



FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Hello fellow members of ACTU,

Where did the time go? Many of us are asking the same question? First thing that comes to mind, I want to wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

Our chapter has been presented with many conservation battles this year, from Harrisburg to Washington, DC, but we have soldiered on in the pursuit of clean water and protection of trout in Adams County.

Unprecedented reaches into environmental funds here in the state, along with the administration formally announcing the repeal of Clean Water Rules, have made our work even harder. Restoration projects like the Knouse Foods Land Acquisition have been put on hold until we finalize the grant agreement. We continue to partner with the Chesapeake Watershed Association on our tree planting project.

What I'm most excited about though, is the participation and strong interest in the Knouse Foods project that courses through Biglerville. The Conewago Creek is your chapter's precious gem. And we are working hard to keep it that way. A meeting of more than 10 interested groups has risen this project on the top of our chapter's list of most important in 2020-21.

Through the winter months the chapter will be planning and budgeting for events in the coming Spring, Summer and Fall. Thanks for all you do as members of ACTU 323.

Stay Safe

Hank Rajotte
President ACTU, Chapter 323

AWARD PRESENTED

President Hank Rajotte presents PFBC Adopt-a-Stream award to Trustee Richard Lewis. Richard Lewis was selected to receive the PFBC Adopt-A-Stream award for his volunteer work with the Knouse Foods Project with the Conewago Creek Access.

The chapter's overall mission is the protection of our waterways. In securing a settlement from Knouse Foods that is exactly what we are doing-protecting our Home Waters. Richard has been active in most chapter activities while providing his leadership in making our chapter one of the best. 🐟



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Conewago Creek
gets a good cleaning

11 Christmas Special
Free Memberships for
First Responders & Military



ADAMS COUNTY CHAPTER HAPPENINGS

AWARDED BEST SMALL CHAPTER AWARD FOR 2020

ACTU 323 started off January and February gearing into 2020. ACTU did manage to receive four grants to provide income in planning their annual fundraiser scheduled for end of March. Chapter members collected donations including gift cards, prizes and cash donations the chapter totaled over \$5,000.



On February 22nd ACTU members setup for the local Heidlersburg Outdoor Weekend Show. Two new members joined along with membership applications taken home. Chapter showed video of our restoration work and had free refreshments. Many PFBC brochures of fish identification were handed out.

Chapter Officers met with Friends of Toms Creek on a reclassification with data collected from Toms Creek. A reclassification would mean higher protection of the waterway. Chapter treasurer spoke at the meeting with landowners, DEP, SGI on expansion of Quarry Operations.


As ACTU held fundraising meetings, Covid19 landed in our laps. After canceling our fundraiser, the chapter donated all their gift card donations from the fundraiser before expiration date to Adams County Head Start to less disadvantage families. The Head Start program helps financially disadvantaged families. We also had to setup how the chapter would communicate with their membership. ACTU joined with Zoom for an annual fee to keep everyone in the loop. Guest speakers appear on Zoom for each meeting.

ACTU has been streamlining their volunteer efforts with Knouse Foods and other partners to purchase 60 acres along the Conewago Creek in the PFBC regulated catch and release section and was successful raising over \$16,000 through donations. This project started as a stream easement access purchased then processed to an outright purchase of 60 acres with partners to include the PFBC, Northern Virginia Trout Unlimited, Adams County partners included the Land Preservation and Planning Office.

For our youth program, ACTU worked to get their 11 Trout In the Classroom Brook Trout stocked to new homes. This was accomplished by our members along with the presiding teachers due to the virus and school closings.

Chapter officer met with PFBC biologist to review Birch Run project along Rt 233 in Adams County.

As ACTU worked thru the Pandemic, our restoration committee was able to add 174 restoration man hours on the Conewago Creek on May 30, June 5 and July 11 using social distancing. NVTU assisted. ACTU added two newer habitat devices while building improvements on others. Two 20 ft culvert pipes were installed with rock retaining walls. Trails were trimmed and rose bushes removed. Chapter treasurer attended Zoom National webinar on Free membership for First Responders. Communicated with ACTU board and was able to add two new free memberships to the chapter. Two chapter members participates with the PFBC electro-fishing of upper reaches of Toms Creek. 7 chapter members planted 80 trees and shrubs in the catch and release section of the Conewago.

With the Covid-19 virus in 2020, ACTU was determined to carry out their mission to protect, conserve and restore our waterways while communicating with their membership. 

CONEWAGO STREAM CLEANUP

Trash and other types of pollution hurts our streams and the animals that depend on them for water, food, and a place to live. Even the biggest rivers are fed by small creeks, so every stream is worth keeping clean. Some of the ways people can help are picking up trash, removing old cars and appliances, planting trees to control runoff and erosion, and taking water samples to identify pollutants.

Most areas have programs to help citizens (including kids) clean up their local streams and keep them that way. Your town, county, or state may call its program Stream Team, Adopt-A-Stream, Operation Clean Stream, or just Stream Cleanup, but you will probably find it right away with a Web search on the name of your town plus “stream cleanup.”

Although many of these activities are for adults, there are plenty of ways kids can help. The more kids get involved, the better, so you might want to talk to your county parks and recreation service, teacher, scout leader, or other group leader to organize a project just for you and your friends.

Cleaning up your favorite stream can be hard work, but you'll be helping the fish and other animals that live there, as well as making it a nicer place for humans to visit.



It was the day before Thanksgiving 2020, seven chapter members met at the Rockwell Bowling Alley for stream litter cleanup on the Conewago Creek. With the Covid19, the group practice social distancing and masking. After pictures of the crew were taken, we divided into groups to begin. Gary Perry led the charge along with neighbors Will and Anne, Adams County Watershed Specialist Joe Hallinan and his three youngsters. As you can view in the pictures, the trash was plentiful.

Neighbor Anne Lane writes:

Hello Folks, thank you all so very, very much, and a big thank you to the members of your organization, for your help this morning. It was a tremendous effort, and I am personally grateful and relieved to know the trash we picked up will not end up in the beautiful Conewago. We look forward to joining with you again, perhaps even on a “stream walk” from bridge to bridge, to gather debris on the banks that we cannot reach from the road. Meanwhile we will continue to try to keep the roadway clear of garbage. We are very grateful to you all and were happy to meet with you. A big thank you to Gary Perry for orchestrating this project. I look forward to some photos, and perhaps an estimate of the truckloads of debris we gathered altogether.

*Kindest regards and Happy thanksgiving to you all.
Anne and Will*

DAVID A. SWOPE MERIT AND RECOGNITION AWARD

The Chapter Awards Program began in 1999 and annually recognizes chapter members for their contributions and volunteer efforts in our ACTU mission to conserve, protect, and restore our Commonwealth Watersheds.

The Adams County Chapter Merit and Recognition Award began in 1999 and continues today. In 2015 this award was renamed in honor of David A. Swope for his leadership in youth education, membership drives, banquet fundraisers, grant writing, building partnerships, and leading the ACTU chapter in receiving the 2004 Gold Trout Award. This award recognizes the chapter member who displays leadership abilities in many facets of chapter activities. One who strongly believes in carrying the environmental torch for the next generations. One who participates strongly in youth activities while working tirelessly for the good of the chapter.

The “David A. Swope Merit and Recognition” award for 2019 goes to Cindy Staub. Cindy joined ACTU 7 years ago after discovering a renewed love of fishing, a sport put on hold for decades in order to start and run her own graphic design business in Hanover. Graphics Plus opened in 1988 and consumed most every waking hour for 30 years. A hiking trip to Wyoming 2012 included an introduction of fly fishing in Yellowstone. That experience woke up a passion buried deep in her memories. Upon returning from that trip, she joined Trout Unlimited and the Adams County Chapter.

Seeing an introductory fly fishing course offered for women by ACTU in one of the chapter newsletters, she signed up and learned the basics of knot tying, fly selection, casting and stream etiquette. The final lesson was conducted on the catch and release section of the Conewago Creek ACTU manages. Seeing this stretch of water and the conservation efforts the club was doing, she wanted to help.

The next few years she assisted with many stockings both floating the boxes and the bucket brigade, clearing brush and hanging signs on work detail days, and then finally volunteering to redesign and help publish the newsletter.

Since joining the Chapter, Cindy and her husband Jim have become partners in another business venture: Something Wicked Brewing Company in downtown Hanover. Renovating the 120 year old Moose Building took years and it still continues. The Staubs and their 4 other partners are kept busy with the constant changes in the craft beer industry. Marketing and managing the business has consumed allot of free time so her participation in ACTU activities as of late has been limited to newsletter production.

Cindy joined Trout Unlimited thinking it was a fishing club, but soon learned its mission is so much more. The conservation efforts and educational programs offered to kids, as well as adults, are a hidden gem need to be promoted to the community. The newsletter is just one tool that communicates the clubs goals and achievements. We thank Cindy for her continued efforts in conveying our message and efforts in our mission of conservation, protection and restoration of the Commonwealth Watersheds. 🍷



Cindy Staub receives the award from Dave Swope

CHAPTER HEROES STEP UP DURING THE PANDEMIC

As this virus directs our course, there are heroes among us - the essential workers as well as chapter members.

When the pandemic struck in March, our board members went to work on implementing new plans to accomplish our TU Mission. As new restrictions and guidelines were imposed by the Governor, the Board reacted and kept moving forward. Our plans included restricted activities in stocking, restorations, tree plantings, meetings, etc. Communicating through email, the Board arranged and began virtual "Zoom" meetings, where members could view our parliamentary procedures and be part of the agenda.

Along with all these changes, our chapter trustee needed to downsize his workload due to new obligations. The chapter put out a plea for a member to step-up to the plate. That plea was answered by a member whose hobbies include electronic media expertise. Things were falling into place even with the chaos going on about us.

With great teamwork, our Adams Angler newsletter didn't miss a beat, publishing all the issues right on schedule. We worked through the social distancing restrictions and stock floated the fly area with Mummasburg Sportsmen Club. The fall stocking was completed by the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission.

Most activities in 2020 involving larger gatherings had to be postponed and eventually canceled. Chapter meetings were canceled with the closure of the ACCD building. Our annual fundraiser canceled along with our fishing derby, Southcentral Outdoors for Youth event and the outdoor show. Our board was not deterred and continued on its mission.

What the chapter accomplished in 2020 was nothing short of amazing - so much so we were recognized as THE BEST SMALL CHAPTER in Pennsylvania 2020. We also had a member recognized as the Most Outstanding Conservationist in Pa. Trout.

Out of the challenging situation came potential improvements, rewards and recognition to ACTU. We made lemons into lemonade! 🐟

THE CALL FOR PLANTING WAS ANSWERED!



On September 17, 2020 a call went out to all our members for help in planting trees and shrubs along a section of stream that has been under our chapters watch for decades.

Many thanks to the seven guys that volunteered. The group started at 9AM and finished by noon. The group planted tree and shrub varieties including Scarlet Oak, Red Maple, Tulip Poplar, Grey Dogwoods and Red Buds. All species had shelters and stakes installed. Special thanks to our Adams County Watershed Specialist in the process, ACTU was happy to help. 🐟

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

Dear New Members of ACTU,

Thank you for joining Trout Unlimited! You are now a new member of ACTU 323, one of nearly 400 local chapters across the country.

We're excited to have you as a member of our local community and hope you will join us at a coming meeting or event. The chapters meeting place is located at 670 Old Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg, Pa. Our meeting is the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7PM. You can find directions on our chapter website at www.adamscountytu.org.

The ADAMS COUNTY CHAPTER is a community that shares your passion for conservation and fishing and I hope you will become involved in all our chapter offers. From monthly meetings and presentations on a range of topics to local restoration projects, river cleanups, youth education programs and, of course, fishing trips, there are so many ways you can take part in all the ADAMS COUNTY of Trout Unlimited has to offer. Our chapter has more than 190 local members and we look forward to meeting you and finding out what you are most interested in as a conservationist and angler. If you have an idea for a chapter event or project and the willingness to help make it happen, we'd love to hear about it at our next chapter event!

I encourage you to visit our website www.adamscountytu.org to learn more about us and don't hesitate to reach out to myself or any of our board members to find out how you can get involved in the great conservation and education work the Adams County Chapter offers, as well as the chance to meet new friends and fishing buddies among our membership. I'm looking forward to meeting you soon.



Dave Swope, Treasurer ACTU 323
swopeda@hotmail.com
Adams County 323 Trout Unlimited

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Donald Guise
Kathy Harrigan
Jefferson Wright
Ryan Walde
John Rossi
Claudia Jones
Benjamin Zimmerman
Jessica Walde
Thomas Powell
Emma McSherry
Clifford Frost

Thanks for RENEWING

John Davies
Bernard Anthony
David Eline
Kevin Harner
Joseph Lemmon
Edwin McGlauglin
Kerry White
Donald Geesaman
Tom Murphy
Eugene Livelsberger
Jim Schroyer
George Ross
Scott Rebert
B J Small
Richard Albert
Cindy Staub
Jennifer Thran
Michael Bishop
Jonathan Zimmerman
Carl Tempel
David Macy
Jacob Yealy
Anthony Bretzman
Michael Mahoney
Chris & Becky Plesic
Robert Sharrah
Richard Shrader
Carl Swinn
Grey Walde
Michael Bishop
Jonathon Zimmerman

Thanks for TRANSFERRING

Frank Kozak
Jon Johnson
David Zimmerman

VOLUNTEERS ARE VITAL TO ACTU STOCKING PROGRAMS

Float stocking trout in Adams County since 1976 has always played a major role in providing more fishing opportunities for anglers. Moving the trout downstream from different access points has major benefits, especially with the social distancing due to Covid19. Since March our stocking volunteers have been taking a backseat with the PFBC in the stocking program. Hopefully, in January at the PFBC meeting, a new plan will be adopted for volunteers to get their feet wet again following the protocols adopted for the volunteers. If approved, each float stocking section will be viewed separately to maintain social distancing and protection for everyone. 🐟



Biglerville High School students ready to learn first hand the art of float stocking



Past President April leads a float stocking team



Longtime member Rick stocking Mummasburg Trophy Trout



Edna delivers a real beauty - a trophy brown to the Conewago



ACCESS MEANS EVERYTHING

Towards the end of last year, the Conewago Access Force Committee was meeting with local organizations in order to reach their goal in preserving the upper reaches of the Conewago Creek in the catch and release only stretch.

With the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission signing on as one of the major partners, a stream agreement purchase looks attainable. There are so many donors and partners to thank for their generous donation to protect and preserve this waterway.

We are still waiting on final grant approval for the agreement with Knouse Foods on 60 acres of property on the upper reaches of the catch and release section of the Conewago Creek from DCNR. By Spring the chapter will be working on an established agreement with a property purchase or a stream easement purchase.

So Beautiful and Peaceful/Why not Protect it 



RIVERS CONSERVATION AND FLY FISHING SCHOOL

The Cumberland Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited is now accepting applications for the 2021 Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp to be held June 20-25 at Messiah University in Cumberland County.

The early acceptance period deadline is December 31.

The 2020 Camp was not held due to the COVID pandemic. Applicants who applied for the 2020 camp will be automatically accepted for the 2021 camp, provided they notify Camp organizers.

The Camp is limited to a total of 32 boys and girls between 14 and 17.

This Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing School was founded in 1999 by Pa. Fish and Boat Commissioner Inky Moore. Over the years, Adams County Chapter of Trout Unlimited has been successful in supporting over 12 students attending this conservation school.

Looking back over our AC chapters history some of the students are: Adam McClain, Ryan Walde, Brett Sipe, Chloe Plesic, Ricky Whitmore, Josh Jacoby, Scott Starr, Thomas Olesky, June Cashman, Brantley Ensor and Quinton Nace

Many reputable students loving and working in our great outdoors, a few now working at the Adams County Conservation District. 



ACTU 2020 ELECTIONS AND PLANNING FOR 2021

The chapter held its chapter meeting at the Lake Heritage Resort in October utilizing safe distancing and masks. The election of officers was held from those nominated at the September Zoom meeting.

Serving the Adams County TU Chapter in 2021:

Chapter President	Hank Rajotte
Vice President	David Keller
Secretary	Howard Hellyer
Treasurer	Dave Swope
Trustees	April Swope, Chair
	Richard Lewis
	Dean Stum
	Buzz Dittenburn
	Gary Perry



Deb Wentling has stepped up as Grant Application Chair along with Becky Plesic, who again is chairing the Latimore Creek Kids Derby.

Gary Perry, the Chapters Stream Coordinator, has accepted some of Richard's responsibilities with the Zoom meetings and auditing the chapters treasury monthly.

Jerry Glatfelter has great computer skills in handling our website and emailing our membership.

Of course, Richard will be missed but still staying active on the board. Thank you Richard for your dedicated effort over the last few years.

We have a lot of experience returning and the unpredictability of Covid19 will provide increased workloads for all, but we will lean on each other and persevere.

Covid19 didn't stop this chapter in 2020, being selected as the BEST PA CHAPTER, and 2021 will be no different. One of our own, Richard Lewis, received the "Outstanding Individual Conservationist in Pennsylvania.

We can look forward to the upcoming meetings to install a strategic plan for the chapter and determine our next year's budget and agenda. Some new members have been getting more active within the chapter activities and with the right approach, new doors will get opened. Thanks to our chapter members for stepping up in 2020 in many different areas.

Fundraising and membership will play a big part going into 2021 within the chapter. Both are critical to our chapters mission.

One of our biggest hurdles will be finalizing the Knouse Foods project. Patience is needed as we plow forward. Our chapter still has two options; purchase the entire 60 acres, or pursue the stream easement purchase. Hopefully, we will fair better in the second round of DCNR grants before the year ends.

The PFBC is working on their 2021 stocking program with Covid19 still amongst us. The PFBC did the Fall stocking the Conewago Creek in October. Different float stocking points in Adams Counties with eight approved streams will be explained in advance. Some will be easier to work with than others due to social distancing. Please bear with us moving forward. 🐟

HOLIDAY MEMORIES OF BYGONE DAYS

by Terry Sipe Article was posted in Adams County Pulse- December 2002

The white winter snow has now blanketed the ground and it seems we are at the dawn of a New Year. The holiday season is upon us and brings with it the gatherings of family and friends. Usually, the topics of conversation are a wide variety and seem to include the swapping of hunting stories with uncle's brothers in law and laying out the plans for the next years hunt. My two grandfathers usually have us hanging onto every word recalling with us the memories and experiences from their days afield. During the Christmas stories, I get to learn of the way things use to be and some of those still hang on as tradition, holding the modern age at bay.

My, how time slips away as a year goes past and the time from it is gone like rushing waters over riffles in a stream and before you know it those memories remain in the still waters of the pool below. My grandfather's no longer hunt or fish so they always welcome conversation on the subjects at our family gatherings. It seems to me they relive the days of their youth through the stories told by the next generation beneath them. Oh, how I would have cherished to share the field and streams with them but time steals from us things that we cannot get back. In my own way, I share the spirit of such spaces and times. My one grandfather gave me a fishing rod that was his and was given to him by his grandfather who fished with it as a young man. I cherish it greatly. On the flip side, there is an old J. C. Higgins shotgun that my other grandfather hunted with when he was a young man about my age. I now have possession due to unfortunate circumstances. I am sure, as I tell my grandfather of it's travels it will make with me, that it will spark the memories that will bring about stories from the old days when pheasants were plentiful and wild and grouse and quail were abundant.

Recently, as the snow fell, a friend of mine stopped by the shop to wish me happy holidays and conversation led to a fishing trip to Spruce Creek for big browns came up. It seems that time had slipped away and we never ended up going, so as the snow fell outside, we laid the plans for next year and talked of trips we had taken in the past and relived the memories from times shared on the water. I guess as the holiday's seasons come and goes they have for generations, I will share these memories with my family and so many of us will. For now, I look back on the memories that past, the good times shared on "Terry Trails" with ACTU members and the new friendships that have developed from it. For all of us time will continue to slip away, as it is inevitable. A part of life. What we do with our time is up to us as individuals. Happy Holidays.





Christmas Special

All military or first responders can join for FREE

First FIVE new members can sign up for \$5.00

Deadline for \$5.00 offer is December 31st, 2020

Recipient's Name

Recipient's Address

Recipient's Phone Number

Recipient's Email address

Gift from (ACTU Member)

- Youth Membership
- Adult Membership
- Senior Membership
- Family Membership

Send application and check to:

Dave Swope

601 Hanover Street

New Oxford, PA 17350

swopeda@hotmail.com

GREEN SPRINGS ROD & GUN CLUB PARTNERSHIP CONTINUES



Joe Hastings, President of Green Springs Rod and Gun Club offers their financial support to Dave Swope, Treasurer ACTU 323 to further our volunteer efforts to the community in Adams County in 2021. We appreciate this sportsmen club understanding the importance of our mission in conservation work as a volunteer organization.

We continue to strive in our workload having 11 schools registered in the "Trout In the Classroom Program" and all our efforts in reaching the next generation of outdoor conservation minded individuals.

Forming partners has always been important in playing a vital role in our chapter successes. 

TENTATIVE CHAPTER MEETINGS 2021

All Chapter Meetings will be Zoom meetings until further notice

January 19

February 16

March 16

April 20

May 18



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 D...



ADVERTISE IN ADAMS ANGLER

If you are a business owner and would like to reach 200 members with a common interest in fishing and the environment, consider running your ad in the Adams Angler. There are 4 issues per calendar year. Cost of the ads are \$25 business card and \$50 half page and full page ad \$100. Call 253-6680 to advertise.

