**What’s Emerging**

**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

It’s been hot, and wet, and hot and wet again.

What an uncomfortable July. I know it’s usually our hottest month but Mother Nature outdid herself this year! I hope the weather will be better for our August picnic. We will be traveling to Drumore Township Park on August 16. The park is southeast of Buck. I know it’s further south than some of you might like to travel but it will be worth it. Chef Stan Shenk will once again delight our taste buds. You will also see our most recently completed project. Downstream from the Park is another section of Fishing Creek that we would like to restore once funding is secured. This Spring there was a planting day at the Park. Greg Wilson intends to hold another one this Fall. Sooo, if you come to the picnic you will know where to bring your shovels and work gloves later this year. All details are on our website. Plan to arrive @ 6 PM. Bring a folding chair and a fishing rod if you are so inclined (and the stream is cool enough).

Of interest to a lot of us, the TU Senior membership has increased from $20 to $25. When the regular membership fee was increased in 2001, the senior level remained the same. Now there are more members in the Senior category. TU claims in the last 5 years that number has gone from 3,000 to 9,000. With the regular membership fee at $35, TU support from membership dues is reduced $15 per year per senior member. That’s a lot of money. In order for TU to continue to provide monetary and staffing support to the chapters and councils, the quarterly TROUT magazine, website, and essential funding for mission-related programs, it was decided a change was necessary. TU does not want to lose any members. If this increase creates a hardship for any of you, let me know and I will contact TU’s Member Services to see what can be done.

On September 23, PA TU will hold its annual meeting at the Nittany Event Center in Pleasant Gap. This is not just for chapter board members. The meeting is open to ALL TU members. If any of you have an interest in what is going on around the state, please consider attending. The keynote speaker this year is from the Western PA Conservancy, talking about Riparian Buffers (the latest hot topic). Chapter reports and other business is conducted. To lighten the day there is a fly swap, casting competition, and raffle. The cost is $37.50 to cover the food, room, and all of the usual items a meeting generates. Check out patu.org for more details and to register. I think it

Continued, page 16

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**Volunteer Corner**

Volunteers are welcome to help our Veterans Service Program as they fish area streams every other week. Contact Bill Nolan at wnolandtu@gmail.com for more info.

Members are encouraged to check the Volunteers page (www.donegaltu.org/volunteers.html) on our website for up-to-the-minute announcements.
Welcome New Members

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PROGRAMS

AUGUST
We’ll be traveling to the southern end of the County for our final picnic of the year, this one at Drumore Township Park (1675 Furniss Road, Drumore). This is the park where we had a team from US Fish & Wildlife doing work over the Winter, and then had a planting day this past Spring.

See the results of our handiwork, chat with friends about your Summer & enjoy Chef Stan’s skill at the grill. Bring a folding chair.

The park entrance is right alongside the township building, so easy to miss if you’re not aware of it. And don’t forget the picnic starts at 6 pm.

SEPTEMBER
We return to the Farm & Home Center and our regular meeting time at 7 pm. A speaker is awaiting confirmation.

OCTOBER
OctoberFest will be on October 18. We’re still working on a site and a special speaker. Watch the website for details ASAP.

CONSERVATION

Conowingo – Joy, Mark, Bob and I met with Mark Metzler, Pat Strong, Army Corp, a rep from DEP, and 2 Williams pipeline reps. We toured the Lloyd wetlands installation, and also went to look at the project on the Lapp farm on Black Barren Road. They all seem satisfied with the results so far. We also visited the Tanglewood Golf Course site. In the original plan it was intended to have buffer plantings installed after the construction, but this work was never completed. We met with the manager and discussed getting the important buffer areas installed.

We electro fished with Matt Koffroth in early June. Beginning at Climbers Run, we looked at the lower end of the restoration area, where we found 3 decent-sized wild brook trout. Then we went to the site on Peters Creek we have scheduled for a project this summer. We found 10 brown trout in probably 3 age-classes, no jumbos this time, but we did find a few of the endangered little perch. Then we went to Kelly Run, and found several age-classes of brown trout. We would like to survey all the Conservancy streams to ID wild trout populations.

The Drumore Township Park project is growing nicely. We intend to add more tree and shrub plantings this Fall. The structures are functioning very well. The one problem we are having on Fishing Creek is the recreationist dam builders. We have removed dams at Drumore Park 3 times, and various other ones on Preserves. These have such a negative affect, backing up the sediment, and smothering the bugs. We are still hoping to have the Metzger project installed. The latest red flag — a Delaware Indian tribe is asking for an archeological exploration, meaning more money and time delays. Hopefully we will start work on Camp Andrews early next year.

The NF&WF grant for the 3 tributaries is moving slowly, our commitment was to donate and install trees if they ever get a project in the ground. We have a meeting July 7, to get the updates.

The Peters Creek project should be completed later this Summer. They were expecting an August start.

On Hammer Creek, I inquired to Ben from PFBC and his reply indicated he was waiting on approval from DEP. It would be nice if they could remove the remaining dam yet this year, so it could get flushed out before we begin work.

DEP contacted Jenna in search of some projects in the Octoraro watershed. She may be receiving $400,000. She will be working with the Lancaster Conservation District, extending a project on the East Branch of the Octoraro. She may also be able to get DTU funds to work on the West Branch of the Octoraro watershed. Bob and I will be visiting a site on July 7 on Bowery Run.

At the last LRWA meeting there was discussion of a lengthy list of projects in the works for Lititz Run, so good things continue to happen. LandStudies is involved with Lititz Borough, and are testing all of the stormwater discharges during rain events. As the MS4 plans come into play municipalities will need to start making some pretty serious changes. This should be good for the trout.
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Project Details: During the summer of 2016 Flyway completed the realignment and stabilization of approximately 1,000' of the Conowingo Creek on the Daniel Lapp Property. The work included 7,600 CY of stream channel excavation, 1,740' of imbricated rock walls, 4 cross vanes, 5 rock deflectors, and 6 root wads. A portion of the project was completed with the aid of (2) 12” diesel pumps that bypassed the approximately 7,500 gal/min stream flow around our work area.
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Veterans Initiative Outings

Our VSP program continues to get its members out on the Commonwealth’s waters. Pictured here are their latest trips to the Yellow Breeches and on the Susquehanna at Long Level.

I’m seeing more and more bent rods and nets full of fish in these pictures. If you’d like to help the vets increase their skillset, contact Bill Nolan at wnolandtu@gmail.com.

Scheduled outings are:

- August 5, Susquehanna River
- August 12, Penns Creek, Weikart PA (Total Outdoors event)
- September 2, Lititz Run, Millport Conservancy
- September 16, Yellow Breeches, Boiling Springs
- September 30, Tulpehocken Creek, Reading
- October 15, Donegal Creek, Mount Joy

Dates and places subject to change due to weather & water conditions.

MARK MCMASTER

Photos courtesy Bill Nolan
For the past several years, our Chapter’s Board of Directors has made it a priority to improve its knowledge about different aspects of cold water conservation. Two years ago, the Directors visited the Stroud Water Research facility and last year they visited Franklin and Marshall College’s Department of Earth and Environment.

This year the Directors were invited to visit the North Muddy Fishing Club (NMFC) located near Brogue, PA to hear about their conservation projects and tour the stream. Our host was Steve Buterbaugh who is a member of NMFC and also a member of our Chapter.

NMFC is a private, 40-person club that was founded in 2010. Since then the club has worked continuously to improve its property and facilities and to restore the portion of the North Muddy Creek that flows through the Club’s property and into Muddy Creek.

The Club worked with Aquatic Resource Restoration Company (ARRC) to design and construct the Creek’s restoration. The restoration was completed in two phases which were dictated by the Creek’s original condition. The first phase took 2 months to complete and basically left everything in place. The second phase took three months and required extensive work to remove silt, flatten eroded stream banks and reroute the stream. One of the most remarkable things about this project is that all rocks and logs used were sourced on-site, so they blend in incredibly well with the rock and wood that were naturally in the stream.

Justin Kauffman was the ARRC project manager. He described the project and then took the Directors on a tour of the restored sections. While on the tour he described the three major criteria ARRC used to decide on the project’s design. They were the Creek’s gradient, its cross-section depth and its flow pattern. He also described the devices that were used in and along the Creek and the trees and vegetation that were planted along the Creek’s banks. He said that since the project was completed, the Club has seen a year-to-year increase in the variety and numbers of insects including stone flies and sulphurs. He also said that in addition to the stocked trout the Club has found trout that have been bred in the stream. Several of us were fortunate enough to spot a pair of bald eagles along the stream, in addition to a number of the locally-rare Bigleaf Magnolia.

After the tour, everyone enjoyed another delicious meal cooked by our Chapter’s Master Chef, Stan Shenk.

Lee Irwin, ARRC Owner/President, joined Justin Kauffman and together they described the work ARRC does and answered questions from the Directors.

On the way back to Lancaster County, many of the Directors expressed their respect for the work that the NMFC and ARRC have done to restore the Creek and as a result improve the environment.

President, continued

would be great if a DTU contingent showed up instead of the 3 or 4 of us that usually make the trip.

That’s all for this issue. In six months we’ll be complaining about cold temperatures but we will also do that together. Thanks to all of you for being a part of the DTU community.

JOY

JIM WELLENDORFF
Mother Nature welcomed the first day of summer in her usual style. The sky looked dark and dangerous all around us. As we were setting up for the DTU picnic, at Millport Conservancy, it was raining. Greg Wilson delivered the grill to the sheltered side of the mill instead of our usual spot in the field beside Lititz Run. Stan Shenk, with his able assistant Zach Garner, started the fire, unpacked their goodies, and set up shop under the overhang. And then, the rain stopped. The sun appeared followed by a gentle breeze. As our friends, members and their families arrived it became a beautiful evening. We gathered around the Mill eagerly awaiting dinner. Lynn Myers welcomed us to the Conservancy and kindly spoke of our long partnership. Richard Myers, PATU South Central Regional Vice President, spoke to the group as well. Richard also shared some of his homemade smoked salmon and venison sticks. Who doesn’t like a director that brings extra food! Then, Stan announced that dinner was ready. We were treated to grilled pork tenderloin sandwiches with extra barbeque sauce. There were tomatoes, grilled onions and peppers as toppings. Coleslaw, chips, grapes, and cookies were also available. Everyone enjoyed the meal and commended Chef Stan for his efforts.

We added a raffle to the proceedings this year. A 9’ 8” rod from Rise Fishing Company was the prize. Kevin Shimp won the rod and plans to use it on the Susquehanna when the VSP group goes looking for bass. Tom Hall led the traditional walk along Lititz Run to check out the stream and the big fish that only come out at dusk. Those of us that were content in our chairs enjoyed the remainder of the evening in quiet conversation.

We offer a humble “Thank You” to Lynn and Logan Myers for allowing DTU to have so many events at the Conservancy. Thanks to Stan and Zach for a delicious meal. And “Thank You” to everyone that came out and made the evening so enjoyable.
Donegal Chapter
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