

MUDDY MATTERS

The Newsletter of the Muddy Creek Chapter #575 of Trout Unlimited

TO CONSERVE PROTECT AND RESTORE THE MUDDY CREEK WATERSHED.



Fall 2017 Issue

From the President's Vest

Happy Fall Y'all!

It's hard to believe that summer is officially over and we are beginning to prepare for another winter. We have had a busy and productive summer, and we hope each of you has enjoyed some time fishing in our watershed.

We are gearing up to make some repairs to the Co-Operative Nursery, so it's ready for the winter months. Our group of "stockers" have worked diligently to get our holdovers stocked in the watershed! Our fingerlings were delivered mid-September and to date they are doing well. I encourage you to read the nursery up-date article in the newsletter.



We have also been busy forming some new Trout in the Classroom (TIC) relationships over the summer months. Last year we had one TIC in the Dallastown School District; this year we will be working with three TICs. We will have two TICs in the Dallastown School District and one at the Red Lion Area School District's Jr. High Building. Our chapter has found the TIC program to be very rewarding; there's nothing like seeing our youth excited to be outdoors and eager to learn and try new things!

Our chapter has been working on a variety of projects from restoration work to creating signage for the Bonham Wildlife Sanctuary, and I am very excited to share that MCTU #575 received the PATU's "Best Chapter Project" Award for our work at the Bonham Wake-Robin Wildlife Sanctuary. We have involved a variety of youth during the course of the project including: an Eagle Scout project, York County Tech student work day, and TIC release day with tree planting. We certainly have a lot to be "Muddy Proud About!"

We continue to look toward our chapters' future and its longevity. I am pleased to announce that we had a new member step up and volunteer to be our Webmaster. We are giving our chapter website a complete facelift. Our goal is to roll our new site out in the late spring. We also had another new member volunteer to be our Membership Chair! In order for our chapter to be successful we need active members, both new and longtime members, to step up and lead the way. We are setting the bar high and working to make changes that will foster a happy, healthy future for our chapter.

Our fall/winter meetings (October-April) will be at the Meadows Frozen Yogurt of Dallastown. Feel free to join us for dinner at 6pm with our chapter meeting commencing at 7pm. We hope to have a variety of speakers/presentation scattered in over the winter months so stay tuned to Facebook and our website! And as always, please feel free to bring a friend, spouse or prospective member.

Warmly,
Beth

Upcoming Events

October 18 - General Meeting
The Meadows Frozen Custard of Dallastown
Dinner 6PM Meeting 7pm

Nov. 15 - General Meeting
The Meadows Frozen Custard of Dallastown
Dinner 6PM Meeting 7pm

Dec. 20 - General Meeting
The Meadows Frozen Custard of Dallastown
Dinner 6PM Meeting 7pm

January 17 - General Meeting
The Meadows Frozen Custard of Dallastown
Dinner 6PM Meeting 7pm

February 21 - General Meeting
The Meadows Frozen Custard of Dallastown
Dinner 6PM Meeting 7pm

FISHING NEWS

C&R FFO AREA AND ALL OTHER SECTIONS OF MUDDY CREEK AND THE BRANCHES RECEIVED A HOLDOVER STOCKING THIS FALL.

REMEMBER: THE MUDDY CREEK WATERSHED HAS OVER 9 MILES OF STREAM UNDER THE STOCKED TROUT WATERS PROGRAM WITH THE PAF&BC.

ALL OF THIS WATER IS OPEN BY THE GRACE OF GENEROUS LANDOWNERS. PLEASE RESPECT THEIR PROPERTY BY NOT LITTERING AND PICKING UP ANY TRASH YOU MAY FIND ALONG THE STREAM.



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Muddy Matters is a publication of Muddy Creek Trout Unlimited, Chapter no. 575. Questions or comments about the content of this newsletter can be submitted through regular mail: **Muddy Creek Trout Unlimited #575 P.O. Box 211 Dallastown, PA 17313** Or email muddycreektu@comcast.net Members may also contribute chapter related stories or articles to this newsletter by submitting them to the above addresses. This is your newsletter, help make it the best it can be. *Thank you.*

Report Water Pollution
 PA Department of Environmental Protection
855-FISH-KIL
Report Fishing Regulation Violations
 PF&BC Waterways Conservation Officer
SC Regional Office (717) 486-7087

RECOGNITION ROLE CALL

In September, we had our biannual chapter elections. This was a bittersweet event as we are sad to see some very valuable members step down from leadership, but we are also very excited to welcome new members to our leadership team. Take a moment to meet our new leaders on Page 3 of this newsletter.

Chris Haag and Scott Runkle thank you for your service as dedicated Board members. **Ron Heuston** your many years of service to MCTU are deeply appreciated; we especially thank you for your attention to detail as our secretary. **Brita Runkle** we appreciate your years of service as chapter vice president. **Trent Bentzel** was also recognized for his time and dedication to the Bonham Project.

CO-OP SPONSORSHIP CHAIRPERSON NEEDED

We are in need of a new Co-Op Sponsorship Chair. This individual is responsible for sending out and collecting co-op sponsorship applications; this would include keeping an electronic record of returned applications and depositing returned money/checks. While applications trickle in year round, the busiest time is the 1-2 months immediately following the mailing. Contact Beth Boyd at ycpnurse@gmail.com or 717-404-7642 if you would be interested.

COOP NURSERY REPORT

The nursery operation continues to be successful. Financially, we are maintaining a stable budget. Trout mortality has been low which allows for more fish to be stocked. There has been sufficient help with the stocking of trout, feeding, and nursery maintenance.

In addition because of deteriorating wood at the raceway, new lids are being constructed and will be installed by the end of October. Next summer plans are to replace the wooden structures at the ends of the raceway.

Of concern is the possibility of the PFBC closing two hatcheries and reducing the Cooperative Nursery Unit (CNU) from three people to only one person. The CNU provides assistance to the local nurseries and has been a great asset to us. They do inspections of our nursery twice a year; in the fall after we get the fingerlings and in the spring about the time we begin to stock the trout. In addition, if we are dealing with sick trout they do an on-site evaluation, recommend steps to be taken to alleviate the problem and antibiotics for treatment. Also, they are quick to respond to questions regarding our daily operations. Let's hope they can resolve the financial woes that the state budget is facing without hurting the local trout nurseries. You can help by contacting your state representative and show your support for an increase in the cost of a fishing license and trout stamp.

Finally, in addition to raising 8,000 trout annually, we kept 36 trout for two years. Released this fall, they averaged 18 to 20 inches and were 4 pound or better in weight. Also, there were 650 one year holdovers stocked. They averaged 14 -16 inches and were approximately 1- 2 pounds.

NONE OF THE NURSERY OPERATIONS WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL IF IT WEREN'T FOR THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT RECEIVED AND THE HOURS VOLUNTEERED TO HELP WITH STOCKING, MAINTENANCE, ETC. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

VISIONCORPS FISHING DAY

It has been said that there are fewer joys in life than to take a kid fishing. Now, imagine taking a kid fishing who happens to be vision impaired. The smell of grilled hot dogs filled the air. The spring morning was cool. One after another, the sound of "I've got another one!" was heard.

The children we hosted for a morning in the handicapped area of Tom's Run waited in anticipation for that elusive tug. When it came, faces lit up, reels began to spin, shades of gray turned to fireworks, and trout were brought to the bank and released. And for an overly enthusiastic few, it was a matter of kiss and release!

For a number of years, our chapter has hosted a fishing day for the families aided by ForSight Vision of York (now part of VisionCorps). It's a matter of one organization partnering with another to serve our community. The rain had threatened our beloved event that day. It held off, though the night before it Muddied the water just enough to ensure success. The kids came. The trout were biting. And for someone volunteering for this event for the first time, it made a lasting impression. Events like this one are what make our organization special.

If you haven't volunteered for this in the past, it's well worth your time. Thank you to those of you who came out and put in the extra effort to plan it. Thank you to the Sueck family, for allowing us access to that perfect stretch of water. And thank to you to VisionCorps and your families – we look forward to partnering with you for many years to come.

Hail To The Chief

Our chapter elections have brought in some fresh leadership to the roles of VP, Secretary and two Directorships. In addition some of these folks serve multiple roles in other areas. All are relatively new members and excited to serve the chapter. Our meeting attendance is up and we have a greater involvement with youth.

The direction the chapter has taken over the past two years is in large part due to the empowering leadership style of our president. When Beth took on the Presidency two years ago you could see her determination from the beginning. In addition, it has left some of the "old guard" with the confidence that we can step back to handle other roles both inside the chapter and in our personal lives. A feeling of "hey, she got this!". That's why when the nomination for Presidency came up this year there was no hesitation to re-elect her for a second term.

Now, Beth is not a fly fisher or even a trout fisher for that matter. She is not going to be the one to ask what flies are hot on Muddy Creek. But after a meeting she will leave you with a the assurance that the future of our watershed is in good hands. So come out to a meeting or event and see what we see. Congratulations Beth on a job well done!

Meet The New Leadership

Jimmy O'Connor - V.P.

Greetings fellow MCTU Members! As you may know, during our most recent chapter election, our Vice President Brita Runkle made the decision to pass the torch. Many thanks to Brita for her years of leadership! As the new Vice President, I'd like to quickly introduce myself.

I reside in York Township with my wonderful wife Megan, daughter Haley, and son Mack. I returned to live here, just over the hill from the dairy farm where I lived as a young boy, after a number of years living in Boston and later New Jersey. In a sense, I've also returned to MCTU. As a child, I made a number of memories stocking trout and working opening day food stands alongside my grandfather. I couldn't be more proud to be home.

This chapter has done a lot of great work in its' past, and I'm excited to be part of continuing that work! I have a passion for getting people involved. In volunteer organizations like ours, it's typical to see that only a small percentage of our members are actively involved. Active membership is key to our success. The work that we do

for the community and as stewards of the Muddy Creek watershed is only possible because of those efforts.

I look forward to meeting you or seeing you again at a future meeting - let's get after it!

Dan Dellinger - Secretary

As someone who has been fishing since he could walk it was to my shock that it took me until my thirties to discover the Muddy Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited. Over the course of the past year I have enjoyed meeting new people who share my love of streams, trout, and cold water conservancy.

I am a 7th Grade science teacher at Red Lion Junior High School and am currently participating in the Trout in the Classroom program. This is only possible with the guidance and support of the chapter and members. Recently, I have been nominated and have accepted the position of Chapter Secretary. I am excited to have been so kindly brought into the chapter and entrusted with such an integral part of our chapter. I look forward to developing relationships among the members, helping with events, and watching the chapter grow in the years to come.

Walt Lister - Director

I am a retired Special Education Teacher who joined Muddy Creek TU as part of my retirement planning. I joined Muddy Creek Chapter in 2013 and have been involved in the following activities: stocking of State and Muddy Creek COOP trout in the Muddy Creek watershed; COOP Nursery maintenance; Muddy Creek incubator program including prep and egg placement; serving as Financial Review Officer and Member Certification Chair; attended PA Regional Leadership Training - Feb. 2017; AND what I have not done is enough fly tying and fly fishing.

Adam Miller - Director

I am a York County native who grew up with a love for the outdoors. I am an avid outdoorsman who enjoys spending time with my wife, Annie, and our two kids, Talan, 9, and Autumn, 2. Pennsylvania's woods and waters are a refreshing and cherished escape from his busy schedule as Art Director at NXT Creative.

We are pleased to welcome these new and dedicated individuals into our leadership Congratulations!

NEW FALL/WINTER MEETING LOCATION

Please note that our Fall/Winter monthly meetings will be held at

The Meadows Frozen Custard shop of Dallastown Located at 855 E Main St Dallastown, PA 17313

Our meetings will continue to start at 7pm. Join us at 6pm for a light supper of Pizza and Yogurt. We look forward to seeing you there!

MCTU Chapter Sponsors

The Meadows Frozen Custard

is pleased to offer a 10% discount on all food items (hot and cold) to any card carrying TU member. Please present your membership card at time of purchase. We are happy to support Muddy Creek TU and thank you for doing the same.

Offer good at DALLASTOWN location only and valid through Dec 31, 2017.

Find us on Facebook at:

The Meadows Frozen Custard of Dallastown.

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Fall 2017
Inside this issue:



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE	1
EVENTS SCHEDULE	1
CO-OP NURSERY REPORT	2
RECOGNITION ROLL CALL	2
TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM	2
LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES	2
CHAPTER MEETING CHANGES	3
MEET THE NEW GUARD	3
HAIL TO THE CHIEF	3
MCTU MERCHANDISE	4

Muddy Creek Trout Unlimited Merchandise

T-SHIRT/HAT SALES

We have 3 new shirt colors with our original design: Jade; Tan; Olive Green. These new colors are \$12 or \$20 if shipping is required. We still have a few black 25th Anniversary t-shirts for sale (in limited sizes) and our original design on the tan long sleeve shirts available. We have reduced the pricing to \$10 for both shirt styles. We also have some 25th Anniversary hats left; these remain at \$15 per hat. Our travel mugs remain available at \$10/mug. Please contact Maurice at 717-747-5613 or muddycreektu@comcast.net



2017 Collector Patch - North Branch

Muddy Creek Trout Unlimited is committed to continuing the collectable patch fund raiser. Our 2017 Patch boasts a Landscape of the mouth of the North Branch at the Forks on an orange ring with gold trim. These can be purchased for \$7.00

at Chapter meetings, and on our website.

Visit our web site to see the 2017 Collector Patch and others or to place an order at www.muddycreektu.org.

