Donegal Trout Unlimited

What’s Emerging

President’s Message

Donegal TU is a mature TU Chapter, having survived and grown after humble beginnings over 40 years ago. Many of our founders are gone now and our ranks are mostly seniors with few youth showing up in the membership roles. The PA Fish & Boat Commission has had declining fishing license sales for years and has been trying to change that trend by interesting youth in fishing. Our Trout in the Classroom program is educating youth to care about the connection between trout, water resources, the environment and themselves. This program, which added two more county schools this year, hopefully will contribute to an interest in fishing as well.

So what has our youth occupied today? Perhaps it’s video games, blogging and texting among other things. It’s a very different world growing up today and trying to understand it is even more difficult for many of us. So the question is, who is going to step up and be the future of DTU?

Well, I’m pleased to report that a growing interest in conservation is appearing here in Lancaster County. There seems to be a renewed interest in the environment with a demand dictated by a newly concerned public awareness not seen before. F&M and Elizabethtown Colleges have environmental courses with field trips to the Millport Conservancy hosted by The Conservancy and Donegal TU. In October two classes had field trips to Millport with another one scheduled in November. The interest from these students is encouraging enough that we are hoping to see an expansion of this relationship with the colleges with a result of some trickle down DTU membership.

DTU has always been considered a “fishing club” with most members primarily anglers, but perhaps the future of DTU will come from a new breed with a calling purely in the direction of conservation and the environment. We are living in a fast-paced world today and our daily lives are so busy we rarely seem to have time for anything above and beyond our basic needs. Here’s hoping the future remains strong for DTU with our youth becoming a part of it. In the end, membership totals mean much less than the number of active members so please get involved, because we need your active support.

In the last issue of the Mayflyer I asked for a volunteer to feed the fish in the Conservancy. Well, thanks to an overwhelming number of volunteers we are set with plenty of help in that department. Larry Zimmerman has done that duty for years and needed a break so Roy Drinkwater will take over in November. If Roy is busy we have an additional list of five more helpers to call on. That was a great response and for those members having some extra time please consider helping on our 2009 banquet committee.

Ted Downs

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**Bass Pro Shops & Santa**

This year, Bass Pro Shops store in Harrisburg will feature “Santa’s Wonderland”, a 5,400 square foot magical village for the kids comprised of both animated and live elves, Lionel and Bachman old-time model trains area, Fisher Price remote control cars, a Red Ryder laser arcade, a Nerf soft gun range and activity tables where you can write a letter to Santa, color and do fun crafts every weekend and it’s all_ABSOLUTELY_FREE_. Santa will also be in residence there throughout the season.

Customers can get a free 4x6 photo with Santa and his reindeer during the following times:

- Monday - Friday, December 1 - 5: 5 - 9 pm
- Saturday, December 6: 10 am - 9 pm
- Sunday, December 7: 12 - 5 pm
- Monday - Friday, December 8 - 12: 5 - 9 pm
- Saturday, December 13: 10 am - 9 pm
- Sunday, December 14: 12 - 9 pm
- Monday - Saturday: December 15 - 20: 10 am - 9 pm
- Sunday, December 21: 12 - 5 pm
- Monday - Tuesday, December 22 - 23: 10 am - 9 pm
- Wednesday, December 24: 10 am - 5 pm
Due to the cost of printing and mailing our newsletter we are again asking members to give serious consideration to receiving their newsletter via the website. The benefits are threefold. First of all you save the chapter printing and mailing expenses. Secondly we cut down on paper usage so it’s environmentally friendly. Last of all since we print the newsletter every other month you don’t miss out on news and updates when you use our website. For those of you who can do this please email Wayne Boggs (Bluedun@comcast.net) to place you on our email newsletter list. You won’t receive the mailing after that but will get an email notifying you that the newsletter is available for download, typically well in advance of when it would arrive in your mailbox. It will be in full color, contain “clickable” links to any websites or email addresses mentioned in that issue and best of all save the chapter mailing and printing costs.

Mark McMaster

Conservation
Donegal T.U. recently completed a project on the headwaters of Donegal Springs Creek located in Lancaster County. Working with an “Adopt A Stream” grant from the Fish & Boat Commission, D.T.U. built 25 fish enhancement devices throughout a 1,800 foot stretch of stream. Devices such as log & stone deflectors as well as modified mud sills were used to enhance fish holding & spawning capacity. Seeding & tree planting were incorporated to help stabilize the banks.

Our large Conowingo Creek Project is also moving along. The Conowingo Creek is a Class A Wild trout Stream with 118 impaired sites recorded. D.T.U. is working with Rettew Associates to help design & implement construction on 5 sites. The design is completely finished & awaiting permitting. Construction will start in the spring with all 5 projects being completed next year.

D.T.U. will be investigating a possible association with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation to see how we can help implement stream improvement projects with the Amish community.

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**Fly of the Month**

**Queen Jane**

**FLY TIED BY JEFF MORGAN**

Hook: Dai Riki 135, sizes 10-14  
Thread: Black 6/0  
Body: Black 6/0 thread  
Ribbing: Fine silver wire  
Back: Single strand of pearl Flashabou  
Thorax: Peacock herl  
Cheeks: Bright orange Antron or Flexifloss  

**Tying Directions**

1. Tie in black thread near the bend of the hook.  
2. Tie in both Flashabou and fine silver wire with a minimum of wraps. Too many and your fly will have an unsightly ghetto bootie.  
3. Wrap the hook with uniform wraps of black thread to create the thin body. Do not try to give the body a taper.  
4. Here’s the tricky part. Wrap the wire in order to secure Flashabou on back of the fly. This requires some dexterity with the hands and some repositioning, lest the Flashabou roll off to the sides. I try to make about 8 wraps of wire to imitate the body segments — any less and your Flashabou will roll around to the sides of the hook.  
5. Tie off both wire and Flashabou. Trim excess.  
6. Tie in 3 strands of peacock herl and one strand of bright orange Antron.  
7. Wrap peacock to form thorax. Tie off and trim.  
8. Divide yarn into two strands, and work with each separately. Twist the yarn a little bit so it doesn’t flare out, and bring it around the side of the thorax. Tie off. Repeat on the other side. The cheeks should contrast sharply with the thorax, and be about 40% the width of the thorax.  
9. Tie head, whip finish, and add cement.  

This pattern is derived from a number of British principles and is a descendent of the many chironomid patterns sold in London area fly shops.  

The most striking feature of this pattern is its extremely thin body, which is a realistic depiction of the natural. The flash on the back (rather than using it as a rib) may seem unusual, until you look at the fly from the sides. As the fish approaches the chironomid from below and then closes in at the side of the pattern, this tying style provides a tiny bit of flash right when the fish is close and debating whether to strike. This can cause reactionary strikes in fish that would otherwise reject the pattern. Using flash as ribbing can often give too much flash for some fish, and it can desensitize the fish so that the "last second flash" is meaningless.
The Somerset Show is a must-see for the keen fly fisherman. Once you have watched the celebrity fly tiers (including our own Tom Baltz, Bill Skilton and Tim Trexler) give tips as they tie their latest designs and have sorted through the new gear and bargains in the 275 booths, you can attend the seminars given by experts in their fields on a wide range of topics.

Travel in style in a luxury bus and be dropped at the door at about 10am. Be picked up at the door again at 4pm for a restful drive back to Carlisle, with a dinner stop on the way. Arrive home refreshed and invigorated, all for the price of $50.00 a ticket. This includes show entrance (which is $15.00 if you go by yourself).

The bus will leave from Letort Park, East Pomfret Street, Carlisle at 7am on January 24th. Cars may be left in the parking lot between the road and the tennis courts. We'll be stopping at the Holiday Inn at the Grantville Exit (#80) of I81 at around 7:45AM to pick up those who find it more convenient than Carlisle.

Tickets for the trip are limited and will be awarded on a first come first served basis. Please send checks for $50.00 a person, made payable to ‘CVTU’ to CVTU, PO Box 520, Carlisle, PA 17013 and include a phone number and email address so we can contact you in the unlikely event of a snow-driven cancellation (it hasn’t happened yet).

Any questions, please email Paul Rouse at paulrouse@comcast.net or call him at 486-4646. Details of the seminars and exhibitors at the show will soon be posted at:

http://www.flyfishingshow.com/Somerset__NJ.html

The Elizabethtown College Environmental Choices class met on two occasions this fall at the Millport Conservancy. On October 11th and November 15th about 28 students in all took part in field trips to Millport. Mark Mattox, Tom Royer, Scott Trefny and myself explained the role of Donegal TU. Also Lynn and Logan Myers educated them in the function of the Millport Conservancy. On both occasions outdoor cleanup and removal of invasive and unwanted plants was completed as well as thinning some trees near the old dam area.

Photos courtesy Mark Mattox

Paul Rouse

Ted Downs
Oktoberfest Pix

Photos courtesy Bob Wyble
Beginning with the November Meeting (November 19), Donegal Trout Unlimited will no longer meet at Quality Inns & Suites, but will move to the Farm & Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, very near Park City Center. This move was approved by the board in September. This should be a much nicer venue for our meetings, as well as being centrally located. It is hoped the move will make it easier for more of the membership to attend meetings.

If approaching from west of Lancaster: take Rt 30 East to Rt 72 (1st Exit Past Park city)

Turn right at ramp stop sign.

Turn left between Conestoga Marine and Jones Honda dealership.

If approaching from east of Lancaster: take Rt 30 West to Rt 283 West to Rt. 72. Turn left on Rt. 72 going South under the Rt. 30 bypass.

Turn left between Conestoga Marine and Jones Honda dealership.

These maps may also help:

Everyone is encouraged to come and join us in December and see the new "digs".