Happy Spring Greetings

At this writing, the sun has been shining for several days, the temperature is 50 degrees and the outlook for Saturday is clear and 70+ degrees. The streams are currently at good levels and the fishing should really start to get going.

For all of you who attended our 40th annual DTU Fundraiser at DoubleTree on March 16th, a hearty thank you for your support. We had 219 attendees, which was a significant increase from 2018. The final numbers are not in but it looks like this could be one of our best years. It was a great night with nothing but positive reviews and for those of you who missed it, please try to come to next year’s event which promises to be even better.

Work has been continuing over the winter on the Herr/Beiler project on Fishing Creek. Unfortunately, we did not quite finish because of a lockout by PA Fish & Boat due to trout stocking. Work can resume after June 15th.

Fishing Creek has become a very important watershed in Lancaster County and on February 22nd DTU hosted an Ecotour tour that included representatives of DEP, DCNR, USFW and others. The point was to show the people who facilitate the grants within these agencies where the money is going and how it is used. The tour started at the Climber’s Run Nature Preserve with a presentation by DTU, followed by a bus tour showcasing the projects on Fishing Creek. Everyone was very impressed with how the money is used and how well the work is done. This kind of exposure, almost certainly, leads to bigger and better things.

Plans are moving forward with the upper Hammer Creek Project. A landowner meeting was held on February 28th at Middle Creek Visitor Center with about 30 people in attendance. The presentations were very positive and it appears more landowners are coming on board.

May 10th- Eric Balak from Hans Herr elementary school will be conducting a field day for his students at Millport, including releasing about 100 healthy trout fingerlings raised in the DTU Trout in The Classroom program. The day will also include learning about the benefit of trees and native plants in the ecosystem, stream entomology.

Volunteers will be needed to stock fish for Fly on the Run, on Tuesday, May 14. More will be needed to serve as streamside guides at the event on Thursday, May 16. Contact Tom Hall (phallcat@comcast.net) if you’re interested in helping with either.

Volunteers will be needed to pot up trees & shrubs at our Nursery at Millport. Dates at present include April 20, 22, 27 & May 14. Contact Garry Longenecker (garrylongenecker@gmail.com) if you’d like to get some dirt on your hands.

The Veterans Service Partnership will hold its 2019 Kickoff event at Millport on Saturday, April 6. Volunteers to help teach casting, ff rudiments and streamside assistants are welcome.

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Welcome New Members

Jeremy Adams
225 S Homestead Dr
Landisville, PA 17538
jeremyrobertadams@gmail.com

Ethan Etter
318 Laurel Ave
Lititz, PA 17543
etter.ethan@gmail.com

Tom Hacker
119 Greenfield Dr
Leola, PA 17540
thacker599@gmail.com

Pamela Hall
2649 Spring Valley Rd
Lancaster, PA 17601
phallcat@comcast.net

Long-time member & personal friend Bill Nestor has passed away. No further details at present.

Images of mayflies in this publication are based on photographs from Jason Neuswanger (www.troutnut.com), whose rights, contribution to our knowledge of streamlife, and photographic skills are gratefully acknowledged.
ROGRAMS

APRIL

Rob Shane, Mid-Atlantic Organizer for TU will be our speaker on April 17. Rob deals with the Unassessed Waters Initiative and our work to discover, promote & protect wild trout. Come out and learn what TU is doing for trout in this region.

MAY

Amidea Daniel will be our speaker on May 15 at 7 pm, telling us about TU’s progress with the Women’s Initiative. Pam Williams is now heading up our chapter’s efforts to revitalize this aspect in our chapter, starting with an Introduction to Fly Fishing for women in April. Women anglers are the fastest-growing group of fly fishers, and getting more of them involved with our chapter will doubtless pay dividends over the years.

JUNE

Our Summer begins with a picnic in May. Site as yet to be determined.

CONSERVATION

Spring is around the corner, I hope.

We have been fortunate this winter as the Beiler /Herr Fishing Creek project has been moving along. We have not had big snow or water so progress has been great, they are working on the lower portion heading to the Furniss Road bridge. We will have to stop work on March 15th due to Fish and Boat Commission lock out date, so we will not finish in time. We had to postpone an earlier tree planting as winter returned. We are scheduled to plant on March 23rd and maybe also adding March 30th if we do not get it completed. We are on the list to receive another 300 trees, shrubs, shelters and stakes from the ‘10 Million Tree’ program. I am not sure of delivery date, but Bob and I will be out of town through mid-April. We will plan to install the end of April or early May.

The AG bmp buffer grant is crawling along. No one seems to push the initiative. We originally had hoped it would be a gradual install fence and plant but it’s leading to a deadline. I am afraid they will try to jam it into the last 6 months. We have been at this for 2.5 years and not a fence post in the ground. As the plantings will be after the fence this is a problem for our volunteer planting initiatives.

We had a successful Ecotour on Feb 22nd, hosting folks from DCNR, DEP, and PA TU. It was well received and may have opened some doors. It was good to get these agency people out to see our work in the ground and make personal connections. One of the highlights to me was, I was approached by Mike Morris of DEP. He said, ‘I worked with you rolling rocks in Lititz Run in the mid 1990’s,’ and DTU sponsored him to the Cumberland Valley youth camp. So I like to think we may have had some positive impact along the way. Lydia Martin, Becky Whitson and Barry are working on the TIC portion of the Campbell grant. Jenna and I will work on developing a Landowner workshop for Fishing Creek for Fall or Winter. Lydia has outlined a plan for the landowner packets. So the Campbell grant is developing.

We held a Landowner meeting on Feb 28th at the Middle Creek visitor center for interested landowners along Hammer Creek. We had about 30 in attendance. We had great presentations by The No Till Alliance, Roger Rohrer, farmer, CREP presentation, Dave Wise with Stroud. Jenna Mitchell, Alliance for the Bay and Ryan Davis, Alliance for the Bay, put the pieces together, securing the presenters, the facility, printing and breakfast, thank you. We think several key landowners are interested and DEP is also going to do an extensive assessment and develop a TMDL for the area. This will help raise the priority level. We are still in limbo on the dam removal, waiting on DEP. We will be working on developing a watershed restoration plan. Barry Witmer secured a grant that will be used for data collection.

Saturday, March 16th will be the annual Lititz Run stream clean up. Volunteers always needed, from 8 am till 11 am. Anyone interested can reach out to Dan Zimmerman or contact Warwick Twp if looking for a location to volunteer. Billy from Warwick Twp will be manning the Wetland farms the normal TU location, as somehow I got tangled in the banquet goo. On April 6th there will be another great volunteer opportunity. The Alliance for the Bay working with Warwick Twp will be planting 5 acres of buffer at the upper end of Saylor Park. Along with the buffer planting they will be planting a 1.5 acre pollinator meadow. I am not sure of the date but the Hunter Hess farm, formerly Art Hess will receive a much-needed buffer planting. This will be about 3.5 acres adding shade and food on Lititz Run. If anyone is interested or has a group of volunteers looking for projects, reach out.

We are waiting on a design from LCD, for the Esh farm. We will then determine the next step of funding and contracting. This has been a slow process, almost a year.
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We support Trout Unlimited And Their Efforts in Conservation!
The VSP’s fly tying evenings have wound down for the year, soon to be replaced with fishing outings. Pictured here was one of the last. Time to go forth and decorate a few trees with their labors.

Members of the group also participated in stocking the Special Regs areas of Donegal & the West Branch of the Octorora.

If you want to know where the monsters were placed, it’s time to buy a buddy a beer.

March Meeting

The February Meeting was canceled due to an impending winter storm. What a year it’s been.

The March Meeting featured our own Derek Eberly, who works for the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Fund. Derek explained what the Conservation fund is doing on behalf of sportsmen in the Commonwealth, and what their studies have revealed about where sportsmen’s interests and enthusiasms lie.

Prior to Derek, Russ Collins, our southeastern Vice President for PA Trout Unlimited gave us a glimpse of what PATU is doing to promote wild trout in PA.

Altogether, two interesting looks behind the scenes at the battles being fought to help wild trout.

Photos courtesy Bill Nolan

New members David Sylvia, Bill & Elizabeth Conroy are pictured here with Membership Chairman Fran McElhenny.

Photo courtesy Joy McMaster
Herr & Beiler Projects

Before the Project Began

A little snow doesn’t interfere with cutting live stakes

Photos courtesy Greg Wilson
It was a great day with so many awesome volunteers slogging in the squishy meadow to plant. We had about 25 Franklin & Marshall College students affiliated with the Environmental Action Alliance and staff; local Cub Scouts, DTU volunteers, and Friends of Fishing Creek (I think we all are) and others that came out and helped get it planted. EAA and CSE Director Sarah Dawson’s classes & everyone spent their Saturday planting 600 trees and shrubs and hundreds of live stakes. Let it grow!!
and clean water conservation. This is Mr. Balak’s second year in the program and he has passed his passion and enthusiasm for the program on to his students. It is very gratifying to see.

May 14th - Trout stocking for the Fly on the Run event at Millport. If anyone is interested in helping to stock, please let me know.

May 16th - Fly on the Run Event. I need people to help as stream guides for the day. It is a fun day as anyone who has done it before can attest. Let me know if you are interested.

June 6th - Fish & Golf Tournament at Foxchase. Details on the website.

June 1st - 8th - DTU will again be a participating sponsor in Water Week, coordinated by The Lancaster County Conservancy. We will be part of an event at Millport on the final day, May 8th. Derek Eberly will be doing Fly Fishing instruction, the Lancaster County Conservation District will be doing stream surveys and PA Game commission will have a display. DTU will also have fly tying and info on the importance of native plants and trees in the ecosystem. These programs will run from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. The final venue of the day will be Rock Lititz at 4:00 for a party to end the week, so come on out and enjoy the day!

June 22nd – We are again hosting a Special Olympics event at Hugh Wenger’s farm outside of Elizabethtown. Thanks so much to Hugh Wenger for graciously allowing us to hold these events on his property. The value is impossible to measure.

Details for most of these events are on our website so keep watching for changes or other developments. Derek Eberly may be conducting an intro to Fly Fishing class again this year. Date TBD.

We have an awful lot going on in the coming months so stay tuned. Please keep an eye on the website for new opportunities popping up all the time. We will have plenty of events to volunteer for and get involved in. DTU could not have the success that we have without all of your support. I am very proud of this organization!

President, continued

When he was a young man, Tantoh announced to the other young men of his village, “I am a farmer.” They laughed and teased him; all of them had higher aspirations and being a farmer was a pretty lowly status. Still, he clung to his dream.

Now, many years later he’s pretty proud of that status, for, having seen the need for clean water, he devised a way to use rocks and plastic buckets to collect and purify water for his village. He also uses macroinvertebrates in the stream to check water quality, and is teaching others how to read their streams and purify water for themselves.

He’s written a book, titled, not surprisingly, ‘I Am a Farmer,’ and visited Blue Ball Elementary in Eastern Lanco School District. While there doing an assembly for the school, the Librarian asked if he’d like to see how their school taught children about the importance of clean water and water conservation. He and our TIC teacher for that program at Blue Ball, Becky Whitson, found common ground immediately, as these photographs display.
Committees, continued

This is a large project, and will require a large grant. We have not heard from DEP if we received the funding for the project on Cardinal Road on the Conowingo.

Bob took the staff from USFW to the Kurtz Run location after the Ecotour for a quick walk through and assessment. They have a lot of good ideas and Vic Hurst was very receptive. This would be a nice model limestone spring creek restoration project. I recently heard the folks at Landis Homes are interested in forming a Kurtz Run watershed association so maybe this can all work together.

Garry Longenecker said he will also be sending a report, but he has charted out the plan for the nursery. He will be installing new water lines for the sprinkler system, and has scheduled several planting days. I am sure any help would be appreciated.

We have many irons in the fire, I am sure I overlooked several items. If you have questions feel free to ask.

GREG WILSON & BOB KUTZ
CONSERVATION CO-CHAIRS

New Logo

The Conservation Committee asked the Board to consider a new logo that emphasized our role in cold water conservation, rather than fishing.

The Board asked me to submit a design, which after some fine-tuning, was approved & appears here. This will supplement, rather than replace the leaping rainbow which we have used for so long.

MARK MCMASTER
Foxchase/Donegal TU
Fish & Golf Tournament
June 6, 2019

Maximum - 72 Fishers/Golfers
Fishing tackle may be fly rods or spin cast rods with artificial lures only. Barbs on hooks must be pinched and all fish must be released. Each team of 2 players may deduct ½ stroke per fish caught by the team (pan fish do not count).

Fish Prizes:
Most fish landed per team
Biggest fish landed (length) (Please bring a tape to measure your fish)

Golf Prizes:
Lowest gross score per team of 2 players
Lowest net score per team of 2 players (reduce 1/2 stroke per fish landed by team of 2 players)
Closest to the pin on par 3 holes
Longest drive on hole #7

Cost for team of 2 - $120 - includes greens fee, cart, picnic lunch and prizes

RETURN REGISTRATION FORM TO
BOB WYBLE
Checks payable to Donegal Trout Unlimited
Registration deadline: May 27, 2019

Name (print): _________________________________________________________________________
E-mail address (print) ___________________________________________________________________
Home Tel. #: _______________________________   Cell Tel #: _______________________________
Name of team partner for fishing/golf (print) ______________________________________________
Send check (payable to Donegal Trout Unlimited) and registration form to Bob Wyble. For more information and details contact Bob Wyble or Dave Chalfant.

Bob Wyble                      Dave Chalfant                      Directions:
986 Hammon Ave.                31 Meadow View St.                http://www.foxchasegolf.com/course/course
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wyscale@ptd.net                   wyble@ptd.net                   wyble@ptd.net
717-341-3389                   717-725-6609
“If nominated I will not run. If elected I will not serve.” That must have been the quote that Glen Nephin had in mind when asked to chair the 2019 Spring Fundraiser. Self-described as the best type of Donegal Trout Unlimited (DTU) president there is (a past president), Glen stepped forward once again to serve the chapter in a key leadership position. Assembling a dedicated committee of volunteers, he oversaw one of the most successful fundraisers in DTU’s history. This money will fund most of 2019’s approved operating budget. That budget includes funding for youth education, new Trout in the Classroom programs, Women’s Initiative events, and Veteran Support Partnership activities. Stream restoration projects and general conservation education efforts will continue to be funded through grants and private donations.

The Fundraiser is built around a banquet with opportunities for attendees to support DTU through live and silent auctions, drawings, lotteries, and straight contributions as directed by donors that evening. DTU met the requirements for these activities – as directed by the Pennsylvania Small Games of Chance Law – and was issued a license by The Treasurer of Lancaster County. In addition, many businesses, organizations, and individuals stepped forward to support the event.

Donegal Trout Unlimited thanks its donors, sponsors, and banquet attendees for their generous support of the 2019 Spring Fundraiser. We hope to see you again in 2020. You are making a difference in our efforts to conserve and protect the waterways of Lancaster County.