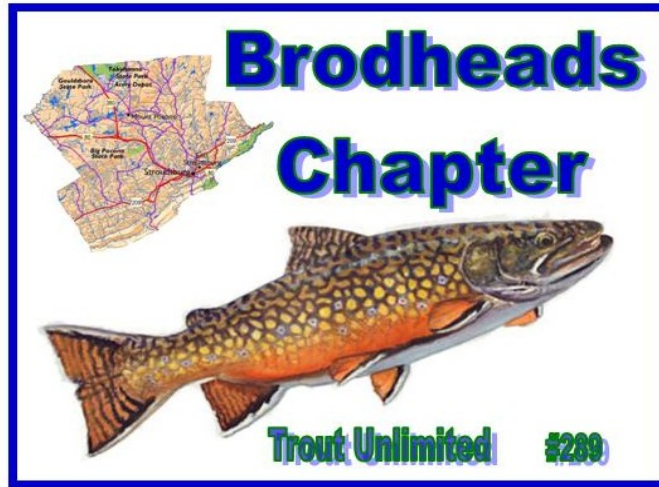
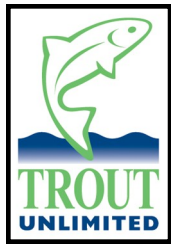


*October, 2010 Issue*



# Streamside asides



**General Meeting**  
**Oct. 13th, 7:30 pm**  
**Guest Speaker:**

**Art Weiler (Bamboo Rod Maker)**

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## OFFICERS

### **PRESIDENT**

Tom Battista  
RR 5 Box 5520  
Kunkletown, PA 18058  
(610) 681-6307

### **VICE PRESIDENT**

Todd Burns  
311 Crestmont Street  
Pen Argyl, PA 18072  
(610) 863-7655

### **TREASURER**

Eric Baird  
HC 39 Box 59  
Pocono Pines, PA 18350  
(570) 355-0165

### **SECRETARY**

Bob Stevens  
P.O. Box 46  
Bartonsville, PA 18321  
(570) 629-2922

### **BOARD MEMBERS**

Don Baylor  
202 Quail Ridge  
Stroudsburg, PA 18360  
(570) 992-3558

Gerry Bortz  
HC #1 P.O. Box F14  
Swiftwater, PA 18370-9715  
(570) 895-1099

Michael Brong  
RR#3 Box 3837  
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301  
(570) 807-7020

Will Daskal  
RR 7 Box 1258  
Saylorsburg, PA 18353  
(610) 381-6188

Bob Eddy  
HC 88 Box 1592  
Pocono Lake, PA 18348  
(570) 646-0803

Ed Filipkowski  
2171 Wallace St.  
Stroudsburg, PA 18360  
(570) 424-1856

Bob Hosko  
711 Flagler St.  
Stroudsburg, PA 18360  
(570) 421-7302

Dave Hughes III  
426 Fox Gap Road  
Bangor, PA 18013  
(610) 588-0036

Ron Mishkin  
RD #3, Box 3253  
Stroudsburg, PA 18360  
(570) 629-0586

Joe Sadoski  
RR #1, Box 27A  
Tannersville, PA 18372  
(570) 629-8522

## *The Home Pool*

October, 2010

### **Tom Battista, President, Brodheads Chapter of Trout Unlimited**



**H**eide Cebrick came to our September meeting to present a program on “Healing Waters,” a program for disabled veterans, sponsored by *TU National* and the *Federation of Fly Fishers*. Heide runs the program at the Wilkes Barre VA Hospital, and it has been going strong for over a year and a half. During the winter months, the veterans learn casting with micro casting rods, and fly tying in preparation for their outings in warmer months. For those who missed the meeting, you missed a wonderful program and are always invited to attend one of their outings or sessions at the VA.

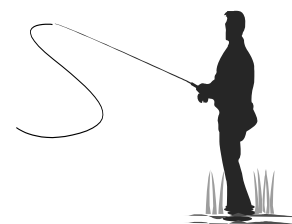
August 17, I toured with *The Conservation Fund's* Todd McNew and Nat Gillespie, from the TU National office, areas in the headwaters of the Lehigh River. The Conservation Fund has secured financing with the Bureau of Forestry to provide permanent protection of the Phase II Lehigh River property; this will cover two miles of the upper Lehigh River. They are now focused on raising support and funding to ensure that the Phase III 1600 acre tract will protect over two miles of Choke Creek, which is classified as “Exceptional Value” by the state and is a documented brook trout spawning stream. This Phase III property is adjacent to State Gamelands #91 and Lackawanna State Forest. Letters of support can be sent by chapters and individuals to: Peter Sussenbach, Pennsylvania Game Commission, and Jackie Kramer, Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission.

By the time you read this, I will have attended the P.A.TU. Fall Leadership and Training Meeting (Oct 1-3) at Spring Creek at Fisherman's Paradise. At our next meeting, I will be able to report to you about events and anything else going on statewide. Marcellus shale drilling is just one of the topics that will be discussed at the meeting. There will be training on the use of field kits developed for the Coldwater Conservation Corps. “As gas drilling activities increase, so does the potential for accidents and errors.” If baseline conditions of streams are not on record and a stream is near a hydraulic fracturing site, we can then prove if it is affected, or if it is able to be shown of a higher classification it may prevent drilling nearby.

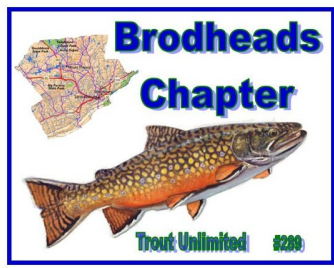
Lastly, I would thank Inez White, both personally and on behalf of the chapter, for her efforts in carrying out Dr. Horace Butler's bequest to us. She has been faced with an enormous task in organizing the various materials for tying, as well as the wonderful fishing equipment and accessories he had left us, following his passing.

*Tight lines!*

*Tom*



# More on the web @: BrodheadsTU.org



## CHAPTER CALENDAR 2010

### FISHING BUDDIES WANT YOU!

#### October, 2010

Board Meeting – Oct., 6,  
7:30 pm

General Meeting – Oct., 13,  
7:30 pm – Guest Speaker:  
**Art Weiler** (Bamboo Rod  
Maker)

#### November, 2010

Board Meeting – Nov., 3,  
7:30 pm

Fly Tying Round-Robin –  
Nov., 10, 7:30 pm

Note: The Fly Tying Round-Robin, all General Meetings, and The Fly Tying Classes, will be held in the Education Room of the Monroe County Conservation District Office on Running Valley Road in Bartonsville, PA.

**T**he 2010 cadre of available Brodheads TU anglers who have volunteered their services for **Gerry Bortz' Fishing Buddies Program** are now ready to receive calls for the upcoming spring 2010 fishing season. Kindly plan ahead; don't call the night before you want to go fishing and expect the availability of one of our volunteers. **Please save this page and know that caring members of YOUR chapter are here to help any fledgling fly-fishers with "getting their feet wet" in one of our lovely local streams.** The following BTU chapter members have generously offered their time and expertise to assist fellow chapter members in learning the local waters: **Eric Baird** (570-355-0165; evenings & weekends; Tobyhanna, Hickory Run & Devil's Hole); **Tom Battista** (610-681-6307; Sunday mornings; any stream); **Gerry Bortz** (570-895-1099; weekdays; Brodhead & McMichaels Creeks); **Scott Cesari** (570-897-5830; Evenings & weekends; any streams); **Will Daskal** (610-381-6188; call for availability); **Jeff Heberley** (570-421-3184; any time; anywhere); **Glenn Hessler** (570-629-5492; weekends; Brodhead & McMichaels Creeks); **Tom Magera** (570-977-4381; weekdays in the morning & weekends any time; any stream); **Eric McLendon** (610-863-9097; anytime; anywhere); **Ron Mishkin** (570-460-5031; evenings & weekends; Brodhead & McMichaels Creeks and others); **Frank Russo** (570-839-3436; any time; anywhere); and **John Schriever** (570-722-9797; anytime; anywhere).

**Congratulations to our newly re-elected officers for 2010-2011:  
Tom Battista (President); Todd Burns (Vice President);  
Eric Baird (Treasurer) & Bob Stevens (Secretary)!**

# Baylor Fly-fishing in Wyoming & Colorado!



While Northeast streams were languishing in heat and draught this summer, I had the privilege of spending the second and third weeks of July in Colorado and the first week of August in Wyoming. Ben Turpin, Mark Wickenheiser, and Matt Evans joined me for the first week, staying in a comfortable cabin on Mike & Ann Luark's Ranch. Ben and I went a couple days early to give him the lay of the land. We had an excellent time on the Upper Colorado fishing nymphs and then a pretty decent PMD hatch. We got some beautiful rainbows – while fighting off squadrons of mosquitoes – on a spring creek tributary to the Colorado (bug jacket next time). Ben and I also enjoyed a good evening hatch and spinner activity on the Colorado near the ranch and a float with Colorado River guru, Barry Simmers.

By the end of week one, everyone had hooked some fine browns and rainbows floating the Colorado, and wading the Colorado, Frying

Pan, Eagle, and Yampa, and a small tributary near the ranch. Caddis dries and midge nymphs accounted for many of the trout. The Eagle fished a bit slower than usual, although it yielded a few good fish. Nevertheless, our adventures included some excellent big fish days elsewhere, and everyone was up to the challenge of large trout on light tippet, some 20"+ on 6X. I landed my only Cutthroat ever on the Colorado as browns and rainbows have displaced cuts on most major rivers. Neither Ben, Mark, nor Matt had ever fished the Rockies, nor had they caught cutthroat trout. Later in the week, we made a steep trek up a mountainside to reach an alpine meadow with a small stream and beaver dams loaded with cutthroat trout. Ben, Mark, and Matt got, not only their first cuts, but at least 40+ each. None was large, most in the 10-12" range, but this was a time to be immersed in a spectacular and secluded place and in the beauty and abundance of wild cutthroat trout. I left before the others to meet Barry at the trail head. I won't take the space here to tell the whole story of my adrenaline rush when, while jogging down the trail, I hit one of the steeper declines, lost my balance, couldn't slow down and tumbled down the trail and cartwheeled part way down the mountainside. I was extremely lucky to have been relatively unhurt – a few bruises and destroyed glasses but no broken bones. Orvis graciously replaced the butt section of my favorite small stream 4 piece rod – as I tumbled, the cap blew out of the rod tube attached to my backpack, and three pieces flew out. The butt section must have gone on down the mountain. We never found it. Later, it occurred to me what a dumb stunt that was. I could have ruined the following week for me and others counting on me, as well as my subsequent week in Wyoming. My new motto: **"Be careful."**

Ben, Mark, and Matt departed after five days of intense rocky Mountain fly-fishing, and my son-in-law Lonnie, my brother John, our friends Bill & John Brinker, Bob LaBar, and Chris Busch moved into Luark's cabin for another five days of fun. Into the second week, the fishing slowed on the Colorado as water levels dropped and temperatures heated up. Fishing on the Eagle remained slow. Though numbers of fish caught were down on the ranch, everyone hooked some good size fish, and several anglers, including Bob on his first fly fishing outing, hooked very substantial browns that would not be landed. Nearby waters, including the Yampa and two high lakes - one full of brookies and another cutthroat – provided some memorable experiences, including a group getting caught in a severe high altitude storm. I had the pleasure of setting up some of the group to catch some fine rainbows up to 20" and of seeing some even larger browns cause us to tremble, curse, and think about next time. Adding to the delight of the trip, was the fine cuisine provided by chefs Chris Busch and John Brinker (I was thinking burgers and dogs, not veal saltimbocca)

My friend Derek Cossaboon, who relocated from the Poconos to Denver, had been telling me about the fine fly-fishing he had experienced in the Cody, Wyoming area since his brother Dan moved there several years ago. Derek invited me to fish with them the first week in August. I was afraid it would really be pushing it to come home from two weeks in Colorado and, a week later, head out to Cody. I said to my wife, Barb, that it seemed like the opportunity of a lifetime to fish an area that been on my wish list for years with friends who know it well. She said, "I think you should do it." So on August 1, Derek and Dan picked me up at the airport in Billings, Montana and we drove south into Wyoming to the Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone. The main river was a bit warm and discolored yielding only small browns and big whitefish. We wandered a short distance up a cold spring creek tributary where most trout on the clear flat water were spooked with our first cast. I finally got a big Yellowstone cut to rise slowly to a small hopper.

Of course, I got too cranked up and pulled it right out of his mouth. I forgot the rule on rising Yellowstone cuts: wait to strike until they turn down with the fly. Dan, who had recently purchased a two-man pontoon raft, had to work the next day but suggested Derek and I take the raft on the North Fork Shoshone River. We accepted. I had a blast rowing around boulders (hit a few) and through rapids to reach great runs and pools inhabited by some of the toughest, slab-sided, silvery cutbows I've ever encountered. Trout on the N. Fork average 15" (OK, it's really 14.8"). There are pure rainbows and Yellowstone cuts, too; but the larger cutbows made numerous runs - the first often knifing all the way across the river - on 3X! Stonefly nymphs were the order of the day, but we also hit Western Green Drakes hatching and enjoyed some dry fly action in the afternoon. I rowed 12 miles of a gorgeous river; saw no other boats and few other anglers. My kind of day! Derek and I got about 15 fish each but most were quality fish.

The second full day, we rented a trailer and horses, drove to a trailhead and rode and hiked seven miles through a canyon up a tributary to the Big Horn River. We passed a lot of fine looking water and a few other anglers finally reaching a meadow with abundant, beautiful Yellowstone cuts ranging to 16." The meadow water was braided with small channels, but wherever a channel hit streamside willows and scoured a little depth, nice fish were abundant. Stimulators and caddis - except where water was fast and deep, then nymphs sometimes took 6 fish out of a small pool. I found one channel that was like a small, flat, spring creek and had a blast stalking visible fish. What a day- probably a 50 fish day! We rode out in a short storm and had some excitement when Dan got off to adjust his pack. His horse decided to try to go home by himself. After a brief chase, we were able to recover him. On the way out we passed an angry cow moose with her new calf.

After that, we needed a less strenuous day. We wade-fished a few spots on the North Fork Shoshone and had another day of quality fish. My final day, we headed to the South Fork Shoshone. Its water was clouded by a recent thunderstorm. No problem - everyone was content to go back and spend a full day on the North Fork. When we arrived, I was upset to find that I had left my vest back at Dan's house. In my shirt pocket, I had a small, four-compartment box with perhaps 15 flies that I had intended as my top choices for the day. How would I survive without the security of my overstuffed vest and the seven boxes of flies with which I was obsessed? A new challenge. I borrowed some 3x tippet material and determined to make do with a couple Barr's Stones, Black Beadhead Stones, and Western Green Drake dries. In short, I had an excellent 30-fish day, with at least 13 that I considered big. Maybe those thousand flies I carry in 97 patterns are as insane as I have secretly suspected. Derek and Dan are minimalists, wet wading and carrying a small fanny pack of flies and gear. It was nice not being burdened with my weighty vest. I just bought a fanny pack.

As it turns out, fishing Cody with Derek and Dan was, indeed, the opportunity of a lifetime.





# How Much Do YOU Know

## About Your Chapter?

**D**ue to the extremely close proximity of our recent September general meeting and Labor Day, we've decided to extend our **chapter trivia contest until the October 13th meeting date!** So, the chapter member who correctly (1) hands me, (2) mails me or (3) emails me the greatest number of correct answers to the following 16 questions will win a beautiful, numbered, hand-signed, professionally matted & framed piece of fishing art! The rules are simple: answer the most questions correctly, get your answers in quickly and the decision of your illustrious editor is absolutely final. *All Directors and Board Members are ineligible!* All entries must be received by 7:45 pm on Wednesday, October 13, 2010! In case of a tie, the earliest submission date/time will be declared the winner! So, get your thinking caps on and send me your answers to the following 16 questions ASAP:



1. What is our Official Chapter Name?
2. What is our Official TU Chapter ID number?
3. How many annual "social events" does the chapter hold each year?
4. Where are the chapter's monthly general membership meetings held?
5. Where is the Annual Picnic held?
6. What is the average age range of the members attending monthly meetings?
7. What youth programs does the chapter run and/or sponsor?
8. With what other conservation groups do we regularly partner?
9. On what day of the month does the chapter normally meet?
10. From where did the name of our chapter come?
11. What was the original name of this chapter when it was first chartered by national TU?
12. What is the URL for our chapter's magnificent website?
13. What is the number one environmental issue facing our chapter and our local streams?
14. How many total members did we officially have as of 30 September 2010?
15. On average, over the past year, how many people have attended the monthly meetings?
16. With which issue of this newsletter (month & year) did Will Daskal begin as SA editor ?

The answers & winner's name will be announced  
in a future SA issue!

