

ACTU CHAPTER AWARDS OVER THE YEARS

Your chapter's achievements and long-term success have been recognized for decades and are something we should all be proud of. The awards the chapter has received include:

- 1984 Pennsylvania Trout Unlimited (PATU) Best Conservation Project
- 2004 Best Trout Unlimited Chapter in Pennsylvania (PA)
- 2004 Best Trout Unlimited Chapter in the Nation (Wow!)
- 2005 Environmental Stewardship Award, Gettysburg Chamber of Commerce
- 2009 PATU Best Conservation Project
- 2015 Best Newsletter Award, PATU
- 2015 Governor's Environmental Excellence Award, Conococheague Stream Restoration
- 2020 Best Chapter for Youth Diversity Award, PATU
- 2022 Environmental Stewardship Award, Gettysburg Chamber of Commerce
- 2022 PATU Volunteer of the Year Award

The question is, did you know you are part of something so special?

WANT TO SAVE A FEW DOLLARS ON YOUR 2023 PA FISHING LICENSE AND PERMIT FEES?

Earlier this year, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission approved the first increases in the Pennsylvania Fishing License and Permit fees in more than a dozen years.

These increased fees were scheduled to go into effect when the Commission started selling 2023 licenses and permits on December 1, 2022. However, when you're dealing with a PA House and the PA Senate Game and Fisheries Committees review, and the PA Attorney General's Office review and approval, things don't always go as quickly as planned.

As it stands now, the new 2023 PA Fishing License and Permit fees will not be implemented until sometime in January 2023. However, the Commission still plans to start selling 2023 licenses on December 1, 2022, with licenses available at the current (old) license and permit fees level until the new rates are implemented.

So, reading between the lines, if you want to save a few dollars on 2023 Pennsylvania fishing licenses and permits, it shouldn't be hard to figure out what to do....buy your 2023 PA Fishing Licenses and Permits in December 2022!

Pennsylvania Fishing Licenses and Permits can be purchased online here: https://huntfish.pa.gov/



Mailing Address 601 Hanover Road, New Oxford, PA 17350 Check online for scheduled dates, gathering programs, and more information: www.adamscountytu.org www.facebook.com/adamscountytu

Merry Fishmas!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

With so many great things going on in the chapter, where do I start!

First, as you may know, the chapter's monthly gatherings now lead off with programs related to fishing and conservation that I believe you will find informative and enjoyable. An outdoor fly casting seminar was held in September and a spin fishing for trout presentation was held in October. Both were very well received by the attendees, which included a significant number of non-members. In 2023, the planned program topics include Trout Streams of Adams County, Entomology, Women's Fly Casting, and Fly Fishing in the Rocky Mountains, to name a few.

Check our website and Facebook sites regularly as the program schedule is fluid. Most importantly, let me know what program topics you would like the chapter to present, or if you would like to lead a program.

Cool Stuff That Already Happened

On October 1st, our chapter celebrated both the 40th anniversary of ACTU's partnership with the Northern Virginia Trout Unlimited chapter and the acquisition of the Zeigler Mill Road Access site. Some 55 people attended the dedication and recognition ceremony at the newly constructed parking lot and access road at the Zeigler Mill Road Access site. In addition to recognizing those individuals and organizations that had contributed funds for the land acquisition, four companies that donated all the labor, materials, and equipment for the planning and construction of the parking lot and road were recognized: Conewago Enterprises, Sharrah Design Group, Vulcan Materials Company, and New Enterprise.

The CROFFO section of Conewago Creek was stocked for the second time this year on October 26th. Three hundred brown and rainbow trout were float stocked by our volunteer members.

The chapter applied for, and was awarded, a \$13,200 grant by the South Mountain Partnership. The funds will be used to install stream restoration devices in the CROFFO section of Conewago Creek, construct a 600-yard nature trail with three teaching stations, and plant 200 to 250 trees on retired agricultural areas on the Zeigler Mill Road Access site. Volunteers will be needed to do the work in 2023 – when the time comes, please consider pitching in to help.

An open fly tying night held in November saw some seasoned fly tyers and some novices at the vises. Lynn Rebert did a great job of planning the event and providing plenty of fly tying materials and equipment. With the help of Dean Simpson, the participants learned more about tying in an hour than they would have spending an hour on their own.

Cool Stuff That's Happening Soon

As you read this newsletter, the Holidays are upon us. If you are still fishing, I doff my hat to you – you are a hardy individual. I may get out on the water on a warmer day or two, as I need my fishing "fix" even in the winter. Actually, I caught my first trout on a fly on the Conewago in winter.

Depending on the weather, clearing of the nature trail may start in January or February. We will be cutting down trees and brush, removing invasive plant species, and grading the trail. Stay tuned for emails about the work schedule.

That's it for this newsletter. Have a great Holiday season and keep warm this winter!

Frank Kozak, President fmkozak@gmail.com



OUR CHAPTER'S NEW BOARD MEMBER WELCOME ROBERT "BOB" MILLER

Bob is a graduate of Littlestown High School and Mt. St. Mary's University with a B.S. in Economics. He passed the Certified Public Accounting examination and received his CPA License in 1972. After working for an International Public Accounting firm in Baltimore, Maryland, for three years, Bob relocated to the Hanover, Pa. area where he worked for several Public Accounting firms. In 1985, Bob started his own accounting firm to provide accounting and income tax services to individuals and small businesses. In 1989, Bob relocated his accounting practice to a newly constructed office at 335 Main St., McSherrystown, Pa. where, after 52 years of accounting and income tax services, he retired in 2022.

Bob's hobbies are fishing, family camping, golfing and operating O27 gauge trains. Bob and his wife, Joan, are the proud parents of two sons and two daughters, and love spending time with their thirteen grandchildren. Bob joined TU with an interest in learning how to be successful at fishing for trout. The Board looks forward to Bob contributing to the success of the chapter.

ACTU PRESIDENT FRANK KOZAK IS THE RECIPIENT OF THE 2022 PATU OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER AWARD

Frank joined ACTU Chapter 323 in early 2021, and since that time, his contributions to the chapter's success have been significant and many.

Immediately volunteering for our Grant Committee, Frank led the Chapter's efforts soliciting grants to help acquire, in partnership with several State and NGO entities, a 58-acre parcel of land abutting Conewago Creek. Frank's efforts led directly to ACTU receiving a \$40,000 grant from the Warehime Foundation.

On December 30, 2021, that acquisition became a reality, thereby preserving unfettered public access to this stream for generations to come.

Frank is now heavily involved in ACTU's efforts to improve the property. He also developed and is leading the Chapter's Records Management program. He is currently digitizing and organizing decades of historical documents onto an internet-based file share program so officers and board members have ready access to all documents required to successfully manage the Chapter.

Frank is also very active in supporting the PFBC's stream float stocking and restoration work, and in introducing the youth of Adams County to trout fishing and fly tying. PFBC Commissioner Richard Lewis notes, "I originally encouraged Frank to take an active leadership role in TU, but what he has accomplished in a little over a year is truly inspiring and remarkable!" Frank's generous contributions of time and innovative ideas since joining the Chapter have been an inspiration to all, and have proven to be a positive, driving force in enabling ACTU's continuous improvement.



DUAL CELEBRATION!

On October 1st, the chapter held an outdoor gathering to jointly celebrate both the creation of the Zeigler Mill Road Access site to Conewago Creek and the 40th Anniversary of the partnership between the Adams County and Northern Virginia Trout Unlimited (NVTU) chapters. The celebration was held to:

Recognize the individuals and organizations whose support and significant financial contributions led to the acquisition and preservation of public access to the 58-acre site along Conewago Creek, and

Applaud the two chapters' long-term partnership on the Conewago Creek Fly Fishing, Catch and Release section that has resulted in many habitat improvement projects to enhance the creek's fisheries and aquatic resources.



Some 55 people braved the elements to attend the dedication and recognition ceremony at the newly constructed parking lot and access road at the Zeigler Mill Road Access site. As part of the ceremony, several guest speakers that had played a part in the successful property acquisition or the successful partnership of ACTU and NVTU shared their thoughts with the attendees.

In addition to recognizing those individuals and organizations that had contributed funds for the land acquisition, we also recognized four companies that donated all the labor, materials, and equipment for the planning and construction of the parking lot and road: Conewago Enterprises, Sharrah Design Group, Vulcan Materials Company, and New Enterprise.

ACTU and NVTU plan to continue the stream improvement work which has been ongoing for decades. In the coming year, our plans call for constructing a nature trail through the site and planting 200 to 250 trees.

We would like to thank and recognize all the members of both chapters that contributed to the successful celebration, with special thank yous to:

Dave Swope, who has been exemplary in leading the chapter for decades, again delivered detailed planning and execution that resulted in a truly successful celebration.

Frank Kozak and Rick Franzese, for compiling the invitee list and sending multiple emails to the invitees.

Gary Perry Junior and Senior, for the time they put into food preparation, setup, and Buzz Dettinburn and Eddie McLaughlin, who were at the celebration from start to finish and then some, helping to ensure it went off without a hitch.

Howard Hellyer, for setting up the tent, which in the inclement weather made all the difference in the success of the celebration

Lynn Rebert, who did a great job of registering the many attendees.



At the end of the day, these members and more were there to make the event a success from start to finish.

As commented on at the celebration by a few speakers, the success of the celebration epitomizes the perseverance and passion that drove many individuals to overcome the numerous challenges that were encountered during the conceptualization and acquisition of the Zeigler Mill Road Access Site. The passion for obtaining the access site, the generosity of the donors, and the farsighted dream of preserving this land and water in Adams County is a feat to be remembered.







ZEIGLER MILL ROAD ACCESS CONSTRUCTION IS COMPLETED!!

After several years of hard work by many individuals and organizations, the access site to the Conewago Creek CROFFO has become a reality! You no longer will have to pull off the shoulder of the road to park in the field. Park with ease in the lot and stroll a short distance to fish your favorite runs and holes on the creek!

The construction of the 10-car parking lot has been completed and now provides plenty of parking for anglers coming to fish the CROFFO section of the creek and for nature lovers who just want to take in the beauty of this special spot.

The green sign at the entrance to the parking lot identifies a few of the organizations that contributed monies to fund the purchase of the site. The site is now the property of the PFBC and ACTU has a 25-year lease with the PFBC to maintain the property.

A bronze plaque adhered to a large boulder at the site recognizes the individuals and organizations that contributed \$1,000 or more to the purchase of the site.



FLY CASTING WORKSHOP

At our September gathering, ACTU members wanting to improve their casting fundamentals and mechanics participated in an outdoor workshop led by chapter member Dean Simpson. The members that gathered for the casting demonstration and instructional workshop honed their skills, which should pay off nicely when on the water!

ACTU AWARDED SOUTH MOUNTAIN PARTNERSHIP GRANT



On Sept 30, 2022, ACTU was announced as a recipient of a South Mountain Partnership (SMP) Grant. The program provides funding, on a competitive basis, to projects that protect and promote the region's landscape resources such as wildlife, habitat, water, and trails and parks.

ACTU received the grant of \$13,200 for the Zeigler Mill Road Access Site Recreational and Restoration Development project. ACTU is contributing a \$16,000 non-cash match to the project. The project work, which is to be performed in the 2023 calendar year, includes:

- installing stream restoration devices in the Catch and Release, Fly Fishing Only section of Conewago Creek;
- constructing a 600-yard educational nature trail and three teaching stations;
- removing invasive plant species; and
- planting 200 to 250 trees in retired agricultural areas.

The project will be led by Dave Swope (Project Manager), with Gary Perry leading the stream improvement phase, Joe Hallinan leading the tree planting phase, and Frank Kozak leading the trail clearing phase. The work may start as early as January, weather depending, and be finished by early Fall.

The 58-acre site, which is owned by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC), is being maintained and improved by ACTU under a 25-year lease agreement.

The ACTU Grant Committee members that prepared the grant application are Rick Franzese, Frank Kozak, and Dave Swope.

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Charles Scamack Corey Gajewski David Groft Greg Staub

Lawrence Hodge Sean Lavin **Todd Evans**

THANK YOU FOR RENEWING

Andrew Hollabaugh **B** Small **Barbara Henry Bernard Anthony Brandon Harman Bruce Rowland Brantly Ensor Carl Tempel Chris Plesic** David Keller David Palesky David Zimmerman Eugene Livelesberger **Garry Hake Gary Perry George Lower** Harold Hanna Jeff Clarke

ACTU receives a \$15 rebate from the special \$17.50 first-year membership dues when the chapter code 323 is marked on the application. New Members may also join online at www.tu.org/intro. Be sure to select chapter 323, ADAMS COUNTY. You may renew your membership by mail or on the web at www.tu.org. You may also renew, or change your membership information by calling TU Customer Service at 1-800-834-2419. For more information, contact D.A. Swope, swopeda@hotmail.com

John Davies John Rossi John Santino Jon Johnson Jonathan Zimmerman Joyce Litzelman Justin Kritchen Mark Egloff **Rich Patterson Robert Bishop Robert Keck Robert Sharrah** Ted Culp **Thomas Albright Thomas Powell** William Kennedy William Mitchell William Reichart



MEMORIAM FOR GARY STONE

Gary Stone, a long-time chapter member, passed away at the age of 82. As a member of ACTU 323, Gary took an interest in stocking, restoration projects, and photographing our activities. He regularly attended our chapter meetings and supported our conservation efforts. In his early years with our chapter, many of his stocking photographs were used in our quarterly newsletters. A nameplate with Gary Stone's name will be placed on our memorial bench in the near future. Fish on Gary.



Dean. Simpson, right, demonstrates fly tying during the monthly meeting of Adams County Trout Unlimited on Wednesday. He has fished for trout since he was 15 years old and has been tying flies for more than 45 years. He was making a "wooly booger" which is one of his favorites. (Darryl Wheeler/Gettysburg Times)

Learning fly tying at Trout Unlimited

CHAPTER CALENDAR 2022-23

The gatherings, which usually start at 6:30 pm, are held at the Adams County Conservation District office, 670 Old Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg.

December No Meeting Happy Holidays!

January 18 Tying Leaders and Knots Workshop led by Dean Simpson

> February 15 Board Meeting

March 15 Trout Streams of Adams County led by Dave Swope

April 19 WCO Rachael Thurner Diaz and Board Meeting **May 17** Fishing the Rocky Mountain Region Orvis Instructor Mark Mahler

June 21 Women's Fly Fishing Program

> **July 19** Entomology Seminar

> > August 16 Board Meeting

September Chapter Picnic

Come join us for our monthly fishing and conservation programs that are informative and enjoyable. Most monthly gatherings lead off with a program. The schedule above is essentially set but check the chapter's website and Facebook site for scheduled dates and times, gathering programs, and more information:

adamscountytu.org

facebook.com/adamscountytu



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