

Several Remembrances of Chuck Meyers (center of photo below)



By Steve Slavonic:

On Thursday, November 4, 2021, Chuck Meyers, long time member of PWWTU, passed away. During his earlier years with the chapter Chuck joined forces with his close friends Bill Hayes and Vic Ball where the three of them organized and oversaw several Cabin Fever events. Chuck also served as PWWTU's Treasurer for several years.

In addition to his TU membership, Chuck was also a long time member of the Pittsburgh Fly Fishers.

He also volunteered his time for other fly fishing groups, namely, Family Tyes, Allegheny Fly Tyers and most recently PHWFF (Project Healing Water Fly Fishing) that provides instructions in all aspects of fly fishing for wounded and disabled veterans.

Chuck's other passion was for anything that flew, stemming from his military service where he oversaw and performed maintenance on various military aircraft. He also served as a board member for the Pittsburgh Chapter of the EAA (Experimental Aircraft Association).

Tight lines Chuck, RIP.

By Bob Bukk:

It would be a stretch for any of us to find another person whose spirit of volunteerism and dedication to a cause could match that of Chuck Meyers. Chuck passed away peacefully on Thursday November 4th fittingly peacefully because that is the way he conducted himself in life.

We first crossed paths at meetings of Penn's' Woods West Trout Unlimited and The Fly Fishers Club of Pittsburgh. He never missed a meeting to my recollection. He served the Chapter as Treasurer for many years and when Cabin Fever needed a new coordinator, he joined Bill Hayes and Vic Ball to take on the task. Under the guidance of these three inseparable friends, Cabin Fever would grow to be the biggest show in Western Pennsylvania and an annual tradition for fly fishermen and their family and friends. When the Chapter conducted it's free Fly Fishing Seminar each spring, you could always count on Chuck to be there to lend a hand.

Chuck's volunteerism didn't stop with PWWTU or the Pittsburgh Fly Fishers. He served as an instructor for a youth group from Baldwin High School known as Family Ties whose curriculum covered every aspect of fly fishing from fly tying, to casting, and rod building. In recent years, he helped to found Allegheny Fly Tyers.

He also shared his knowledge of fly fishing as an instructor for the Wounded Warriors' Project Healing Waters.

In his spare time, he belonged to the Mon - Yough Woodcarvers and the Experimental Aircraft Association.

I wasn't aware that Chuck was a mechanical engineer who at one point worked at Boeing. He knew of my great affinity for World War II veterans, and he never passed up the opportunity to tell me each year when the Confederate Air Force brought "The Liberty Belle" to the Allegheny County Airport. "The Belle" was a restored Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress the workhorse of the Eighth Airforce. I was able to tour the aircraft before the Liberty Belle was destroyed by fire after a forced to landing in an Illinois field in 2011.

Just a few weeks ago, my thoughts were about Chuck when I scratched another item off of my bucket list. I joined some friends to attend the 61st Anniversary Celebration in Oakland of the day when Bill Mazerowski launched New York Yankees pitcher Ralph Terry's second pitch over the left field wall at legendary Forbes Field and into baseball immortality. The underdog Pirates were world champs.

The ensuing delirium inside the storied ballpark would spill out onto Forbes Avenue. The way Chuck told it, he was driving home from school that day and was stuck in traffic. All of a sudden, a big yellow bus slammed into the back of his car. The bus driver was frantic and said, "Buddy, just write down your name and phone number. I'll call you later. I gotta get out of here! I got the Yankees on this bus." I relished the moment when I shared that story with a guy at the celebration who never would have heard that great story if Chuck hadn't shared it with me.

On behalf of Penn's Woods West Trout Unlimited, I would like to extend our sincerest condolences to Chuck's family and friends.

Bob Bukk

Vice President. PWWTU