

Streamside Asides



September 2020

The newsletter of the Brodhead Chapter #289 of Trout Unlimited

Meetings:

Decisions on participating in and sponsoring future events will be made by the Board of Directors based upon data on hand and the direction of the PA Department of Health guidelines. Stay tuned

September 19: Chapter Picnic at Brodhead Creek Heritage Center 3 PM.

October 14: General Meeting

November 11: General Meeting

December 6 or 13: General Membership meeting at CVNWR



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BTU Chapter Picnic Planned for Saturday, September 19, 2020

The annual chapter picnic for the Brodhead Chapter Trout Unlimited is scheduled for Saturday, September 19, 2020 at the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center in

Analomink, PA. Activities will begin at approximately 3 PM and, as this is an outdoor picnic, it will provide for social distancing. Remember to bring a comfortable chair and a side dish and/or dessert. (Don't forget a serving spoon.)

There are several activities for attendees planned for the afternoon. We'll have an entomology program on Brodhead Creek running from 3 PM—4 PM, a nature tour of the ForEvergreen Preserve at 3:15 PM led by Don Miller and tours of the Heritage Center led by Jeff Heberly every 20 minutes beginning around 3PM.

At 4 PM the fly casting contest will commence with several nice prizes available for the winning scorers. These include a rod/reel/line combo for 1st place, a new fly rod for second place, and a surprise item for 3rd.

The picnic dinner will begin at 5 PM and afterwards there will be a brief chapter meeting with officer elections.

COVID-19 reminders: Please bring and wear a mask and maintain social distance when possible. We will have hand sanitizer available but if you prefer to bring your own, we're fine with that!



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The Home Pool

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Dear Members and Friends,

I hope everyone has had a wonderful summer and will be able join us for a Chapter Picnic and Elections on September 19, 2020 from 3:00 PM to Dusk at the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center (outdoors on the patio). From 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM we will be doing entomology program from the Brodhead Creek so that can see what food sources are currently available for the trout, Don Miller will be leading a naturalist walk leaving from the patio at approximately 3:15 PM. Jeff Heberly will be leading tours of the heritage center (10 people maximum per tour, face covering are required), we will try to squeeze in 3 tours of the Heritage Center beginning around 3:05 PM). From 4:00 PM to 5:00 we will hold a casting contest with first prize being a new rod and reel along with a basket raffle of prizes that were donated to our banquet that was cancelled. Dinner will be from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM and during dinner we will hold our annual business meeting and Chapter Elections. While this is an outdoor event and we will try and maintain social distancing requirements as often as possible, we will require you have a cloth face covering for when social distancing requirements cannot be met or for any portion of the program that requires entry into the Heritage Center. We will be limiting entry into the Heritage Center to 25 people at any one time.

While it seems like nothing is happening your Chapter has been busy, along with keeping tabs on issues arising on the State and National level and keeping you informed with calls to action if necessary. This has led to a major setback for the Pebble Mine Project in Bristol Bay Alaska, and passage of the Great American Outdoors Act that secures funding our public lands from offshore oil and gas leases. There are still constant threats to our coldwater resources and your Chapter will work diligently to keep you informed of these issues. On a local level members of your Chapter have been keeping tabs on our local waterways and reporting issues to regulatory authorities as necessary and with our partnership in Our Pocono Waters we have been getting the message out on the importance of identifying and protecting our Exceptional Value waters in the Poconos.

We have also completed work with our partner, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, on the Cherry Creek at the Croasdale Road Tract of the Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge. I hope you all have a chance to see the work that was done and maybe acquired a permit to fish the Croasdale Road Tract now that the summer moratorium on fishing has been lifted. Speaking of fishing permits the USFWS has opened a second section of the Cherry Creek to fishing on the Larsens Lane Tract. This contains about 1000 linear feet of stream and is located about a mile upstream of the Croasdale Road Tract.

Once again I would like to remind everyone that the Brodhead Chapter is your Chapter and if you are interested in helping shape the direction that your Chapter is going, we several leadership positions currently open for volunteers. We are currently looking to fill the Event Coordinator, Meeting Coordinator, and Youth Education Coordinator positions. If you are interested in learning more about any of those positions or volunteering for one of those positions, please feel free to reach out me at ericrobertbaird@gmail.com or any of your Chapter leaders.

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THANK YOU TO THE
FOLLOWING
PAST- DIRECTORS FOR
THEIR RECENT
SERVICE:

Gerry Bortz
James Connor
Ann Foster
Tom Van Zandt



MEMBERSHIP UPDATES-Summer 2020

New Members

We are pleased to welcome the following 7 new members to our chapter:

Dave	Bush
Todd	Farley
Roger	Frederick
Duane	Gower
Larry	Laubach
Ronald	Otis
John	Place

We look forward to working with you on our mission and if you have any questions, please reach out to us.

Renewing Members

Thank you to who have chosen to renew their memberships with us. Your efforts in supporting our education, conservation, and advocacy efforts are greatly appreciated.

Donald	Baylor	Eric	Gusztaw	Marie	Ricker
Gerald	Bortz	Glenn	Hessler	James	Rinker
John	Brinker	Richard	Jackson	Gloria	Rubino
Dick	Bubka	Ed	Kepczynski	Tom	Rupp
Richard	Butz	Bill	Kuczewski	Jay	Sabatine
Patrick	Calpin	Joseph	Memoli	James	Sherratt
Richard	Carty	Don	Metzgar	Norman	Solotruk
Ed	Cramer	Philip	Michel	Scott	Winkler
Robert	Depuy	Ronald	Mishkin	Roger	Wrazien
John	DeVivo	George	Nixon	Frank	Young
Jeff	Feick	Vincent	Piancone		

Contributing Members

John	Bellis	Greg	Malaska
Kevin	Boutin	Richard	Newman
H.	Connor	Ruth Ann	Rocchio
Catherine	Folio	Raymond	Squires
Rayburn	Hudman	Rodney	Stark
Lynne	Katz	Elmer	Stucker
Hank	Kretzschar		

Thank you to our recent contributing members. Your continuing support of Brodhead TU's mission is gratefully acknowledged.



Cherry Creek Habitat Improvement Project at the Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge: September 2020 Update.

Although we couldn't get together to help them, the US Fish and Wildlife staff completed our planned improvements on Cherry Creek during the month of August. The photos below show the new devices that were installed. We have new log-throated cross-vanes (2), a new log-framed diverter, a new single-log diverter, new stone cross-vanes (2) and random boulder placements. Most of these were installed before the floods and were intact after the waters receded. Good news! Now, with some cooler temperatures and, hopefully, some fall rains, the trout will move about and discover the new habitat and stay put. Reports are that trout were caught off the two new log-throated cross vanes. Success. Many thanks to Mike Horn, Jared Green and the rest of the crew from USFWS for making this happen. Great job!



(Left. A log-throated cross-vane situated downstream of the lower foot bridge.)



(Immediate Left. A log-framed diverter positioned above the lower footbridge narrows the channel as boulder placements upstream provide some needed cover.)



(Above left. A stone J-hook narrows the channel increasing the flow rate and sending the current to a newly installed log diverter. Right. Random boulder placements found upstream of the access road.



Cherry Creek Habitat Improvement Project at the Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge: September 2020 Update (cont'd)



(**Left, above.** A stone cross-vane was installed upstream of the second footbridge. **Right, above.** The EASY way to move R-4 rocks. Cheaters!)



(**Right.** A log-throated cross-vane installed above the upstream footbridge. This photo was taken under very low water conditions so with normal flow it will look different. But it's already working!)

US Fish and Wildlife Service Opens an Additional Section of Cherry Creek to Permit Fishing

In addition to the permit-only fishing in Cherry Creek at the former golf course, the US Fish and Wildlife Service has opened to the public an additional section of Cherry Creek under the same regulations. This section of stream is located west of Rt. 191, downstream of Larsen's Lane. This is a tight, low-gradient section of stream with meanders, log-falls, and lots of briars! When requesting a permit to fish this section of Cherry Creek, be sure to specify "Larsen's Lane Tract" in your email.



Parking is found at the site indicated in the photo. Parking is off Larsen's Lane at the edge of the field. The boundary of the tract is shown in yellow so be sure to look for Wildlife Refuge Boundary Signs and remain on Refuge property. Permits for the Larsen Tract and the former golf course section can be obtained via email from: Jared_Green@fws.gov.

Local Fishing Report

At last, cooler nights with temperatures in the 50s and 40s are upon us. These comfortable nights will ensure our local trout streams remain cool and healthy for our resident trout. This is especially important as we head into the pre-spawning period for brookies and browns.

On the insect side, we're seeing and hearing of Slate Drakes (isonymchia), Blue-winged Olives, caddis and even flying ants hatching and providing food for the local trout. Waters are low, but cooling, so use a fine leader and a stealthy approach when you fish your imitations.

Be aware fall hunting seasons begin at the beginning of October so if you're fishing land that is hunted be sure to wear some high-vis orange.



Cranberry Creek in the VanBuskirk Preserve and Nothstein Preserve has produced following rains. Brooks and browns are found throughout. A #16 greenish brown caddis can work as well as imitations for the insects identified in the preceding paragraph.

(Photo by Eric Gusztaw)

Brodhead Creek and McMichaels Creek are both exhibiting some isonymchia (Slate Drake) action with both duns and emergers fooling the fish. A good cool, cloudy day could provide all-day action with a variety of insects hatching. If the water gets a bit murky due to rains, fall is a GREAT time to throw some streamers. Access is found throughout the Stroudsburg/East Stroudsburg corridor as well as at ForEvergreen Nature Preserve, Analomink.

Pocono Creek is running pretty low but the fish are still there—you just need to find them and present without spooking them. (Easier said than done!) Same variety of insects as the other streams. Some rain could certainly help out here, also. Access is found along Rt. 611 and at the Learn and Pocono Creek Nature Preserves.

Tributaries - Smaller streams such as Devils Hole, Poplar Run, Tom's Creek, etc. will be fine with some rain. Fish tend to "look up" in Devil's Hole so a caddis or humpy pattern would be a good choice. Tom's (being the clearest creek this

side of Slate Run!) may require a smaller hook size so don't be afraid to go small, if needed. Fish in Poplar are very opportunistic feeders so just get it there carefully and you should be okay. Access to these streams is found in State Game Lands #221, Delaware State Forest and the Delaware Water Gap Nat. Recreation Area.

Delaware River, locally, can provide some great fall smallmouth bass fishing and...wait...we're talking trout. Go upstream to the upper main stem or west branch and you'll find rainbows and browns. Check the hatch chart in Don Baylor's guide before you go. Remember, the "Upper D" is a place where fisherman go to cry. Slate drakes, blue-winged olives, and some spinners can do the trick on top. Fish the nymphs, too!



News Notes, Advocacy Opportunities, and Items of Interest

COMMENTS NEEDED: Potential Additions to the Class A and Wild Trout Waters List:

PAFBC is soliciting input on some new, proposed additions to the Class A and Wild Trout Waters lists. Follow this link and make your voice heard in favor of these changes. The comment period ends **September 16, 2020** so click away! (Yes, this is a new and different list than in the last newsletter—good news!)

<https://www.fishandboat.com/Regulations/Pages/ProposedRecentRegulations.aspx>

PA Legislative News:

The PA House and Senate have been in session the past month with multiple voting days on various pieces of legislation. Some of these bills could affect the cold-water resources of the greater Pocono region and some of them negatively impact the ability of departments such as DEP to carry out their respective missions.

We encourage you to stay up-to-date on current legislation in the PA House and Senate. Bills can come up for a vote quickly and your voice can make a difference. For updates on what is happening, we encourage you to visit:

<http://www.paenvironmentdigest.com/newsletter/>

This resource is searchable so you can simply type in your topic or Bill # and find some information. Also, we sometimes send Local Action Alert emails to our membership when an important legislative vote is imminent. *Even though our attention is currently on the COVID-19 situation, be aware there are bills and amendments being put forth that would affect funding, enforcement and regulations within agencies that are charged with protecting the clean, healthy environment guaranteed in our state's constitution.*

Federal:

More information can be found at these links:

<https://www.tu.org/action-center>

<http://bit.ly/2020WOTUS>

A Georgetown Law source provides a comprehensive overview of environmental legislation:

<http://guides.ll.georgetown.edu/c.php?g=209325&p=3611206>

Local and State Resources:

[Brodhead Watershed Association](#)

[Monroe County Conservation District](#)

[PA Fish & Boat Commission: Rulemakings](#)

[Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited](#)

- **DEP Water Quality Information.** This [link](#) will take you to the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) website that focuses upon water-related issues. You will find links for existing stream uses, proposed rulemaking, anti-degradation measures and more.

Brodhead Trout Unlimited Activities for 2020

ALL EVENTS ARE IN TBD/TBA STATUS

September 19, 2020: Picnic and General Meeting at Brodhead Creek Heritage Center at ForEver-green Nature Preserve. Activities begin at 3 PM.

September 21, 2020: Brodhead Fly Tyers

October 14, 2020: General Meeting. An overview of the upcoming McMichaels Creek project will be presented. These improvements are planned for the Pocono Heritage Land Trust's Pomeroy Tract in Hamilton Township.

October 19, 2020 :Brodhead Fly Tyers

November 16, 2020: Brodhead Fly Tyers

November 18, 2020: General Meeting. Topic to be determined.

December 6th or 13th, 2020: Meeting on-site to tour the Cherry Creek improvement projects. At CVNWR. Final date to be determined.

December 21, 2020: Brodhead Fly Tyers

NEW ITEM COMING SOON:

Trout Unlimited Brodhead Chapter Wooden Flyboxes



Let's be honest. No matter how many flyboxes you currently have, you want one or two of these! We've been able to secure a limited number of these boxes and will be offering them for sale at \$30.00 per unit. Pre-slit foam inserts on both sides, magnetic closure and metal hinges compliment the beautiful woodwork and lettering. No, this won't help you catch more fish, but it will provide you with a beautiful way to store your flies. Boxes will be available for purchase at the next meeting, limit 2 per customer.

Fishing Buddies

First, Last	Contact Phone	Contact email	Water(s)	Days-Times
Todd Burns	610-704-4549	salmofisher7@gmail.com	Brodhead and all smaller Pocono streams: Pocono, McMichaels, Devil's Hole, Cranberry, etc.	Almost any day or time
Eric Baird	570-355-0165	ericrobertbaird@gmail.com	Smaller wild trout streams - Devil's Hole, Cranberry Creek, Black Creek, Hickory Run or other small "blue lines."	Evenings after 6 PM and weekends
Gerry Bortz	570-895-1099	gbflyguy@uplink.net	Brodhead and McMichaels Creeks	Weekdays.
Erik Broesicke	610-909-2652	ebroesicke@hotmail.com	Monocacy Creek, Little Lehigh, Saucon, Hokendauqua & other Lehigh Valley Streams	Weekdays between 9 AM and 3 PM
Chris Capurso	646-402-4888	chriscapurso7@gmail.com	Brodhead , Pocono, McMichaels, Devil's Hole, Cranberry, Hidden Lake. Not just trout! Artificials/flyes and C & R.	Availability varies.
James Connor		jfcnr@gmail.com	Most local streams	Availability varies.
Eric Gusztaw	570-620-6322	egusztaw@gmail.com	Middle Brodhead, Pocono Creek, Tobyhanna Creek, Poplar Run, Cranberry Creek, Devil's Hole. Artificials/flyes and C & R.	Most weekends and evenings after 3 PM
Rich Staneski		Shadrock54@yahoo.com	Easy wading Pocono streams	Weekdays and weekends

The State of Our Membership:

Adult Members = 271

Youth Members = 6

Total Chapter Members— 277

Address Changes: KINDLY NOTE...

If you have moved you can effect an address change through National TU. You can do it directly on the TU.org website by logging in to your account with your TU member number, or you can call them up directly at one of the following numbers: TOLL FREE: 1-800-834-2419; National Office: (703) 522-0200; Fax: (703) 284-9400. If that proves problematic, drop us a line and we'll take care of it.

Thanks for your understanding.—Ed.

Streamside *asides*

*All material for submission for your newsletter
should be sent to the editor at the following address:*

Streamside Asides

Todd Burns, Editor

salmofisher7@gmail.com



Visit our web page at:

Brodheadtu.org for more information, photos, and scheduled events.

If your membership is about to expire, please take a few minutes to renew. We appreciate your support and assistance with our projects and outreach opportunities.

A sincere thank you is extended to the following supporters of our Chapter as we work to preserve and protect the cold-water resources in the Poconos.

		<p>Thomas R. Wilkins CEO Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate Wilkins & Associates <i>"Bringing families home since 1988"</i></p> <p>570-466-4022 Direct 570-421-8950 ext. 314 Office 570-421-4514 Fax twilkins@wilkins1.com www.BHGwilkins.com</p>
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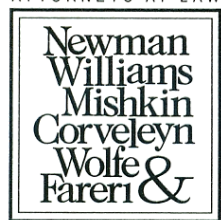
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