

DFTU News Archive - 2017

December 6: New video features TIC program at a Palmyra elementary school

Chapter member Tyler Frantz, a science teacher at the Pine Street Elementary School in Palmyra who also writes fishing, hunting and conservation articles under the banner of Natural Pursuits Outdoors, has prepared an excellent video on teaching his students what the Trout in the Classroom (TIC) program is all about. You can watch Tyler's video and the wonderful interaction with his students at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ye8vNwEyBqM&sns=em>

October 31: DFTU offers a free online entomology course for fly fishers

Practical Entomology for Fly Fishing is an online course that will teach you how to match any bug you see in a trout stream with a fly in your box so you can catch more fish. By the end of this course you will be able to; (a) properly collect bugs in the water that trout are likely eating, (b) select a similar fly in your box that's suited for the presentation you wish to make, (c) identify any insect on the river based on its order and stage, and (d) catch more fish!

You will find an overview of the course at <https://thecatchandthehatch.com/entomology-course/>. To enroll in the course, contact Russ Collins at rwarrencollins@gmail.com.

September 23: DFTU receives Best Chapter Newsletter Award from PA Council

At the PA Council Annual Membership meeting on September 23, our chapter was honored to receive the Best Chapter Newsletter Award for 2017. Our newsletter, Hatches, was recently resurrected by Editor Steve Vegoe after a 5-year hiatus, and is now being published on a quarterly basis. Our chapter, one of 49 TU chapters in PA, had also won this award in 2008.

August 19: Chapter elections to be held at our September 26 Annual Meeting

Our September 26 chapter meeting will include the election of officers and board members to serve a one-year term beginning October 1, 2017. The following individuals have been nominated to date, and other nominations will be accepted from the floor prior to the voting.

| <u>Officers</u> | <u>Directors</u> | |
|---------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| President – Russ Collins | Steve Long | Rick LaTournous |
| Vice Pres. – Steve Vegoe | Cyndi Camp | Rich DiStanislaio |
| Secretary – Bob Pennell | RoseAnn Viozzi | Chuck Swanderski |
| Treasurer – Trip McGarvey | Francis O’Gorman | Rob Konowitch |
| | Joseph Connor | |

July 19: New DHALO signage posted in Annville's 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 PA Fish and Boat Commission, DFTU has installed six new signs in the Quittie Creek Nature Park's Delayed Harvest Artificial Lures Only 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 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).

June 10: Ninth Annual Home Waters event is another huge success

This year's Home Waters event hosted 15 veterans from the Harrisburg Veterans Center and their family members for a day of fishing and just plain camaraderie at Ed and Nichole O'Gorman's beautiful property located along the banks of Clarks Creek. After a welcome and introductions from RoseAnn Viozzi who organizes this event, a sumptuous barbecue luncheon was served courtesy of the local Applebee's franchisee. Then it was off to either the stream or O'Gormans' pond to join DFTU's volunteer guides who instructed the vets in the basics of fly fishing.

Just about everyone caught fish, either trout that were stocked from the Dauphin County Anglers & Conservationists (DCAC) hatchery several days before, or bluegills in the pond. The fishing of course was the major draw, but equally important was the opportunity for these veterans to establish new relationships and just have the opportunity to put their cares aside and enjoy this beautiful day. [Click here](#) to see pics of this event.

May 19: PA Outdoors Writers are introduced to the Quittie and Snitz Creek

On a very warm Friday morning, chapter members greeted four outdoors writers at the Quittie Nature Park who were attending the PA Outdoors Writers Association's annual conference at the Holiday Inn of Grantville and had expressed interest in fishing a local stream. Arrangements for the guided fishing had been made earlier through Tyler Frantz, a Lebanon County outdoor writer who is a member of our chapter.

After a morning of fishing the Quittie, the group departed for the Snitz Creek Brewery in Lebanon where co-owner and chapter member Patrick Freer hosted a tour of the facilities, along with lunch and a sampling of the brewery's malt beverages. Patrick had also spent the morning fishing Snitz Creek with one of the other writers. For an in-depth look at the day's activities, please see Forest Fisher's excellent online article at:

<http://www.sharetheoutdoors.com/2017/05/22/gurgle-babble-slurp-the-welcome-language-of-a-reborn-trout-stream/>

May 16: Annville-Cleona senior receives 2017 Dr. Francis Viozzi scholarship

The 2017 Dr Francis Viozzi Scholarship for Environmental Studies was awarded to Abigail Deaver who is a graduating senior from the Annville-Cleona High School. Abigail was the fifth recipient of this annual scholarship, and intends to major in biology at Gettysburg College, with her main focus on improving and protecting clean water. After Frank Viozzi's untimely death in 2011, members of the Doc Fritchey Chapter established the scholarship to honor Frank's many years of outstanding service as chapter president. The scholarship is awarded annually to a high school senior who is planning to major in a biological science that supports TU's mission to "conserve, protect and restore coldwater fisheries."

April 28: Quittie DHALO waters receive 2nd. stocking of the year

On a glorious spring morning, seven chapter members met the PFBC hatchery truck in Annville's Quittie Park to help float stock the special regulations section of Quittapahilla Creek. The Commission supplied about 250 trout, mostly rainbows, which were distributed throughout the DHALO waters by four of the DFTU volunteers. [Click here](#) to see pics of the stocking.

April 19: Two TIC schools release their fish at the Ned Smith Center

On a chilly, gray April day, 33 5th graders from Kelli Recher's Math Science Academy class and 24 from Maureen Mahnken's 8th grade class at Harrisburg Catholic Elementary visited the Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art to complete their year in the Trout in the Classroom (TIC) program.

Each school received about 150 brook trout eggs from the PFBC in November, and after 5 months of monitoring water quality for their hatchlings, just about 20 from Math Science Academy and 10 from Harrisburg Catholic survived to be released as fry into Wiconisco Creek (by comparison, it is normal for only about 1% of eggs produced by brook trout in the wild to survive).

The students also participated in several outdoor education stations, including an up-close look at the macroinvertebrates trout eat, and a model of a watershed where they observed the way point-source and non-point-source pollution dramatically affects our water quality. Staff members Beth Sanders and Santino Lauricella, along with several Ned Smith Center volunteers, assisted DFTU members Cyndi Camp, Greg Silva, Steve Vegoe and Rich DiStanislao in making this a memorable day for these kids. [Click here](#) for pics of the event.

April 1: DFTU Annual Fundraising Banquet was another big success

About 90 chapter members and their guests celebrated the 47th. year since the chapter's founding by attending this year's annual banquet at the Holiday Inn in Grantville. Bidding on the live and silent auction items was brisk, as was the activity surrounding the various raffles, and many favorable comments were heard about the evening overall.

This year's Gerald L. Miller Outstanding Volunteer Award went to Joseph Connor, and the ceremonial "Net" was passed on to Jim Rauch who will use it for his fishing adventures and return next year to tell us about how the "Net" enhanced his ability to catch more fish. [Click here](#) to see some pics of this event.

January 16: Nominations needed for Gerald L. Miller Volunteer Award

Since 2014, this award has been presented annually to a chapter member whose volunteer work has consistently contributed to the attainment of the chapter's mission to "conserve, protect, and restore the coldwater fishery resources of Dauphin and Lebanon counties" through education or hands-on involvement with chapter projects. Previous years' winners of this prestigious award are Steve Long, Bob Pennell and Rick LaTournous.

The 2017 Gerald L. Miller Outstanding Volunteer Award will be presented at the chapter's annual banquet on April 1. The nomination form which can be [downloaded here](#) must be

submitted no later than February 28 to Rick LaTournous, 2500 Magnolia Terrace, Harrisburg, PA 17110, or by email to Rick at ralatour@comcast.net.

January 14: Teenage candidates needed for 2017 TU Youth Camp

Following our practice of previous years, our chapter is once again seeking as many as 3 teenage (ages 14-17) students to attend this year's TU Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp to be held at Messiah College from June 18 through June 23. The camp, which was founded in 1995, each year accepts 32 students who must send an application along with a letter stating why they wish to attend and what they expect to get out of their week-long experience.

If you are aware of any students whom you feel would benefit from participating in this year's camp, please encourage them to check out the full details at www.riverscamp.com. Our chapter will pay the full tuition fee of \$400.00 (includes all meals and accommodations) for the first 3 students from either Dauphin or Lebanon County whose applications are accepted. The only thing we ask in return for our sponsorship is for the student to do a presentation about his or her camp experiences at one of our fall chapter meetings.