Upstream Report

Barry Witmer, DTU President

Perhaps, my final column as your president should be short and sweet. After all, DTU received this year’s Edward Urbas Best Chapter Award from the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited at the annual meeting this fall, the largest council in the country. Long-term members believe this is the second time DTU received this distinction, first in the 1970’s.

Our Chapter completed the Herr/Beiler stream restoration project, nearly 2 miles long, in 2020, and four projects in 2021. Even in the midst of challenges for all chapter activities we engaged our veterans and their families; and students and teachers through Trout in the Classroom (TIC). DTU added three new TIC programs, bringing our total to more than two dozen, sponsored young fishermen to attend the Cumberland Valley’s Rivers Camp, and supported a Stream Girls program with equipment and a cash donation. What a great way to be part of the solution to provide the younger generations with opportunities to learn, grow, and care for local waterways.

Our Chapter led more than 40 activities through our diverse programs reaching 700+ people in watersheds including Fishing Creek, Pequea Creek, Conestoga River, Conowingo Creek, Lititz Run, and Hammer Creek. DTU restarted a chapter of the Water Quality Volunteer Coalition, a partnership program with the Lancaster County Conservation District to monitor waterways.

By engaging local landowners, farmers, volunteers, and working closely with our community and partners we are able do more to “protect, reconnect, restore, and sustain the coldwater fisheries and their watersheds in Lancaster County”.

Barry along Barry Lane in the Hammer Creek Watershed 😊
Upstream Cont’d

In five years, Chapter membership has grown from 550 to 830. This year, 108 members have joined. And . . . this is where I will end. That is, with the people. Our members, with the support of many others from our community and partner organizations, produced all those results. One of my good fortunes over many years of volunteer service has been working with tens-of-thousands of great people. Thank you for electing me to be of service as 2020-21 DTU President.

As I hand the reigns to Garry Longenecker, incoming DTU President it is to build upon the successful platform we have for DTU that serves the public good through our coldwater conservation mission.

Donegal Chapter of Trout Unlimited receives PA Council of Trout Unlimited Award!!!

Donegal Trout Unlimited received this year’s Edward Urbas Best Chapter Award from the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited. This award is given to the chapter that best exemplifies the work of Trout Unlimited, including involvement in conservation efforts, community activities, outreach, and youth activities.

The Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited is the largest council in the country. DTU is proud to be recognized for this achievement!

Greg Malaska, President PA Council of Trout Unlimited & Barry Witmer, DTU President 2020 - 2021
Welcome New President

Garry Longenecker 2021-2022 DTU President

As your incoming, new DTU president for the term 2021-2022 as of Dec 1, I am looking forward to an eventful year. Little did I know in 2011, when I joined DTU to learn about fly fishing, that I would gravitate to our conservation work that our Chapter is well known for across Lancaster County. That interest shift started during my service as Board member in 2014 and as a member of the Conservation Committee began managing the DTU nursery at Millport Conservancy in 2015. Three years ago, DTU said yes to a partnership with Penn State Environmental Center to jointly manage the tree nursery. Since that time the tree nursery and the Chapter has grown substantially. Throughout my membership, I assisted in riparian buffer projects, organized planting, nursery, and maintenance events.

I am thankful for all the support and education DTU has afforded me and will enjoy the challenge of working to improve and refine the organization to better serve our members’ needs. Thanks to the Chapter’s predecessors DTU has an excellent foundation that was built over the years with knowledge, skills, and talents of many volunteers and supporters just like you. Real work is in front of us as DTU embarks on establishing and implementing a new Strategic Plan to align our chapter priorities and goals for the future centered on our coldwater conservation mission through education, conservation, and fishing initiatives.

Thank you to our members, volunteers, supporters, partners, and the community for your commitment to our work. As an all-volunteer organization we encourage all members to be involved through your time, talents, ideas and donations.

DTU Grant Awards

Awarded $1.7 million of grant funding for stream restoration. By watershed this includes:

- Fishing Creek: $25,000 from Lancaster Clean Water Partners plus $177,933 from the PA Department of Community and Economic Development
- Pequea Creek: $59,000 from Lancaster Clean Water Partners for Climbers Run
- Peters Creek: $75,000 from PA Fish and Boat Commission
- Shearers Creek: $75,000 from PA Fish and Boat Commission; Penn State partnership
- Conowingo Creek: $1,299,870 from PA Department of Environmental Protection

Thank you to our supporters who gave during EXTRA GIVE 2021 on Friday, November 19th! With your support we raised over $7,000 from 75 donors!
DTU Online Auction

Thursday, Dec 9th 8:00am thru
Sunday, Dec 12th 8:00pm
60 bundled packages to bid
including:
- Fishing Trip to Spruce Creek for two people
- Tenkara Rod & Accessories
- Assorted Box of Flies
- Dining Packages
- Jewelry
- Variety Theme Buckets

Winners can pick up their items on
December 13 or 14, from 4-7pm
At the Wilson’s home:
861 Ballstown Rd. Lititz, PA 17543

Questions: Contact Wayne Boggs
trouchisper@gmail.com

Visit our Auction to shop for more great items during the holiday season and support DTU!
https://donegal.tulocalevents.org/bf727b

DTU Open Fly Tying Night @ Precision Fly and Tackle
1957 Fruitville Pike, Lancaster PA 17601
January 13 & 27 February 10 & 24, 2022
6:00pm – 8:00pm
DTU Open Fly Tying Nights is FREE for Members and Veterans. Please bring your own material and equipment to fly tye in your box. Precision Fly and Tackle store will be open for you to purchase additional supplies.
Questions: Contact Rick Purnell at rick.purnell@gmail.com

Looking for more instructions: Visit the Precision Fly and Tackle Store

Save-the-Date
May 21, 2022
8 am – 3 pm
Girls 6th-8th grade
Trout Unlimited STREAM Girls, an outdoor education program that combines Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM) with fly-fishing Recreation. REGISTRATION COMING SOON on the Stroud Center website: https://stroudcenter.org/events/. Please contact Mandy Nix at mnix@stroudcenter.org with any questions.

An easy way to give!
Donate to Donegal Trout Unlimited with Amazon Smile

On your computer:
1 Visit smile.amazon.com
2 Sign in with the same account you use for Amazon.com
3 Select your Donegal Trout Unlimited
4 Start Shopping!!

On your mobile phone:
1 Open the Amazon shopping app
2 Open main menu (=)
3 Open Settings; then Amazon Smile
4 Enter Donegal Trout Unlimited
5 Follow on-screen instructions to turn ON
November Membership Meeting & Awards

During the November 17 membership meeting DTU President Barry Witmer recognized multiple volunteers who support DTU with hundreds and collectively thousands of hours dedicated to our coldwater conservation work across Lancaster County. DTU elected and welcomed the new President and Board of Directors to serve effective December 1, 2021.

Bob Kutz and Greg Wilson (not pictured) were awarded the Kutz/Wilson Conservation Award by Barry Witmer, DTU President (center photo, left) and Greg Malaska, President PA Council of Trout Unlimited (center photo, right).

Barry Witmer, DTU President and Greg Malaska, President PA Council of Trout Unlimited recognized Allyson Gibson with Lancaster Clean Water Partners with a 2021 Conservation Partnership Award.

Center: Bob Kutz, DTU Vice President 2020 - 2021 gives a thank you card and gift in recognition of Barry Witmer’s service as President 2020 - 2021. Witmer led over a challenging year while continuing to build a strong foundation for the Chapter. Thank you for your generous service and contributions to the Chapter!

Right: Incoming President, Garry Longenecker thanked Witmer for his service and shared a few stories and his hopes in continuing to guide DTU moving forward.

Left: The November speaker Commissioner Eric Hussar from Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission highlighted wild trout. He shared an overview of wild trout and stocked trout streams in PA.
DTU Sep - Nov 2021 Conservation Activities

DTU participated in the Trout Week Sep 25-Oct 2, 2021 hosting two events: The Hammer Creek Eco Tour and Herr Farm Planting Day engaged 100 attendees including landowners, farmers, watershed stakeholders, elected officials, and dedicated volunteers. This fall volunteers helped with a host of activities including buffer establishment, plantings, monitoring priority streams, and supporting the tree nursery. THANK YOU all for your volunteer service!
Calendar of Events

December 2021
8th 7pm   DTU Board Meeting
15th 7pm  Membership Meeting at Farm & Home Center
          Presenter: *Fly Tying with Hugh Wenger*

January 2022
12th 7pm  DTU Board Meeting
13th & 27th 6-8pm  Open Fly Tying Night at Precision Fly & Tackle, 1957 Fruitville Pike, Lancaster PA
19th 7pm  Membership Meeting at Farm and Home Center
          Presenter: Lydia Martin, *Meet the New Board & Leadership Team: 2022 Planning & Learn about Volunteer Opportunities*

February 2022
9th 7pm   DTU Board Meeting
10th & 24th 6-8pm  Open Fly Tying Night at Precision Fly & Tackle, 1957 Fruitville Pike, Lancaster PA
16th 7pm  Membership Meeting at Farm and Home Center
          Presenter: *TBD*

Donate to DTU

Make a donation at: [www.donegaltu.org](http://www.donegaltu.org)

Mail check to:

Donegal Trout Unlimited
P.O. Box 8001
Lancaster, PA 17604

Questions: Contact Joy McMaster, treasurer@donegaltu.org

DTU Officers 2021 - 2022

Garry Longenecker, President
garrylongenecker@gmail.com

James Wellendorf, Vice President
wellendorf@verizon.net

Joy McMaster, Treasurer
treasurer@donegaltu.org

Vacant, Secretary

DTU Board Members 2021 - 2022

Mike Burcin, Education Chair
Ken Graff, Volunteer Chair
Justin Kratzer, Outreach Initiatives Chair
Claire Landis, At Large
Lydia Martin, Communications Chair
Barry Witmer, Past President
Sarah Xenophon, Conservation Co-Chair
Dan Zimmerman, Conservation Co-Chair
Thank you to our donors, partners, supporters, and volunteers who make our work possible!

Donegal Trout Unlimited wishes you a...

a happy & safe holiday season with you and your family!!!

DTU Mission

“To protect, reconnect, restore, and sustain the coldwater fisheries and their watersheds in Lancaster County.”

Donegal Trout Unlimited is a nonprofit organization in Lancaster County affiliated with Trout Unlimited National, located at 1500 North 17th Street, Suite 500, Arlington, VA 22209.