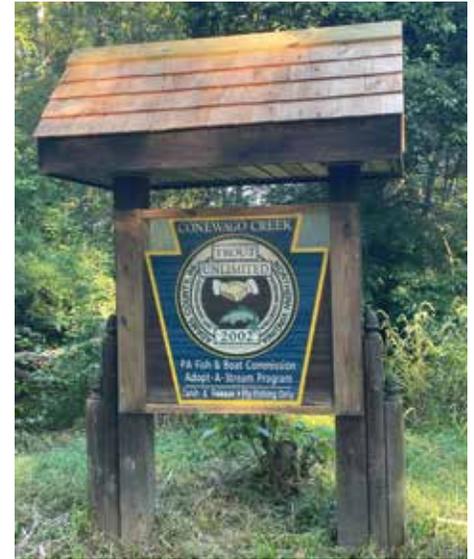
On May 7th ACTU will host the Latimore Derby. Three hundred trout will be stocked at 7AM and fishing begins at 8AM. If you have a child, a grandchild, cousins, or young friends, consider bring them to the derby. It is free, prizes will be awarded, and food is provided.

On June 4th, SOY will be hosting an outdoor event providing youth with an opportunity to experience the use of guns, fishing, fly tying and other outdoor activities. Check our web page and/ or FB for more information.

Two major events this Summer/Fall will be the dedication of the Knouse Food land acquisition and celebrating the 40 year relationship with Northern Virginia TU. Stay tuned for more information as things develop.

Stay safe, enjoy the Winter time, get your fishing gear ready, tie a few flies. Spring is on its way.

Hank Rajotte  
President ACTU Chapter323



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Charles Cross

## THANKS FOR RENEWING

- Gerald Roberts
- Joseph Lemmon
- John Snoke
- Edward James
- David Topper
- Kathy Harding
- Chris Plesic
- Jeffery Orndorff
- Thomas Poust
- Allen Leppo
- Eric Wickline
- Rich DeGerolamo
- Harry Hanna

Our Trout Unlimited Mission Statement  
Is to conserve, protect and restore our fishery and their watersheds.

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# CONEWAGO CREEK ZEIGLERS MILL ROAD ACCESS

In 2022, one of Pennsylvania's largest success stories will be the acquisition of 58 acres in Adams County along the Conewago Creek, a tributary to the Susquehanna River which empties into the Chesapeake Bay. The pioneering and farsighted efforts of our Conewago Access Partners is a remarkable achievement in the protection of land, water and our trout sanctuary.

Starting back in 2019, our local chapter along with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) began partnering to purchase a stream easement of the 1/2 mile stream section of the Knouse Property. The location of this property is the upper stretch of the PFBC regulated section of the FFO "catch and release" of the Conewago Creek. PFBC was funding eighty percent of the purchase price of a stream easement while your local Adams County Trout Unlimited Chapter had the responsibility in raising the other 20 percent. Originally, these two partners developed a stream easement plan to purchase from Knouse Foods, which would include a parking area and access road to the stream for future stockings.

As public interest increased, additional partners came on-board and the Conewago Access Team was formed. This partnership's goal was to locate and apply for funding to purchase the entire property and preserving it in perpetuity. This new approach required an intense effort with many unseen hurdles to overcome. But first, a plan was designed to try and raise the necessary purchase price. Numerous properties recently sold in Pennsylvania having a trout stream were evaluated in determining an overall cost per acre of the Knouse Property. So, the partners searched for financial support through grants and local funding. Many team meetings, going virtual, and many volunteer hours over these two years has finally reached the completion of Phase 1 on December 30, 2021 with the signing of the agreement.

Funding came from Department of Natural Resources, Adams County Conservation District, Land Conservancy of Adams County, Pa. Fish and Boat Commission, No. Virginia Trout Unlimited, Adams County Trout Unlimited, a \$40,000 ACTU grant approval, 13 organizations including individuals donating over \$1,000 with many more additional individuals donating to the land project.

Congratulations, these needed funds have been raised for the acquisition of the 58 acres. We have addressed this head on by conserving land as one of the most sure -fire ways that we know to ensure the health of our watersheds.

Recently pertaining to Phase 2, the chapter has been working on a 25-year license agreement with the PFBC to maintain the property, designing a land development plan thru Sharrah's Design Engineering Firm to proceed with the parking lot and access road to the stream. Signs will be posted recognizing partners and construction along with a stone mounted bronze plaque to portray those \$1,000 donors that supported our conservation efforts.



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Bob Sharrah explaining to Bob Kreiger (NoVTU), Hank Rajotte, Dave Swope, Howard Hellyer, Dean Simpson, Dave Keller and Frank Kozak. The group is standing on the area where the 10-car parking lot will be installed.



## **KNOUSE SIGNING AGREEMENT**

Those attending official signing of the 58 acres over to the Land Conservancy of Adams County and directly to the PA Fish and Boat Commission for ownership: left to right on last photo, Richard Lewis, Ken Farabaugh, Attorney for Knouse- Richard DiFrischia, Charlie Bennett, Dave Swope, Mark Clowney, Dave Salisbury and Jerry Gladfelter.



Next step will be to receive the final approval from PFBC and then onto Butler Township and the Adams County Conservation District. Following those approvals the Chapter will meet with the Conewago Enterprises for construction date to begin and the final cost of installation. Plans are for the top soil being removed from the parking area will be transferred to the lower section of the Catch and Release for future use in habitat enhancement projects.



## PARTNERSHIP TO PERPETUITY

ACTU is on their way in protecting both land and water. Another great partnership with the Land Conservancy and the Land Planning Office in Adams County. The hurdles in the acquisition of the property have all been met and these 58 acres has been preserved. ACTU says thanks to Sarah Kipp and Mark Clowney for their work with ACTU in preserving another parcel of land and for believing in ACTU.

President Hank Rajotte presents check to Sarah Kipp Director of the Land Conservancy of Adams County with the following group in attendance: left-Richard Lewis, Dave Keller, Howard Hellyer, Gary Perry, Hank, Sarah, Mark Clowney, Dave Swope, Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commissioner in our Southcentral Region VP B.J. Small, and Frank Kozak.

A grand total of \$56,000 was raised by the chapter to play a major partner in this acquisition of 58 acres. Preserving the property in perpetuity. 



## ITS BEEN A BUSY WINTER!

It has been one of the busiest winter's that I can remember for the chapter. The Knouse Foods acquisition has kept us very busy.

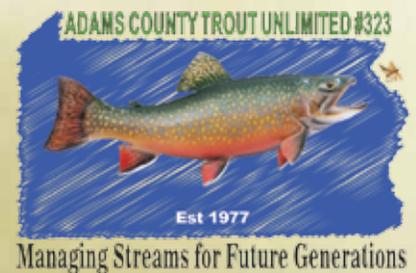
Now you can play in a critical role for your chapter in Fundraising - Send me names of organizations or businesses that I can contact that will help our 501-C3 chapter in our mission: to protect, conserve and restore our waterways. Other fundraising activities throughout this year include Trout In the Classroom, Latimore Fishing Derby, Stream Restorations and the Heidlersburg Outdoor Show.

New challenges for the upcoming year include a 10-car parking area and gated access.

And there's trout stocking, but that's the fun part!

A new committee has been formed to work on the 58-acre critical plan involving a 25-year license agreement with the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission.

If you are interested in participating in the Access Committee, contact me, [swopeda@hotmail.com](mailto:swopeda@hotmail.com) 



# ANGLERS AND FRIENDS PRESERVE ACCESS TO FLY STRETCH OF THE CONEWAGO CREEK

Trout anglers say, Good things comes in small Packages. And we have just that with Adams County Chapter of Trout Unlimited. For decades, two distant trout unlimited chapters not sharing the same borders are the essence of what trout unlimited chapters are about. The partnership started in 1982, and continues today working to restore this special gem of stream.

This was about to change what anglers have enjoyed for years, fly fishing at its best. One of the property owners along this 1.1 mile section of stream decided it was time to sell. As with any selling deal, there was an uncertainty whether anglers would still be able to enjoy this section of stream in the future. Could this be the real disclosure of losing our fly-fishing home only waters in our County?

The beginning of this venture began as a stream easement purchase between the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission and ACTU. As we continued our planning, more partners joined to discuss purchasing the entire 58 acres. What looked like a small agreement coming together has now increase to an enormous challenge for a small chapter and their partners.

Adams County Chapter of Trout Unlimited has established a dedicated “Conewago Angler Access Fund” in order to raise 20 percent of the purchased funds along with the partner, the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission was willing to help if the 20 percent could be raised. Needless to say, the donors stepped up to boost the chapter to the top. All contributions are tax deductible. This agreement will guarantee public access on that part of the Conewago Creek in perpetuity.

Many of us thought we received an early Christmas present with the announcement that our DCNR grant was approved, our funds have almost been raised and our partners secured. We just needed one more hurdle. Our Conewago Access Committee was still falling short of \$120,000 to complete the 58-acre purchase.

Our chapter formed a grant committee in an all-out effort to raise the balance of the required funds. Numerous grants were written and applied for. Our chapter treasurer spoke at an Adams County Conservation Board meeting to announce how important the challenge has been in protecting this property. Around this time, ACTU received a grant for \$40,000 and the ACCD Board agreed to fund the remainder of the amount. This project started as a far-sighted goal, a very large hurdle of the olympics, that we accomplished with a defined mission to preserve both land and water.

Up to date, the PFBC is presently the new landowner and ACTU is pursuing a plot plan to be reviewed by the PFBC and the chapter will sign a 25-license agreement to maintain the property. 🐟

## CABIN FEVER CURED WITH FLY TYING

Shake off that Cabin Fever: Dan “the man” Herrick will be back by popular demand on February 15 at 7pm at Lake Heritage Community Center. Dan will be tying some of those real great looking flies, that are true “trout getters.” This guy is so good, he has been labeled as the best in the Southcentral Region. Many fly tiers call him a professional. The flies above are some of the ones Dan will introduce to the chapter using our Go Pro. The Hendrickson Nymph (shown), the Sulfur Emerger, and the Hornberg and maybe if time allows a Royal Wulff and the Para Nymph. You won’t want to miss his joking along with his expert fly tying. Check out our facebook page or website for cancellation due to weather reports. 🐟



# MEET FRANK KOZAK CHAPTER LEADER

Frank Kozak has been an avid outdoorsman all his life. Growing up outside of Buffalo, he mainly fished in western New York and Canada. He took time off from fishing during his working career and when raising his two daughters, Kimberly and Katherine, with his wife Heidi (of 41 years!). A hydrogeologist by training, Frank spent most of his career in environmental consulting.

Although Frank had fished for trout since his youth, he started fly fishing in 2015, after moving to this area from out of state. Soon after, he started tying flies. Now, as an enthusiastic fly fisherman, Frank just loves to “be on the water.” And he caught his first trout on a fly on Conewago Creek!

Frank began to learn about ACTU while volunteering to help with stocking and stream restoration work. He became impressed with the inclusive leadership of the chapter, the commitment of the chapter members to the community and local waterways, and the resulting outstanding Conewago Creek fishery.

Frank joined ACTU in early 2021. Soon after, he became a member of the Grant Committee and almost immediately was selected as Chairman. Of particular note, a grant application submitted by the committee to the J. William Warehime Foundation resulted in ACTU receiving \$40,000 toward the purchase of 58 acres of land (known as the Knouse property) that abuts the Conewago Creek CRO-FFO section.

Frank looks forward to contributing to the continued success of the ACTU chapter with the Knouse property acquisition, stream stocking and restoration work, and grant writing of course.

Frank is the handsome guy in the front of the picture above. He really enjoyed float stocking with the group from NoVTU and telling tall fishing tales, even I rolled my eyes. When you view his picture, the guys are still laughing.

Special thanks for stepping up with ACTU. 🐟



## ADAMS COUNTY PFBC STOCKING DATES

| STREAM                | PRE-S | TIME  | PLACE                  | IN-S | TIME  | PLACE                                   |
|-----------------------|-------|-------|------------------------|------|-------|---|
| MARSH CREEK           | 3-15  | 10:30 | CASHTOWN               | 4-28 | 10:30 | CASHTOWN                                |
| LITTLE MARSH CREEK    | 3-07  | 10:30 | CASHTOWN               | 4-28 | 10:30 | CASHTOWN                                |
| BERMUDIAN CREEK       | 3-10  | 10:00 | YORK SPRINGS           | 4-04 | 10:00 | FAIRFIELD SEC 4 ONLY                    |
| OPOSSUM CREEK         | 3-15  | 10:30 | CASHTOWN               | 4-28 | 10:30 | CASHTOWN                                |
| LATIMORE CREEK        | 3-10  | 10:00 | YORK SPRINGS           | 4-04 | 10:00 | FAIRFIELD                               |
| TOMS CREEK            | 3-07  | 10:30 | CASHTOWN               | 4-04 | 10:00 | FAIRFIELD                               |
| MIDDLE CREEK          | 3-07  | 10:30 | CASHTOWN               | 4-28 | 10:30 | CASHTOWN                                |
| ORRTANNA POND         | 3-07  | 10-30 | CASHTOWN               |      |       |   |
| CONEWAGO              | 2-26  | 10:00 | ACNB                   | 4-20 | 10:00 | ACNB                                    |
| SOY 6/4 AC F&G        |       |       | Latimore Fishing Rodeo | 5/7  |       | McSherrystown F&G (Fairfield) 4/09 5/21 |
| Trophy Trout Stocking | 3/30  |       | Mentoring Youth Day    | 3/26 |       | One Open Day 4/2 HUNTSDALE 10-5 11:00   |

# MEET JERRY GLADFELTER CHAPTER LEADER



I was born and raised in Glen Rock (York County), PA. I graduated from Susquehannock High School and subsequently Elizabethtown College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication Arts. After a year of working for a local newspaper, I married my college sweetheart (Karen) and moved to Maryland, where I eventually accepted a job with the Federal Government. During our 34 years of living in Maryland, Karen and I raised two wonderful daughters, both of whom were very active in youth sports. During this time, I coached girls soccer and lacrosse at the travel, high school, and club levels for many years. Finally, after 31+ years-of-service, I retired from government service in 2017 and moved back to PA into a house we had built outside of Littlestown.

I've been a spin fisherman my entire life, with trout being my favorite species to pursue. I thought about joining Trout Unlimited (TU) several times, and I finally jumped in right at the onset of the COVID-19

pandemic in the spring of 2020. My first few Chapter meetings were held via ZOOM, so several months passed before I actually met any other members in person! I joined TU for several reasons, including wanting to volunteer my time to help with the organization's conservation efforts and to make contact with fellow anglers who could help teach me to fly fish - an interest that kept nagging at me. After I became involved in ACTU activities, I realized the Chapter was about more than just fly fishing, as they support all legal methods of trout fishing!! Quickly I realized I wanted to do more than just attend meetings, so I volunteered to put my communications skills to good use as the Chapter's Communications Coordinator.

I've long been an avid hunter and fisherman, exploring the woods and water both locally and at my camp in Potter County, PA. In 2021, my wife and I bought snowmobiles and snowmobiling has quickly become a passion. In addition, I enjoy working in my vegetable garden and spending time with my family, especially our four grandchildren.

In addition to TU, I'm a member of the Adams County Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation, the Sinnemahoning Sportsman's Association, the East Fork Sportsman's Club, and the United Bowhunters of PA.

Jerry was the recipient of the David A. Swope Merit and Recognition award for 2020 for his outstanding work with the website, facebook page, his leadership in helping to direct the chapter as the best chapter in 2020. 



# CHAPTERS CELEBRATE 40 YEAR COOPERATIVE RESTORATION EFFORT

This beautiful sign was in dedication to our long-time partnership between Adams County Chapter 323 of Trout Unlimited and Northern Virginia Chapter 360 celebrating a trout stream success story in 2002. This stream restoration project demonstrates a shared commitment between two TU chapters and a conservation-minded landowner while we can restore a damaged stream, for the trout and the community.

This long-term close cooperation on this project between two chapters through financial and in-stream volunteer workers support is noteworthy, considering they represent two states without a shared border. We are proud of the joint partnership with our neighbor from the South.

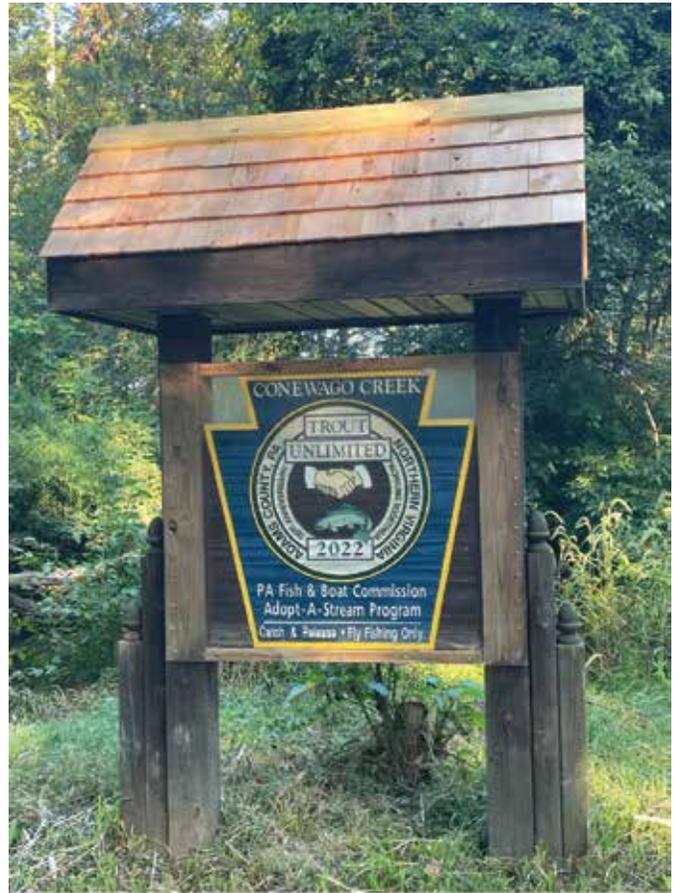
In 1985, the Conewago Creek was officially approved under the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission Adopt-A-Stream Program. Over the years, the program's name has been changed to the Cooperative Habitat Improvement Program (CHIP) whereas the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission Habitat Division provides funding and assists with our in-stream projects.

Over four decades, both TU chapters have resulted in bank stabilization of numerous eroded areas, log, vain and framed deflectors, instream boulders, mudsills, channel block deflectors, butterfly dams, annual planting of trees and shrubs providing overhead cover while helping to decrease siltation issues. Together, we have float stocked the fly stretch four times annually with the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission, spring, summer and fall and once each year with the Mummasburg Trophy Trout Program.

During our 20th anniversary in 2002 celebration, I quote Steve Moyer Environmental Director for National TU "Two distant chapters working together on a successful, shared restoration project is the essence of Trout Unlimited grassroots conservation work. "This project represents what Trout Unlimited is all about."

What makes our partnership so successful? Mutual respect within the partnership, sharing the same ambitions, together its our vision and passion, together we complement each other with different skills, together we support each other in strengths and weaknesses, our roles as partners, together our goal setting mission but most of all is our effort in "communication skills."

CONGRATULATIONS FOR SHARING 40 YEARS OF ROLLING ROCKS



# SHORT CASTS

## MENTORING YOUTH DAY

Through agreement with the PA Fish & Boat Commission (PFBC) and Knouse Foods, the youth mentoring day in Adams County will again be hosted at Orrtanna Pond on March 26. Children up to age 15 with a mentoring adult can sign up on PFBC website. Each adult can mentor up to five youths; youths will be allowed to keep 2 trout. Adults must purchase a 2022 trout stamp & fishing license. For more information, please visit <http://www.fish.state.pa.us/MentoredYouth.htm>.

## NEWLETTERS

Submission of articles and suggestions for the newsletter are encouraged and may be sent to [swopeda@hotmail.com](mailto:swopeda@hotmail.com) Deadline for the April issue is April 9. The newsletter is distributed the week prior to the monthly meetings via email (if possible), to the address listed on your TU membership. To ensure you receive chapter communications timely, it is very important for TU to have your current email address. To verify your email address, go to [www.tu.org](http://www.tu.org), click on "Member Login", and validate your profile. If you have trouble logging in or need help editing your profile, please call 1-800-834-2419 between 9 am – 7 pm ET, Monday-Friday.

## CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

We have received reports of TU chapter memberships being moved to other chapters. To ensure you are correctly aligned with the Adams County chapter, please check your latest issue of "TROUT" magazine and check the mailing label that it lists chapter 323, Adams County as your home chapter. If your chapter is not 323, call Mallory Gay at 703-284-9424 to have it corrected.

## HEIDLEBURG OUTDOOR SHOW

On February 26-27 your chapter will be setting up a display for this event. Many items FOR YOU TO PURCHASE at this event. Come out and enjoy and grab some lunch and stop by our booth. If you are interested in spending a couple of hours AT OUR BOTH for your chapter giving us some time to walk around to: contact Dave Keller or Hank Rajotte.

## RIVERS CONSERVATION AND FLY FISHING CAMP IN 2022

The Cumberland Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited is hosting the 27th Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp. Several other states now offer similar camps, but this is the original camp that became the model for the others.

Camp is limited to boys and girls between 14 and 17. If you would like to have fun, work hard, and engage in a unique experience, get your application in early. Our application process begins on November 1st. Up to 24 students will be selected to attend. We look forward to notification of your application.

The deadline for the early acceptance period is December 31, 2021. Campers selected for the early acceptance period will be notified early January, 2022. If any vacancies remain, applications accepted during the regular acceptance period (1/1/22 through 2/28/22) will be notified in early March, 2022.

If any vacancies remain, there will be an extended application period until April 30, 2022 or until full, whichever comes first. Campers accepted during the extended period will be notified as soon as possible.

Your chapter has one student accepted to the school and looking for more but there is a deadline for registration.



# A VICTORY SOUND

The Shofar has sounded! Did you hear it! It is the sound of an accomplishment of a great success story. We have stayed the course. Does this sound familiar? They are words from the Bible. More times, then not, we should look beyond ourselves, to a higher power when dealing with successes. We need to be a bold witness in what we believe in, by understanding the power of prayer and then by watching and waiting on what it can and will accomplish, the results can be amazing. ACTU has had their successes over the years of being united together with partners. We formed partnerships, beyond the imagination of how things would come together.

The signing of the 58 acres on the Conewago Creek has been completed and is now preserved in perpetuity. Anglers and outdoor enthusiasts should be jumping for joy over this local monumental accomplishment.

In bringing this acquisition to the best conclusion one could ask for, it took this type of dedication and faith of our partners to work together over a 2-year period.

That's Adams County Trout Unlimited (ACTU). Would you think a project this large would need a little push to come to fruition? Perhaps the prayers before each meeting are the chapters assistance that we needed to cross this Olympic Hurdle. We might all know someday. But believing is important.

Currently, we are viewing this as the largest accomplishment in the history of ACTU and boy we do have history. ACTU has been fortunate in many ways. Just look at our gracious landowners over all these years. They have given us permission to play in their backyards, rolling rocks by the stream. Our conservation relationship with our friend and partner, No. Virginia Trout Unlimited chapter, has been getting better and better. This year we will celebrate our 40th year anniversary together. The Best of the Best. Two distant TU chapters not sharing the same borders, coming together on a shared restoration project is the essence of what Trout Unlimited chapters are all about.

While anticipating questions before our recent first property meeting with the new owners (PFBC) of the 58 acres along the Conewago Creek with the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission, our concerns were for nothing. The conference call with the PFBC could not have gone more perfect. ACTU was offered an amazing 25-year lease agreement.

How about some of the new members stepping-up in 2021-22 in chapter activities? You get to decide for yourself, how all our successes came to fruition. But we continue to begin our chapter meetings with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to Our Flag. Personally, I think God has honored us. This article is strictly the editor's views. 🐟



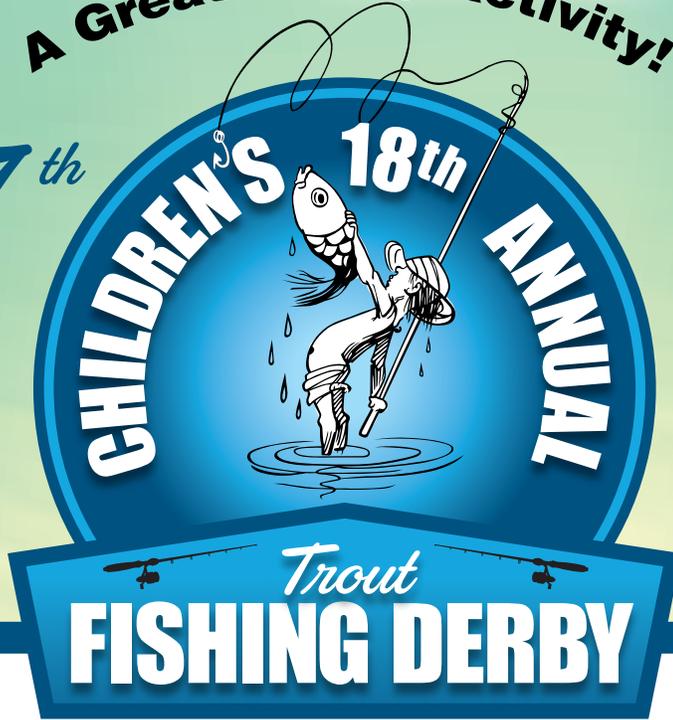
A Great Family Activity!

May 7<sup>th</sup>

15 and under

No Entry Fee  
Keep your Catch

Bait Fishing Only  
Drinks Provided



# Latimore Valley Fairgrounds

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



**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.



# REACHING FOR A DREAM

by Trout Unlimited Life Member Richard Lewis

In September 2019, I was invited to attend a meeting about the future of the fly fishing only catch and release only section of Conewago Creek in Adams County, Pennsylvania. This section of the creek owned by the Knouse Foods Cooperative has been open to public fishing access for more than three decades. In addition, the Adams County Trout Unlimited Chapter along with the Northern Virginia Trout Unlimited Chapter have been managing and improving this section of Conewago Creek for more than 40 years. This section of Conewago Creek is the only “Special Trout Regulation Water” in Adams County.



At the meeting, Knouse Foods Manager of Environmental Affairs Charlie Bennett announced that the Cooperative was planning to sell a tract of land that contained one half mile of the Conewago Creek fly fishing only catch and release only section. There was concern by the conservation organization representatives at the table that a new owner might not want to allow catch and release fly fishing only and might not even want to allow public access for fishing. Charlie explained that it was his personal goal as well as the desire of the Knouse Foods Cooperative Board to see if the public fishing access could be maintained even though the property was going to change ownership.

There was consensus by those organizational representatives seated at the table as well as a few others contacted after the meeting (Adams County Trout Unlimited - ACTU, Pennsylvania Fish And Boat Commission - PFBC, Adams County Office of Planning and Development, Land Conservancy Of Adams County - LCAC) , and the Watershed Alliance of Adams County - WAAC) to establish a Conewago Creek Access Task Group to explore purchasing a permanent fishing access easement from Knouse Foods before the Cooperative sold the property.

Within a brief time, PFBC Commissioner Richard Lewis reported back to the group that Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission had appraised the value of the permanent fishing access easement, as well as the right of way for a small parking lot and access road at \$100,000. Lewis also noted that PFBC was willing to fund \$84,000 of the easement purchase. Hank Rajotte and Dave Swope of the Adams County Trout Unlimited Chapter pledged to raise the additional \$16,000 necessary to fund the total \$100,000 easement purchase.

But this time there was strong interest from the other Task Group members in purchasing the whole 58-acre property to protect and preserve not only the fishing access but also the riparian zone and land surrounding this section of Conewago Creek. The Task Group members felt that there was opportunity to apply for grant funds from government agencies and organizations that would help to purchase the whole property.

There was consensus that the first step in the possible outright purchase of the property was to obtain a real estate appraisal. An appraisal of the property was conducted by Knouse Foods that valued the property at approximately \$409,000.

It was at this point that I thought that the project had turned into a “dream” because I was not confident that the Task Group would be able to raise that amount of money. However other talented members of the Task Group including Sarah Kipp (LCAC) and Frank Kozak (ACTU) had grant writing experience and they started digging to find grants that might help with the cost of purchasing the property outright.

Primarily due to the efforts of Sarah Kipp we able to obtain \$200,000+ from the Bureau of Recreation and Conservation in the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources through a grant from Keystone Recreation, Park, and Conservation Fund and through the efforts of Frank Kozak we were able to obtain a grant from the Warehime Foundation for \$40,000.

In the Fall of 2020, we applied for another grant from the PA Department of Community and Economic Development but were turned down. We revised and resubmitted the grant application, but we were not hopeful. When our acquisition efforts started to drag on into the second year, we started to think that the “dream” was slipping away.

In 2021 Task Group members thought that we should contact the Adams County Commissioners Office to see whether any of the Federal COVID-19 funds that were slated for County could be used for this project, or whether other county funding like the “Pillow Tax” might be available. In June 2021, I called Jim Martin one of the County Commissioners I know to obtain his counsel. Jim asked if we had contacted the Adams County Soil Conservation District about partnering with us on this project. I said I didn’t believe we had. Jim asked for more detailed information on the project but did not make any commitments.

In July 2021, I wrote to all three County Commissioners describing the project and asking whether any County funds might be available. Steve Nevada the Adams County Manager replied for the three County Commissioners and explained that the County had been contacted by many individuals and organizations about tapping into the Federal COVID-19 funding that was committed to the County. He noted that we would be put on that list of those who had made a query about this funding.

In September 2021, I learned that Jim Martin had attended an Adams County Conservation District Board Meeting and encouraged the Board members to consider allocating some funding for the project. ACTU Treasurer Dave Swope spoke about the importance and value of the acquisition project at this board meeting. Low and behold the County Soil Conservation District approved the expenditure of the final \$75,000 we needed to complete the purchase the property.

Hooray! After than two years of Task Group work the Conewago Creek Project went from “Reaching for a Dream” status to a reality for me.

A few more low hurdles were overcome and on December 30, 2021, the property sale closing took place and Knouse Foods Cooperative transferred the property to the Land Conservancy of Adams County. LCAC then immediately transferred the property to the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. Soon the Adams County Trout Unlimited Chapter will sign a 25-year long-term management and protection agreement with the PFBC so the Chapter can continue its work on stream improvement, trails, fencing, signage, and the construction of an access road and anglers parking lot.

After the access road and parking lot construction is completed in the first quarter of 2022, ACTU is planning to invite all the partners as well as outdoor seekers, local press and legislators to a dedication event (likely in May or June) at the property to celebrate this acquisition that will allow anglers to have access to this iconic stretch of the Conewago Creek in perpetuity.

My hat is off to an amazing group of Task Group members whose commitment, talent, knowledge, skill, and perseverance moved this “Reaching for a Dream” property acquisition and preservation of angler access forever to a successful conclusion.



# CHAPTER CALENDAR 2022

## February 15

Chapter Meeting 7PM Lake Heritage Ag Center Pavilion  
Fly Tying by Dan Herrick

## February 25-27

Heidlersburg Outdoor Show

## February 26

Trout Stocking Conewago Russell Tavern Bridge 11:15am

## March 15

Chapter Meeting 7PM Lake Heritage Ag Center Pavilion  
Election of Officers  
PFBC Preseason stocking (TBA)

## April 1

Mummasburg Sportsmen TT Stocking

## April 19

Board Meeting 7PM Lake Heritage Ag Center Pavilion  
April PFBC Stocking Conewago Creek TBA

## April 20

Trout Stocking Conewago Russell Tavern Bridge 11:15am

## May 7

Latimore Fishing Derby 8am 12 noon

## May 17

Chapter Meeting 7PM Lake Heritage Ag Center Pavilion



## ACTU BOARD MEMBERS

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

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



**ACTU PATCHES**  
2001 up to 2008  
\$7.00 each

Contact:  
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