

HATCHES

Newsletter of the Doc Fritchey Chapter
P. O. Box 227, Palmyra, PA 17078 www.dftu.org
Summer 2023



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



From Your President:

At our March meeting the torch was passed to me by my friend Rich DiStanislao. Rich and our board did an excellent job of developing a revised Strategic Plan, securing stream improvement funding, ensuring adequate funding for our activities, and offering programs to support our mission: *“Protecting and restoring the cold water resources of Dauphin and Lebanon Counties.”*

Thank you for your vote of confidence in electing me the new Chapter President. In the upcoming year our Board, Executive Committee, newly formed committees, and I pledge to continue our important mission.

We extend our thanks to George Dodson and Fran Barilar for their service on the board. We welcome two new Board members: Bryon Correll and Richard Green. We have formed 5 major chapter groups with board members responsible for overseeing these groups. These groups are Conservation, Membership, Education, Communications, and Development. Within each of these five groups are committees that ensure our chapter has plenty of opportunities for member involvement. I hope you will reach out to one of the group chairs to share your time and talent. Contact information is included in this issue of *Hatches* and on our DFTU Website.

For the rest of 2023 we will hold general membership meetings at the Community Club at Ft. Indiantown Gap – July 25, September 26, and November 28. The Board will meet in June, August, and October at the Skelly and Loy corporate offices in Harrisburg. Thanks to chapter member Al Budinski for his help.

Former chapter president Russ Collins and I represented our chapter at TU National’s Northeast Regional Rendezvous in Stamford, Connecticut in early June. Russ and I took advantage of this regional meeting to meet with national TU’s support staff. We will update our Board in June.

As we move forward in 2023, I encourage you to become an active member. Take the step and attend a meeting or activity, contact a committee or activity chairperson or coordinator and volunteer your time.

Thanks again for your vote of confidence and I hope to see you at the Chapter’s summer picnic at Memorial Lake State Park on Sunday afternoon August 27. Registration information for the picnic is in this issue.

Chuck Swanderski

Chapter Summer Picnic on August 27

Our chapter will host its annual General Membership Picnic on Sunday, August 27, starting at 3:00pm at Memorial Lake State Park, at the Middle Pavilion. This popular chapter event is open to all chapter members and their families. Catering by Mission BBQ. Food and beverages provided, and there will be games (cornhole, casting competition, horseshoes) and a playground for the children right next to our pavilion, as well as door prizes. There is public fishing in the lake, and a paved walking trail. The pavilion is covered with benches and tables but please bring lawn chairs. Advance purchased tickets are required. Please use the reservation form on the enclosed picnic flyer. Tickets are \$15. Children under 12 are free. We need a reservation count in advance for the caterer so reservations must be completed by Wednesday, August 16. Hope to see you there!

July Membership Meeting at Ft. Indiantown Gap



Ted Evgeniadis, the Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper, will join us on July 25th at our general membership meeting at the Community Club at Ft. Indiantown Gap to discuss his role as the Riverkeeper for the Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper Association. Socializing starts at 6:30 and the program starts at 7:00. The Community Club’s bar and grill are open before and during the meeting.

Reminder: the main entrance to Ft. Indiantown Gap coming from the Route 934 exit on I-81 is now gated. If you head north/turn left at the Snitz Creek Brewery/Funk’s Restaurant, you can avoid the gate.

Starting Young



Some people teach their children to fish on opening day and some, like Tyler and Erin Frantz, teach their children to pick up trash, which was the case on April 1st at Quittie Creek Nature Park when Fynlee and Foster collected two bags of assorted trash.

Their grandfather, Trip McGarvey, the chapter’s secretary, tells us the children are already learning the fundamentals of fishing from their parents. Well done!

“From Sawyer to Croston, Humphreys and Harvey, Rosenbauer, Brooks, Daniel, and Olsen, understanding their ideas through the decades is how I learn. It’s how we all learn. The names change, but the process remains. We build a framework from others. Then we fit together the pieces of who we are as an angler.” Domenick Swentosky

Calendar

June 27 – Chapter Board Meeting
July 25 – Chapter Meeting at Ft. Indiantown Gap
July 29 – Ned Smith Festival
August 5/6 – Cumberland Fly Fishing Festival
August 27 – Chapter Picnic at Memorial Lake
August 29 - Chapter Board Meeting
Sept. 26 - Chapter Meeting at Ft. Indiantown Gap
October 7 – Ladies Day at Limestone Springs
October 12 – Float Stocking on the Quittapahilla
October 24 - Chapter Board Meeting
Nov. 28 - Chapter Meeting at Ft. Indiantown Gap

Clarks Valley Cleanup

Just three Doc Fritchey Chapter Volunteers - Joe Notarangelo, Rick Frazier, and Dennis Coffman - showed up to do our Chapter's annual Adopt A Highway roadside clean-up on Earth Day, Saturday, April 22nd. As they pulled into the parking lot along Route 325, Clarks Valley Road, in the State Game Lands parking lot they were greeted by approximately 150 auto, truck, and bike tires.



A sad sight on Earth Day - for our earth, our country, our state, and our State Game Lands. Dennis Coffman, who organizes the chapter's annual adopt-a-highway effort, was told by a fisherman that the tires were not there the day before and that there were even more tires near the Appalachian Trail. Joe, Rick, and Dennis collected 9 bags of trash along two miles in the FFO stretch of Clarks Creek and called to report the tire dumping, which was promptly removed.

So, the question is: who are these people who think it is okay to trash the countryside, our streams, our state, and country? Who are these people who think they can throw trash out of their car or dump stuff anywhere and have someone else clean it up?

Rivers Camp Scholarships for 2023

Each year our chapter advertises scholarship opportunities for the annual Rivers Camp at Messiah University, an ongoing program of the Cumberland Valley Chapter. This year we funded two scholarships/full tuition for the five day summer camp. Congratulations and best wishes to Roman Machalinski from Middletown, Dauphin County Technical School, and Weston Davis from Palmyra, Palmyra Area High School.

"As no man is born an artist, so no man is born an angler"
Izaak Walton

Groups Formed to Plan Chapter Activities

At the Annual Meeting in March, we reviewed our strategic plan for the new fiscal year, and it included a reorganization of the chapter's committee structure. Listed below are the major committee groups and contact information for each. If you are interested in helping, please contact the appropriate committee chair.

Membership: Richard Green (richardgreen1962@yahoo.com) or Andy Link (andy.link@dftu.org)
Membership recruitment/renewals, active listings, diversity inclusion, general meeting planning, social events for members

Education: Bryon Correll (bsc112@yahoo.com) or Rich DiStanislaio (rdistani@comcast.net)
educational events, fly tying, Trout In the Classroom, youth events, Ladies Day, veteran's 'programs, organizational exhibits

Public Relations: Bekka Fronk (rabbitfronk@verizon.net)
Newsletter, website, social media, advertising

Development and Fundraising: Bob Pennell (rpennell37@comcast.net) or Trip McGarvey (trip@dftu.org)
Corporate sponsors, auctions, fund-raising events, solicitation for donations, chapter store

Conservation: Russ Collins (russ@dftu.org) or Jim Suleski (jims@dftu.org)
Stream stewards, grants writing, legislation, diversion well, float stocking.

DFTU Apparel

Did you know our chapter has an online store for DFTU logo apparel? Several years ago, we partnered with *Travel Champs* in Hummelstown to feature an extensive line of clothing - shirts, pants, hoodies, and jackets with our DFTU logo. A link to our store can be found on our dftu.org website.

Cumberland Valley Fly Fishing and Outdoor Festival

Mark your calendars for August 5th and 6th for the third annual Cumberland Valley Fly Fishing and Outdoor Festival at Allenberry Resort near Boling Springs.

Presented by TCO Fly Shop, Allenberry Resort, and Troegs Brewing, the festival provides two days of education and fun and a celebration of fly fishing. The festival offers live music on Saturday evening, food, Troegs beer, product giveaways, and educational seminars, including demonstrations from some of the region's finest fly tiers. From an educational perspective, presenters will cover casting clinics, fly tying demos, gear reviews, destination trips, and Appalachian trail activities.

"One thing becomes clearer as one gets older and one's fishing experience increases, and that is the paramount importance of one's fishing companions" John Ashley-Cooper

Quittie Creek "Before" Measurements

On April 18, 2023, a crew of volunteers from the Doc Fritchey Chapter of Trout Unlimited and the Quittapahilla Watershed Association, along with volunteer Shawn Jacobs, performed three cross-section surveys for the Quittapahilla Creek. The purpose of these surveys was to document existing physical conditions in the stream prior to a stream restoration project. These surveys were conducted in an approximately 800-foot reach downstream from the Spruce Street Bridge in Annville Township, Lebanon County, Pennsylvania. In addition, we executed photo documentation of existing conditions.



For each of the three cross sections, we measured width, depth, and velocity of the water. Once the stream restoration project is complete, we will repeat the cross-section surveys and compare the results of the "Before" and "After" characteristics. We anticipate that the restoration project will result in better fish habitat including narrower stream widths, deeper water, and higher velocities. In addition, our photo documentation will verify new habitat structures installed as part of the restoration project.

Chapter at Ned Smith Festival

If you are looking for a family activity with an outdoor theme, may we suggest you mark your calendars for the last Saturday in July, the 29th, for the annual *Ned Smith Nature and Arts Festival*. Since 1994, the Center has held its annual festival, which began as the "Ned Smith Tribute Festival." Now, 29 years later, this event is still going strong, bringing free family-friendly, educational entertainment to thousands of people from all over central Pennsylvania. Somewhere in the maze of activities that day you'll find a booth with some of our chapter's leadership. They'll be tying trout flies and talking about conservation. Stop by to say hello and let them know you are a chapter member. FYI – We need help at the chapter booth. Please contact Bob Pennell (rpennell37@comcast.net) if you are available to work with us on July 29th.

"I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn what it had to teach, and not, when I came to die, discover that I had not lived." Henry David Thoreau

TU National Rendezvous

Russ Collins, the National Leadership Council Representative for the PA Council of Trout Unlimited and a past president of DFTU, and current chapter president Chuck Swanderski attended TU National's Northeast Regional Rendezvous in Connecticut in early June. Russ was a program presenter.



Richard, Chris, Chuck, and Russ

Chuck and Russ are shown here with TU President Chris Wood and Richard Thomas, chair of the TU National Leadership Council.

Ladies Day Fly Fishing

We have set the date of October 7, 2023, for this year's **Ladies Day - Introduction to Fly Fishing**. This will be the 6th year for this event and always one of the most popular. Advertising and signups will begin in July with participant registrations limited to 15 with priority given to members and family. Contact Chuck Swanderski - chucks@dftu.org

Program Thoughts

In addition to this popular Ladies Day event, some of the members of the chapter's leadership have been discussing how we can offer individual, one-on-one, fly fishing lessons. We know we have members that would like to learn to fly fish; indeed, we meet them regularly, but there is no formal chapter program in place to pair "seasoned" fly fishermen with individuals that want to learn to fly fish. We are not talking about fly casting lessons. Instead, we are trying to offer one-on-one, in the water teaching.

If you want to help (or if you want to learn to fly fish), please contact Bryon Correll (bsc112@yahoo.com) or Rich DiStanislaio (rdistani@comcast.net), the cochairs of our Education Group.

"The water you touch in a river is the last of that which has passed, and the first of that which is coming; thus it is with time." Leonardo DaVinci

Quittie Cleanup on Earth Day

Six chapter volunteers turned up to remove fallen trees from the Quittapahilla Creek on Earth Day, part of the United Way's annual day of Caring.



R. Wasserman, R. Green, R. Wright, J. Connor, and H. Bixler

While our chapter volunteers were getting muddy and wet in the creek a large group of Anville volunteers spread mulch on the park's pathways and pulled an enormous quantity of invasive garlic mustard.



After quickly dispatching several large logs that were stuck in the stream, our volunteers employed two chain saws to cut up and remove one very large treefall that was significantly blocking water flow downstream from the main parking lot. Although that treefall at first looked daunting, our crew got in the more-than-waist deep water and started cutting. We left behind a goodly quantity of ready-to-take-home firewood (needs to be split).

Wildwood Wetlands Festival

Our chapter was well-represented at the Wildwood Wetlands Festival. Special thanks to Steve Long, Bill Byrne, Joe Notorangelo, George Dodson, Bryon Correll, and Rich DiStanislao. We talked to some interested folks regarding our chapter activities. The names that we gathered will be included in our future communications.

Float Stocking Complete for Another Spring

Our intrepid, if ageing, trout stocking crew finished float stocking both special regulations creeks in the chapter's footprint – Quittapahilla and Manada – on April 13th and April 25th.



Thanks to the help provided by a team of high school students that joined WCO Doug Deppen on the 25th – they carried buckets of hatchery trout from the stocking truck to our waiting float tubes - float stocking on Manada Creek on the 25th of April was a breeze.

Trout in the Classroom

Made possible by a unique partnership between the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited (PATU) and the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC), Pennsylvania Trout In the Classroom is an interdisciplinary environmental education program in which students (grades 3-12) learn about management, protection, and enhancement of Pennsylvania's watersheds and coldwater resources, *while raising trout in the classroom.*

Throughout the year, students are introduced to the importance of watershed conservation, ecosystems, habitats, natural resources, and strategies to protect and enhance coldwater resources.

The Doc Fritchey Chapter's Trout in the Classroom program exists because of Cyndi Camp's enthusiasm for TIC. The chapter supports seven classrooms in Lebanon and Dauphin County. Without Cyndi's efforts, Trout in the Classroom would not exist as an important part of our chapter's mission. If you have time and interest, Cyndi could certainly use some help in continuing this educational program.

With more help, we can expand into more classrooms. The chapter has sufficient funds for expansion (essentially, we purchase all the equipment for the classroom); we just need more volunteers to help the classroom teachers. Please contact Rich DiStanislao at rdistani@comcast.net.

"There will be days when fishing is better than one's most optimistic forecast, others when it is far worse. Either is a gain over just staying home." Roderick Haig-Brown

Personal Membership Update

Who likes to get bombarded with e-mails? No one! Here's the problem – if you do not include your e-mail address in your TU membership application, we have no easy way to contact you with updates, program information, and event opportunities.

Please log into your TU account at tu.org and update your information. If you get our e-mails – no worry – you're covered. If you don't receive DFTU emails and want to, please send an email to andy.link@dftu.org.

Chapter Membership Update

Chapter membership stands at 587 members. This number includes 58 new members since January with the oldest join date belonging to our very own "Hatches" editor Stephan Vegoe.

Sponsors

Did you know the grant money we receive is earmarked for conservation and stream improvement? Very little (if any) is for the administration of the grant. Our Chapter must raise money for incidentals to oversee projects through auctions, raffles, and donations. All of our other activities are funded through our fund raising programs. Several years ago, we introduced a "Sponsorship" program for businesses to directly contribute money in exchange for being listed as one of our *sponsors*. The level of sponsorship differs with the amount of money contributed: \$1,000 Platinum, \$750 Gold, \$500 Silver, and \$250 Bronze. Sponsors are featured on our website – dftu.org, on our Facebook page, and here in the *Hatches* newsletter. If you own or manage a local business and would like to help us fund our projects and activities, please consider becoming a sponsor. Chuck Swanderski is the contact.

Officers and Board Members

President	Chuck Swanderski
Vice President	Russ Collins
Secretary	Trip McGarvey
Treasurer	Howard (Willie) Bixler
Past President	Rich DiStanislao

Board Members

Joseph Connor
Bryon Correll
Rebecca Fronk
Richard Green
Andy Link
Steve Long
Francis O'Gorman
Bob Pennell
James Suleski
Stephan Vegoe

Chapter president Chuck Swanderski - chuck@dftu.org
Newsletter editor Stephan Vegoe - stephan.vegoe@verizon.net

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DOC FRITCHEY CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED'S GUIDING PRINCIPLES

WE ARE: a local organization of approx. 600 members who are one of 49 Trout Unlimited chapters in the Commonwealth of PA.

Our overall mission is the conservation, protection, and restoration of the coldwater fishery resources of Dauphin and Lebanon counties.

WE ARE: an organization that has continued to place its emphasis on the fostering and restoring of wild trout populations, wherever that is feasible.

WE ARE: an organization dedicated to the education of anglers, of all ages, in the areas of stream conservation and sportsmanlike fishing practices.

WE ARE: a group of trout anglers, a majority of whom are fly fishers who believe primarily in catch and release angling.

WE ARE NOT: fly fishing elitists.

We welcome any angler who has an appreciation of our coldwater resources and the policies as set forth by Trout Unlimited.

WE ARE NOT: opposed to the raising and stocking of hatchery trout. However, we do not believe that hatchery trout have a place in trout waters which support self-sustaining populations of wild trout.

We believe that hatchery trout should be stocked only in the more marginal waters where a respectable wild trout fishery would be difficult to sustain.

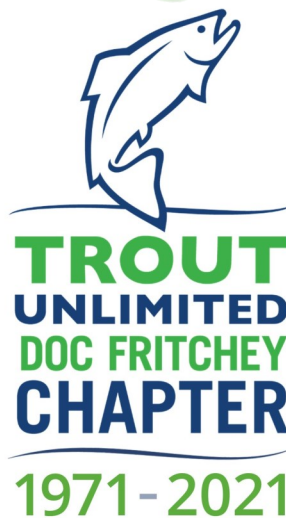
WE ARE NOT: opposed to the sensible harvesting of trout within legal possession limits, particularly hatchery trout which are raised primarily for consumption.

We believe, however, that creel and size limits need to be tailored more strictly to the preservation and enhancement of the wild trout populations in Pennsylvania.

MEMORIAL LAKE STATE PARK, GRANTVILLE, PA ● 3PM TO 7PM

Near Fort Indiantown Gap, off Route 443, Boundary Road. to Middle Road

Celebrating!



MIDDLE PAVILLION

Catering by:

MISSION BBQ®
The American Way.



Menu: (4:30 to 5:30pm)

*Pulled Pork and Chicken
and Sliced Brisket*

8 Various BBQ Sauces

Slider Rolls and Cornbread

*Maggie's Mac-n-Cheese, Baked
Beans w/Brisket and Cole Slaw*

Various Cookies and Brownies

*Summertime Lemonade, Sweet
Tea and Bottled Water*

Activities & Games:

Horseshoe Pit and Cornhole

Fly Rod Casting w/Prizes

Fly Rod Casting Demos

Park Boat Rentals (pay your way)

Park Playground and more!

DFTU's 2023 MEMBERSHIP PICNIC

will be a celebration of our 50th Anniversary as a Chapter of Trout Unlimited. We are thankful for all of DFTU's members and volunteers!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27!

Make a day of it for the whole family! For directions, parking, middle pavilion site, maps and park activities, visit www.dcnr.pa.gov/StateParks/FindAPark/MemorialLakeStatePark. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted.

DFTU 2023 Membership Picnic Reservation Form ● Must be Received by August 16!

NAME(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

By providing your email, you are giving us permission to keep you informed of Chapter events.

NUMBER OF ADULT PICNIC RESERVATIONS _____ (13 AND OLDER) @ \$15.00 each \$ _____

NUMBER OF YOUTH PICNIC RESERVATIONS _____ (12 AND YOUNGER) FREE each \$ 00.00 _____

I AM UNABLE TO ATTEND, BUT I AM ENCLOSING A DONATION TO DFTU OF \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED (non-refundable, rain - or - shine event) \$ _____

Please enclose your check made payable to DFTU for the total amount and mail to:
**DFTU, P.O. Box 227
Palmyra, PA 17078**