Happy New Year

October 1st is the start of a new year within the TU organization. For DTU, it means that our yearly fall celebration is fast approaching. Octoberfest will be on the 18th this year. We usually install new officers and board members. This year you will have the same volunteers guiding our work. That night we will also recognize three members who did outstanding work for our chapter this past year. Our celebration will be held at Tellus 360 in downtown Lancaster. Besides a great meal at a new location, for us, we will be joined by our speaker for the evening, David Rothrock. Be sure to make your reservations with Dan VanBuskirk ASAP. More information can be found on our website.

On November 17, you will find DTU listed for the Extra Ordinary Give. This is the second year we’ve been accepted for this one day of giving within the Lancaster County Community. The Extra Give is organized by the Lancaster County Community Foundation. When you receive our emails about this special day, please share them with your family and friends. The more donations we receive the larger our percentage will be for a division of a pool of money provided by the sponsors.

Fall also provides more volunteer opportunities. This Saturday, Oct. 7, Garry Longenecker is organizing our nursery plants not only for our projects but also for distribution to other conservation groups. In October and November, Greg Wilson will be having planting and work days on Fishing Creek, Peters Creek, Conowingo Creek, and Climbers Run. You get to play in the dirt and leaves or whack down invasive plants. What could be better. And you will be helping many trout live better lives.

Thank you to all of you for being a part of the DTU community. Together we can work on making our little corner of the planet a better place while having fun as we do it.

Volunteers to help tidy our Nursery for Winter & organize plants for distribution to our projects and others are needed on Saturday, October 7 from 9 - 10:30 am. Please bring gloves, sturdy footwear and dress for the weather. Meet at the nursery at Millport, 737 E. Millport Rd, Lititz.

Volunteers will be needed throughout October, and into November to plant trees on our recent projects as well as adding more trees to previous projects. These planting opportunities will be listed on the website as soon as they are announced, so please check the volunteers page frequently (www.donegaltu.org/volunteers.html) for up-to-the-minute announcements.
Chapter Planner

**OCTOBER**
11th: 7 pm  
18th: 6 pm

**NOVEMBER**
8th: 7 pm  
15th: 7 pm

**DECEMBER**
13th: 7 pm  
20th: 7 pm

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**Welcome New Members**

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Millport Badges

Badges to fish Lititz Run on the Conservancy in 2017 are still available to members of DTU or Millport Conservancy. Badges are priced @ $20 at a meeting or DTU function, $22.50 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.

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

OCTOBER
OctoberFest will be on October 18. We’ll be gathering at 6 pm at Tellus 360 (24 E. King St) in Lancaster to hear guide, author & fly tyer David Rothrock. Dinner will be your choice of Rack of Ribs or Split, Marinated Chicken, complete with sides. Registrants will also be entered in a raffle for a rod & reel. Tickets are only $50, but reservations must be made with Treasurer Dan Van Buskirk (3714 Nolt Rd., Landisville, 17538 tel: 717.618.8164 email: treasurer@donegaltu.org). Parking is available across the street. The public is welcome to join us.

NOVEMBER
We return to the Farm & Home Center on the 15th and our regular meeting time at 7 pm. A speaker is awaiting confirmation.

DECEMBER
For the December Meeting on the 20th we’ll have our traditional Dave Shenk Memorial Fly Tying Clinic at the Farm & Home Center. Tyers have yet to be announced, but this is always a fun meeting.

DEAN EBERLY
PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

CONSERVATION

USF&W has started on the Peters Creek Project. Bob and I went and met the excavator and looked at the site. It will be a great habitat improvement. They will also make some repairs for Fulton Twp that will stabilize the roadway, reduce erosion and create better fish habitat.

Another crew from USF&W has begun work on the Metzler Project on Fishing Creek. After several hurdles, they finally got it going. USF&W has gone the extra mile in getting through all of the permitting, from bog turtles to Indian artifacts it has been a long road. So we are excited to see this installed. We will be using trees and shrubs from the DTU nursery on both projects. We will be needing volunteers to help with the planting, and get some dates together.

Drumore Park is looking good, we will be adding more trees and shrubs at this location as well. Jenna arranged for some freshman students from F&M along with Ryan, forester for the Alliance for the Bay, to volunteer at Climbers Run for a day and also at Fishing Creek. The volunteers removed invasives at Climbers Preserve, and along Scalpy Hollow continuing the burning bush eradication. We then went to Drumore Park, planted 20 trees and shrubs, and checked all of the tree shelters.

Bob and I also met with Bob Herr, then met his Amish neighbor who shares the upper half of the stream bank. Jenna is working on the paperwork to secure grant funding for this project. Bob Kutz received a call from AquaTerra, an engineering firm seeking a wetland mitigation site and also a stream site. Bob Herr is willing to allow wetland construction, which would be great for the project.

While traveling along Scalpy Hollow Road, we met 2 PFBC biologists doing electro fishing for the AG BMP grant. They sampled below the lowest trib in the grant and upstream of the upper trib. This will provide data to determine if the BMPs help, although it may be thrown off as we will be doing major habitat improvements on a few reaches of this stream. They were happy with the results they were seeing so far.

Bob was informed that the grant for $58k was approved for design of the project on the Conowingo off Cardinal Rd, so Rettew will begin this process.

We looked at Herb Weaver’s, it is really growing up with hops crawling on all of the new tree shelters. Landstudies sprayed 2 times, but I guess the budget isn’t large enough. It is also thick in the project upstream of the bridge. Invasive plants are destroying the tree planting projects.

The Pennsy Road project looks pretty good, we lost some trees and would like to add a few more at this location.

We would also like to have volunteers for planting and tree maintenance at Climber’s Run. I will schedule some dates and get all of the above dates posted. The invasive mult flora are getting ahead of us in this area.

Warwick Twp coordinated a work day with an Eagle Scout project. We planted 3250 wetland plugs, with help from LRWA, Warwick Twp, Landstudies and the Boy Scouts. We have been trying to replant this site for 2 years, finally got it completed. This a water quality wetland basin, which was needed prior to the installation at Rock Lititz. Over the years, they have dredged out 75 dump truck loads of sediment that would settle out.

Lititz Borough recently had Landstudies install another improvement project on Water and Front Streets in Lititz, regrading a severely eroding stream bank. All of these projects will have long term benefits to the fishery.

Many people are catching little stream-bred rainbows in Lititz Run. According to Mike Kauffman, only

Continued, page 20
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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
US Fish & Wildlife has completed work on our project on Peters Creek in southeastern Lancaster County. This stream was recently added to PA Fish & Boat’s list of wild trout streams. DTU & Lancaster Conservation District’s Matt Kofroth conducted an electro-fishing survey on the stream earlier this summer.

The work USF&W has done is very impressive and I’m sure there will be a bump in the wild brown trout birth rate soon.
The Metzler Project has been on our books for several years now. This site on Fishing Creek in the southeastern corner of the County had the stream perilously close to damaging the owner’s garage. But since we would have to move the stream channel itself, there were several studies and surveys required, for everything from Native American artifacts to bog turtles. Indeed the historic streambed which we hoped to return the stream to is now considered a wetland, and so couldn’t be disturbed.

US Fish & Wildlife stuck with us and finally secured all necessary permits and are presently working on the site. It will be great to see this stretch of a wild brown trout stream restored at last.

Mark McMaster
The Lancaster Conservancy held a BioBlitz on their preserve on Steinman Run in southern Lancaster County. DTU & Matt Kofroth of the Lancaster Conservation District joined with LCC volunteers & some members of the Water Quality Volunteer Coalition to do an electro-fishing survey of this native brook trout stream on September 17.

Results were very encouraging with a number of brook trout in spawning colors, as well as dace, chubs and a wide variety of macroinvertebrates including mayflies, caddis and stoneflies.

Photos courtesy Lydia Martin
On August 26, PA Fish & Boat Commission held a meeting to discuss the future of wild trout in our state. The daylong event was also sponsored by PA TU Council and TCO Fly Shop. Over 200 people attended, many from TU chapters. There were ten speakers with topics ranging from the history of wild trout management to a state of the art tracking system being used for brook trout. A few facts that I found interesting:

- The first hatchery in the state was on Donegal Springs Creek in 1873.
- There is an amendment to the state constitution concerning our environmental rights.
- We know there are designated Wild Trout waters. The tributaries to these streams are also given this designation.
- The Unassessed Waters Initiative started in 2010. TU assists with this project. Over 12,000 miles of stream have been sampled with over 4,000 miles being added to the Wild Trout Stream list. These surveys also identify potential Class A Streams for future consideration. An assessment of culverts in the state started this year. Both of these projects are funded by grants from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.
- The Eastern Brook Trout Venture hopes to identify brook trout strongholds and major stressors to the population. It is hoped by alleviating the stress factors a more resilient population of brook trout will survive. More information on this project can be found at TU.org.
- With genetic testing, scientists can demonstrate gene drift - random changes over time. As trout lose their diversity they are less likely to adapt to changes. A clip from the tail fin of a brook trout is used for testing.

This is just a small sampling of what was covered that day. For more information, you can go to:

Wild Trout Summit Webpage: www.fishandboat.com/Fish/PennsylvaniaFishes/TROUT/Pages/WildTroutSummit2017.aspx
August Picnic

In the late afternoon of August 16, 45 members and friends of DTU wound their way over the roads of southern Lancaster County. We met at Drumore Township Park for our second picnic of the year. The pavilion was beside Fishing Creek and sheltered by large trees. Even though it was a typical August day, we were all comfortable in the shade. We were joined by members of the Friends of Fishing Creek Association. Our two groups worked together on the stream restoration in the park last year. It was only fitting that we come together again for one of Chef Stan Shenk’s fine meals. Dogs on the barby, corn on the cob, fresh summer fruit, there’s no better meal in the summertime. Jerry Folcomer assisted Stan by shucking the cooked corn. Fran McElhinny helped with set up and served as waiter for our family style meal. Four new members received their DTU hats and information packets along with our usual picnic experience. Those of us not on cleanup duty, wandered along the stream to check out the new fish habitats and plantings. As dusk was falling, we once again took to the road to wind our way home. DTU’s summer season has ended. We look forward to Fall and meetings at our usual spot.

New members Tim Myers, Phillip Auberzinsky, Membership Chairman Fran McElhinny, Jared Patc & Ken Lacy

Photos courtesy Jim Wellendorf & Fran McElhinny
Four DTU board members represented the Chapter at the National Hunting & Fishing Day at Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area on Sunday, September 24.

Rumor has it that this was the biggest fish caught at this year’s Fish & Golf Tourney.

Committee Reports, continued

about 9 streams in the state are listed as wild rainbow fisheries. He said often they die off after the first year, so it will be interesting to see if they can make it. When I began working on Lititz, I always thought reproducing fish would indicate a pretty good project. So time will tell.

If members are fishing Lititz Run on the lower end, please keep an eye out for some pretty bad behavior. My son was fishing and noticed pellets floating by. He walked up to find a guy was throwing pellets then fishing with pellet flies, bragging about his big fish. Please ask anyone like this to leave.

Greg Wilson
Conservation Co-Chairman