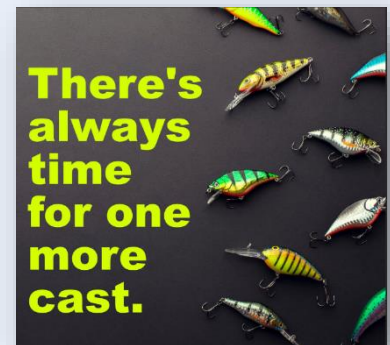




Adams County Trout Unlimited - June 2024 Newsletter

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ACTU Honored with Governor's Environmental Excellence Award

On April 30th, Adams County Trout Unlimited (ACTU) was an honored recipient of a 2024 Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence for its work preserving and improving a 58-acre parcel of land adjacent to Conewago Creek in Butler Township. ACTU's project was one of 22 selected by the Shapiro Administration for the prestigious award, which was presented by the Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC) during a ceremony at the Hilton Harrisburg.

The Governor's Awards for Environmental Excellence are selected each year by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The awards highlight the best in environmental innovation and expertise throughout the Commonwealth. Applications are evaluated for their degree of environmental protection, innovation, partnership, economic impact, and outcomes achieved.

ACTU was recognized for the key role it played in preserving and restoring 58 acres of woodland and retired farmland adjacent to Conewago Creek, along Ziegler Mill Road. This section of the creek is a noted, high-quality trout habitat, and



is the only “Special Regulations Trout Water” in Adams County, meaning it is only open to catch and release flyfishing. As part of its mission, ACTU has been instrumental in managing and improving the trout habitat in this fishery for decades.

As you may recall from previous newsletters, several years ago the owner of the property, who had long allowed public access to the creek to flyfishers, announced its intent to sell the parcel. Concerned that a new owner might not continue allowing access to the public or might pursue developing the property in a manner detrimental to the creek, ACTU teamed with a number of conservation-minded private, state, and local agencies and began fundraising with the intent to purchase and preserve the parcel. That year-long effort, which included being awarded several generous grants, culminated in the purchase of the parcel for over \$400,000. The parcel is now owned by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC).



Shortly after the purchase, ACTU entered into a 25-year lease agreement with the PFBC, under which it is responsible for maintaining and improving the site for the benefit of anglers and nature lovers alike. Since then, multiple improvements have been made at the site, including constructing a 10-car parking lot, creating a 900-yard nature trail accompanied by three teaching stations, removing acres of invasive plant species, installing a 60-foot-long stream habitat improvement device, and planting over 300 trees and shrubs on the retired farmland.

Representing ACTU at the awards dinner were Directors Rick Franzese and Dave Swope, President Frank Kozak, Secretary Jerry Gladfelter, and longtime ACTU member and PFBC Commissioner Richard Lewis.

Rick Franzese. Board Member

What’s Been Happening

Our chapter’s members have had a busy spring and early summer with four youth programs that we are either led or participated in.

Trout in the Classroom (TIC)

Lynn Rebert and Jerry Gladfelter led the Release Day at Strawberry Hill on April 10th. Students from Fairfield Elementary, James Getty Elementary, New Oxford Middle School and Biglerville High School released their fingerling trout into Tom’s Creek and had a blast doing it.

In addition to releasing the fingerlings, the classes rotated through four learning stations covering: Aquatic Communities and Animal Ambassadors presented by Strawberry Hill staff members; Pennsylvania Fish Identification and Facts presented by PFBC Waterways Conservation Officer Rachel Thurner-Diaz; and Fly Casting presented by Lynn and Jerry.



In the TIC program, students learn about cold-water conservation while raising trout from eggs to fingerlings in their classrooms. The curriculum materials cover the fish life cycle, water chemistry, land conservation, and stream and watershed health. Aquarium tanks are provided by ACTU to the classrooms, which provide teachers with a hands-on way of presenting water conservation. Trout eggs are hatched in the tanks and the students care for the fingerlings throughout the school year until the students release the fingerlings into Toms Creek.

Latimore Creek Youth Fishing Derby

The morning of ACTU's 18th Annual Youth Fishing Derby at the Special Regulations Section of Latimore Creek dawned with a sunny sky. The nice weather brought out 60 young anglers, who helped stock 300 trout from the Yellow Breeches Anglers' Association, and subsequently fished for them!

Over the three hours of fishing, some 25 anglers checked in about 47 of the stocked fish. For some



of these young folks, this was the first fish they ever caught! Anglers in each age group (5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, and 13-15) competed to land the biggest trout and then picked from a variety of prizes.



ACTU held its first derby in 2005 after adopting a section of Latimore Creek, in conjunction with the PA Fish and Boat Commission and the Latimore Fairgrounds Committee. This

section of the stream is now restricted for fishing to only youth and disabled adults. The success of the derby over the past 18 years at this location is a direct result of the efforts of our partners, ACTU volunteers, and many wonderful sponsors. -



New Oxford Middle School Environmental Day

On May 20th, chapter members Buzz Dettinburn, Jerry Gladfelter, Frank Kozak, Hank Rajotte, Dave Swope, and Mike Waldron taught the arts of fly tying and fly casting to students in the 8th grade at New Oxford Middle School. Some 100 to 125 students shared this annual opportunity to learn from the chapter's instructors. Fly tying vises were set up in one of the classrooms and fly casting was outdoors. Most of the students (remember, they are 8th graders) participated in the hands-on casting and tying demonstrations.

The classes began at 8:30 under sunny skies and went on until 2:00. Students were divided into groups of approximately 20, with each group rotating through educational stations throughout the day. Other stations included PFBC and PGC demonstrations, tree planting, habitats, aquatic communities, nature walks, bird identification, Chesapeake Bay, Leave No Trace, and Meditate to Nature. Environmental Day is organized by teacher Danyelle Kaiser.

South Central Outdoors for Youth (SOY)

Sponsored by McSherrystown Fish & Game, the SOY Day was held June 1st at the Fish & Game's facility. ACTU members participated by manning the fly-tying class. Headed by Hank Rajotte, along with Jeff Clarke and Lynn Rebert, the trio guided the kids through the art of tying the Woolly Worm fly. About 50 kids in small groups rotated through all the learning stations. In addition to fly tying, other programs included fishing, archery, target shooting, and trapping. The kids ranged in age from 6 to 15 and regardless of skill level left the class with a fly or two that they had tied.

SOY is a non-profit organization started in 1992 for the express purpose of encouraging youth's interest in the outdoors, in a safe and controlled environment, with knowledgeable volunteers on hand to instruct and promote their interest. Its founders and volunteers believe that by giving youth and their parents/guardians a free day of various outdoor activities, children have the opportunity to experience various outdoor enjoyment without cost to the family. If the child decides to continue with the sport, many knowledgeable volunteers are available to give information and instructions.

2024 Calendar

Upcoming volunteer opportunities are highlighted in bold font.

Event	Date(s)	Location
Funfest 2024, "Adventure Begins at Your Library"	June 14, 3:00 to 7:00	Gettysburg Rec Park
Program "Fly Fishing for Smallmouth" and Board Meeting	June 19, 6:30 pm	ACCD Office
Fly Casting at Gettysburg Nature Alliance Center	June 29, 10:00 to 2:00?	Barn at Sachs Bridge, 720 Pumping Station Rd., Gettysburg
Board Meeting	July 17, 6:30 pm	ACCD Office
Board Meeting	August 21, 6:30 pm	ACCD Office
Annual ACTU Member Appreciation Picnic	September 18, 5:00 pm	ACCD Office
Stocking – Conewago CROFFO	October 2, 11:00	Russel Tavern Road Bridge
My 2024 Fishing Ventures (member discussion) and Board Meeting	October 16, 6:30 pm	ACCD Office
Program OPEN and Board Meeting	November 20, 6:30 pm	ACCD Office
Board Meeting	December	ACCD Office

Upcoming Youth Programs and Volunteer Opportunities

The youth programs and events that the Adams County Trout Unlimited (ACTU) Chapter sponsors or supports are in full swing. Since ACTU started in 1977, these programs and events have engaged more than 13,000 Adams County youth.

On June 14th, from 3:00 to 7:00 pm, ACTU will be participating for the first time in the Adams County Library's FunFest at the Gettysburg Rec Park. Chapter members will be instructing children on identifying the three distinct species of trout in Pennsylvania, brook, brown, and rainbow, using hands-on materials.

On June 29th from 10am to 2pm, "Go Fish, Gettysburg!" will be held at the Gettysburg Nature Alliance Barn at Sachs Bridge, 720 Pumping Station Road. This event is perfect for families with children. Participants include ACTU (free lessons in fly-casting, fly-tying demonstrations, and informative walks on invasive species), the Blue Ridge Summit Free Library (reading the book "Daniel Finds a Poem" and offering nature-themed activities for children), Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve (offering engaging educational activities), and Julie Albert (offering yoga and meditation instruction), and the American Chestnut Foundation.

Once again, it is going to be a busy time of the year for ACTU. Please contact Frank Kozak at fmkozak@gmail.com if you would like to help out with any of these events.

In Memoriam – Edwin (Eddie) McGlaughlin (May 31, 1937 - May 18, 2024)

Long time ACTU member Eddie McGlaughlin passed away last month at the age of 86.

By Dave Swope

I first met Eddie back in the early 2000s, doing what else - stocking trout. I had been coordinating the trout stocking since 1992, and back then, the stocking dates were unannounced. So, I asked Eddie how he found out about the unannounced dates – somehow, he just knew. I figured Eddie would just help out 'til the next drop off of trout and then go fishing. But that was not the case, Eddie assisted in stocking the entire day. This was extremely rare, as most folks following the stocking truck would be fishing, not helping. Well, this started our friendship.

I learned Eddie was interested not only in stocking but in conservation and fly fishing in general. Our relationship grew as Eddie became a new member in Adams County Trout Unlimited. It wasn't long after joining the chapter that Eddie became the stream steward on Conewago Creek. We worked side by side at numerous Trout Unlimited events and activities for years, and Eddie was a regular attendee at our monthly meetings during this time. Eddie was interested not only in fly fishing and tying flies but in helping others learn the art. He took new members fly fishing, and he taught fly tying classes for the youth.

Eddie was self-employed as a carpet installer, and we shared many breakfasts together. He was a strong believer and brother in Christ. When we discussed the issues with individuals involved in our activities, Eddie would say, let's pray about that. And we did.

The memories of a true friend will never fade away. His attributes of caring, helping others, and being considerate to others showed his true character. Eddie was a good listener. He was a man of few words.

There are some that bring a light to the world, and even after they are gone, that light remains. Eddie is that light.

If we believe with renewed hope, a stronger hope and assurance that our eternity is going to be with God forever, that this life is not all there is, and, if we turn to Jesus for forgiveness, we will receive his free gift of grace and eternal life.

Eddie McGlaughlin's many years of service as an active ACTU Chapter #323 member will be commemorated with his name being added to the Conewago Memorial bench. Additionally, a commemorative plaque expressing appreciation for Eddie's many contributions to ACTU was presented to his family at his memorial service on May 31.



Well-Deserved Recognition for Jay Lovering



Jay Lovering is to be Awarded the Virginia Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, Natural Resource Conservationist/Citizen Award

NVATU's very own Ex-Officio President, Jay Lovering, will be awarded the Virginia Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, Natural Resource Conservationist/Citizen Award at their annual meeting.

Kirk Smith, long-time chapter member and Environmental Science Affiliate at George Mason University, nominated Jay for this well-deserved award. Here is Kirk's nomination write-up:

"Jay Lovering is a long-time resident of Virginia. He grew up hunting and fishing throughout the forests of Virginia and West Virginia. Jay is a highly decorated Marine. He was engaged in combat duty as a young officer during the Vietnam conflict.

After his service, Jay returned to the U.S. where he taught high school in Northern Virginia. Even in the early 1970s, Jay was well known for his fly fishing expertise. In the late 1970's, Jay was asked to teach then President, Jimmy Carter how to fly fish. Through the decades, Jay has taught over 1000 people how to fly fish.

He served as President of the Northern Virginia Trout Unlimited (NVATU) chapter for over 35 years. During his tenure, he led several conservation projects to include the joint venture on the Conewago River (PA) in coordination with the Adams County (PA) TU chapter. Jay also led several trout conservation projects within the state of Virginia during his tenure. He has been a strong supporter for the Tri-State TU summer camp held at Graves' Mountain Lodge, Syria, VA.

Probably Jay's most notable accomplishment was his strong support for the establishment of the TIA (Trout Unlimited, Izaak Walton League, American Fisheries Society) Alliance. Jay provided the vision and leadership that led to the eventual charter alliance, joining the three NGOs in an agreement to engage youth in fisheries related conservation projects. The charter is one of the few alliances that has no expiration date so will officially exist in perpetuity."



Join us in congratulating Jay upon receiving this award!

Membership Update

New Members:

- ✓ Jim Chioda
- ✓ John Maddox
- ✓ John Sefter

Your Chapter Leaders

- ✓ Frank Kozak, President
- ✓ Jerry Gladfelter, Secretary
- ✓ Bob Miller, Treasurer
- ✓ Lesa Bird, Director
- ✓ Buzz Dettinburn, Director
- ✓ Rick Franzese, Director
- ✓ David Kamsler, Director
- ✓ Dave Swope, Director

Contact Frank Kozak if you have any questions about the chapter or its activities, at fmkozak@gmail.com.

Adams Anglers is a publication of Adams County Trout Unlimited, Chapter #323. Questions or comments about the content of this newsletter can be submitted via email to Frank Kozak at fmkozak@gmail.com.

Adams County Trout Unlimited is Guided by Three Tenets Fishing - Conservation - Community

