

BankNotes

VALLEY FORGE TROUT UNLIMITED

Protecting Coldwater Resources Since 1976

Spring 2019

Save the Stream—Save the People

Infinite growth is impossible in a finite world. Cities, industries, and human population cannot expand forever. America's time of



Owen Owens

beginning—an era of vast frontiers and unlimited growth—is coming to an end. No child nor nation stays young forever. It's time for us to grow up. Shoots of new life are springing up that with care and protection will someday grow to be a forest of hope.

What happens to the streams happens to the people, and vice-

versa! Everybody drinks water—safe, ample supplies are essential. Pennsylvania's Growing Greener Program, started by Governor Tom Ridge, has not only saved many streams and their watersheds, but also helped economic development. As I have traveled across the state speaking to Trout Unlimited and community groups, people took me to look at acid mine drainage remediation, and stream and watershed restoration projects. Local watershed associations formed, applied for and received Growing Greener grants, and put that money to work in their county. Associations hired local

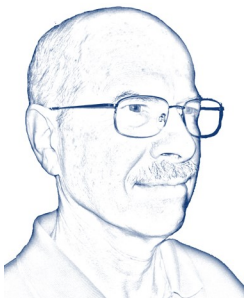
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Notes from the Prez

By Pete Hughes

A Busy Time

VFTU has a full slate of scheduled activities this year and more to be added. I highly recommend you join us for these fun and entertaining outings. On March 9 and 10, we will once again have a display table at the Lancaster Fly Fishing Show. The show consists



of demos, presentations, lots of top-tier fly tyers, outfitters, authors and vendors.

Then, on Saturday, March 23, we host our

annual VFTU Trout Show with guest presenter Henry Ramsay, a noted and knowledgeable Pennsylvania fly fisherman. Our Trout Show will have plenty of great raffle prizes for fishermen and non-fishers alike, including top fly rods and reels, a kayak, camping gear, artwork, and lots of other merchandise. This year we move to a new location, the Lionville Middle School, 550 West Uwchlan Ave (Route 113), Exton, PA 19341. This new venue allows us to have the raffles and display tables in the same auditorium as the presentation. See more about the Trout Show later in the newsletter.

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Points of Interest

Mark your calendars:

Lancaster Fly Fishing Show
March 9 & 10

39th Annual VFTU Trout Show
March 23

Register now:

Little Juniata Fishing Trip
May 9 - 11

Fly Fishing School
May 19

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www.valleyforgetu.org



Notes from the Prez

(Continued from page 1)

Next up, on Thursday, April 4, we will be co-sponsoring the Fly Fishing Film Tour at the Colonial Theatre in Phoenixville brought to us once again by Carter Satterfield. Last year's Film Tour was a great evening featuring wonderful fly fishing film segments of a wide variety of beautiful locations and species of fish. I cannot wait to see this year's clips. In addition to the film there will be raffles and prizes along with refreshments. Look for more info on getting tickets to this event in the coming weeks. Last year was a sell-out!

Later in April, on Sunday the 28th, we will host a Euro-nymphing Workshop at The Sporting Gentleman, 128 Glen Mills Rd, Glen Mills, PA 19342. Workshop will consist of on-stream instruction, flies for Euro-nymphing including live fly tying demo's, review of macro-invertebrates and stream biology in determining best nymphing approaches. There are a limited number of spots available for this event so sign up early. Contact Al Renzi al@yellowspringsfarm.com for more details and to register.

Want more to do? We have it. Our 4th annual fishing trip to a premiere stream, the Little Juniata, takes place May 9 through May 11. The trip includes 2 nights lodging with hot breakfast and Thursday night dinner at the historic Edgewater Inn. For more info contact Charlie Griffen, c.griffenod@verizon.net.

Then, on Sunday, May 19, VFTU holds our annual Fly Fishing School. This is an all-day school that includes a light breakfast, tasty lunch and terrific barbeque dinner. Students learn about insects trout eat, how to tie the proper knots and string up a rod, how to cast, how to approach fish

in a stream and then each student gets individualized guiding for the evening hatch. Look for more info on the Fly Fishing School later in the edition or on our website <http://www.valleyforgetu.org/calendar-events/fly-fishing-school/>.

Hope

Last edition of BankNotes, Winter 2018, I wrote about a connection we made with Father John, the chaplain at Church Farm School. Father John was interested in getting his students out into the natural environment. Well, we had our first outing with the students in the form of a stream clean-up along Valley Creek. We hosted a van full of teenagers and a teacher on a drizzly Sunday afternoon and had great success. The students collected 10 contractor size bags of trash, several tires, a cinder block, old posts and even a cellphone. More importantly, the students experienced a natural setting, asked a lot of questions and learned about habitats that support wild trout. These students were polite, inquisitive and quick studies, all of which gives me hope for future TU volunteers. And, thanks to Dave Dickens, Church Farm School is now up and running with Trout in the Classroom having set up their aquarium and received their supply of trout eggs.

Expanding Youth Outreach

VFTU Board member and Youth Program lead, Dave Dickens will team up with Stroud Water Research Center on two efforts to expand educational opportunities with students. First, Dave will host a meeting of 10 school teachers to educate them about Trout in the Classroom. This could potentially double the number of schools VFTU sponsors in the program.

Dave has also been appointed the Southeast Region lead by PA TU for the new STREAM program for Girl Scouts. STREAM borrows from, and expands the popular high school STEM program—Science, Technology, Recreation, Engineering, Arts and Math. Over the course of multiple sessions, the Girl Scouts observe streams, collect flow data, sample macroinvertebrates (aka aquatic bugs), and learn fly tying and fly casting. Each day also gives the girls time to explore the natural area and record their thoughts and observations in their handbooks.

2019 Watershed Congress
March 9, 2019
Montgomery County Community College, Pottstown, PA



Debra O'Connell

The annual Watershed Congress melds science, policy, and practical applications into one program that highlights the best available information and techniques for protecting and restoring watersheds.

The 2019 program will offer a keynote that explores the results of a **decade of restoration and monitoring in the Brandywine Watershed**, information-packed breakout sessions, a poster session, displays, and much more.

Register before February 10 for \$50 rate.

A student rate is available.

For more information or to register go to:

<https://sites.google.com/view/watershedcongress/watershed-congress-home>

Save the Stream—Save the People

(Continued from page 1)

contractors to plan and carry out their projects, with the result that Growing Greener money recirculated many times, helping rebuild some of the poorest communities in the state. By taking steps to save our streams, Pennsylvania moved forward in saving the people.

The Clean Water Act has indeed produced fishable, swimmable waters. Hundreds of billions of dollars have been spent to clean up streams and toxic waste Superfund sites. Shad and striped bass have returned to the Delaware River, and millions have cleaner drinking water. Right here in Chester County, Valley Creek once was so polluted with sewage you would not want to get near it. Now it is an Exceptional Value stream alive with wild trout.

Life is more than the money we make, the house we live in, the computer we manipulate, or the TV we watch. Using up resources leaves us cold inside. The rare wild trout in Valley Creek teach us not to eat everything in sight. Nature in ways strange to greedy human beings has an ordered balance. Trout eating midges on the surface during winter months don't waste effort on something they are not keyed in on. The few blue quills on the water survive, mate, and lay eggs. "Stay in balance with nature," those trout teach, "Making all the money you can, no matter who is hurt and what is destroyed, is a dead end street!"

Yesterday's forests and farms are being covered by roads, roofs, and parking lots. Big storms are coming. If we do not stop the floods caused by paving the Valley Creek Watershed, sooner or later Washington's headquarters will be destroyed, homes will be flooded, and many will suffer.

When we face massive ruin caused by humans it is easy to become discouraged, even hopeless. When I look back, however, I see one miracle after another. Valley Forge Trout Unlimited's suit against Septa—the owner of the Paoli Railyard—resulted in a clean-up of the PCBs, the pilot stream restoration project on West Valley became a special regulation fishing area, Church Farm School land planned for intensive development was purchased for a county park, and lawsuits against the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection resulted in legal precedents to protect Valley Creek as an exceptional value stream.

Since 1976 Valley Forge Trout Unlimited, working with West Chester Fish, Game, and Wildlife and other members of the Valley Creek Coalition, has sought to protect the coldwater streams of Chester County. Leaders respond when citizens organize to get townships, corporations, and the county to make decisions to save the streams. We have discovered, often to our surprise, that one person can make a big difference for good.

What steps should we take next to save the cold water streams of Chester County?

Center on our goals: preserve still unspoiled land, conserve when we use water and land, and restore to life what we have ruined

Let the rain soak into the ground again and replenish the underground water supply

Establish greenways that provide wildlife habitat, open space, and stream protection

Replant trees throughout each watershed so that Eastern Chester County becomes green and cool again

Stop herbicide and road salt contamination and other poisons polluting the water

Support the Valley Creek Restoration Partnership, which advocates and coordinates watershed restoration efforts

Revitalize Chester County conservation groups—seek new members, raise funds, educate adults and children, and speak out for streams and watersheds at township and public meetings.

So I ask you, reader of this article, come to the next meeting of the Valley Forge Chapter of Trout Unlimited. Volunteer. Contribute. Go with someone to a township meeting. Volunteers who get active discover, as did I, that you will get back far more than you ever give. *Save the streams—save the people!*

Fly Fishing Film Tour 2019

The Fly Fishing Film Tour is coming back to the Colonial Theatre in Phoenixville this Spring. Last year was a sell-out, and it is expected to sell out again this year. So, get your tickets early! There will be refreshments at the Theatre, including beer, raffles for top gear, and a pre-film happy hour at a near-by location.

All proceeds go to Trout Unlimited! These funds helped TU protect and restore our fishing streams.

Date - Thursday, April 4, 2019

Time - Doors open at 6pm, Show starts at 7pm, should be done by 9:30pm at the latest

Location - Colonial Theatre, 227 Bridge Street, Phoenixville, PA 19460

Tickets - Tickets available through the Colonial Theatre's website this year so that you can reserve seats. We anticipate the show will sell out so you are encouraged to purchase tickets in advance. Tickets can be found here - <https://thecolonialtheatre.com/programs/fly-fishing-film-tour-2019/>

Raffle - There will be another raffle this year with top gear as last year, with even more added.

Trailer is posted:

<https://vimeo.com/250146313>

Again, all profits go to TU.

Environmental Update

Just for giggles I thought it might be interesting to see just how much rain we had in the general area. Many of us watch various



Pete Goodman

stream and river gages. I watch the Valley Creek Gage just outside Valley Forge Park. It is a USGS gauge and monitors rain fall as well as stream discharge and turbidity. I asked the

website to give me a graph from 1/1/2018 to 12/31/2018 and what it gave me was a pretty straight line beginning in the middle of January right through December peaking at roughly 70 inches of precipitation. That compares with our normal of somewhere around 45 inches which occurs in anything but a straight-line graph. If I take the average and subtract it from the amount of rain this year it equals 25 inches more than average or a 55.6% increase over the average.

But, so what? What does that mean? What does it mean if you are trying to get to work and every road is flooded and you can't get there? What if you are a trout in Valley Creek and every week you are pinned down behind that rock trying to survive another monster rain event that is carrying mud and salt and every other conceivable toxin aggravated by hard surfaces that funnels the runoff to the creek even faster. Our Valley Creek trout should come equipped with little hooks on their fins for hanging on, hanging in place, in such events. Perhaps evolution would provide the Valley Creek Trout with hooks or claws if the changes to their environment were not happening so quickly.

Maybe someone could tamper with some trout genes and give them the little hooks they will surely need in order to face the future of wall to wall development coupled with the bigger and wilder storms of climate change.

Perhaps that is a lead in to what happened on my birthday. Just for me, the EPA and the Army Corp of Engineers proposed a new rule to replace the 2015 Clean Water Rule (Waters of the United States or WOTUS). Their joint announcement on December 11 undermines the goal of the Clean Water Act to restore and maintain the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the nation's waters by preventing point and nonpoint pollution sources. Clean water is necessary for people as well as fish. Any reduction in the level of protection of our surface water resources diminishes all of our water. The waters we are talking about losing protection for are wetlands, seeps and headwater streams. These are the very sources of our streams and rivers. How can we have swimmable, fishable and drinkable water if we allow the pollution of the origins of our flowing waters?

I called our water a resource in the prior paragraph and I hate doing that. To me it cheapens the value of water and degrades it to a commodity or piece of currency. Water is so much more. But because of its relative abundance (especially around here and this year in particular) it is not that highly valued in our market economy. Although it is one of earth's requirements for life along with the air we breathe, it held little value until we were forced to regulate it and put it in bottles. Do you remember hearing the comment about the Schuylkill River that "it was too thick to

drink and too thin to plow." I am glad we are not living in those times.

So we go on doing the best that we can with our limited number of people, our limited dollars, minimal political support and inadequate regulations to protect our cold water fisheries.

Developments and Infrastructure

On Christmas Day (interestingly enough and Merry Christmas) an article appeared on the front page of the Daily Local News. The headline was, "Aqua America acquires Tredyffrin's Valley Creek Trunk Sewer System." The article goes on to say that Aqua bought the system from the Tredyffrin Township Municipal Authority for \$28.3 million. This is the same sewer system that ruptured three times and in two incidences the discharge of raw sewage was moved upstream a mile so that repairs could be made but contaminated all of Valley Forge National Historical Park along Valley Creek. This is the system that VFTU threatened Tredyffrin with a law suit over the continuing spills and their lack of maintenance to prevent it from happening and their slow response to affect a repair or replacement to the line. This is the system that was relined through the summer season and with much temporary ecological damage to the Park and inconvenience to local commuters. This is the Aqua who has graced Valley Creek with multiple fish kills over the past decades due to their broken water mains – their chlorinated water killing every thing in the creek with gills. This is the Aqua that says they are a green company, concerned about the environment. Why are fish still dying in Valley Creek due to water main breaks? What does Aqua's ownership of

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Environmental Update

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this sewer line mean for the future of its rate payers and for the future of Valley Creek. Stay tuned.

While I am on a rant, I guess that I might as well keep on going. Our Turnpike issue with the widening from Route 29 to the Valley Forge Interchange at this writing is maybe very close to being over. I may have said that before – several times. I received a letter from PA DEP dated January 2, 2019 providing, “14 days advanced notice of its expected action of approving the above-referenced Permit Modification for the Project.” My expectation is that our review will find nothing substantive and that we will allow the permit modification to go forward providing the Turnpike with the permit necessary to finally move ahead with the widening project. With the dawn of 2019 that moves us into 13 years that VFTU has been involved with the Turnpike on this project alone. I believe we were 6 years engaged with them on the Route 29 Interchange. You could get really tired and old doing this work.

The Bishop Tube development is back in the news with a new proposal. It appears that the revised development plan is reduced in size comprising only 13.7 acres (only the Bishop Tube parcel) currently. Two additional parcels have been dropped from the plan. It is still a very dense townhome development with 93 residential units proposed. Also, there has been no plan that I am aware of that PA DEP has put forward to clean up the site or if they have even identified the extent of pollution on, about and in the plume radiating from the site. This is just not the place for a residential development. There is no way that the stormwater

generated on that site by that dense a development can be managed on site. The community group Bishop Tube Clean and Green probably has the best idea. Have the responsible parties clean up the site to the highest level provided by law and turn it into a passive natural area, a park. Let nature try to heal what industry has contaminated.

Grants

On December 18 I received word that the pre-construction meeting had occurred at the Tredyffrin Township building for the Wilson Run Stream Restoration project for which we have a Growing Greener grant. Gilmore & Associates, Inc. are pretty much driving this project. They have done the design work, obtained the permits and are coordinating with the landowner and us. We will be involved in planting some of the trees and shrubs and we will be collecting and dispersing grant funds. There will be more on this as the schedule becomes firmer. Please watch for emails and action alerts where we will call for volunteer planters and planter captains.

Another grant project we are involved with is the Pigeon Run Riparian Buffer Grant. This project is an initial project of the newly formed Charlestown Township Environmental Advisory Committee. It is still in the formulation process but looks very interesting. Pigeon Run is a tributary to the Pickering Creek.

Whitlock-Vibert Boxes and more

We have additional interest in the Pickering Creek from some VFTU members. The current issue of Trout Magazine, Winter 2019, has an article titled *The Whitlock-Vibert Box*. This article got the juices going in several members and there is a move afoot to again start placing fertilized trout eggs

in local streams, the Pickering being among them. West Valley was also discussed for planting eggs. It has been some time since the last efforts to plant eggs in local streams. There seems to be good energy around this project and the one problem that existed, which was a lack of a source for eggs, is no longer a problem with multiple sources being identified.

Associated with putting fertilized trout eggs in streams is an effort to monitor more broadly what our local streams are doing and if they are suitable for trout reproduction. At our last board meeting we authorized funds for the purchase of some monitoring equipment through Stroud Water Research Center.

Want to help?

We have this good energy among several of our board members. How about some of you general VFTU members? Does this project of monitoring and/or placing trout eggs in a stream interest you? Let us hear from you. Call or email anyone of us on your VFTU board and we will get you talking with the right person for your interest.



Lancaster
Fly Fishing Show
March 9th and 10th
Lancaster County Convention Center
3 East Vine Street
Lancaster, PA 17602
Saturday 9:00 am — 5:30pm
Sunday 9:00 am — 4:30 pm
Tickets and information:
<https://flyfishingshow.com/lancaster-pa/>

Project Healing Waters

What a busy 4th quarter for all 3 of our sponsored programs

The Coatesville VAMC Program meets every Wednesday from 6-8 p.m. Building 5 Basement Conference Room.

Their year-end numbers are out. In 2018, the Coatesville program hosted 206 individual veteran participants. As we look back at 2018, in addition to regular Wednesday tying meetings, they made 11 off-campus fishing trips as well as outings to Orvis, Downingtown/the Olive Garden and the Lancaster Fly Fishing Show. 35 volunteers contributed a total of 2,288 hours.

Ted Nawalinski is the program's 2018 Volunteer of the Year and Tim Smith is the 2018 Participant of the Year. Both of these individuals contributed greatly to the success of our program.

They welcomed Gene Galvin, their newest Wednesday night volunteer. Gene understands what we're trying to accomplish and is a welcome addition to the group.

Participant Tim Smith was one of 8 national finalists in the 2018 PHWFF Fly Tying Competition. Volunteer Jerry Coviello mentored him with his tying and Chris Ricciutti accompanied him to the International Fly Tying Symposium for tying demonstrations and the awards ceremony.

On Christmas morning the vets in building 8 were treated to a delivery of donuts, breakfast sandwiches and coffee thanks to the efforts of Matt "Crispy Creme Kringle" Seymour. Matt has once again gone above and beyond the call of duty.

For 2019, regular Wednesday night fly tying sessions will continue. In addition Jack McFadden, Ed Penry and Charlie

Green will help the vets with rod building. In March they will be taking the vets to the Fly Fishing Expo in Lancaster as well as VFTU's spring show. The first of their fly-fishing outings will be held in late April. This year they hope to add more private ponds to the list of fishing destinations. If anyone knows of a pond that might be suitable to host 10 or 12 vets and a like number of volunteers, call or text Ken VanGilder at 610-883-3748.

The Royersford Community Program meets every 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Monday at the Royersford VFW from 6:30-9 p.m.

They spent December focusing on fundamental fly tying skills to build the capabilities needed for our participants to compete in the annual fly tying contest. Ian Shumaker took the crew through copper johns, Pete Hughes showed how to tie parachute dries, and Thad Nowakowski demonstrated quill bodied euro nymphs. Thanks to numerous donations throughout the year, they were able to restock their fly tying supplies, and will be tying heavily to fill their fly boxes for the spring.

In January they will begin their rod builds for the annual PHWFF Rod Building Competition. They'll be tackling everything from 8 weight bass and bonefish rods to 10 foot 3 weight euro nymph rigs.

They closed out 2018 with a holiday party, and recognized three individuals for their outstanding commitment to the Royersford program. Shawn Biederwolf received the 2018 Participant of the Year award and got a nice new rotary vise to help with his artistic creations. This was a special opportunity, as Shawn had his previous vise destroyed when it fell off of his

motorcycle after one of our meetings. Ken Leung was named the 2018 Volunteer of the Year for his very consistent dedication to the Royersford program. Everyone will be leaning heavily on Ken's rod building skills, and engineering background for our rod building classes this winter. Lastly, Pete Hughes received a Distinguished Service Award for the commitment that he has shown to the Royersford program for the last two years. If you'd like to help out as a volunteer, or know a disabled active duty military person, or disabled veteran who could benefit from PHWFF, please contact Thad Nowakowski at Thaddeus.nowakowski@projecthealingwaters.org.

The West Bradford Community Program meets every Monday from 6-8 p.m. at the West Bradford Fire Sub Station.

Closing out 2018 they celebrated one of their own as Jason Scrafford took First Place in the Advanced Fly Tying category in this year's National Fly Tying Competition. The winning pattern was a Rusty Rat variation he named the "Harley (aka Harley Davidson) Rat."

The program also welcomed aboard 2 new participants.

The 2018 Participant of the Year was awarded to Rick "Gunny" Hutton and 2018 Volunteer of the Year was awarded to Bill Rescigno.

They celebrated the holidays with a Christmas gathering that included a table full of donations given out to their participants.

Jimmy's fly tying corner is a regular weekly event with focus on all the patterns that are proven in our local waters, even

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New Zealand

By Joe Armstrong

North Island New Zealand would be the best place in the world ... if South Island didn't exist. I have been fortunate to go down there four times.

Fishing there is quite different than what we are used to. In the rivers at least, it is overwhelmingly fishing for brown trout. By our standards they are big, typically four to six pounds. Double figure fish are however very rare. I found mere four to six pounders were plenty entertaining. There are no little ones. The fish are almost all males. How does that work? I'm not sure, but apparently after spawning the females head back downstream to a lake or estuary to get ready for the next spawning run. There are very few fish. Fishing the water, i.e., likely looking spots is simply a waste of time. The fish must be seen, then fished for. They are often a long way (hundreds of yards or more) from the last fish. The water is very clear, but the fish are very hard to see. A typical exchange may be something like the guide saying, "There's one, right there." I say, "Huh? I don't see anything." The guide says, "See that white stone, his nose is right on it." I still don't see the fish, but I see the white stone. If I do my thing right, yes there is a very nice fish right there.

Long leaders are the deal. At least 12 feet and maybe 20 feet. It is often windy. That is a problem and source of a lot of frustration. They do not have heavy hatches such as we often see. With a few exceptions, the bugs are small, #16, #18 or smaller. There aren't a lot of rising fish, not none, but few.

There are exceptions, including a locust hatch, with big bugs, and a more exotic "mouse hatch." Periodically the beech trees

produce great quantities of nuts. The mice flourish, the fish notice, and they may gain two pounds or so in those periods.

Crossing a stream will put the fish down for a half mile downstream for hours. Imagine if that happened on Valley Creek.

As above, while it is possible to go and fish without a guide, it isn't very productive. I fished from lodges and independent guides, who were way better than the lodge guides.

While at a lodge, others there hired a helicopter to take them way back in. It was 7 years ago and cost \$1,500. They were taken into a wild wilderness and dropped into a gorgeous river with a spectacular pool in a canyon. The helicopter left and they went to find the fish. There weren't any. They couldn't climb out of the canyon to the next pools up or down. I never was tempted to rent a helicopter. I did find that some guides were pretty athletic in where they were willing to go in their 4 wheel drive vehicles.

The scenery is simply spectacular in many places. Often the head of the valley would be covered in glaciers. In spite of the glaciers, the water was gin clear in most cases. I'm not sure why.

The guides were exceptional, and moreover, just plain fun. Often the day went until it was too dark to fish further.

While I was not interested in hunting, it appears to be totally different than what we are used to. As the only native mammal was one species of bat, and larger ones non-native, and basically not protected. This includes red deer (the European version of our elk) which are regarded as vermin, so can be shot any time in any quantity. Wow.

Beyond the guides, the locals are

just plain great people, full of fun and with a great interest in getting out and doing things. Little villages may have more than one rugby pitch. Youth don't walk around gazing at cell phones. Pretty much every village has a back packer hostel. There are frequent signs indicating such things as the Routeburn track, four days. Many others are longer. There are hundreds of mountain huts, which are well patronized.

While I won't be able to go back (my replaced hip popped out for the second time two months ago), I loved it and feel very fortunate to have gone. On my last fishing day last March I caught an 8 pound brown on a size 16 Ausable Wulff. It just plain doesn't get much better than that.

Project Healing Waters

(Continued from page 6)

those proprietary to the master! Program participants also completed 3 rods, one of which is a 10' 4wt decked out with personal campaign ribbons and duty stations! Two of their Participants travelled to Islamorada, FL on the PHWFF National Trip "Fish With A Hero."

WCO Bob Bonney has also embarked on a project he volunteered to do, cataloging our efforts through picture and video. This will be an on-going project for some time and they hope to include participants from the other programs as well.

If you'd like to help out as a volunteer, or know a disabled active duty military person, or disabled veteran who could benefit from PHWFF, please contact Dave Riggio at david.riggio@projecthealingwaters.org.

As our programs grow, so does the need for additional mentors. If you think you might like to help please contact Ken, Thad or Dave.

VALLEY FORGE TROUT UNLIMITED
39TH ANNUAL
TROUT SHOW
SAT. MARCH 23, 2019 1:00 - 4:00

**FISHERMEN
DON'T MISS IT!**

PRESENTATION BY:
HENRY RAMSAY

AUTHOR OF
MATCHING MAJOR EASTERN HATCHES
NEW PATTERNS FOR SELECTIVE TROUT
www.ramsayflies.com

PLENTY OF RAFFLES!
MAIN RAFFLE, SPECIAL RAFFLE, BUCKET RAFFLES
A GREAT OUTDOOR RAFFLE WITH LOTS OF PRIZES
Prizes to include Rods, Reels, Kayak, Artwork, Fishing
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ALSO: ENVIRONMENTAL DISPLAYS, FLY FISHING
SCHOOL SIGN UPS, FRESH AND SALTWATER FLIES
FOR SALE AND MORE...
THERE WILL BE OPPORTUNITIES TO VOLUNTEER
WITH TROUT UNLIMITED & PROJECT HEALING
WATERS FLY FISHING.



*All Proceeds To Be Used For
Environmental Restoration and
Protection of Chester County
Trout Streams*



www.ValleyForgeTU.org

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$5.00 KIDS UNDER 12 FREE!

LIONVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL
550 W. Uwchlan Ave.
Exton, PA 19341

VALLEY FORGE TROUT UNLIMITED
39TH ANNUAL
TROUT SHOW
SAT. MARCH 23, 2019 1:00 - 4:00

**FISHERMEN
DON'T MISS IT!**

PRESENTATION BY:

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NEW PATTERNS FOR SELECTIVE TROUT
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Protection of Chester County
Trout Streams*



www.ValleyForgeTU.org

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$5.00 KIDS UNDER 12 FREE!

LIONVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL
550 W. Uwchlan Ave.
Exton, PA 19341

Girl Scouts STREAM Patch Award

By Dave Dickens

Valley Forge Chapter of Trout Unlimited is very pleased to announce that it will be partnering with the Stroud Water Research Center in Avondale, PA and the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited to create a Girl Scouts STREAM patch award to each participant who successfully completes the requirements. The STREAM patch award is an extension of the STEM program in the PA School System that is found in most schools in the state of PA. The studies include the

areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. STREAM includes these areas, but in addition, will also focus on Recreation and the Arts. Under the Recreation curriculum, participants study fresh water through fresh water observations, entomology, water flow, fly tying, fly casting and fly fishing. The Arts segment of the patch requirements will be in creative writing and creative artwork.

Dave Dickens, TIC (Trout in the Classroom) coordinator at VFTU,

is also the STREAM coordinator for this new pilot program and will be the liaison between Stroud Research Center scientists and educators, and all of the volunteers from VFTU.

Dave is asking for each member to consider volunteering and helping to support this great program. Volunteers will be asked to instruct fly-tying, fly fishing and/or fly casting. When you make the decision to volunteer, please contact Dave Dickens: ddickens65@icloud.com.

Trout in the Classroom

By Dave Dickens

9 local schools to take part in Trout in the Classroom program

Pennsylvania Trout Unlimited, Valley Forge Trout Unlimited and PA Fish and Boat Commission are again sponsoring nine schools throughout our region in the Trout in the Classroom program (TIC). Twelve years running in PA, students are taught the importance of water quality, water temperature, food source and watershed conservation through a classroom program that entails a 55 gallon aquarium, aerator, chiller, food source and fertilized brook trout eggs (our official state fish) in their classes following the Pennsylvania State Standards Curriculum.

There are more than 350 elementary, middle and high school programs in our state engaged in the TIC program (up from 257 schools last year). Teachers must be dedicated to the TIC program and must attend

a workshop held in June by PA Fish and Boat Commission and the Pennsylvania Trout Unlimited Organization. Once educated in the curriculum and prepared to manage the tanks and the fertilized eggs, the schools will be supplied with the eggs and food by our organizations. The school must supply the tanks, chillers and aerator. Start up costs are \$1,200 to \$1,500. Students manage the eggs in the tanks to the fry stage, and eventually the fingerling stage throughout the year. In the spring, students release the young trout (fingerlings) into a stream approved by the PA Fish and Boat Commission.

The following schools are participating in this program under VFTU's TIC program:

Nottingham Elementary School:
Oxford School District

Pickering Valley Elementary School:
Downingtown School District

Pocopson Elementary School:
Unionville Chadds Ford School District

Valley Forge Middle School:
Tredyffrin Easttown School District

Tredyffrin Easttown Middle School:
Tredyffrin Easttown School District

Radnor Middle School:
Radnor School District

Downingtown West High School:
Downingtown School District

Church Farm School (High School):
Private

The Montgomery School (K-12th Grade):
Private

Members, please note if your school district or school is involved. If it is ... GREAT! If not, could you perhaps influence a teacher in your school district to become a participating educator? If so, please contact Dave Dickens, TIC Coordinator: ddicken65@icloud.com

Thinking of volunteering to help with a youth program?

Think about getting your Child Abuse Clearances even though they are not required at this time. The process is simple, easy and free to volunteers. Go to these websites to find out how (don't forget to check the box indicating you are a volunteer):

Child Abuse Certification: www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home

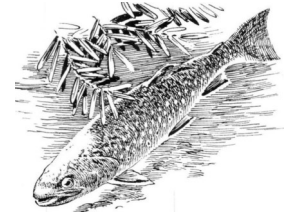
PA State Police Criminal History Verification: epatch.state.pa.us/

2019 Fly Fishing School

hosted by



VALLEY FORGE TROUT UNLIMITED



The Fly Fishing School will be held on

Sunday, May 19

at CCWA—Paradise Farm Camps
1300 Valley Creek Rd, Downingtown, PA 19335

A full day of instruction on fly casting, fly fishing techniques, entomology, knots, fly fishing for trout (PA license & trout stamp required), plus three meals are included.

Questions? Call John Dettrey at (610) 220-9147

The school can accommodate approximately 30 students. Please register early as slots fill up fast!!!

Number of adults @ \$75 each _____

Number of Children @ \$30 each _____

(must be accompanied by a paying adult)

Total Amount Enclosed _____

(Refunds made only if cancellation is received before May 1)

Make check payable to **VFTU** and mail application to:
VFTU FFS
P.O. Box 1356
West Chester, PA 19380

Name _____

Phone (____) _____ - _____ Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Name _____

Phone (____) _____ - _____ Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Name _____

Phone (____) _____ - _____ Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

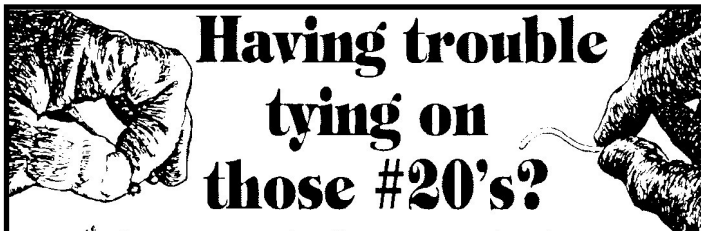
Note: Fly Fishing School attendees acknowledge that they may appear in photographs taken during the VFTU Fly Fishing School. Please indicate your consent for Valley Forge Trout Unlimited (VFTU) to use photos containing your image in future promotions for the Fly Fishing School and other VFTU activities.

I **grant consent** for photographs of me and/or my family to be used in VFTU publications.

I **do not grant consent** for photographs of me and/or my family to be used in VFTU publications.

Signature _____


Names, addresses and phone numbers must be provided for all persons being enrolled. Use additional sheet of paper if necessary.



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c.griffenod@verizon.net
All proceeds go to VFTU



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Little Juniata Spring Fishing Trip

ANNOUNCING!

Valley Forge Trout Unlimited's 4th Annual Little Juniata Spring Trip

"One of PA's best wild brown trout streams"

When: May 9-11, 2019

Where: Edgewater Inn in Alexandria, PA

Cost: \$295 Single occupancy, \$200 Double occupancy
(there are a limited number of rooms with 2 beds).

What's included: 2 nights lodging with hot breakfast and
Thursday night dinner at the historic Edgewater Inn.

Registration deadline is March 1st!

Make checks payable to:

Valley Forge T.U. and put *Little J Trip*
on the memo line and mail to:

Charles Griffen
134 Crump Road
Exton, PA 19341

***Please include the name of your roommate if you are
sharing a room, along with your cell phone number
and email address so I can send you confirmation and
updates.

Don't forget to send your check!

Cancellation Policy:

Prior to 3/15/19: 75% refund

After 3/15/19: 25% refund

Questions? Email Charlie at: c.griffenod@verizon.net

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Calendar of Events

Upcoming Events in 2019

March 9 & 10	Lancaster Fly Fishing Show Saturday 9:00 am – 5:30pm Sunday 9:00 am – 4:30 pm Lancaster County Convention Center 3 East Vine Street Lancaster, PA 17602
March 9	2019 Watershed Congress Montgomery County Community College, Pottstown, PA
March 23	Annual VFTU Trout Show 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm Lionville Middle School 550 W Uwchlan Ave, Exton, PA 19341
April 4	Fly Fishing Film Tour Doors open at 6pm, Show starts at 7pm, should be done by 9:30pm at the latest Colonial Theatre, 227 Bridge Street, Phoenixville, PA 19460
April 28	Valley Forge TU and The Sporting Gentleman Euro-Nymphing Workshop 10am-2pm at the Sporting Gentleman 128 Glen Mills Rd, Glen Mills, PA 19342
May 19	VFTU Fly Fishing School CCWA - Paradise Farm Camps 1300 Valley Creek Road, Downingtown, PA 19335

Recurring Monthly Events

1st Thursday	VFTU Board Meeting 7:30 pm, One-room Schoolhouse, East Bradford Municipal Complex 666 Copeland School Rd, West Chester, PA 19380
2nd Thursday	VFTU General Meeting 7:30 pm, Chester Valley Grange, 3285 Phoenixville Pike, Malvern, PA 19355 September through May (except no March meeting due to Trout Show)
3rd Wednesday	Valley Creek Restoration Partnership 10 am - noon, Tredyffrin Township Community Meeting Room
Every Wednesday	Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing – CVAMC Program 6 - 8 pm, Coatesville Veterans Administration Medical Center
Every Monday	Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing – West Bradford Community Program 6 pm, West Bradford Fire Hall
2nd, 3rd & 4th Monday	Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing - Royersford 6:30 - 8:30 pm, Royersford VFW (If there is a fifth Monday, they go fishing)

Report What You See!

If you see a spill or fish kill, call any of your officers or board members (see the inside back cover of BankNotes).

Illegal Fishing, Poaching, Disturbance of a Waterway, Fish Kills or Illegal Dumping:

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission

Our local WCO, Bob Bonney, has requested emergencies be reported immediately to him via his cell phone: 610-637-6398 and to the Southeast Region of the PA F&BC (8:00 AM – 4:00 PM weekdays) 717-626-0228

Fish Kills, Illegal Dumping, Water Quality or Pollution:
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

Emergencies should be reported immediately by telephone to the Southeast Regional Office at 484-250-5900 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week)

Erosion and Sedimentation Issues:

Chester County Conservation District
610-925-4920

Well and Septic Issues:

Chester County Health Department
610-344-6225



The Valley Forge Chapter of Trout Unlimited is dedicated to preserving, protecting, and restoring trout habitat throughout Chester County, Pennsylvania.

Its 800+ members and affiliates are engaged in the fight to preserve our precious coldwater resources. All similarly inclined persons are invited to join.

Valley Forge Trout Unlimited Membership Application

YES! Please begin my one-year membership in Trout Unlimited. I understand my dues payment entitles me to all regular membership benefits including a personal membership card and quarterly issues of *Trout* magazine. VFTU members also receive our quarterly newsletter *Bank-Notes*.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ - _____ - _____

*Email _____

*Trout Unlimited does not make email addresses available to outside parties, for any reason, ever. By providing your email address you help us reduce mailing and printing costs, which in turn helps the environment.

Trout Unlimited is incorporated as a 501(C)3 non-profit, educational, charitable organization, and all monetary and property donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Please select membership category:

- Regular \$35 Family \$55

For other membership categories, visit the Trout Unlimited website at www.tu.org

Payment enclosed: \$ _____

Make checks payable to *Trout Unlimited*

Pay by credit card:

- VISA MASTERCARD AMEX DISCOVER

Account Number: _____

Name on Card: _____

Expiration Date: _____ / _____

Signature: _____

- Enclosed is my employer's matching contribution gift form. This is in addition to my membership application and payment.

To ensure correct **New Member Rebate**, the VFTU chapter number is: **290**

Apply online at www.tu.org
or

Trout Unlimited
P.O. Box 7400

cut out and mail to:

Woolly Bugger, WV 25438

VFTU

General Meetings

Chester Valley Grange

3285 Phoenixville Pike
Malvern, PA 19355

General Meetings held

the second Thursday of each month
7:30 PM September through May

NOTE: No General Meeting in March

The Grange is located just west of the
PA Turnpike crossing on Phoenixville Pike

Longitude 75.5410071 West Latitude 40.0765783 North

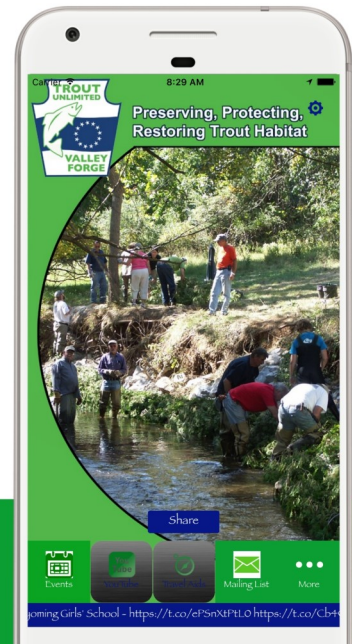
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Valley Forge TU and The Sporting Gentleman Euro-Nymphing Workshop April 28th, 2019

10 am—2 pm at The Sporting Gentleman
128 Glen Mills Road, Glen Mills, PA 19342

Cost: \$50

Learn the latest in Euro-nymphing techniques, rod packages, rigs and stream tactics.

Make checks payable to Valley Forge Trout Unlimited and mail to:

Al Renzi
1165 Yellow Springs Road
Chester Springs, PA 19425

Include your name, email and phone number.

For details go to:

<http://www.valleyforgetu.org/calendar-events/>

