As you read this, the groundhog should be telling us there will be six more weeks of Winter. That’s his usual prediction. I’ll be checking my garden in four weeks just to be sure I don’t miss the first hints of Spring. While we wait for the ice to get off the river and the streams to warm, DTU can offer you a few activities to lift your spirits.

There are two remaining Winter Fly Tying Gatherings – Feb. 10 and March 10. We meet at the Stauffers of Kissel Hill Grocery Store on Lititz Pike from 9AM – 1 PM. You can find our group in the meeting room at the back of the store. Join us at any time and learn a new fly pattern, a new technique with traditional materials, or a new stream to explore. Conversations and fishing stories are always good.

Our Veterans group is tying flies at the American Legion on Arcadia Road this winter. They meet the first and third Thursday of the month from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. Stop by to pass on any tying tricks or just to talk.

March brings the Lancaster Fly Fishing Show. It will be March 3rd and 4th at the Convention Center. We will have our table outside the entrance to the show. Be sure to stop by and chat with those of us there. Or, if you are interested in helping for a few hours, please contact Wayne Boggs.

Also in March, the Donegal Fish and Conservation Association will be holding their annual show on the 17th from 8 – 3 at the Maytown Fire Company (Note change of location). On the 22nd, Lancaster County Conservancy, Harvey’s Gardens, and DTU are sponsoring a lecture by Doug Tallamy, 7 PM at Franklin & Marshall College. Professor Tallamy knows everything about our native plants – those we’ve lost, those we need to protect, and the value of each to our ecosystem. Adding just a few of these plants to our gardens can help sustain our local wildlife.

April activities compete with the official start of the fishing season in our part of the state. The 7th will be a busy day. The Donegal F&C Association will hold their annual Fishing Derby at the Presbyterian Church. This is a great event to take any children in your family. In the evening, I hope you will join me at our Spring Fundraiser. This year we will be at the Double Tree by Hilton on Willow Street Pike. Doors open at 4:30 PM. Patric Nephin and his committee are making more changes to this event to ensure we all have a good time both personally and financially for our chapter.

Last but never least, Bill Nolan is holding this year’s VSP kickoff on April 14, 8 – 12, at Millport Conservancy. Whether you are a Veteran or not, stop by to join the

Volunteers will be needed to help at our Spring Fundraiser on April 7. Please contact Patric Nephin if you can help. Benefits too numerous to mention.

We anticipate planting trees on the Camp Andrews Project April 22 – 27. Please contact Greg Wilson if you can help.

Continued, page 18
**FEBRUARY**

14th: 7 pm  
Board Meeting  
Chapter Meeting

21st: 7 pm  
Millport Conservancy  
Farm & Home Center  
Dominic Swentosky  
Tight Line Nymphing

**MARCH**

14th: 7 pm  
Board Meeting  
Chapter Meeting

21st: 7 pm  
Millport Conservancy  
Farm & Home Center  
Eric Richard - Shermans Creek

**APRIL**

11th: 7 pm  
Board Meeting  
Chapter Meeting

18th: 7 pm  
Millport Conservancy  
Farm & Home Center  
Dave Rothrock - NC PA

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**Welcome New Members**

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Christopher O’Donnell  
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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.
Committee Reports

PROGRAMS

FEBRUARY

Author Dominic Swentosky will be our speaker at the Meeting on February 21 at the Farm & Home Center. His program will be on tight line nymphing. There are many ways of presenting a nymph to trout, but tight lining can be one of the more effective. Join us and get some tips for the upcoming season.

MARCH

Shermans Creek flows through Perry County, where its upper reaches support a Class A wild brook trout fishery. The middle stretch of the stream holds a mix of stocked and holdover brown trout, while its lower end is a very good smallmouth bass stream. On March 21, Guide Eric Richard will reveal some of the secrets of fishing this interesting nearby stream. Please join us and see if you’d like to explore some new water this year.

APRIL

Author Dave Rothrock was partially drowned out by a band downstairs at our OctoberFest. The Farm & Home Center on April 18 is certain to be a more hospitable environment. If you didn’t make OctoberFest or were too far back to appreciate his presentation on north central PA trout streams, please join us and learn more about some of PA’s best freestone trout streams.

CONSERVATION

We are excited the Camp Andrews project is scheduled to get started around the middle of January. The timing came as surprise to us, but this will work out great. It is a legacy sediment site with a lot of ongoing erosion. We have been trying to get this installed for a couple of years. It took a while to put the funding pieces together, Jenna obtained funding for the Octoraro watershed, where we found a project on Pumping Station Road that is need of a lot of work. We are waiting to receive the design and budget, then meet to engage the landowner. Some other projects that were to be part of this fund did not materialize so we may now have about $200k which is probably about what was needed.

The Woy Project on the Conowingo will be scheduled after June 15th, this is a fairly large project, with extremely high eroded banks. I haven’t studied the surrounding area much, but there appear to be remnants of an old mill, and the fine sediment on the banks is over 8 feet high in some areas. We electrofished it in the summer of 2016, and did find a couple of wild brown trout, so maybe with the habitat improvements they will move in.

We have not heard of a time schedule but we were told by USF&W, the Menno Stoltzfus bridge will be built. Lydia Martin has been talking with the Martic Township Roadmaster. She pointed out the culvert on Stump Road is plastic pipe culvert under the road that acts as a fish barrier on Steinman Run. We found a lot of brook trout last year during the Bioblitz above the pipe, they are isolated and I have been saying we need to get this reconnected. He is willing, but as usual we will probably need to find the money.

I have been contacted by a couple of organizations that would like to participate and donate supplies for tree and shrub planting so it may all come together.

PAF&BC has also made a commitment to Bob to provide 75k in funding for the tributary that flows into Fishing Creek on Fishing Creek Rd. This small stream is in desperate need of help. The farmer has agreed to enroll in the AG BMP program we are involved in to remove all livestock from the stream. Bob and I have taken him on a tour, to show him what a restoration project may look like. He also owns a long stretch on Fishing Creek that we have designed for the Herr project. So it is great news he is receptive and willing to participate. We are trying to secure funding for the Herr Project, about 180k.

We are making allies in the Peters Creek neighborhood. As we were scheduling the planting I was contacted by a neighbor to the project. He came out and helped plant, then he also helped plant at Drumore Park. He is trying to help with outreach in the Peters Creek watershed, working on promoting the benefits. It is great to have local people that take ownership.

Matt Koffroth told us the project on the Madison property will be funded through the Environmental fund. This is a tributary of Beaver Creek, and the owner is also enrolling in the CREP program. This will be a good project, reducing some severe erosion issues that occur. This eventually drains into Pequea Creek.

Jenna obtained funding for the Octoraro watershed, where we found a project on Fishing Creek Rd. This small stream is in a very good smallmouth bass stream. On March 21, Guide Eric Richard will reveal some of the secrets of fishing this interesting nearby stream. Please join us and see if you’d like to explore some new water this year.

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I have been in contact with PAF&BC, about the dam removal on Hammer Creek. He said he is not sure of the hold up, but is waiting on DEP approval. We would like to get this project going soon. I also contacted them about a dam on the Pequea, and they will be scheduling a meeting at that site in the near future. It is a site off of 741 near Strasburg, not a trout stream yet.
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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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www.tcoflyfishing.com
On Dec 7th, 2017 our Veterans Service Program winter fly tying program began. Our program started off with a bang, as Monte Burely was presented with a Regal vice and tying material donated by Son Tao. Son is a local product from Akron, PA, and I had the opportunity to meet and talk with him at the Fly Tying Symposium held in Lancaster. Some of you may know him as an up and coming fly tier who has been tying beautiful flies at various conventions throughout the east coast. Son won the vice in a competition, but wanted to donate it to a deserving veteran. Son also happens to be an active duty Army Master Sergeant infantryman with the 157th Infantry Brigade, in Camp Atterbury, Indiana. All of VSP thanks him for his thoughtful contribution to one of our members. And on an occasional trip home, you may see him fishing Lititz Run; be sure to thank him if you do.

Our first night started off with one hiccup, the tables were too big for the vices to attach to. But after adapting and overcoming, we made it work. Some of the veterans are at different levels with their fly tying skill, but, led by volunteers Mark Coons, Leigh Shuman, and Roger Kemrer, the veterans have been learning the finer points of San Juan Worms, Wooly Buggers, and Pheasant Tails. We meet the first and third Thursday of the month American Legion Post 34, 1388 Arcadia Road, Lancaster PA 17601. We welcome all volunteers; remember, this is your veterans program, so come out and share some of your knowledge. We’ll also be starting the fishing portion of our program April 14 and could use your help. We are in need of a hot dog cook, streamside mentors, and could use help with seeking out donations and grants. If you’re interested, call or text me, Bill Nolan, at 717-875-7426, or shoot me an email at wnolandtu@gmail.com. With your help, we can do a lot of good, and make our program really great.

I can promise it will never be this bad,

Bill Nolan
We are happy with the projects that we completed last year and are excited for 2018. It all becomes a blur as the year goes by. We planted over 1000 trees with many volunteers, we made new friends and hopefully provided some education to help instill some awareness.

Greg Wilson
Conservation Co-Chair

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The board appointed Barry Witmer, Bill Nolan & Mark McMaster to this year’s nominating committee. There will be several seats to fill as officers and board members, so anyone interested in serving should contact any of those 3.

SPRING FUNDRAISER

The fundraising committee is hard at work planning and securing donations and sponsors for our 2018 event. We will be moving to Double Tree Inn by Hilton on Willow Valley Pike. The facilities there are excellent and wonderfully suited to our purposes. Parking will also be much more convenient than the last few years.

The dinner will be on Saturday, April 7th with doors opening at 4:30. The Silent Auction will be open from then until the plated dinner is served @ 6 pm. The Vocal Auction, once again led by Keller Bros, will follow at 7-ish.

Our printer is presently working on the SuperFund Raffle tickets and application forms, which should reach you in the next week or so. Deadline for registration is March 17, with an early bird registration deadline of March 1. Register by that date and you will receive a raffle ticket worth $250 to the winner.

There will be 3 choices on the SuperFund this year: a $1000 Gift Certificate to TCO; $200 cash; or a DTU Membership, Millport Badge & 1 year PA fishing license.

Tables seat 8, and this year Gold Tables will receive a bottle of red and white wine, a raffle ticket worth $100, and up front seating. Please plan to join us for this, our only significant fundraising event. Bring friends, family, someone you meet on a trout stream, or the cable guy if he actually shows up on time.

Patric Nephin

MAYFLYER

I’ve given the Mayflyer an overdue facelift. For those of you who prefer to print a copy rather than read the pdf on your computer/smartphone/online, you should know that all the fancy graphics will not print and waste your expensive ink. Unless I make a mistake occasionally, only the articles and photos will actually print.

Mark McMaster
We kept with tradition and held the Dave Shenk Memorial Fly Tying Clinic at our December Chapter meeting. We also celebrated with four of this year’s graduates of CVTU’s Conservation and Fly Fishing Rivers Camp. Landon Rychner, Xton Shaffer, and Kyle Booth presented short talks about their experiences at the camp. Harrison Booth read his essay that won Grand Prize in the TU Teen Essay contest. All four young men and the parents that attended expressed appreciation for DTU’s sponsorship and the opportunities that can come from this experience.

After a short break, members and guests learned new techniques from four tiers. Chad Bupp introduced us to the dry fly Grumpy Frumpy. Glenn Dotterer worked on a wet fly. Gil Learn presented us with a stone fly pattern. Roger Kemrer offered a variety of simple flies that he promised would work well this time of year - sucker spawn, zebra midge, and lightening bug to name a few. Everyone enjoyed the casual atmosphere and the time spent with friends, old and new, over the tying tables.
Dave Allbaugh was our guest speaker for the January chapter meeting. Dave has his own guide service – Wet Fly Water Guides. He is also now guiding for Sky Blue Outfitters. Dave resides in Johnstown, Pa. His home waters are in the central part of the state, from Huntingdon County north to Potter County.

Dave’s topic for the evening was “Basic Equipment and Tactics for Wet Fly Fishing”. Starting with a video showing the results he obtains with this style of fly fishing, Dave had our audience wanting to know more. He reviewed the rods (5 wt.) and lines (floating, intermediate, and full sinking) he takes to the stream.

He discussed tying his own leaders and dropper system. From the examples he passed around, the man is very good at tying small knots. Dave explained that wet fly fishing is targeting trout with the insect stages that are between the bottom of the stream and the surface where dry flies are used. He also shared his fly boxes, explaining his numbering system so he can find the fly he wants without wasting time searching through his boxes on the water.

As for tactics to seduce the fish to eat the fly, Dave explained dead drift, jigging, and stripping, again using his video to show the results of each technique. Everyone in attendance enjoyed Dave’s talk and left with some new ideas for the upcoming fishing season.
Member Spotlight

Name: Kevin Shimp
Member of TU since: 2016
Why did you join DTU? Meet new people and learn how to fly fish.
Favorite Stream: Yellow Breeches
Go-to fly: Ray Charles
Favorite thing about TU: The people
What might (someone) be surprised to know about you? Fly fished on and off for several years but only caught my first trout once I fished with the veterans group
Do you volunteer with the club? Not yet
Favorite fish tale: The 2" rainbow I caught at Donegal Springs

Welcome New Members, continued

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President, continued

That’s all for this issue. I’ve taken up enough of your time extolling the events taking place in our DTU community. I hope you find something here to help you move through the second half of winter. I know I have – besides looking for the first crocus emerging from the snow.

Joy
Everyone knows winter is an ideal time to plan for the upcoming spring. There is nothing like watching snow blanket the landscape as you sip a fine cup of coffee and put the finishing touches on a new fly. Dreaming about that first cast always sets the right mood. In addition to envisioning my fly hitting the sweet spot of a cold water stream, spring projects eventually come to mind. When your life is wrapped up in protecting wild trout and the on-the-ground work of stewarding the County’s streams, it’s easy to build out those mental projects.

Rallying existing and new volunteers with our conservation partners to plant more native trees and shrubs along Climbers Run or Fishing Creek connects us to the land and activates all ages to care about our forested landscapes. Spending time with an elected official to help him or her understand the how-and-why clean water matters is what we do. It’s not just about the trout. Wildlife, yes even two legged creatures like us, depend on how well we take care of land and water resources and share space. No living thing wants to live in a polluted environment.

Paying close attention to when a stream restoration project begins at a new location, like Camp Andrews in Drumore Township, brings anticipation for change. By restoring a stream with structures to strengthen wildlife habitat or by planting forested buffers with trees and native plants, we protect the health of fish and stream invertebrate populations. In the last thousand years humans have transformed vast landscapes by removing forests, farming too close to our streams, and fragmenting natural resources through development practices. While we can’t change the past, every positive change we make now and in the future is what really matters.

There is a sigh of deep satisfaction when we work together to improve our local tributaries, whether it’s organizing a stream cleanup with the Lancaster Conservancy and fellow Donegal Trout Unlimited members or teaching others to test streams for potential pollutants through the Water Quality Volunteer Coalition, a partnership initiative with the Lancaster County Conservation District, Lancaster Conservancy, Donegal Trout Unlimited and citizen scientists. We care about preserving and protecting our land and water ecosystems that reward us with recreational and environmental education activities and support critical ecological services.

There is no rest for the weary as an active community conservationist. Make no mistake - we love getting out with our trout but the draw of getting people inspired and motivated brings a level of challenge all on its own. Being a catalyst for change takes patience and persistence.

This year, thanks to a new team of conservation partners, we call ourselves the Community Conservation Committee (C3) — members from the Lancaster Conservancy, Donegal TU, MAEscapes, Harvey’s Garden, and community advocates in Lancaster and York County, we hope to reach more people in support of community conservation. We invite you to join us at our first upcoming public event featuring University of Delaware professor Doug Tallamy, author of the book Bringing Nature Home and coauthor of The Living Landscape: Designing for Beauty and Biodiversity in the Home Garden on Thursday, March 22, 2018 at 7pm at Franklin & Marshall College. For more information: http://lancasterconservancy.org/am_event/doug-tallamy-public/.