

Mayflyer

October 2003

V32-I10

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The Monthly Publication of



Next
Monthly
Meeting

BACKCASTS

Chapter Meeting Recap 9/17/03: by Scott Trefny

The September meeting was held at the Quality Inn and Suites with about 30 members and guests present. New members were welcomed and photographed for the October Mayflyer.

Our guest speaker for the evening was **Dr. Bob Bachman**. We first heard of Bob while he was getting his doctorate from PSU in the late 70's. He built observation towers on the Penn State stretch of Spruce Creek to observe the behavior of wild Brown Trout. Bob presented a program which featured some of the highlights of that doctoral dissertation.

Bob studied 22 individual trout for the 3 year study. Many of the fish stayed in individual territories for that period; many on the same rock! He attributed this behavior to the special hydrologic qualities of specific places in the stream bed. Put simply, fish lie in places of least resistance to the current. With the help of a computer and a specialized program, Bob spent 4,000 hours making 32,000 separate observations. Bob refrained from making any conclusions until all the results were compiled and analyzed.

During his presentation, Bob showed graphs of home ranges and growth rate, and a film observing trout interaction and antagonistic, aggressive, territorial behavior. Bob commented that he was often surprised by the data he collected. He offered the following helpful information about trout. Bigger fish get the best feeding sites. A trout expends more energy while moving to feed and getting back into the resting

position than it does while resting due to stream hydraulics. Trout feed in 15 minute periods which is especially true during hatches. We have all observed intense feeding by a single fish and then feeding stops only to continue again later. This is how fish conserve energy, their main priority.

Bob also did a study comparison of hatchery fish and wild fish. He found that hatchery fish still

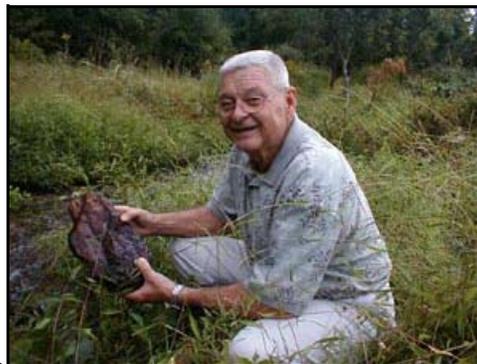
seek the best lies but are eventually moved out by the wild fish. Hatchery fish then have to expend more energy and after a time, disappear or die. Bob's conclusion is that hatchery fish should not be stocked in streams that have wild fish as they cannot compete with wild fish. Hatchery fish belong in streams that have no reproduction. Streams with wild fish can be fished 365

days a year as long as the fish are released.

Bob stated that artificial lures cause a higher hooking mortality than flies. Bait fishing is lethal and should not be allowed in streams with wild populations. Many sub-legal fish die before the bait fisherman catches his legal limit of five 7 inch Brook Trout.

Changes need to happen in the regulations made by the PFBC. Bob encouraged everyone present to support John Arway as the head of the Commission. John believes in wild fish and not in maintaining the status quo.

Thanks to Bob for a very informative evening and for opening our eyes to a special problem.



Bob Bachman checks for nymphs to support
Wild Brook Trout in Harnish Run

Wednesday
October 15th
6 PM

Four Seasons
Golf Course
Clubhouse

October Fest!

Greg Mentzer

*"Essence of
Fly Fishing"*

Upcoming
Chapter
Activities

October Fest

Wed 10/15
6 PM

Four Seasons
Golf Course
Clubhouse

949 Church St.
Landisville

See Page 2
For More
Information



WHAT'S EMERGING!

President's Report:

by **Bob Wyble**

If you were absent from the chapter meeting on September 17 you missed a great presentation from **Bob Bachman**. Dr. Bachman has a passion for **wild trout** in coldwater streams. In his landmark study of wild brown trout in **Spruce Creek**, Bob has data to show that Brown Trout do not move around very much in a stream. He watched numerous trout that did not move more than several feet in a period of three years. In fact these trout stayed in virtually the same spot, in a shallow depression of a rock or behind a rock for three years. Of course we all know, or think we know that trout move from the head of a pool to the tail of a pool. Or they hang out in deep water under logs and come out in the morning and evening to feed.

The point is hydraulics. Fish hang out where they need the least amount of energy to remain in a comfortable position in a stream. When a food item passes near them they will move a short distance to capture the food and then use energy to return to a position where they can hold in the water without using much energy. This is fascinating stuff. Bob spent over 4000 hours observing trout. He learned how to identify brown trout by the location of spots on their body. One trout had three spots in a row followed by a space and then another spot. You know the music da, da, da daaaa. **Beethoven**. He called this trout **Beethoven**.

Bob put it straight to us. Do you want good quality fishing year round, or do you want a few hours of good fishing for a short portion of the year. He says there is a place for hatchery trout to be placed in streams that are too warm to hold trout in the summer. But in his opinion, it is totally unacceptable to put hatchery trout in a cold-water stream that is capable of holding wild trout year round. He challenged us as fly fisherman to push our

cause for using flies or lures to catch and release wild trout. The mortality rate for fish caught and released on flies or lures is very low compared to fish caught on a hook with bait.

Bob Bachman is a member of our DTU chapter and I say kudos to you Bob for speaking out to bring back wild trout in cold-water streams in Pennsylvania.

I would like to remind you that the October Fest is coming up at Four Seasons in Landisville on October 15th. Please contact **Ted Downs** for registration and program information at **ttdowns30@comcast.net**, or call Ted at **393-6645**. You need to register in advance so we have a count for dinner. The cost is only \$15.00 and we have another great speaker and lots of good door prizes. Come on out and join us.

Evening Rise Fly Tying Class

Basic Fly Tying 101 Class

Fall 2003 - Thursdays , 6:30 PM to 9 PM, Oct. 16, 23, 30, Nov. 6,

This class is for new and novice students who are tying flies for the first time and/or need help with the basics. Students will learn the fundamentals of tying your own fishing flies. Sound and concise techniques will be taught. Basics techniques in tying wet flies, nymphs, streamers and dry flies will be covered. This is a serious "hands on" class and not a show and tell affair. Men, Women and Children (ages 13 and above) are welcome to attend. Class size will be kept to a minimum to ensure plenty of one-on-one instruction. Students who wish to register must do so by prepaying the class fee at time of registration. This will ensure your seat in class. Class fees are non-refundable unless the instructor cancels the class. Any classes missed cannot be made up. Our main objective is to have fun and tie flies. Maximum class size is 8 students. **Class Fee: \$75** per Student; Fee includes instruction, tying materials (used in class) and refreshments. For reservations: call (717) 509-3636 during store hours

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COMMITTEE REPORTS



Program Committee

Chairman: Ted Downs

The *October Fest* will be held on **Wednesday 10/15**, at **6 PM** (social hour), with dinner starting at 7 PM. The location is the **Four Seasons Golf Course Clubhouse** on Church Street in Landisville. The cost is \$15 per person. There will be a great raffle which will include: a 9 ft. 6 wt. Thomas & Thomas fly rod with a Redington reel and fly line; a Quarrow 4 wt. rod with a fly reel and line; plus an Orvis pack rod travel case and much more.

The **program** will be the *“Essence of Fly Fishing”* presented by **Greg Mentzer**. This presentation describes the aspects which make fly fishing a lifetime sport. The program is set to a musical sound track and utilizes two projectors with one image dissolving into the next, viewed on one screen. The program quality is outstanding.

Greg and his wife Carol own and operate Montana River Guides, a fly fishing guide service, based in Craig, Montana. Greg has been a fisherman for over 40 years, specializing in fly fishing Montana trout waters since 1978. He’s a licensed Montana fishing outfitter, a Federation of Fly Fishers certified fly casting instructor, an outdoor writer and a photographer.

Newsletter Committee Report

Chairman: Matt Kofroth

The newsletter committee wants to remind all DTU members that they can still register to receive the monthly Mayflyer by e-mail or to check it out online. This simple act will help DTU by defraying cost for printing and mailing copies to all members. If this sounds like something you would be interested in please contact us so we can get your e-mail and take you off the mailing list. You will be helping us save money and more importantly you will be conserving our natural resource with less paper products. Thanks in advance.

Education Committee Report

Chairman: Dave Chalfant

The fishing day for the athletes of the Lancaster County Special Olympics was canceled this year by the Lancaster County Special Olympics Committee. I'm sure this was a real disappointment for a number of the Special Olympics participants as well as for a number of Donegal TU volunteers who look forward to this event each year. Hopefully we can resume our participation in this event next year.

Membership Committee Report

Chairman: Jim Stephens



Back row left to right - James Cowhey, Larry Ziegler, John Heiselman
Front row left to right - John Putt, Jack Harf

We continue to grow, total membership now numbers **508**. Welcome to the following new members: **Glenn Edwards** from Elizabethtown, **Randy Good** from Adamstown, **Ken Beears** from New Holland, and **Walter Demoise** from Lititz.

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Fly Of The Month "George's Steelhead Caddis" Created by: George McGinnis



Recipe:

Hook: Daiichi 2571 Boss Steelhead; **Size:** 6 to 8; **Thread:** Chartreuse 6.0; **Body:** Peacock Krystal Flash; **Head:** Chartreuse; **Hackle:** Black Estaz
George McGinnis, from Parksburg, PA, is the originator of this fly. He created it based on his observations of caddis in the Salmon River (NY). You can view it first hand at *The Evening Rise*.

WHAT'S NEW AT:

Lancaster County Conservation District:

by Matthew Kofroth, Watershed Specialist

The Lancaster County Conservation District would like to thank Donegal Trout Unlimited and its volunteers for all their support and time they provided toward the Swarr Run Stream Restoration Project. DTU and its members helped out in many ways including, donating plants for a riparian buffer for the project, obtaining hog slats for the cattle crossing for the project, and volunteering time and manpower for installing plants and the hog slats. Without the efforts of DTU this project would have cost a lot more and may not have been completed. Thank you DTU for your efforts.

Here are some before and after pictures of the Swarr Run project.



September 13th riparian buffer planting with DTU volunteers and the United Way Day of Caring volunteers

3 Month Chapter Planner

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<u>Month</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Date & Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Subject</u>
October	Board Meeting	Wed. 10/8 -7:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Normal meeting
	Chapter Meeting	Wed. 10/15 6:00 PM Social Hour Dinner @ 7:00 PM	Four Seasons Golf Course Clubhouse	October Fest! Greg Mentzer "Essence of Fly Fishing"
November	Board Meeting	Wed. 11/12 -7:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Normal meeting
	Chapter Meeting	Wed. 11/19-7:00 PM	Quality Inn & Suites Oregon Pike	Don Baylor "Arctic Char, Grayling, and Dolly Varden"
December	Board Meeting	Wed. 12/10 -7:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Normal Meeting
	Chapter Meeting	Wed. 12/17-7:00 PM	Quality Inn & Suites Oregon Pike	Ray Ellis "Fishing the Salmon River"

Swarr Run Stream Restoration Project

(Continued from page 8)

operator of the backhoe who donated his services for the day. And thanks to **Bob Kutz** for ordering and getting the hog slats onsite for the project. Thanks to all involved.



Ben Girard from Flyway Excavating in the Backhoe, Henry Bazella supervising

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Mayflyer

Swarr Run Stream Restoration Project

by Matt Kofroth

On behalf of the Lancaster County Conservation District we would like to thank Donegal Trout Unlimited for their involvement with the Swarr Run Stream Restoration Project. DTU volunteers offered their services installing hog slats for several cattle crossings along the site. Several brave DTU volunteers battled the elements to install two of the four cattle crossings on Saturday September 27th. Due to the wet conditions on site, two additional crossings will need to be installed after the ground freezes this winter. So keep your eyes open for additional volunteering opportunities.

Special thanks go out to **Case New Holland, Inc.** for donating the service of their Model LS180 Skid Steer Loader to the project. Thanks to **Brad Clubb** from **Flyway Excavating** for donating a backhoe

for the project as well. Thanks to **Ben Girard** the



From Left to Right: Fred Wiegand; Matt Kofroth;
Henry Bazella; Matt Bazella. Kevin Fausey is in the Loader

(Continued on page 7)