



2019 OCTU Newsworthy Lines

Welcome to **Newsworthy Lines!**

We are excited to let you know what we've been up to and what to expect this coming year!

Stay tuned for upcoming issues.

From the President:

Hopefully, you've found time between the heavy rains and high water to get on the stream. There should still be lots of fish to fish for this fall.

OCTU currently has around 125 members. However, only an average of 12 members currently attend the regular meetings or any of the projects we sponsor. Additional attendance and assistance would be greatly appreciated! Coming to the meetings not only is important for the chapter's progress, but also is a great social time! Please consider coming to the next meeting. Our meetings are held from September through May, on the third Wednesday of the month at Kings Family Restaurant on Route 8 in Reno, PA at 5:30 p.m. for dinner (optional) with the meeting starting at 6:30 p.m. Any programs offered start at 7:30 p.m. Our meetings are open to officers, directors, members, and the general public.

OCTU, as all chapters has a fundraising banquet every April—traditionally the first Saturday. We are fortunate to get a lot of donations to help with our projects. Again, you might want to consider getting involved with this portion of the chapter activity.

OCTU does a lot with "Trout in The Classroom". We currently serve 4 schools: Meadville High/Middle School, Titusville High/Middle School, Valley Grove Elementary School, and Cochranon High/Middle School. There is no cost to the schools for this project. OCTU pays/donates everything. If you would like more information on "Trout in The Classroom", please contact Gary Ross at lingarross@windstream.net.

OCTU proudly started a Veteran's Service Program (VSP) in 2018, we had a few veterans attend. This year, on June 29, 2019, we held VSP at the Sandy Creek Conservancy.

We hosted 14 veterans and their families. The day began with the pledge of allegiance under our



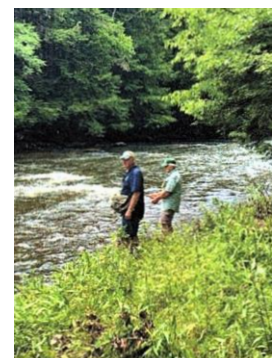
great American flag with

Veterans and TU chapters



recognition of our veterans and their service location and when that occurred. This event was in cooperation with the Sandy Creek Conservancy, Neshannock TU, and OCTU. We had free fishing thanks to the PA Fish and Boat Commission through their educational events program. Each veteran had

the opportunity to get a free year's membership to OCTU. We offered free fly tying, mentored fly fishing, and more. There was a kids fish stocking thanks to Neshannock TU. We also had great food and beverages thanks to Susan Senko's hard work.



... continued

From the President cont'd

So, my hope and wish is for members to attend, get involved, and find out what TU is all about. Coldwater conservation is why it all started back in 1959, to preserve our streams for future generations.

*Thank you,
Gary Ross, President OCTU*

37th OCTU Banquet

This annual fundraising event is scheduled for Saturday, April 4th, 2020 at the Quality Inn & Conference Center in Franklin, PA. More information will be forthcoming in January, 2020. To echo our President's message: we need more active participation from more of our members, particularly the younger ones. This upcoming banquet will be my last one as banquet chairman. Unless someone steps forward to learn the process and take control of it in 2021, it will be no more. If no banquet, no more income, and no more coldwater conservation work will be done in this area. It is up to YOU, OUR MEMBERS. I/we are aging, and MUST give it up. I will be happy to discuss any transition with you. My contact information is on our website: www.oilcreektu.org.

*Thank you,
Tom Young
OCTU Banquet Chairman*

2019 Meeting Dates:

September 18
October 16
November 20
December (to be determined)

2020 Meeting Dates:

January 15
February 19
March 18
April 15
May 20



Newsworthy Lines Editors

Julie Settle and Jenn Lyons



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