Mayflyer

What’s Emerging

I wonder what’s next!

We’ve had the usual summer heat that bakes our fair state. We’ve experienced rain that often accompanies a hurricane as it is dying over us. I don’t want to shovel hail as they have in Colorado. I certainly don’t want forest fires. Maybe in a week we can explore our favorite local stream to see how it’s been changed by the recent weather. I do know that our chapter schedule will be full again. Here’s just a taste of what lies ahead.

Our next Chapter meeting will be August 15 at Climbers Run Nature Preserve. This is our second picnic for the season. A short meeting will start at 6 PM followed by good food and conversation. Chef Stan Shenk will again delight us with his outdoor magic. Come early to do a little fishing or take the family on a hike along the designated Nature Trail.

On Sept. 19 we will be back at the Farm and Home Center. This is an important chapter meeting because the election of officers and board members will take place. The Nominating Committee will have the slate of candidates available soon. Another inducement to attend is that Rick Nyles will be our speaker that evening.

The Lancaster branch of Special Olympics is back in business. We have agreed to help with their Fishing Event on September 22. It will be held at Dr. Hugh Wenger’s pond. Wayne Boggs is in charge of our team of volunteers. I know many of our members have enjoyed assisting these Olympians in the past. Please consider being a part of the excitement and happiness that comes with this fishing experience.

The annual meeting of PA TU will take place Sept 8. This year it will be held at the PA F&B Commission’s Centre Regional Office, 595 Rolling Ridge Drive in Bellefonte. The meeting is open to all TU members. If you have any interest in what is going on in other chapters or at the state level, this is the place to be. More information is available at patrout.org.

As I said, this is just a taste of what is to come. Programs are set for the rest of the year. Octoberfest is just around the corner. Greg and Bob will have planting days this fall. We want all of the plants in the nursery to be streamside before it is time for snow. We are part of an active chapter and I thank all of you for making it so.

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Images of mayflies in this publication are based on photographs from Jason Neuswanger (www.troutnut.com), whose rights, contribution to our knowledge of streamlife, and photographic skills are gratefully acknowledged.
PROGRAMS

AUGUST

We end the Summer with another picnic, this one at Climbers Run Nature Preserve on Frogtown Road outside Marticville. Chef Stan will once again man the grill and treat us with summertime delights to munch on while we swap lies and tell stories about our Summer’s adventures.

SEPTEMBER

We return to the Farm & Home Center and our usual schedule for a program presented by Rick Nyles of Sky Blue Outfitters. Rick’s topic will be a humorous look at “Back to Basics,” reminding us how we got to where we are today before the latest hi-tech gadgets took over our sport. This meeting will also see election of new Officers and Board Members. Join us for what is sure to be an enjoyable meeting.

OCTOBER

For OctoberFest, we’ll return to the Four Seasons Banquet Facility in Landisville. Eric Richard, who had to cancel an earlier presentation, will address the “Behavior of Wild Brown Trout”. Dinner, drinks, and conversation will highlight the meeting, along with the installation of newly-elected Board & Officers. Menu & Reservation details will be on the website and in the October Mayflyer.

DEAN EBERLY
PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

CONSERVATION

FUTURE PROJECTS:

Future projects include a $200,000 project on Bowery Run on the Albright Farm in conjunction with The Alliance for the Bay. A $190,000 project on the Herr Farm on Fishing Creek, a $75,000 project on a no name trib. to Fishing Creek on the Byler Farm and a project on the upper Hammer Creek. All listed projects are fully funded through an assortment of grants. All projects could be built next year.

We are happy to report that the Camp Andrews site has been planted with over 500 trees and looks great. The same can be said about the Peters Creek site as the trees are pushing through their tree tubes.

Garry has the tree nursery filled up with nearly 2000 seedlings. We are also experimenting with heeling in some seedlings till fall. Garry, Barry, Tom Royer and Kevin Fausey have the nursery in good shape.

Dave Wise of Stroud Water research offered us 1000 containerized seedlings, so we found them homes throughout the county. Along with the trees CBF donated 600 tree shelters and stakes. We participated in CBF’s 10 million tree campaign this spring, in an effort to plant 10 million trees in 8 years to help PA try to reach its commitment for the Bay. They generously provided trees, shelters and stakes. As these sites are planted throughout PA the locations will documented.

Greg has taken the training to be a Habitat Steward, this is a project in conjunction with NWF and LCC. The intent is to help homeowners, or any property assess the habitat on their property and help it become a certified property by NWF. We are getting many interested property owners, some of which will lead to more buffer plantings. If any DTU members are interested in an evaluation contact Greg at gregsfish@gmail.com.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The nominating committee will present its report to the Board shortly, with elections scheduled for the September Meeting. If you have any interest in serving on the Board or as an Officer, please contact Barry Witmer, Bill Nolan or Mark McMaster ASAP.

Friend and DTU partner, Matt Kofroth will be honored with Alliance for the Bay’s 2018 Environmental Award for outstanding contributions to the Chesapeake Watershed. Well-deserved!
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We support Trout Unlimited And Their Efforts in Conservation!
One of my first assignments when I joined our Board seven years ago was to coordinate the Chapter’s program to send youth to the Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp. At that time, I had never heard about the Camp. Over the years I learned what an outstanding opportunity it is for youth to spend a week learning about the environment and fly fishing. In addition to classroom learning, the students construct a project on the Yellow Breeches and in many cases catch their first trout on a fly.

While I coordinated the River’s Camp activities, I had never been to see it. So, on June 20, 2018 I did just that. I was invited to the Camp as the guest of John Leonard who is a PATU Executive Vice President and the President of the Cumberland Valley Trout Unlimited (CV-TU) Chapter. CVTU plans and operates the Rivers Camp every year. This was their twenty-fourth year.

While there I watched the students work on two stream projects. The first project (see first two pictures) was to maintain an existing structure on the Yellow Breeches under the supervision of Stephanie Rider. Stephanie is a CVTU member and Director of Gleim Environmental Group, part of John Gleim, Inc. in Carlisle. Gleim works with CVTU on many of their environmental projects. The second project (see third picture) was to survey the Yellow Breeches and collect information to develop an environmental plan to be constructed by next year’s River Camp students.

The last picture from left to right is: John Leonard, Rod Cross and Dr. Tom Sholseth. Rod Cross is the Camp Co-Director and Past President of the Falling Spring Chapter. Dr. Tom Sholseth, DVM, MPVM (Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, Master Preventative Veterinary Medicine) lives on Vancouver Island in Canada and volunteers at the Camp every year. He is the author of the book “How Fish Work.”

I also met and talked several students including the two students our Chapter sponsored - Andrew Gusavage of Lititz and Ben Rathman of Lancaster. Every student was enthusiastic about being a part of the Camp.

Since my I initial involvement with the Rivers Camp, I have developed a healthy respect for it. That respect was reinforced by my visit. There is no doubt in my mind that sponsoring students to go to the Camp is an investment that will pay dividends now and for years to come.
Project Tour

With no meeting in July, Board Member Fran McIlhenny had the idea of staging a tour of some of our project sites, from projected to those underway to completed. He made the proposal and was given approval at the July Board Meeting. Conservation Co-Chairs Bob Kutz & Greg Wilson and Barry Witmer came up with a list of sites to visit and the Board approved. With such short notice, invitations were emailed to friends, partners and sponsors of the chapter, local officials and some more-active chapter members.

With about 30 people signed up, a small bus was rented by several of the leaders. The day began with a breakfast introduction at Double Tree where Garry Longenecker, Bob & Greg gave an overview of our goals. Unfortunately the heat & humidity as well as other commitments led to some pre-registrants being unable to attend, but roughly 20 people toured sites on Fishing Creek, the Conowingo and Peters Creek.

The tour was a resounding success, and plans are already being laid to do another in 2019, with more notice to members, sponsors, partners and local officials. DTU wants to actively spread the word about the work we are doing in cold water conservation throughout Lancaster County.

Photos courtesy Greg Wilson & Lydia Martin
Chef Stan Shank treated roughly 50 members and friends of the Chapter to brats, macaroni salad, chips, tomato & mozz with cherries, grapes & cookies for dessert. The feast led to lots of friendly conversation along Lititz Run at Millport.

New member Brian Gish is pictured at the bottom with Membership Chairman Fran McIlhenny.

Our VSP program’s continued their outings with a visit to Ned Bushong’s pond.

Our thanks to Ned for making us feel at home.
The Chapter participated in Water Week this year by joining Millport Conservancy and several other friends of the Lititz Run watershed. Members gave fly casting instruction, fly tying demonstrations, tours of the Run and our native tree nursery. Conservation District staff sampled the Run’s trout and macroinvertebrates. Lancaster Bee Keeper and PA Game Commission spoke about the apiary at Millport and local birds.

Other events were held at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, the Hatchery and an end-of-day celebration at Rock Lititz featuring Fetish Brewing Co’s beer.
Invasives on Spring Creek

We’ve received word from PATU that New Zealand Mud Snails have been found on Spring Creek in Centre County. Since this creek is such a popular one among fly fishermen throughout the state, the risk of spreading this invasive species is significant. Please take all possible precautions in disinfecting your gear after any visit to this stream. They are admittedly arduous, but that alone should tell you how important containing this threat is.

MARK MCMASTER

Aquatic Invasive Species Alert
New Zealand Mudsnaill

New Zealand mudsnail (NZM) is in this waterway. The snails are very small, measuring less than ¼ inch, with a dark, narrow, coiled shell with deep grooves. Like other Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS), they disrupt ecosystems by rapidly multiplying and competing with native species for space and food. NZM have the potential to decrease the food supply for fish in this stream. The snails are found on rocks and vegetation and can attach to fishing gear, boats and other equipment where they can easily go unseen.

Anglers, boaters, swimmers and tubers can unknowingly spread NZM!

Help Stop the Spread of NZM.
Clean Your Gear!

Check these areas

Clothing
Fishing rod, reel and line
Fishing vests
Nets and tackle
Shoes or boots

New Zealand mudsnail requires specialized disinfection measures:
- Visually inspect gear and remove and dispose of any clinging matter in the trash. Do not move mud, organic matter or NZM from this area.
- To kill NZM, three methods are effective:
  - Freeze gear for a minimum of 6 hours
  - Soak gear in hot water (120°F to 140°F) for 5 minutes.
- This method is not recommended for GOR-TEX®
- Soak gear for 5 minutes in a 1 to 1 solution of Formula 409® Cleaner Degreaser Disinfectant and water. After soaking, thoroughly rinse the gear with plain water. Simply spraying gear with the disinfectant or the mixture does not work.
- Also, general cleaners (including other 409 products) have not been shown to be effective against NZM.

STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

For more information about New Zealand mudsnail, visit “Resources” on the PA Sea Grant website at www.pasagrant.org/fact_sheet_groups/invasive-species/ and scroll down to Fact Sheets – Invertebrates and the mudsnail photo link.