Earlier this year Trout Unlimited asked its Chapters to organize their plans around five major themes. Starting with this President’s message I will report using those themes as the major categories.

**CONSERVATION:**

In August, construction started at the Lloyd Farm. The project is scheduled to be completed in October. The Mitigation Agreement between Mr. Lloyd and the Williams Gas Company has been finalized. Final agreements are being signed by both parties and our Chapter.

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 Farm which US Fish & Wildlife will be designing, permitting and constructing next year. We are finding that we need to develop and implement ongoing maintenance agreements between our Chapter and the landowners where we have completed restoration projects. The growth of weeds and invasive plants is inhibiting us from planting trees at several sites. Our nursery donated 100 trees to conservation work being done by the Quitapahilla Watershed Alliance and the Doc Fritchey Chapter of TU. Low water conditions have delayed our plans to electroshock several streams.

Mark Ebner, Youth Initiative Coordinator was successful in getting our Youth Events listed on the Dutch Council of the Boy Scouts Calendar of Events.

**ENGAGEMENT:**

On August 29, Ned Bushong hosted a day of fishing at his pond for Little Brothers and Little Sisters and their Big Brothers and Big Sisters. Board Members and volunteers were there to assist. All of the youths caught many sunfish, bluegills and bass. The fishing was followed by a picnic in Ned’s barn.

Ned also purchased the chillers and equipment to outfit four new Trout in the Classroom (TIC) programs. The addition of these new programs brings the Chapter’s total TIC to 14 programs in 8 different schools. Mark Ebner purchased a water testing kit for Brad Angst’s Marticville Middle School TIC class. On September 12, Mark Ebner, Youth Initiatives Coordinator, conducted a Youth Fly Fishing Clinic at chapter member Dr. Wenger’s Pond. The youths were introduced to fly fishing, taught fly casting and fly tying, fished for bass and pan and learned about cold water conservation. After the fishing the youths

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Starting with our August edition of our Monthly Calendar of Events we have implemented a new format. Mark McMaster, our website manager and newsletter editor, developed the new easier to read format. The Calendar of Events is sent to all our members and to numerous communications media contacts.

We developed and distributed fliers for our September 12 Youth Fly Fishing Clinic and our September 26 Ladies Fly Fishing Clinic.

**CONTENTS**

- What’s Emerging…1
- Chapter Planner…2
- Welcome
- New Members……..2
- Nursery Update……2
- Committee Reports…3
- TU Annual Meeting………………6
- Banquet Awards…7
- Big Brothers
- Big Sisters Outing…8
- September Meeting…9
- Youth Clinic………..10
- Saying
- Thank You…………11
- August Picnic……12
- Stroud Center Workshop……….13
- Ladies Fly Fishing Clinic……………14

https://www.facebook.com/DonegalTroutUnlimited
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Ryan Laymon
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Bob McKillips
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Alan Miller
892 Farmdale Rd
Mount Joy, PA 17552
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Sam Wisniewski
1256 Ash Lane
Lebanon, PA 17042
wisniewskisam@yahoo.com

Nursery Update

Two Board Members of the Doc Fritchey Chapter of Trout Unlimited picked up 100 trees from our Nursery to use in the Chapter’s conservation projects on August 12. They took Hackberry, Pin Oak, Willow Oak, Red Maple, River Birch and Sycamore trees. In the picture from right to left are Doc Fritchey’s Vice President Russ Collins, and Board member Kent Crawford, and DTU’s Nursery Manager, Garry Longenecker.

Warwick Township is scheduled to pick up 300 trees later this month.

Jim Wellendorf
PROGRAMS

OCTOBER

October will see OctoberFest, our Annual Meeting featuring election and installation of new Officers & Board members. The speaker this year will be Gary Edwards, speaking on steelheading on the Salmon River in New York. The meeting will be held at the Four Seasons Banquet Facility in Landisville and once again will feature good food, drinks, camaraderie, & special raffles. The evening kicks off at 6 pm.

The cost remains $30 per person. Checks should be made out to Donegal TU and sent to Treasurer Dan Van Buskirk at 3714 Nolt Rd Landisville, PA 17538

Deadline for registration is October 12.

NOVEMBER

No information is available at this writing. Watch the website for details.

DECEMBER

The December Meeting will be our traditional Fly Tying Clinic at the Farm & Home Center, with several tyers demonstrating a variety of patterns you may want to consider adding to your arsenal for the 2016 season. Again keep an eye on the website for particulars.

Conservation

Lloyd Farm

Construction started in August and is well along with the stream devices as well as the wetland. Completion date is scheduled for late October. Williams and Mr Lloyd are finishing the last details on the Mitigation Agreement. I suspect that agreement to be finalized this Fall with monies forwarded to Dan by year’s end.

Stoltzfus Farm

Due to the Williams agreement being drawn out ‘til this Fall or Winter, I decided to put this project on hold until after June 15th 2016. The project is designed & permitted but we ran out of time for construction this Fall. We initially thought we would use the Williams money to build this $80,000 project but I will try to obtain 319 funding instead.

Mowday (Pennsy Road) Project

This project might be able to be started this Fall if Adam Smith’s crew becomes available. If they are not available, then look for a 2016 start date.

Metzler Property

Adam tells me this project is designed but not permitted. Look for a June/July 2016 start date.

Drumore Township Park

This project is designed but not permitted. Again, look for a July/August 2016 start date.

Menno Stoltzfus & Levi Esh Farms

Look for a notice to help plant trees, clear brush and spray invasive plants in October.

The tree removal on the Stoltzfus property was put on hold for a few days as he would like to harvest his corn to make it easier for the contractor to get his equipment to the site.

Bob Kutz
Conservation Chairman

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee has placed the following names on the ballot for election at the Chapter’s October Meeting:

President (1 year term): Jim Wellendorf
Vice President (1 year term): Joy McMaster
Secretary (2 year term): Bill Henry
Board Member (3 year term): Greg Wilson
Board Member (3 year term): Jenna Mitchell

Tom Hall, Wayne Boggs, Bob Kutz

WINTER FLY TYING

I know the weather is just starting to feel like Fall, but Winter will make an appearance sooner than we want. The TV news will be telling you that it is time to check your furnace, your car’s antifreeze, and your ever faithful snow blower. I am here to tell you to fear not, Spring will follow that last big snow storm — sometime. To be ready for the 2016 fishing season, won’t you once again join your fellow fly tiers for a gathering of fur, feathers, beads, thread, shared ideas, and tall tales?

Committee Reports
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 717-9208.

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The 2015 Annual Meeting of Trout Unlimited was held at the Hilton Hotel in Scranton, PA. On Saturday September 19, four Chapter Board members attended the meeting. They were, right to left in the picture below, Joy McMaster – Vice President, Mark McMaster – Newsletter Editor and Web Master, Tom Hall – Past President and myself (not pictured). The other persons in the picture continuing from right to left are John Leonard – Vice President, South-Central Region and Bob Pennell – Secretary of the PA Council Trout Unlimited.

The Chapter Members attended the following morning sessions:

- State of TU Address - Chris Wood, TU President and CEO (pictured right)
- Financial Update - Hillary Coley, TU Chief Administrative and Financial Officer
- State of Grassroots Address - Mick McCorcle, TU Chair of the NLC
- Board Business - Jim Asselstine, TU Chair of the Board of Trustees
- A Fresh Look at Membership Engagement - Jeff Yates, TU Director of Volunteer Operations & Kyle Smith, TU Membership Engagement Manager

Lunch was served at noon. While we were all impressed by the utterly amazing menu, Tom Hall could not stop commenting about it. During lunch we heard a presentation about the history and current activities of the PA Fish and Boat Commission by its Executive Director John Arway.

In the afternoon the members attended the following sessions:

- Angler Science - Jack Williams, TU Senior Scientist & Kyle Smith, TU Membership Engagement Manager
- Non-Pro Leadership Workshop - Beverly Smith, TU VP for Volunteer Operations & Kate Ebner, The NEBO Company

On their way home to Lancaster, the Board members discussed what they had learned and how it might be applied to the Chapter’s Operations.

Jim Wellendorf

 Stan Shenk is graciously allowing us to use the meeting room at the Stauffers grocery store in Lititz. The store is located at 1050 Lititz Pike (that’s 501 North between Neffsville and Lititz for those who are not “locals”). We will be meeting Nov. 14, 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 I have three reasons why you may want to consider doing so. The November meeting will be casual like last year. We will discuss what you want to do in the next three sessions. If new materials are required, DTU will provide them. Hint, hint – those who are registered and show up will have a say in what we do and will get those new goodies first. The third reason is, of course, the dreaded snow/ice cancellation emails or phone calls. 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 with the hope of future fishing adventures and new tempters on the end of your line.

Joy McMaster
The Chapter held its annual Membership Picnic at Millport Conservancy on August 19. Over 60 members and their guests were treated to a truly outstanding meal prepared by Stan Shenk. During the picnic the members watched a demonstration of realistic fly tying by Bearskin Outfitters.

FUNDING:
No specific fund raising activities occurred in this reporting period except for the grant money mentioned above.

Our banquet committee is investigating a new site for our 2016 Banquet in light of the recent developments at the Host Farm.

CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT:
In the recent issue of TU’s Lines for Leaders, the following statistics were reported: 36% of all anglers are women, 6% of all TU members are women. Our chapter now has 723 members and 7.6% are women! We are very proud of the progress we have made under the leadership of Faye Haering, our Women’s Initiative Coordinator.

Mark McMaster implemented a software package, MS Office 365, to facilitate communication between Board Members. The package will allow Board members to develop, share and store electronic documents. Storing documents for future access, reference and use will be a significant improvement to our Chapter’s processes.

On August 13, nine Board members and two Chapter members attended presentations at the Stroud Water Research Facility in Avondale, PA to learn about new methods for cold water conservation. Joy McMaster, Mark McMaster, Tom Hall and myself attended TU’s Annual Meeting in Scranton on Saturday September 19. They heard presentations by TU’s President, Chris Wood, and other members of the TU Board and staff. They all agreed that they came away with ideas on how to improve the Chapter’s processes, activities and events. The Chapter formed a committee to review its processes and procedures including but not limited to Chapter By-Laws and Strategic Plan. The Committee is open to all Board members and is voluntary. The Committee will submit all of its recommended changes to the Board for its approval and to our members for their approval as appropriate.

Thanks for your continuing support of Donegal Trout Unlimited. You make what we do possible.
They say if you take a kid fishing you can put a smile on her or his face.

The Donegal Chapter proved that is true on Saturday August 29 at Board member Ned Bushong’s pond. On a beautiful sunny summer morning Ned, assisted by volunteer, Ron Young, and Board members, Tom Hall and Jim Wellendorf, hosted two boys and two girls and their “BIG” counterparts from the Lancaster Chapter of Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Each child caught double digit fish during the two hour outing. They caught bluegills, sunfish and smallmouth bass. Several of the bluegills and sunfish were the biggest I have ever seen!

After the outing, Ned cooked hot dogs and served them with chips, drinks and cookies for everyone. A great way to end a fun morning with new friends and great memories.
September Meeting

Our first membership meeting of the Fall season we changed from our traditional theme of fly fishing wading in fresh water streams to fly fishing sitting in a kayak in salt water.

Our speaker was Ricky Wolbert, Owner/Guide of Coastal Kayak Fishing Adventures. He covered everything we needed to know about kayak fishing in salt water. In addition he brought his 14 ½ foot Native Kayak and the gear he uses to allow our members to see first hand what he described and showed in his video and Power Point presentations.

Some of the key points Ricky made were:

- Try it before you buy it and buy the best you can afford. Make sure the kayak seat is comfortable and has good support

- Safety first – wear high visibility clothing, wear a waist belt, carry a VHF radio, watch out for other boats

- Pick your days – check weather, wind, tides, radar reports and Google Earth.

- Clothing – wear clothing appropriate for the weather and conditions

- Equipment – sticking pole, depth finder, and stripping bucket

Ricky described the fly rods, lines, leaders, tippets and flies he uses for various locations, conditions and times of year. For example he uses a 9 foot 8 wt rod, a clear intermediate line, a 9 foot leader and a Clouser popper or a bucktail jig for striped bass in May.

He ended by describing many of the locations where he guides and fishes and the fish his clients and he catch including striped bass, weakfish, false albies and bluefish.

Judging by the number of members who stayed after his presentation to talk to him, the evening was a success.

You can contact Ricky at:

4542 Orchard Street
Philadelphia, PA 19124
267-570-9048
Coastalkayakfishingadventure@gmail.com

JIM WELLENDORF
On September 12th, our Youth Initiative Coordinator Mark Ebner (aka “Danger”) and Derek Eberley gave a Youth Clinic on member Hugh Wenger’s pond for 6 young men. Assisted by DTU members Fran McElhinny, Faye Haering, Joy & Mark McMaster, Jim Wellendorf and Hugh, they presented an overview of rod rigging, fly casting and fly tying. Several of the youth’s parents became as interested and involved as they themselves did.

While a few of the youths had experience spin fishing, none had tried fly casting before. After instruction from “Danger” & Derek, the others gave them personal attention and they quickly caught on. By the time we progressed to fishing itself, an intermittent drizzle had begun to fall, but no one was deterred. A variety of flies were tried, but only a handful produced the desired results. One of the parents had fly fished before and quickly renewed his enthusiasm for the sport, another proclaimed he found casting so enjoyable and relaxing he didn’t really care if he caught anything.

By the time we broke for a lunch catered by Stan Shenk & Fran of SKH, the drizzle had progressed to a steady rain, but several of the youths were having so much fun they ate quickly and returned to the pond to try for more fish. Most of us had come prepared for at least a little rain, and thankfully Mark E had the foresight to purchase 2 small tents for the chapter’s use in future. But it was Fran who rose to the challenge and opted to try his hand at raingear design and sartorial splendor.

As we broke up and walked back to the cars, everyone had had a thoroughly enjoyable day, and the chapter had very likely found some future members. Certainly the sport of fly fishing had found several new enthusiasts.

Photos courtesy Jim Wellendorf & Mark McMaster
To begin, I want to give a huge “Thank You” to Clay Pankewicz and Bill Nolan for taking the guidelines TU provided and turning them into a reality. The first group of Veterans to enlist in our inaugural Veterans Program will soon be graduating. Some of these men started with fishing experience and some did not. All have come to enjoy the sport most DTU members love. Some went from not knowing the parts of a fly rod to using that rod to fish for both cold and warm water species. The rods they use are LL Bean rods provided by the Trout Unlimited Veterans Program. TU also gave these men a free membership this year as a part of their Veteran’s Initiative. The first time these men were taken on the water, Clay or Bill gave them a starter kit. This included a fly box with a dozen flies, a leader, and some tippet. The men were told that this kit was from DTU as a way to say “Thank you for your service.” All of the men were greatly surprised and appreciative of this small gesture. Our next group of veterans should be starting their classroom training soon.

And now, I have a challenge for the fly tiers in our chapter. As you tie flies over the coming months, would you tie an extra fly for our veterans? You can bring the flies to our regular meetings or our winter fly tying gatherings. Clay, Bill, or any board member can receive your donation. I feel it would make an even greater impact if next year, Clay and Bill can tell the recipients of these boxes that all of the flies in them were tied by DTU members as a very small way of saying thank you for what you have done for us.

JOY McMASTER
Perhaps it is not as poignant as the geese flying south for the Winter but nevertheless the Chapter’s Membership Picnic does mark a change in our seasons. Our Summer events are over and we are looking forward to our Fall events like our Women’s and Youth Fly Fishing Clinics in September.

There was no better way to celebrate the end of summer than with 60 of our members enjoying a delicious meal on a beautiful night in a perfect setting at Millport Conservancy.

The evening started with a warm welcome from Lynn Myers, Executive Director of the Millport Conservancy. She talked about the Conservancy and its long term partnership with Donegal Trout Unlimited. She ended by remembering her father who attended the picnic for many years.

The meal was cooked again this year by our “Master Chef” Stan Shenk. With help from his “Sous Chefs,” Fran McElhinney and Jerry Rife, he prepared a meal that had everyone coming back for seconds. The meal included Johnsonville Brats, sautéed sweet onions, portobello mushrooms, red ripe tomatoes, sliced mozzarella cheese with balsamic glaze drizzle, fresh pasta salad, mixed seedless grapes, red sliced watermelon and assorted cold drinks.

During the meal, BearSkin Outfitters demonstrated how to tie realistic flies to match Lititz Run insects using Hemmingway material. Bearskin is a generous supporter of our Chapter. In addition they offered Chapter Members an opportunity to attend a special fly tying class.

After the meal and the demonstration there was time to tour Millport Conservancy and Lititz Run or an opportunity to just relax with good friends.

A great way to end the summer!
On Thursday August 13, members of the DTU Board of Directors, led by board member, Greg Wilson, visited the Stroud Water Research Center in Avondale, PA. The board members were: Joy McMaster, Mark McMaster, Bill Henry, Dan Van Buskirk, Wayne Boggs, Garry Longenecker, Mark Ebner and Jim Wellendorf. In addition, chapter members, Jenna Mitchell and Barry Witmer attended the presentation. At the Center, the DTU group was joined by TU members from the Valley Forge and Muddy Creek Chapters and representatives from the Lancaster County Conservancy.

The visit began with a welcome from Dr. Bern Sweeney, the SWRC director. Dr. Sweeney’s welcome was followed by presentations by several SWRC staff members and included the following topics:

- Trout Grow on Trees
- Stream Ecology/Riparian Forest Buffer
- Monitoring and Macroinvertebrates
- Using Large Wood as a Restoration Tool to Create Dynamic Self Adjusting Habitat

After a delicious dinner, Dr Sweeney led a tour of the Center’s outdoor stream and its Research Laboratories.

Dr. Sweeney and his staff, which included DTU member Lamont Garber, were very hospitable and considerate. They did everything to make us comfortable while they were educating us.

The visit was very thought provoking. All of the DTU members came away thinking about how we could incorporate what we learned in our own cold water conservation projects. We were particularly intrigued by the SWRC concept:

"From trees come leaves, from leaves come insects, from insects come trout"
This was our second Ladies Fly Fishing Clinic which drew 6 ladies to attend this function. I feel that when they all left to go home that they would be taking some really special new skills and memories that were taught them at this clinic. Some of these ladies had never been introduced to this sport before and some had, but we emphasized rigging up the rods and putting on leaders and tippet and flies and their purpose. They were also instructed in casting techniques on the pond and most were catching fish by the time the clinic had wound down.

Hugh Wenger demonstrated the art of fly tying and had numerous boxes of tied flies to show them and explained what they were called and when you would choose to use that fly for the particular fishing that you were about to do.

We were then rewarded by a lunch that was catered by Stauffers of Kissel Hill and Stan Shenk & Fran McElhinney, which included 3 different kinds of sandwiches, chips, drinks and cookies. It was well received and much appreciated.

I think that these ladies will be pleased that they attended this clinic and received more instruction to help them with their future fishing trips that I’m sure they will be better prepared for. There’s no substitute for experience and instruction to help you when you are going out on the water and rigging up your rod and what flies and tippet to use and the best presentation for your fly to attract the fish. Experience is the best teacher. Now the ladies that attended this clinic are better prepared for their next opportunity to go out and catch some fish.

We had some experienced members of our chapter that gave a chunk of their Saturday to share some of their time and areas of expertise with these eager students. Hugh Wenger deserves our hearty thanks for allowing us to use his pond & property for this event. James Wellendorf, Tom Hall, Joy McMaster, Mark McMaster, Derek Eberly & Moirajeanne FitzGerald all gave generously of their time to help at this event. I would be remiss if I didn’t include my good friend Cathy Wise, who continually offered to help me with this project and would send out reminders to the lists of both the ladies that attended this past Ladies Cold Water Breakfast and the ones who had responded to an article in the Sunday paper.

I’m sure that we will offer another Ladies Clinic again next year and include more women. Thanks to all that helped with this clinic and made it the success it was for all, even the weather gods cooperated and we had this wonderfully cool sunny day.

The ladies that attended this clinic were: Pam Williams, Janet Zimmerman, Lorri Schmick, Claire Landis, Laurel Etter, and Becky Whitson.

FAVIE HÆRING
WOMEN’S INITIATIVE COORDINATOR
Donegal Trout Unlimited is a non-profit organization affiliated with National Trout Unlimited located at 1300 North 17th Street, Suite 500, Arlington, Virginia 22209-2404 (703.522.0200)