

Mayflyer

May 2005

V34-I3

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The Monthly Publication of



Next
Monthly
Meeting

BACKCASTS

Chapter Meeting Recap

by Deirdre Lehman

Wednesday

May 18th

7 PM

**Quality Inn
Lancaster**

Program

**“Susquehanna
River Shad
Restoration”**

by

Gil Hirschel

Upcoming
Chapter
Activities

Big Brothers

Big Sisters

Fishing

Derby

Friday
April 29th

6:00 PM

**Spring Trout
Fish Farm
Brimmer Ave.
New Holland**

Coz Costilnick, Delaware River guide, joined us in February to share his vast knowledge of the Upper Delaware system. He spends more than 100 days per year, 16 hours a day in pursuit of large (up to 24 inches), wily, wild Trout on the East and West Branches of the Delaware, so he knows it well. Once a host of ESPN’s “In Search of Flywater”, Coz has traveled and fished around the world but chooses to call Hancock, NY, on the upper Delaware, home. Because the Delaware is a tailwater fishery, it fishes well all summer long. Coz suggests that anglers use the rule of “thirds” on large water, splitting the river into sections of: “fish not likely”; “fish might be there”; and “prime lies” in order to make some sense of the vast water. Bank fishing is often good and 85% of the river is wade-able. The system is 60 miles long with just 2 miles of no kill from Deposit south on the West Branch to Junction Pool. The East Branch is shaded most of the day and fish tend to be in the shadier sections. For those new to the Delaware, fishing riffles is best with a downstream approach so that the fish don’t see the leader and line. Color and presentation are most important, size of the fly doesn’t seem to matter as much. He suggests fishing emergers, parachutes, CDCs and comparaduns. Streamers are best for the West Branch. While Coz uses drift boats, it is more for transportation. They usually get out and wade to fish. The premier hatches are the Hendricksons in mid-April to mid-May, and the Green and Brown Drakes at the end of May to mid-June. We all enjoyed Coz’s enthusiasm and thank him for sharing his

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passion. For more information, contact Coz at Border Water Outfitters; bwo@hancock.net or 607-637-4296.

Remaining in a “big fish” mode, in March we were joined by **Joe Trendler**, who resides in Souderton, PA but spends several months in the summer at Osprey Lake Lodge in Labrador. Osprey Lake is home to **BIG** Brook Trout commonly weighing in at 6-10 pounds. His video showing these huge Brookies in their spawning colors with their high humpy shoulders and hooked jaws was magnificent. These fish also are not shy about striking, as his video showed some savage takes on waking flies. The lodge is located 95 miles southeast of Goose Bay. The season lasts from the third week in June until September 10th. Osprey Lake is home to the largest Brook Trout in the world. Joe and Lefty Kreh believe it is due to the elevation, latitude and depth of the lake, which is usually less than 5 feet but also includes a few very deep areas. He explained that the spinner fishing can be awesome with spinner falls lasting two days in many cases. Two other lakes can also be fished, including Bear Lake and Black Fly Lake, which also hold Pike as well as Trout. The lodge accommodates 6 people and fishing is done from Gander canoes. It is the only lodge on Osprey Lake. Food and lodging as well as fly-in from Goose Bay for a week’s worth of fishing is approximately \$2750. For more information, you can contact Joe Trendler at 215-598-7772 or 207-944-3760 or check out their website at www.ospreylakelodge.com.



WHAT'S EMERGING!

President's Report:

by **Bob Wyble**

I am pleased to report that the 26th annual banquet was a smashing success. The number of registered guests was 198, up from 173 last year. I would like to thank the banquet committee **Dan Brandt** (chair), **Bob Kutz**, **Jim Stephens**, **Kevin Fausey**, **Bruce Jones**, **Ted Downs** and **Glen Nephin** for planning and running a very smooth banquet this year. Dan and his committee deserve credit for initiating some new ideas to make the banquet a more pleasant experience for everyone.

The long strings of raffle tickets were gone this year. Guests had an opportunity to purchase sheets of tickets which contained 5 tickets per sheet. All tickets on a sheet had the same number, which made it very simple to track numbers when tickets were drawn from the raffle drum. Buckets from previous years were replaced by a general raffle. All items were placed on a table and winning ticket holders were given an opportunity to choose any item on the table. I heard numerous comments that this was a good idea because people got to choose items they were interested in. In previous years if you put tickets in 6 buckets you sat around waiting for your bucket to come up. This year you had a chance to win every time a ticket was drawn from the drum. Great idea guys!

Some of the top winners at the banquet this year included: **Susan Bowman** who won a \$1000 certificate from TCO fly shop; **Mike Kissinger** who won a 9-wt rod built by **Chuck Elmer**; **Tom Atkins** who won a Thomas-Thomas 5 wt rod at the **Penny Bingo** game; and **Ed Ritz** who won a **Mossburg shotgun** at a bingo game. **Jim Stephens Jr.** won a fly rod in the **Casting for Recovery** raffle and **John Sukenick** and **Mark Hoover** won a pair of tickets to the **US Open Golf Tournament** in Pine Hurst, North Carolina. Congratulations to all the winners.

Income for the banquet was \$31,600. The cost of food served at the banquet and costs for purchasing merchandise have not been paid at the date of this report. We would estimate that the net profit from the banquet will be approximately \$20,000.

Thanks to all who attended the banquet and dug deep into your pockets to support the conservation activities of Donegal TU. We rely on your support every year to keep projects going.

Where do your dollars go? This year we plan to do some in-stream improvements in Lititz Run in Millport Conservancy. We have installed water temperature probes in Lititz Run to collect data and compare stream temperatures this year with data collected last year. We have work to do on Shearer's Creek. We are in the process of completing a watershed assessment of the Conowingo Watershed in southern Lancaster County. This is a large project, which will be ongoing for several years. Currently we are in the process of determining the origin of sediment and phosphorus in Conowingo Creek. When we know the origin of these pollutants we will then develop a plan to reduce sediment and phosphorus loads. This is very important because wild trout live in the tributaries and upper reaches of Conowingo Creek.

Our tree nursery has become a very important program. Each year we plant about 4000 tree seedlings in the nursery. After a year of growth they are ready to be planted along stream banks to support the Chesapeake Bay 30-foot riparian buffer zone program. We have become a supplier of trees to many watershed groups in Lancaster County.

We will continue with education programs such as the Big Brother/Big Sister Fishing Derby, Youth Field Day, and the Special Olympics program. We will also continue to work with the trout-hatching program for high school students.

You are a member of a very active chapter and with your continued support we will be able to continue improving water quality in cold-water streams in Lancaster County. Thanks again for your support.

Keep these dates in mind for up-coming events. **Big Brother/Big Sister Fishing Derby, April 29; Youth field Day, June 4** and the **Picnic at Millport Conservancy, June 15.**

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COMMITTEE REPORTS



May Program

Chairman: Ted Downs

May's program will be "**Restoring Shad to the Susquehanna River Basin**", by Gil Hirschel. Gil is the Environmental Outreach Coordinator for the Susquehanna River Basin Commission; a regulatory, federal/interstate compact commission vested with the responsibility for management and control of the water resources of the 27,500 square mile Susquehanna River basin, draining portions of New York, Pennsylvania and Maryland.

Membership Committee

Chairman: Bill Billett

Membership in Donegal TU has reached a new high with a grand total of **533 members**, including the 16 new members who have joined our ranks since last month.

From Lancaster we have six new members: **Peat Underhill; Drew Laffer; Andrew Sparks; Clinton Probst; Mason Ault; and Robert Royer**. From Manheim we have the entire **Kulp family**, along with **Henry Kinsinger**. We also have new members from: Elizabethtown - **Rodney Fink** and **Charles Hertzog**; East Petersburg - **Dave Schull**; Ephrata - **Cayton Rathman**; Mount Joy - **Scott Mower**; Paridise - **Mike Patton**; Washington Boro - **Tom Keller**. We'd like to welcome all of you to the Donegal Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

We need to keep the ball rolling as the year moves along and pick up another 67 new members to reach our goal of 600 members for the year 2005. So when you're on the streams in and around Lancaster County (or for that matter anywhere in the state) ask those near you fishing, or at the lunch counter, or the local pub if they belong to TU. And if they don't, please ask them to join TU and to help with our efforts to improve our coldwater habitat for the years to come. Remember the slogan "**Join Trout Unlimited, where the benefits of membership last for millions of years**".

Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing

Youth Camp

by Jim Stephens

Every year the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited sponsors the Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp. The purpose of the camp is to educate students on the importance of coldwater conservation. DTU

supports this camp and encourages the students in our membership area to apply to the camp. DTU pays the camp tuition for up to two students selected to this camp from our membership area.

This year **Jonathon Putt** and **Kyle Chestnut** were selected to attend the camp. Jonathon is an active member of DTU and a Junior at Penn Manor H.S, and Kyle is the son of DTU member Ed Chestnut. Congratulations to both Jon and Kyle. Enjoy the camp!

Conservation Committee

Chairman: Greg Wilson

On March 19th the Lititz Run Watershed Alliance hosted the annual Spring clean up and planting day. There were six stations set up, manned by over 120 volunteers. It sure is apparent that "out of sight, out of mind" is still the trend with trash. In our 3-hour cleanup we cleaned up enough trash to fill a 30 cu. yd. Dumpster, including several large truck tires! What happened, did they just fall off the trucks??? We also installed close to 1000 seedlings and live stakes (primarily willows).

DTU purchased 400 Brown & Rainbow Trout. We stocked 200 at Millport Conservancy and 200 at the Baum & Hess farms on the lower end of Lititz Run. We need to schedule a few more workdays this Spring to install more trees and shrubs.

Dee Lehman, Ed Kraft and I went to the Little Britain Township to present our assessment project for the Conowingo watershed. About a dozen supervisors and some landowners showed up for the meeting. We were initially met with some reticence, but hopefully with more public meetings and through the use of the information we generate from the assessment we can start moving forward on this huge project.

Education Committee

Chairman: Dave Chalfant

The Big Brothers / Big Sisters Fishing Derby, sponsored by Donegal TU is coming up on Friday, April 29th. The event will be held at Jim Martin's Spring Trout Fish Farm, about a mile south of New Holland, just off Brimmer Avenue/New Holland Road. In the past we have had 15 - 25 kids participate. We need volunteers to help with the fishing and the picnic preparations. Volunteers should arrive about 5:30 PM. This event is a lot of fun for the participants and the volunteers. Thanks for your help and support.

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Fly Of The Month

“Quill Body Sulphur Dun and Spinner”
Submitted by A.K. Best
from www.flyfisherman.com



Description

I've always wanted to fish the Sulphur Hatch on some of PA's famous spring creeks, so when John Gierach and Mike Clark invited me to join them last May, I willingly agreed. I did a little research on hook sizes and colors and tied a few dozen quill body Sulphur duns and spinners, wondering if this pattern alteration world work. I was a little nervous about it all because I didn't take along any of the standard dubbed body flies that have been the fly of choice for decades. After all, the trout in PA's spring creeks are reputed to be the snootiest one can find anywhere. We fished Spruce Creek, Big Spring Creek, Penn's Creek, and finally hit the Sulphur Hatch on Spring Creek late one afternoon. These patterns are the results of my efforts, and they really work!

Recipe:

HOOK: TMC 100, #14-#16; **THREAD:** Pale Yellow 6/0; **TAIL:** Medium ginger (dun) or light ginger (spinner) hackle fibers; **BODY:** Dyed yellow Chinese rooster neck hackle stem; **THORAX:** Fine yellow dubbing (spinner only); **HACKLE:** Medium ginger neck hackle (dun only); **WING:** Hen hackle tips.



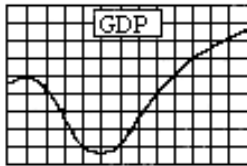
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WHAT'S NEW AT:

TU National:

Kettle Creek Home Rivers Initiative

The Kettle Creek project, located in north central Pennsylvania, was launched in 1998 and was TU's third Home Rivers Initiative. The 244 square miles watershed has significant lands within state forest and park lands and several small communities. The main stem traverses nearly 43 miles before emptying into the West Branch of the Susquehanna River. The Kettle Creek watershed is home to over 5% of Pennsylvania's Class A wild trout streams.

Despite the seemingly pristine and undeveloped nature of the Kettle Creek watershed, approximately 15 miles in the lower watershed are left virtually lifeless due to (abandoned) acid mine drainage (AMD). Streams stained with reds, oranges and whites reflect a tragic legacy caused by historic coal mining practices that began in the late 1800s. Portions of the upper and middle watershed, despite having exceptional value water quality, suffer from habitat degradation due in part to the lingering effects of clear-cut logging and stream channelization, common in the region between 1895 and 1913.

TU began working with the newly formed Kettle Creek Watershed Association (KCWA) to address abandoned acid mine drainage pollution and habitat degradation. TU and KCWA work closely with over a dozen local, state and federal agencies and organizations. Examples of projects that TU, KCWA, and their partners work together on include conducting trout stream surveys and habitat assessments in the upper watershed, working with renowned specialists and other partners to develop treatment plans for the abandoned acid mine drainage problems, and constructing in-stream habitat improvement projects on Kettle Creek.

Every year, TU and KCWA organize activities to involve and recruit community residents and seasonal property owners, such as volunteer tree planting days, streamside cleanups, and public educational meetings. In addition, the popular landowner workshops and the Kettle Creek Watershed Conservation Guide *A Landowner's Handbook*, provide landowners and concerned citizens with the tools they need to make a difference and become better stewards of their land and its resources.

Kettle Creek watershed projects received a tremendous boost when Pennsylvania enacted the Growing Greener Program in December of 1999. Between 2000 and 2002, Growing Greener funded the TU-KCWA partnership

with over \$1,000,000 in grants for assessment and restoration projects in the watershed. Watershed planning was advanced even more when Kettle Creek was competitively selected as the "Keystone Project 2000-2001" for Penn State University's Center for Watershed Stewardship. The Keystone Project, completed by a team of eleven graduate students and their faculty advisors, resulted in a comprehensive Watershed Stewardship Report that included management recommendations and an assessment for the entire watershed. Due to the comprehensive watershed planning and assessment that has been accomplished by TU and KCWA, this unique partnership was recognized by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania with a first-ever "Governor's Award for Watershed Stewardship" in 2001.

Funds Extended for Mine Reclamation

by Don Hopey, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The Senate Appropriations Committee has approved a three-month extension of the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund, giving proponents time to campaign for a much longer Congressional commitment. The appropriations bill amendment proposed by **Sens. Arlen Specter, R-PA, and Robert Byrd, D-WV.**, will continue the per ton charge on mined coal to fund the program started in 1977 to reclaim abandoned mines and streams polluted by mine drainage.

Specter said Pennsylvania has 250,000 acres of abandoned surface mines in need of reclamation work and 2,400 miles of mine-degraded streams -- more than any other state. Pennsylvania receives about \$25 million a year from the federal fund to do reclamation work on dangerous strip mine sites, plug old deep mines, remove coal refuse piles and build mine drainage treatment projects.

"It is obviously a very important matter for the environment of Pennsylvania and the nation," Specter said following the committee vote. The Senate supplemental appropriations bill containing the mine fund amendment must still pass the full Senate and House and be signed by the president.

Steve Moyer, Trout Unlimited vice president for government affairs, said the nationwide sportsmen's organization is working for a 15- or 25-year extension of the fund. "We're pleased with the action today to get this provision inserted in the funding bill, and it gives Congress a chance to get cracking on a long-term extension of the program," he said.

3 Month Chapter Planner

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<u>Month</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Date & Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Subject</u>
April	Big Brothers Big Sisters Fishing Derby	Fri. 4/29-6:00 PM	Spring Trout Fish Farm New Holland	Big Brothers Big Sisters Fishing Derby
May	Board Meeting	Wed. 5/11-7:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Normal Meeting
	Chapter Meeting	Wed. 5/18-7:00 PM	Quality Inn & Suites	Gil Hirschel "Susquehanna River Shad Restoration"
June	Lancaster County Youth Field Day	Sat. 6/4-8:00 AM till 5 PM	Milton Grove Sportsmen	Youth Outdoor Awareness
	Board Meeting	Wed. 6/8-7:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Normal Meeting
	Chapter Meeting	Wed. 6/15-6:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Picnic Meeting with Doc Fritchey Chapter
July	Board Meeting	Wed. 7/13-7:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Normal Meeting
	<u>No Chapter Meeting in July</u>	<u>No Chapter Meeting in July</u>	<u>No Chapter Meeting in July</u>	<u>No Chapter Meeting in July</u>

Urge President Bush to Support Funding for the Penobscot River Restoration Project (Continued from page 8)

costs of getting all the steps of the transaction approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Trout Unlimited and its partners in this project (the Penobscot Indian Nation, the Natural Resources Council of Maine, the Atlantic Salmon Federation, American Rivers, and Maine Audubon) are engaged in aggressive fundraising efforts, and have raised more than \$2 million in private and federal dollars to get the project to this point. But a much larger piece of federal funding will be needed, particularly to buy the dams.

Senators Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins, as well as Congressman Michael Michaud, of Maine were instrumental in obtaining a \$1 million earmark for the project in the FY2005 budget for NOAA. This money will be set aside for the purchase of the dams. Senators Snowe and Collins have committed to ask for more money in the ongoing, FY2006 appropriations process. The project partners have also been successful in obtaining more than \$400,000 from NOAA and Department of Interior grant programs. Significantly more funding than can be gotten from these sources will be needed to exercise the option to purchase the dams before that option expires in 2009. Federal agencies are already starting work on their budgets for FY 2007 (which begins in October, 2006). A significant line item in that budget for the purchase of the Penobscot dams would permit buying the dams quickly and moving ahead to removal. TU is asking President Bush to put \$20 million for the Penobscot project in his FY2007 budget. We need you to write the President and urge him to make this money available. If enough people write now, it will ensure that the project gets as much attention as possible leading up to the early summer, when agency budget's will begin to take form.



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Mayflyer

Urge President Bush to Support Funding for the Penobscot River Restoration Project by Gary Roulston (taken from www.tu.org)

In June, 2004, an unlikely group of parties signed an historic agreement to restore the fisheries of Maine's Penobscot River. The U.S. Department of the Interior, the State of Maine, the power company **PPL** of Maine, the Penobscot Indian Nation, and a group of conservation organizations signed an agreement that would ultimately provide for the decommissioning of three Penobscot River dams with the goal of restoring sustainable, fishable runs of Atlantic Salmon to Maine's largest watershed. Other anadromous species, such as American Shad, Striped Bass, Alewives, and Sturgeon, could benefit even more than Salmon.

Under the agreement, a new nonprofit acquired an option to buy three dams (Veazie and Great Works on the mainstem Penobscot, and Howland at the mouth of the Piscataquis river) from **PPL** for between \$24 and \$26 million (depending on when the option is exercised). After acquisition, the nonprofit will remove Veazie and Great Works, and build a riverine bypass at Howland. **PPL** will install enhancements at other facilities in the

watershed that will restore almost all of the 18 megawatts of capacity that will be lost when these projects are decommissioned. When fully implemented, the project will restore access to fifty percent of historic Atlantic Salmon spawning habitat in the Penobscot watershed with one dam crossing or less. Success with this project will restore several times the Salmon habitat as other ongoing Salmon restoration projects in Maine, and has the potential to restore significant, fishable populations of Salmon to Maine's largest watershed. The project will restore access to 100 percent of spawning habitat for some other species, such as Sturgeon and Striped Bass.

The option to purchase the dams expires after five years (in June, 2009). In addition to the \$24-\$26 million needed to purchase the dams, another \$25-\$35 million will be needed to fully implement the deal, including data collection, engineering, dam removal itself, constructing the by-pass at Howland, legal costs, and the

(Continued on page 7)