

Mayflyer

June 2004

V33-16

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The Monthly Publication of



Next
Monthly
Meeting

BACKCASTS

Chapter Meeting Recap 5/20/04: by Scott Trefny

The Monthly Meeting of the Donegal Chapter of Trout Unlimited was held at the Quality Inn and Suites in Lancaster, PA. There were 32 members and guests present to hear our speaker for the evening. Some of our board members were in Montana fishing on the Bighorn River. We hope to hear some great fishing stories from them at the June Meeting. Vice President **Jim Stephens** led the business part of the meeting and the committee chairpersons that were present gave their monthly reports. Keep in touch with what's going on by reading the **Mayflyer** and by logging on to our web site.

Remember that you can get the electronic Mayflyer from our website as much as 2 weeks earlier than the hard copy version. That's because of the time required to print and mail it. Plus if you elect to take the electronic Mayflyer instead of the hard copy version you'll help us save on printing and mailing costs. Each hard copy Mayflyer costs approximately \$1 to print plus another \$0.30 to mail. With 500+ members in our chapter that's about \$8,000 per year that's devoted to publishing and mailing the Mayflyer each month. That's nearly 50% of the funds that we raised at this year's Spring Banquet just to keep the hard copy Mayflyer going. If you'd like to help divert more of those hard earned funds into stream improvements, you must contact Bob Wyble (733-4939 or wyble@ptd.net) and elect to take the electronic Mayflyer instead of the hard copy version. You must take this action because we are required through our by-laws to provide each member with a newsletter. Currently, by default, that's the hard copy version unless you elect to receive the electronic version.

Our speaker for the May meeting was **Paul Ptalis** from Allentown, PA. Paul is originally from Queens, NY and holds a Master's Degree in

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protecting and restoring
the trout streams and
watersheds of
Lancaster County

Health Care Administration from Long Island University. He came to the Lehigh Valley to get a job at one of the hospitals in Allentown. Paul had never fished until a friend asked him to go to a lake in New Hampshire to fish for large brook trout. After a few years of fishing (with poor results), Paul started to get serious about fly fishing and fly tying. He also started to fish for steelhead, salmon and saltwater species.

Paul is now an internationally recognized master salmon fly tier. "*Century End*" is Paul's first book and was originally self-published in 1999 as a limited edition. His flies have been published in several other books since 1994 and have been available to collectors since 1992. Salmon Fly "Art" is the only way to describe his exquisite creations. While Paul has taught many to tie trout, steelhead, saltwater flies and fishing salmon flies, exhibition "full-dress" salmon flies are his obsession. Each full dress salmon fly takes 8 to 10 hours to complete! Besides creating original patterns, he also ties many traditional patterns from the 1700's and 1800's. His books and framed patterns are spectacular works of art.

Paul demonstrated three (fishing) patterns that have been very effective for him for trout, steelhead and landlocked salmon. The spey pattern and the Hornberg were especially interesting. Paul had some great stories to go along with his demonstrations. Thank you Paul for a great evening and a fascinating presentation.

Remember that the June Chapter Meeting is a picnic with the Doc Fritchey Chapter at the Indiantown Gap Memorial Lake on Tuesday, June 22nd. Directions are on page 2. See you there!

Tuesday
June 22nd
4 PM

Indiantown
Gap Memorial
Lake

Program
"Picnic
Meeting with
Doc Fritchey
Chapter

Upcoming
Chapter
Activities

Picnic Meeting
with
Doc Fritchey
Chapter

Tuesday
June 22nd
4 PM
Indiantown Gap
Memorial Lake
Pig Roast!

See Page 2 for
Signup Info and
Directions



WHAT'S EMERGING!

President's Report:

by **Bob Wyble**

DTU activities continue as we move into the summer months. One of the major chapter activities to begin the summer took place on June 5th. I would like to thank **Kevin Fausey** for organizing the **Fly Casting** segment of the **Lancaster County Youth Field Day**, which was held at the Northern Lancaster County Sportsman's Association on Saturday, **June 5th**. The youth who participated in this event last year listed the DTU fly casting program as one of their favorite activities.

Summer is maintenance time for grass and weed control along stream fencing. Our maintenance supervisors **Jim Bushong**, **Bob Good**, and **Tom Care** have been in touch with landowners to keep things under control along Lititz Run. Thank you gentlemen for volunteering to take on the responsibility of summer maintenance for your section of Lititz Run.

The first readings for the HOBO temperature probes are in. As expected the temperature did not vary much at the first site south of Route 501. But downstream the temperature fluctuated 10 degrees in a single day. On April 18 the temperature probe at the trout nursery registered 53.4 degrees at 6:00 AM, and 63.6 degrees at 6:00 PM. That is a surprisingly large fluctuation in temperature for a single day. It will be interesting to see how temperature fluctuates as we move into the summer. One would expect that shade along Lititz Run or any stream should affect water temperature. We now have an opportunity to collect scientific data to show whether or not this is true. We

have a temperature probe installed at the upper end of Millport and a probe at the lower end of Millport. The water has an over story of trees along this approximately one mile section of Lititz Run. One would expect the readings at the lower end of Millport to be several degrees cooler than the readings at the upper end of Millport. Stay tuned and we will let you know what happens as we move through the summer.

You are welcome to join us for the picnic with the **Doc Fritchey Chapter** on **June 22nd**, which will be held at the Indiantown Gap Memorial Lake at 4:00 PM.

Directions are as follows:

Take Route 72 north from Lancaster, past the Pa Turnpike entrance, until meeting the intersection with US 322 WEST, towards Hershey. Follow the road towards Hershey. Following the red light, there is a turn for route 934, towards Annville, which is well marked. Take 934 North. Follow it through Annville and the village of Bellgrove (watch the signs for 934), and continue until you go underneath Interstate 81. Shortly after that, there will be a turnoff to the left, just across the Road from Funck's Restaurant, which is marked with a sign for Memorial Lake. Take that left. Within a couple hundred yards there is another diagonal turnoff to the left, again marked with a sign for Memorial Lake. Take that left as well. The roads to the lake are clearly marked, and you should take a left onto "Middle Road". You'll drive right into the parking lot.

I need to give Frank Viozzi a count from our chapter so please call me at **733-4939** or e-mail me at **wyble@ptd.net** at your earliest convenience. This will replace our chapter meeting for June.

Officers

President

Bob Wyble

986 Hammon Ave.
Ephrata, 17522
733-4939 (Home)
wyble@ptd.net

Vice President

Jim Stephens

27 Ashland Dr.
Ephrata, 17522
859-2987 (Home)
jescas@paonline.com

Secretary

Scott Trefny

26 Whitcraft Drive
Lititz, 17543
626-4512 (Home)
snjtrefny@dejazzd.com

Treasurer

Wayne Boggs

20 Apple Drive
Downingtown, PA 19335
610-942-4931 (Home)
bluedun@comcast.net



COMMITTEE REPORTS



Program Committee

Chairman: Ted Downs

Our program for June will be a **picnic** and the annual joint meeting of the DTU and Doc Fritchey Chapters. This year it's the Doc Fritchey Chapter's turn to host the joint meeting. Because of that the date will conform with their normal chapter meeting schedule (the 4th Tuesday of every month). So the picnic will take place on **Tuesday June 22nd** at the Indiantown Gap Memorial Lake. They are planning a pig roast, so you can arrive as early as 4 PM. Dinner will be at 6 PM. See Bob Wyble's President's Report on **page 2 for directions** and how to sign up if you haven't already done so.

Education Committee Report

Chairman: Dave Chalfant

The Big Brothers/Big Sisters Fishing Derby on April 30th was a big success for both the kids and the TU volunteers who helped. We had 17 kids and their "BIGS" who participated. We also had a good showing of TU volunteers. "THANK YOU" to all those who helped to make that evening a success! Our next event is the LANCASTER COUNTY YOUTH FIELD DAY, which is Saturday, June 5th (this event will be "history" by the time you get your "MAYFLYER"). A special thanks to Kevin Fausey for doing all of the organizational work for this event. Finally, we have a date for our SPECIAL OLYMPICS FREE FISHING DAY. In cooperation with the PA Fish & Boat Commission and the Lancaster County Special Olympics Committee we are participating in a fishing derby for the athletes of the Lancaster County Special Olympics. The event will be held on Saturday, August, 7, at Speedwell Forge Lake. The time for volunteers is in the AM from 8:30 - 12:30. This is a very rewarding experience for all (both participants and volunteers). The location is off of Rt. 501 to Brubaker Valley Road to Lakeview Drive to the parking lot and pavilion. We need volunteers for this event. Please mark your calendar for this event.

What In The World Is BEAMOC?

by DTU Member Steve Nickless

Any one, who fly fishes and leaves nearby, has to fish the Catskill rivers where fly fishing was born in the states. Luckily for me it's within a four-hour drive. When you first delve into the sport, no.... the passion, and you can't get enough of the romantic traditions and

its literature, you consume volumes of Sparse Grey Hackle and other eloquent writers of the history and learn about the Dettles, Theodore Gordon, Labbranch, and the wonders and beauty of the Beaverkill and Willowemoc rivers. Standard protocols in dry fly fishing were spawned here, and to fish the well-known pools like Cairns, Hendricksons, The Willow pool, is to fish with the ghosts and add your spirit to the religion.

True, it's not as it was. In the past five or six years the experience has diminished with the "brie-eating Beemer-driving" types who crowd the place because it's posh and they saw "A River Runs Through It". Also poor land management has degraded the necessary feeder streams, and lousy summers have lessened the fish population. But despite all that, the fishing still isn't all that bad.

In the fall of '97 *Fishmad* and I caught several large browns in Cairns pool on small blue wing olives and sulphurs. We used a snow shoe rabbit's foot pattern for both which was very similar to "The Usual". The fish took it for an emerger and I believe a crippled dun.

Anyway, in the early years of my fly fishing pox, *Wet and Windy* and I, made the pilgrimage, full of the need to be one with the past fly fishing fraternity. Catch and Release; Red Quills; Cairns Pool; and the usual collage of great music filled our heads on the drive up.

Fly fishing, for me, was a logical step up from my bait lobbing, as I soon realized that the fish were way too valuable to catch only once and that the keeping of a limit multiplied by the millions of other fisherman doing that would only add to fish depletion. Plus a respect for the trout's beauty and spirit earned them the love I have for them and the impossibility for me to kill or harm them. I didn't take long to realize that bait fishing made it difficult to accomplish this, and so after many frustrating attempts, fly fishing finally stuck. So remember the catch and release premise.

In exploring the locale around Roscoe, NY, aka "Trout Town USA", I noticed several signs that include the word **BEAMOC**. So I said to *Wet and Windy* "What in the world is **BEAMOC**?" He thought for just a second and replied, "That's short for The **BeaverKill/Willowemoc**." Remembering my newfound attitude of Catch and Release, I said, "Oh, I guess **WILLKILL** wouldn't have done."

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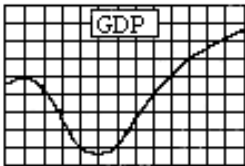
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WHAT'S NEW AT:

Lancaster County Conservation District:

by Matthew Kofroth

Summer is here and what an exciting time of year for the outdoor enthusiast. With longer days and warmer temperatures there is no end to the activities that can be done. For most of us summer means endless days of fishing for bass, trout, pan fish, and even carp. With plenty of spring rains and early season warm temperatures the fishing action has really heated up. Take advantage of this awesome time of year and enjoy it now before those first cold winds of winter hit us again.

Lititz Run Monitoring

One of the great perks of my job at the Conservation District is the ability to work with students discovering the aquatic life of our local streams. Twice a year I get to take advantage of this perk by sampling Lititz Run with Warwick High School students. The students sample the stream for chemical parameters and biological life in the form of aquatic insects. Our recent spring sampling results are included below.

The aquatic insect for Lititz Run this year is SOWBUGS and lot of them. Sowbugs are probably the most prevalent insect found in Lititz Run which is really not that surprising. Considering the limestone geology of the stream and its many spring seeps, sowbugs and scuds are common throughout the watershed. The reason for their appearance in these types of streams is due to the aquatic plants these types of streams promote, namely watercress. Sowbugs love watercress! The sowbugs range in size from pinhead to the length of a dime and are usually light gray in color. Try tying one on your line and see what type of action you get.

A good sign the students and I found in this year's sampling (one we have not seen for a number of years) is the appearance of mayfly nymphs. For a number of years we were not seeing this order of insect in the stream. We knew they were around because we were seeing a small hatch but we could never see the juvenile stages until this year. The species we are seeing is a common one to most fly-fishermen, baetidae. We noticed these mayflies throughout the watershed as well

along with net-spinning caddisflies (usually tan or light green in color). So if you are up to the challenge try your luck on Lititz Run with these patterns.

Finally, to tempt you a little more let me to show you what else we found in Lititz Run while during our annual fish monitoring day.



Wild (juvenile) Brook Trout



"Boss Hog" Rainbow Trout



"Monster" Brown Trout

3 Month Chapter Planner

Board Members

Dr. Joseph Besecker

392-8725 (Home)
poppydoc10@aol.com

Bill Billett

733-2940 (Home)
bbillett@ptd.net

Dan Brandt

664-2332 (Home)
dnkbrandt@dejazzd.com

Dave Chalfant

859-2906 (Home)
chalfant@dejazzd.com

Ted Downs

393-6645 (Home)
tdowns30@comcast.net

Kevin Fausey

626-4003 (Home)
erbbros@desupernet.net

Bob Habig

285-7529 (Home)
rfhfnsv@comcast.net

Matt Kofroth

299-5361 (Work)
matt-kofroth@pa.nacdn.net

Bob Kutz

394-9959 (Home)
b.kutz@comcast.net

Dee Lehman

397-8503 (Home)
deilehman@state.pa.us

Gary Roulston

560-7723 (Home)
groulston@comcast.net

Greg Wilson

627-0419 (Home)
grgwilson4@aol.com

| <u>Month</u> | <u>Event</u> | <u>Date & Time</u> | <u>Place</u> | <u>Subject</u> |
|---------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| June | Lancaster County Youth Field Day | Sat. 6/5 -8:00 AM | Northern Lancaster County Sportsmen | Educate Lancaster County Youth On Fly Fishing |
| | Board Meeting | Wed. 6/9 -7:00 PM | Millport Conservancy | Normal Meeting |
| | Chapter Meeting | <u>Tues. 6/22-4:00 PM</u> | Indiantown Gap Memorial Lake | Joint Chapter Meeting Picnic with the Doc Fritchey Chapter |
| July | Board Meeting | Wed. 7/14 -7:00 PM | Millport Conservancy | Normal Meeting |
| | Chapter Meeting | Wed. 7/21-6:00 PM | To Be Determined | Picnic Chapter Meeting |
| August | Board Meeting | Wed. 8/11 -7:00 PM | Millport Conservancy | Normal Meeting |
| | Chapter Meeting | Wed. 8/18-6:00 PM | To Be Determined | Picnic Chapter Meeting |

A New Threat to Wild Salmon-Steelhead and Endangered Species Act

(Continued from page 8)

fishery biologist and author of *Salmon Without Rivers*: ***“It sounds like the government is going to be setting salmon recovery back about 100 years.”*** Ransom Myers, a fisheries biologist from Canada who has been advising the National Marine Fisheries Service on salmon recovery stated that ***“it runs counter to the last 50 years of research on salmon and it's obviously a gross misuse of science. The whole plan here is to delist as many species as they can.”***

Five major newspapers in the Pacific Northwest published critical editorial opinions within days of hearing of the proposed policy. Washington Senators Maria Cantwell and Patty Murray joined Representative Norm Dicks to send a letter to the Administration, requesting a copy of the new policy, and raising numerous questions about its implications for salmon and steelhead recovery. 75 members of Congress, led by Representatives Mike Thompson (D-CA), Christopher Shays (R-CT) and Sam Farr (D-CA) sent a bipartisan letter to President Bush responding to recent revelations concerning a new Administration policy that equates naturally-spawning wild salmon with artificially-raised hatchery salmon.

Pathetically, here's what a professional lobbyist in favor of the new policy had to say in support of it. "I applaud the people that are trying to save species that are endangered. But it might be good that we don't have dinosaurs now. We've gotten oil from the dinosaurs. If we had preserved the dinosaur, we wouldn't have that oil."

Gretchen Borck, a lobbyist with the Washington Association of Wheat Growers, comparing wild salmon recovery with...dinosaurs. May 2004



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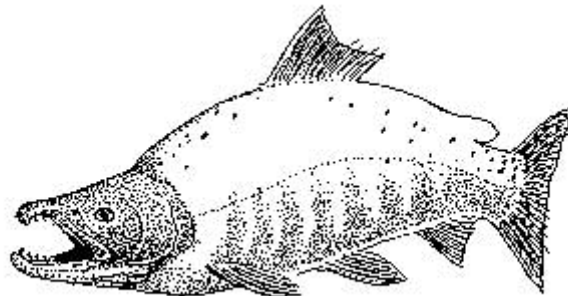
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Mayflyer

A New Threat to Wild Salmon-Steelhead and Endangered Species Act from the April/May 2004 "Wild Salmon and Steelhead News"

A new Bush Administration plan to eliminate federal protections for salmon and steelhead made headlines in late April, generating concerns and outrage by scientists, citizens and businesses throughout the nation. When counting the size of salmon populations, the new policy will allow naturally-spawning wild salmon and steelhead to be considered identical to certain artificially-raised hatchery fish. This new way of defining salmon and steelhead populations could allow the Administration to de-list up to 26 Pacific salmon and steelhead runs currently protected by the federal



Endangered Species Act.

"A gross misuse of science" Scientists, newspaper editorial boards, and members of Congress have reacted quickly and critically to news of the policy. *"The current political and legal wrangling is a sideshow to the real issues. We know biologically that hatchery supplements are no substitute for wild fish,"* Robert

Paine, an ecologist at the University of Washington retained by the government to advise on this policy. According to Jim Lichatowich, an Oregon-based

(Continued on page 7)