

Mayflyer

March 2005

V34-12

www.donegaltu.org

The Monthly Publication of



Next
Monthly
Meeting

BACKCASTS

Chapter Meeting Recap

by Deirdre Lehman

Ed Kraft, Donegal TU member, supporter and master fly tyer, presented a program at our **December Meeting** of “**Hoppers and Poppers**”. Ed began with **hoppers**, going from the simple to the more complex. We’ll just note the simple ones here:

Simple hopper: Attach thin strip of cork on the hook to help it float. Using yarn, tie in a red tail, and wrap yellow yarn for the body. Use caribou hair at the head, and pull hair back and tie off. Trim the head square, leaving some hair to the rear.

For poppers, Ed showed the array of materials that can be used, including balsa wood, cork, deer hair, foam and flexo material. Hooks need to be long. Hook length needs to be twice the body length. Hooks usually have an offset kink near the eye. The diameter of the popper needs to be at least the width of the hook gap. Ed showed us the silver flexo material he likes to use for Bluefish...the flexo poppers can be dipped in softex and can then last through several fish...rattles can even be inserted.

Floating eel popper: Use a preformed foam popper head and a velvet tube for the tail. Use indelible markers to darken the back and place eyes on the head. Wrap estaz between the head and tail. Fill the split of the popper head with zap-a-gap. Ed noted that materials are often available at Arts and Crafts stores.

Our **January Meeting** featured **Dr. Douglas Austen**, Executive Director of the PA Fish and Boat Commission. This was a unique opportunity to not only get to meet and learn about the views of Dr. Austen, who began his

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job less than a year ago, but to also learn of the issues currently facing angling and boating enthusiasts.

Dr. Austen’s background includes traditional fisheries management, GIS, watershed management and analysis, the CREP program and work on EPA’s watershed program in Illinois. He holds a PhD from Iowa State. He noted that although the Fish and Boat commission is somewhat autonomous in raising much of their own budget through license fees, the Commissioners are appointed by the Governor and much of what they do has to be approved through the Governor’s office. Some of their \$47 million budget comes from the federal government as well as license fees. Growing Greener is also an income source for them. Some 431 employees are active across the state in every county so the workforce is sometimes spread thin. The state legislature rules on all license fees.

License fees have gone up for 2006 for the first time since the early to mid 90s. There will be a new Lake Erie stamp to cover the costs of improved access (limited access has caused some property owners to post their properties). License fees will pay for operating costs at their 14 hatcheries and various boat launches, lakes and boat ramps while Growing Greener and monies approved by the legislature will help to pay for bricks and mortar items. They also wish to spend more on habitat improvements.

There is a proposal to place \$2 million into new boating accesses. The money will go to

(Continued on page 7)

Wednesday
March 16th
7 PM

Quality Inn
Lancaster

Program
“Trophy
Labrador
Brook Trout”
by
Joe Trendler

Upcoming
Chapter
Activities

26th Annual
Spring
Banquet &
Auction

Saturday
April 9th
2005
4:30 PM

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Suites
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WHAT'S EMERGING!

President's Report:

by Bob Wyble

It's time to look ahead and focus on projects for the coming year. Having completed the stream relocation of Lititz Run on the Banta property the major focus this coming year will be on the Conowingo Watershed in Southern Lancaster County. DTU has been notified that we will receive a 319 Growing Greener Grant for \$45,000 to complete an assessment of Conowingo Creek. Major problems in the Conowingo Watershed are high levels of phosphates and sediments in Conowingo Creek. The purpose of the assessment will be to determine where the phosphates and sediment are coming from. After we know where they are coming from we can then develop a plan to reduce them. Representatives from DTU will meet with supervisors in Little Britain, Fulton, East Drumore and Provident Townships to review plans of the study, which will be conducted by Rettew Associates.

Four streams in Lancaster County that are designated as Wild Trout streams will be reclassified at the April meeting of PFBC. Sections of the streams listed below that showed evidence of reproduction of wild trout in a PFBC fish survey will continue to be listed as Wild Trout waters. Changes are as follows:

- Climers Run from Trout Run dnst to mouth will be changed to Conf Trout Run to a point 600 meters dnst conf Trout Run
- Donegal Creek from headwaters dnst to mouth will be changed to Headwaters dnst to SR 0023
- Fishing Creek from headwaters dnst to mouth will be changed to Headwaters dnst to SR 3002
- Hammer Creek from UNT at Buffalo Springs dnst to Speedwell Forge Lake will be changed to UNT at Buffalo Springs dnst to UNT in County Park, Speedwell Forge Rd.

We have baby trout! DTU purchased a 20-gallon aquarium with all the accessories, which is on loan to Jim Hovan (biology teacher) at Conestoga Valley High School. With the aid of an aquarium chiller purchased from Glacier Corporation in California the water temperature in the aquarium is maintained at 52 degrees Fahrenheit. Jim and his students added 115 rainbow trout eggs to the aquarium on January 6.



Rainbow Trout

The eggs started hatching on January 17 and by January 18, 100% of the eggs hatched. Since that date Mr. Hovan has had a steady stream of teachers and students visit his classroom to check on the baby trout. When the egg sacs on the fish have been absorbed the baby trout will be fed a commercial food and then released into a cold-water stream. The aquarium will be able to support approximately 10 fish so most of the fish will be released in the very near future.

Spring clean up on Lititz Run will be **Saturday, March 19**. So mark your calendar now to keep that date open and come on out for the spring-clean up.

Plans are under way for another great banquet, which will be held on Saturday, **April 9**. **Dan Brandt** is hard at work on some innovative changes to make this the best banquet ever. Make sure your calendar is clear to come join us on **Saturday, April 9**.

As was previously announced there will be a change in the publication schedule of the Mayflyer for 2005. The format of the Mayflyer will continue as in the past but the number of issues will be reduced from twelve to six for the year. You will receive the Mayflyer in January, March, May, July, September, and November. We will continue to produce a high quality newsletter with a considerable savings to the chapter.

We are always eager to hear from our members. If you have an idea you think would be good for cold-water conservation in Lancaster County please let us know. Send your comments to Bob Wyble at wyle@ptd.net

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COMMITTEE REPORTS



March Program

Chairman: Ted Downs

The March program will be “Trophy Labrador Brook Trout” presented by Joe Trendler, fly fishing consultant for Osprey Lake Lodge, “home of the world’s largest Brook Trout”.

Membership Committee

Chairman: Bill Billett

For the month of December our membership total stands at 523. Hopefully this increasing trend will continue to climb from all those TU memberships we gave for Christmas gifts. In case you forgot to take part in that gift giving idea now's a good time to redeem yourself and get those family members involved by getting them their new TU membership. New members for the chapter this month are: **Dan Martin**, **Dr. Charles Shufflebottem**, and **Dave Christian** from Lancaster; **Howard Willard** from Lititz; and **Robert Tindall** from Gap. Welcome to all. Hope to see you all on February 16th at the monthly Chapter Meeting.

Banquet Committee

Chairman: Dan Brandt

The Spring Banquet will be on April 9th at the Quality Inn. Everyone will be receiving a banquet newsletter with all the information you will need to attend. Please follow the instructions carefully. With your banquet newsletter, you will also receive tickets for our Super Fund Raiser along with your Registration Form. Please fill this out and send in as soon as possible.

This year we are going with a different format. Instead of the buckets this year we are going with a general raffle table. You will not have long strands of strip tickets to look at. Instead we have simplified the tickets by having just one number to look for, with many more winners all night long. Everything will be explained in the banquet newsletter.

Something very new this year are (2) USGA Trophy golf tickets to the US Open in Pinehurst NC in June, which we will be raffling off. Only 500 raffle tickets will be printed, so see a fellow DTU person for tickets and details. Much more information will follow.

Conservation Committee

Chairman: Greg Wilson

The Conowingo stream assessment grant was finalized in early January. We were awarded about \$48,000 to assess the watershed. The Conowingo has a lot of

potential to be a good trout fishery; it has some tributaries with reproducing trout populations already. Most of the stream is in a very rural setting, so with some good agricultural BMP's the wild trout may greatly expand their range. This grant is funded by an EPA 319 grant. It is geared to determine primarily nutrient related problems. Mark Metzler with Rettew Associates will be doing this assessment. He thinks with the help of some TU volunteers we can do some macroinvertebrate and fish surveys to fill in some of the picture that the grant will not fund. We would be very interested in any TU members that have an interest in this watershed to let us know. This is large project and local people from TU getting involved will greatly help making it a success. We are hosting a meeting to take this project to the public on Feb. 28th. We plan to inform the townships and anyone interested to explain the intent of the assessment and hopefully raise some public awareness.

We still have plans to do some rock rolling on the Gochenhauer property on Shears Run this winter. The stream is suffering some areas of bank erosion. We intend to at least stabilize these areas and create some better fish habitat.

We also have a permit in hand to construct some deflectors in the upper meadow of the Millport Conservancy. There are a few spots where we think we can improve the fish habitat by increasing or redirecting the velocity.

Lititz Run Watershed will host a stream cleanup, tree planting or anything else for the good of the watershed on March 19th at 8 am. Volunteers can meet at the Millport Conservancy, or call 587-8351 for details.

Education Committee

Chairman: Dave Chalfant

With snow on the ground and temperatures in the teens, most of us are probably not thinking a lot about trout fishing (maybe in our dreams). But, it's not too early to mark a date on your calendar for one of our spring events: Friday, April 29th is the date for our spring fishing derby for the Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Lancaster County. Typically 15 - 25 kids will participate in the fishing derby, so we need as many TU volunteers to help that Friday evening as we can get. We will provide a picnic meal for all and fishing equipment and bait for all the participants. This event is as much fun for the TU volunteers as it is for the kids! We will have further updates in future Mayflyers.

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Fly Of The Month

“Jay’s Stone Fly”

Created by Jay Peck

From Carl D. Coleman’s Fly Shop



Description

A good Steelhead pattern fall, winter and spring

Recipe:

Hook: Daiichi 1120 #10 - #6; **Bead:** gold to fit hook size; **Thread:** black 6/0; **Tail:** black goose biots the length of the body; **Rib:** medium copper wire; **Body:** medium olive v-rib; **Thorax:** black pseudo seal picked out on sides; **Wing Case:** flash back pearl; **Wing:** two black goose biots right and left sides length of the thorax

How To Tie It:

Put the bead on the hook and slide the bead to the eye. Wrap three or four turns of thread behind the bead, dub just enough dubbing to fill the hole in the back of the bead. Use your thumb nail and pack it in the hole. This will stabilize the bead. Wrap the thread to the back of hook, and tie the rest of the fly conventionally.



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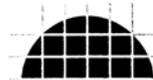
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Grand Slam At Montauk (Part 2)

by Bob Wyble

Last time I indicated that Bob Kutz, “Tricky Ted” (Downs) and I had a fantastic fishing trip to Montauk, Long Island. Let’s take a look at tackle and flies you would need to take a fishing trip to Montauk.

First of all you will need a 9-wt rod and a reel with an excellent drag system. I used Lefty Kreh’s new Temple Fork Ti Cr 9-wt rod and loved it. You can get all the distance you need with this rod without emptying your bank account to buy it. There are a number of big game reels on the market that will do the job but I don’t think you can beat the Ross Canyon Big Game Reel. When fighting a big fish, the line pulls off the Ross Canyon in a steady very smooth action, not in interrupted jerks. At the end of a saltwater trip cleaning a Ross Canyon reel loaded with line is a breeze. Simply remove the spool, with the line on the spool, and immerse the whole spool in fresh clean water for an hour or two to remove the salt and that’s it. It’s a good idea apply a dressing to the line and you’re finished.

You will need an intermediate sinking line and a sinking line. I used a Scientific Angler Mastery Series Striped Bass intermediate line with a sink rate of 1.50-2.00 inches per second. I also used a 350 sinking line. The intermediate line works well for fish on the surface and you will need a sinking line to get a fly down for stripers.

I tied four feet of 25 lb. Seaguar Fluorocarbon to my fly line for a butt section. I tied a very small 50 lb. SPRO swivel to the end of the fluorocarbon butt section. I tied another piece of 20 lb. fluorocarbon approximately 2 feet long to the SPRO swivel. The SPRO swivel gives you an advantage when trolling a fly because your line will not become twisted. Also when your leader becomes short from tying on different flies you can simply tie on another piece of tippet to the swivel.

I will describe several flies that worked for us i.e. anchovy pattern, surf candy flies and sand eel flies. The preferred color for surf candies was a white belly with a green back. Sand eels in chartreuse and white worked well and since the albies were feeding on anchovies, a small imitation of an anchovy in tan color was perhaps the best choice.

Anchovies, as seen in the picture below, may grow up to 4-5 inches, but small 1-2 inch patterns worked best for us on this trip. I only tied three of these flies before leaving home, which as it turns out was a mistake because I caught fish on every fly until I lost them all three of them. Next year I will tie a dozen of these flies for Montauk.



The procedure for tying this fly is as follows: Use a Mustad No. 4 (34007) stainless steel hook and tie in tan polar guard just behind the eye of the hook for the body. The polar guard should extend about 1.5 times the length of the shaft of the hook. Tie in a strip of silver flash on each side and add a 1/8-inch hologram eye on each side of the hook. The eyes should stick on the side of the hook shank. Add one coat of 5-minute epoxy, just enough to cover the polar fiber, eyes, and flash on the sides. The epoxy will soak into the polar guard and it will look a little rough after the first coat. Allow the epoxy to dry at least 1 hour and then add a second coat of 5-minute epoxy. Cover the whole fly from just behind the eye to the bend of the hook. Rotate the fly until the epoxy sets up, allow the fly to dry over night and you are good to go.



(Continued on page ii)

Grand Slam At Montauk (Part 2)

(Continued from page i)

Another fly that worked well was my version of a surf candy as shown below. The procedure for tying this fly is as follows. Use a Mustad No. 1/0 2x Heavy/1x Long (S71S SS) stainless steel hook. Tie on white Kinky Fiber behind the eye of the hook, then tie olive Kinky Fiber on top of the white fiber. The Kinky Fiber should be very sparse and extend behind the hook a length equal to the shank of the hook. Tie a strip of silver flash on each side, whip finish a knot, and cut the thread. Cut a piece of E-Z Body (Pearl) that is long enough to extend 1/8 inch behind the eye of the hook to the bend of the hook. Slide



the E-Z body over everything, i.e. the Kinky Fiber and silver strip. Add a 5/32-inch hologram eye on each side of the hook. Dip the entire fly into Softex covering the fly from the eye of the hook to the end of the E-Z Body tube. Apply 3 coats of Softex to the body of the fly and you should have a very durable fly capable of catching more than one fish.



A third fly that albies took was an imitation of a sand eel designed by Chris Windram. My attempt at tying Windram's pattern is pictured below:

This fly requires a material called E-Z Shape to form the body of the fly. Since I followed Windram's instructions I will refer you to the following web site: <http://www.saltwaterflies.com/sandee.html>. For instructions on how to tie a sand eel click on Article and Instructions for the

Sparkling Sand Eel. I ordered hooks as recommended by Windram and you will need E-Z Shape in three colors: Sparkle Body Pearl, Sparkle Body Fluorescent Chartreuse and pure black for the eyes (no sparkle). You will also need buck tail in white and chartreuse and some pearl-green polar flash. I found E-Z Shape very easy to work with. It is a viscous liquid that flows smoothly out of a small bottle. It does not run like 5-Minute Epoxy so you don't need to rotate the fly until it sets up. After the body is formed allow the fly to dry overnight and it is ready for action.

I'm sure there are numerous other flies that would be productive at Montauk but this is where we started and we experienced good results. I tied some crease flies but didn't use them because they are hard to cast in the wind. You will want some large 6-7 inch flies with chartreuse and white buck tail such as deceivers for stripers. I'm sure chartreuse and white Clouser Minnows would work well.

Montauk is the real deal. If you're looking for a great fishing trip bump Montauk to the top of your priority list.

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It brings meekness and inspiration, reduces our egoism,
soothes our troubles and shames our wickedness.
It is discipline in the equality of men--for all men
are equal before fish.”**

--President Herbert Hoover, New York Herald Tribune, May 10, 1947.



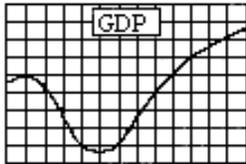
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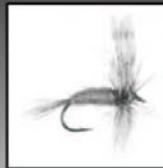
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WHAT'S NEW AT:

Lancaster County Conservation District: by Matthew Kofroth

For well over three centuries Lancaster County residents have tried to harness the power of local stream and rivers by installing hundred's of dams. In fact, between 1700-1900 over 400 mill dams were installed on Lancaster County streams. These dams were used to power grist mills, iron mills, grain mills, and other industries. These dams have become a part of Lancaster County's history, its aesthetics beauty, and its culture. Unfortunately a great number of these dams are now in a state of disrepair or abandoned and need to be removed and/or repaired. When a dam removal project is slated for a stream a number of factors must be evaluated before any such removal takes place. The advantages of keeping the dam are many; historical aspects, aesthetics, flood protection for downstream residents, sediment storage behind the dam which prevents further stream degradation, power generation of the still functioning dam thus reducing our reliance on fossil fuels, and habitat area for wildlife. On the other hand there are just as many advantages of removing the dam as well, such as; allowing migratory fish passage, safety issues with a failing dam structure, liability issues for the owners of the dam, creating recreational activities by letting the water flow freely (canoeing and kayaking), and harvesting the sediment behind the dam. There is a growing sentiment in Lancaster County to blame a great deal of the stream erosion problems in the county on past mill dams. The idea is that these old dams accumulated enormous amounts of sediment behind their walls. Scientists believe these sediments are now being eroded away by current flows causing massive bank erosion and causing our stream banks to be very unstable. The thought is that these sediments that were deposited are prime soils and could be removed and put back on productive uplands areas. The verdict is still out on whether or not this is a major issue in the county but it could have far reaching implications if this old sediment could be re-harvested for future use. What once was a pollutant over 200 years ago might actually be helping out the farmers of tomorrow.



Mill Dam Sediment on a Lancaster County Stream

DTU Nursery Committee by Kevin Fausey Chairman

Researchers tell us that this is the most depressing time of the year. I don't know where these researchers gathered their information or who they talked to, but they certainly didn't talk to anyone on the board of Donegal TU. We have lots of things going on and it's anything but depressing. If you have the winter "blahs", contact a committee chair or one of the DTU officers. They will get you excited about upcoming events, happenings and hands-on projects.

For those members not familiar with the nursery, I think it's the most important environmental aspect of DTU that you can get involved in. You don't need to operate a track hoe or prepare government documents. Its simple hands on, grass roots work that supports our DTU mission. Volunteer your time this year to help maintain our nursery at The Millport Conservancy and give these plants a home along our many streams here in Lancaster County.

Thanks to the help of many DTU volunteers last year our nursery grew in size as did the quality of individual plants. Lee Manifold and Tom Tedrow provided most of that effort. They deserve a lot of credit and could use some additional helping hands.

The DTU nursery supplied over 750 trees and shrubs to six different organizations last year (that does not include what we used for our own stream improvement work). Here's a quick look at where they all went.

- Gary Trostel spearheaded numerous projects on Hammer Creek.
- Vic Brutout of The Lancaster County Conservancy, and youth from The Jewish Community Center, planted trees and shrubs at Hopeland Farms.
- Joe Becker of Texter Mountain Nursery also installed plants at Hopeland Farms.
- Lancaster County Academy at Park City Center – riparian project on The Kolb Farm.
- Even York County benefited from our nursery. Plants were installed along an urban stream project in the city.
- We also supplied potting soil mix and pots to Deb Seibert of Manheim Central's Ag. Department so they could establish a micro nursery at the high school to benefit restoration projects for The Chiques Creek Watershed Alliance.

Shipment of our bare root seedling order from the Virginia Department of Forestry is expected in early March. Our order this year is made up of more shrubs than trees. That reflects a movement towards lower growing riparian buffers. Landowners don't want their views of the stream obstructed by large deciduous trees. Potting soil will be ordered next with shipment in time for a yet to be scheduled nursery work party. We are always on the move here at DTU and the nursery is certainly no exception.

3 Month Chapter Planner

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<u>Month</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Date & Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Subject</u>
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"
April	Spring Banquet and Auction	Sat. 4/9-4:30 PM	Quality Inn & Suites	Fun, Food, and Fundraising!
	Board Meeting	Wed. 4/13-7:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Normal Meeting
	Chapter Meeting	Wed. 4/20-7:00 PM	Quality Inn & Suites	Dwight Landis "PA's Wild Trout Streams"
May	Board Meeting	Wed. 5/11-7:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Normal Meeting
	Chapter Meeting	Wed. 5/18-7:00 PM	Quality Inn & Suites	Gil Hirschel "Susquehanna River Shad Restoration"

Chapter Meeting Recap

(Continued from page 1)

local governments to help provide parking and accesses. The Commission will also work with DCNR to purchase access easements and will be fighting the privatization of fishing access in areas such as the Little Juniata and in the Erie tributaries. More experts will be hired by the Commission with expertise in fish habitat to help TU and other local watershed associations. Their goal is to try to move Class B and C streams into Class A (wild trout) streams.

Not enough youth are fishing, according to Austen. They are putting together a program for the next two years to try to enhance outreach to youth and to help understand the dynamics of why fewer youth are participating in the sport. They will also help to get youth fishing clubs started in schools, 4-H and other areas.

The importance of partnership was emphasized by Dr. Austen, especially with US Fish and Wildlife, American Rivers, local governments, state groups and TU. He noted that there is much that environmentalists and sportsmen agree on (90 % of the issues). Together, these two interests can have a lot of clout, so to disagree on only 10% of the issues can be counterproductive to making headway on important agendas.

Finally, Dr Austen remarked that he would like to make fishing and boating opportunities in Pennsylvania (which are extensive!) part of a tourism program.

After his presentation, Dr. Austen answered some tough questions...one suggested that politics seems to be taking precedent over biology in decision making at the Commission. Dr. Austen noted that without addressing politics, funding would not be available to support efforts based on biology. Bob Bachman, a PhD in fisheries and Donegal TU member, attended the meeting and commented that the Commission needs to consider the trout resource and how it is affected by regulations rather than how regulations affect fisherman.

It was an interesting meeting and very enlightening for those attending.



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Mayflyer

TU's Youth Education Program by Gary Roulston

Acting as camp counselors, casting instructors, fly-tying teachers, and mentors, TU members volunteer 35,000 hours of their time every year, the equivalent of 18 full-time educators, to introduce young people to conservation and fly fishing. Youth education is quickly becoming one of TU's main strengths. Our chapters are enthusiastic and dedicated to teaching the next generation about the importance of coldwater conservation.

In 2001 TU launched its first nationwide youth initiative, *First Cast*, as a resource for chapters and members that wanted help starting youth education programs. The *First Cast* program now features a written curriculum and lesson plans, affordable tackle, a student newsletter, adult mentors, free TU student memberships for youth participants, and technical assistance from a full-time staff position.

TU youth education initiative is unique because it takes advantage of a nation-wide network of 450 grassroots chapters; an unmatched delivery mechanism for angling and conservation education that allows our programs to spread to many different parts of the country. For

example, a **conservation and fishing camp** was **pioneered by the Pennsylvania Council of TU** and has served as a model for similar camps in Michigan, North Carolina, Montana, and Maine.

The establishment of a national education program has given TU the opportunity to form partnerships with other national organizations. Our chapters work closely with the Boy Scouts of America, and the national office was instrumental in helping them design the requirements for the fly-fishing merit badge. Many of our chapters have also been working with an exciting new program called *Trout in the Classroom*, helping students learn about trout biology and the importance of water quality. Our success is highly recognized within industry as well, as demonstrated by the increased partnership with L.L. Bean, who gave TU over \$35,000 for youth events during the summer of 2003.

Contact John Gale, Chapter Support Coordinator, (jgale@tu.org or 703-284-9420) if you have any questions or program proposals. Together we can help educate the next generation of coldwater resource stewards.