# STEAMSIDE

Volume 19 Issue 3

Periodical Newsletter of the Dame Juliana League

Fall 2013

#### View from Kennedy Bridge by Troy Dunn, President



A big shout out to our Kimberton Fair volunteers! We had a great turn out collecting donations from about 5:30PM until about 9:30PM on Monday July 22nd through Wednesday July 24th.

By the time the newsletter goes to print we will have already had our first meeting of the fall, with **Bob Ballantyne** presenting **Fly Fishing the Florida Keys**. Check out our great

line up for the fall either in the newsletter or on-line. We wrap up with a fly tying get together in December.

Our Facebook page is up and running and we have many likes but could use a few more, if you are a Facebook member be sure to like our club page and have your friends like us too!

At the September DJL board of Directors meeting I announced my intent to step down as president next spring. I've thoroughly enjoyed leading the club for the past six years but have recently been unable to give this responsibility the full attention it deserves. Announcing my intentions now leaves ample time for the club to identify a replacement and will ensure a successful transition during the 2014-15 seasons.

Joe Vasile our club treasurer will also be leaving his post at this time. We thank Joe for his service these many years. In the coming months we will be working diligently to identify new club officers, schedule elections in the spring and plan a seamless transition. All officer roles are now up for re-election. If you would like to become an officer of the club or are interested in other ways you might help out please contact my self or one of the other board members so we can discuss the various duties performed throughout the organization and find a suitable match.



Tight lines- Troy

#### Fall 2013 Meeting Schedule

Meetings are held at the Kimberton Fire Co. Fairgrounds Meeting Hall. Doors open at 7:15 PM. Meeting begins at 7:30PM.

#### October 28 (Monday)

Featuring Barry Staats & Steve Turrisi from The Sporting Gentleman

#### "Atlantic Salmon Fishing on the Gaspe Peninsula"

November 25 (Monday)

Featuring our own, Troy Dunn

#### "Fly Fishing the Pere Marquette"

**December 30** (Monday)

Featuring the League's expert fly tyers

#### "Fly Tying Roundup"

Fly tying equipment, materials and instruction will be provided to all members who want to learn this craft—email djlff@comcast.net to sign-up.

A short video by "world renowned fly fisherman" Hank Patterson will also be shown.

"Bring a Friend"

### Chester County Conservation Camp: Another Great Year!

Each year the League provides sponsorship for two 11-14 year-olds to attend the Chester County Conservation Camp in July. The Camp is held at French Creek State Park and has been tremendously successful over many years. The sponsorships are supported through our Learn to Fly Fish Course. These letters came from the two youngsters we supported this year. Enjoy!

My name is Sarah Maenner and I was given a scholarship to the Chester County Conservation Camp (CCCC) by your organization in July 2013. It was one of the best experiences of my life and I can't wait to go next year! We were sorted into cabins on the first day. I shared mine with my twin sister, one of my best friends, and four other people who we quickly became friends with. The entire camp participated in activities like learning how to canoe, fish (I caught my first fish ever!), and rescue drowning people. We also went birdwatching, cleared areas of the forest of invasive species, practiced archery, and learned about watersheds.

On Wednesday CCCC went on a little field trip. We drove up to a gun range and we divided into three groups. Two groups shot guns while the third did arts and crafts. My group shot shotguns first. I was told they "kicked." but I didn't imagine it was so hard! I had a bruise where the butt hit my upper arm for days. The .22s were more fun and it was easier to see what you were shooting at. After that we went down to the Brandywine to canoe. Or canoe some of the time. During the trip most of the campers were outside of our canoes walking or swimming. I lost my canoe early on to others so I hitched rides with other canoes the rest of the way. It was wicked fun!

The people at CCCC were great, too. The counselors were awesome, the LITs (Leaders-in-Training) are your best friends, and the campers are a delight. One day I when I was coming out of the bathroom building I saw

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#### **Getting More Out of Your Fishing Kayak With Outriggers**

by Mike Ferraro

If you feel that you have a need for increased stability on your kayak or canoe when you fish lakes or bays the outriggers I've made are a possibility for you. They are easily constructed and use as their core a pair of Ram fishing rod holders model 119, some PVC pipe and fittings and some crab pot floats. The Outriggers are easily raised for paddling or removed for transportation or use on creeks or rivers.



The Ram Tubes-#119 are available from Hook1 kayak supplies for \$37.99 each, but if you search around you may find them at a better price. I bought the crab pot floats down the shore. The Ram mounts feature a 1 1/2 inch rubber coated aluminum ball mount that allows the out rigger to articulate downward or upward and then be tightened with the clamp on the rod holder when they are in the position you want. I have my ball mounts bolted to a milk crate in the back of the kayak which is held securely by

turnbuckles to the pad eyes. The balls could be mounted to the kayak itself but I didn't want to drill into the kayak and access to the interior back was limited to put in a backing plate. There is considerable stress on the mount.

This is a photo of the Ram Tube showing in detail the clamp and the ball base. The outrigger arms are constructed of 1 inch



and 1/2 inch schedule 40 PVC with associated fittings. The 1 inch PVC arms on my outriggers are 30 inches long and are fixed into the Ram tube by drilling a hole thru the tube and the arm and using a wire lock pin. My arm ends with a 1 inch by 1/2 inch tee fastened to the arm with another wire lock pin although I believe you could do with a 1 inch by 1/2 inch 90 degree fitting glued to the arm with a short section of 1/2 inch pvc and a 1/2 inch tee which would accommodate the 1/2 inch pipe going thru the floats. Put a 1/2 inch cap on the pipe going thru the floats to prevent water entry.

When the rod mount clamps are loos-

ened, the floats drop onto the water surface. Tighten the clamps and stand up. To facilitate standing you may wish to tie a line to the bow and hold onto it as you pull yourself up. You now have a much more stable platform for fishing. If you have questions about this, give me a call at home- 610-269-8140.











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#### **Just Another Day at the Office**

by John Burgos

I just got back from a whirlwind 2 1/2 day fishing trip to my favorite central Pennsylvania streams. This trip included a visit to Penns Creek at Ingleby and a Sunday afternoon on the Little Juniata at Barree Gorge on Monday. But the highlight of the trip, as it usually is, was the visit to my "office."

My friends in Bellefonte have kidded me about fishing Penns Creek in the Cherry Run section. They have accused me of going there often enough that I ought to set up an office and request a parking space. Truth is, it is the closest, nicest stream to my home. On my getaway days, I like to end close to home. So, I go to the office.

I got to Cherry Run at about 7:50 AM on a Tuesday. There were already two cars there but I saw no one. I dressed and went right down to the granite memorial below the parking ar-

ea. I love that section - there are some really nice holes downstream. So I waded out and started back toward a nice looking tree. I started with a green soft hackle and a Walts Worm. I cast to random holes as I walked and a nice 16-inch brown slammed the Worm. No need for watching the indicator there! Then I made it to the tree. This hole produced back-to-back 18-inch browns. I couldn't believe it. One took the Walts Worm, the other, the soft hackle. In about 15 minutes I had over 50 inches of hardfighting native browns!

Well, then I hung up my rig. I backed out and wanted to hit the hole Troy always fishes, but, man, I never do

anything there. I had just talked with my friend Pat that morning. He, too, said I was completely lame for being shutout there. Not sure why. Not the lame part. I'm quite sure of that.

This morning there were crane flies coming off everywhere, followed closely by small caddis. Some mayflies were around, but not many that early.

Well, I continued to a nice stream convergence below an island that I call the "bobber hole." It is perfect for practicing "indicator" fishing. A guy was parked there. We chatted a bit and I moved down towards Cherry Run, the tributary. This is where things slowed down a bit. There's a real dependable dugout tree right below this but I couldn't get anything there. Continuing downstream there is a nice run that has really produced for me. I've done very well there in past trips. I had a tough time in that nice run after the bend and it was slow at first, but then I started to catch more fish. I had one that was 17, and several

other nice, but smaller fish.

On my way back, not being able to pass that bobber hole, I threw my rig in there. I caught one right away but that was it.

Now I decided to head up the right side of the island (road side). Basically, I'm coming off a couple of hours of slow fishing. I get to the first couple of riffles that usually produce - and nothing! Next riffles - still nothing. Man, this day has gone downhill!

Then I get to the really deep hole with the overhanging tree that is impossible to cast to and where I've never caught anything. So why try today? But it is too inviting not to throw flies into. All of a sudden I get a nice tug and I'm into what turns out to be the closest thing to a 20 incher I landed this year. The picture does not show its size too well, but this guy taped out at

19+. Maybe with imaginative measuring, or perhaps the rack, I could have got it to 20. This guy took the Walt's Worm.

An interesting experience occurred while I was unhooking him. I'm kneeling in very shallow water. All of a sudden a fish hits something right next to me. I look. I see no fish, so it couldn't have been a bruiser. But apparently it was after this dead mole. I don't think my fish coughed it up as it did not really look like it had been eaten. However, its body, without the tail, was well bigger than my cell phone.

I guess no need to be shy when mousing!

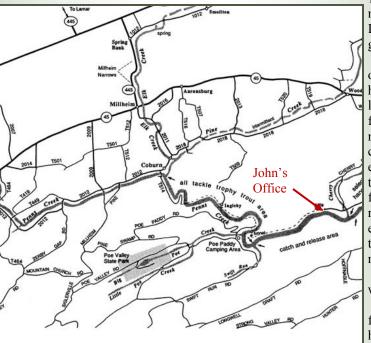
After all that, I went back to fishing that hole. Lo and behold, who shows up but the white whale! I hook this beast

of a fish but it will not come out of that deep hole. I can't even move it. Then it runs down that nice channel below and I am putting a lot of pressure on this guy. I only had 5X tippet, and I am pretty sure I was at the breaking point. I could see this coming and it, indeed, ran right into the roots of the dugout tree below. My hooks stuck right in the root and he was gone! I never even saw him.

Man, that was exciting. Two memories out of a hole that never gave me anything before!

After that I worked my way back up to the last hole at the top of the island (road side). I caught at least one more there. Anyway, I ended my first part of the day back at my tree hole where I caught three more trout, all 17+ inches and again encountered a whale that would not let me pull him out. Again, I applied a lot of pressure on this guy but too much, as the hook pulled out.

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#### **Chesapeake Watershed States Hook Up**

- IFFF Mid-Atlantic region fly fishing clubs get long awaited leadership -

The Chesapeake Council of the International Federation of Fly Fishers announced its formation today to represent the federation's membership and clubs from the states of Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia and Washington, D.C. The new council's first order of business is to revive activity between the region's ten clubs that have been without central support for the last five years.

Marty Laksberg, council president, described the council objectives this way, "We plan to help enable our clubs to reach their fundamental goals through leadership programs, strong centralized communication and program support." Mr. Laksberg went on to say, "In order to engage new and existing IFFF membership, we have identified and targeted areas in need of clubs and plan to reach out to members in those areas to make it as easy as possible for them to start their own clubs."

The Chesapeake Council will be at the Lancaster, PA Fly Fishing Show held on March 1 and 2, 2014. They will be offering free fly fishing instruction at the IFFF Learning Center located at the IFFF booth. Basic fly casting, fly tying and knot tying will be taught throughout each day of the show.

For more information on the Chesapeake Council, or to find a club near you, visit their website at http://www.ccifff.org.

Since 1964, the International Federation of Fly Fishers has been an organized voice for fly fishers. They represent all aspects of

fly fishing from the art of casting instruction and fly tying, to the protection of our fisheries. The International Federation of Fly Fishers and its Councils are the only organized advocate for fly fishers on a national and regional level. Today they have over 300 clubs.

The IFFF Casting Instructor Certification Program (CICP) was developed in 1992 to enhance the overall level of instruction in fly casting by increasing instructor knowledge, casting proficiency and teaching ability. A secondary goal was to create a common understanding of casting terminology and casting mechanics that would serve the fly-casting community, internationally and in North America.

If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Ken Tidy at 302-530-5115 or email him at <a href="mailto:kptidy@comcast.net">kptidy@comcast.net</a>.

The Dame Juliana League is an affiliated member club of the IFCC, formerly the Federation of Fly Fishers. The Chesapeake Council was formerly the Mid-Atlantic Council. The Chesapeake Council is one of 15 councils across the U.S. and has over 600 members and ten charter and affiliated clubs that are also members. Members of the League are encouraged to also become members of the IFCC. More information on membership can be found on the IFCC website, www.fedflyfishers.org.



#### Flies That Work: The Game Changer from Emerson Cannon

I had heard about this new fly that will revolutionize streamer fishing about 6-8 months ago. It is called the Game Changer. It was invented by Blane Chocklett, the guy who made the gummy minnow and other cicadas that look real. It is tied on 4 articulated splines. It wiggles and works!

I tied up one Game Changer for Baja trying to get these guys...barilette or black skippies...to eat it. They are the Pacific albacore. It worked! Only problem was as I was waiting for the fly to flutter on down about 20 feet with a 600 grain line, but these guys kept eating it!







To see it in action check out: <a href="http://flymenfishingcompany.org/products/fish-skull-products/fs-articulated-fish-spine/">http://flymenfishingcompany.org/products/fish-skull-products/fs-articulated-fish-spine/</a>
Watch the video and then if interested in how to tie, it says click here for detailed instructions about midway down the page. The same people who make Fish Skulls (Flymen) make all of the parts. It takes you to a PDF which you could save.

The difficulty level is not super high but it takes a long time to tie. It took me one and a quarter hours to make one! It has potential for smallmouths, larger brown trout and of course saltwater fish. Try it out and let me know how it works for you.

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Last year, Larry Heimes wrote about his June day on the Upper Perkiomen Creek, and I wanted to add a similar experience from this summer. Being a member of Trout Unlimited, I occasionally attend their meetings at the Red Hill library. The TU members have long taken care of the West Branch of the Perkiomen, spending a lot of time in Bally, at the Alderfer Farm, just off of Route 100. And talking about the wild brown trout in that section of the Perky. A hot July day this summer I parked my car across from the farm at Jake's Flea Market and made the short walk through a field to the stream. It is only 10-15 feet wide, well bordered by thick foliage, overhanging trees and some vines suspended down into the water, which I hooked nicely later in my excursion. I had the stream all to myself, and you know how sweet that can be. I positioned myself barely in the water on the opposite bank of where I had entered and tossed in a Bead Head Hare's Ear nymph in a short run and on the second or third cast landed a pretty 7-8 inch wild brown trout. Lucky for me, because after that it was the familiar chubs, surely relatives of those that are all over our fly only section of the French Creek, particularly it seems after June. But I am surely going back to explore more of that interesting section of stream and highly recommend it.

- Dave Capone, Trout Fishers Journal, September 2013



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After that, I went back to my car, chatted with guys in the parking area, then headed upstream to the islands. It was starting to get late for me, so I knew this was going to be quick. Well, I got to the second island and approached it at the very deep "sucker water" area on the trail side. I hooked one trout, then hooked the smallmouth bass in the picture. Interesting.

Continuing, I fished fast and then walked up to the third island where I caught several fish in some of the normal places. But I was moving too fast now to do much. It was getting cloudy, I was getting very tired and clumsy, so I walked up to where my friends kid me of having one of my "white whale" experiences (which, incidentally, I never had there). I actually stopped on the way to throw nymphs into that beautiful green deep pocket water and actually caught a couple. I almost never get anything there, but, at the top, where I usually get some, nothing. But I was really beat by this time, and the rain was starting. I turned and fished to the white whale holes. But they produced nothing. So I walked back.

It was kind of funny. While walking up to the last section I practically stepped on a guy who was kind of sacked out waiting for the bugs to come off. Sometimes you can wait forever there. They probably started to rise. But I was long gone by then.

Long story. But it was fun.



"The curious thing about fishing is you never want to go home. If you catch something you can't stop. If you don't catch anything, you hate to leave in case something might bite."

- Gladys Tabor

#### Camp is continued from page 1

counselors snooping around outside of the nurse's cabin. They seemed up to something so I watched. All of a sudden there was a holler and water stared flying everywhere. Initially the water war was between the "teams" of counselors and LITs, but campers soon joined in. It was great fun. The week we were camping was the hottest one of the summer. The water felt so good!

Thank you very much for giving me the scholarship to CCCC. I learned so much in one week and love the camp.

\*\*\*

Dear Dame Juliana League,

I would like to thank the Dame Juliana League for giving me the scholarship to Chester County Conservation Camp. I really appreciated the scholarship!

I had lots of fun! One thing was swimming in the pool at "Paradise Farms"; the water really cooled me off! Another thing was that I loved the food (I'm a picky eater, so when I say I loved the food I mean I loved the food)! I also enjoyed the Counselors, Leaders in Training (L. I. T.'s) and all of the campers; they helped make my first year **not** my only year! My favorite part was the came trip because of

was the canoe trip because of being able to tip people over and being tipped over! I also enjoyed the campfires; I liked telling and hearing riddles and scary stories!

I enjoyed learning about birds. I learned that the Vultures have a bald head so they don't smell as bad as they would with feathers on their head, because the feathers trap the bad smell of the dead animals they just ate, and I learned much more. I thought it

was interesting that some birds are named after what their calls are like the Phoebe bird. We also went for an amazing walk in the woods to look for different types of birds; we found 16 or 17 different types of birds including the Robin, Phoebe, and much more! I also learned that some scientist believe that there is a bigger woodpecker in the world than the Pileated Woodpecker!

I loved going fishing at the pond! Fishing was one of my favorite parts because it was really fun! I caught 15 fish including a Big Mouth Bass, sun fish, and more! The Leaders in Training put the worms on our hooks and the counselors would take the fish off the hook then release it in the water! I am really glad we went fishing!

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Dame Juliana League for giving me the scholarship to Chester County Conservation Camp I had an amazing first time experience doing fun things including swimming, the canoe trip, learning about birds and last but certainly not least: fishing!

> Sincerely, Brianna R. Canzano



#### **ARTICLES WANTED!!**

The next edition of **STREAMSIDE** is due out in January, 2014. If you would like to write an article, story, share a fly pattern or write a poem please do so and send it by December 31, 2013, in MS Word format to

rfm1949@comcast.net.

All articles received will be published.

#### Dame Juliana League

Fly Fishers
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