

Mayflyer

January 2006

V35-11

www.donegaltu.org

The Monthly Publication of



Next
Monthly
Meeting

BACKCASTS

November Chapter Meeting by Dee Lehman

At our November meeting, Fred Bridge, flytyer extraordinaire, York native, and conservationist treated us to a travelogue of his recent trip to Alaska. All of us, at one time or another, have dreamed of fishing there. Fred traveled 22 hours via Anchorage and Dillingham with his friend Ron Hoff and stayed at the Bear Claw Lodge, in the Tikchik state park. Noted for many lakes connected by rivers, they used jetboats to navigate to fishing spots in pursuit of char and grayling. Fred raved about the food and the rates were good too at only \$4200 for 6 nights including fly-ins if that is your preference. The lodge handles 9 people at a time and opens at ice out and closes by the end of September each year.

Fred and Ron were there in the middle of July, "shirtsleeve" weather, so they were early for silver salmon. By 10:30 pm, it was still light outside. Using double rigs of large attractor flies with a copper john or prince nymph as a dropper, Ron and Fred caught large Grayling in the 18 inch range and caught large numbers of fish: 120-150 over the course of 5 days including rainbows, chars, salmon and grayling. Stripped wooly buggers were effective for sockeyes. A couple of Northern Pike were also caught. Although there were moose and caribou around and some bear tracks, no bears were sighted.

The only downside to the trip was near the end as Fred attempted to debark from the boat and slipped, breaking a couple of ribs in the process, making for an agonizingly long plane trip home. Fred is all healed up and can laugh about it now (it did win him the klutz of the year award on the Flyfisherman website) as well as look back on the wonderful memories of his Alaskan adventure.

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

Wednesday
January 18th
7 PM

Quality Inn
Lancaster

Program
Penn's creek
Tour
by
Jonas Price

Upcoming
Chapter
Activities

27th Annual
Spring
Banquet &
Auction

Saturday
April 1st
2006
4:30 PM

Quality Inn &
Suites
2363 Oregon Pike
Lancaster, PA

Trout Unlimited Applauds Withdrawal of Harmful Mining Provisions Public Lands Safe From Firesale

WASHINGTON, DC December 14, 2005:

Rep. Gibbons (R-NV) yesterday pulled provisions from the Reconciliation Bill that would have sold public lands to mining companies and other development interests for \$1,000 an acre.

"This is a great day for all Americans who believe that public lands belong in public hands," said Steve Moyer, Trout Unlimited's Vice President for Government Affairs. "Trout Unlimited members and other sportsmen are deeply supportive of modernizing the 1872 mining law and making it more environmentally friendly. This dialogue should occur in the light of day through the standard legislative process."

Rep. Gibbons announced Wednesday afternoon that he withdrew the mining provisions, which were contained in the House-passed version of the Reconciliation bill. This withdrawal followed several weeks of vocal opposition from Western officials, community leaders, and anglers and hunters. Trout Unlimited led a dozen fish and wildlife organizations in the initial opposition of the measure. These groups sent a letter to members of Congress opposing the sale of public lands to mining companies and other development interests because it "would open these previously public lands to development, fragmentation, habitat loss, and potential pollution."

"Trout Unlimited members and other sportsmen played a crucial role in forcing the withdrawal of these harmful provisions," said Brian O'Donnell, Director of TU's Public Lands Initiative. "The message from America's sportsmen is clear. Public lands provide the last, best places to hunt and fish, and they should not be sold off."



WHAT'S EMERGING!

President's Report:

by Bob Kutz

Donegal TU will host the PA Trout Annual Spring Membership meeting on April 22nd & 23rd 2006. This is the first time in our chapter's history where we will get this chance to show the other 53 state chapters some of our accomplishments. Bob Wyble will chair the committee who will set up the event at The Quality Inn & Suites on Oregon Pike. This will be a great opportunity to see how PA Trout works and how well they relate to our 12,500 members and 53 chapters.

We will be responsible for lining up (3) Saturday afternoon speakers, one hour each, as well as a Saturday evening key not speaker. We will also provide "Fishing Guides" for some afternoon fishing on Lititz Run, Donegal Spring Creek, and the Octorara Creek.

This meeting will give all our chapter members an opportunity to sit in on meetings and hear some of the major stream, fish, and regulatory concerns in PA and how PA Trout plans to address them. You will also be able to offer comments on any pertinent subject. I think you will be impressed with the professional abilities of our state volunteers.

Bob Wyble will need lots of help over this weekend. I am sure that a lot of the ladies in attendance will need help finding the shopping malls, outlets, and local tourist attractions. With your help, I think we will show our visitors that DTU is one of the best chapters in the state.

Bob's committee will also put together a great list of raffle prizes for the membership meeting. Look for further details and a time schedules to follow.

Dan Brandt and his Fund Raising Committee are working on this years Annual Spring Banquet. Mark your calendar for April 1st, 2006. As always, there will be some new fun and games.

You may want to start getting your tables together. Raffle tickets and reservation forms will arrive in the mail by late January. Please try to sell your raffle ticket packet. There are some great items on this year's ticket. More information will follow in our March newsletter.

"Trout in the Classroom". Good news, DTU will be expanding this important youth educational program by sponsoring another high school. The board voted to give Warwick High School the necessary equipment to get the same program that Conestoga Valley High School is presently running. The young fingerlings will be released into Lititz Run. The Trout in the Classroom program will show 10th grade students how fertilized eggs turn into fingerlings over the course of 5 to 6 weeks. The kids love this new program.

November's Program

Chairman: Ted Downs

January's program will be held at the **Quality Inn on Wednesday 1/18 at 7 PM**. It will be a tour of Penn's Creek and nearby streams by Jonas Price owner of The Feathered Hook Fly Shop . See you then!

Conservation Committee

Chairman: Greg Wilson

The Conowingo Project is moving along well. Mark Metzler of Rettew Associates reports that all of the aerial video has been viewed and field proofing is virtually finished, with some 126 problem areas identified. Most of the problems are due to stream bank erosion. The next step will be to determine projects that will reduce daily loadings of nutrients to acceptable levels. Electrofishing is being placed on hold until Spring. As the project extends through September 2007, most of the work is ahead of schedule.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS



DTU Chapter Awards 2005

by Bob Wyle

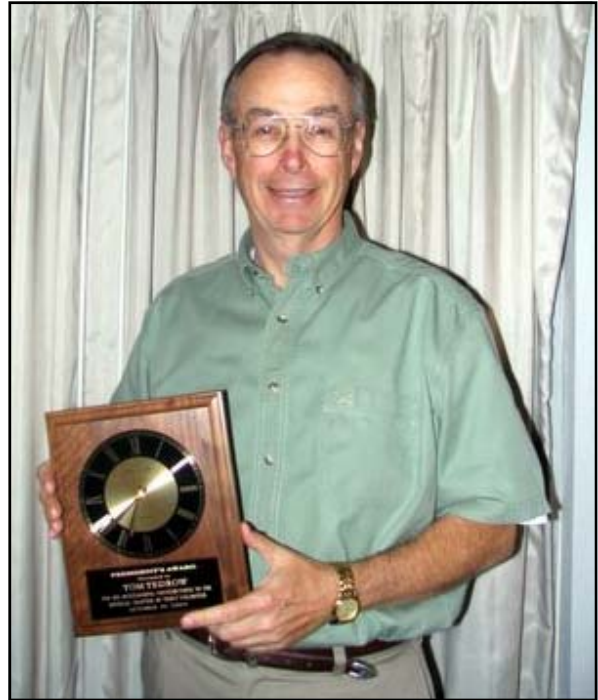
Each year DTU members are honored at the October Fest for outstanding service to the chapter. The winner of the **Mayflyer Award** for 2005 is **Kevin Fausey**.



Kevin Fausey - 2005 Mayflyer Award

Kevin oversees the tree nursery program at Millport Conservancy. He is in charge of ordering tree seedlings, coordinating volunteer groups to plant seedlings in the nursery, irrigating trees in the nursery over the summer and distributing trees to watershed groups to plant along stream corridors. In addition to supervising the tree nursery Kevin has always been available to run a backhoe on stream projects and clean up after others have gone home. Kevin has also lined up volunteers to help teach fly-casting at the Youth Field Day held every year in June. Congratulations Kevin on receiving the Mayflyer Award for outstanding service to Donegal TU.

In addition to the Mayflyer Award, three other chapter members received a **President's Award** for outstanding service to the chapter. **Tom Tedrow** was recognized for building ladders to climb over fences on the Hess farm to gain access to Lititz Run. Tom has taught 5th grade students how to plant tree seedlings on Watershed Day and he has spent many, many hours helping to maintain the tree nursery. Congratulations Tom.



Tom Tedrow - 2005 President's Award



Chuck Elmer & Dee Lehman - 2005 President's Awards

Dee Lehman was recognized for her leadership role in working with township supervisors and landowners to complete the Conowingo Watershed assessment. Dee has also volunteered to help with numerous streamside projects on Lititz Run. Congratulations Dee.

Chuck Elmer was recognized for his contribution to the banquet. Each year Chuck builds a fly rod, which is sold at the banquet to raise funds for the chapter. Chuck volunteered to help with the stream relocation project on the Banta property and he has helped with many other projects on Lititz Run. Congratulations Chuck.

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Fly Of The Month

“Red Carpet”

Submitted by Ralph Long
from www.flyfisherman.com



Description

A great low water Steelhead fly for those bright days. This pattern has been a solid producer on the Olympic coast for several years now. Having just enough color & shine, it very comfortably pulls double duty for Salmon as well. I fish this fly in a traditional wet-fly swing with a 9' 3X tapered leader and a floating WF line. I hope it finds a solid spot in your box as well.

Recipe:

HOOK: GamaKatsu T10-3H, #8-4

THREAD: Black Uni-thread, 6/0

TAG: Uni-Mylar, #14 Copper/Blue, Copper side up

BUTT: Red Ultra-Chenille, Small

TAIL: Dyed-red Tippet

RIB: Fine Copper wire

BODY: Black Uni-Floss

THORAX: Red Ultra-Chenille, Small

HACKLE: Black strung saddle hackle

WING: Matched and opposing Dark Brown saddle tips

HEAD: Tying thread and clear "Hard-as-nails"

Tying Instructions

Tie in Mylar copper side up and wrap back to a point even with the barb angle-line on shank, reverse and wrap back to start point and tie off. Tie in clump of tippet even with the point of hook & extended to the bend of the hook, make 2-3 underwraps to lift tail slightly and tie off. Tie in ultra-chenille and make 3 turns forward, tie off. Tie in wire, tie in floss. Wrap floss forward to thorax & rib with wire, tie off. Tie in ultra-chenille, make 3 wraps forward & tie off. Even and tie in hackle tips at a length one tail-length longer than the tail. Tie in Black hackle in wet fashion, make 3-4 turns, tie off. Wrap back into the hackle to attain desired flare of hackle, build and finish head.

Montana Dreaming (Part 2):

by Glen Nephin

THE BIGHORN

This is a tail-water river. Water released from the Bighorn Canyon dam goes to another dam in the afterbay. Because of the steady release, there is no scouring. I get to see and fish 13 miles of river. Afterbay to three mile take out is the first section. Three mile to 13 mile take out is the second. No powerboats of any kind are allowed in these sections. The daytime temperatures are in the high 80s to low 90s, but I am wearing fleece under my Gore-Tex waders. The water temperature is 48 degrees. The river is sparkling clear. Depth varies but it is wadeable almost everywhere. Good spots are identified by names such as; the Breakfast Hole, the Suck Hole, and Rainbow Bend. The river is an insect factory. Caddis are so thick at times they blacken the boat. They are under your hat, on your arms and the fish love them at dusk.

There are fast moving spots and long, leisurely ones like The Aquarium, which is deep, clear and filled with rainbows and browns. There are impressive fish in the 18- to 20-inch range and many in the 8- to 10-inch range, which bodes well for future seasons.

THE DRIFT BOAT HATCH

Get to the river at 9:30 to 10:00 in the morning and you'll understand the meaning of "drift boat hatch". Some two-dozen drift boats are already in the river beginning their journey and another eight are lined up in the parking lot waiting to put in. About one-third of the boats have guides. Don takes three of us in his boat. Bill takes the second most popular mode of transport – the pontoon boat. The third way of getting around is by canoe. There aren't too many of those, but the camp does own two. The last way of getting around is leaving your car at the access area and walking the river. Few anglers choose to walk because of the limited access points and the small amount of water that can be covered. As we move down river, the crowd begins to spread out.

FINALLY FISHING

We are in the boat with Don rowing. We have a cooler with lunches, water, snacks and apples. We have, or should have, all we need, for there is no walking back to the car. Sun screen and lip balm, check, check; Two rods, check, check. One is rigged for dries and the other for nymphing. Efficiency - we do not want to waste time switching flies unnecessarily.

My boat mates are good fishermen and good teachers. The first thing to learn is to cast at least forty five degrees upstream. Then mend, mend, mend to get the fly down. I catch my first Bighorn rainbow, about 16 inches, beautifully colored and incredibly strong. No stocked fish here. It runs past my mind how much this fish cost me, so I put it back in the water quickly. I don't want to harm my investment.

My Eastern view of flies in the West was BIG, but we nymph with size 18 and 20 sow bugs, scuds and bead head quills. We use black CDC caddis on top. Unlike the East, hardly, anyone uses a vest. Instead, we use lanyards that hold tippet, nippers, forceps and a chamois patch to dry and hold flies. Boxes go in the shirt or waders. Backup bag goes in the boat. We carry a dry bag with fleece and rain jacket. The weather can and does change quickly.

It is easy to settle into the routine. Breakfast, gear, check; make lunch, get sodas and water. Get your waders on at camp. Drive to the access area. Get the boats in. Fish. More than a little chop busting. Catch fish. Make the required admiration for you companion's fish. Gleefully accept theirs when it's your turn. Take out the boat. Return to camp. Get out of the waders. Have a drink, eat, clean up. Sit around, talk, watch a game. Go bed. Get up and do it all over again.

Camp rules are simple. No waders inside. If you cook, you don't clean up. One night Don and his guest have settled on lemon chicken for dinner and they will be doing the cooking. Prep starts and we begin to hear conversation bits. "I always do this and so." "That doesn't get the chicken moist enough." "I've done this dish many times..." Bill and I look at each other. We go outside for a beer and have a chuckle.

A couple of days go by and I pick up Bob Kutz in Billings. Now we have seven at camp. Same story every day. The fishing continues to be good. I continue to be amazed at their number and the strength of the fish. I'm fortunate enough to catch fish that take me yards and yards downstream. Not just me. Everyone has that experience. Not all the fish are big. There are plenty of fish in the 10- to 14-inch range.

(Continued on page ii)

Montana Dreaming (Part 2):

(Continued from page i)

ROWING

I finally hear the words I did not need to hear. "OK it's your turn." I am a raw rookie. Bob Kutz sits up front and gives directions. Bill Billett sits behind me and whacks me with his hat when I pull the wrong way. Gradually I get the hang of it and actually get the boat from point A to point B. Back at camp Don tells me the first time he rowed he hit someone. I take great comfort that I did not.

SIDE TRIPS

Bill, Don and guests leave for home so Bob and I head for the Tongue River. It is two hours plus away, up into the Bighorn mountains in Wyoming. It's at about 8,500 feet elevation in a national forest and runs through grazing land. It's shin-deep in most places and filled with riffles and undercut banks with nice small pools.

It is a thrill for me to catch my first cutthroat. I have great day catching cuts and brookies on caddis or PMDs. All the action is on top for a change. The day is clear blue and the scenery is just wonderful. We stop at Bear Lodge and have great \$10 prime rib. A perfect day.

We almost bought it on the way home. We take off on the roads which cross the reservations. Fortunately, the moon is full and the stars out. We are on open range going about 60 MPH when I see a silhouette in the road. I yell to Bob who slams on the brakes and avoids the light cow I saw and the jet black one I didn't see. Later when my wife is here I take her to see the perfect "J" skids marks which took us to the edge of the drop off.

A couple of days later we head to Lewistown to fish Spring Creek. It meanders through town and has well marked access points throughout the area. There is a bar in town that sits right over the stream with a glass top arrangement, which allows you sit and watch the fish in the stream below. They are all over, rising to insects attracted to the light. The fish did better than we did. The stream is cold, relatively clear with lots of deep pools. We caught some fish with Bob getting a 20-inch rainbow.

We meet a guy who turns out to live in Pennsylvania up on the Delaware. He tells us this is mostly a late afternoon and evening stream. We hit another stream about 20 miles west of town. We fish this one with better success.

We have lunch at a small restaurant run by two older women. We chat with them and tell them where we are from. We have fun telling the names of some of the towns in the county. I go out to the car and come back with the PA map and show them Intercourse and Blue Ball. One of them wipes her brows and says "Oh my, I've got to sit down after that."

We return to the Bighorn and continue the routine and do it all over again. Finally the day for Bob to leave comes, which is the same day my wife arrives. Karen is either as thrilled as or shocked as I was and it is her first trip to Montana. She seems pleased by the camp, though a little unsure of the isolation. We spend a couple of days sightseeing at the Custer Battle Field and the Bighorn Canyon.

Then we start the long trek home. We have a fantastic trip. Yellowstone is the absolute highlight of all that we saw. Lititz does look great when we pull in some 8,600 miles from start to finish.

MORE..

April comes and eight of us head out again. We start in Livingston and fish Depuys Spring Creek. This is fabled private water. I do OK. Not great. The day is cloudy and chilly. The next day we fish the Yellowstone with varying degrees of success. Then it's back to the Horn.

By now I have a pontoon boat and it's a lot fun to use. Some days are sunny; some are not. One day we have about three inches of snow. Some guys don't go out that day but a few of us go down to the river and do well on blue wings just wading off the banks. The river is fairly low since the run-off hasn't started yet.

Compared to last year's near solitude the camp is a zoo. There are also eight guys here from York. For two nights we have four more guys from Livingston here. Mercifully, they sleep in a VW bus and tent. Some of the guys from York are here to hunt turkey. They are successful. We stagger meals and clean up.

July brings me full cycle and I stay at camp from the 23rd of July to August 22nd. Both my sons come August 6. Danny leaves the 13th and Patric and I on the 22nd. They fish the Tongue and are as thrilled as I was.

The Bighorn is as intimidating and as rewarding to them as it was to me. We eat well, drink a few and get up and do it all over again.



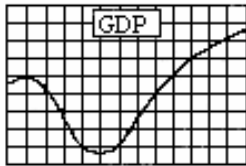
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Thank you, DTU,
for your continued
support and volunteers!

WHAT'S NEW AT:

Lancaster County Conservation District

by Matthew W. Kofroth

Recently the 2005 list of Growing Greener I, Growing Greener II, & EPA Section 319 Grants was unveiled. Below is a listing of projects in Lancaster County that will receive funding under these watershed protection grants.

Lancaster County Watershed Wide Website

The Lancaster County Conservation District received Growing Greener I funds to create a website designed for local watershed associations to utilize for information exchange. The website will function as a clearinghouse of information for local groups, municipalities, landowners, & students. A consultant will be contracted to create the website but maintenance & upkeep responsibilities for the site will be left to the District. Additional funds for this project will come from a PACD min-grant as well. **AWARDED-\$3,700**

Pequea Creek Watershed Restoration (Phase II-Implementation)

Sponsored by the Paradise Sportsmen's Association (PSA). The Paradise group received EPA Section 319 funds to implement streambank restoration measures on 3,725 ft of the Upper Pequea Cr. The project will be between Wanner Rd. & Cambridge Rd. & will involve incorporating rock cross vanes, J-hooks, root wads, & boulder placement to control erosion issues & create fish habitat. This project is a continuation of a previous grant the group received in 2003 (Phase I) to create a design for the project & gather the necessary permits. **AWARDED-\$158,485**

Monitoring Supplies – Chiques Watershed

Alliance

Sponsored by the Chiques Creek Watershed Alliance (CCWA). CCWA requested Growing Greener I funds to purchase monitoring supplies for ongoing stream monitoring efforts. The group has established a coalition of folks that have been monitoring parts of the watershed for about a year. Funds were needed to purchase additional monitoring supplies. Additionally, funds will also be used to purchase some educational signage in a local park promoting the watershed & ongoing efforts. **AWARDED-\$4,687**

Expanding Best Management Practices at Lake Placida: The Aquifer Recharge & Reclamation Project

Sponsored by Elizabethtown College. The college requested Growing Greener II funds to create a wetland infiltration swale on campus & other water conservation measures to control stormwater flows. The project will work in conjunction with past projects the college has received & will serve as an outdoor educational classroom. The college's motive in this project is to reduce impervious cover & increase groundwater recharge on campus. **AWARDED-\$40,100**

Delivering the Dillerville Wetland (DDW)

Sponsored by the Lancaster County Academy (LCA). LCA requested Growing Greener I funds to conduct a wetland restoration project with its students at the Dillerville wetland site. The project will involve students raising special beetles that eat the invasive plant purple loosestrife that has taken over much of the wetland. The beetles will then be released to eradicate the loosestrife. In the process students will supplement the loosestrife plants with native wetland species & conduct water monitoring in the wetland. **AWARDED-\$2,000**

LASA Sewer Upgrades

Sponsored by the Lancaster Area Sewer Authority (LASA). LASA requested Growing Greener II funds to upgrade the activated sludge aeration system at its Susquehanna plant. The basic goals of this project are to upgrade and replace the diffuser, optimize the aeration process with additional blowers with those of the proper size, and create anoxic zones to obtain a certain degree of denitrification for the existing flows to the facility. The project will decrease nutrient load discharged to the Susquehanna River and decrease energy demands at the facility. **AWARDED-\$500,000**

Tucquan Glen Preserve Land Purchase

Sponsored by the Lancaster County Conservancy (LCC). LCC sought Growing Greener II funds to purchase 28 acres off of Tucquan Glen Rd., adjacent to the Conservancy's Tucquan Glen Preserve for open space and habitat protection. Additional funds from this grant will also go to purchase 26 acres along the Susquehanna River and River Road for greenway and open space protection. **AWARDED-\$263,800**

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3 Month Chapter Planner

<u>Month</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Date & Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Subject</u>
January	Board Meeting	Wed. 1/11-7:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Normal Meeting
	Chapter Meeting & Elections	Wed. 1/18-7:00 PM	Quality Inn & Suites	“Tour of Penn's Creak ” by Jonas Price
February	Board Meeting	Wed. 2/8-7:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Normal Meeting
	Chapter Meeting	Wed. 2/15-7:00 PM	Quality Inn & Suites	“Learning More About Fly Lines” John Shaner Cortland Line Co.
March	Board Meeting	Wed. 3/8-7:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Normal Meeting
	Chapter Meeting	Wed. 3/15-7:00 PM	Quality Inn & Suites	“Chasing Albies - Montauk to Harker’s Island” by Bob Wyble

Sharks and Albies at Harker’s Island

(Continued from page 8)

the stern and Glen in the Bow. I held my rod, fish on, in one hand and reached back with my free hand to touch a button to raise the motor so Bob didn’t get his line tangled around the prop. It takes some work to get a 10-pound Albie into the boat. They are very fast and very strong so you better have your drag cranked down hard to slow him down. If you put too much pressure on your fish you’ll be sending that 3-piece rod back in 4 pieces. Well, after running laps around the boat and passing rods over and under each guy we did manage to land all three fish. After a triple hook up things slowed down a little but we found more fish and had a blast catching fish all day. No wind, fishing in shirtsleeves in November and catching Albies; what could be better? About every 15 minutes Dr. Bachman would say, “Hey did I tell you I’m having fun?”

We experienced something new on this trip. Frequently we would look down and see 4-5 foot sharks circling under the boat chasing Albies hooked on the end of our fly lines. I was taking a turn in the bow and made a cast but had a knot in my fly line. While I was frantically trying to clear up the knot an Albie took my fly and started running. It pulled the knot through the guides of my rod but fortunately did not strip off the guides. After the initial run I managed to work the Albie back to the boat close enough to get my knot above the water line. Now what was I going to do? Could I work that knot back through the guides? All of a sudden the Albie took off on another run with my line slicing through the water and I saw a dorsal fin following the end of my line. My line went limp, a shark had lunch and my problem was solved. On another day Terry Zeiders pulled in an Albie on Bill Schotta’s boat and the back half of the fish was missing. A shark had half a lunch. Bill Schotta actually got a shark on a fly he was throwing for Albies. He had to gaff the shark to land it because those guys had real teeth.

What a trip! With Bob Bachman and Glen Nephin on my boat all week long there was never a dull moment. One day Bob had missed 3 or 4 fish and hooked another Albie. He was determined not to lose this fish. So as the Albie took its first run Bob pumped his rod pretty hard to set the hook. You guessed it; his 3-piece rod became a 4-piece rod. The rod snapped below the first guide so Bob was fighting his fish directly off of his reel. Not an easy thing to do. Glen ended up pulling in the Albie hand over hand while Bob said a few choice words and watched. Never a dull moment on this trip!



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Mayflyer

Sharks and Albies at Harker's Island by Bob Wyble

The forecast was calm with air temperature in the seventies for Harker's Island, North Carolina on November 7. I got the coffee going at 5:30 AM to get my crew Bob Bachman and Glen Nephin out of bed for a quick cold breakfast so we could meet Bill Schotta and his crew including Bob Kutz and Terry Zeiders at the boat dock at 6:30 AM. We dropped our boats into the harbor the night before so everything was set to go. With lunches in the cooler, fly rods rigged and in the rod holders we headed out the 7-mile long channel to get outside the hook at Harker's Island to look for Albies. We were at low tide so we needed to stay between the red and green buoys and not take any short cuts. Bill led the way and slowed down this first trip to make sure the channel had not shifted since last year. The channel was very narrow and winding like a snake so caution was the word. We got to the hook with no problems and started looking for birds.

Nothing going on at the hook so we headed south to the point of Cape Lookout. A few birds were flying around but we headed across the shoal and off shore 2-3 miles to check out some diving birds. Yep, this was it. Albies were splashing on the surface. Since Bob Bachman had never caught an Albie on

a fly rod we gave Bob the bow of the boat for his first crack at an Albie. I had told Bob to make sure to tie up a good number of red and white half and halves, so he actually took my advice and started with a half and half. He didn't disappoint himself. Bam he hooked his first Albie. Meanwhile Glen Nephin got hooked up with an Albie on the stern. So while these two guys were fighting the first Albies of the trip I was at the wheel running my boat. More fish were breaking so I decided what the heck, no point in twiddling my thumbs. It's a little tough casting a fly rod from mid ship of a center console boat but I managed to get off a roll cast and bam I was hooked up. What a zoo! A triple hook up on our first effort the first morning of a trip. Think you could get a little excited about fighting an Albie on a fly rod? You ain't seen nothing until you're on a boat with Dr. Bachman and he's got a fish on a fly rod. "Son of ___ look at that bugger take me into my backing. Gees he's heading for the stern". Yea, well Glen had one on at the stern. I yelled to Glen to work his fish up to the bow. I was mid ship fighting my own fish so I ducked down and let Bob pass his rod over top of me and my rod. Ok, Bob was now at

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