



HATCHES

Newsletter of the Doc Fritchey Chapter of Trout Unlimited
P. O. Box 227, Palmyra, PA 17078 www.dftu.org
Fall 2019



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

From Your President:



This summer I spent a lot of time hunting down and working on several projects in our chapter’s footprint. The projects center around restoring our cold-water streams that hold or have the potential to promote a healthy trout population.

I believe climate change is real. Some folks may have their doubts, but I say, what if it turns out to be true that the earth is getting warmer? What if the trout and salmon populations were to decrease by as much as 50%, as was postulated by Jack Williams of TU?

According to a report from the National Wildlife Federation, “Trout and salmon are on the front lines of the climate change battle. Trout and salmon depend on cold, clean, plentiful water to survive, all of which are threatened by predicted changes in air temperature and precipitation.” Adding to this, I recently listened to a report from Ben Jones, PhD, of the Ruffed Grouse Society, in which he said that populations of Ruffed Grouse are declining and moving northward as the climate is warming. Indeed, Indiana and New Jersey have cancelled their Ruffed Grouse seasons.

From NASA’s website noted below: “Scientific evidence for warming of the climate system is unequivocal. The evidence for rapid climate change is compelling:

- Global Temperature Rise
- Warming Oceans
- Shrinking Ice Sheets
- Glacial Retreat
- Decreased Snow Cover
- Sea Level Rise
- Declining Arctic Sea Ice
- Extreme Events
- Ocean Acidification”

Reference: <https://climate.nasa.gov/evidence/>

Manmade? I won’t argue that point. I simply say that climate change is here, and I want to do everything I can to protect our trout and salmon populations, which necessitates taking action to reverse or slow it down.

Please feel free to contact me at rusthepres@dftu.org or (717) 580-3958.

Russ Collins, President
Doc Fritchey Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Fall Calendar

- October 17 – Float Stocking the Quittie
- October 22 – Board Meeting at Giant
- November 26 – Chapter Membership Meeting at Giant

Annual Meeting of the PA Council of TU



Four members of the chapter’s leadership team - Membership Chair Chuck Swanderski, President Russ Collins, VP Stephan Vegoe, and Secretary Bob Pennell, attended the all-day annual meeting of the PA Council of Trout Unlimited on Saturday, 14 September in Huntingdon County. During the meeting, Bob Pennell was reelected Council Secretary and Russ Collins was reelected Southcentral Regional Vice President. FYI – The PA Council serves as a unified voice for the 49 local chapters located within Pennsylvania’s six regions and represents just over 14,000 TU members statewide, by far the largest state council by membership of any state council in Trout Unlimited.

Membership Report

- Names on DFTU National Roster - 475
- New Members since January 1, 2019 - 35
- Memberships expired 01-01-19 thru 09-30-19 - 57
- First Year Memberships expiring - 20

“Somebody behind you, while you are fishing, is as bad as someone looking over your shoulder while you write a letter to your girl.” Ernest Hemingway

Keep Current with WWW.DFTU.org

Chapter Summer Picnic



Jack Longenecker learning to cast a fly rod

When we started the planning process last spring for the chapter's summer picnic, we were hopeful that the idea of a summer picnic at Quittie Creek Nature Park would appeal to our scattered membership and that a few "new friends" would join us.

Well, for those of you who were there (about 65 members, friends, family, and guests), you know that the picnic turned out to be even better than we could have hoped.

We extend our thanks to the members of the chapter's leadership team that made the event work so well – Dr. Jim Suleski, Cyndi Camp, Rich DiStanislao, Chuck Swanderski, Russ Collins, and Stephan Vegoe.



We also want to thank Blazing Swine Barbecue for their efforts. The food was perfect.

Chapter Membership Brochure

Thanks to the combined efforts of Chuck Swanderski, Russ Collins, Bob Pennell, and Rebecca Fronk, who provided the graphic arts talent and wordsmithing, our chapter has recently published (and has begun to distribute) a new membership brochure. It looks great and does an excellent job of reviewing the chapter's history and our future. Thanks to everyone that was involved in the process.

Chapter Annual Meeting

Our chapter's annual meeting was held on Tuesday evening, 24 September at our regular meeting location, the community room at Giant Foods on Linglestown Road. Russ Collins was elected to serve his fourth term as president of the chapter. Trip McGarvey and Bob Pennell were reelected to serve as treasurer and secretary, respectively. Richard DiStanislao was elected to replace Stephan Vegoe who served as VP for the past three years. Additionally, three new board members were elected to fill open seats. Fran Barilar, Rebecca Fronk, and Andy Link have joined the board.

After serving in numerous capacities on our board for the past six years, RoseAnn Viozzi has retired from our board, although she has promised to continue to serve as chair of our annual Home Waters veterans fishing day event. Likewise, Cyndi Camp who served as a director for 11 years after previously serving in the roles of Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, has retired from the board but will continue to be the chapter's Trout in the Classroom coordinator. We extend our thanks and best wishes to RoseAnn and Cyndi.

Viozzi Scholarship for 2019

The 2019 Dr Francis Viozzi Memorial Scholarship for Environmental Studies was awarded to Erin Krieger who graduated from Northern Lebanon high school in the spring of 2019. Erin is now attending the University of Wyoming with a major in environmental studies. Erin's goal is to have a career in Conservation Advocacy. In high school, she was involved in Future Farmers of America, Ecology and Environment Club, Greenway Outdoors and Serenity Farm. She has already taken an Environmental Studies class at HACC. This summer she planned to be a National Parks Volunteer for invasive species control.

Diversion Well Schedule for Fall/Winter

The team of volunteers that attends to the chapter's diversion well has changed its schedule. They are now meeting at the gate on Gold Mine Road at 1:00 PM on Sunday afternoon – rain or shine. If you want to help shovel stone, show up and introduce yourself. Donuts are almost always available.

"One evening I was awakened from a deep sleep by a weird noise coming from my husband, only to find out he was dreaming that he was a Dry Fly. I suspected then, and now realize, his dreams are not made up of wild crazy women, only episodes of his days of being in the stream." Jan Thousan

Seeking Four Volunteers to Adopt a Monitoring Station on Quittie Creek

The Quittapahilla Watershed Association (www.quittiecreek.org) is looking for four volunteer monitors to "adopt" a stream monitoring station at one of four sites in the Quittapahilla watershed in Lebanon County, as part of our ongoing efforts to assess changes in water quality in light of numerous planned and ongoing stream restoration projects.

Volunteer monitors will collect water samples under storm flow conditions three times per year at a designated site and arrange for transport of samples to PA-DEP, Division of Water Quality, for analyses (tests will include pH, dissolved oxygen, specific conductance, total alkalinity, orthophosphate phosphorus, total phosphorus, nitrate, total Kjeldahl nitrogen, total nitrogen, sulfate, total dissolved solids, total suspended solids, turbidity, and fecal coliform).

There are six monitoring sites, but two are already spoken for. Contact either one of the adopters for more information: Michael Schroeder, President, Quittapahilla Watershed Association (msinpa@gmail.com, 484.753.4156) and Stephan Vegoe at (717) 269-8420 (DFTU). We'd very much appreciate your help.

Rivers Conservation and Fly-Fishing Youth Camp

Annually, the Doc Fritchey Chapter of Trout Unlimited sets aside funds to fully sponsor two students to attend the annual Rivers Conservation and Fly-Fishing Youth Camp at Messiah College. Unfortunately, we have not been successful in recruiting students to attend this exceptional summer camp.

So, this year let's make sure that we spend the chapter's money and get at least two students enrolled. Please encourage your children or grandchildren to complete the application process.

Details: The Cumberland Valley Chapter annually hosts the Rivers Conservation and Fly-Fishing Youth Camp at Messiah College. Camp is limited to boys and girls between 14 and 17. The application process begins on November 1st. Up to 32 students will be selected to attend.

Your children or grandchildren can apply at www.riverscamp.com.

Chapter's Web Presence Updated and Revitalized

The key to the future of a volunteer organization like the Doc Fritchey Chapter is an almost constant injection of new faces, new ideas, and new enthusiasm. Fortunately for our local TU chapter, the process of bringing new people into the chapter to work with our experienced leadership happens regularly.

Specifically, Andy Link joined the chapter in 2018 and asked how he could help. He started tying flies at events and attending meetings and then he offered to work on an update to our chapter's website (DFTU.org).

Thanks to Andy's professional background and his willingness to help, the Doc Fritchey chapter's website has a new and exciting look. Please take a few minutes to visit the website and get familiar with this most important way that we communicate with our members. Thanks Andy.

Thanks to Bob Pennell

From the beginning of the chapter's presence on the Internet, Bob Pennell has been instrumental in updating and maintaining our website. We would not have a web presence if it were not for Bob's efforts. Well done.

Doc Fritchey's Leadership Team

Officers:

Pres. - Russ Collins
Past Pres. - Ed O'Gorman
VP - Richard DiStanislaio
Treas. - Trip McGarvey
Secy. - Bob Pennell

Directors:

Steve Long
Chuck Swanderski
Stephan Vegoe
Joseph Connor
George Dodson
Dr. Jim Suleski
Francis O'Gorman
Andy Link
Rebecca Fronk
Fran Barilar

"The catching of fish is but an incident in fishing. To be out in the open where fish are; to watch them at their great business of living; to see them in the water or out of the water; to fish for them, and even to hook them and have them get away - all this is wonderfully worthwhile - wonderfully better and more worthwhile than merely to catch and keep the stiffening fading body of one of the most beautiful forms of life." Gifford Pinchot

Vice President's Closing Thoughts



Four years ago, after being away from the Doc Fritchey chapter and fly-fishing for two decades, I bought a fishing license, and then went on-line and rejoined Trout Unlimited and made my way to my first meeting in 20 years.

As I introduced myself that March evening, there was just one person in the room I recognized from when I was previously an active member. That was Bob Pennell.

"Returning to TU after twenty years away was one of the best decisions I have made in a long time," Stephan Vegoe

Since I had already made a conscious decision to get involved with the Doc Fritchey Chapter, Bob Pennell, Russ Collins and Ed O'Gorman made sure I was kept busy. I had a great first year and made a bunch of lasting friends; people I now fish with, plant trees with, collect roadside litter with, teach fly casting with, stock trout with, clean streams with, and, as they will quickly tell you, "mooch" flies from.

By the end of the first year, I was asked to serve as chapter vice president, a role I have enjoyed for the past three years. Normally, it would be appropriate for the VP to become president of the chapter. However, because of my schedule - I am simply away from Pennsylvania for too long during the year to do justice to that leadership role - I have stepped aside, and my good friend Rich DiStanislao has been elected to serve as Russ Collins' vice president for the next year, with the expectation that Rich will become chapter president a year from now. That's great news for this chapter.

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