



## FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Hi fellow TU'ers,

Just a short message this August to thank a number of people for a successful work day on July 31st. I am not going to try and identify each and every person who participated, but the work day had participation by Northern Virginia TU, hands on advisors from the PA Fish and Boat Commission, and members of ACTU. It goes without saying, Gary Perry and Dave Swope were instrumental in preparing for the work day and following through on July 31st. Not only were stream improvements on the Conewago completed, but access paths were cleaned, invasive weeds demolished, and the base set for future improvements. Food was selected and delivered by Richard Lewis and everyone got their fill for lunch. There is no doubt that many hands working together made the improvements a reality.

ACTU's annual picnic (cancelled last year) is scheduled for September 21st at the Lake Heritage community center thanks to Howard Hellyer. The picnic will include grilled chicken and steaks with all side dishes provided by attendees. Please follow up with instructions provided by the picnic committee. This is an opportunity to meet fellow ACTU members, enjoy some great food and participate in auctions for the benefit of the Chapter and winning bidders. Help is needed to make this picnic memorable so volunteer your time by contacting Dave Swope or me to help out.

ACTU is without a doubt one of the most active Chapters in our region. A small and dedicated group of Chapter members is making Trout Unlimited goals for conservation and stream improvements a reality. Please join the Chapter's active volunteers by lending a hand when you can.

Stay safe, take care of your loved ones, and enjoy the outdoors this Summer.

Hank Rajotte  
Pres. ACTU



### A Fishermen's Privilege

A Privilege is something that can be given and taken away and is considered to be a special opportunity that is available to certain people. This is what a landowner does – lets people fish on their property.

A Right is something that cannot be legally denied. This landowner can deny fishing on his property for any reason.

With 99.9% of private property along Adams County Waterways always be reminded that we could lose this privilege with a drop of litter. Please take with you what you take on their property.

## WHATS INSIDE

### 2 RESTORATION

Teamwork and hardwork improve the Conewago

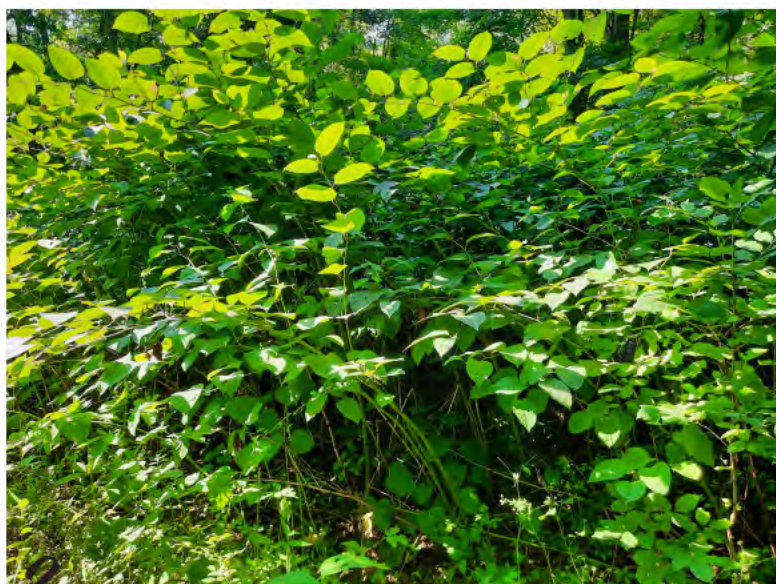
### 6 FALL FISHING

Changing with the Season



# STREAM RESTORATION WORKDAY

Conservation is about people and we are showing it today. U'all might know the song? "Looks Like We Made It" by Shania Twain. Look how far we come. Our cry for "HELP" in our last newsletter has been answered today. This has been one of the largest group of volunteers for the Adams County/No. Va. chapter's stream restoration workday. This conservation-minded group of volunteers did a splendid job along the banks of the Conewago Creek and along Zeiglers Mill Road removing the Knotweed that has been spreading rapidly for the last five years. U'all done a great service to Adams County. Let me share the pictures below too tell the whole story of July 31st workday. You have made a large difference not only for the fish, and anglers but for the future. Thank you.





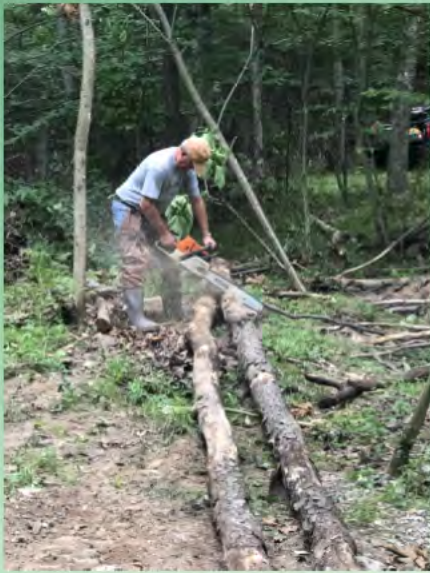
Today has proven to be a great accomplishment for the ACTU chapter with two chapter members, Howard and Buzz, at the controls of the heavy equipment for our restoration project along the streambanks of the Conewago Creek. At tip my hat for their skills of operating large equipment and doing in a very safe manner. Very impressive. Let us not forget the generosity of Adams County Bobcat Services in the use of their equipment. A thank you letter will be sent expressing your chapters gratitude.

Another area of great accomplishment with the largest turnout of volunteers in the history of both chapters with the restoration project on the Conewago Creek with 33 volunteers. The plan consisted of dividing the group into five teams. Our goal was complex, our mission - trying to accomplish as much as possible. With the assistance from the PFBC Habitat Division, an enhancement was completed to protect the steam bank and transfer the flows towards the main channel. Another goal was to continue to complete a mudsill using best practices from the newest design from National Fish and Wildlife. Larger shot rock materials had to be removed and relocated making the area more gradable in securing the coconut matting and seeding the area. Removing and adding more face logs was necessary.

Another uncompleted area of concerns was removing the knotweed that has becoming more of a headache over time. That group of volunteers did an amazing job. Moving on after a great lunch provided by Richard and Hank, the group dropped some dead trees to help fill in a void of this waterway taking an alternate made route away from the channel. After filling the void with logs, shotrock was layered over the top to prevent logs from floating away.

With the PFBC leading the way with our last project for the day, the group installed two 20 ft logs deep in the riffle to prevent the channel from splitting off. Shot rock was delivered to help support this effort. In order to help anglers throughout the year, the No.Va. chapter volunteers helped to open the trail running parallel with the stream, cutting back rose bushes, that are like hitchhikers on fishing gear, while opening the entrances to permit anglers better access to their fishing hole. We also posted a few more protective signs alerting anglers and others to catch and release only. Thank you one and all!!!







# WHAT MAKES A NON-NATIVE PLANT INVASIVE

While the species may differ, invasive plants have some things in common that make them aggressive and difficult to control:

- Ability to grow in many conditions
- Rapid growth
- Ability to exploit and colonize disturbed ground
- Ability to thrive in high nutrient conditions (i.e. excess fertilizers)
- Reproduce rapidly by roots and shoots. If spread by seed, produce numerous seeds that disperse and sprout easily
- Having roots and rhizomes with large food reserves
- Ability to survive and reproduce under adverse conditions
- Having high photosynthetic rates – “greening up” earlier in the spring than natives presents these plants an competitive advantage
- Lack of natural predators, pathogens, and parasites

Adams County Trout Unlimited member Anne Lane has identified an invasive plant along Zeiglers Mill Road that needed some attention. When contacting numerous agencies with no luck Anne turned to ACTU for help.



Picture on left: Andy Hollabaugh, Dave Swope and Howard Hellyer start the process to remove the invasive species, Knotweed. Then sprayed with an insecticide, hopefully to kill the roots.

In middle: Jerry Glatfelter installs new wood shingled roof on our partnership sign.

Picture on right: Eddie McGlaughlin surveys trail blockage by large tree. ACTU more than just a fishing club. 🐟

## FALL FISHING

As the air gets crisp and colder, the Conewago Stream makes a transition. Fall is typically characterized by low, clear water which brings a return to more technical fishing. The ever-changing foliage is accompanied by changing colors in the brown trout as they begin to prespawn - always a real visual treat for anglers.

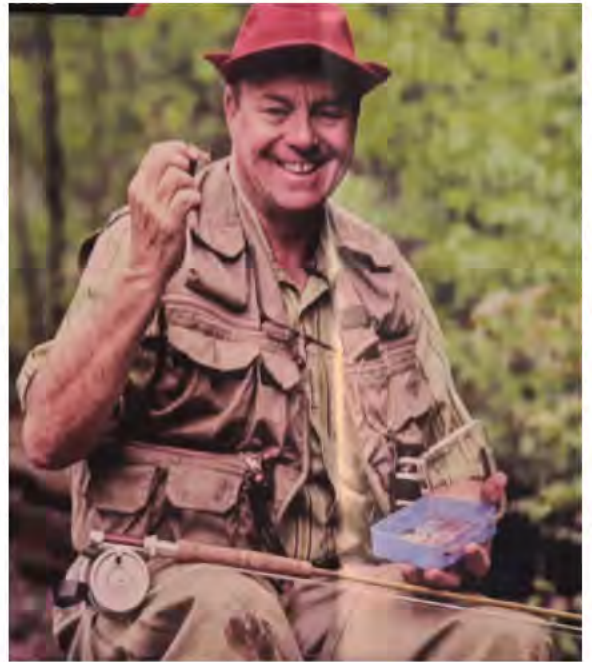
The brown trout by now moves into a more aggressive and territorial mindset as they enter the spawn. Keep your streamer rods not far away and don't be afraid to throw tandem rigs and patterns in the 5 to 6 inch size. This is a golden opportunity for those trophy trout in the Conewago. A continuation of heavy red quill activity is on their menu, along with drakes both green and grays and Caddis. During these low waters, every pocket seems to hold trout in this magical time period.

Freestone streams like the Conewago offers tremendous variety throughout the fall seasons, and that variety will test your fly-fishing skills. In contrast to tailwaters, the Conewago can change magically and the wide range of aquatic invertebrate activity can throw a book at you.

Understanding the low flow rates, water temperatures, insect life cycles, and how those many variables control prime lies will open the gates to your success. Being able to roll with the punches, you'll do well.

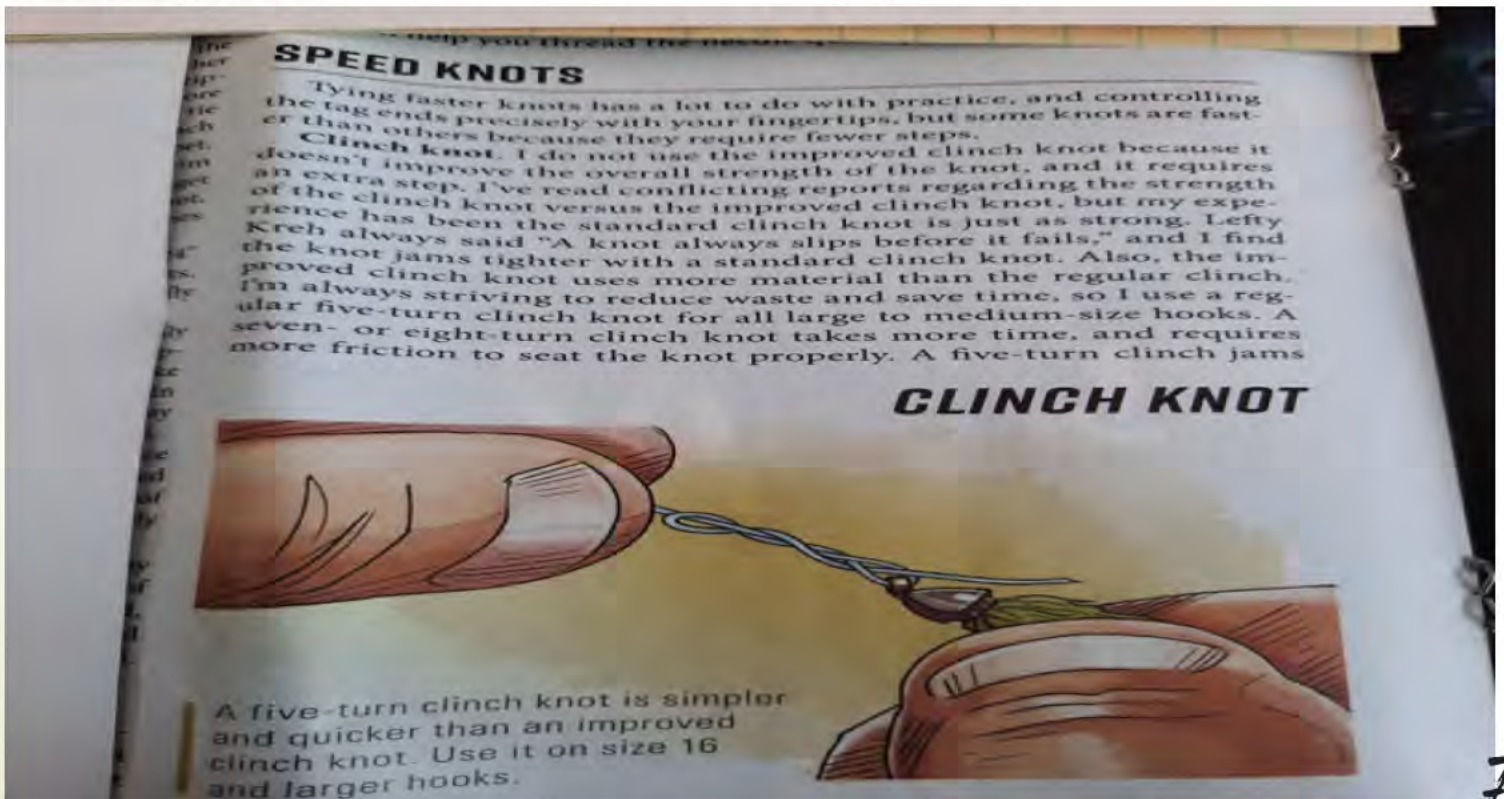
# THE GREATEST OF ALL TIME

In boxing most think of Mohammed Ali. In Fly Fishing most think of Bernard "Lefty" Kreh. Lefty was from Miami and ran the MET, the biggest saltwater fishing tournament in the world. Back in those days, he fished with the top South Florida guides and with competitors around the world. It was here when Lefty learned how to do just about everything just a little bit better than everyone else. Just how fishing tournaments are won and lost. And if there's one defining thing that set Lefty apart from everyone else, it was his desire to improve on everything. Of course, there was Joe Brooks, Lee Wulff and Dave Whitlock - all heroes of fly fishing. Lefty was the true icon, the greatest the sport of fly fishing has ever known. These three of four were great stand outs from all others.




Through his entire life, Lefty used his connections all over the world to ask questions, listen, learn, modify, tweak, and become the largest living aggregate of fly-fishing information on the planet. Lefty was Abraham Lincoln of fly fishing. He took his fly fishing from an elitist sport to an outdoor pursuit that could be enjoyed by everyone – not just because he oversaw changes in the technology that made fly fishing more accessible, but because he showed us all that fly fishing was actually pretty damn easy if you did it the right way. Lefty called home in Cockeysville, Maryland. He had sayings that quenched a fly fishermen's thirst. Like "The fly that remains in the water the longest catches the most Fish". On most days this is an unavoidable truth. Tying faster knots is one of the many skills I'm always trying to improve upon. Less time tying knots means more time catching fish. If you reduce tippet loss, practice close fingertip control, and use the right knots for the task at hand, you'll save time and catch more fish. Tight Lines Lefty.

In the photo below is a tip to cut down your streamside knot tying time.



# MY FAVORITE FLY THE GREEN WEENIE

My introduction to the Green Weenie came one day in the mid-1980s as I was finishing up what was not a very productive day of fishing on Conewago Creek. As I was stowing my tackle in the car, I got to talking with another angler from Carlisle who told me he had just had a great day fishing the Green Weenie. That was the start of my love affair with the Weenie, and soon thereafter I found myself at a local fly shop buying the materials needed to tie this pattern. Initially, I used a straight shank hook and no bead head, but as I fished it more and more and talked with other anglers, eventually my version of the Weenie incorporated a curved pupa hook and tungsten bead head. The Weenie was most likely created to imitate the green inchworms that suspend themselves from overhanging tree branches on a very fine thread, often falling into the water when the thread breaks. Or, as some have observed, it might also be mistaken for a green caddis larva. The Weenie is an incredibly effective “fly” that should have a place in every trout angler’s fly box. And it works equally well to entice bluegills, and sometimes even bass. There are just 4 materials needed to tie my version of the Weenie; size 10 or 12 curved pupa hook, gold tungsten bead head corresponding to the hook size, medium size chartreuse chenille, and matching color tying thread. Start by slipping the bead over the hook. Cut a piece of chenille about 1-1/2 inches long and tie one end in at the bend of the hook. Form a loop with the chenille about 1/4 to 5/16 inch in diameter and tie down with several wraps at the point where you first tied on. Wrap your thread up to the bead and let it hang there. Take the free end of the chenille and wrap it tightly around the hook up to the bead, making sure that you work it into the back of the bead. Secure the chenille with several wraps of thread, then do a couple of whip finishes to finish it off at the back of the bead and trim off any excess chenille. 



## PFBC PRESIDENT-Richard Lewis

A friend to the local community, to ACTU, PFBC, fish and aquatic life, we all thank you for your public service. We all have high praise for you as an educator, teacher and friend. With your leadership you have advanced our chapter into a new and powerful conservation minded group.

Congratulations, Richard, for completing the two-year term as President of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission in July. ACTU wants to thank you for your outstanding service to Pennsylvania and your local Trout Unlimited Chapter. Nice Fish. Fish On.

Quote: I always say Morning, it would only be Good Morning if I were fishing.



# LOOKING BACK IN 2004 ADAMS COUNTY GROUP GETS ITS OWN GOLD MEDAL

With the Olympics going on today, I can remember back when the Athens Olympics were going on in 2004. ACTU had its own Gold Medal.

Trout Unlimited National Headquarters in Virginia informed the 100+ members of the chapter that it has been recognized to receive the highest award at a luncheon during the TU's annual meeting in Denver, Colorado. It was a proud moment for us. The Gold Trout Award honors the Adams County group's effort in carrying out the TU conservation mission of conserving, protecting and restoring our Coldwater Fishery. This National Award and others are located on the main floor of the ACCD building.

With over 544 TU chapters around the Country, the Adams County Chapter is a deserving recipient of the award because they are a great example of the on-ground conservation work that TU chapters do, said Duncan Blair Director of volunteer operations for TU.

Topping off the news of the National Award, the Pa. TU Council voted to present the Adams County Chapter with the Edward J. Urbas Award for the best chapter in PA. The comments from the Adams County Chapter President were "As a chapter, we don't look for awards. Sure, they are gratifying when others notice." The publicity helps builds our membership. He praised the membership for their continuing volunteer efforts in building the chapter's reputation of preserving, restoring, and protecting our cold-water fishery.

2004 was quite an Olympic year for Adams County Trout Unlimited 323. Special thanks to Joe Heine and the late Don Weaver for the beautiful enclosed case which is displayed at the Adams County Conservation Building along with other chapter awards and certificates.

Just want to add, this award covered many different activities where the members excelled in their part of going over and above of their commitment to participate as volunteers, in making us GREAT to accept this type of recognition.

Again in 2020, chapter received the Best TU Chapter in Penna. For continuing our restoration efforts and communications ongoing in the chapter.



# CHAPTER PICNIC SEPTEMBER 21ST 5:30



With the Covid becoming a less of a public threat, our chapter is excited and anxious about having a social get-together to celebrate back to “normalcy”. We are planning a chapter picnic gathering at 5:30 PM on September 21st which will be a family event featuring games, food, consisting of chicken and steaks, raffle & auction items, followed by awards.

Please purchase some of these items with cash or check. To be held at Lake Heritage Ag Center Pavilion at 1000 Heritage Drive. It's definitely a time to get back together. In order to accommodate everyone please register by contacting President Hank Rajotte [hank.rajotte@gmail.com](mailto:hank.rajotte@gmail.com) 717-408-8747 or Dave Swope [swopeda@hotmail.com](mailto:swopeda@hotmail.com) 717-253-6680 by September 14th deadline.

Members and family attending is asked to bring a “covered dish to share.” Come on out and meet the landowners and our State Representative Torren Ecker & family. You don't want to miss this outing!!



# OUR ACTU HAPPENINGS

ADAMS COUNTY TROUT UNLIMITED #323



Managing Streams for Future Generations

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Karen Kendlehart  
Donald Garman  
James Stipe  
George E. Staller  
Stanley F. Gilmore Jr

## Thanks for RENEWING

Bruce Stair  
Lynn Rebert  
James Zinn  
Jeff Clarke  
Larry Sponseller  
John Hossler  
Tom Murphy

David Keller  
Jeff Clarke  
Michael Michaliga  
April Swope  
Nancy Sias  
William Reichart  
Joe Hurtack  
Patricia Bewley  
Jon Johnson  
Ron Rickline

## MEMBERSHIP

ACTU Membership is Currently 233! ACTU receives a \$15 rebate from the special \$17.50 first-year membership dues when the chapter code 323 is marked on the application. Make check payable to Trout Unlimited. 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 Jerry Gladfelter 1 410-259-1303 Membership Chairman.

## NOMINATIONS OF OFFICERS

We will be nominating in January while electing two members to the ACTU Board of Directors in March. Other positions that are open: President, V-President, Treasurer and Secretary. If you desire to be on the board as a volunteer leader, you should expect to be giving your time to work and to manage our many events, fundraisers, and membership meetings. You should attend all membership meetings, a monthly board meeting, and maybe on average, giving another hour or two per month depending on what's going on. If you are interested in learning more about a board position, please call me (717-624-8134). I feel that too often the members of ACTU think it's the board's responsibility to "do it all". Not true! We need help from our members. We're getting close to the point that if we can't get the help we need from some of our 230+ members, we will not have the event. It's that simple and it's true.

## MARSH CREEK: ADAMS COUNTY

Rainbow and brown trout total biomass in Area 1 declined slightly in the latest results from PFBC electrofishing in 2021. Brook trout are 72% of the population and rainbows are 28% which is keeping with PFBC goals. Brown trout populations grew dramatically in 2019 and there are now more browns in this section 2019 also produced a strong young of the year class of browns in Marsh Creek. During the summer, about 20 trout died in a side section of the stream above Lions Park. This fish kill was confined to this section and may have been a result of an infusion of much warmer water.

## FUNDRAISING 2021

The cancellation of the 2020 Zoo America (Hershey Animal/Reptile Show) was a major setback for ACTU as it is one of our chapter's primary fundraisers. Without such funding, we are unable to complete many of our stream improvement projects and our outreach and community support. In an effort to recoup some of the lost funding, ACTU will be hosting a silent and live auction at our family picnic. Please watch for upcoming instructions in emails and social media on how you can bid on many of the fantastic items both fishing and non-fishing related with cash or check. Also, please like, share and comment on the social media posts advertising the auction. We need as many people as possible to be informed of the auction so we can maximize our ability to raise funds for our projects. We are excited to announce that the 2021 Fundraising Picnic will be held at the Lake Heritage Meeting Room on September 21, 2021. Please save the date and mark your calendar for what is sure to be an enjoyable evening in our new venue!

## WHY ME? When it comes to Volunteering


As a Volunteer, I will be finishing my 25th year on the ACTU Board this Year. During my tenure, and in addition to the many regular duties as past President, Secretary, Treasurer; stream chair; I chaired the ACTU banquet Committee twice, the Legislature Committee, and currently the grant committee. I feel a special obligation to volunteer to teach casting during ACTU's many fly-fishing educational projects. When not chairing the Banquet or another fundraiser, I still served on that committee, most often in organizing the Live and Silent Auctions and Special Raffles and most recently as Treasurer, handling our funds. This task involved soliciting donations of items (rods, reels, lines, nets, trips, artwork, jewelry, craft items, etc.), the auctioning and raffling of needed funds to support ACTU's essential mission, cold-water conservation! Soliciting isn't everyone's "cup of tea" though. You must be prepared to get turned-down, returning, and a lot of running around.

For the ones that found their place in helping your chapter-I tip my fishing hat to each of you. Thank You for the part you play. You are part of ACTU.

"Why do you volunteer so much?" My wife often asks. I ponder that same question. Why Me? Truth be told, I enjoy it. And, I get great personal satisfaction from helping others. I cherish the friendships I've formed with the other volunteers with whom I've worked with in so many meetings and projects. I enjoy helping others learn how to improve their casting. I enjoy raising funds that will contribute to the health of Adams County cold-water resources and the trout who live in them. I enjoy helping to solve the decades-long problems plaguing America's legendary Conewago Creek. Most of all, I love the opportunities and challenges of trying to catch those wary trout. I'm sure that you as a member of ACTU enjoy those same opportunities and challenges. But as I and others "age out" of our volunteer years, ACTU needs a new cohort of volunteers to step up and succeed us. You see, unless you do, we can kiss goodbye the great Adams County trout fishing we have enjoyed -thanks to all the great ACTU volunteers who have proceeded us. Be one of them! Somewhere the answer to all of the why me is in my motto "Trout So much more than just a Fish".

## SUMMER COULD BE A TIME OF CHANGE

Sometimes the summer months of July and August are a time of transition in your chapter. Springtime sees ramped up activities that reach their heights in June with youth camps, fishing seminars & events, plus some similar worthy goals. Also, in July our stream work project season begins. This year has confronted us with some beautiful weather with some similar problems like Covid going into this summer. However, even with some showers over the last month, stream flows are down and, hopefully, much work will get accomplished. It's worth revisiting many of our old work projects to see how well the trout are adapting to them. The wing tip deflectors, we built in a few years ago are a good example. The trout really like them and they have greatly improved the flowing conditions and habitat. A few nights ago, I was fishing the Phase 2 section on the Conewago which was nearing completion and it is looking much better now. Of course, fishing is always a focus. Speaking for myself, I've had almost no dry fly or hatch action so far this year in the Phase 2 section. Nevertheless, local streams still have low flows and, notwithstanding the sudden arrival of summer heat this week, are holding at this time. There are still stocked trout in many areas where one would expect them to be gone by the end of June. If, like me, you enjoy a meal of fresh trout, now is the time to get some stockies from marginal water before they die off. And, as always, keep a close eye on water temps this month and give the wild trout a break.

**SPECIAL THANK YOU'S** going out to the following members for their donations of materials and financial help, Bobeat of Adams County for equipment, Brian & Mary King-matting for the new mudsill design, Jack Cashman-Ace Hardware East Berlin for the awesome new sledge hammer, and Ken Zinn-for his outstanding cash donation for future conservation work. The chapter appreciates that members can assist in many different ways and this type speaks volumes in what the chapter can accomplish together. 

# WATERSHED ALLIANCE OF ADAMS COUNTY

The word “alliance” conjures up the thought of a group of people, organizations, or governments banded together for a common purpose. So, how does this concept apply to the Watershed Alliance of Adams County (WAAC)? First of all, although WAAC is incorporated with bylaws and everything, there is no formal charter allying us with other organizations. But do believe there is a common purpose that allies WAAC with other groups. Trout Unlimited immediately comes to mind. TU is focused not only on trout habitat, but also on achieving and maintaining high water quality. The ACTU chapter has completed stream assessments and stream bank restoration projects that clearly are congruent with the goals of WAAC. You can find out more about WAAC at their website, [adamswatersheds.org](http://adamswatersheds.org).

Another organization that is linked to the common purpose is the Audubon Society. Riparian buffer zones provide excellent wildlife habitat and clean streams support many aquatic bird species. Another organization, the Environmental Alliance of Senior Involvement (EASI) had contributed greatly to our water quality goals. This group was sponsored by the Office of the Aging, but has been transferred to WAAC. Dedicated volunteers monitor water quality each month and are providing invaluable data that will be used to establish a baseline and detect trends in water quality.

An important part of WAAC is their funding sources. Funding comes from two sources, donations from members and the community, and grants. Most recently, WAAC has received funding for various projects from the South Mountain Partnership, which is associated with PA DCNR, Thrivent Financial, and Community Energy. WAAC is also a partner with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) and is helping them with their 10 million tree initiative (ACTU is on that list).

CBF provides trees and planting material, and WAAC and the Adams County Conservation District arrange to have the trees planted by landowners and volunteers.

Droughts highlight the importance of ground water. An 85 acre farm contributes an extra 30 million gallons of water infiltrated into groundwater compared to an equivalent 85 acre housing development because of impervious surfaces, roofs, runoff, driveways, cul de sacs, etc. So, farm preservation is linked to preserving our ground water resources, and a major goal of the Land Conservancy of Adams County is to preserve farms. Each preserved farm is a boost to our ground water resource. Sure, farms contribute high quality water if streams are fenced and manure and silage runoffs are managed properly. This is a major goal of the Adams County conservation District (ACCD). The ACCD not only provides direct support for WAAC but also is the driving force in getting WAAC off the ground back when it all started in the year 2,000. The ACCD is an asset to our community.

Finally, we are all in this together and our efforts either as an organization or collectively do mean something. Let's all stand within the alliance for common goals. 🐟



## CHAPTER CALENDAR-2021-22

**September 18**

PATU Membership Meeting

**September 21**

Chapter Picnic 6PM Lake Heritage Ag Center Pavilion

**September 30**

National TU Annual Meeting

**October 6**

PFBC Fall Stocking 11AM Russell Tavern Bridge

**October 10**

Fall Executive Meeting (EXCOM)

**October 19**

Chapter Open Board Meeting 7PM Heritage Pavilion

**January 18**

Chapter Meeting (Nominations)



## Fly Tying Equipment

Sunrise India vise w/tray, 9 bobbins, curved scissors, 3 clamps, whip finisher, lg and sm hair stackers, over 3200 hooks (23 sizes) spools of thread & wrap, lead wires, saddles, necks and hackles, 24 spools of chenille of various colors, multiple paks of deer hair, 10 pks of poly dub various colors, calf tail, duck, goose, turkey, pheasant, peacock and other feathers, krystal flash, flashabou, other mics.

\$250 for everything obo.  
Call Mike 717-357-8270



## 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



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

Contact:  
swopeda@hotmail.com



## 12 Gauge Shotgun Reloading Equipment

Single stage reloader with 3" adaptor kit and extra universal charge bars, MEC SUPER SIZER RCBS balance beam scale-model 5-10 Wad splitter, scoops & trays 3,325-209 primers 800-109 primers 21-1/2 lb shot (various sizes) 25 Brenneke rifled slugs, over 2,000 wads plus inserts, wraps, wool felt, foam, sleeves, over-shot cards, tyrex cards, polyethylene powder, buffer and special buffer, super slick lube, motor mica dust. Around 2,000 hulls (some resized and primed, shell boxes, canvas shot bags, other misc items, various powders (10 lbs).

Call Mike 717-357-8270 Firm \$450