



Streamside Asides

The newsletter of the Brodhead Chapter #289 Trout Unlimited

February 2025



February 1,8—Intro to Fly Tying Course, BCHC 9 AM

February 12 — General Public Meeting: Flies and Pies, BCHC 7 PM.

March 12—Public Meeting: Bill Leonard Prseents: “Seven Mysteries of Devils Hole—Folklore, Tales, and Legends.” BCHC, 7 PM

March 28: Annual Banquet, 5:30 PM Shawnee Inn & Golf Resort.

April 5: Opening Day of Trout Season, 8 AM

April 9—General Public Meeting: Featuring Tim “Shorty” Bartholomew

In this issue:

Pies and Flies Meeting	1
President’s Message	2
Membership Updates	3
Winter Fly-Tying	4
Recent Project Review	5
Spring Banquet!	6
Advocacy News	7-8
Fishing Outlook	9
Calendar	10
Advertisers	11

Public Meeting: Pies and Flies
Wednesday February 12, 2025 at 7:00 PM
Brodhead Creek Heritage Center
1539 Cherry Lane Rd
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301



Join the Brodhead Chapter for our annual Pies and Flies. Bring your vice and your appetite and join us for some fly tying, story telling, and most importantly pizza. We will also have a fly tying materials rummage sale in conjunction with this event. Stop by and stock up—there’s a lot from which to choose– and the cost is minimal. What a deal!

There is also a plan for an acoustic jam session with some of our more musically inclined members, so feel free to bring an instrument if you desire to play.

To bring together diverse interests to care for and recover Pocono rivers and streams so our children can experience the joy of wild and native trout.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Russell Thrall III
159 Swift Road
Stroudsburg, PA 18360
570-620-8677

VICE PRESIDENT

Stephan van de Loecht
123 Keystone Rd.
East Stroudsburg, PA 18302

SECRETARY

Eric Baird
267 3rd Street
Pocono Pines, PA 18350
(570) 355-0165

TREASURER

John Smith

BOARD MEMBERS

Don Baylor

Todd Burns

Cathy Folio

Jim Houghton

Ivers Keller

Glen Lippencott

Brian McDonnell

Don Miller

Larry Ott



The Home Pool

Russell Thrall III, President
Brodhead Chapter – Trout Unlimited #289

e-mail: russ@thrall3.com

570-620-8677

Members and Friends,

It's been another busy month as the Brodhead Chapter of Trout Unlimited has been actively engaged in various conservation and education activities in our community. The ongoing Winter Fly-Tying Class, led by Tim "Shorty" Bartholomew, has been a great success. Participants are learning basic fly-tying techniques and creating various patterns, fostering a deeper appreciation for the art of fly fishing.

Planning is also underway in our tree committee for the upcoming riparian buffer and invasive species removal work and stream habitat improvements this spring. Check out the review of the Chapter's volunteer-driven projects since 2020 on page five of this issue. Over the past few years, the chapter has undertaken numerous projects, including annual streamside cleanups, boot wash station installations, and multiple riparian buffer plantings. These efforts have been crucial in maintaining the health and biodiversity of local streams.

Looking forward, please join us on February 12, for the annual Pies and Flies meeting at the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center. This event is a fantastic opportunity to bring your fly-tying vise, enjoy some pizza, and share stories with fellow members. There will also be a fly-tying materials rummage sale, so come prepared to stock up on supplies. Play an instrument? There will be some musical entertainment from our members who play an instrument, so feel free to join in and show us your chops.

Finally, registration is open for the Annual Spring Conservation Banquet at the Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort on March 28. This event is one of the chapter's major fundraising projects, supporting habitat, education, and outreach activities. The evening will include a social hour, dinner, and raffle prizes. Tickets are \$52 per person, and you can register online at the link on page six.

The Brodhead Chapter's success relies on the active participation and support of its members. Whether you're attending an event, volunteering for a project, or simply spreading the word about our mission, your involvement makes a difference. Together, we can continue to protect and enhance the natural beauty of the Pocono region for future generations.

We look forward to seeing you at our next event!

Tight lines,

Russ

DIRECTORS EMERITUS

Gerry Bortz
Ed Filipkowski

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

James Connor
Ann Foster
Tim Fritz
Jeff Heberley
Greg Malaska
Daniel Steere
Arie VanWingerden
Tom Van Zandt



MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

New Members

The chapter welcomes new members John Audett, Harvey Clark, Jim Mannes, Jacob Muehlhan, and Jill Toth. We can't wait to work with you on our mission. Welcome aboard!

Half-price membership for new members! If you know of someone who would like to join BTU, click on the link at right and send them the address.



Renewing and Contributing Members

The chapter extends a sincere thank-you to the following individuals who have chosen to renew a membership or contribute to TU's mission. Your efforts in supporting our education, conservation, and advocacy efforts are greatly appreciated.

Caius Baird Michael Brong Fred Freeman Thomas Rumore

Free 1-Year TU Memberships for First Responders

Are you a first responder? Fire Service? 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.

Current Membership: 255 Adults + 3 Youth



Winter Fly Tying Class Underway

The Chapter is mid-way through the annual fly-tying class being held at the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center. Led by Tim “Shorty” Bartholomew and assisted by BTU members, the students are learning basic techniques and applying them through the creation of different patterns. They’ve already learned some basic nymph, streamer, and dry fly patterns with more to come in subsequent sessions. We’re glad to have them with us and look forward to them joining us in other endeavors.



To bring together diverse interests to care for and recover Pocono rivers and streams so our children can experience the joy of wild and native trout.

Brodhead Trout Unlimited Acts To Improve Stream Habitat And Riparian Buffers

Since its chartering in 1977, the Brodhead Chapter Trout Unlimited engaged in efforts to conserve natural waterways, improve in-stream habitats and secure and improve the important riparian areas along Pocono streams. Those efforts continue to this day, 47 years later. A look at the table below shows the Chapter's projects over the last 4-5 years.

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>YEAR</u>
Annual Streamside Cleanup	Tannersville—Pocono Creek	2020-2024
Boot Wash Station Installation	Cherry Valley NWR—Cherry Creek	2020
Riparian Buffer Planting (2x)	Cherry Valley NWR	2020
Habitat Improvement	Cherry Creek	2020
Riparian Buffer Planting	Polk Twp Walking Park-Middle Creek	2022
Riparian Buffer Planting	Cherry Valley NWR	2022
Habitat Improvement	Cherry Creek	2022
Riparian Buffer Planting	Cherry Valley NWR	2023
Invasive Species Removal (2x)	Cherry Creek	2023
Riparian Buffer Maintenance	Polk Twp Walking Park	2023
Habitat Improvement	Yankee Run-Yankee Run NP	2024
Riparian Buffer Maintenance	Polk Twp Walking Park	2024
Riparian Buffer Planting	Cherry Valley NWR	2024
Invasive Species Removal (2x)	Cherry Creek NWR—Cherry Creek	2024
Habitat Improvement	Cherry Creek	2024
Habitat Improvement	Pomeroy-McMichaels Nature Preserve McMichaels Creek	2023-2024

In addition to Brodhead TU actions, these projects also depended upon working partnerships and support from multiple organizations. These were, and are not limited to, Pocono Township, Northampton County Community College, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Friends of Cherry Valley, ESSA Foundation, Polk Township, the Pocono Heritage Land Trust, Monroe County Conservation District, Trout Unlimited, PA Trout Unlimited and the PA Fish and Boat Commission.

Working within and along cold-water streams in the Poconos is a lot of what the Chapter does. But it's not all. The Chapter supports and engages in various educational programs designed to introduce community members to the importance of conserving cold, clean waters and the fun of engaging in cold-water related activities such as fishing. These activities will be highlighted in the next newsletter.

To bring together diverse interests to care for and recover Pocono rivers and streams
so our children can experience the joy of wild and native trout.

Annual Spring Conservation Banquet Coming Soon

Friday, March 28, 2025, marks the return of the Brodhead Trout Unlimited Spring Conservation Banquet. This year's event will take place at Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort in the Worthington Ballroom with activities beginning at 5:30 PM. Located at 100 Shawnee Inn Drive, Shawnee On Delaware, the venue offers a spacious room for socializing, dining and bidding on prizes.

Ticket prices are \$52 per person and you can register online by following this [registration link](#). As before, the evening will start off with a social hour with story telling and perusal of the various raffles and prizes available. This will be followed by dinner and the drawings for the raffle prizes.

This event is one of the major fundraising projects that enables the chapter to undertake its planned habitat, education, and outreach activities. So secure your spot now, enjoy a night of good food and laughter and support our mission. We hope to see you there.

NOTE: If you'd like to donate a prize for the raffle (the more and varied the better) please contact Todd Burns at: salmofisher7@gmail.com . New, outdoor-related items or items of general interest are welcomed.



To bring together diverse interests to care for and recover Pocono rivers and streams
so our children can experience the joy of wild and native trout.

News Notes, Advocacy Opportunities, and Items of Interest



BTU Position Statement on Distribution Centers/Warehouse Construction

Discussions are being carried out concerning the construction of distribution centers throughout the Pocono region. Proposed projects are in various stages of planning, review, comment and hearings in Coolbaugh Township, Tunkhannock Township and Pocono Township. Potentially affected streams and their associated wetlands and tributaries are Mud Pond Run, Pocono Creek and Tobyhanna Creek.

BTU understands warehouse development will occur, and it believes that such development must be done in areas that do not impact the absorption, retention, filtration and free movement of rain water and other precipitation near cold-water resources. It should not reduce the size or quality of wetlands, provide damaging thermal and/or saline stress due to runoff, or cause increased siltation in our streams. The cold, clean trout waters for which the Poconos is known should not be degraded and BTU is willing to work with residents and local governments to achieve this goal.



Remember: [Change of Regulations on Tobyhanna Lake](#)

(Inland trout regulations still apply prior to lake drawdown in spring 2025.)

Comments may be submitted by mail to: Executive Director, Fish and Boat Commission, P.O. Box 67000, Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000, within 30 days after publication of the notice in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. Electronic submission can be made to RA-pfbcregulations@pa.gov. As before, just be sure to identify which proposal you are commenting upon.

Change In Method to Comment On Proposed Regulatory Changes

Until the end of 2023, PFBC accepted comments on upcoming regulatory proposals through email and a web-based application, in addition to regular mail. Moving forward, comments will need to be made via mail or the email RA-pfbcregulations@pa.gov. **The proposed regulations** are still posted on line for your review **BUT** they are on the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* site. To review the proposed changes, you will need to navigate by following the steps below:

1. Click on this [Pennsylvania Bulletin link](#).
2. Under "BULLETIN", select the most recent volume.
3. Select the most recent issue(s).
4. Select "Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission" from the menu. You will see any pending proposals as a hyper-link.
5. Select the proposal and it should open so you can read it.

What's Up In PA Environmental Legislation

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. We encourage you to visit: <http://www.paenvironmentdigest.com/newsletter/>

Federal:

TU's Chris Woods' WOTUS article is [HERE](#).

More information on issues can be found at these links:

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

This Georgetown Law source provides a comprehensive overview of pending 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: Regulatory Changes](#)

[Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited](#)

[PennFuture](#)

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 rule-making, anti-degradation measures and more.

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 the Vice President for Volunteer Operations, or to 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://www.tu.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/E-Poster.jpg>

or call **1-855-662-SAFE**.

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



**Trout
Unlimited
Ethics
Hotline**

February Fishing Outlook

Not much has changed since our February column. Air temperatures have remained seasonably cold, our lakes are frozen over and the streams are running low, clear and cold. But that doesn't mean the fish aren't feeding or you shouldn't give it a try.

Streamers, nymphs and midge patterns are probably your best bets as far as offerings from a fly-fishing perspective. Minnow-like plugs and spinners can be productive on the spinning gear side. Time of day to fish is really your choice. Baitfish imitations in the morning and later afternoon hours are a good bet as are small nymphs and midge pupae patterns during the mid-day hours.

Something to keep in mind as you plan your fishing in February: **sections of streams stocked with trout by the PA Fish and Boat Commission close to fishing at midnight, February 16, 2025**, and don't re-open to fishing until 8:00 AM on April 5, 2025. Please refer to the [Summary of Regulations](#) for a listing of area trout streams **and their sections** so you don't get yourself in trouble!

Of course, as with many things in life, there are exceptions. Special Regulation waters provide angling opportunities year-round. Again, a listing of these waters and their specific requirements can be found in the summary linked above on pages 16-17 and 35-36 for our Northeast Region.

And now, to the "age old" question: What about trout **stream sections** that aren't stocked? Can you fish in them between February 17 and April 5? Well, there are two types—**Class A trout waters** and non-Class A trout waters. Taken directly from the 2025 Summary of Regulations:

"NOTE: It is legal to fish for trout in Class A streams year-round, with no harvest beginning the day after Labor Day to the opening day of trout season the following year. The exception is those stream sections designated as both Class A Wild Trout Streams and Stocked Trout Waters (Miscellaneous Special Regulations—see pages 16 and 17). These stream sections are closed to fishing from February 17 until 8 a.m. on the opening day of trout."

Pay particular attention to Class A stream sections as some streams will have different regulations in different sections! Do your homework. And if the waterway is unstocked but not listed as Class A? We'll let you review the Summary and figure that one out!



EVENT DETAILS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Brodhead Trout Unlimited Activities for 2025



For more information and to register, visit <http://brodheadtu.org/events-and-registration/> or click on the links below.

February 1, 8—Intro to Fly Tying Course, BCHC 9 AM

February 12 — General Public Meeting: Flies, Pies and Lies. BCHC 7 PM.

March 12—General Public Meeting featuring Bill Leonard. “Seven Mysteries of Devil’s Hole—Folklore, Tales, and Legends”, BCHC. 7 PM. Let us know you will be coming. [“I’ll be there.”](#)

March 22—Introduction to Fly Fishing, with KCEEC, starting at 9 AM at BCHC. [Register.](#)

March 28—Annual Spring Conservation Banquet, Shawnee Inn. Register [HERE.](#)

April 5—KOC Kids Fishing Derby (Opening Day) Brodhead Creek Park

April 9—General Public Meeting: Featuring Tim “Shorty” Bartholomew

April 12—Workday: Larsen Lane Tract—Invasive Removal, CVNWR, 9 AM Register [HERE.](#)

April 26—Riparian Buffer Maintenance: Polk Township Walking Park, 9 AM. Register [HERE.](#)

To bring together diverse interests to care for and recover Pocono rivers and streams so our children can experience the joy of wild and native trout.

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.



SERVING THE POCONO MOUNTAINS
SELLING HOMES SINCE 1988

Thomas R Wilkins CEO

Office: 570-421-8950

Dunkelberger's Sports Outfitter

585 Main St., Stroudsburg, Pa. 18360
www.dunkelbergers.com

(570) 421-7950
Fax: (570) 421-7453

KEN & COMPANY
AVEDA SALON & SPA

507 Main Street, Stroudsburg, PA 18360
Phone (570) 421-8077 • Fax (570) 421-8227
www.Kenandcompany.com

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

**Newman
Williams
Mishkin
Corveleyn
Wolfe &
Fareri & Co.**

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

Ronald J. Mishkin

Telephone 570.421.9090
rmishkin@newmanwilliams.com
www.newmanwilliams.com
Fax 570.424.9739
P.O. Box 511 • 712 Monroe Street
Stroudsburg, PA 18360-0511

**This space available to advertise your event or
business. For information and rates, contact
Eric Baird @
(570) 355-0165.**

To bring together diverse interests to care for and recover Pocono rivers and streams
so our children can experience the joy of wild and native trout.