

### Editors Notes

N. Loprire

What a crazy summer and fall season so far. Too much rain in June then none essentially for the rest of summer and into the fall. Not good for the trout and has hampered the steelhead runs so far. We need El Nino to kick in soon.

Hope everyone enjoyed the summer and is ready for fall outdoor activities. It's a great time of year if Mother Nature cooperates.

Bill Melaro, Ken Tarczy, Fred Pasini, Matt Ceramuga and I helped with Environmental Day at Buhl Park, for middle school students from the surrounding area. We demonstrated fly tying, and helped the kids to catch a few fish from Buhl Lake. For some it was the first time fishing. The kids then moved to other stations to learn more about the environment around them.

Good news!! The logging around Coolspring Creek is over. The near by land is starting to recover, though it is thought that the loggers certainly weren't careful in the way they treated Coolspring. See later how the Scouts help with restoration efforts on Coolspring

### Neshannock TU Winter Meeting

Jeff Kremis

Old Man Winter was mad and we had to cancel our "**Winter Meeting**" last year at Munnell Run Farm. We are hoping to schedule a successful winter meeting for early next year. Keep reading our newsletter for tentative dates.

### 2016 Spring Banquet Heads Up

Carol Jochman & Nick Loprire

The 38<sup>th</sup> annual spring banquet is right after the worst part of winter...so think spring. The date is **MARCH 19<sup>st</sup> 2016 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!! Ticket prices will be the same.

### 2016 Spring Banquet Gun Raffle

Again this year the first prize for the chapter's raffle will be a handgun. The first prize will be a Ruger SR 1911 in .45 ACP. However unlike last year, two handguns **and** a 22 rifle will be among the prizes. **Gun Raffle tickets** will enter the ticket holder in drawings for all guns listed. Tickets will cost **\$5.00 each** or five for **\$20.00**. Tickets can be purchased **at Shooters' Supply at 9 Short Street, West Middlesex, PA and from all chapter officers and directors.** . **Also, you can get tickets at Neshannock Creek Fly Shop in Volant, Pa.** Additionally, they can be ordered by mailing a check payable to Trout Unlimited Chapter 216 and sent to 1092 Hadley Drive, Sharon, PA 16146 - include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you want your ticket stubs sent to you. The complete prize list is below

**Drawing March 19, 2016 -  
Tickets \$5 each or \$20 for  
five tickets**



1<sup>st</sup> Ruger SR 1911 .45 ACP



2<sup>nd</sup> Henry Lever Action 22 LR



3<sup>rd</sup> Ruger LCP 380

**Munnell Run Trout Nursery**  
Bill Stevenson & Crew

The nursery crew reported that all is well with this year's browns, even with the very dry summer. The water is a consistent temperature for the trout to grow well. Look for some 11+ inch fish this spring. Due to crowding some of the fish will have been "freed" to local waters by this mailing. They should be wary by spring.

In case you didn't get the **July/August issue of PA Angler and Boater**, you missed a good article about our Munnell Run Trout Nursery. Here it is:

The majority of Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission's 11 cooperative nurseries have a similar design. Most are comprised of a flow-through raceway that holds several thousand trout. The Munnell Run Trout Nursery, which is sponsored by the Neshannock Chapter of Trout Unlimited (TU), does not fit the stereotypical cooperative nursery mold. The Munnell Run Trout Nursery's "U" shaped, above ground raceway is housed in old slaughterhouse, which is located on a farm owned by Mercer County and managed by the Munnell Run Farm Foundation. Approved in 1997, the nursery produces beautiful Brown Trout, which are the product of a high-quality spring and dedicated volunteers.

The Neshannock Chapter stocks several waters in Lawrence and Mercer counties for the anglers of Pennsylvania. The also co-sponsor the Wolf Creek Fishing Derby, which is for children under the age of 12 and disabled anglers, regardless of their age. Aside from sponsoring a cooperative nursery, the Chapter also participates in **Trout in the Classroom (TIC)**, program, Adopt-a-Stream program and various stream improvement projects.

If your organization is interested in establishing a cooperative nursery, please contact Brian a 814-353-2225, [bmchail@pa.gov](mailto:bmchail@pa.gov) or visit [www.fishandboat.com/coopnurs.htm](http://www.fishandboat.com/coopnurs.htm) for additional information.

For more info on the nursery call Bill Stevenson at 724.342.0472, or email [caryolnandbill@verizon.net](mailto:caryolnandbill@verizon.net), or Ken Tarczy

[buggertarz@yahoo.com](mailto:buggertarz@yahoo.com) at 724.662.5765. Call to arrange for a tour with your kids and to volunteer for stocking the fish. Great idea for the kids to see the fish and be able to understand how they are raised and to see them stocked.

**Eagle Scout Project**  
Jeff Kremis

This past summer the Chapter was the recipient of an Eagle Scout Project completed by **Billy Reig of Boy Scout Troop #65**. During several workdays over the summer months Billy and fellow troop members did a lot of work on the Coolspring DHALO area. They cleared debris from the main trail left behind by the recent logging activity and created several access trails to make getting to the water a little easier and less of a chance of snagging your waders. Some of their other projects involved replanting grass in the areas left bare from the equipment used in removing the logs and they repaired several of the old deflectors on the lower end of the project. They also constructed some new deflectors that were doing the job of creating some new habitat when I walked the stream with Billy to review his work. Thanks Billy and Troop #65 for all of your hard work.



## October 24<sup>th</sup> Work Day at Coolspring

N. Loprire

The sounds of chainsaws were in the air as the determined group attacked the mess of tree tops left by the less than thoughtful crew that removed the trees along Coolspring. Some was weather downed trees and a lot of tops that blocked previous walking routes along the stream.

Much thanks to Bill Stevenson (though he disappeared for a while), Ken Tarczy, Carol and Tom Jochman, Matt Ceramuga and Kalie? Pollack, Mike Kelly, Bill Melaro and yours truly. Hope I didn't leave someone out.

Rain, shortened the event but we did make a serious dent in the "mess" along the trail.

## Trout in the Classroom 2015-16 Update

Reg McClelland

Not much new to say about this program everyone is getting ready for another season of raising Brook Trout. The eggs have been collected and will be delivered sometime the first week November. Some of our teachers had a hard time last year; there was talk of some bad eggs being delivered. Amidea Daniel of the PA fish and Boat even shipped some schools extra fish, not eggs, fish. And some schools even lost them. Let's hope everyone has a successful year at raising these Brook Trout.

Rick Stevens at the Delahunty Middle School and Jan Abernethy from East Middle School in Greenville have their systems up and running and are waiting for their eggs to arrive. Luke Rust from Mercer school district was having some trouble with his filter and has some parts on order but should be ready to go in time. Karl Rupert from the Farrell School District is now in their fourth year and has a pretty good handle on what to expect also.

It's still early yet, and as of this writing the eggs haven't arrived yet but with the experienced teachers we have as partners on this annual project I'm not expecting too many surprises. They have all had their share of problems and are getting good at knowing what to do. This year we are trying to help a little more by buying an extra chiller. As of this writing it's on the way to me from Trade

Wind Chillers in California. This will be a big help if someone has a chiller go bad in the middle of the year and know way to keep the water cold, which is a very important part of the process. These trout are very fussy about their water. Which is the biggest lesson learned through all of this trout raising business. When you think about it we are not far "downstream" from these trout. If the water is bad and they can't survive we're not far behind.

TIC T-shirts are still available for purchase. As a joint initiative by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited, all proceeds from this fundraiser will be used to directly benefit the Trout in the Classroom program, such as providing additional equipment to classrooms, funds for release days and field trips, educational materials, and more. The next order will be submitted December 1, 2015. PATU is accepting T-shirt orders on continuing bases. You can find out more information on ordering a TIC T-shirts at PATU's website, <http://www.patrou.org/> .

Samantha Kutskel has been doing a great job keeping everyone informed on what's happening at PATU and the Trout in the Classroom program. This year PATU and the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission will ship eggs to more than 246 schools across the state. If you do the math that's about 75,000 eggs to be packed, shipped and delivered in three days, with food. That's pretty impressive.

We as a chapter have also been trying to get as many students as we can to join Trout Unlimited. Where they can continue to learn about conservation and get a chance to use some of the things they have learned.

**You can find out more information on ordering a TIC T-shirts at PATU's website, <http://www.patrou.org/> Thanks for helping this great program to be a continuing success.**

## Why Fishing is the Greatest Sport

N. Loprire

If you were to take some thoughtful time to compare fishing to any other sport you

can think of, it will become apparent why fishing is the greatest of all individual sports. This is my opinion and I bet most will agree after reading. Fishing is similar to many other sports and games in that you can be very casual in how you approach fishing, just like say, how you might treat a night out bowling. You just want to meet up with friends, drink some beer and have a good time or you can have a serious goal to be the best you can. Fishing is the same. You go once a week, month or year. It might be only when the grand kids visit or your buddy from out of town is visiting or it is an all-consuming passion.

You can compare fishing to many other pastimes and they will look similar like golf. For me, I only start to golf (more like hack) when trout fishing slows with the heat of summer. It fills a time void until deer season and steelheading begins.

The difference between fishing and other sports is in the longevity of performance. Can you play tennis, or golf at 4-5 years old. Maybe for a select few kids but every child can hold a rod and watch the bobber go down and achieve the success of bringing in a fish at a very young age. You can pursue tennis, and golf many years but it's obvious that the performance is in a diminished state as the years pass.

(There are no 40 year old running backs in the NFL.)

Let's say you gave up fishing for a number of years while you pursued other sports in hopes of becoming the next Yankee shortstop or Tom Brady. More than likely a professional sports career is not going to happen and an education, or trade is needed to make it in this world. Somewhere along life's path, the enjoyment of fishing will raise its dormant head and with minimal effort or abilities you can be "back in the game" so to speak.

In one's adult years it can be a sport as simple as that from your childhood or you can get into, fly rods, boats, special rods, reels, and exotic destinations. If fishing has gained your interest it can continue to occupy as much of your time as you (or your wife, girlfriend) allow. Fishing can continue this way for almost all of your adult life. You might say, that golf, tennis, or other sports can do the same. Let's take a closer look. When you are in your Fifties, you are most likely in a "senior" league in golf

or any other sport. You just can't compete with the 30 year old crowd. At fifty, in fishing, you are just putting all the past knowledge together in your mind and though you might not hike as far or go out in suspect weather conditions, you can compete with any age fisherman. Fishing is a giant puzzle that will never be solved. Parts will fall into place and more success comes from that, while age is never a limiting factor.

I'm sure many of us knew of the "old" guy that was on the lake or stream, who more times than not brought in a good catch. He has put parts of the puzzle of that lake or stream together.

So now you are a real senior in your 70's and the old injuries and aging are getting a solid grip on your activities. Sure, you might still golf, or take part in other sports, but you have to know that it is not on the same level as years ago. Here is where fishing stands out. Even in an advanced age, a trophy fish, limit of walleye, or crappie, or an awesome day with a fly hatch, is a more than a realistic result.

It's nice to have multiple interests in our lives, and we all should strive for that, and I'm here to say, that fishing should be one of those interests that will fulfill you for years to come.

...All good things-trout as well as eternal salvation-come by grace and grace comes by art and art does not come easy.

**Norman Maclean** (1976)