



STREAMSIDE

Volume 15 Issue 3

the Dame Juliana League Fly Fishers' Quarterly Newsletter

July 2009

Successful meeting year concludes with awards and prizes

The final meeting of the season was held at the Kimberton Fire Company main meeting hall. Thirty six members and guests were in attendance. President Dunn covered much club business including dates for the Kimberton Fire Company Fair, Chester County Conservation Camp, and the plans for having Mike Costello present a four day course on fly casting.

View from Kennedy Bridge

By Troy Dunn, DJL President



Wow, is it really July? I can't believe the cool temps and regular precipitation we've been having. I'm starting to think that central air was not a good investment ... but on the other hand, we should have plenty of

holdover trout in southeastern PA this year. Traveling too much for work, I missed a whole bunch of good mayfly fishing this year, but I did manage a few trips this spring, and I'm still looking forward to my normal summer sojourns.

Our Fly Fishing Course in April was another sell out sensation. We had excellent weather, and all of the participants had a great time. As usual my thanks go out to all the club members who volunteered their time to make this annual tradition a success.

In early May, Emerson Cannon organized a day trip to the Yellow Breeches near Carlisle, PA. Some of the newer members in our club seemed to be getting the hang of things, and I enjoyed getting to know some new faces. Thanks for organizing such a great trip Emerson, I hope we can do it again soon.

Continued, page 2

The slate of officers recommended by the Board of Directors was presented and voted on: Troy Dunn, President; Joe Vasile, treasurer; and Roy Cubbler, Secretary. Chairs of committees were also presented. The office of vice president is open, and we are seeking someone to fill that office with the expectation that he/she would serve in the future as president. The slate of officers was approved by unanimous vote.

Bob Molzahn presented the prestigious Rusty Hook Award to French Creek land owner and DJL friend and supporter, John Hoekstra. President Dunn then made a surprise presentation of a Life Membership and copy number 1 of the drawing of Sheeder Mill Bridge to immediate past president, Bob Molzahn. Bob's long and active presidency saw our club come back from the edge of disbandment. Because of Bob's own personal standing among various conservation and fishing organizations, our club is now well respected throughout the nation.

Featured speaker for the evening was Mike Dadd whose presentation involved his experiences fly fishing on New York's Salmon River. Mike's talk was enthusiastically received by the members and guests present.

Regina and Joe King presided over the drawing for prizes from the annual DJL raffle. Winners were Todd Bowersox, antique fishing poster; Ted Nawalinski, Orvis T3 mid-flex fly rod; and Mel Spencer, Raleigh Mojave 2.0 mountain bicycle.

This meeting concluded our series of programs for the 2008 - 2009 year, and we can feel a great deal of pride concerning the wonderful slate of programs presented during that time, as well as the number of projects and events which were undertaken. ♦

To Do:

Because videocassettes are in the process of being converted to DVDs, please return all cassettes and DVDs at the September meeting for conversion to digital or recataloging. Thank you for your cooperation.

View from Kennedy Bridge

By Troy Dunn, DJL President


(Continued from page 1)

This month I've been working the fall line-up as usual, and getting folks together to staff the Kimberton Fair activity. We have barely enough volunteers to cover the Fair this year. If you're still interested in helping out, please feel free to stop by the fair entrance on Rt. 113, Monday 20 July - Wednesday 22 July, between 6PM and 10PM. We'll be there collecting parking donations as usual. This is always a great opportunity to find a fishing partner if you are new to the club.

For those of you who expressed interest in the intermediate fly casting course... that's still in the works. We've located a suitable property for the activity, and will be holding the course during the month of August. I will have more details soon.

On a sad note, DJL lost an invaluable member of our club this spring. Lance Morien, our membership coordinator and long time board member passed away suddenly on May 24th. Lance was probably the most amicable person I've ever met, and his contributions to our club are too numerous to count. I have fond memories of sitting with Lance at our flyfishing course at the fly tiers picnic table, trying to tie flies while Lance cranked out woolly bugger after woolly bugger at production speed. Unfortunately I never had the opportunity to fish with Lance, although we talked about it many times, there always seemed to be something else going on. While I still struggle to get my head around Lance's untimely death, it gives me some comfort to know that I'm a better person for having known him. ♦

Tight lines- Troy



Orvis Downingtown
Brandywine Square Shopping Center
70 Quarry Road, Unit K
Downingtown, PA 19335
Manager: Gene Pantan

Orvis Downingtown

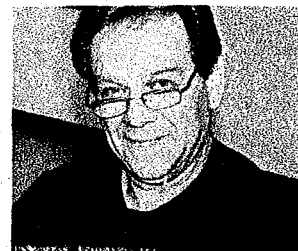
Hours:
Mon, Tues, Weds, Fri
10AM - 6PM
Thurs 10AM - 8PM
Sat 9AM - 6PM
Sun 12 PM - 5PM

610-873-8400

I never lost a *little* fish—yes, I am free to say
It always was the biggest fish I hooked that got away.

Eugene Field (1889)

Remembering Lance Morien

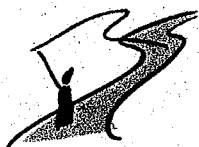


When I first joined Dame Juliana, Lance Morien was one of the first "veterans" who extended the hand of welcome to me. I came to appreciate Lance as a quiet, gentle man who loved to fish, was an expert fly tier, and one who was always willing to sit and explain the intricacies of fishing that mystified a new fly fisher. Many times I sat in front of Lance and watched as he effortlessly turned out beautifully tied flies. I would ask why he did this or that, and without fail, he would speak in his soft voice and answer my question totally. A man of few words, he would say exactly what had to be said to answer each question completely. Only then would he again focus on his work. Never did he make me feel that my questions were unimportant. To the contrary, his patience and willingness to answer each question made me feel comfortable in asking.

Without fail, Lance could be counted on to support our club by serving as an officer, serving on the board of directors, assisting at the fly fishing course, and participating in many other club events and functions. As editor of the DJL newsletter, STREAMSIDE, and as the new secretary, I attended board meetings. I was always amazed at the fact that Lance seldom spoke. He was always above the hubbub, but he was always one of those individuals who, when he did decide to make a point, everyone listened. I learned that he usually spoke directly to crux of the discussion, and his words were well thought out and logical.

When I learned of Lance's passing, it took a while for the news to sink in. I was truly stunned. I could not believe that such a vital and vibrant man could leave us so soon. The lesson learned is that we never know when the Great Fisher will cast his net in our direction. But we may be assured that when the Great Fisher brought Lance into his net, he knew he had landed the best in the pond.

Our club will miss Lance's willingness to pitch in and help out, we will miss his wisdom, and we will miss his expertise in tying and in the art of fly fishing. We will miss his love for his New York fishing experiences. We will miss his quiet strength. All of that is true and more, but on a personal level, we will miss a man who, above all, was a good friend. Lance left a void in our world which can never be filled. ♦



The first casts

By Roy Cubbler

In the last issue, I indicated that I would try to write a regular column designed for those who are relatively new to the sport of fly fishing for trout. I mentioned that I would use any resource I could find, including advice from experts. I recently read a book entitled, *Intelligent Trouting: Fly Fishing Basics and Beyond*, by Thomas Neil Zacoï. In that book I found the most elemental concept for fly fishing, and I think it is a great place to start.

Zacoï refers to a comment by an acclaimed author, Gary LaFontaine. It is great advice, and I think it will help any of us who are trying to improve our fishing skills. LaFontaine says, "if any fly fisher, beginner to advanced, would take five or even ten minutes sitting next to the stream and just watch the water before beginning to cast, he or she would fish better the whole day."

Now, the point LaFontaine is making, I think, is that we have several choices of which type of fly to use, and by watching the water for a bit, we can more intelligently select the fly. If, while watching, we see that the fish are working the surface (rising) we would select a dry fly pattern that most nearly matches the insects they are feeding on. A true expert can tell immediately what the insects are, but for those of us who fit into the "rookie" list, we must try to use a seine net, or binoculars, (or hope that one insect lands on our arm) and then try to match what we find. Luckily, although it helps for future trips, we don't even have to know the name of the darned thing, we just have to find a dry fly in the box which looks most like it in body, wing, color, and size.

Of course, the major job that a trout has is to eat. If the trout are not rising on that particular visit, they are still eating below the surface, and then the job becomes a tad more difficult. We have to use a soft hackle, nymph, or streamer, and fish below the surface. ♦

Gone Fishin'

Next DJL Meeting
Monday, September 28, 2009
7:30 p.m.



Christine Sharbaugh

Barry Staats

The Sporting Gentleman ORVIS.

300 W. State Street, Suite 100
Media, PA 19063
610.565.6140 fax 610.565.0428
www.sportinggentleman.com

The following letter was received by Dame Juliana League, Fly Fishers, and is presented here in its entirety:

6-15-09

Members of the Dame Juliana League:

My name is Jack. I'm from Batavia, N.Y. and for almost 40 yrs, fishing partner of Lance Morien. We started fly fishing around 1970-71 and continued to do so until his untimely death on May 24th. Anyone who knew Lance knew what kind of person he was, and in 45 yrs I knew him (he worked for us in the summer when he was in college) we never had a bad word between us.

In the early days we fished local streams mostly until he married Irene & moved to Montana and then to PA (I never forgave him for that). It was a friendship that only happens once in a lifetime if we're lucky. I will never get over the fact that I will never get to talk to him, fish with him, share stories of our grandchildren, or make plans for our next trip, but I will have the best of memories.

Enclosed you will find a ck in Lance's memory. He spoke highly of your club & the things you do. He really enjoyed being a member.

I told Irene that we were making a donation to the club. Please inform her you received it.

Also find a ck for \$20.00 for dues. I may never attend a meeting, but it will make me feel better being a part of something Lance enjoyed.

Thank you for your time & don't pass up that next outing. You never know.

Pat & Jack Chmielowiec