

Mayflyer

October 2006

V35-15

www.donegaltu.org

The Monthly Publication of



Next
Monthly
Meeting

BACKCASTS

Wild Trout Project by Bob Wyle

Wednesday
October 18th
6 PM

Four Seasons
Golf Course
Clubhouse
Landisville, PA

Program
"Arctic Fishing
In The Yukon"
by
Chris Frangiosa

Upcoming
Chapter
Activities

October Fest

Wednesday
October 18th

Four Seasons
Golf Course
Clubhouse
Landisville, PA

6 PM Social Hour
6:45 PM Dinner

Food, Fun, &
Prizes

Can a degraded coldwater stream be cleaned up and brought back to the point it can support a population of wild trout? To answer this question about Lititz Run the Donegal Chapter decided to run an experiment and stock brown trout fingerlings with clipped fins to determine how many fish could survive in Lititz Run if they are left to their own resources and are not fed trout chow.

On Thursday 9/7 Cedar Springs Hatchery delivered 1500 brown trout fingerlings to an experimental site on Lititz Run. The trout were transferred to a holding pen in Lititz Run until their fins could be clipped by volunteers.

A total of **22 volunteers** showed up to help clip trout fins. The tricky part was figuring out how to sedate the trout so volunteers could control them to clip the adipose fins. **Dr. Bob Bachman** used a trial and error method to determine how many drops of clove oil to add to a bucket of water so the fish were a little sleepy but not to the point of harming them. Once that was done the process went very well.

Volunteers added the trout to buckets of clove oil and water and then while the fish were sedated used a sharp scissors to clip off the adipose fin of each trout. They were then placed into a clean bucket of water with no clove oil and carried upstream and downstream to be released.

We initially thought it would take several hours spread over two days to complete everything. However with all the help we had the process went so smoothly and quickly that we completely finished clipping all the fish in just one hour. We know the fish we planted were doing well because just 30 minutes after we finished we could see them rising and sipping midges off of the surface of Lititz Run!

Thank you to the volunteers who helped with this project; **Harold Alleman, Bob Bachman, Wayne**

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

Boggs, Bob Bollinger, Dave Chalfant, Ted Downs, Chuck Elmer, Jack Harf, Matt Kofroth, Terry Landis, Bill Middleton, Glen Nephin, Jim Stephens, Scott Trefny, Paul Wadell, John Ward, Jesse Wilson, Brad Wilson, Greg Wilson, Vickie Wilson, and Larry Zimmerman.

A special thank you goes to **Dr. Bob Bachman** for supervising the project and for figuring out how to sedate the fish without harming them. Another special thank you goes to **Jim Stephens** for building the holding pen.

So what comes next in the experiment? First of all the fish will not be fed for the next two years. The smart fish will find food and survive. Many fish will be eaten by predators but some will find cover and avoid predation. Fishing will not be permitted in the experimental area for the next two years. At the end of year one and at the end of year two we will shock the experimental section and count the fish we find with clipped fins.

Hopefully we will find a good number of fish that survived after one year. Assuming some fish make it we will add some gravel in the experimental area at the end of year one to create spawning beds. In two years if we find fish with clipped fins we will have answered part of the question of wild trout surviving in Lititz Run. If we find fingerling brown trout in Lititz Run several years from now we will have completely answered the question.

In 1992 when we began work to clean up Lititz Run, restored stream banks, planted trees in the riparian zone, installed fences to keep cattle out of the creek and made other improvements who would have dared to think that one day we would have trout reproducing and living wild in Lititz Run. If it can happen in Lititz Run how many other streams could this happen to in Pennsylvania?



WHAT'S EMERGING!

President's Report:

by **Bob Kutz**

Segloch Run

Donegal TU has partnered with the Furnace Run/Segloch Watershed Association to build several stream improvements on Segloch Run at the Fox Farm. We recently built two modified mud sills while a third was built by the kids attending the annual Lancaster County Conservation School in July. The design was completed and supervised by Karl Lutz of the PA Fish & Boat Commission. The assigned work days were August 12th and 19th. Several DTU volunteers showed up to help. It's amazing how much work can be accomplished when you have the right amount of volunteers, equipment & machinery in place for the scheduled work day (see Bob Wyble's photos of the construction on our web site. Just enter the site, click on "Photo Library", then on "Construction Projects" for a complete review). There are still 12 more projects that need to be completed on the Segloch Run site. We are waiting for the Watershed Association to contact us about the construction dates to complete the projects. We will place the dates on the web site and in the newsletter as soon as we confirm them. I want to thank all who volunteered their time to this project

Lititz Run

The board recently approved spending \$3,000 for rock and equipment rental for Lititz Run. There are several places on the Baum and Wendrick farms where the banks are showing signs of erosion from the June flood. **Harold Alleman** has volunteered his time to use our skid steer loader to place the rocks along eroded banks where necessary. We used over 200 tons of rocks and we still need more to finish the job. We will also need to rent a backhoe to help place the larger rocks for improving fish habitat. Again, check our web site for future work party days on Lititz Run.

Trout Stocking

DTU stocked 2,500 fingerling Brown Trout (~5" long) into Lititz Run on September 8th. We put 1,500 trout in the Wetland Farm stretch while the other 1,000 were stocked in the Conservancy and the lower stretch of Lititz Run. See Bob Wyble's "Wild Trout Project" report for more information on the stocking of these fish. I am very anxious to see how the that project comes out.

Chapter Meetings

Our Program Chairman, Ted Downs, has put together another great list of speakers for our monthly meetings. Look for a great meeting on **Donegal Spring Creek in September. Kurt Enk**, President of the Donegal Fish and Conservation Association, and a DTU member, will inform us about the hot fishing spots, as well as the needs and overall health of this beautiful stream. Our annual **October Fest** this year will feature a great program by **Chris Frangiosa**, manager of the TCO. Fly Shop's Main Line store. Chris is an accomplished photographer and will present an excellent slide show on a three week excursion on fishing Canada's Yukon Province. See below and page 3 for more details.

October Fest - 10/18/06

Our annual **October Fest** will be held once again at the **Four Seasons Golf Course Clubhouse** in **Landisville** on **October 18th**. Enck's Catering of Manheim will serve a buffet style, all you can eat, dinner. The cost is \$20.00 per person payable in advance to Wayne Boggs (see Wayne's address just to the right). A **cocktail hour** starts at **6 PM** and **dinner** will begin at **6:45 PM**. There will be a raffle for **two fly rods and reels** as well as other great fly fishing gear. See you there!

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COMMITTEE REPORTS



October Program

Chairman - Ted Downs

The program for our annual **October Fest** will be "**The Untouched Territory - Arctic Fishing in the Yukon Province**" by Chris Frangiosa, TCO Main Line Fly Shop Manager. Join Chris on his three week expedition into the Yukon Territory. This area of the world holds so many wonders that on any given day you cannot possibly absorb everything around you. The landscapes are breathtaking, the air is clean and within all of this runs river and lake systems teeming with giant Pike, Lake Trout and Grayling. This is truly the fly-fisherman's paradise of the freshwater north. See you there!

Conservation Committee

Chairman - Greg Wilson

Mark Metzler of Rettew Associates presented us with a draft of the Conowingo Creek TMDL Implementation Plan. The draft will be reviewed for any modifications by DEP. Hopefully, we will be able to apply for grant monies for implementation of these projects. Mark Metzler recommended that we apply for funding for large, contiguous stretches of stream. If we would receive continuous funding the project could still take approximately **fifteen years** to reach the target goals of phosphorus and sediment reduction.

Some of our chapter members have had some free time and have taken the opportunity to repair some of the structures on lower Lititz Run. Our chapter purchased ten loads of rock to be used for these projects. They should be completed by the end of September. In addition to the 1500 trout to be fin-clipped and released in the Wetland Farm Study Area, the Board has decided to purchase an additional 1000 4"-5" brown trout that will be released in Millport Conservancy and lower Lititz Run.

The PA Fish and Boat Commission will be purchasing the logs and rock materials for the restoration project on the Segloch releasing our chapter from this expense. Our monies will be used for equipment rental and other items needed for the Furnace Run/Segloch Watershed project. The area to be worked on is downstream from the Yummerdall Road bridge directly below the Gary Landis farm.

DTU has also volunteered to supply **\$2,000** to the Donegal Fish and Conservation Association for the purchase of rock for stream work on Donegal Creek.

Fundraising Committee

Chairman - Dan Brandt

The location of the Spring Banquet for 2007 is the **Lancaster Host Resort** and the date is **March 10th 2007** (you all know the place - President Bush just visited and had dinner there, so its gotta be good!). The festivity time may change, but only if we can get the comedian entertainment that we are currently looking into. A few different ideas have come up as far as new games. One was a casting contest; another was a big money wheel. The committee is still looking into other ideas. The **Ultimate Fishing/Vacation Ticket** is complete. The ticket will be out just in time for the October Fest. TCO Fly Shops will be the destination people for the fly fishing trip and Newsy Travel will be the destination people for the vacation spots, if you choose a vacation instead of the fly fishing trip. **Or** you may want to just walk away with \$3500 cash in your pocket! Only 250 tickets will be sold and the cost is \$50 each. Each ticket will contain 4 numbers corresponding to the daily PA Lottery number. One lucky winner will have that nights PA Lottery Number and will win their choice of a fly fishing trip to anywhere in the world that you want to go (not to exceed \$4,500); or a vacation trip to anywhere in the world that you want to go (not to exceed \$4,500); or \$3,500 in cash! That's a nice ticket! And the chances are nice too. Keep the date open to attend the Spring Banquet. There are lots more changes in the works and more info to follow in the next Mayflyer issue.

Tree Nursery Committee

Chairman - Kevin Fausey

This nursery update will be short, to the point BUT extremely important. At the end of this year my term as Tree Nursery Chairman is ending. DTU and I are in search of a member to step forward and head this significant conservation program.

If an active member can not be found, we may need to look outside of our 500 member organization and hand the operations over. That, in my option, would be a last resort. Please contact me if you're at all interested. I'll answer questions and give you an idea of the job description.

Reforestation and establishing riparian buffers in Lancaster County is the purpose of our tree nursery. Of Lancaster County's 635,450 acres, less than 16% are forested. Any step toward increasing that number will improve the environment for us and all of our native wildlife.

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Fly Of The Month

“Green-Butt Black Bear”
submitted by Ross Purnell
from www.flyfisherman.com



Description

An Atlantic Salmon fly that has adapted itself in many forms for East and West Coast Steelheading.

Recipe:

- HOOK:** #4-10 Wilson salmon hook.
THREAD: Black 70 denier UTC.
TAG: Flat Mylar silver tinsel.
BUTT: Chartreuse or green Uni-Stretch .
RIB: Small silver French oval tinsel.
BODY: Black floss.
WING: Black bear (original) or black squirrel tail hair.
THROAT: Black hackle
HEAD: Sally Hansen's Hard as Nails.

Tying Instructions

I prefer black squirrel tail over black bear hair. The green butt makes this fly distinct, but the size and shape are the most important qualities. You should always have a selection of slim, low-water wets in your fall Steelhead selection to fish with a riffle hitch using a greased- line presentation. I rarely search for fish this way (I prefer a dry) but once I find a willing fish, a slim Black Bear like this one or a similarly dressed Blue Charm, or Green-Butt Skunk is hard for a Steelhead to resist.



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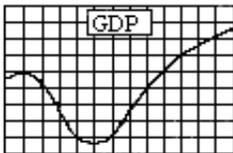


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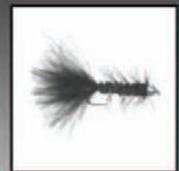
*Thank you, DTU,
for your continued
support and volunteers!*

Lynn W. Myers, Executive Director
737 East Millport Road, Lititz, PA 17543

YAGER'S FLIES

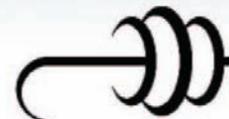
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WHAT'S NEW AT:

Lancaster County Conservation District

By Matthew W. Kofroth, Watershed Specialist

What a couple of months it has been. We experienced record rainfall in late June followed by a substantial drought period throughout August. With fall on our doorstep what can be next, SNOW? One thing that is always constant is watershed education and funding for Lancaster County stream projects. Here's what's happening.

Cocalico Creek Watershed Association

It's been a very busy summer for volunteers in the Cocalico Creek Watershed Association. After several highly successful stream cleanup activities, roadside cleanups, and educational programs the group has received word on two grant awards. First, the Cocalico Creek group was awarded \$16,000 from the Chesapeake Bay Commission and Senator Noah Wenger for a feasibility study on the Harnish Run Watershed. The study will look at the possibility of relocating Harnish Run to alleviate flooding issues along Peartown Rd. This relocation study will also benefit the stream corridor and ecosystem by restoring the stream to its natural water course. In addition, the endangered bog turtles around the project would benefit from a more stable and constant water source. It would appear this project would be win-win for all involved.

In late August the Cocalico Creek Watershed Association was informed they also were the recipients of a 2006 Chesapeake Bay Small Watershed Grant. The \$35,000 grant will assist the group in conducting a watershed wide assessment of the Cocalico Creek watershed. The assessment would prioritize future projects for the group that would improve water quality, stormwater, and overall watershed health. The assessment will act as a blueprint for the watershed group for years to come and will help them address highly problematic areas throughout their watershed. Once completed, the assessment will ensure that future generations can enjoy the Cocalico Creek Watershed for years to come.

Northern Lancaster County Watershed Educational Parade Float

With Farm Show and Fair season upon us the watershed associations of Northern Lancaster County have embarked on an educational watershed parade float. The

parade float will be showcased in several Northern Lancaster County community parades this fall. The float is a way for local watershed organizations to promote their activities, groups, and conservation message to community members. The watershed float depicts a typical Lancaster County landscape highlighting watershed conservation practices, like stream bank fencing, riparian buffers, and stormwater measures. Sponsor watershed groups of the float include: Chiques Creek Watershed Alliance, Lititz Run Watershed Alliance, Donegal Trout Unlimited, Furnace Run/Segloch Run Watershed Alliance, Hammer Creek Watershed Association, and Cocalico Creek Watershed Association. In addition to the float, volunteers from the various watershed organizations will be handing out educational watershed bookmarks to parade participants to promote watershed stewardship. Check out this very innovative project this fall and support their efforts.



Watershed Parade Float in Lititz's 250th Anniversary Parade

TU National

Trout Unlimited's Coldwater Conservation Fund (CCF) supports scientific and economic research and analysis and science-based watershed restoration projects that further TU's mission. CCF projects provide accurate, timely information that make TU a more credible and effective advocate for Trout and Salmon. CCF projects are funded by foundations, corporations and individuals, who become members of the CCF with a contribution of \$1,000 or more annually.



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. 10/11-7:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Normal Meeting
	October Fest Chapter Meeting	Wed. 10/18 Social Hour at 6 PM Dinner at 6:45PM	Four Seasons Golf Course Clubhouse	“Arctic Fishing in the Yukon” by Chris Frangiosa
November	Board Meeting	Wed. 11/8-7:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Normal Meeting
	Chapter Meeting	Wed. 11/15-7:00 PM	Quality Inn & Suites	“Steelhead Fishing on Washington’s Olympic Peninsula” by Gary Roulston and Greg Wilson
December	Board Meeting	Wed. 12/13-7:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Normal Meeting
	Chapter Meeting	Wed. 12/20-7:00 PM	Quality Inn & Suites	Fly Tying Demo with Ed Kraft

Elk Springs West Virginia Trip

(Continued from page 8)

Chuck and John had a lot of success in the pool using size 28’s on top.

Jiff and I had better luck in the riffles and pools downstream. There we would nymph until there was surface action. A size 16 CDC dun worked well for me on top. I could also see to tie it on....

We did make a 20 mile drive over back roads to a feeder stream, Slately Run. No success there but worth the try anyway. We did learn a new term, however, “Low Water Bridge”. This a low passage in a gravel road over a stream bed which is passable only in low water.

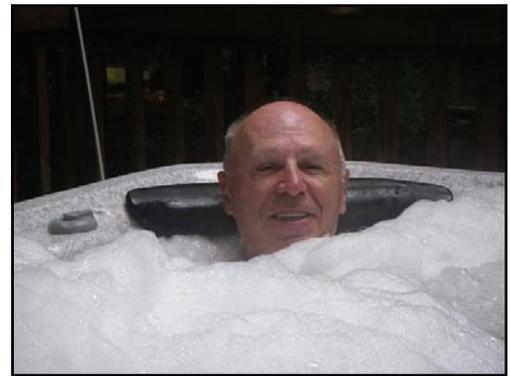
I’m not sure if it was the time of year, but we had the stream almost to ourselves. We had three women on a getaway for overnight in the cabin next to us. They were not fishing. We ran into just two other guys fishing the whole time.

Would we go again? - Without question, yes. The fishing, accommodations, and size 32 flies make this a memorable trip. You can bet that we will be soliciting this trip again for our March banquet.

For information check the website www.elkspringsflyshop.com.



Elk Springs West Virginia



John Ward takes a mid-day break



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Mayflyer

Elk Springs West Virginia Trip by Glen Nephin

It's hard to believe three months had passed since four of us had bid on the Elk Springs trip. Chuck Elmer, John Ward, and Jiff Daveler won the bid. July 12th found us headed to Elk Spring in Monteverville, WVA.

A 7½ hour ride through scenic West Virginia probably gave us more windshield time than we bargained for, but our accommodations more than made up for the time. We had a cabin on a small island in a fork in Elk Springs, with one large living room, kitchen, bath and good size bedroom downstairs. Upstairs was a loft sleeping area for three with another large bath.

The log cabin had a nice front porch and was easily accessible to a large pool and other sections of the stream. Did I mention the outdoor hot tub? This was a first for all of us and we did take advantage of it. We fished through the morning into mid afternoon. We had lunch and took a break by jumping into the tub which overlooked the stream. Then it was back to the stream.

Elk Creek is a spring creek with freestone

characteristics. Wading is easy at this time of year. The stream has lots of long runs and small pools. There is a large pool alive with cruising fish. The property has several miles of stream below the pool with easy access from paths.

Above the lodge Elk Creek goes underground for six miles. It then bubbles back up in springs right on the property. It was mid-July and the water was in the mid fifties. The air temperature was surprisingly comfortable in the 70's and low 80's. We did get some rain throughout our stay. In fact, our last morning brought a downpour. With that we had breakfast and came home. Brookies, browns and rainbows abound. The fish are strong and plentiful in the pool. There are a lot of fish in the 12-16 inch range. There are also a good number in the cruiser class over 20 inches.

They are finicky to say the least. The shop sells flies down to size 32. You almost couldn't see it to believe it.

(Continued on page 7)