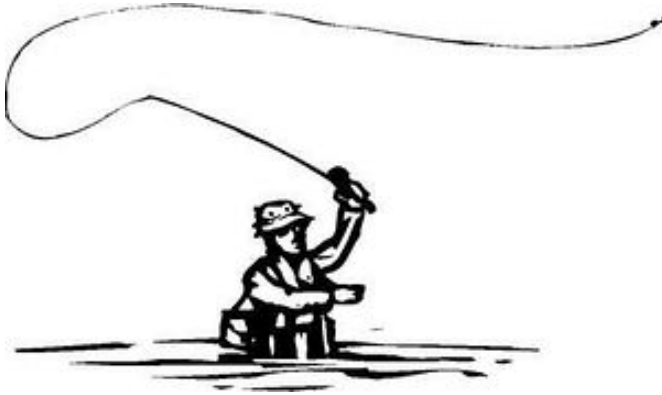


Clear Water Gazette

March 2017



Neshannock Creek Chapter #216 Trout Unlimited

2017 Spring Banquet

The 39th annual spring banquet is coming sooner than you think. The date is **MARCH 18th 2017 at 5:00pm at The Park Inn by Radisson**. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend. You KNOW it will be a good time so **BE THERE!!** Sponsorship and individual ticket forms are available on our website, or at the Neshannock Creek Fly Shop in Volant.

Ticket prices will be the same as last year. \$35 for a single, but the **BEST VALUE** is the individual "sponsor ticket" at \$90. "Why?", you might ask! Well, look at what you get! **Admission to the banquet, 20 bucket raffle tickets, 10 rod raffle tickets and 15 meat raffle tickets. That is a \$110 value.** That's \$80 in bucket raffle tickets alone. Buy your ticket by **March 11th** and you are entered in a drawing for a \$50 Visa Gift Card.

If you have any questions on how to purchase tickets for the Banquet please email Neshannocktu@gmail.com or contact a board member. A list of board members contact information can be found under the "Contact Us" tab on our website.

Buffet menu will include 3 entrees and a great desert table. Cash bar with beer, wine, and liquor. Bring your friends for a fun night with a chance to win some great prizes including a great gun raffle (see below)

Neshannock TU Winter Meeting

If you attended the Winter meeting, you will already know how beneficial and interesting the speakers were. Shannon White from Penn State presented her research on tagging and tracking the movement of the brook trout. She also presented the genetic differences between the different types of trout. Our second speaker was Lenny Lichvar, co-author of a new book called Keystone Fly Fishing. Lenny presented his experiences on various streams in Southwestern Pennsylvania.

Carol Jochman catered an awesome lunch for all who attended the Winter Meeting.

Hey, all Fly Tyers

All you fly tyers, if you can, please try to tie a dozen of your favorite patterns and donate them to the upcoming spring banquet. Most fly tyers have some unique or special patterns that will definitely be a hit in our silent auction. If possible, put the flies in a box for display. If you are unsure how to present the flies, we can add yours with others to complete a nice collection. We will put a note with each box to recognize each tyer and his unique patterns. Drop off at the shop in Volant or with any board member.

Monthly Tying Night at Brewtus Brewery

On **Thursday, March 13th**, from 6pm to 9pm Brewtus Brewery in Sharon PA is hosting its monthly Fly Tying Night.

Tying flies in your basement or man cave is fun, but come out once a month and make it special with other people who share the same passion as you do. This is a great opportunity to learn new fly tying techniques and enjoy some of the valley's best beer while you are at it. More information on this event can be found on our website or by searching "monthly tying night at Brewtus" on Facebook.

If you have any questions about the event, Please contact **Chad Bauer via Facebook, or email at Chadbauer_67@hotmail.com**

Neshannock TU Website and Social Media

Now that we have updated the Website with upcoming events, we are working on creating an online store to purchase Neshannock TU apparel all year long. The Neshannock TU apparel is currently only available in limited sizes at the Annual Banquet.

Starting in April, every month we will be recognizing an "Angler of the Month" on our website and Facebook. If you are interested in becoming the next Neshannock TU Angler of the Month, Please email a short bio about yourself including some of your favorite streams to fish, favorite species to fish, and a few photos of you out on the water. We may have to send our winners some Neshannock TU Apparel.

Email your submissions to:
Neshannocktu@gmail.com

Neshannock Chapter
Trout Unlimited
March 18th, 2017
Banquet Gun Raffle

1st Prize

Ruger SR1911 .45 ACP



2nd Prize

Ruger LC9s 9mm (Striker Fired)



3rd Prize

Henry Lever action big loop .22



1 Ticket for \$5 or 5
Tickets for \$20

Winner need not be present!

Tickets can be purchased at Neshannock Creek Fly Shop in Volant, Shooter's Supply at 9 Short Street, West Middlesex, PA and from all chapter officers and directors. Additionally, they can be ordered by mailing a check payable to Trout Unlimited Chapter 216 and sent to 264 Stonegate Blvd. Hermitage, PA 16148 – include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you want your ticket stubs sent to you.

Munnell Run Trout Nursery

Bill Stevenson & Crew

The nursery crew reported that all is well with this year's browns. The water has been a consistent 54 degree temperature enabling the trout to grow well. Look for some 11+ inch fish this spring! Due to crowding in the raceway in the nursery, on Feb. 6 we stocked 300 Browns in Neshannock Creek near the Fly Shop in Volant, PA. On February 28th, the Nursery Crew stocked another 300 Browns in Cool Springs Delayed Harvest section in Mercer, PA.

For more info on our nursery call Bill Stevenson at 724.342.0472, or email caryolnandbill@verizon.net, or Ken Tarczy buggertarz@yahoo.com at 724.662.5765. Call to arrange for a nursery tour with your kids and to volunteer for stocking the fish. It is a great event for the kids to see the fish in the nursery and understand how they are raised. It is real excitement for them to assist in removing the fish from the nursery tanks, transporting them to the streams and helping place them in the water.

Initiating a Veteran's program

The Neshannock Creek Chapter of TU is interested in starting up a **Veteran's Services Partnership Program** to introduce our local disabled and non-disabled veterans and active duty service members to the healing powers of our waters, with a goal of thanking them for their service and engaging them in our chapter activities. For those interested in volunteering to help coordinate a series of events and activities associated with this new program, please **contact Matt Ceremuga** at neshannocktu@gmail.com.

April 1st Spring Workday

Jeff Kremis

We will be having our annual Spring Cleanup Workday of the Coolspring DHALO Area on Saturday, April 1st. We will meet in the upper parking area at 9:00 and will be done by noon with lunch provided. We will be cleaning up the parking areas and doing some trail maintenance so you will need gloves and maybe some pruning shears, any other equipment will be provided.

We do have a culvert that needs replaced and plan on doing that in the fall. We will need a small backhoe to complete this project so if you or someone you know has a piece of equipment like this and would be able to help please contact me at jjkremis@gmail.com or 724-588-4378.

2017 TIC Programs

The news for the **Trout in the Classroom** for 2017 is "some in some out" We have six programs that have been running in the years past and two programs that are trying to get up and running but have yet to do so. Currently Greenville, Mercer, Farrell and West Middlesex schools each have one aquarium running at this time. Farrell has had two in years past and has dropped down to one. Hermitage, our longest running and first **Trout in the Classroom** program has taken the year off from trout raising to renew their equipment They intend to be back in a year or two. This can be a very involved program for the teachers as well as the students and taking a year or two off is understandable.

This program is run by the students and teacher and, as a TU Chapter, we are not really involved with the actual raising of the fish. We help set the program and aquarium up and then until spring when we stock the fish raised by the students, it's one of those "no news is good news" kind of things. We understand that it is a lot of fun but that it is a lot of responsibility for students and teachers alike. There were a couple of difficult years where some schools lost all of their fish for unknown reasons. We have even had replacement fish shipped to them. Running this program can be stressful for the teachers to run with their limited time to devote to it. The fun and educational value seem to counter act the additional responsibility and work. Thus, we have two additional programs planned for the near future. Last year our chapter purchased an extra chiller to have on hand in case

one of the schools has a problem and loses theirs. The chiller is a very important part of the process. If they lose a chiller it is very difficult to keep the water at a constant cool temperature. The alternative is keeping the water cool with ice cubes which is inconsistent, difficult and time consuming. With our new back up chiller, if difficulty arises in one of the schools, we can now assist within a couple hours time.

PATU provides a grant program to support the classroom needs, and helps to educate the next generation on cold water conservation. The PATU grant program assists teachers in replacing outdated or non-functioning equipment, books, field and sampling equipment, as well as funding field trips to engage students in coldwater conservation activities.

This grant program is fully funded through the support of individual contributions. You can help support this program by purchasing a PA TIC t-shirt or TIC raffle ticket today! Just go to the PATU website at www.patrou.org