CONSERVATION:

The construction on the Lloyd farm is complete and the first year annual maintenance has been done. The construction on the Lapp farm is just about complete. A fence will be installed and trees and shrubs will be planted later this Fall.

The Woy Project design and permit have been submitted for review and approval.

We have received two of the three payments from the Conservation Fund for the Lapp farm. We recently mailed the invoice for the third and final payment.

Greg Wilson is planning to lead monthly trips to visit the sites of our conservation projects. The trips are open to all chapter members and will be posted on our website and in our Calendar of Events where possible.

The first trip to the Drumore Township site and possibly Camp Andrews had to be canceled due to the weather.

COMMUNICATIONS:

The 2016 PATU Award for the best Chapter Newsletter went to The Mayflyer. Mark McMaster is the editor and accepted the award at the PATU Annual Meeting in Bellefonte, PA on September 10. This honor is very well deserved. Please congratulate Mark when you see him.

For our August electronic mailings we experienced the following results: 636 Members: 34% open rate. 21 Communications Contacts: 43% open rate. The average open rate for non-profits is 23%. We believe these figures reflect the quality of our mailings. However we are not satisfied and are investigating other methods to reach all our members such as semi-annual post cards. Mark McMaster produced a new one-page color flyer about our Chapter. We used it first time at the Alcoa Green Fair and it proved to be an effective tool.

Mark also produced a four-page pamphlet about our Chapter that will be used at future events. The pamphlet is divided into the following four sections: Who We Are, What We Do, How We Do It and How You Can Help.

ENGAGEMENT:

On Saturday September 1, six members of our Board of Directors and one Chapter member manned a booth at Alcoa’s Green Fair. Alcoa sponsored the Booth for $<1,000. We had 22 samples sold and $134.67 was donated to our project.

Volunteers are needed to plant trees on the Pennsy Road project on Climbers, October 22 from 8:30 - Noon. Bring shovels, boots & gloves. Parking will be at Climbers Preserve. Contact Greg Wilson (gregsfish@gmail.com or 717.587.8351) if you can help.

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

Nichole Blank
750 Bellevue Ave
Gap, PA 17527
nicholeblank93@gmail.com

Nick DiBernardo
641 Fremont St
Lancaster, PA 17603
nickdibernardo79@gmail.com

Norman Faus
6 Brookview Dr.
Lititz, PA 17543
normfaus@gmail.com

Jerry Fulmer
1113 Wheatland Ave
Lancaster, PA 17603
jfulmer@lancasterconservancy.org

Katie Gonick
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kgonick@lancasterconservancy.org

Jason Keith
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nodbot781@hotmail.com

Nick Lansberry
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Landisville, PA 17538
Lansberryjr@gmail.com

Fritz Schroeder
346A Walnut Hill Rd
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Fschroeder@lancasterconservancy.org

John Spencer
3303 Greenridge Dr
Mountville, PA 17554
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Justin Strawser
833 Dry Run Road
Grantville, PA 17028
jstrauser@comcast.net

Brandon Tennis
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Jennifer Tran
917 Columbia Ave
Lancaster, PA 17603
jtran@lancasterconservancy.org

Philip Wenger
634 W Chestnut St
Lancaster, PA 17603
pwenger@lancasterconservancy.org

Images of mayflies in this publication are based on photographs from Jason Neuswanger (www.trouttrust.com), whose rights, contribution to our knowledge of streamlife, and photographic skills are gratefully acknowledged.
The OctoberFest this year will be held at a new location, Liederkranz near Mount Joy on Thursday, October 20, starting at 6 pm. Plan on joining us for this event, featuring great German food & beer, raffles, and our featured speaker for the evening, author Tom Gilmore. Tom’s latest book, Flyfisher’s Guide to PA, will be hot off the presses and for sale at a discount, along with his previous 2 books. Cost for the dinner will be $50 per person, and attendance will be limited to 75. Contact Treasurer Dan Van Buskirk to reserve your seats.

Kiki Galvin, owner/operator of MS Guided Fly Fishing, will be our featured speaker on November 16 at the Farm & Home Center. Her topic will be “More Time Fishing, Less Time with Equipment,” a topic that can benefit every one of us. Kiki has been a guide for almost 15 years and will share some of the tips & tricks she’s learned over the years.

We’ll be moving the December meeting forward a week, to December 14, because of the usual date’s proximity to the holidays. Join us that evening for our traditional Fly Tying Clinic, with a variety of tyers yet to be announced. This is always a very enjoyable and informative meeting, even if you don’t tie yourself.

Bob and I met with Mark Metzler and went to visit the Lapp Project. Flyway Construction is about completed. The fence should be installed and Mark will install tree and shrub plantings in the Fall.

We worked with LCC on 2 work days in mid-September to support the United Way’s efforts. We unfortunately had no United Way volunteers on Friday, but Bob and I, along with Lydia Martin and a few conservancy volunteers worked on the buffer plantings at Climbers Preserve. That Saturday, Bob and I and a new DTU volunteer, worked again with Conservancy staff and volunteers and 22 students from Millersville, who were participating in the United Way’s Day of Caring. The Millersville professor that attended, said it was the most rewarding Day of Caring event he has attended. It was disappointing in speaking with the students how little contact any of them have with the natural world. In the end we will only conserve what we love. We need to get them outdoors.

We would like to schedule a date in October to plant the site at the Pennsy Road Project that we installed this past Spring. We installed a few plants after initial completion. We are hoping USF&W service is still on schedule for the Drumore Township project in November. We would like to also get trees planted at this project.

On a conservation promotion note, DTU sponsored the Hometown Habitat film this past Monday at Tellus360. Jenna did an amazing job in coordinating this event. We had native plant cocktails, beautiful nature photography, plant giveaway, and more. She was successful in seeking out 6 additional sponsors for the event. It was a pretty full house with over 150 in attendance. Jim spoke and conveyed to the audience that we are not just a fishing organization, explaining our mission is conservation. I have heard many very positive replies about how great this event was. I am hoping it inspires more people to be more aware in plant selection for their own properties as well as to come out to volunteer planting events. We are hoping to get the email contact list of those in attendance, several were actually landscape architects and are excited to get more involved. Thanks again, Jenna.

Jenna also was involved with securing a very large grant for the Octoraro watershed, this is great news for Lancaster County, the grant was for almost $750,000. Jenna had an opportunity for a $50,000 grant for a brook trout stream, but it was a short timeline and we couldn’t get the site approval in time.

The grant for the 3 subwatersheds of Fishing Creek was also awarded, for approximately $630,000. The grant objective is for 100 % livestock exclusion on 3 tributaries. DTU has offered trees and volunteer labor to plant as sites become available. Bob also was successful in recruiting Garland Gingrich and several others from Willow Valley Retirement Home to do water quality monitoring on these tributaries. They have started, and it will help give some before data, to see where we are going in the future. The volunteers will work with Linda Ferich, who runs the water quality monitoring for LCC. This is a great non-strenuous activity for seniors, and a great benefit to our organization. I would like to see this program greatly expanded. Linda seems willing to help train and work with more volunteers.
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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This summer Mother Nature has produced some of the hottest and most humid weather in recent memory. Many days have been too uncomfortable for any outdoor activity. There have been two important exceptions — the evenings of our Membership and Family Picnics. I would like to believe that the weather on those evenings was Mother Nature’s way of showing just how much she appreciates the work we do to preserve and restore her cold water habitats.

Our Membership Picnic was held in June and was described in the August edition of the Mayflyer. Our Family Picnic was held on Wednesday August 17 at the Millport Conservancy. Jim Wellendorf welcomed everyone on behalf of Lynn Myers, the Executive Director of the Millport Conservancy, who wanted to attend but was on vacation with her family. After the introduction of five new members and announcements about the Chapter’s upcoming events, the 50 members, families and friends were treated to another culinary feast by Chapter member, Stan Shenk. Chef Stan and his Sous Chef, Zack Garner, grilled bratwurst with fried mushrooms and onion toppings and served them with pasta salad and chips. In addition they served fresh fruits and cookies for dessert. All you could hear while everyone was eating was their hopes that there would be seconds. They were not disappointed.

After dinner, Mark Ebner, Chapter Youth Initiatives Coordinator, led a group of guests on a short walk along Lititz Run to see the award-winning restoration work the Chapter did there and to feed the trout that happily make it their home.

New Members

On Wednesday August 17, two new members and three soon-to-be new members attended our Annual Family Picnic at the Millport Conservancy. Pictured here left to right are: Nick DiBernardo, Wally Wanzong, Membership Chairmen Fran McElhinney, Norman Faus III, Justin Strawser, and Bob Hartnett.
Fall officially started on September 22, but it still feels like summer. “They” say winter won’t be far behind. Just in case the weather bureau is right this time, we will be having our Winter Fly Tying Gatherings.

Thanks to Stan Shenk, we will again be meeting at the Stauffers of Kissel Hill grocery store at 1050 Lititz Pike. The meeting room at the back of the store is comfortable and large enough for tiers and observers. We will gather there from 9 AM - 1 PM on Nov. 12, Jan. 14, Feb. 11, and March 11 (that’s the second Saturday of each month).

Limited instruction could be provided for beginners. It all depends on how many of the usual gang show up. Heck, they teach each other new tricks each time so they might as well infect other members with the delicate art of placing thread/fur/feathers/beads on tiny hooks. There will not be pre-registration this year. If it snows or is icy stay home. I know I will.

So old friends and new, come together to wile away a few cold hours and dream of that sweet trout taking your special fly on a warm spring day.

JOY McMaster

Mayflyer Recognized

There are 48 Trout Unlimited Chapters in Pennsylvania. Most if not all of them have newsletters that they send out to their members, partners and sponsors and to the media. Of all of them our newsletter, The Mayflyer, was judged to be the best by the PA Trout Unlimited Council at its annual meeting on September 10, in Bellefonte, PA. Accepting the award for our Chapter is Mark McMaster, the Mayflyer editor, and the driving force behind its excellence.

Mark is flanked on the far right by Tali MacArthur, PATU Program Director, and in the center by Ed O’Gorman, PATU Awards Committee Chairman.

The award confirmed what everyone who reads the Mayflyer knows – it is an outstanding publication. Here are two of the testimonials we have received:

“ABSOLUTELY - THE VERY BEST!! Well deserved!!” – Ann Stellings, TU member from North Carolina

“Congratulations on being recognized for your excellent work on Donegal’s Mayflyer newsletter. I read every issue and love all the photographs that hold the reader’s interest and help tell the story. Great job!”

John Leonard – Executive Vice President Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited

Please join the DTU Board of Directors in congratulating Mark.
Richard Lewis

At the PATU Annual meeting in Bellefonte, PA on Saturday September 10, Richard Lewis was elected Vice President of the South Central Region. Donegal Trout Unlimited is one of eight Chapters in the South Central Region.

Dick joined Trout Unlimited over 20 years ago when he lived in Maryland and was a member of the Potomac Patuxent TU Chapter. He moved to Gettysburg in 2009 and transferred to the Adams County TU Chapter, one of the South Central Region Chapters. He has served on the Chapter’s Board and has been involved in stream restoration and youth, social, fundraising and membership activities. He is a Life Member of TU.

Richard unexpectedly attended our Membership meeting on Wednesday September 21, and made a few remarks to the members in attendance. After introducing himself, he summarized his background, his involvement in TU and his objectives for his new responsibilities. In closing he said “it is my personal goal to visit all eight Chapters at least twice a year. So I expect you’ll see me back again in the future.” We look forward to his next visit.
At the September 21 Chapter Membership Meeting our Guest Speaker was Ben Rogers, fly fishing guide and owner of Chasing Tails Fly Fishing. While Ben guides all types of fly fishing trips, his favorite is fly fishing for smallmouth bass on the Susquehanna River.

He describes smallmouth bass as predators, willing to eat almost all food presented to them. Their goal is to get as big as they can as fast as they can to avoid their number one predator, their parents! Everything they do is calculated to ambush their prey. He described the methods he uses to fish for smallmouths as “hunting for any fish over 18 inches in length.” He explained the equipment he recommends as follows:

- Rods: 6wt - 8wt with 8wt optimal
- Lines: WFF, Intermediate or full sink depending on the season
- Leaders: 8 - 20lbs fluorocarbon for fewer breakoffs

Ben then described the food the bass eat and the some of the flies he uses to catch them.

- Food: hellgrammites, crayfish, baitfish, dragonflies, terrestrials, caddis flies, mayflies
- Flies: google bug, critter mite, mouse pattern, naked lady, truck stop specials, lunch box, baby bird

He said “big flies catch big fish.” He recommends long casts, 60 feet or more and dead drifts.

Ben then outlined the best techniques for each of the smallmouth fishing seasons.

- Spring (pre spawn) April to June - use dark, drab color flies, fish low and slow and fish every spot longer.
- Summer - use natural-colored flies with flash, use erratic retrieves, move locations frequently
- Fall - best time for top water fishing action, fish are dumb and hungry, getting fat for the winter, sight fish, fish to structure, cast, strip and hang on!

Ben ended his presentation by showing a series of pictures taken within the past several weeks, some days before, of huge smallmouths his clients and he had caught on the River. Ben spoke over an hour to over 45 members and guests. From the reaction of the audience he could have gone on much longer. His presentation was highly entertaining as well as very informative. There is no doubt that Ben convinced many attendees, including this writer, to fish with him or use his methods.

JIM WELLENDORF
Dr. Dorothy Merritts — F&M

The Chapter’s Board of Directors went to Franklin and Marshall College on the evening of Wednesday September 14 to listen to a presentation by Dr Dorothy Merritts on stream restoration. Dr. Merritts is a Professor of Geosciences and the Chair of Earth and Environment Department at the College. She and her colleague, Bob Walter, described their research on legacy dams and their impact on stream bank erosion and water quality. She started by describing the history of the legacy dams in Lancaster County, some dating back to the time when Hans Herr first settled here in the early 1700’s.

She showed a map which depicted the location of all 346 legacy dams in the county and described the composition of the various layers of soil that have been identified behind the dams from rubble to black organic matter to sediment. In her lab she demonstrated what happens to the sediment layer in various water conditions and described the impact below the dam in those conditions.

Next she described how she removed 23,000 tons of sediment down to an original legacy dam on Big Springs Run. She showed slides of the before condition of the Run and numerous pictures depicting its condition months after the sediment removal. She also showed pictures of the restored Run before, during and after a major rain event. The improvements were impressive.

Dr Merritts detailed how she is measuring the improvement to the Run including three USGS gauge stations and water quality testing. The results have shown a significant improvement in water quality, a reduction in water temperature and an environment that is close to a wet meadow ecosystem. There has also been a significant improvement in the biological systems including the return of turtles and salamanders. An economic benefit of the restoration is that the removed sediment has been valued at $100/sqft for use as top soil.

The Board did not want Dr Merritts’ presentation to end and came away with an appreciation of what can be accomplished with this method of stream restoration.

Jim Wellendorf

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Millport Badges

Badges to fish Lititz Run on the Conservancy are still available to members of DTU or Millport Conservancy. Badges are now half-price @ $10 at a meeting or DTU function, $11.50 if they need to be mailed. Contact Tom Hall (phallcat@comcast.net) or Donegal Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Attn: Millport Button Sales, PO Box 8001, Lancaster, PA 17604 to request a badge. Please provide proof of your membership.
On Saturday, August 27, 12½ DTU members introduced 11 youths and several of their fathers to the dark arts of fly fishing and fly tying at Hugh Wenger’s pond near E’town. The half-counted DTU member was Jim Wellendorf who didn’t bother to show up until all the work was done.

Youth Initiatives Coordinator, Mark Ebner and Derek Eberly organized and led the event. The youths had a great time, and most of them caught fish, several caught a number of fish. Lunch was catered by Stauffer’s of Kissel Hill. Jess Obrock caught much of the day “on film,” and more of her photos will be posted to the website.

MARK McMaster
sored this event for its employees as part of the 70th anniversary of their Lancaster Plant. Our hosts estimated that 2,500 employees and their families attended the event. We were able to explain our mission of cold water conservation to many of them. We made a lot of new friends and several promising contacts. Earlier this year Alcoa made a $3,000 contribution to our Chapter and their employees have volunteered at our nursery.

Jenna Mitchell and Greg Wilson, Board Members, helped organize and run a conservation event which our Chapter helped to sponsor. It was held on September 12 at Tellus 360, a restaurant in downtown Lancaster. Jenna was the MC and I made a short presentation about our Chapter and our mission to protect and restore cold water streams in the County. The keynote speaker was Catherine Zimmerman who showed a film she made entitled “Hometown Habitat” which showed what communities across the USA are doing to improve the environments. We purchased a copy of the film for future use at one of our membership meetings. We also made some good contacts that may be of value in the future.

Through September we completed 22 events where we needed volunteers for a total of over 912 hours. At those events 55% of the work was completed by non-Board Member volunteers. We truly appreciate all they do to help us. We have a lot of opportunities coming up so please check our website and Calendar of Events.

Ned Bushong delivered Trout In The Classroom (TIC) materials to Smith Middle School in Solanco School District. This is our 14th classroom in the TIC program.

Our Youth Fly Fishing Clinic was another success this year. Eleven youths attended the event which was held at Chapter Member Dr Hugh Wenger’s pond just north of Elizabethtown on August 27. Thirteen volunteers helped Mark Ebner, our Youth Initiatives Coordinator. Instruction included fly casting, fly tying and conservation followed by fly fishing on the pond. I met with Dr. Mike Gumpper, Economics Professor at Millersville University (MU) on Wednesday September 7. Dr Gumpper is interested in staring a TU Five Rivers Program at the University. I told him that the Chapter would do all it could to assist him.

Two of our veterans traveled north to fish for salmon at the Douglaston Salmon Run (DSR) on September 16. DSR has listed themselves as “proud supporters of Donegal Trout Unlimited.”

**FUNDING:**

On September 18, Joy McMaster, Mark McMaster and I attended the initial training session conducted by the Lancaster County Foundation on the Extraordinary Give Day of Caring. What we learned was that in order to maximize the potential the Day presents the Chapter must organize and commit its resources staring around October 1. Every member will need to contact as many people as possible on the actual Day of Caring, November 18.

Our grant process seems to be functioning smoothly. We are applying, being approved and receiving funds in what is an acceptable manner. While it is a lengthy process from start to finish, our contractors seem satisfied that they are receiving payments in a timely fashion. Our work to track all of our outstanding invoices has helped to clarify the entire process.

The Board agreed to sell the book entitled “Brownie and Bo” written by Chapter member, Lynn Peters. It is a well-written and beautifully illustrated children’s book about two trout, which teaches children about fly fishing and conservation. The book will be available at our membership meetings and will sell for $20 with part of that money going to the Chapter’s general fund.

Patric Nephin, a Chapter member, has volunteered to lead our Banquet Committee. He held his first Committee meeting to decide on activities and make assignments. The Chapter has signed the contract and made a deposit to reserve a banquet room at the Nook Sports Complex for the evening of April 1, 2017.

We continue to complete the requirements for Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) to receive Federal funds from Department of the Interior, specifically to receive money from the US Fish & Wildlife.

**CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT:**

The sole topic for discussion at the Wednesday September 21 meeting of the Chapter’s Process and Procedure Committee was what the Chapter needs to do to prepare for the Extraordinary Give Day of Caring. All Board members were encouraged to attend.

As of our September Board Meeting, we had 758 members - 710 men, 48 women and 6 young men
Lititz Run Watershed received a grant a couple of years ago from Lancaster Clean Water Consortium, (they were a sponsor of the film) to rework a wetland area on the Santa Domingo. It has been so wet they have been unable to do the project, which entails installing new discharge, regrading and replanting. It has finally dried up enough and the work is finally starting. The site was developed prior to Rock Lititz basin and was intended to act as a sediment removal area along with being a wetland habitat. It turned into a goose pond, but now hopefully can be turned into a more functional wetland area.

The Chapter elected the following slate of Officers & Board Members at the September Meeting:

- President: Joy McMaster
- Vice President: Tom Hall
- Secretary: Bill Henry
- Treasurer: Dan Van Buskirk
- Board Members: Mike Burcin, Bill Nolan, Barry Witmer
- Re-Elect Board Members: Mark Ebner, Garry Longenecker, Fran McIlhenny

The newly-elected members will take office at the OctoberFest, October 20.

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

Joy McMaster, Mark McMaster, Tom Hall and I attended the PATU Annual meeting in Bellefonte, PA on Saturday September 17.

SPECIAL NOTES

Please mark your calendars for these important upcoming dates:

- October 20 - OctoberFest at the Liederkranz
  A chance to enjoy special food, good friends and a great speaker
- November 18 - Extraordinary Give’s Day of Caring
  A chance for you and your friends to help support our Chapter
- Also please use AmazonSmile when you can. Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to our Chapter

The Power of PhotoShop

and 2 young women. We have had a net increase of 37 new members since the beginning of the year.

Please mark your calendars for these important upcoming dates:

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  A chance to enjoy special food, good friends and a great speaker
- November 18 - Extraordinary Give’s Day of Caring
  A chance for you and your friends to help support our Chapter
- Also please use AmazonSmile when you can. Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to our Chapter

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

JIM

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Chapter elected the following slate of Officers & Board Members at the September Meeting:

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- Board Members: Mike Burcin, Bill Nolan, Barry Witmer
- Re-Elect Board Members: Mark Ebner, Garry Longenecker, Fran McIlhenny

The newly-elected members will take office at the OctoberFest, October 20.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Bob Kutz in Oregon
The Lapp Project

Here are some pix from this nearly-complete, major project in the southern-most reaches of the Conowingo.

Photos courtesy
Bob Kutz
&
Mark McMaster

DONEGAL CHAPTER
of
TROUT UNLIMITED

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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)