



HATCHES

Newsletter of the Doc Fritchey Chapter of Trout Unlimited
P.O.Box 6592, Harrisburg, PA 17112 www.dftu.org

January 2017



“Dedicated to the conservation, protection and restoration of the coldwater resources of Dauphin & Lebanon Counties”

From Your President:



Happy New Year to you all! Because this is my first time as President of Doc Fritchey TU, I'm still trying to get my "sea legs." It goes without

saying that without the assistance and mentoring of veterans of the chapter and the board, the challenge would have been much more difficult.

One month after assuming the office I was notified of an unexpected distribution from our namesake and founder, Dr. John A. Fritchey, Jr.'s widow's Trust. The amount of this windfall affords our chapter a tremendous opportunity to expand the mandate of our organization. In the coming months, the board will be working on creating a strategic plan to guide us towards our mission.

Trout Unlimited is a volunteer organization whose mission is "to conserve, protect and restore North America's trout and salmon fisheries and their watersheds." In the chapter footprint, there are many streams in Dauphin and Lebanon counties that we can apply this mission to. Of course, this requires manpower, and this is where I would like to invite your help.

One of the many goals I envision for our chapter is expanding the participation of our 400 plus members in the work to be done. This does not necessarily mean attending business meetings and devoting a lot of time. If everyone contributes just a little time every so often, we can accomplish a lot.

Over the coming months, through this and other communication formats, we will be telling you about the stream projects the chapter is planning, what educational events we will hold, and other fishing and fly tying events, as well.

In the coming year, I would like to reach out to all of you personally to learn what is important to you as a member of Trout Unlimited. There are two good ways to stay abreast of chapter events - www.dftu.org and Facebook.

Please feel free to contact me at rwarrencollins@gmail.com or (717) 580-3958

Russ Collins, President
Doc Fritchey Chapter of Trout Unlimited

A printed Newsletter?

So why a printed newsletter in the age of email, you ask? Believe it or not, there are more than 437 members of DFTU in Dauphin and Lebanon Counties and when we send email messages to our members, fewer than 300 of the 437 folks on the membership roster get the emails we send out; we don't have valid email addresses for about one-third of our membership, which means we have no other way to reach those good folks except with a printed newsletter and snail mail.

So, first thing, if you have not been receiving emails from DFTU and you would be OK with receiving "infrequent" emails from us (on ways that you can participate in chapter activities) please send an email message to Russ Collins, at rwarrencollins@gmail.com. Russ will send a confirmation email to you and update our records.

DFTU.ORG

If you are new to DFTU or are not an active member, and typically don't come to chapter meetings or attend events, the best way to find out about DFTU is to visit our webpage at www.DFTU.org. Along with many other hats he wears for Trout Unlimited, Bob Pennell is our webmaster. You can reach Bob at rpennell37@comcast.net or at (717) 236-1360.

While we are talking about Bob Pennell who has been an active member of this chapter for as long as anyone can recall - including serving as our secretary (since he stopped serving as chapter president) - we want to wish Bob a Happy Birthday. He turned 80 (but sure doesn't look or act that old) on January 15th.

2017 Annual Banquet – Saturday, April 1 at the Holiday Inn Grantville – 5:00

Check your mailbox in the next couple of weeks because you'll be receiving a raffle ticket along with a registration form for our 2017 Annual Banquet. Cost of the banquet is just \$35.00. This year we will be raffling a Field & Stream Eagle 12 Foot Fishing Kayak as a banquet prize.

Everyone who attends comes to the banquet because they have an interest in trout and coldwater conservation, but they also come for the "good stuff" that's available through raffles and auctions, both live and silent. Many of our banquet guests go home with splendid fishing gear, great artwork, and other interesting *stuff* . . . and you'll meet some people that evening who can introduce you to DFTU and to the good work we do here in Lebanon and Dauphin counties.

Because we raise about \$20,000 each year (almost all through our annual banquet), DFTU can continue to teach inner-city kids how the fertilized eggs we bring into their classrooms in the fall (through *Trout in the Classroom*) become the fingerlings they release into area streams in May. It really works . . . and it makes a difference.

That's why we raise money.

RoseAnn Viozzi is the 2017 banquet chair. If you want to help, please contact Roseann (she would love to hear from you!) at (717) 756-1990 or via email at roseamsv@comcast.net.

Perhaps you have a contact through your work for advertising for the program, or perhaps you know someone who would donate "good stuff" for the auctions or raffles. Or perhaps you create gorgeous trout flies and would be interested in sharing a dozen or two for a raffle. If so, let RoseAnn know.

Also, Rich DiStanislao runs a "yard sale" during the banquet. Rich accumulates good used stuff donated by our members and sells it (at great prices) to other members throughout the evening. Undoubtedly, you have good stuff you are not using (and likely will never use again). Call Rich at (717) 836-7786 and let him know what you want to donate to DFTU.

Recently, a widow of a former member donated more than a dozen trout fishing related items to DFTU and an active member donated a dozen framed pieces of wildlife artwork to DFTU. We'll have some of those pieces available on April 1st – either at auction or in raffles or in the Yard Sale.

Upcoming Membership Meetings

DFTU meets at the Giant Foods Community Center at 2300 Linglestown Road (Rt. 39), in Susquehanna Township. Our meetings are held in one of the Community Rooms on the second floor. Typically, members start to gather in Giant's Beer Garden & Eatery on the first floor about 5:30 (food service and beverages are available) and then we wander upstairs at 6:30 to conduct a short business meeting followed by a feature presentation. We do our best to finish everything by 8:45 PM. If you have not joined us, please consider coming out for a meeting. It really is the best way to get to know the men and women who make up our chapter. And, honestly, we want you there . . . and bring a friend. We are always looking for members who have an interest in participating.

Tuesday, January 24 – Fly Fishing the Lehigh River with Nick Raftas

Nick Raftas is a professional fly fishing guide on the Lehigh River, one of Pennsylvania's largest tail water streams. Nick's presentation will cover access, fishing techniques, and boating the river.

Tuesday, February 28 – Fishing the Rivers of Yellowstone National Park.

Dusty Wissmath, professional fly fishing guide and manager of the TCO Fly Shop in Boiling Springs, will present his program on fishing the rivers of Yellowstone National Park.

Because of the Annual Banquet on April 1st we will not hold a membership meeting in March.

Tuesday, April 25 – Program to be announced on the DFTU website

Because DFTU has lots of members in Lebanon County, we have been trying to find a suitable Lebanon County location for three meetings per year. Thanks to the brewers at Snitz Creek Brewery, who opened a second location near Campbelltown in the Flight Path Sports Park, we expect to announce chapter meetings in their meeting room starting in the spring of 2017.

Regarding our monthly programs, because of the relationships our members have in the conservation and trout fishing community, we can bring in outstanding presenters, many of which came to DFTU because a member told us he knew of someone who gave a great program. If you know someone who provides a great program (and we'll pay a modest amount for a great program) please call Bob Pennell at (717) 236-1360

Snitz Creek Streambank Restoration Project

Thanks to the efforts of several DFTU chapter members, particularly J. Kent Crawford, Russ Collins, and Bob Pennell, the Doc Fritchey Chapter of Trout Unlimited has applied for funding from the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, under the Tulpehocken & Quittapahilla Watershed Grant Program, to undertake a stream improvement project on the lower end of Snitz Creek in Lebanon County.

Preliminary funding approval has been received for the project, which calls for streambank stabilization, sediment removal, narrowing of the stream channel, installing a new livestock crossing, and removal of invasive species. If all goes according to plan, and there is a lot of preliminary work yet to be done, construction could occur in late summer of 2017.

When completed, this project on the lower end of the Snitz will improve the Snitz in the same way that the two recent projects on the Quittapahilla Creek in Annville have dramatically improved our ever-improving Quittie.

Trout Stocking in Lebanon and Dauphin Counties – Spring of 2017

Although the 2017 Adult Trout Stocking schedule has not yet been finalized by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, we know that early stocking will take place sometime in March, and we know that at least a dozen members of DFTU normally show up to help float stock our favorite Special Regulations streams – Clarks, Manada, and the Quittie.

As part of our helping PFBC stock our favorite streams, DFTU brings a pair of float tubs to the streams so we can “get wet” and distribute PFBC trout throughout our favorite streams.

If you have an interest in helping, please send a note to Steve Vegoe, who recently agreed to serve as the chair of our Stocking Committee, at stephan.vegoe@verizon.net. Steve will help DFTU organize our 2017 DFTU trout stocking activities.

Once we know the 2017 stocking schedule, Steve will send out a note via email to the “team” that normally gathers to help. If you have not previously helped, it’s a great way to make some new trout fishing friends.

Trout in the Classroom

A full-page article on DFTU’s *Trout in the Classroom* initiative is featured on page 27 in the Dauphin County Commissioners’ magazine, *Life in Dauphin County*.

The article features Cyndi Camp, who has chaired our *Trout in the Classroom* initiative since its inception. A PDF of the page is available at DFTU.org and/or at knowthisplace.com/pa/dauphin-county-pa-bk

For Your Calendars – The International Fly Fishing Show in New Jersey and Lancaster

Many of our members already have their calendars marked for the two most popular winter fly fishing shows – in Somerset, New Jersey and Lancaster, PA, but, just in case you have not marked your calendars, the New Jersey International Fly Fishing Show is January 27 to 29 at the Garden State Convention Center and the same show comes to the Lancaster County Convention Center in downtown Lancaster on March 4th and 5th

Go to www.flyfishingshow.com for details. FYI - the 2017 Fly Fishing Film Tour is showing on Friday evening, January 27th at the New Jersey Show.

See you there!

DFTU is seeking candidates for 2017 TU Youth Camp

The Cumberland Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited is holding the 23rd annual Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp June 18 - 23, 2017. This year the camp will be at a new venue, Messiah College in Grantham. The camp begins on a Sunday and ends the following Friday.

The highly-structured curriculum is based on college level classes. Students are instructed in ecology, aquatic biology, geology, hydrogeology, erosion and sedimentation control, ichthyology, riparian corridor protection, watershed management, entomology, and much more.

Students also participate in a hands-on stream habitat improvement project. But it’s not all work. There are 10 fishing sessions and fly tying instruction. Over 25 instructors, all experts in their field, teach the various classes. Admission will be limited to 32 selected qualified students, ages 14 to 17.

Youth Camp, Continued

Applicants must have been born between June 23, 1999, and June 18, 2003. The 32 students will be selected through an application process where they must state why they want to attend camp.

A student doesn't have to be an accomplished fly fisher or a budding aquatic biologist to attend. The student only needs to be highly motivated and willing to learn.

The Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp was founded in 1995 through the efforts of the late Dr. John R. "Jack" Beck and the late Enoch S. "Inky" Moore, Jr., Pennsylvania Fish Commissioner. Their goal was to select 32 teenagers each year who were the leaders in their class. The thought is that today's leaders in high school become the leader of tomorrow's communities. In a few short years, they will be bankers, lawyers, realtors, municipal officials, and leaders in their communities.

If the camp can implant a kernel of knowledge in today's students about the importance of clean water, when those students become the decision makers in their communities, it may have a positive impact on how water resources are used.

The camp is now accepting applications for the 2017 camp through March 31, 2017. The Doc Fritchey Chapter will pay the \$400 tuition fee (includes all meals and accommodations) for the first 3 students accepted from either Dauphin or Lebanon County.

For more information, or to apply, visit the camp website at www.riverscamp.com. Questions may be submitted at the website or via email to riverscamp@gmail.com. Applying via the camp website is preferred.

Doc Fritchey Chapter Officers and Board

President – Russ Collins
Immediate Past President – Ed O’Gorman
Vice President – Stephan Vegoe
Secretary – Bob Pennell
Treasurer – Francis O’Gorman

Board Members

RoseAnn Viozzi	Steve Long
Cyndi Camp	Rick LaTournous
Steve Funck	Rich DiStanislao
Joseph Connor	Chuck Swanderski
Rob Konowitch	

Doc Fritchey Chapter of Trout Unlimited
P.O. Box 6592
Harrisburg, PA 17112