BACKCASTS

Chapter Meeting Recap 9/15/04:
by Deirdre Lehman

Our picnic season has come to a close and we moved back indoors for our Chapter Meetings, with lots of great news and activities ahead of us before winter closes in.

Approximately 30 members received the good news that DTU will be receiving two awards this year from PA Trout. One is for recruiting the most new members; we added 73 folks to our rosters this year. We welcomed Todd Peters, who resides in Ephrata, to our Chapter at our September meeting. The other award is for the Best Chapter Project for the HOBO temperature-monitoring project in Lititz Run. Bob Wyble and Matt Kofroth should be commended for their work on this important project. In addition to determining whether Lititz Run can sustain cold water for a long-term sustainable fish population, it has also been valuable in determining where sources of thermal pollution are occurring. We have word that small 5 to 6 inch Rainbows have been caught and released by our members in Lititz Run, so that is a great sign too!

The Fly-fishing Expo at the Ned Bushong farm was a great event, although not as well attended as we would have liked. Approximately 50 people feasted on roast pig and had a chance to improve their casting skills thanks to the Cortland Co. The casting competitions were a hit too. Kudos to member Tyler Hudock who won both the long distance and the accuracy casting competitions. Second and third place in the distance competitions went to Jim Bushong and Ted Taylor, respectively, while Greg Wilson and Jim Bushong came in second and third in the accuracy competition. Thanks to The Evening Rise and Tulpehocken Creek Outfitters and the Quiet Times fly shop for their participation. Bill Pennewell is moving to Florida, so he was there to sell much of his inventory (and again at our September meeting). Ted Downs and all of the volunteers worked very hard to make this a successful event.

On the conservation front, work has begun on the Banta project on Lititz Run. We will be putting information on the website for volunteers who wish to help with seeding the area. The Gochenauer project on Shearer’s Run will also get underway in October and we will need folks to come out to help roll rocks. Our tree nursery is full so if anyone knows of folks who need trees to plant along streams, let us know.

We were very surprised to see that Lefty Kreh and Bob Clouser appeared as our speakers for the September Chapter Meeting. Actually, they were a last minute fill-in via videotape due to a cancellation by Gil Hirschell who was to speak on the shad restoration efforts in the Susquehanna Basin. Lefty and Bob were their usual jovial selves as they demonstrated bend back flies and a bend back version of the Clouser minnow as well as the very effective Clouser crayfish, a Susquehanna River staple and a very effective trout fly when tied in smaller sizes.

Our newsletter will be published bimonthly rather than monthly beginning next year. This will allow us to provide more news, more articles and allow more time for our members to participate. We know many of you have great fishing stories to tell, so why not submit an article to the newsletter? You can send it handwritten, typed or via email to any one of our board members. Pictures are welcome too. Speaking of member participation, keep sending in those “mentoring forms” that appeared in the September newsletter. This is a great way to expand your horizons, meet new friends, help others or just find folks to fish with.

We will keep the information on a database and send out the listings every so often. Work is already underway for our annual Spring Banquet. And don’t forget the October Fest on October 20th; see the details on page 3 in this issue.
President’s Report:  
by Bob Wyble
After months of waiting on weather related events, work has begun to move the channel of Lititz Run on the Banta property. Approximately 2000 feet of channel will be moved away from a high embankment out on to the flood plain. This will permit water to move out of the stream channel on both sides of Lititz Run during flooding. It’s exciting to see this project finally moving forward.

Last month I indicated that we needed to make some changes with the newsletter. The Board took action to change the publication of the newsletter from 12 times/year to 6 times/year. Beginning January 2005 the Mayflyer will be published in Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, and Nov. The timeline has been very tight to complete articles after a chapter meeting, get copy to the printer and mail the newsletter before the next chapter meeting. This will give committee chairs more time to write reports on projects that are pending or in progress. I have received numerous comments from readers of the newsletter that they really enjoy reading stories written by members about fishing trips they have taken. This will give members more time to write their stories and get them to the editor for publication. The editor will now have a more reasonable amount of time to complete all the tasks that are required to publish a newsletter.

When this change occurs members will need to check our web page http://www.donegaltn.org/home.asp more frequently for information about upcoming events and projects that need volunteer help. We believe this change will enable us to continue publishing a high quality newsletter that members will enjoy reading.

We had a perfect day for the Expo on September 11 at Ned Bushong’s farm. A very special thank you to Ned for giving us permission to run all over his place including using the patio on his house for a fly casting class. I would like to thank The Evening Rise, TCO and Quiet Times Fly Shops for coming to the Expo and bringing all kinds of rods, lines, fly tying supplies, clothing, etc. for sale. The first ever fly-casting competition was a smashing success. Participants had an opportunity to test their skills for accuracy and distance. Tyler Hudock cleaned up in both events with a score of 2000 points for accuracy and a distance of 69 feet to win the distance competition. So until next year Tyler has bragging rights for being the best fly caster for the 2004 Fly-Fishing Expo.

This year’s expo also featured a fly casting class taught by Tom Cooney, Andy Becker and Wayne Grauer of Courtland Line Company. Six students participated in the introductory class and 4 students worked on improving their skills in the advanced class.

While the setting on Ned Bushong’s farm was perfect, with a delicious roasted pig for lunch, attendance was very light. My count, including all the helpers from DTU, was only 50 participants. I think the expo is a great idea but it was disappointing that so few people showed up to see what our guests from the fly shops had to offer and participate in the fly-casting competition. It looks like September is not a good time for a fly-Fishing Expo. Would more people be interested in an expo in early May? Should we use our chapter meeting time on a Wednesday evening in May for an Expo next year? We would like to hear from you. Please send your comments to Bob Wyble at wyble@ptd.net.

I am pleased to report that DTU Received the Best Chapter Project Award for the State of Pennsylvania and also an award for the chapter who gained the most members this past year. The best project award was given for our temperature-monitoring program on Lititz Run. The temperature data for June, July and August show that the average water temperature did not exceed 67 degrees this summer. That gives us a clear indication that Lititz Run is a cold-water stream capable of supporting a population of trout through out the year. In fact I have received numerous reports about fisherman catching 5-7 inch Rainbow Trout in Lititz Run. So it is very likely that some natural reproduction is going on in Lititz Run.

Don’t forget to mark your calendar for the October Fest on Wednesday, October 20 at Four Seasons Golf Course Clubhouse. If you have never joined us for the October Fest come on out and join us this year. The food is great, Ted Downs has another great program ready to go, and there are plenty of prizes to be given away.
October Program
Chairman: Ted Downs
The October Fest will be held on Wednesday October 20th at the Four Seasons Golf Course Clubhouse on Church Street in Landisville. The evening begins with cocktails at 6 PM followed by a buffet dinner at 6:45 PM (catered by Enck's). The guest speaker Ed Jaworowski will give a special slide show on saltwater fly fishing. He will also talk about fly tying. He is well known for fly tying, having authored several books on the subject. The cost for dinner is $20.00. You must contact Ted Downs for reservations (393-6645 or email: tdowns30@comcast.net) no later than October 18th.

Membership Committee
Chairman: Bill Billett
Membership for the Donegal Chapter is creeping up towards our goal of 600. With the help of all those who need to renew their membership, we're capable of reaching that goal. This month we have four new members to welcome. They are Steve Russell from New Holland; Scott Summers from Marietta; Cody Clark from Adamstown; and James Brubaker from Manheim. Our four new members plus the fifteen renewals from TU National for this month brings our total membership for the chapter to 515. So once again we need your help to make our organizations known to all those potential members we meet in our social circles, the work place, and on the streams we fish and let them know who we are and what we have to offer them and their community. Let’s sell our product!

Derby Fever (Part 1)
(Continued from page 7)
boat Bonito by a little less than a quarter of a pound. Although Donna thought we should just bury the Bonito on the beach, our fellow anglers explained the importance of getting the fish iced right away so it would not lose any precious weight. Since we didn’t have a cooler with us, Betsy had to scramble with the fish back to the car, drive to the Chappy ferry and back into Edgartown to borrow a cooler and ice from Coop. We were really getting excited as the locals and other more experienced derby anglers explained what a rare catch this was. And in about 3 minutes, we found the beach filling up with more anglers—news travels fast! This was one moment when I disliked cell phones immensely as anglers cozied up to my shoulder to make their casts. You have to understand, the Derby is “the” fall happening in Martha’s Vineyard. To get on the leader board, especially with a rare big bonito from shore, is big news. And there is a lot on the line: cash, tackle, women’s specific awards, weekly awards, and one in four chance at a $30,000 Boston Whaler if the fish is the largest Bonito caught from shore during the entire Derby, which would not end until October 16th, another 3 weeks.

As Betsy rushed to ice her fish, theories were discussed with our angling brethren regarding how to best preserve the full weight of the fish, as they lose weight quickly after being caught. Some folks swear by saltwater and ice, others freshwater and ice, others just ice. We were using just ice...we still don’t know what the right answer is. However, Donna was a nurse and I was a biology major so we figured if fresh ice water is used, the water would be drawn into the fish to equalize the salt content of the surrounding solution. Sounded good anyway.

Betsy got her fish to Coop (after having to ask directions because she was so excited) and left it in a plastic bag in the car. Coop with busy with a customer, so she whispered to Bobby that she had a pretty nice Bonito and it was in the car. Bobby apparently didn’t fully believe her; after all, we were new at this and he figured it was really an Albie but we didn’t know the difference. Of course, he was half right as we didn’t know immediately how good a Bonito it was. When Betsy unveiled the fish, Bobby’s jaw dropped quite a ways, according to Betsy. Coop gave her a hug and told her she was now a “Derby girl”. (to be continued...)

New Member Todd Peters
**Fly Of The Month**

**“Beedle's Beedy Bugger”**

Submitted by Steve Beedle

**Description**
This is my version of a wooly bugger. I like it because it’s a little more flashy than the original. I originally tied this fly for Steelhead, But I have tied it in different colors and sizes and caught Salmon and Trout with it as well.

**Recipe:**
- **Hook:** Mustad Salmon fly hook, up turned eye, size #2-#8;
- **Thread:** Black 6/0 mono;
- **Tail:** Strung purple (violet) marabou and 4 strands of pearl flashabou accent;
- **Body:** 3 gold glass beads and purple Steelhead dubbing
- **Hackle:** Purple (violet) saddle hackle;
- **Head:** black 6/0 mono;
- **Throat:** Silver flashabou.
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Lancaster County Conservation District: by Matthew Kofroth

LANCASTER COUNTY STREAMS NEED YOUR HELP!! Now that I have your attention roll up your sleeves and help out this Fall. The only way a lot of these projects are going to be successful is if volunteers such as DTU members help out. A couple of hours on a Saturday morning will go a long way to improving Lancaster County’s stream resources now and in the future. Please considering helping out wherever possible.

Chiques Creek Watershed Alliance
The Chiques Creek Watershed Alliance is looking for volunteers to help with their ongoing stream monitoring program. The program involves volunteers going out once a month for about 1-2 hours and sampling a section of Chiques Creek. Volunteers receive free training, do not need a background in chemistry or biology, can sample whenever their schedule is free, and get to learn how the water quality of a particular stream changes throughout a year. This is a one-of-a-kind program and is great for residents living close to the Chiques Creek. If you are interested please contact Nancy Halliwell at manager@raphotownship.com or call 665-3827.

Furnace Run/Segloch Run Watershed Alliance
Mark your calendar because on November 6th the Furnace Run/Segloch Run Watershed Alliance is holding their annual fall watershed wide cleanup day. If you have every fished the Segloch you can appreciate how beautiful this Class A Wild trout stream is. Unfortunately others have used sections of the Segloch as their own personal dumping grounds for trash and yard waste. This annual cleanup activity is very important in protecting and preserving this valuable resource for future generations to enjoy. If you are interested please contact Sallie Gregory at sallie.gregory@pa.nacdnet.net or call 299-5361 ext 117.

Hammer Creek Watershed Alliance
Gary Trostle and his guys just finished up another project along Hammer Creek and are looking for assistance to plant some trees and shrubs on the completed project. You do not have to be a world class gardener to plant a riparian buffer. Volunteers from the Hammer Creek Watershed Association will assist you by showing you the proper way to plant a tree, where it should go, and how to dig the correct hole size. Heck they might even dig the hole for you. Several workdays will be forthcoming this Fall and next Spring. So if you are interested please contact Gary at dgrost@dejazzd.com

Hammer Creek Watershed Alliance

Lititz Run Watershed Alliance
Finally, in last month’s Mayflyer you probably heard about the Banta project along Lititz Run and how DTU volunteers will be needed for this project as well. DTU volunteers are needed to seed disturbed areas after the project is complete. Simply throwing seed mix on the ground is all that is needed. If you can throw a ball or even cast a fly rod you can throw seed. We would really like to see many DTU volunteers out helping with this project. To assist in any way on this project contact either Dr. Joe Besecker, Volunteer Committee Chair, or Greg Wilson, Conservation Committee Chair. Their phone numbers and emails can be found next to the monthly calendar section of this newsletter.

Thanks in advance for your help on these very worthwhile projects.
### Board Members

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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### 3 Month Chapter Planner

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<th>Event</th>
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<th>Subject</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
<td>Wed. 10/13-7:00 PM</td>
<td>Millport Conservancy</td>
<td>Normal Meeting</td>
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<td>October</td>
<td>October Fest Chapter Meeting</td>
<td>Wed. 10/20-6:00 PM</td>
<td>Four Season’s Golf Course Clubhouse</td>
<td>“The East Coast Big Four” by Ed Jaworowski</td>
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<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
<td>Wed. 11/10-7:00 PM</td>
<td>Millport Conservancy</td>
<td>Normal Meeting</td>
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<td>November</td>
<td>Chapter Meeting</td>
<td>Wed. 11/17-7:00 PM</td>
<td>Quality Inn &amp; Suites</td>
<td>“Not Just Trout” by Ozzie Ozefovich</td>
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<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>Board Meeting &amp; Officer Elections</td>
<td>Wed. 12/15-7:00 PM</td>
<td>Quality Inn &amp; Suites</td>
<td>“Fly Tying” by Ed Kraft</td>
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#### Derby Fever (Part 1) (Continued from page 8)

stiff or in the wrong direction to use fly rods. One Albie nearly spooled me, but I cranked like crazy to avoid having to return to the shop for more line. Then we experienced the day from hell…and heaven.

It all started fishing as we had all week on the shores of Chappaquiddick (“Chappy”). To get to Chappy, you must take a 5 minute ferry ride across Edgartown Harbor, unless you have 4 wheel drive and can take the land route. As we were spin fishing, Donna’s reel fell apart due to a loose screw. She fixed the screw holding the bail on, but the roller was lost. She even managed to land an Albie on the reel without breaking her line on the sharp edges of the rollerless reel guide. We needed to go back to the tackle shop to get the reel fixed, and then we would have lunch at the house. She was unable to get the reel fixed so Coop gave her a loaner. We had lunch at our rental house, and afterwards found ourselves locked out of the house. Luckily, I left the bedroom window open. After much consternation, I was able to climb into the house through the window. We finally got back to Chappy and after some discussion, decided to fish Wasque Point (mainly because that is where we ended up and I wanted to get out and fish!).

Betsy and I proceeded to the beach. The wind was howling. Betsy suggested that the wind might be less brutal around the point of sand down the beach, but I figured it wouldn’t be much better so we fished near the access to the beach. A few minutes later, after having only caught one bluefish the entire week, Betsy had a fish on…! I figured an Albacore. But it didn’t have the same markings as an Albie when it came out of the wash, although it was about the same size and shape as the Albies I had caught earlier. Voices nearby were exclaiming at what a beautiful Bonito it was. I wasn’t all that excited until I measured it at 28 inches, 7 inches larger than the minimum. At that moment, I knew Betsy had a weigh-in fish. Donna and Betsy got it on the boga grip. It read 9 pounds…a possible derby winner, not just a derby qualifier. The closest Bonito to Betsy’s caught from shore was only a bit over 6 pounds and she was also beating the
I had never been to Martha’s Vineyard in the fall. I was a bit worried, since we would be fishing on the island during the infamous 59th annual Martha’s Vineyard Striped Bass and Bluefish Derby. Would it be crowded? Would the other fishermen be rude? My fishing friend Donna, convinced that entering the Derby would be the kiss of death as far as catching fish was concerned, wasn’t sure if she wanted to enter. She had a point, but our friend and owner of one of the local fishing shops, Coop, told her she might as well go home if she didn’t fish the Derby. All it takes, he said, is one lucky cast. The derby experience definitely exceeded my expectations. My fears were unfounded. Now I am addicted and can’t wait to return. And I didn’t even weigh in a fish. As Coop said, the magic of the Derby comes down to the thought that serendipity can strike at any moment… and it did, but not to me.

After flailing with fly rods and discovering that our spinning reels were seriously underlined, causing both lost fish and lost lures, our first day was one of trial and error. Betsy Miraglia, Donna Trexler and I needed to get our tackle sorted out for Tuesday, when we would go out with Coop (Cooper Gilkes III our mentor, friend and guide). The advantage of fishing with Coop, besides his expertise at finding fish, his personality and legendary status, was that he had a 4 wheel drive vehicle that allowed us to access some great spots. At one such spot we took our fly rods in search of False Albacore. I was stunned to hear Coop say “oh!” as I saw a large striper swirl to my fly… a 20 pound fish that “could have, would have” put me on top in the fly rod shore striper category. I was still astounded that a striper would be feeding in broad daylight as they are more likely to be night feeders. Alas, it didn’t take the fly; it only showed some curiosity. I did catch my first Albacore later that day on a spinning rod as we targeted blitzes from shore.

Blue fish and more Albacore were caught from shore the next day, all on spinning gear, as winds were often too

(Continued on page 7)