As I write this it is the second week in November and I am getting ready to leave for a steelhead tip to the Cattaraugus. Several weeks ago Gary Roulston, Wayne Boggs and I spent several days steelheading on Elk Creek in Erie. Elk was the only Creek which had water at the time. As you can imagine it was somewhat crowded. We did manage to catch, or rather hook up, a fair number of fish. The lack of water in the area is of concern. However a good rain or two will cure that and get the other streams going.

So why write this so early? I need to make the deadline and can’t do it when I am gone. We are making an effort to get the Mayflyer to you earlier in the month so that you know what is taking place.

**MILLPORT BADGES**

These should be available mid December. The easiest way to get one is to pick it up at a meeting. We will be selling 150 badges. The cost is $20.00. Last year we increased the number of badges from 100 to 150 and sold out by May.

If you can’t make our meeting, contact Faye Haering for a badge. Faye’s number is 285-2572.

**PRESIDENT’S AWARDS**

At our Oktoberfest it was a pleasure to hand out the President’s awards to Dan Brandt, Chuck Elmer and Faye Haering. In November we presented the award to Dr. John Bowman. These folks are well deserving of the award. They are very supportive of DTU, put in many hours on our behalf and make an impact in the organization.

We are always in need of volunteers. Opportunities exist throughout the year in our many activities such as Big Brother/Big Sister Fishing Derby, the Lancaster County Youth Field Day, and Special Olympics Fishing Derby. We will be having stream work done on several streams throughout the year.

Our tree nursery can always use a hand for a couple of hours a week.

We need volunteers for our upcoming banquet.

So lots of opportunities exist to volunteer. What’s in it for you? A sense of satisfaction in being involved in your community. It is a way to give back. It’s also a way to meet a great group of people.

The best ways to get involved are to come to the monthly meeting, check the website or give Faye Haering a call.

As you may know, several years ago the Board of Directors put in term limits. The purpose was to insure that there were fresh faces and ideas on the board.

The downside of this was that we risked losing the historical knowledge of our organization, the experience, and the enthusiasm of people who made our organization what it is today.

The board has responded to this by establishing Advisors to the board. This will allow us to take advantage of their expertise and keep them in the loop.

I’d like to wish you and your families a happy and safe holiday. I look forward to seeing you at our meetings.

Glen
Hammer Creek Repairs

The Hammer Creek Watershed Association has completed a recent stream repair project with the help and support of Donegal TU. The site is directly below the Lincoln Rd. Bridge in Clay Township. The sharp left turn was blown out two years ago in a rain storm and has been eroding ever since.

The bend has now been filled in with large rock buried in the bank with smaller rock in front. In addition two rock cross vanes downstream that were no longer working properly were reset. Flyway Excavating did a fine job and seeded and strawed the site upon completion. They also donated most of the rock used in the project. Members of the HCWA have since replanted the shrubs and trees that were moved aside to gain access to the site.

**Gary Trostle, Pres., HCWA**

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Hammer Creek post-flood

The Results of the Project
Committee Reports

BANQUET
Please mark your calendars for the DTU Spring Fundraising Banquet!
The date is Saturday April 5th, 2008. The location will again be the Lancaster Host Resort’s spacious Expo & Exhibit Facility. Doors will open at 5:00 PM, and dinner will be at 6:30 PM. The format for the banquet will be much the same as last year including live entertainment, fantastic dinner buffet, raffles, silent auctions, vocal auction, buckets, baskets and more. Last year, the banquet had record attendance! We raised more than $30,000 to benefit cold water resources in Lancaster County. Please plan to join us. Invite your friends! There will be more details to follow in upcoming Mayflyer editions, and as always, you will receive your registration forms and Super Fundraiser tickets in the mail. We hope to see you there.

DAN BRANDT - BANQUET CHAIRMAN

PROGRAMS

DECEMBER MEETING
Dec. 19, 2007 at 7:00 PM (Quality Inn, 2363 Oregon Pike, Lancaster, PA)
Topic: “Fly Tying Night”
Presenters: Ed Kraft and Chuck Elmer (DTU Members)
Come and see Ed and Chuck perform their magic on a hook!
Ed Kraft will be showing us some new and innovative ideas he has given to the fly tying world. Don't miss the great show Ed puts on! Ed is listed in Field & Stream Black’s Directory and when I did a “Google” on Ed I found this very interesting comment from a fisherman in Oregon of all places. It proves Ed has a big following around the World.
“I caught the largest fish of the day (on a crayfish pattern tied by Pennsylvanian Ed Kraft)”
Ed Kraft’s Custom Fishing Flies
133 Crestmont Ave.
Lancaster, PA 17602
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Fax: 717-392-4222
Est: 1995
Custom & commercial trout, bass & saltwater flies
Chuck Elmer will be showing us his special Trico patterns for the Tully. Here is a video of Chuck and the proof of his great skill is forever captured for us to see.
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EM0_rmMsmwU

Chris writes:
“Over the past several years extensive work has been done at Franklin & Marshall relating to the ‘Legacy Sediment’ concept. I feel (and so do many others) that this research is very important and will ultimately change the concepts surrounding restoration and conservation of cold water fisheries in the region.” A project with these new ideas is just starting near E-town.

JANUARY MEETING...
Jan. 16, 2007 at 7:00 PM (Quality Inn, 2363 Oregon Pike, Lancaster, PA)
Topic: “Bone and Permit Fishing in the Seychelles”
Presenter: Bob Bachman (PFBC Commissioner)
Come and get warm as Bob takes us on a bone and permit trip to the Seychelles. They are located off the East coast of Africa in a paradise island setting. Check out the web site below for more info.
http://www.nwalesflyfishingschool.com/fishing_holidays_seychelles_mauretius.shtml
Bob hosted our Aug. 2007 meeting at his home on Blue Lake near Rheamstown and I heard about this trip and twisted his arm to come and tell us about it. Bob is a new member of the PFBC Commission and we are glad he is!
You can learn about his work with the PFBC at his web site:
http://www.fish.state.pa.us/comm_committees.htm

RUSS GUTHRIE

NEWSLETTER
We will be adjusting the production schedule for the Mayflyer over the next few editions to ensure that everyone receives their newsletter prior to the next scheduled meeting of DTU. Please bear with us while we try to find the right combination of delivery schedule and timeliness of information.

Of course you could make that even simpler by agreeing to receive your copy of the Mayflyer online! As an added bonus, that version is in glorious technicolor and contains clickable links to all websites and email addresses. Most importantly, you’d be saving DTU a great deal of money which we could put into coldwater stream preservation and restoration rather than printing and mailing of another (hopefully minimal) drain on our planet’s resources. Simply send Wayne Boggs an email at Bluedun@comcast.net and ask to be switched to the online newsletter. As soon as I deliver an issue to the printer, it will be posted to the website and you’ll be sent an email telling you it’s available to download. While everyone else is waiting for the printer and postman to deliver their copy, you’ll have already read yours. What could be simpler?

MARK McMASTER - EDITOR
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Many of you may have been hearing about the Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (REAP) and might be asking what is this new program, how can it help me, and will it improve the quality of our local streams. The following article was written by Lamonte Garber of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and explains this innovative new program.

The Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (REAP) allows farmers to earn valuable, not to mention transferable, tax credits in exchange for “Best Management Practices” (BMPs) that will enhance farm production and protect natural resources. What’s more, contributions toward these projects made by any taxpayer, including businesses large or small, can also qualify for REAP tax credits.

This past July, the Pennsylvania General Assembly and Governor Ed Rendell approved Act 55, which included REAP. This proposal received broad, bipartisan support from legislative sponsors. Despite a very lean state budget, these leaders helped secure passage of REAP, which allows the state to issue up to $10 million in tax credits per year.

**TAX CREDITS FOR CONSERVATION AND AGRICULTURE: NOT JUST FOR FARMERS!**

Federal, state, and local environmental regulations affect all businesses. As new challenges emerge, value and costs are critical to farm operations. To compete successfully, farmers must add, modify or eliminate equipment and facilities. At the same time, farmers lack the ability to pass on increased costs to consumers. REAP offers state tax credits to help producers recoup some of the costs of improvements such as conservation and nutrient management plans, barnyard enhancements, stream buffers, and other BMPs. The REAP tax credits enable farmers to reduce their own state taxes, dollar for dollar, for up to fifteen years. Those with limited tax liability can sell and transfer the tax credits to other taxpayers.

A non-farming entity can participate in two ways: Direct Purchase or Sponsorship. Under a Direct Purchase, a farmer can sell the tax credits directly to a non-farming entity once the farmer has completed an approved project within the program. Alternatively under a Sponsorship, a non-farming entity can sponsor a REAP project by financing a portion of the project costs up front. In turn, that business receives the tax credit instead of the farmer.

The effective date of the statewide program is October 24, 2007. Only eligible BMPs completed after the effective date can earn a tax credit, and credits are issued on a first-come, first-served basis. An applicant can submit a pre-application that, if approved, reserves the appropriate amount of tax credits in the applicant’s name. The tax credit will then be awarded upon completion of the project. The maximum tax credit available to an agricultural operation is $150,000 over the life of the program. Nevertheless, the amount of tax credits that can be granted to a sponsor is limited only by the sponsor’s tax liability. A sponsor can fund as much as they choose, but will only get tax credits up to the level of their tax liability for that tax year. A sponsor cannot, however, give more than $150,000 to any one agricultural operation.

**WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR REAP?**

Farmers must have a current conservation plan for their operation that meets state erosion control guidelines. Some will also need a nutrient management plan. Farms that don’t have conservation or nutrient management plans are still eligible for tax credits to cover the development of such plans as long as the plans are developed at the same time or before any other REAP eligible projects are completed. A farmer who receives project funds from another government program may also qualify for REAP tax credits, but the tax credits cannot be applied to the same portion of project costs covered by government funds.

Any business with Pennsylvania tax liability can participate as a sponsor. REAP tax credits can be applied against Personal Income Tax, Corporate Net Income Tax, Capital Stock and Franchise Tax, Bank Shares Tax, Title Insurance Company Premiums Tax, Insurance Premiums Tax, and Mutual Thrift Institutions Tax.

**USE OF REAP TAX CREDIT:**

- Landowner implements BMPs and uses the tax credit against his or her state taxes in the first year, using the remaining credits for up to 15 years, OR
- Landowner implements BMPs and uses the tax credit against his or her state taxes in the first year, selling or transferring the remaining tax credit to another taxpayer (brokers can assist in such transfers), OR
- Another taxpayer sponsors a project by paying a percentage of the BMP costs (these percentages appear below), then claiming the tax credit for that amount instead of the landowner.

This historic REAP legislation will go a long way in helping the economic stability of Pennsylvania’s number one industry-agriculture. A special thank you is extended to a coalition of more than 70 farm, business, sportsmen, and environmental supporters who worked hard to secure this innovative program. Important work still lies ahead. Farmers and
3 Month Chapter Planner

Month          Event          Date & Time          Place                  Subject
December       Board Meeting  Wed. 12/12-7 PM       Millport Conservancy    Normal Meeting
              Chapter Meeting  Wed. 12/19-6 PM       Quality Inn & Suites   Fly Tying
January        Board Meeting  Wed. 1/16-7 PM        Millport Conservancy    Normal Meeting
              Chapter Meeting  Wed. 1/23 -6 PM        Quality Inn & Suites   “Bone & Permit in the Seychelles”
February       Board Meeting  Wed. 2/13-7 PM        Millport Conservancy    Normal Meeting
              Chapter Meeting  Wed. 2/20 -6 PM        Quality Inn & Suites   Bob Clouser

Thanks, DTU

October 17th, 2007
Dear DTU Members,

I am terribly sorry for not getting a thank you letter to you sooner but I have been very busy. First and foremost I would like to thank you for sponsoring me to attend the Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth camp. It has been a great honor to be selected to go. At first I did not know what to expect exactly when I got there but it turned out to be one of the best weeks of my summer. It was full of information, new people and ideas. I came out of the camp as a better angler and conservationist.

The location on the Allenberry Playhouse was awesome. The food was so good and I think I ate twice my body weight every meal. What can be better than eating and then spending an evening fly fishing with some newly met friends! I caught a total of 3 fish while I was there which was pretty good for me. I am only a beginner but I am learning! Once again I would like to thank you for giving me this wonderful opportunity and I hope that you will keep offering this contest in the future so that others may be as lucky as me. Thank you again TU.

Sincerely,
Bryan Thompson

What’s New, continued

businesses throughout Pennsylvania can help make REAP a success by utilizing the program to enhance their operations. Stay on top of important REAP applications and deadlines as well as access the complete law language at the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture’s REAP website. Details of REAP are being finalized this Fall; check the site often for the updates.

Matt Kofroth

Apropos of Nothing: A Nice Brown from the Little Lehigh

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Anna Proper stood out her back door overlooking a sprawl of 60 acres south of Belgrade, which she and her late husband bought in 1987. “Sometimes he grabbed me and gave me a big hug,” Proper said. “He then pointed and said, ‘Do you see that?’” He showed her wildlife, trees and plants, which blanket the couple’s property.

That was Datus Proper’s way: to pay attention to detail. And, with wit and charm, he shared nature’s details with his family, friends and readers.

Datus drowned Sunday evening while fishing Hyalite Creek. An author of four books, Datus also was a regular contributor to Field & Stream magazine and a former U.S. diplomat. He was 69.

He grew up in Yellowstone National Park, before driving his Indian motorcycle to Cornell University in New York to get a degree in English. He then served in the Foreign Service in Angola, Brazil, Portugal and Ireland, where he met Anna.

Monday, Anna and friends of Datus huddled in the author’s office, where many of his books line the shelves and antique fly rods — along with several flies — hang on the wall for display.

“He loved the outdoors, children and his dogs,” said longtime family friend Tammie Jaumotte. “He had a lot of dignity. He had an aura around him that was so different from other people.”

David King, who called Datus his best friend, said the writer “worked at every sentence, so each was packed with extra layers of thought.”

Along with fishing books, Datus wrote about pheasants and a travel guide for Portugal dubbed, “The Last Old Place.”

He trained German shorthair pointers and two of his old dogs, Huck and Trooper, are buried on his land under a tree next to a winding stream. Anna said Datus often fished the stream called Thompson’s Creek, but he referred to it as Humidity Creek in his writings.

“He never went to a stream and said I want to catch a lot of fish,” Anna said. “Instead, he just loved figuring out what the fish were taking.”

King, who was fishing with Datus on Sunday when the author apparently slipped on the rocks on Hyalite Creek and drowned in the shallow water, said he didn’t see what happened.

“My best guess is he slipped on the rocks and hit his head,” King said. While standing out her back door, Anna said every time she begins to cry about losing Datus she remembers the last thing he was doing.

“That’s what I think about,” Anna said. “That when he died he was doing what he loved.”

Datus Proper finished a rough copy of a book on hunting before he died. His wife, Anna, said she is hoping to publish the writer’s fifth book. Along with Anna, Datus leaves behind a son Scott Proper, 26, who is attending Oregon State University.