



2020




## LEADERSHIP CHANGES IN ACTU

Members may have noticed that our long time, faithful President Hank Rajotte has announced he's in his final month of service to our chapter. He has given us advance notice so that he can help train his replacement over the next few months. He assures us that he learned the ropes without any special publishing or technology skills, demonstrating all you need to succeed is a desire to contribute and a willingness to learn and lead.

Frank Kozak has been appointed/elected by the Board to lead the chapter through March 2024. Frank promises to promote even more involvement with our Board. Hank will continue his commitment to our youth programs and assist when it's possible. Rick Franzese will fill the role of trustee vacated by Frank.


We want to thank Hank for agreeing to continue in the chapter leadership role and for all the kudos and recognition the chapter received over his Presidency at ACTU 323. Our chapter thanks Rick, Andy and Frank for all stepping up in their new roles.

In other news, Andy Hollabaugh will be giving Dave Swope a break as Newsletter Editor. Dave has been wearing many hats over the years for ACTU. Dave has held many officer positions over his many years of service to the chapter including Secretary and four terms as our President. He also assures us that he learned the ropes without any special publishing or technology skills. Partners always can play a vital role in our chapter successes. Dave has written almost every article for our newsletter plus provided pictures that enhance the articles. Dave turns his articles and pictures over to the club's designer for the final product you see. Dave will continue as our treasurer, fundraising coordinator, grants and will also help in guiding the chapter's history archives. 

## ABC'S OF FLY CASTING

The chapter is trying some new ideas to make things fun at our chapter meetings. Our very own Dean Simpson has agreed to share some tips and tricks he uses when fly fishing. This event will take place at our next chapter meeting on September 21st starting at 6PM. Bring your fly rods!

Here's a quick grip tip:

Your grip on the fly rod is the foundation to your entire cast. Place your thumb on top of the grip, like you would a hammer, firm, but not a death grip, and then the rod tip becomes an extension of your thumb. Aim your thumb where you want your cast to go, and the line will go where you are aiming. I've also known very good fly casters who place their forefinger on top, which serves the same purpose and will prevent a backcast from traveling "too far" back if that is a problem for you. This will correct one of the most common casting faults. However, it is more tiring because your forefinger is not nearly as strong as your thumb. 

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# MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT

I'd like to introduce myself to you as the new President of the chapter. As a life-long avid fisherman and environmentalist, I am excited to be leading an organization with a long list of accomplishments, a strong leadership team, and a promising future.

At the June meeting, the Board appointed me President, as Hank Rajotte stepped aside for health reasons, and Rick Franzese a new member of the Board of Directors. Please join me in thanking Hank for his many years of stellar leadership of the chapter.

While I am still getting settled in the new position, an early focus that the chapter is pursuing is to have monthly meeting/activities that you find informative and enjoyable. To this end, the tentative monthly schedule for the next 12 months is as follows:

- September Fly Casting Instruction
- October Guest Speaker
- November Group Fly Tying
- January Guide Neil Sunday Presentation
- February Alaska Fishing Presentation
- March Trout Streams of Adams County
- April Colorado Fishing Presentation
- May "On the Water" Discussion
- June Entomology Presentation
- July Euro Nymphing Demonstration
- August Member Fly- and Spin-Fishing Gear Demonstration
- September Chapter Picnic

Each monthly meeting will start with a 45-to-60-minute activity or presentation. As this list is tentative, please feel free to contact me about activities you would like the chapter to present, or, if you would like to lead an activity or presentation. In particular, I would like to see presentations on fishing for species other than trout and on spin fishing.

## Cool Stuff That Already Happened

As you may know from previous newsletters, ACTU has a 25-year lease with the PA Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) to maintain the 58-acre Zeigler Mill Road Access site which abuts the CROFFO section of Conewago Creek. Construction of the 10-car parking lot on Zeigler Mill Road and the access road to the creek started the week of August 29th. (No more pulling off the road to park in the field!) The construction will use materials, equipment, and labor all donated by Conewago Enterprises and Vulcan Materials Company. Preparation of the engineering plot plans for this work was also donated by the Sharrah Design Group. Many thanks to these companies for their generous contributions!

The chapter's Grant Committee submitted a grant application to the South Mountain Partnership seeking funds to install stream restoration devices in Conewago Creek, to construct a nature trail, and to plant 200 to 250 trees on retired agricultural areas on the Zeigler Mill Road Access site.

In July, Gillian Short, a National Honor Society student, with the assistance of Richard Lewis, organized a stream clean-up day. Fifteen volunteers helped to remove debris from the creek and clear the trails to the Conewago Creek CROFFO section. See pictures and her article on page 6.





At the July meeting, Buzz Detinburn was presented with the 2021 Adopt-A-Stream Award for his unselfish contribution toward safeguarding the aquatic environment; in appreciation of his support of the chapter's goals to preserve and protect Conewago Creek; and for his long-term service as a chapter Director. Also at this meeting, Howard Hellyer was presented with the Merit and Recognition Award for 2021. This award acknowledges Howard as a member who distinguished himself for the conservation cause and contributed to the many family and youth activities involving ACTU. See those pictures on page 10.

## Cool Stuff That's Happening Soon

The big news here is that on October 1st, our chapter is celebrating 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. Both of these accomplishments are worthy of an enjoyable streamside picnic! Must be Registered to attend.

The chapter plans to stock the CROFFO section of Conewago Creek on October 5th. Please contact Dave Swope at [swopeda@hotmail.com](mailto:swopeda@hotmail.com) if you would like to help with the stocking. That's it for this newsletter. Have a great Fall season!

Frank Kozak, President  
Adams County Trout Unlimited, #323

## RESCHEDULED MONTHLY MEETINGS

Due to a few members stepping into new roles with your chapter two or three were having issues with attending our Tuesday night monthly meeting. The board was in agreement to change the chapter regular monthly meeting from the 3rd Tuesday of the month to the 3rd Wednesday of the month.

Sorry for any inconveniences this causes anyone. Hopefully this is for the betterment of operating the chapter and being more united as we move forward. Looking forward to the chapter adding more excitement to our meetings with guest speakers, fly casting, trip to a local co-operative nursery, fly tying classes, and much more.

## VOLUNTEER HOURS REPORTING

**ALL MEMBERS:** Please record ALL your chapter's total volunteer hours for the fiscal year until March 1, 2023 and then please send to [swopeda@hotmail.com](mailto:swopeda@hotmail.com) If anyone needs a copy of the volunteer hours excel sheet or have questions, let me know. The sheet covers the following list of areas of reporting your hours.

- \* Conservation, science and/ or monitoring.
- \* Advocacy / lobbying.
- \* Communications and engagement.
- \* Youth education.
- \* Veterans services.
- \* Board operations and management.



# LATEST UPDATES ON THE CONEWAGO CREEK ZEIGLER MILL ROAD ACCESS AND MORE

In April, ACTU and the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) signed a 25-year lease agreement on the 58 acres Zeigler Mill Access Site. With this agreement, ACTU has the responsibility to maintain and improve the site for fishing and conservation. Also in April, the two landowners at the upstream and downstream sections of the CROFFO creek signed 10-year agreements with the PFBC to allow fishing on their properties.

On April 26, two ACTU officers met with a representative of Vulcan Materials Company (Vulcan) seeking a donation of more than 650 tons of stone to construct a parking area and access road at the Zeigler Mill Road Access Site. Vulcan has been a past partner with our chapter in acquiring shotrock for our stream projects. Vulcan was always very much interested in our restoration program and also interested in partnering with the chapter again on the parking area and access road. Correspondingly, Vulcan will be generously donating all the stone for the parking lot and access road to the chapter, at an estimated value of approximately \$11,000. WOW!

After hearing back from Vulcan, two-chapter members met with representatives of Conewago Enterprise on June 16 to discuss the construction of the parking area and road. Conewago Enterprises, which also has been a past partner with our chapter, had previously been selected to install the parking lot and access road. At the meeting, the Conewago representatives presented a budget of \$49,000 for the construction, which the Vice President of Operations said would be donated to the chapter. All deliveries of stones will also be donated. Major WOW!!

The generosity of Vulcan, Conewago Enterprises, and the Sharrah Design Group, which had earlier donated their services to prepare the plot plans for the site, is unparalleled. Our chapter is so fortunate to have such partners on this project! Presently, we hope to begin construction of the parking area and access road on September 28, with a groundbreaking ceremony to take place around that time.

The chapter's critical path model has been continuously updated as progress on the maintenance and development of the Zeigler Mill Road Access site is made.

On June 9, chapter members removed the ACTU – Northern Virginia partnership sign from the Route 34 entrance to the CROFFO section of the creek. The sign has been updated and refurbished so that it will not have to be updated in the future. Of note, the refurbishing includes mounting flies on the sign that are particularly successful on Conewago Creek. Thank you to Dan Herrick for tying the flies. The sign has been re-installed by two-chapter officers.

VP Gary Perry has secured the donation of two storage units for the chapter; these will be used to store the chapter's supplies and equipment. Lynn Rebert and Gary Perry will manage these storage units, including preparing an inventory and a sign-out process and has added shelving unit and filing cabinet, obtained from another member. Lynn Rebert will manage our equipment.

An online records management system using Microsoft OneDrive has been developed for storing all chapter documents. All officers, directors, committee chairs, and select other members will store documents online and be able to access them as needed.





The Adams County Chapter Board of Directors and Officers wants to thank all those that participated in this dream in securing this acquisition and the many more years of success in protecting the Conewago Creek Watershed.

Rick Franzese has written the 2022 Best Chapter Award for our chapter on the acquisition of the Zeigler Mill Road Access Site. Rick has also been active on our grant writing committee, serving as the lead author on a grant application submitted to the PFBC. Dave S, Frank, Rick, Gary, and Ricky Whitmore prepared a pre-application submittal for a South Mountain Partnership grant and were selected to submit the more detailed final grant application. We are seeking funds for stream restoration, hiking trail construction, tree plantings and invasive plant removal at the Zeigler Mill Access Site.

On July 16th a stream cleanup was held on the Conewago Creek with Gillian Short, a senior student leading the group. The group met at the Bowling Alley on Rt 34 and proceed upstream. Trails were opened and litter cleaned up. More details from the next page. 🐸



# SUCCESSFUL CONEWAGO CREEK CLEAN UP DAY

Approximately 20 ACTU Members and friends helped during the Conewago Creek clean up day, Saturday July 16. This clean up day project was organized and managed by high school student Gillian Short as part of her National Honor Society membership requirements. Special thanks to Richard, Gillian and Gary for mowing the trails the day before cleanup day.

All the stream side trails along the side of the Creek in the fly fishing only, catch and release section of the stream were mowed and/or weedwhacked out. Trees across the trails were removed. Trash was collected and new FLY FISHING ONLY/C&R ONLY signs were installed along the Creek.

Many thanks to all who helped ESPECIALLY for Gillian for taking leadership in the project.



Hello!

My name is Gillian Short and I am a National Honors Society high school student. This past Spring I've had fun volunteering at the ACTU Children's Trout Fishing Derby and float stocking Marsh Creek twice to earn National Honor Society service hours.

For my National Honor Society Leadership Project I planned, organized, and participated in a stream cleanup. On Saturday, July 16th a team of approximately 20 ACTU member volunteers and friends cleared trails, cut brush and tall weeds, posted signs, and removed fallen trees and branches from the trails along the fly fishing only/catch and release only section of Conewago Creek.

The trails along the stream and those leading to the Creek access points are now cleared of brush and trash. The areas surrounding the entrance sign and the pavilion have been mowed and cleared of branches and tall weeds. Logs and fallen trees across the trails have been moved out of the way, and numerous Fly Fishing Only/Catch and Release Only signs have been posted along the stream. After the Cleanup Event everyone enjoyed a lunch of delicious grilled hot dogs and cold drinks.

Words cannot express how truly grateful I am to everyone who participated and helped me with my final Leadership Project. I truly enjoyed leading this Conewago Creek Clean Up Day Project and working with ACTU members. Thank you all so much for allowing me this opportunity!

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- Gillian Short



# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Ev Greenwalt  
Dave Kaas  
Marie Vavik  
Gregory Appel (transferred)

# THANK YOU FOR RENEWING

Carl Gentzler  
Carl Swinn  
James Malone  
Greg Walde  
Matthew Verdiramie  
Herb Jordan  
Brad Shafer  
Lynn Rebert  
Robert Elicker  
Violet Henning  
Frank Kozak  
Thomas Slagle  
Howard Hellyer  
James Epley  
Catherine Short  
Gary Currens  
Chad Hartzell  
James Capetta  
Andrew Murray  
Mervin Kunkel

Lynn Rebert  
Burnell Humbert  
Jim Schoyer  
Marybeth Norton  
Brian King  
David Palesky  
Wayne Belt  
Joseph Greenley  
Steven McKenna  
Michael Michaliga  
Andrew Miles  
Britton Reed  
Philip Miller  
Claudia Jones  
Nancy Sias  
George Staller  
Charles Marks  
Robert Yiengst  
George Ross  
Allan Turadian

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](http://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](http://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,

**Mummasburg Trophy Trout is holding a Gun Raffle - Ticket for everyday in December They will award a gun one day, cash the next matching the PA Lottery Daily number.**

**All proceeds will go to purchasing of 20-24 inch trout.**

**See Dave Swope for tickets \$20 donation**

# MEMORIES OF HEROS IN CONSERVATION

## Warren W. (Barney) Singer, Jr. 9/25/1943 - 8/9/2022

I am saddened to report the passing of my friend and Mentor, Barney Singer. He was the Waterways Conservation Officer for Adams and Northern York Counties from 1970 to 1986 before completing his 30-year career in Bradford County.

He was instrumental in organizing the first Co-op in Adams Co. and in helping to organize Adams County TU #323. He even took President Carter fishing in Adams County!

He was a fantastic fly caster, fly tyer, fisherman, hunter and could recall in detail every fishing or hunting adventure he ever undertook. He tied flies commercially for Harry Murray's fly shop in Virginia in his spare time after he retired. I was introduced to fly fishing by my Father and Grandfather, but it was Barney who taught me how to catch trout. In my early days, he would follow behind me and fish water that I had already fished and could outfish me. It took years before I was good enough that he quit that nonsense. Barney knew how to catch trout when many anglers could not. I and many other outdoorsmen were blessed to have known him and call him friend.

With a heavy heart and utmost respect,  
Andy Murray.

## Melvin Brown 10/3/1950-3/6/2013

Years have passed us by but the memories for many of us always linger in our hearts. Always sad news for the fly-fishing community and Adams County in particular, when someone passes that was a leader and was among the best of ACTU, serving as the chapter's president in the late 1990s. Mel was one of the last of a well-known generation of Pennsylvania fly fishing innovators from the Greatest Generation. He may not often be mentioned in the same breath with Charlie Fox, Vince Marinaro, and other central Pennsylvania fly fishers who were active advancing the sport in the mid-twentieth century. Like Fox and Marinaro, Mel was best known for his association with the Conewago, our local best-known trout stream for his development of innovative fishing methods, restoration projects and fundraisers. Many of us knew Mel and fished with him. Mel was always willing to help and was eager to share his knowledge and experience. An innovative fly tier and rod builder, Mel has long been associated with a variety of well-known and still productive patterns, in particular the Green Weenie, Hopper, Cricket, Sculpin, and White Minnow among others.

Back in those days, the chapter was hosting our annual banquet to raise funds. At this one annual event, we had over 220 guests and friends including many from Northern Virginia with the likes of Jay Lovering, Burt Weisman, Roger Brown, Mike Daly just to name a few. Mel spent many hours preparing for our banquets even building Orvis blanks- fly rods to raffle off.

Larry Hartlaub, Charles Weikert, John Bechtel, Mel Brown, Rick James, Dave Swope, Dean & Dick Simpson, Curt McSherry, Dan Herrick, Barry Bixler, Len Andrews, George Lower, NoVaTu Jay Lovering, Bob Wesloski, George Paine, Kiki Galvin, Suzanne Malone took the chapter's on their shoulders with determination and leadership to bring us where we are today in 2022, celebrating our 40th year partnership with Northern Virginia TU. And now it's up to us to carry on that same determination and fortitude.

RIP Melvin Brown and Barney Singer thanks for the memories,  
Dave Swope.





ACTU Board member Rick Franzese with a 39" king salmon caught on Alaska's Naknek River in early July. Pictured with Rick is Heath Lyon, guide and co-owner (along with his wife, Nanci Morris Lyon) of Bear Trail Lodge. The Naknek is one of the premiere trophy rainbow trout waters in Alaska, and Bear Trail Lodge is situated in the heart of the action. Rick will be heading back in late September to target rainbows, and he hopes to have more pictures to share after that trip. He also notes that if a trophy rainbow or salmon is on your bucket list, you owe yourself a trip to Alaska. 🐟

## CHANGING LIVES WITH ROD AND REEL

Back in 2004, ACTU was working organizing numerous stream projects in Adams County in open waters. This far-sighted group looked at a restoration project in the northern tier of the county along Latimore Creek. Streambanks were eroded, a bridge needed repairs, concrete needed removed, and trees needed planted to provide some overhead cover. This began a partnership with the Latimore Fairgrounds Committee and the PFBC. ACTU was leading the charge. As the restoration project was underway, the Chapter decided on adopting a section of stream for kids only and handicap adults. Under the PFBC guidelines when adopting a section of stream, the organization is obligated to annually host fishing derby for kids. ACTU found their calling!

This organization hosted their first fishing derby on May 17th 2005. Over the years the kids fishing derby grew "leaps and bounds" recruiting more and more at each annual event. Getting the kids in the outdoors by holding such an event is like "touching heaven" for some of these youngsters. The youngsters are out to learn lessons in patience and experience and the thrill of the catch. The program builds relationships and families enjoying the outdoors, hey, it's fun for all.

ACTU has opened up a whole new world for some kids, and maybe even changed their lives. This program opens new doors to kids in the outdoors and it proves there are heroes among the volunteers. It's a win/win situation for the Chapter on Latimore Creek. The chapter has taken the initiative in promoting this valuable section of stream by hosting their 17th kids fishing derby.

We have secured a partnership with the Yellow Breeches Sportsmen who raise over 40,000 trout in Cumberland County. This is one of the largest Cooperative Nurseries in the State. This group of volunteers that have promoted a great fish rearing program identified by many anglers across Pennsylvania.

This year almost 57 children and a like number of family members enjoyed a wonderful Youth Trout Fishing Derby. The smiles tell the story! Special thanks to Yellow Breeches Anglers! 🐟



**Congratulations! Marie Vavrik for attending the Rivers Conservation School in July at Messiah College. Marie spoke at our last meeting on the great time at camp and the great friendships. Marie presented to the chapter her art work of appreciation.**



**Congratulations! The chapter held their annual awards ceremony at July's meeting. (Left) President Hank Rajotte presents the Adopt-A-Stream Award to Secretary Howard Hellyer. (Right) President Hank Rajotte presents the David A. Swope Award to longtime Director Charles Buzz Dittenburn.**



# FISHING DERBY SNAPSHOTS





# CHAPTER CALENDAR 2022

## August 17

Chapter Meeting 7PM ACCD

## September 17

Annual Meeting in Bellefonte Pa.

## September 21

Chapter Meeting 7PM ACCD

## October 19

Board Meeting 7PM Guest Speaker ACCD

## November 16

Fly Tying Classes

## December 21

Chapter Meeting 7PM ACCD



### ACTU New Officers & Board 2022-23

President Frank Kozak  
Vice President Gary Perry  
Secretary Dave Swope  
Treasurer

**Board Of Directors**  
David Keller Jerry Gladfelter  
Rick Franzese Charles Dettinburn  
Andy Hollabaugh

**Grant Committee**  
Rick Franzese Frank Kozak  
Gary Perry Dave Swope

**Equipment Chair**  
Lynn Rebert

**Chaplain**  
April Swope

**Youth Committee**  
Hank Rajotte

**Events/Fundraising**  
David Keller Dave Swope

**Membership/Website/Communications**  
Jerry Gladfelter

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

Contact:  
swopeda@hotmail.com



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