

# Streamside Asides



October 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

**October 14: On-line General Meeting. Details forthcoming**

**November 11: General Meeting**

**December 13: General Membership meeting at CVNWR.**



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## Brodhead TU Welcomes New Board Members

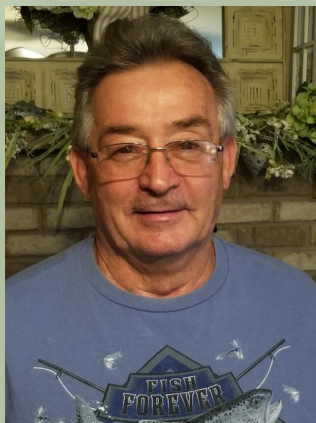
On Saturday, September 19, 2020, the membership present at the September Picnic and Meeting voted to appoint four new members to the Brodhead TU Board of Directors. Let's give a big welcome to our new board members!



Ann Foster



Eric Gusztaw



Jim Houghton



Stephan van de Loecht

## OFFICERS

### **PRESIDENT**

Eric Baird  
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Cathy Folio  
Info Forthcoming

Ann Foster  
Info Forthcoming

Eric Gusztaw  
Info Forthcoming

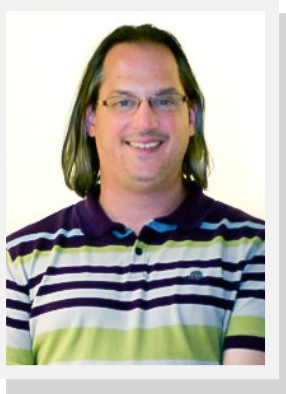
Jim Houghton  
Info Forthcoming

Glen Lippencott  
Info Forthcoming

Don Miller  
455 Devil's Hole Road  
Cresco, PA 18326

Larry Ott  
Info Forthcoming

Arie VanWingerden  
Info Forthcoming



## *The Home Pool*

Eric Baird, President  
Brodhead Chapter — Trout Unlimited #289  
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570-355-0165

Dear Members and Friends,

It was heartwarming to see so many of you at the picnic last month, it seems like everyone had a good time. It was also nice to see some rain last week, it raised up the streams enough to make fishing some small streams possible (not easy, but possible). Last weekend several Chapter leaders guided out students from our "Fly Fishing the Next Step" class on local streams and while out on the streams many of our Chapter leaders noticed trout are starting to stage on their redds. So if you plan on going out over the next couple of weeks take some precaution not to disturb the redds (don't just walk down the stream, get out of the water between casting locations) and try not to target spawning trout to protect the next generation of wild and native trout.

On the advocacy front we recommend becoming familiar with PA Senate Bill 619. This bill is currently under review by the Pennsylvania House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee and could be put up for a vote at any time. This Bill changes the definition of pollution and reduces the capacity of the regulatory agencies to force polluters into compliance. During this election season, it is a good time to contact your State Representative and let him know your opinion about Senate Bill 619.

For October we will be having a virtual informational meeting on the Pomeroy Preserve Project. You will need to pre-register at <https://www.research.net/r/8MC3PMQ>. When you register you will be directed to download the GoToMeeting Application onto whatever device you plan on using to log into the meeting. You will then receive an e-mail with the link for the meeting.

Watch your email for a notification on when we are going to do a tree planting on the Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge. We are waiting for the trees to arrive and once we have them in hand, we will schedule the event for the next available Sunday. We will have two planting sessions from 9AM to 12 PM and from 1 PM to 4 PM. While you are waiting, the Pocono Heritage Land Trust is having volunteer days on Wednesdays at their various preserves. Go to [www.Phl.org](http://www.Phl.org) to find out more.

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 have several leadership positions currently open for volunteers. We are currently looking to fill the Membership Chair, Event 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 to me at [ericrobertbaird@gmail.com](mailto:ericrobertbaird@gmail.com) or any of your Chapter leaders.

So until we can get together again tight lines and be safe.

Eric

#### DIRECTORS EMERITUS

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

Gerry Bortz  
James Connor  
Jeff Heberley  
Greg Malaska  
John Smith  
Tom Van Zandt



### MEMBERSHIP UPDATES-September 2020

#### New Members

No new members this month, but we continue to look forward to working with you on our mission and if you have any questions, please reach out to us. One of the best ways to recruit new members is through personal contact. If you've got friend who shares our mission, encourage them to sign up now. There is power in numbers.

#### 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.

Douglas Andersen	Matthew Mills
Stephen Baker	Thomas Rumore
Arthur Balajthy	Norman Solotruk
Mark Exeter	Jeroen Visser
Byron Foster	

#### Contributing Members

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

Dave Hughes





## Fly Fishing—The Next Step

On the weekend of October 3-4, 2020, students in our “Fly Fishing—The Next Step” class took to the streams with their BTU tutor/guides in order to put into action the skills they practiced throughout the course. By all accounts and reports, they passed with flying colors and quite a few trout were landed! Congratulations Joe, Tara, Jim, Mark and Ivers and good luck and tight lines.





## October Local Fishing Report

### BE CAREFUL AND AVOID SPAWNING REDDS WHEN YOU WADE.

Fall foliage colors in the Poconos are coming to a peak soon and it's a great time to get outdoors and do some fishing. Water temperatures have dropped and the pre-spawn feed is on. Slate drakes are mostly gone but we're seeing blue-winged olives and fall caddis hatching and providing food for the local trout. With low flows, continue to use a fine leader and a stealthy approach when you fish your imitations. Oh, and don't forget that streamers can really produce this time of year! Finally, fall hunting seasons began 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 continue to produce fish, although very low. Brooks and browns are found throughout. A #16 greenish brown caddis can work as well as small nymphs.

(Photo by Eric Gusztaw)

**Brodhead Creek and McMichaels Creek** are both producing trout. Time of day is an important factor, as is water flow. In September, the evenings seemed to be the most active time. As stated before, 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** - Be very cautious if you fish these small waters. The spawning seasons are upon us and from now through December fish will be creating and protecting redds. Watch where you step!



**Martins Creek** is running just as low as the rest of our streams but the trout are active. A brown-green caddis is sizes #16-#18 should produce some topwater action with small nymphs providing strikes underneath. Access can be found above, through, and below the Bangor Borough limits. There is also some unposted water downstream above the town of Martins Creek.

**Delaware River:** Lots of fish in the upper Delaware. Be aware that the West Branch was severely dewatered due to repairs at or near the Connellsville Reservoir. We don't know yet what effect that has had. Remember to check the hatch chart in Don Baylor's guide before you go.

## News Notes, Advocacy Opportunities, and Items of Interest

There are currently no proposed regulations or actions from **PAFBC** that directly affect waters in our area. However, it's a good idea to visit <https://www.fishandboat.com/Regulations/Pages/ProposedRecentRegulations.aspx> to see what is happening elsewhere throughout the state. Don't be shy about supporting something out of the area!

### **PA Legislative News:**

Testimony was given in the House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee in support of S.B. 619. This bill would change the definition of water pollution (both groundwater and running streams), provide for the polluter to make the determination if a spill or emission should be reported and severely limit the ability of DEP and the Fish and Boat Commission to take action on the polluting perpetrators. Having already passed the Senate by a 26-24 vote, passage in the House could undo decades of environmental protections that have cleaned up previously impacted and degraded streams.

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**

**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. This meeting will be on-line.

**October 19, 2020 :**Brodhead Fly Tyers

**November 16, 2020:** Brodhead Fly Tyers

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

**December 13th, 2020:** Meeting on-site to tour the Cherry Creek improvement projects. At CVNWR. More details to come. Watch for the weekly BTU updates and the upcoming newsletters for more details.

**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.

UPDATE: Initial sales of these boxes were brisk but we still have some left. These boxes would make a great holiday gift so make plans to get yours before they are gone.



## ***Fishing Buddies***

First, Last	Contact Phone	Contact email	Water(s)	Days-Times
Todd Burns	610-704-4549	<a href="mailto:salmofisher7@gmail.com">salmofisher7@gmail.com</a>	Brodhead and all smaller Pocono streams: Pocono, McMichaels, Devil's Hole, Cranberry, etc.	Almost any day or time
Eric Baird	570-355-0165	<a href="mailto:ericrobertbaird@gmail.com">ericrobertbaird@gmail.com</a>	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	<a href="mailto:gbflyguy@uplink.net">gbflyguy@uplink.net</a>	Brodhead and McMichaels Creeks	Weekdays.
Erik Broesicke	610-909-2652	<a href="mailto:ebroesicke@hotmail.com">ebroesicke@hotmail.com</a>	Monocacy Creek, Little Lehigh, Saucon, Hokendauqua & other Lehigh Valley Streams	Weekdays between 9 AM and 3 PM
Chris Capurso	646-402-4888	<a href="mailto:chriscapurso7@gmail.com">chriscapurso7@gmail.com</a>	Brodhead , Pocono, McMichaels, Devil's Hole, Cranberry, Hidden Lake. Not just trout! Artificials/flyes and C & R.	Availability varies.
James Connor		<a href="mailto:jfcnr@gmail.com">jfcnr@gmail.com</a>	Most local streams	Availability varies.
Eric Gusztaw	570-620-6322	<a href="mailto:egusztaw@gmail.com">egusztaw@gmail.com</a>	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		<a href="mailto:Shadrock54@yahoo.com">Shadrock54@yahoo.com</a>	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><b>Thomas R. Wilkins   CEO</b> Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate Wilkins &amp; 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 <a href="http://www.BHGwilkins.com">www.BHGwilkins.com</a></p>
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