I hope your families and you had a very happy Thanksgiving and are looking forward to the Holiday Season. Much has happened since October and here are the highlights of our Chapter’s Activities.

**CONSERVATION:**

In early October the construction at the Lloyd Farm was finished except for some trees and bushes that will be planted next year.

We planted about 450 trees and installed tree shelters at Climbers Run Nature Preserve. US Fish and Wildlife contracted with a local excavator to make some minor repairs to some storm damage done late this summer and to redirect some storm water into a settling area. We also planted 100 trees and shrubs at the Menno Stoltzfus farm.

We are still waiting to receive funds from Atlantic Sunrise Environmental Fund. The funds will be used for the Lapp Farm restoration which is scheduled to be started and completed next summer and the Metzler Project which US Fish & Wildlife will be designing, permitting and constructing next year.

This year our nursery under the guidance of Garry Longenecker raised and donated 2,400 trees for local watershed conservation projects. Garry donated trees to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, the Lancaster Conservation District, the Lancaster County Conservancy, Millersville University, Doc Fritchev Chapter of Trout Unlimited, the Village Grande Community and to projects at the Climbers Run Nature Preserve and along the Tulpehocken and Chiques Creeks. These trees would have cost over $15,000 if they had to be purchased. The money saved by getting trees from our nursery could then be used for other conservation needs.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

In November Mark McMaster and Jim Wellendorf collaborated on a “Save the Date” announcement for the November Membership Meeting. Mark’s innovative approach was very effective as over 70 members and guests attended the meeting.

Mark McMaster sent the November Membership Meeting Teaser and the Calendar using MailChimp. Mark found that 63% of our members that read these messages do so on their mobile devices.

Mark Ebner, Youth Initiative Coordinator participated in an online training session led by Andrew Rayso. (Continued on page 7)

**Volunteer Corner**

Volunteers will be needed on Saturday, December 12 to help with wrapping gifts at the Orvis Outlet in the Rockvale Outlet Center from Noon ’til 4 pm. This is a community outreach project and no particular skill or aptitude is needed. (Well, it would help if you weren’t a fumblefingers.)

Contact Faye @ fayeonthefly@comcast.net if you can help.
Welcome New Members

William Bachman  
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(Continued on page 6)

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.
PROGRAMS

DECEMBER

The December Meeting on the 16th will be our traditional Dave Shenk Memorial Fly Tying Clinic at the Farm & Home Center, with several tyers demonstrating their talents of this craft. We'll have a wide variety of patterns, with Rick Purnell of Keystone Fly Guides tying a woven stonefly, Ben Rogers tying bass flies, Nick Raftas of Sky Blue Outfitters showing us a dry fly for trout, and Roger Kemrer doing a steelhead pattern. Well-known guide & author Henry Ramsay will also be tying for us.

JANUARY

At the January Meeting on January 20, Guide & Author Matt Supinksi from the Gray Drake Lodge in Michigan, will talk to us about how to take Selective trout. That’s also the topic of his latest book, which has been very well-reviewed. Come and join us and you may well learn something in January that will help you catch an especially frustrating trout in June.

FEBRUARY

We’re still working on a program for the meeting on February 17, but it’s the middle of winter and you’ve got cabin fever so bad you’re using your 7-weight to cast dog biscuits across the room to your dog. Give the dog a break and come join us and we can all grouse about winter together.

CONSERVATION

We have planted about 450 trees at Climbers Preserve, and are in the process of installing tree shelters. USF&W has contracted with a local excavator to return to Climbers Run and make some minor repairs to some storm damage done late this summer. They are onsite as of today. I am going to meet and get an estimate to do some additional regrading to redirect some storm water into a settling area. I don’t expect it to be very costly and plan on funding this from the Climber’s funds on hand.

We also had 7 volunteers plant about 100 trees and shrubs at the Menno Stoltzfus farm. We plan on scheduling additional work days to once again mow and also install tree shelters at this location.

We have been discussing a new bridge at that farm to allow better fish migration. USF&W has submitted a grant proposal for funding this project. They spent several man-hours on this proposal, including sending people from Lamar to visit the site and do the required calculations for the new design. I really appreciate their commitment to our projects. The initial cost estimate was about $84,000. After their in-kind donation, they are seeking about $50,000 in grant money. They are also asking for a DTU contribution of $2,000. Additional funds may be forthcoming.

Bob and I attended a meeting in Harrisburg. A group has formed (RCPP) with the intent to do a major agricultural BMP (best management practices) installation on Fishing Creek in Lancaster County. They are hoping for 100% participation by the farmers. As we are finding out, this is a really great watershed in the county. We have signed on as a partner and are proposing our donation will be supplying trees and shrubs and volunteer labor. We have agreed to commit $25,000 over 5 years in plants and labor. There are other aspects we may be able to contribute as well. We already have 2 projects scheduled in this watershed next year.

BANQUET

Our Annual Banquet will be Saturday, April 9, 2016. We’re moving to a new location, the Spooky Nook Banquet Facility on Spooky Nook Road in Manheim. The restaurant at the Nook has been getting very good reviews, so the food should be great. The room is also larger than we’ve had the past few years, so we have the opportunity to expand our activities. My committee is exploring a number of options, and we should have more to report in the next Mayflyer.

Save the date for what might be our best Banquet ever.

GREG WILSON
CONSERVATION CO-CHAIRMAN

NURSERY

I want to thank the end of the year volunteers and advocates for making 2015 another successful year for the DTU Nursery. To the many people who have found homes for the trees/shrubs planted this spring and the volunteers who helped with the final mop up of the nursery in preparation for 2016, DTU wants to thank you for your support. Our contribution to conservation could not have been done without you!

Approximately 100 plants remain in the nursery, but I am happy to inform all of you that these trees and shrubs will find a permanent home in various watersheds in Lancaster County and beyond. 300 trees will remain and have been winterized in place for a Millersville University planting next spring

Lamonte Garber, from Strouds Research Center, and his wife, Marcy, helped winterize MU trees Saturday, November 11.

(Continued on page 6)
MAYFLYER ADS

If you are a business owner and would like to reach over 560 members with a common interest, please consider running your ad in the Mayflyer. There are 6 issues each year. Cost of the ads are $150 for a business card size and $300 for a half page ad.

Please contact Glen Nephin at gnephin@ptd.net or 271-9208.

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Rohrerstown, PA 17603

THANK YOU, DTU, FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND VOLUNTEERS!
Your intrepid reporter has just learned that there is a new movement within our DTU chapter. It’s called “The Fly Drive.” It seems the leader of this movement is none other than Bill Nolan, chairman of the Veterans Program. Bill’s goal is to fill the fly boxes he gives to veterans participating in the DTU program with flies actually tied by DTU members. Bill is asking the DTU fly tiers to donate one or two of the flies they tie this winter to the veterans’ fly boxes. Bill said the flies don’t need to be competition worthy, but it would be useful if they were known to attract the fish in our local waters.

You may drop off your flies at any of the upcoming membership meetings. An alternate location for a fly drop is the Winter Fly Tying meetings. There are three more sessions – Jan. 9, Feb. 13, and March 12. These meetings are held in the conference room at the Stauffers of Kissel Hill grocery store at 1050 Lititz Pike from 9 AM – 1 PM. Bill will have an assistant stationed at these meetings to receive your contributions.

On November 15 we had 8 volunteers for the clean up of the nursery and preparation of a wet area for willows, buttonbush, and other wet-loving plants planned for 2016.

**Winter Fly Tying**

Turnout was light for our first session in November, and there was some confusion about where we were meeting. Still, several new patterns were discussed and tied, and more than a few fishing stories were told.

To be clear, Stan Shenk has arranged for us to use the meeting room at the Stauffers of Kissel Hill grocery store south of Lititz. The store is located at 1050 Lititz Pike (that’s Rte 501 North, at the intersection with Millport Road). We will be meeting again on Jan. 9, Feb. 13, and March 12 from 9 AM until 1 PM. When you enter the store, proceed down aisle 16 to the back of the store. You will see a brown door labeled “meeting room” in the middle of the refrigerated sections. You will enter a quiet and comfortable area with space for all who want to tie or observe.

Just as last year, you can pre-register at one of our meetings or on our website. Pre-registration is not required, but obviously will help us contact you in the event of winter weather necessitating cancellation. As always, if you don’t feel that it is safe to drive to our gatherings, don’t. So please consider joining our group to wile away a few hours of winter tying some flies and getting to know your fellow chapter members.
Loffredo, the new TU 5 Rivers Coordinator about the college 5 Rivers Program. The session discussed the ins-and-outs of starting and working with college 5 Rivers programs. We have several colleges in the county and they present an excellent opportunity for Youth Initiatives.

ENGAGEMENT:

All of the equipment and trout eggs have been delivered to the 13 classrooms that are participating in our Trout in the Classroom programs. The classrooms are located in 8 different schools. The goal is to have the fry large enough so they will survive during Christmas vacation.

This year our Board members volunteered 4,662 hours. Our general membership volunteered an additional 601 hours for a grand total of 5,263 volunteer hours. This level of commitment demonstrates in a quantitative way the dedication and commitment of our Chapter members. Previous years’ hours are as follows: 2014 – 3,555, 2013 – 3,424, and 2012 – 3,400.

FUNDING:

We received the final payment of the 2012 Conowingo grant money.

We are still waiting for the money for the three projects that were selected for funding by the Atlantic Sunrise Foundation.

We are also still waiting for the DEP 319 Grant money that has been held up by the lack of the PA State budget. Recently we were informed by Scott Heidel from DEP that the grant contracts were mailed to us on November 16. As of this report we have still not received them.

Our banquet committee has selected the Nook as the new site for our 2016 Banquet. The banquet will be held on Saturday April 9, 2016.

CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT:

As of our November Board Meeting, we have 740 members – 687 men, 45 women and 6 young men and 2 young women. We have a net increase of 58 new members since the beginning of the year.

Joy McMaster, with the assistance of Alan Folger, TU’s Director of Veterans Service Partnership has finally resolved the issue we have had with free memberships for our veterans.

The Chapter’s Committee to review its processes and procedures selected our annual planning and budgeting process as the Chapter’s top priority. The Committee will begin to implement several of its recommendations at the December Board meeting. The Committee is open to all Board members and is voluntary.

Thanks for your continuing support of Donegal Trout Unlimited. You make what we do possible.

The Board Members of Donegal Trout Unlimited want to wish your families and you a safe and very happy Holiday season.
Field & Stream referred to Gary Edwards as “the Dean of the Salmon River.” He certainly proved that they were right when he “educated” 45 Chapter members at the annual OctoberFest at the Four Seasons Banquet Facility in Landisville.

“Professor” Edwards taught a class on “Fishing on the Salmon River in New York State.” He described the life cycles of steelhead, Coho salmon and brown trout from September to September. He explained how New York State’s Department of Environmental Resources has returned the Salmon River to a world class fishery including self-sustaining native fish. He told the audience when to fish (not 4 AM!), where to fish, and how to fish for each of these species. His presentation was informative, instructive and highly entertaining. Everyone truly enjoyed it.

After his presentation Gary generously donated a gift certification for a two-night stay at the Tailwater Lodge in Altmar, New York. The Chapter will auction the certificate at its Annual Banquet next year.

Photos courtesy Jim Wellendorf

Chapter members Kevin Fausey, Stan Shenk & Barry Witmer were recognized for their volunteer work for the Chapter in 2015. (Barry was not present for the award.) The banner for Best Chapter Project in PA was also presented to our Conservation Co-Chairs, Bob Kutz & Greg Wilson for our work at Climbers Nature Preserve.
There was hardly an empty seat in the house at the Farm and Home Center on Wednesday November 18, when well-known fishing guide, George Daniel talked about his passion, streamer fishing. Over 70 members and guests listened as George talked about the tactics, techniques and patterns he recommends to be successful when fishing streamers for trout.

George told the audience that contrary to popular belief, streamer fishing works 365 days a year. He said lines are the number one priority when choosing equipment to fish with streamers. He prefers a #4 or #5 floating line with a non-stretch core. He also recommended a large arbor reel; a shorter, stiff rod; an open loop knot; straight hook points and low light sunglasses for low light conditions. He recommended fishing with a well organized, “working stream box” of streamers chosen to match the stream condition and prey. He said the best way to fish with streamers is from a boat as it can put you in best position to make a cast. He adamantly told the audience to, “Fish till the End!”

George has fished and guided all over the world and was a coach for the US Junior Fly Fishing Team. He is also an author and his latest book, Strip-Set, is devoted to streamer fishing.

At the Chapter’s November Membership Meeting Paula Piatt, Trout Unlimited’s Eastern Sportsmen Organizer spoke to a packed house about TU’s Headwater Program.

Paula told the members Pennsylvania has more waterways (86,000 miles) than any other state except Alaska. She shared the following statistics about Pennsylvania:

There are:
- 1,600 miles of Class A Wild Trout Streams
- 12,600 miles of natural reproducing trout streams
- 430 miles of Wilderness Trout Streams

She explained the importance of headwater streams to healthy trout populations in waterways throughout the State. The area assigned to Donegal Trout Unlimited has 107 miles of headwater streams, several have been restored and protected by our Chapter.

The PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has assessed PA waterways and concluded;
- 27% are high quality
- 7% are exceptional quality

However the DEP has not assessed the majority of PA waterways.

TU, through its Unassessed Water Initiatives Program is working to assess those waterways by taking water samples and electroshocking them. In 2015 TU assessed 86 streams and found 40% had wild trout. One of the streams was an unnamed tributary of Peters Creek in Lancaster County. When TU finds wild trout they file a petition with the PA Fish and Boat Commission to assign a protective status to the stream.

To help convince the Commissioners to assign a protective status to that stream Paula urged the members to express their support. Please submit a comment in support of this stream before December 14 on the PFBC website at http://www.fishandboat.com/regcomments/index.htm?title_number=WildTrout-Jan-2016

Paula agreed to return next year and give the Chapter members an update on the Headwater Initiatives program.

Jim Wellendorf
Over the past few months, DTU volunteers have joined volunteers from the Lancaster Conservancy, scout troops and many others to plant native trees and shrubs along the restored portions of Climbers Run in the Conservancy’s Nature Preserve. The most recent work has involved making small repairs and adjustments to some stream devices and building a swale below the Education Center to divert runoff to a new seasonal wetland. The photos here show some of that work and the beauty of the restored stream.

Photos courtesy Greg Wilson
On Thursday October 8, Bob Kutz, Tom Hall and Jim Wellendorf visited the Lloyd Farm and toured the conservation project on a tributary of the Conowingo. This $292,000 project involved stream restoration and the creation of a wetland. The project is now complete except for planting some trees. We will have to assess the performance and maintain the wetland for the next five years.

MARK McMASTER

Photos courtesy
Jim Wellendorf
Nursery Update

DTU Chapter Members Barry Witmer, Richard Lentine, Fred Albright, Barry Rodifer, Mark Coons, Tom Royer & Greg Wilson helped Garry Longenecker close down the Chapter Nursery at Millport for the upcoming winter.

Photos courtesy Garry Longenecker

Donegal Chapter of Trout Unlimited

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