



HATCHES

Newsletter of the Doc Fritchey Chapter of Trout Unlimited
P.O.Box 6592, Harrisburg, PA 17112 www.dftu.org
Fall 2017



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



From Your President:

The fall season is here in date only, with temperatures still on the warm side during the day. With fall, comes renewed stocking work and fishing opportunities.

One of my goals for the chapter is growth of our membership both in numbers and in participation in chapter events and work. State wide, membership has plateaued at 13,000 to 14,000 and our chapter at 450 to 475. The list of lapsed and expired memberships provides both a challenge and opportunity for chapter leaders. These folks are familiar with what TU is all about. What we need, in my opinion, is to reach out in person to encourage renewing membership. We started offering free beginner fly fishing lessons and have had several express an interest. Reaching out to youth in a variety of ways to bring them the message of TU is important if we want to thrive as a grassroots environmental organization. Watch for announcements of events to make this happen.

You will read later in this newsletter that we have finished the final stages of the Lower Snitz restoration grant work and expect ground breaking early in the new year, weather permitting. In terms of what I call our “footprint” we have many watersheds which could benefit from restoration projects. In the past, projects on Armstrong Creek and Powell's Creek have been on the radar, but due to a few circumstances, including driving distance for our core participating members, these never developed.

Working with a stream map application creator, I hope to overlay zip codes on watersheds so that when we have a project on a local stream, our membership roster will provide a list of those in the area to call on to help with the work.

Summer time is always a challenge for organizations like ours. Starting in May and going through September we were unable to hold a business meeting due to the lack of a quorum of Board members. On October 22nd we are holding a Board meeting to resolve some very important issues.

Look us up on Facebook and please feel free to contact me at russthepres@dftu.org or (717) 580-3958 (cell #)

Russ Collins, President
Doc Fritchey Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Fall Chapter Meetings

Please mark your calendars for our October 24th and November 28th Chapter meetings. Both will be held at the Giant Food Store's community room on Linglestown Road. Socializing happens from 6:15 to 6:45 in the café and then we head upstairs to the community room for the program. As is always the case with DFTU, there is no December chapter meeting.

October Chapter Meeting – October 24, 2017 at 7:00 PM

The October chapter meeting's program will be in two parts. First on the program is Lori Lauver, the STEM coordinator at Sylvan Heights Charter School in Harrisburg. Lori will talk about her participation (and enthusiasm for) DFTU's Trout in the Classroom program.

Second on the program is Michael Gogal, founder of Gogal Publishing, a Philadelphia-based small business specializing in the design, development, and distribution of map and navigation apps for outdoor enthusiasts. Their latest product is Stream Map USA, a searchable, color-coded river, lake, and stream map with water features displayed over roadmaps, satellite images, and topographic maps. Each edition features a built-in search function allowing users to easily find even the most obscure streams.

November Chapter Meeting – November 28, 2017 – 7:00 PM

Nate Reagle, a featured presenter at this summer's Pennsylvania Wild Trout Summit, a Wildlife and Fisheries Biologist at the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, will be our guest presenter on Tuesday evening, November 28, 2017. Nate will talk about DCNR's Wild Trout Management Plan and also talk about stream improvement activities that TU chapters like Doc Fritchey can help finance and manage.

Chapter members often gather in the café on the main floor of the Giant Food Store about 6:15. Look for a table or two of “older fishermen/women” and that will be us.

Transitions

Chapter president Russ Collins recently sent a note to our board members about the chapter's volunteer activities needs. Russ pointed out that we are looking for chapter members who want to be part of the future of the Doc Fritchey Chapter of Trout Unlimited. If you have an interest, please call Russ Collins at (717) 580-3958. In no particular order, right now we need members to take on a variety of roles: Social Committee Chair, Membership Committee Chair, Stream Steward Chair and a few Stream Stewards, and a 2018 banquet chair.

Snitz Creek Project Ready to Begin in Early January

The idea in early fall of 2016 for a DFTU project on the lower portion of Snitz Creek came out of a discussion at a Quittapahilla Watershed Association meeting about the need to update the WIP (Watershed Implementation Plan) for the Quittie. The Snitz Creek project location was selected after talking to a seasoned consultant (Rocky Powell) regarding what he considered was a first priority on a tributary within the Quittapahilla watershed. From that point, Kent Crawford and Russ Collins met to talk about submitting a grant proposal for funds available from the Fish & Boat Commission. Kent Crawford then developed a budget for the project.

DFTU (Collins and Crawford) submitted a grant application to PFBC late in 2016. DFTU was notified in early 2017 that our lower Snitz Creek project had been awarded up to \$115,000 toward what turned out to be a \$174,000 project. Much of the difference between the award amount and the project was made up by a significant donation of construction materials - limestone boulders and rock - from Pennsy Supply's Prescott operations.

The project is scheduled to commence January 1, 2018, weather permitting, and be completed within two months.

New Signs for Quittie Creek Nature Park



In cooperation with Annville Township, the Friends of Old Annville, the Quittie Creek Nature Park Committee, the Quittapahilla Watershed Association, and the

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, the Doc Fritchey Chapter of Trout Unlimited (DFTU) has installed six new signs in the Quittie Creek Nature Park's Special Regulations trout fishing section.

The signs were created to highlight the special conditions anglers of all ages must observe while fishing for trout in Quittie Creek Nature Park. Thanks to the Annville Township Public Works Department, six new signs were strategically placed at the entrances to the park on July 18 and 19. The signs clearly describe what can and cannot be used as bait (no live bait at any time) and when anglers may harvest fish (June 15 through Labor Day).

Officers and Directors for 2017-2018

At the annual chapter meeting in late September, the following officers and directors were elected to serve the Doc Fritchey Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

Officers

President – Russ Collins
Vice Pres. – Stephan Vegoe
Secretary – Bob Pennell
Treasurer – Trip McGarvey

Directors

Rick LaTournous Cyndi Camp
Rich DiStanislaio RoseAnn Viozzi
Chuck Swanderski Francis O’Gorman
Rob Konowitch Joseph Connor
Ed O’Gorman Steve Long

We extend our sincere appreciation to Francis O’Gorman who served as our chapter’s treasurer for eight years (wow!), and we extend our thanks to Trip McGarvey for agreeing to serve as our new treasurer. We should probably also mention that our current secretary, Bob Pennell, has served as chapter secretary continuously since 2006. We suspect that’s a record run. Thanks Bob.

2017 Trout Stocking Report

Thanks to the help we received from at least ten members of DFTU, (and with at least seventy-man hours of volunteer effort), Doc Fritchey TU assisted the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission in float stocking Manada Creek in Dauphin County and the Quittapahilla Creek in Lebanon County – in early spring, late spring, and in the fall. It was a great effort and, as we have learned over the years, conscientiously distributing stocked trout via float stocking makes a big difference to the quality of the trout fishing experience for anglers of all ages and experience.

Plus, for those DFTU members who help with float stocking, we have made many new fishing friends. Those friendships have certainly led to numerous fishing trips together, flies exchanged and bartered, and, perhaps most importantly, lots of good fishing stories. Please join us whenever your schedule permits.

Trout Stocking Coordinator Needed

A year ago, chapter vice president Stephan Vegoe agreed to help coordinate the chapter’s in-stream stocking activities until an interested chapter member was identified. We are still looking for someone to take over, so, if you have an interest, please call Steve at (717) 269-8420 or chapter president Russ Collins at (717) 580-3958.

New Chapter Members Since June

Thanks to its emphasis on conservation, trout fishing, and camaraderie, Trout Unlimited continues to attract members. We are a growing and important volunteer organization, that's for sure. The way the membership system works, when a person joins TU, they are assigned a local chapter (unless that new member specifically selects a chapter).

Since June, we are pleased to welcome twenty-one new members to Doc Fritchey Trout Unlimited, including a dozen military veterans who became TU members as a benefit of joining us for our June Home Waters event.

Ricky Brittain, Etters
Charles Buckner, Enola
Seth Clark, Harrisburg
David Cornelious, Duncannon
Benjamin Corney, Bensalem
Paul Debol, Harrisburg
Michael Fitzpatrick, Lock Haven
Randy Goss, Hummelstown
David Hamilton, Harrisburg
Anthony Jorgensen, Dauphin
Donald Keeney, Middletown
Ronald Keeney, Middletown
Abigail Miller, Halifax
Cole Miller, Lebanon
Alicia Murr, Harrisburg
John Taucher, Halifax
Bud Wagner, Mifflintown
Steve Winner, Etters
Luke Wynn, Williamstown
Wendy Young, Hummelstown
Michael Zink, Enola

We encourage these new members to join us for our next chapter meeting in the community room at the Giant Food Store on Linglestown Road on Tuesday, October 24th at 7:00 PM. Please introduce yourselves as you enter the room and we'll make sure we introduce you to "all the old guys." Welcome aboard.

FYI – Officers and Directors

In case you were interested, here's the relevant section from DFTU's bylaws regarding our board of directors, their number, makeup, and terms.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall consist of no fewer than five (5) non-officer members and the Officers pursuant to Article V, Section 1. Each non-officer Director shall serve a three-year term, with Directors' terms staggered to provide for continuity. The Immediate Past President shall be an ex-officio member of the Board of Directors for the term of his or her successor. All Directors shall be current members of Trout Unlimited.

DFTU Newsletter Honored by Pennsylvania TU

This newsletter, which DFTU revived in print form at the beginning of 2017, was recognized by PATU as the best chapter newsletter in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania at the PATU annual meeting in late September. Congratulations to Chapter president Russ Collins, secretary Bob Pennell, and newsletter editor Stephan Vegoe.



Shown with the colorful banner we received recognizing this award are Bob Pennell (right), Russ Collins (left) and PA Council President Charlie Charlesworth and Council Exec. VP Greg Malaska.

Quittie Creek Nature Park Committee Raises Funds to Acquire Additional Land

The Quittie Creek Nature Park Committee has recently raised \$27,000 to acquire 2.64 acres along the Quittapahilla Creek in Annville – stream-side land adjacent to the existing park property (currently owned by Paul Graham). Rather quickly, and thanks to an exceptional response from lots of friends, the funds for the land purchase and legal costs have been raised. With this recent addition, the park will add a new trailhead at East High Street. The committee expects everything will be in place and the purchase and easements taken care of by the end of the calendar year.

Garbage Museum Relocates

Michael Schroeder, the curator of Annville's famous Quittapahilla Garbage Museum, organized Moving Day for the award-winning museum along the banks of the Quittie on Saturday afternoon, October 7th. The reason for the move is that Mike sold his house and the new owners asked him to please move the museum – so a large group of friends gathered to move the "artifacts" that Mike collected. It was great fun.

Doc Fritchey Chapter Officers and Board Members

President – Russ Collins
Immediate Past President – Ed O’Gorman
Vice President (and Newsletter Editor) -
Stephan Vegoe
Secretary (and Web Editor) -
Bob Pennell
Treasurer – Trip McGarvey

Board Members

Rick LaTournous	Cyndi Camp
Rich DiStanislao	RoseAnn Viozzi
Chuck Swanderski	Francis O’Gorman
Rob Konowitch	Joseph Connor
Ed O’Gorman	Steve Long

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