

# Mayflyer

July 2003

V32-I7

www.donegaltu.org

The Monthly Publication of



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

Next Monthly Meeting

## BACKCASTS

### Chapter Meeting Recap 6/18/03:

by Scott Trefny

The July Chapter Meeting was held at the Millport Conservancy thanks to our hosts, the Wohlsen and Myers families. At least 50 members and guests attended to enjoy the food prepared by Ted Downs, Kevin Fausey, Henry and Abby Bazella and Vicki Wilson. Chef's Henry and Kevin did a great job with the hot dogs and hamburgers, and very little food was left over.

WGAL Channel 8 Weatherman Doug Allen and his team did three live "Backyard Weather" segments from the Conservancy property. Doug is very professional and did a great job making all feel at ease while the camera was rolling. The crew enjoyed the beauty of the stream and also the good food. It was interesting to watch how fast the crew positioned the truck and then linked up to the satellite to send the report to the viewing area.

After the picnic President Bob Wyble had a short business meeting to discuss some of the projects that are in the works as well as the sites of the July and August picnics. The July picnic will be held at the Leon Good Farm on Buch Mill Road in Warwick Township. Members can observe the

great work done on the Hammer Creek, which runs through the property. Gary Trostle and Lee Good will be there to give a tour. The August Meeting Will be held at Hopeland Farms near the small town of Hopeland in Northern Lancaster County. Ted Downs is organizing a Fly Fishing Expo. It will start at 3 PM and will have tackle available to try out on the pond. Be sure to bring your cash, credit card or checkbook. You'll be able to purchase whatever you see and like while you're there. Look for directions and the names of the participating Fly Shops in the next newsletter.

After the meeting members were taken on a tour of Lititz Run, which is in great shape from the ample rainfall that we've been experiencing. The stream was running clear and cold. This clearly demonstrates the value of good riparian buffers! There are lots of fish in the stream so get your button from Ted and enjoy the opportunity to fish on

the Millport Conservancy property.



Wednesday July 16<sup>th</sup> 6:00 PM

Hammer Creek Leon Good Farm

Picnic Dinner Meeting: See Page 3 For Directions

Upcoming Chapter Activities

Fly Fishing EXPO & Picnic Dinner

Wed 8/20 3 to 9 PM

Hopeland Farm (near) Brickerville

See Page 2&3 For Details



# WHAT'S EMERGING!

## President's Report:

by Bob Wyble

Rain "never coming" has changed to rain "never ending". The good news is that the underground water table has been recharged and springs are flowing strong in early summer. On the flip side rainy weekends are tough on outdoor activities, but we can better deal with rain on activities, than a drought.

Thank you to **Kevin Fausey, Joe Besecker, Ed Kraft, Tyler Hudock, Bob Kutz, Gary Roulston, Jim Stephens** and **Jim Stephens Jr.** for teaching fly casting to some hearty young people on a very rainy **Lancaster County Youth Field Day** on June 7<sup>th</sup>. We really need **more volunteers** to help out with this event for next year. So please mark your calendar now for **Lancaster County Youth Field Day** on **June 5, 2004** and plan to come and teach young folks how to cast a fly line.

Approximately **50 DTU'ers** turned out for our first picnic meeting of the year at **Millport Conservancy** on June 18<sup>th</sup> to meet and watch **Doug Allen from WGAL TV** do his "Backyard Weather" report from the Conservancy property. Thank you to **Henry Bazella** (Communications Committee Chairman) for arranging for this event with Doug. Henry's "Road Kill Café" apron showed up very well on TV!

If you missed the June picnic meeting, come join us for our next picnic meeting at **Lee Good's farm** on **July 16<sup>th</sup>**. You'll have an opportunity to see some of the improvements that have been made on Hammer Creek.

Our first ever **Fly Fishing Exposition** will be held at **Hopeland Farm** on **Wednesday August 20<sup>th</sup>**, from **3 - 9 PM**. I would hope to see at least 150 DTU'ers come out for this event. Members from the **Doc Fritchey Chapter** will also be joining us, for our annual joint chapter meeting. **The food is free**, compliments of DTU, so spread the word and bring a friend.

If you are thinking about purchasing a new

fly rod, this is your opportunity to actually throw a line with different rods to get a feel for how one rod performs differently from another. You'll also have an opportunity to purchase the rod that best meets your needs. **The Evening Rise Fly Fishing Outfitters** has arranged for **Doug Bear** from **Orvis** to give some casting demonstrations. **TCO Fly Shop** has arranged for **Bill Dawson**, the **Sage** representative, to attend. **Quiet Times Fly Shop** will also have casting demonstrations using different types of rods. You can also purchase other kinds of fly fishing gear. Fly tying professionals **Ed Kraft** and **Bob Geibe** will demonstrate fly tying, and they will both have trout and bass flies available for purchase. An area will also be set up for a **swap meet** for members and friends of DTU to trade fly fishing rods, reels and other equipment. Refer to the Fly Fishing Expo poster in this issue of the **MayFlyer** for **directions** to **Hopeland Farm**.

Currently **20** DTU members have agreed to read the **Mayflyer** on our web page each month, rather than receiving it through the mail. If you would like to read the **Mayflyer** on the DTU website ([www.donegaltu.org](http://www.donegaltu.org)) and discontinue receiving a hard copy please send me an email ([wyble@ptd.net](mailto:wyble@ptd.net)). I will notify you each month when the Mayflyer is posted on the DTU website. The electronic **Mayflyer** is available approximately **2 weeks** sooner, plus **all the pictures are in color**. You'll also help us save on printing costs.

## Spruce Creek Trips:

by Gary Roulston

The **August 22-24** Spruce Creek trip is full. The **September 12-14** trip still has a few spots open. The cost is \$275/person per weekend. Contact Scott Trefny if you're interested and/or for further details.

## Officers

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# COMMITTEE REPORTS



## Program Committee

**Chairman:** Ted Downs

Our upcoming **July Chapter Meeting** will take place on **Wednesday 7/16** at the Leon Good Farm, 304 Buch Mill Road, on Hammer Creek, east of Lititz, and north of Rothsville. Come and enjoy **free food**, courtesy of DTU, and bring a friend. Directions are as follows.

**From Lititz:** Take Rt. 772 east, and turn left on Clay Rd. At the second intersection, turn right onto Pine Hill Rd. Take the first left onto Buch Mill Rd. Go ½ mile to the farm lane on the left.

**From Ephrata:** Take Rt. 322 west, and turn left onto Market St. at the Lincoln House Restaurant. At the end of Market St. turn right and then immediately left onto Lincoln Rd. Go 2 miles and turn left onto Brubaker Rd. Where road goes left, stay straight onto Buch Mill Rd. Go ½ mile to farm lane on the right

**From Lancaster:** From either Rt. 222 or Rt. 272 take Rt. 772 west towards Lititz. At the traffic light in Rothsville turn right onto Rothsville Rd. Take the second left onto Meadow Valley Rd. At the first intersection turn left onto Middle Creek Rd. Take the second left onto Brubaker Rd. Turn left onto Buch Mill Rd. Go ½ mile to farm lane on the right

The **Fly Fishing Expo** scheduled for August will have attendance from the following shops:

- **Evening Rise Fly shop**
- **TCO Fly Shop**
- **Quiet Time Fly Shop**

Evening Rise will have an **Orvis** Representative to demonstrate new fly rods at the pond. TCO will have Bill Dawson the **Sage** Rod Representative there as well. Ed Kraft and Bob Geibe will be there demonstrating fly tying. Members are invited to bring any used or no longer used new or antique fly fishing items for sale or swap.

## Volunteer Committee

**Chairman:** Joe Besecker

**Members:** Gayle Keck

The annual **Lancaster County Youth Field Day** was held on Saturday June 7<sup>th</sup> at the Southern Lancaster County Sportsmen grounds under less than ideal weather conditions. Typical of this spring, it rained steadily all day. Despite the rain, 200 plus participants (and

volunteers) braved the elements from 8 am to 4 pm. As usual **Ed Kraft** spent the entire day demonstrating fly tying techniques and gave out the finished products to the kids. **Gary Roulston, Jim Stephens (Sr. & Jr.), Kevin Fausey, Tyler Hudock, and Joe Besecker** gave fly casting instructions despite being soaked through their rain gear. Special thanks to **Kevin Fausey** who explained the mission and activities of TU and DTU to each group of kids. At the end of the day each participant was given a tree to plant streamside or at their home, courtesy of DTU.

## Membership Committee Report

**Chairman:** Jim Stephens

**Members:** Herb Weston

This has been another excellent month for membership as we **welcome 14 new DTU members**. From Lancaster: **Nathan Frohur, John Heiselman, James Kline, and Jeff Davis**; from Manheim: **Marc Shoenfelt, and Garry Longenecker**. The remaining new members are: **Christopher Sestrich**, Lititz; **Jonathan Putt**, Pequea; **Charles Buchanan**, Columbia; **Harry Ebersole**, Elizabethtown; **Charles Smith**, Ephrata; **Matthew Tongel**, East Petersburg; **Jon Kauffman**, Millersville; and **Evo Andreatti**, Mount Joy. I hope to see all current and new members at the summer meetings. **Come on out – the fishing stories and the food will be free.**



New DTU Members **Ed Monborne & Bruce Kline**  
at the June Picnic Meeting

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We are confident that you'll discover that the effort you put into locating our hidden shop will be well rewarded. Just drive down the 1560/1570 Driveway, located on Kleinfeltersville Road, about a half-mile prior to entering the Middle Creek Refuge (Project 70). The shop is the first building on the left.

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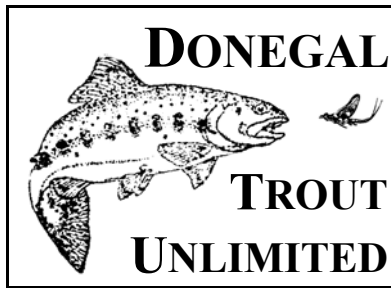
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**Donegal TU  
Is Pleased To Provide  
A Summer  
Fly Fishing Exposition**

# **Fly Fishing Expo**

**Wednesday, August 20, 2003**

**Hopeland Farm**

**3:00 – 9:00 PM**

- **Improve Your Casting Skills**
- **Test Fast Action and Slow Action Fly Rods**
- **Meet Staff From Local Fly Fishing Outfitters**
- **Fly Fishing Supplies Available For Purchase**
- **Picnic Provided By Donegal Trout Unlimited**

## **Directions to Hopeland Farm**

### **Route 322 West From Ephrata**

- **Past Esbenshade Green House**
- **Right on Elser Hill Road (Becomes gravel road)**
- **.5 mile to Hopeland Farm**

### **Route 322 East Towards Ephrata From Route 501**

- **Past Brickerville United Lutheran Church**
- **Left on Elser Hill Road (Becomes gravel road)**
- **.5 mile to Hopeland Farm**

## **Participating Fly Shops**

**THE EVENING RISE Fly Fishing Outfitters**  
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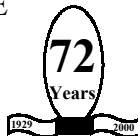
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## HOOKED-UP

The fly below was obtained from the  
Fly Archive @ www.flyfisherman.com



**“Lil' Dorothy”**

**Submitted by: Mark Libertone**

### Description:

I tied this soft-hackle to represent the Ephemera dorothea that hatch on my home river. It's very effective during the hatch.

### Recipe:

**HOOK:** Mustad 3906 or 3399A #12,14

**THREAD:** Yellow

**ABDOMEN:** Pale orange embroidery thread #722

**THORAX:** Cream rabbit

**HACKLE:** Cream hen hackle

### Tying Instructions

Tie on hackle near eye. Wrap thread back, tie on embroidery thread. One strand is enough. Shape underbody with tying thread, then wrap thread about 2/3 forward toward eye and tie it off removing excess. Dub cream rabbit for thorax so it's a bit fuzzy. After dubbing is complete, wrap hackle-three turns and tie it off removing excess. Shape head while sweeping hackle back, then whip finish and ad head cement.



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# WHAT'S NEW AT:

## Lancaster County Conservation District: by Matthew Kofroth, Watershed Specialist

### Where did all the water go?

Considering the above average rainfall totals this past spring and winter we really have not had too many flooding issues around the County. Except for the occasional rise in the creek most of the streams in Lancaster County are full and not flooding. You may be asking yourself why? A lot of this has to do with the drought conditions we have had the past three years or so. Because the groundwater aquifer has been depleted over the last several years due to these droughts it is taking quite a bit of water to refill this basin of water. Sure the creeks may rise after a storm event but the groundwater is nowhere close to its "normal" levels considering the amount of precipitation we have had. So the next time you start to complain that it is raining again just be thankful that this rain is soaking in and not causing more problems. We will eventually need all this excess water if drought conditions continue in the future.

### Upcoming Stream Projects

If you get around the County at all this summer keep your eyes open for some exciting stream restoration work going on in several watersheds.

In the Southern part of the County watch for stream work on Stewart's Run. Stewart's Run is a tributary to the West Branch of the Octoraro Creek and empties into the creek in the delayed harvest section. The section of stream to be worked on is just South of Quarryville and to the East of Route 222, not too far from Solanco High School. The Octoraro Watershed Association is looking to restore a stream section that has been heavily damaged by livestock. Bank stabilization will be the primary focus of the project, but water quality benefits will be seen all the way to the West Branch junction.

For those of you in the Northern part of the County watch for a project just East of Ephrata Borough. The *Save Our Creek* group is working on restoring several hundred feet of streamside frontage along the Cocalico Creek. The section of stream to be worked on has been severely impacted by high storm flows. Due to these events the stream can not access its natural floodplain and is eroding massive amounts of stream banks. The group is looking to lower the area around the stream so floodwaters can access the floodplain, but also create wildlife and water quality improvements at the same time.

### Save the Date

On August 18<sup>th</sup> the Middle Creek Watershed Alliance will be holding a public meeting for those interested in protecting the Middle Creek watershed. The Middle Creek group is fairly new and is looking for fresh new faces and ideas for their

group. A meeting location has not been determined at this time but for more information please contact the Conservation District.

## TU National South Fork Snake River A Watershed Restoration Project

The South Fork of the Snake River is one of America's most famed trout fisheries. But recently anglers, scientists, land managers, and others have expressed growing concern about the future vitality of the fishery. The concerns are based on the cumulative impacts of various factors, including:

- Damage to South Fork spawning tributaries due to dewatering, grazing, road development, and other impacts;
- Flows from Palisades Dam, including low winter flows and geomorphic impacts to mainstem river habitat due to long-term flow alterations;
- Hybridization and displacement of native Yellowstone cutthroat trout with introduced rainbow trout;
- Recreational impacts from being one of the highest use fisheries in the country; and
- Burgeoning development, with associated bank armoring and flood plain issues especially in the Swan Valley section of the river

Loss of the South Fork native cutthroat trout fishery would have broad implications. Not only would one of the country's finest wild trout fisheries be irrevocably changed, but it also would constitute a major setback in the effort to conserve native cutthroat trout populations in the Intermountain West. While scientists estimate that Yellowstone cutthroat trout currently occupy approximately 40 percent of their historic range, many of the populations are no longer pure. Further, two of the areas generally considered strongholds for these magnificent western natives - Yellowstone Lake and the South Fork Snake - are currently struggling with serious threats from non-native fish.

Initiated in early 2002, the South Fork Snake River Watershed Project is a TU Home Rivers Initiative. Like other Home Rivers Initiatives the South Fork effort is a collaborative multi-year approach that combines scientific and economic research; community outreach; on-the-ground restoration; and the development of long-term conservation and management strategies and tools on a watershed scale. Trout Unlimited partners for the South Fork Project include Mark Rockefeller, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Jackson Hole One Fly Foundation, U.S. Forest Service, Idaho Department of Fish & Game, Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Snake River Cutthroats and Idaho Panhandle TU chapters.

# 3 Month Chapter Planner

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<u>Month</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Date &amp; Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Subject</u>
<b>July</b>	Board Meeting	Wed. 7/9-7:00 PM	<b>Golden Witch Stevens, PA</b>	Normal meeting
	<b>Chapter Meeting</b>	Wed. 7/16-6:00 PM	<b>Hammer Creek Lee Good's Farm</b>	<b>Picnic Dinner Meeting</b>
<b>August</b>	Board Meeting	Wed. 8/13-7:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Normal meeting
	<b>Chapter Meeting</b>	Wed. 8/20- <b>3:00 PM to 9 PM</b>	<b>Hopeland Farms (near) Brickerville, PA</b>	<b>Picnic Dinner and Fly Fishing Expo</b>
<b>September</b>	Board Meeting	Wed. 9/10-7:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Normal Meeting
	<b>Chapter Meeting</b>	Wed. 9/17- <b>7:00 PM</b>	Quality Inn & Suites Oregon Pike	<b>Picnic Dinner and Fly Fishing Expo</b>

## Spring Fishing In The Amish Country

(Continued from page 8)

stream on a previous visit. I ventured upstream and showed Rabbit a prime lie. She had many strikes but couldn't seem to get her hook sunk into the trout, only to find out that her tippet material had expired long ago. Donna Trexler arrived and walked upstream with me. Earlier, I was lucky enough to hook two rainbows on a San Juan worm (is that almost cheating?). Donna and I found a plunge pond and had a go without much success...for a while. The sun came out and small BWO and Caddis started to hatch, perhaps eliciting hunger pangs among our quarry. I tied on a flashy olive wooly bugger and viola! After about 4 fish were caught I ventured further upstream, leaving Donna to the pond where she proceeded to catch a bunch of trout!

Up in the meadow, I saw many large carp and suckers but no trout. I walked still farther, realizing that I was too far from the bathroom and needed to find a tree. However, there was a large, and very aggressive, goose with about a half dozen eggs on the nest (in a discarded tire) that made sure I didn't get too close. I walked back down and it was lunchtime. We ate al fresco while enjoying the myriad of birds that love the Millport property, including one very proud bluebird. The group then caravanned to the Art Hess Farm section of the stream. This section has some very large trout but while there were bugs hatching, surface feeding was only intermittent. There were some reported misses, but no fish were caught there. That said, many commented on the quality of the trout water and the hard work that made it happen. If a stream is a spring lime-stoner, with cattle trodden banks, it can be brought back to life again through some fencing, a lot of hard work, and conciliatory landowners. We all had lovely weather and a lovely time, and hope to be able to do it again next season, if not sooner.





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Mayflyer

## Spring Fishing In The Amish Country

by DTU Member Dee Lehman

You know it's spring in Lancaster County when you sniff in the eau de manure as you drive down Route 222. But you also get to watch farmers drive their 5-mule team to plow the fresh earth, and you get to wrestle with multiflora rose, sometimes drawing blood. Four women from (Delaware Valley Women's Fly Fishing Association) DVWFFA got just that chance in mid-April as they ventured to Lititz Run. Rabbit Jensen was early and beat me to the meeting place at the Millport Conservancy. She wasn't sure how long it would take her, and I guess she remembered more of the drive than she figured, since she had attended the nearby Witmer Fire Co. ox roast in previous years. As I pulled up she was conversing with our past DTU president Bob Kutz. The Millport Conservancy graciously allowed us to use their facilities (plumbing and otherwise) and

that added to our enjoyment. Upon arrival, Rabbit and Kay Strosnider and I had the chance to watch *One Stream at a Time*, an award winning video about Lititz Run, DTU, and the team of volunteers who helped to restore this wonderful trout water. In fact, before we got on the water, many of the DTU'ers that were in the video showed up to gather plant material from the DTU nursery at the Conservancy, which would be used as riparian buffer along another nearby stream. Henry Bazella, another "star" of the video, unwittingly joined us in a day of fishing.

Kay, as a new member, was given the prime hole and caught a rainbow in her first 15 minutes or so! Kay hails from Millersville and so did not have far to travel. She had fished another section of the

*(Continued on page 7)*