



The newsletter of the Brodhead Chapter #289 of Trout Unlimited

Upcoming Events:

Aust II—CVNWR Youth Fly Fishing Introduction

August 15—September 4. Summer Slam Online Auction: See pages 4-6vfor details!

August - Sept, 2021: Stream Project Work will include posttreatment electroshocking study of our improvement areas involved in the final phase on Cherry Creek.

September 8: General Membership Meeting. "Winter Flyfishing for Trout" presented by Todd Burns. 7 PM. Location TBD.

October 13: General Membership Meeting

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It's Auction Time!

August 2021

The Brodhead TU Summer Slam On-line Auction is set to begin at 8 AM on Sunday, August 15 and continue until 11 PM on September 4. Due to the cancellation of our spring banquet, this event will be the major fundraiser for the year and the Chapter is of-



fering 10 items for interested bidders. There is also an option to donate without bidding. General information, item photos and descriptions can be found on pages 4-6. We will publish the active auction link via email and social media so stay tuned! Once you've visited the site, be sure to bookmark us and share the information with family and friends. The more the merrier!

Ribbon Cutting for Rail Gap Nature Preserveon Pocono Creek

On Saturday, August 7, <u>Pocono Heritage Land Trust</u> celebrated the grand-opening of their <u>Rail Gap Nature Preserve</u> with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Attendees were able to hike the trails, explore Pocono Creek, and learn about the history of the property. This beautiful 62-acre tract is open to the public and provides opportunities for hiking, birdwatching, trout fishing or just sitting and enjoying what nature offers. A parking lot, trailheads and an informational kiosk are located on the west side of Shaffer's Schoolhouse Rd.

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The Home Pool

Eric Baird, President Brodhead Chapter – Trout Unlimited #289 <u>e-mail</u>: ericrobertbaird@gmail.com 570-355-0165

Dear Members and Friends,

I'm sitting here enjoying the gentle buzz of the air conditioner, looking forward to that magical time in the future when I can shut it off, because that means we can finally get back to some serious trout fishing. Whatever your fly tying interest, you might enjoy this month's Brodhead Fly Tyer Meeting at the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center on August 16. The focus for the month will be attractor patterns.

We are working to try and schedule an in person meeting for September 8 and one way or another Todd Burns will be presenting on the when's and how's of winter fly fishing. We hope to have some volunteer opportunities this fall for our friends and members, so watch for out weekly updates.

Also we have an exciting fundraiser starting on August 15, 2021, our first online auction. There are some great merchandise items available and good luck to everyone.

If you are interested in helping shape your Chapter we have some leadership opportunities available. The Youth Coordinator, Membership Chair, and Event Coordinator positions are all open and if you are interested, please feel free to reach to me or any of our Chapter Leaders.

If you don't feel comfortable joining us in person yet, you can still help by donating to the Chapter. We can now accept credit card donations at the "donate now" section of our webpage at <u>http://www.brodheadtu.org/donate/</u>, and thank you in advance for your generosity.

Eric



MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

DIRECTOR 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



New Members

We are pleased to welcome new members Len Cimino and Sally Rosen to Brodhead TU this month. We look forward to working with you on our mission and if you have any questions, please reach out to us.

Renewing and Contributing Members

The chapter extends sincere thank-yous to those who have chosen to renew their memberships or contributed to TU's mission. Your efforts in supporting our education, conservation, and advocacy efforts are greatly appreciated.



Arthur **Balajthy** David Bechtel Ronald Besser Kenneth Card Robert Depuy John Fossett Eric Gusztaw Knecht Robert Ken Knies Bill Kuczewski

Laubach Larry Joseph Memoli Don Metzgar Nixon George Vincent Piancone Ricker Marie Tom Rupp Sherratt lames Milton Vargas Freddy Vergara

Free I-Year TU Memberships for First Responders

Are you a first responder? Fire Servicer? Law enfordement? Military? Is someone in your family? TU is offering free I-year memberships to those who serve our communities and our country in these capacities. If you or a family member is interested, please <u>follow this link</u> for more information.





Yes, it's almost here so get those "bidding fingers" ready! Brodhead TU's Summer-Slam On-Line Auction is set for August 15 through September 4, 2021. Proceeds from the auction will go toward the major habitat improvements to be installed in 2022-2023 on McMichaels Creek within the Pomeroy Nature Preserve, upstream of Hickory Valley Park. Brodhead TU is working with the Pocono Heritage Land Trust and the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission to provide much-needed trout habitat in this section of McMichaels Creek.

We'll be sending the link to the auction page via email and social media when bidding opens on August 15. You'll be able to follow along as the auction progresses and we've enabled proxy bidding so you can enter your maximum amount and sit back and watch the fun. If you don't see something you'd like to bid on for yourself or as a gift, you can still make a donation from the auction page. So mark the dates on your calendar and be sure to pass the information on to all your fishing and conservation-minded friends. This section of stream really needs the structure and habitat.

On the next few pages, we've included descriptions and photos of the auction items as a preview before the event starts. We hope you're as excited as we are and we hope to see you all online!

Brodhead Flyfishers Day on the Stream w/Don Baylor

Designed for the experienced fly-fisher, this trip lets you spend a day fishing on the historic Brodhead Creek with Don Baylor. You'll be fishing on the Brodhead Flyfishers stretch of this classic and productive waterway - some of the most beautiful water in the area.

Thank you, Don, for donating this wonderful opportunity!





McMichaels Creek, Pohoqualine Stretch - Day on the Stream

The winner bidder will spend a day fishing on the Pohoqualine Fish Association's segment of McMichaels Creek. This private water is fed by the tributaries flowing off the south side of Camelback Mountain and supports a great fishery along with some great scenery.

Thank you, Mark Chehi, for your generous donation.

(Photo Credit: Russell Thrall III)

Susquehanna High Flow Giclee Print by Don Baylor

This item is a high quality Giclée print on Somerset Velvet paper of an oil painting titled "Susquehanna High Flow" By artist Don Baylor. Image size is 18' X 24". What a view!

Thank you, Don, for your lovely donation.





The Landing – Original Graphite Drawing

This 12" X 15" original graphite drawing shows the moment of truth for many flyfisherman - the landing of our elusive target! Unmatted, you can choose your color and style of frame to match your decor.

Thank you to Haley Burns for donating this beautiful piece.

Hand crafted Bamboo Rod

This custom bamboo fly rod was produced by Bill Lamberson, Maker, here in the USA. This new, 2-piece, 7' 6" beauty will be a great addition to anyone's rod stable and is certain to provide lots of enjoyment on the stream. It was lawn cast to determine line weight range and, in our estimation, it handled a WF4—DT6 just fine. Single tip. Comes with rod sock and tube with brass cap and bottom. Zoom in in photo for greater detail.



Box of 200 Shorty Bartholomew Flies

Tied by local favorite "Shorty" Bartholomew, this selection of flies is expansive and will serve the fly fishermen well throughout the seasons. Crafted from quality materials, true to historic patterns and consistent throughout, this is a "must bid" item for the serious fly fisher!

Thank you, Shorty, for your generous donation.





Custom Trout Pen

Hand-crafted by Brodhead TU member Mike Brong, this beautiful pen has exquisite detail and is truly one-of-a-kind. Measuring 5" x 1/2", it comes with an inlaid trout on the barrel, a fly-fisherman on the tip, a trout above the clasp and the top is a fly reel! Amazing. Whether for personal use or as a gift, this pen will remind the owner they'd rather be fishing than paying bills.

Thank you Mike and Jill for donating such a wonderful item.

Matted Set of 4 Trout - Original Pastels

Don Baylor is a celebrated local artist and renowned fly fisherman whose portrayals of waterways and fly-fishing evoke memories and emotions in all who view his works. This set of four, original pastels includes renderings of brook, brown, rainbow and cutthroat trout that will brighten any room in which it is placed. This matted set measures 25" x 20".

Thank you to Don for donating this fine set for our auc-



tion.

100+ BTU Member Tied Flies and BTU Fly Box

This wide selection of flies was tied by several of our members specifically for this auction. Included are nymphs, emergers and dries in traditional, CDC and bead-head modes. Not only do you get quality flies, you also get a beautiful wooden Brodhead TU fly box to hold them.

Thank you to Stephan van de Loecht, Todd Burns, Eric Baird and Don Baylor for your donations.

BTU Wooden Fly Box

Offered by the Brodhead Chapter is a wooden, two-sided fly box with magnetic closure. Works for wets, nymphs, dries and emergers. Depending upon how closely you like to store your flies, you should easily get over 100 flies in this lovely and unique box. This auction is only for the box. If you'd like flies with that, you'll need to check the other auction items! Measures 4" x 5" x 1 1/8".



BTU Volunteers Assist with MCCD Conservation Camp

On Thursday, July 21, BTU members Tom Battista, Larry Ott, Jim Houghton, Jerry Bortz and Todd Burns conducted a fly-fishing seminar at Stony Acres. Conducted as part of the Monroe County Conservation District's Conservation Camp, the teens attending received an introduction to fly fishing equipment, fly tying and casting. Approximately 20 teens rotated through the various stations in the 2-hours provided.



Jerry Bortz demonstrating some fly-tying.



Larry Ott and Tom Battista work with the casting.

Harassment Reporting

As a member or volunteer, if you believe you are being harassed or if you have witnessed harassing behavior towards other volunteers, members or TU employees, you should report it immediately to Beverly Smith, bsmith@tu.org, Vice President for Volunteer Operations, or Julisa Edwards, jedwards@tu.org, TU General Counsel.

If, at anytime , you would feel it would be unreasonable to use this procedure to report harassment, TU encourages you to submit an anonymous and confidential report using the new Trout Unlimited Ethics hotline.

https://secure.ethicspoint.com/domain/media/en/gui/68191/ index.html or call 1-844-896-9121.

This "hot-button" link leads directly to the reporting hotline.

Trout Unlimited Ethics Hotline



Committee Updates

Brodhead TU has several active committees focused upon meeting the needs identified in our Strategic Plan. If you would like to volunteer to serve on one of these committees, please contact a Board member at your convenience. Below are brief descriptions of what each committee does and some actions they have recently undertaken.

Advocacy— Advocacy alerts members of upcoming policy and/or legislative changes that can impact the cold-water resources in the Poconos, the state, and the nation. Legislation that heads through the House and Senate in Harrisburg has the potential to directly or indirectly affect the coldwater fisheries throughout the state. See page 9 for more details.

Diversity Initiative— Focuses upon strengthening the chapter by providing information and activities that will attract and retain members across the spectrum found within our communities. The Chapter is currently advertising TU National's Harassment Policy and providing a link for reporting of harassing activities. This is a vital step in creating and maintaining an atmosphere that welcomes all persons interested in BTU's activities.

Fundraising— The Summer Slam On-Line Auction is set for August 15-September 4, 2021. The auction pages are finished and the prizes gathered. (See pages 5-6). The Chapter submitted its application for a TU Embrace-A-Stream grant and we should find out in September if we were successul. BTU also applied for a PFBC Cooperative Habitat Improvement Project (CHIP) grant with the PFBC and have been notified those funds will be available in 2022/2023.

Conservation— This group works on stream or habitat improvement projects. Two new projects include improvements in the Upper Paradise watershed tributaries (Tank Creek and Yankee Run) and work within the Pomeroy Preserve on McMichaels Creek.

Tree Planting– After making multiple site visits, the committee narrowed down the possible work sites. At present, locations along Middle Creek in Polk Township and Cherry Creek at the Josie Porter Farm are high-priority locations. Committee members are planning additional meetings with the appropriate parties for these locations in order to determine what is needed and to coordinate cohesive plans. Once sites and plans are finalized, appropriate types of trees will be ordered. At that point, a call will go out for volunteers to get those trees in the ground!

News Notes, Advocacy Opportunities,

and Items of Interest

<u>Comment Period:</u> Here is the link to the <u>PFBC Regulatory Changes</u> page so you can review these and other proposals and leave a comment. Your voice counts!

PA Legislative News:

The 2021 Legislative Session is currently in recess but committees in both the House and Senate were busy. If you want to keep track of bills coming up within the Environmental Resources and Energy Committees (ERE) - **there are a lot**- here is the link for the <u>House</u>. Here is the same information for <u>Game and Fisheries</u>. On the Senate side, here are <u>ER&E</u> and <u>G&F</u> committee assignments and meeting schedules. Be advised there are multiple bills being considered that could ultimately affect the quality of our streams and groundwater.

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. Be aware there are bills and amendments being put forth that would affect funding, enrforcement 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://ww.tu.org/action-center

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

PA Fish & Boat Commission: Rulemakings

Monroe County Conservation District
Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited

DEP Water Quality Information. This <u>link</u> 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 rule-making, anti-degradation measures and more.

Summer Fishing Outlook

Summer Pocono Hatches & Fishing Update—Same as last month!

Although we had a few cool nights that brought early morning stream temperatures into the low 60s, afternoon sunshine and high temps got those waters up to the high 60s and low 70s by evening. With a late week heat wave coming (August 11-15) fishing low-land waters may be out of the question. Head-water streams will stay cool but flows are very low. In fact, there is no rain in the forecast for at least another week. That's super for the beach—not so great for the trout fishing. Our resident Great Blue Herons; however, love conditions like this!

(From last month's edition...) Expect to see some yellow sallies (yellow stoneflies) in those good, cold tributaries. They flit about and through the sunbeams shining through the forest canopy and trout do like them. A pale yellow, dry caddis pattern can work if you don't have any sallies tied up. A size 16 is a good starting point. On rainy mornings, expect to see some cornutas or blue-winged olives. Trout love to line up in the current seams to munch on these mayflies. Size 14 is a good place to start. Also in the mayfly realm, pack some Isonychia or Slate Drake patterns. We see several broods of these mayflies throughout the year and most fall within the size 12 - size 14 category. Finally, don't be afraid to throw some size 16 or size 18 ants of various colors in your box. Black, red and brown should cover most of what falls into the water.

CAUTION: While trout will tolerate warmer water temperatures for short periods of time, they function and survive best in water temperatures below **68 degrees F**. Trout will begin to experience stress above this point and will eventually slow down and/or stop feeding if temperatures remain too high. Any additional stress caused by overplaying a fish under these conditions

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.





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This space available to advertise your event or business. For information and rates, contact Eric Baird @

(570) 355-0165.



August 10, 2021—Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge : Youth Fly Fishing Seminar
August 2021— Post improvement electroshocking studies—Cherry Creek
August Veterans Service Fishing Program, Date TBA
August 16, 2021: Brodhead Fly Tyers
September Veterans Service Fishing Program Date TBA
September 9, 2021: General Meeting
September 20, 2021: Brodhead Fly Tyers
October 2021: TIC eggs arrive
October Veterans Service Fishing Program, Date TBA
October 14, 202: General Meeting
November 15, 2021: Brodhead Fly Tyers
November 18, 2021: General Meeting
December 9, 2021: General Meeting

December 20, 2021: Brodhead Fly Tyers