

Mayflyer

January 2005

V34-11

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The Monthly Publication of



Next
Monthly
Meeting

BACKCASTS

Chapter Meeting Recap 11/17/04: by Scott Trefny

The November meeting was held at the Quality Inn and Suites with 26 members and guests present. After a short business meeting and introduction of a new member, we were treated to a presentation by Ozzie Ozefovich entitled "Not Just Trout". This was Ozzie's fourth presentation to DTU and we were not disappointed. Ozzie now has his production "Feeding Lies" on VCR and DVD and will preview it at outdoor shows this coming year. His underwater video using a modified Hitachi video camera is spectacular.

Like Ozzie and as a former biology teacher, I have always felt that there is a lot more to a fishing trip than just catching fish. I am always observing the animals and plants along the stream. Ozzie, however, is able to capture these scenes on video. We were treated to land and underwater shots of a dark phase timber rattlesnake and the common garter snake as well as an underwater sequence of a brown water snake crawling on the stream bottom looking for a meal.

Ozzie found a very clear stream in northern New Jersey with a population of native brook trout. These fish were shown exhibiting behavior patterns that we rarely see. The clear water and sunlight made the skin colors sparkle. Ozzie had scenes of a rare tiger trout, the cross between a brown and brook trout, which is sterile. He had some great footage of spawning trout. To watch these fish competing for redds, spawning and covering their eggs was not only fascinating but also very educational. Ozzie produces wonderful video and presents it in a manner that all can understand. Thank you Ozzie for another great show.

Dedicated to conserving,
protecting and restoring
the trout streams and
watersheds of
Lancaster County

Wednesday
January 19th
7 PM

Quality Inn
Lancaster

Program
**Dr. Douglas
Austen
Exec. Dir.
PA Fish
Commission**

Upcoming
Chapter
Activities

26th Annual
Spring
Banquet &
Auction

Saturday
April 9th
2005
4:30 PM

Quality Inn &
Suites
2363 Oregon Pike
Lancaster, PA

Chapter Elections

On Wednesday 1/19/05 we will hold our annual DTU chapter elections at the January chapter meeting. Officers to be elected then include President; Vice President; and Secretary. In addition we will also be electing three new Board Members, as part of our continuing commitment to bring "new blood" onto our DTU Board. Candidates for election were selected by a three person Nominating Committee appointed by the Board. These candidates were then presented to and unanimously endorsed by the Board at the December board meeting. The final step in the process is for these candidates to be officially elected to their respective positions by a majority of the DTU members present at the January chapter meeting.

Officer Candidates are as follows:
President - Bob Wyble; Vice President -
Jim Stephens; Secretary - Dee Lehman.

Board Member Candidates are as follows:
**Chuck Elmer; Garry Kauffman; Glen
Nephin; Scott Trefny** (retiring Secretary).

Please plan to attend the January chapter meeting so that you can participate in this election process.



WHAT'S EMERGING!

President's Report:

by Bob Wyble

December is a good time to review what we have achieved as a chapter during 2004. I have summarized DTU activities month by month as follows: **January:** Discussion to apply for a grant to complete a watershed assessment on the Conowingo Creek Watershed; Order 4850 seedlings to plant in tree nursery; Agreed to publish a DTU brochure to distribute at banquet, fly shops and local businesses. **February:** Agreed to work with Rettew Associates and apply for a Growing Greener Grant to complete assessment on Conowingo Creek Watershed; Agreed to purchase HOBOWater Temperature Loggers to monitor water temperature in Lititz Run. **March:** Electroshocked Segloch Run and Furnace Run and found native brook trout: Received tree seedlings from Virginia; Agreed to work with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission to apply for a grant to build a fish passage for shad at the Iron Stone Mill Dam on the Conestoga River, administered by Rettew Associates; Received DTU brochures which were distributed to fly shops and local businesses; Volunteers agreed to be in charge of maintenance of sections of land along Lititz Run; Another successful banquet was held on March 27. **April:** Students and other volunteers potted seedlings, which were added to the nursery; Installed HOBOWater Temperature Loggers in Lititz Run to monitor water temperature; Seventeen children showed up for the Big Brother/Big Sister Fishing Derby at the Spring Trout Fish Farm on April 30. **May:** Stocked 400 trout in Lititz Run on May 8; Electro-fished shocked Lititz Run and found two immature trout which suggests that natural reproduction is beginning to happen in Lititz Run. Watershed Day for 5th grade students, May 11. **June:** DTU volunteers taught fly-casting on a cold rainy day at youth field day on June 5. A total of 156 youth attended the event. DTU members enjoyed a picnic with the Doc Fritch Chapter at Memorial Lake on June 22. **July:** Data recorded from HOBOWater Loggers indicated that the average water temperature for Lititz Run in May and June remained in the 60's; Picnic was held on the property of Bob Bachman near Blue Lake. **August:** DTU volunteers helped children and adults catch fish at the Special Olympics

project on Speedwell Forge Lake on August 8; Picnic was held at Millport Conservancy and a tree was planted in memory of Todd Smythe at Riparian Park. **September:** Flyway Excavating began relocation of a 2000-foot section of Lititz Run stream channel on Banta property; Fly Fishing Expo held at Ned Bushong Farm on September 11; DTU received Best Chapter Project Award and award for Most new Members from PA Trout. **October:** Completed relocation of stream channel on Banta Property; DTU volunteers seeded disturbed areas adjacent to relocated stream channel; October Fest was held at Four Seasons in Landisville. **November:** Growing Greener Grant for assessment of Conowingo Creek Watershed approved; HOBOWater temp loggers removed for the winter; Average water temperature in Lititz Run did not exceed 67 degrees F from May 1 to November 1; Purchased chiller and Aquarium for students at Conestoga Valley to hatch and raise trout in a project to teach students about fish physiology and morphology.

As you can see we have been very active this past year. I would like to thank all of the DTU board members for their hard work this past year. We did have an increase in the number of members who volunteered to help with projects throughout the year. Thank you to all the volunteers who supported projects sponsored by DTU. While the number of things we accomplished this past year is impressive we can accomplish even more with ideas from members about what we can do to improve cold water streams in Lancaster County and education children and adults about the virtues of cold water conservation. The fruit of our labor is clean, cold water capable of sustaining populations of trout. Part of the pay-off is the enjoyment we receive from fishing for trout. We have gained some ground in coldwater conservation in Lancaster County but it will not continue if the next generation does not build on what we have started. Talk to us. Let us know what ideas you have to pass the torch to the next generation. Talk to any board member or send an email to me at wyble@ptd.net.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS



January Program

Chairman: Ted Downs

The program for January will be Dr. Douglas Austen, Executive Director of the PA Fish & Boat Commission. Dr. Austen was previously the head of the Technical Support Section and the Fisheries Analysis Section of the Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources; and an Adjunct Faculty Member in the Dept. of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences at the Univ. of Illinois.

Membership Committee

Chairman: Bill Billett

The Donegal membership chair wants to report that the grand total for the month is standing at 504. That's a number that hasn't moved by more than four or five all year, yet we reached the goal as the chapter with the most new members for the year 2004. The reason for the steady number and the lack of increase in our total numbers for the year is that we have many members who let their membership expire during the same time frame. What we need is for our current members to get their renewals back in on time and keep the flow going towards our goal of 600 before the end of the current year. Which brings up a timely moment for a note and that is if you are in need of a gift for the grandson, the son, or daughter, or even the wife, why not a TU membership for the year along with a PA Fishing License for the upcoming year. It would make a great stocking stuffer.



New Member Pete Wise

Grand Slam At Montauk

(Continued from page 7)

OK I needed to get some pictures. Later I hooked an albie and was concentrating on tailing it to get a good picture. I held my rod tip high like I do when landing a freshwater trout. Bad decision. Albies are very strong and put a lot of pressure on a rod. You guessed it my brand new Temple Fork 9 wt rod snapped with a sickening sound. That was quick. Out of commission with that rod but I did land the fish and got a great picture. Rookie mistake. Don't ever high-stick an albie with a fly rod.

We all caught fish, but some days the albies were very picky. We would see them splashing and we were able to get in close for some good casts directly over the fish, but no hook-ups. The key was small flies representing 2-3 inch Bay Anchovies. The preferred color was green and white but we also caught fish on a tan colored imitation of an anchovy. We were focused on finding and catching albies and did not pay much attention to blue fish. We could have caught large numbers of blues but since the blues and albies did not generally hang out together we steered away from the blues to concentrate on albies. One day I did have the Montauk Grand Slam landing a blue fish, a striper and an albie.

Bob Kutz was our mentor since Bob had some experience catching albies at Harker's Island, North Carolina. In the picture below Bob shows off a beautiful albie.



This was "Tricky Ted's" first experience going after albies and as you can see from that ear splitting grin Ted was mighty pleased to land this albie.



Montauk is a great little New England style town. It has everything you need including plenty of restaurants near the marina with good food. We hit Ben and Jerry's for ice cream three nights in a row. A grocery store is located near the marina to purchase breakfast supplies and sandwich materials for lunch. If you are in need of medical services there is a clinic downtown. Everything looks up beat around Montauk with well-maintained properties. There is a neat little park on the point of Long Island at Montauk with a beautiful lighthouse. September is off-season so traffic is very reasonable and downtown is not over crowded.

I can't think of a better place to spend a week of fishing in September than Montauk, Long Island. Next month I will review tackle and flies that worked for us at Montauk.

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Fly Of The Month

“Roe Bug”

From Carl D. Coleman’s Fly Shop



Description

Egg pattern to be used in late Fall when fish are spawning.

Recipe:

Hook: Daiichi #1530; **Thread:** match the color of Roe Bug; **Body:** dubbed Glo-Bug yarn oval shaped body. Use scraps from Glo-Bug ties (any color) . Chop the pieces of Glo-Bug yarn in 3/8 inch pieces & pull them loose. This makes dubbing easier; **Hackle:** white Glo-Bug yarn over the entire length of body. Trim to length of body.



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WHAT'S NEW AT:

Lancaster County Conservation District: by Matthew Kofroth

Recently the PA Department of Environmental Protection announced this year's recipients of the State's Growing Greener Grants and EPA's Section 319 Grants. These grants are for watershed restoration/protection projects throughout the state. Once again Lancaster County fared very well. Below is a list the Lancaster County projects that were awarded.

"Agricultural Best Management Practice's (BMP's) for the Conestoga Watershed, Lancaster County" –

The Lancaster County Conservation District received funds to implement Ag BMP's within the Conestoga Watershed. The District will be working with local farmers to implement conservation practices on farms within the Conestoga Watershed. The reason for the focus of funds toward the Conestoga Watershed is because the watershed has several "impaired" stream segments listed on the State's impaired streams list. With these funds we can hopefully remove these stream segments from that list. **AWARDED-\$178,000**

"Sustaining the Farming Community in Mill Creek Watershed" – Sponsored by the Isaac Walton League of America (IWLA). IWLA received funds to continue the tradition of improving the water quality in the Mill Cr. Watershed. The group is looking to carry out several task under the grant, such as, installing streambank fencing, planting riparian buffers, implementing best management practices on small farms, promote farmland preservation, and establish a water monitoring program in the watershed. The Lancaster County Conservation District will assist in the project by promoting it to landowners & assisting with education & outreach during the project's duration. **AWARDED-\$100,000**

"Millers Run Stream Restoration Design (Phase II)" – Sponsored by the Little Conestoga Watershed Alliance (LCWA). The project is a continuation (4,000 ft) of a headwater project on the same stream. The beginning of this project would start several hundred feet from the Phase I project (Sylvan Rd.) and would conclude at Harrisburg Pike. This proposal is only for design and permitting of the project not implementation. An implementation grant will be applied for once a plan is developed & permits are obtained. **AWARDED-\$33,770**

"Conowingo Watershed Assessment" – Sponsored by the Donegal Chapter of Trout Unlimited (DTU). DTU is

working with a local consulting firm to get an overall assessment of the Conowingo Cr. Watershed. The Assessment will look at priority areas for future work, modeling for a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) plan, aerial videos, and water quality monitoring. DTU is interested in this watershed due to its coldwater possibilities and for natural trout reproduction. Once the assessment is complete the job of implementing the recommendations for the plan will fall on local conservation organizations and local municipalities. **AWARDED-\$46,324**

TU National **"On Genes, Salmon and Trout"** by Jack Williams, TU's Chief Scientist

There has been considerable debate about the value of wild vs. hatchery salmon and native vs. introduced trout. The genetic diversity present in wild and native stocks is critical to allow adaptations to local conditions and to provide for future changes in environmental conditions. We know that the hatchery fish contain only a small subset of the genetic diversity present in the parental population. It stands to reason then, that over the long run, cross-breeding may produce less genetically diverse and therefore less resilient wild fish. That is why so many are concerned by policy changes that would treat hatchery fish equally with wild fish.

For instance, a recent study on the effects of hybridization on Westslope cutthroat trout provides some fascinating insights into how natural stocks are harmed by such genetic changes. In the article by Fred Allendorf and colleagues at the University of Montana (*Conservation Biology*, October 2004) first generation hybrids between Westslope cutthroat trout and introduced rainbows were found to have reduced fitness. Compared to pure Westslope cutthroat, the hybrids were smaller and survived for shorter periods. Ironically, although these hybrids are less fit, they may tend to move longer distances, thus spreading the ill-fitted genes farther and faster. The authors conclude by noting that the rapid influx of rainbow trout genes into Westslope populations could result in loss of local adaptations and decrease the probability of survival of Westslope cutthroat in the wild.

3 Month Chapter Planner

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<u>Month</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Date & Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Subject</u>
January	Board Meeting	Wed. 1/12-7:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Normal Meeting
	Chapter Meeting & Officer Elections	Wed. 1/19-7:00 PM	Quality Inn & Suites	Dr. Douglas Austen Exec. Director PA Fish Comm.
February	Board Meeting	Wed. 2/9-7:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Normal Meeting
	Chapter Meeting	Wed. 2/16-7:00 PM	Quality Inn & Suites	"Coz" Costolnick Upper Delaware River Guide
March	Board Meeting	Wed. 3/9-7:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Normal Meeting
	Chapter Meeting	Wed. 3/16-7:00 PM	Quality Inn & Suites	Joe Trendler "Trophy Labrador Brook Trout"

Grand Slam At Montauk (Part 1)

(Continued from page 8)

from the boat slip to the mouth of the inlet we had a run of 3-4 miles to some fantastic fishing. We were fishing on the ocean but never more than 3-4 miles off shore. Much of the time we were as close to shore as reasonably safe. There are some very nasty rocks near the shore so one is well advised to keep a boat in at least 10 feet of water. Bearing that in mind we felt very safe and had some great fishing.

We spent a lot of time 1-2 looking for birds diving and or we found a large group of fish usually a school of blues, if we splashes in a tight bunch it was This was my first saltwater fly-and you can bet the house it What a blast! I still can't albies can swim. We saw birds and I thought ok I'll motor to pack and the fish will move few casts. Wow, I'm running and the birds and splashing fish are still ahead of me. Eventually I did get ahead of the fish and they moved close enough for some casts. Now you have to understand casting from the bow of a boat is not like standing waist deep in water and casting to a rising trout. You have wave action and wind to contend with in a boat. Let's say my learning curve is still going way up in casting from a boat. Bob Kutz lost a lot of fishing time coaching me on how to get more distance. Thanks Bob I appreciate your help. Back to the story. Fish are jumping left of the bow, straight off the bow. "Tricky Ted" is yelling, Bob there jumping on your right. I'm casting like mad. Heck, forget style and form; I'm not being videotaped for a Saturday morning saltwater fishing show. Get the blasted fly in the water even if the cast is not perfect. It was wild and just plan nuts. I'm casting left, then right, and then straight over the bow. The fish are so close I see an albie break away from the school and actually come take my fly. Yea just like a trout. I literally saw it take my fly. I did a strip strike and set the hook. You can't raise the rod tip to set the hook. You need to strip line to set the hook. About 10 minutes later I landed a beautiful albie. It took another 15 minutes for my pulse to come back to normal. What a rush that was.



miles off shore fish splashing. If splashing it was saw several usually albies. fishing experience won't be my last. believe how fast diving one day the head of the into us giving us a the boat 25 mph

(Continued on page 3)



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Mayflyer

Grand Slam At Montauk (Part 1) by Bob Wyle

The water was rippling in a thirty-foot wide circle about 50 yards off shore at Montauk, Long Island. Looked like bait fish. Bob Kutz, “Tricky Ted” (Downs) and I were waiting in my boat in about 10 feet of water. The circle gradually moved towards my boat and the fish gods were with us. It wasn’t baitfish alone. It was a school of stripers packed so tight you could not get your hand between two stripers. Geez, I never saw anything like this. The school came up and almost touched the boat. The stripers were sipping little anchovies like my Japanese Koi sip food pellets in my water garden. I flipped out a tan 2-inch imitation of an anchovy on my 9-wt Temple Fork rod and hooked up instantly. About 10 minutes later I boated a nice 14-pound striper.

Bill Schotta and his fishing buddy “Flyin Phil” were on the way in for lunch one afternoon and keeping their eye on some 10-foot rollers several hundred yards off shore when Bill noticed some fish tails slapping the water. As Bill tells the story he saw hundreds of 10 to 25 pound stripers swimming through the rollers. He says the stripers were in what he called “rat packs” smacking the bait with their tails and chasing 7-inch alewives. Wow, a Montauk striper blitz.

Bill quickly changed from a 9 wt rod rigged with anchovy

flies to a 10 wt rod carrying a 450 line and big 7 inch chartreuse and white deer tail half and half flies with lots of flash. In the 15-20 minutes of pandemonium that followed Bill and “Flyin Phil” landed five nice bass over 20 pounds. These bass blitzes don’t last long but when you get lucky and run into one hang on to your hat for some fast action.

Bill Schotta and “Flyin Phil” pulling a 23 foot Parker and Bob Kutz, “Tricky Ted” and I pulling my 21 foot Parker left for Montauk bright and early at 5:00 AM on Sunday morning September 19. We wanted to get to the George Washington Bridge in New York City before heavy traffic. We pulled our boats through New York City on I 95 and over the Throgs Neck Bridge to the Long Island Expressway with surprising ease. It is illegal to pull a boat on a Parkway on Long Island so the only way to Montauk is on the expressway. After passing through New York City it takes another 2.5 hours to get to Montauk.

We stayed at the Snug Harbor Motel where all we had to do was walk out the door, step on to the boat dock, load gear into our boats and we were off to some of the absolutely best fishing waters on the East Coast. After going a short distance

(Continued on page 7)