



Streamside Asides



January 2021

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 the guidance from the PA Department of Health

January 15: On-Line General Membership Meeting. Don Baylor Presenting: "The Poconos: Cradle of American Fly Fishing"

January 18: Brodhead Fly Tyers. Zonker Strips. 6 PM Brodhead Creek Heritage Ctr

February 10: TBD

March General Membership Meeting: Presentation by Tim Flagler.



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On-line Meeting: January 15, 2021, 7 PM "The Poconos: Cradle of American Fly Fishing"



Don Baylor, renowned Pocono fly fisherman, author, and artist, will provide a fascinating slide program on the history of trout fishing in the Poconos. Pennsylvania is steeped in trout fishing tradition and evidence exists that the Poconos was the birthplace of fly fishing in America. Through Don's extensive research he is able to explore and explain the rich trout fishing literature, legends, and lore of the sport in the Poconos and the many celebrities, presidents, and writers who have fished its storied waters and lodged in its grand hotels and hostelryes- including the almost mythic Henryville House among others.

Join Don for this informative history of where sfly fishing for trout began in America and the people who started it. You will need to download the free [GoToMeeting App](#) onto your computer/ phone/tablet to join the meeting or you can dial in from your phone, 1 (408) 650-3123, access code 919-630-885, but you will not be able to see any of the visuals without the application.

[To join, just click this link if you already have GoToMeeting installed.](#)

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The Home Pool

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Dear Members and Friends,

As we are deep in the throes of winter it is a good time to catch up on your tying and equipment maintenance, but if cabin fever is setting in please join us on Friday evening at 7:00 PM to enjoy Don Baylor's "The Poconos, the Cradle of Fly Fishing in America". It will be a digital meeting and I hope to see everyone there. After taking a hiatus in December in line with the increased restrictions, the Brodhead Fly Tyers will be meeting again on January 18 at 6:00 PM at the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center.

It has been eerily quiet on the advocacy front, but your chapter leaders are still working tirelessly to keep you informed if anything of importance to our cold-water fisheries comes out of Harrisburg or DC. A small group of Chapter volunteers is currently reviewing the new Title 25 Chapter 105 revisions to the Pennsylvania Code to be presented to State Council in order to formulate a response letter to the revisions.

Even though I sound like a broken record, I need to remind everyone that the Brodhead Chapter is our Chapter and the strength of our Chapter is our volunteers. With that being said, we several leadership positions currently open for new volunteer leaders. We are currently looking to fill the Membership Chair and Event 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.

Tight lines,

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
Daniel Steere
Tom Van Zandt



MEMBERSHIP — January 2021

Memorial News

An earlier email blast provided the sad news that founding member Robert Stevens passed away. Bob was a vital force for the chapter and was a strong advocate for the cold-water resources we enjoy in the Pocono region. His efforts were such that the chapter named its annual Silver Trout Award in his honor. Bob will be sorely missed by the chapter membership and we extend our sympathies to his family and friends. More information can be found [here](#).

New Members

Brodhead TU welcomes the following new member: Levin Dennis. We look forward to working with Levin on our mission and if there are any questions, please reach out to us.

Remember, 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.

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.

Homer	Lee	Lynne	Katz	George	Talpas
Roy	Tolley	Donald	Miller	William	Martin
Bob	Rosenberger	Thomas	Vanzandt	Ronald	Seyford
Dan	Baugess	Donald	Thatcher	William	Perry
David	Mengle	Michael	Bobitka	Nathan	Oiler
William	Brinker, Jr.	Bradley	Wise	Tara	Ricker
Paul	Milenkowic	James	Houghton	Ivers	Keller

Contributing Members

Jeff	Kerstetter	Stephan	van de Loecht
David	Roy	Ann	Foster
Tom	Rupp	Frank	Martens
Jeff	Feick	William	Cleffi
James	Connor	David	Hildebrandt
Bill	Leonard	Bob	Skazenski

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

Free 1-Year TU Memberships for First Responders

Are you a first responder? Fire Servicer? Law enforcement? Military? Is someone in your family? TU is offering free 1-year memberships to those who serve our communities and our country in these capacities. If you or a family member is interested, please [follow this link](#) for more information.



National Leadership Council Diversity and Inclusion Workgroup: An Update

“Trout Unlimited’s ability to remain effective in the future will hinge, in part, on our ability to bring more women, people of color and younger members into the organization. This is not a nod to political correctness. The simple fact is that the more our members and supporters resemble the broader fly-fishing demographic—if not the nation, itself—the more resonant our messages and calls to action.”

Chris Wood, President and CEO Trout Unlimited

In 2011, Trout Unlimited formed a workgroup whose focus was to engage women in TU’s mission and work. Since 2016, our Brodhead Chapter has had representation on that workgroup, representation that continues to this day. In 2017, the Women’s Diversity Initiative, with the continued support of TU’s National Leadership Council, voted to expand their focus to promote out-of-the-box, inclusive thinking that incorporates all ethnicities, ages, genders, interests, and geographical locations. What began as the Women’s Initiative has grown into the **NLC Diversity and Inclusion Workgroup**.

Our workgroup goals are ...

- A more diverse membership profile
- A more diverse leadership profile
- A welcoming and inclusive culture at every level of TU.

We continue to value our existing members, their experience and dedication towards protecting our cold water sources is invaluable, while we work towards becoming a more inclusive and welcoming organization for others. Essentially, we are equal opportunity conservationists.

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**, there are proposed exemptions to allow for the continued stocking of Class A Stream Sections . Please visit <https://www.fishandboat.com/Regulations/Pages/ProposedRecentRegulations.aspx> to review this information. Don't be shy about commenting on something out of the area!

PA Legislative News:

The 2021 Legislative Session is now open and it would not be surprising to see a flurry of activity in the first few weeks. "Leftover" bills from last session, bills that didn't make it out of committee, and new bills are all possibilities. If you want to keep track of those coming up within the Environmental Resources and Energy Committees, here is the link for the [House](#). **You may want to check out [HB 72](#)**. This bill could have significant ramifications regarding enactment of regulations designed to protect our water, land and air. When the Senate posts committee assignments and meeting schedules, we'll include their link.

For updates and explanations 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.

December Fishing Report



It's winter and if you are out fishing that means be on the lookout for ice. Please be careful when you walk and wade and, if possible, fish with a partner and carry your phone. Also, there are still several hunting seasons open so if you're in an area where hunting is allowed, please wear some blaze orange.

All local streams are returning to normal flow rates after the rains over the holidays. Because the water is so cold, please be careful and alert to the signs of hypothermia if you or your partner fall in.

Brodhead Creek can be a challenge in the winter. Don't be afraid to use woolly buggers with or without a bead head. Black, white, or green with some pink or red and some flash can produce some nice brown trout and stocked rainbows. Think sizes #8 or #10 but you can go bigger.

McMichaels Creek can make you jump for joy or pull your hair out. When its high it can be tough but with normal flows the fishing can be good. Attractoyor nymph and streamer patterns will work. Access is found within the Stroudsburg/East Stroudsburg corridor at various parks as Monroe County and Stroud Township parks.

Pocono Creek is cold and crystal clear. So you want a challenge? Ha ha! The browns and some brookies are still there. The fish won't necessarily move far and fast for your offering but if you get it close, chances are you'll get a strike. Access is found along the Rt. 611 corridor, near the Rt. 611/Rt. 715 interchange, and at the Learn and Pocono Creek Nature Preserves.

Tributaries - After some serious flash flooding everything is back down to normal. Young of year fry may be coming out soon so watch where you step.

Martins Creek runs a bit warmer than most small streams in winter. BH nymphs and small streamers can be the ticket. Remember this is a "special" Class A stream that is stocked. As such, it is no-kill from Labor Day until the end of February when it closes for a month. 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.



ALL EVENTS ARE IN TBD/TBA STATUS

Brodhead Trout Unlimited Activities for 2021

January 15: Online General Membership Meeting. Don Baylor presents: "The Poconos: Cradle of American Fly Fishing." 7 PM GoTo Meeting. See page 1 for login information.

January 18: Brodhead Fly-tyers. 6 PM Brodhead Creek Heritage Center. Topic: Zonker Strips.

February 4: Board of Directors Meeting

February 10: To Be Determined. Stay tuned.

March 4: Board of Directors Meeting

March 28: General Membership Meeting. Presentation by Tim Flagler

April 8: Board of Directors Meeting

April 14: General Membership Meeting—Flybrary Construction

May 6: Board of Directors Meeting

May 12: Meeting on the Brodhead Creek—Brodhead Creek Heritage Center

June 9: Annual Picnic—Brodhead Creek Heritage Center

NEW ITEM : In Stock Now!

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	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		jfcnnr@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 = 270

Youth Members = 1

Total Chapter Members— 271

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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<p>Dunkelberger's Sports Outfitter</p>	
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	<p>ALLAN JOHNSON'S SCHOOL OF FLY CASTING</p> <p>ACA Certified Instructor Former National Champion TU Life Member</p> <p>Private Instruction Group Sessions</p> <p>908-850-5771 www.AJflycasting.com AJflycasting@optonline.net</p>
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Eric Baird @

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