

# STREAMSIDE



Volume 23 Issue 3

Periodical Newsletter of the Dame Juliana League

Fall 2017

## Riffles & Runs *by John Burgos, President*

Welcome back to the 2017 fall season with Dame Juliana. I hope your spring and summer have been full of fishing adventures. As for me, I spent plenty of the early season chasing local trout. When the weather turned hot, I targeted other quarry and found a healthy population of cooperative smallmouth bass and panfish on several of our local waters.

This summer I also had the opportunity to travel to Bozeman, Montana. Happily, the nature of my work allowed me to spend an extended period there. Few places in this country offer so many fishing options. Beyond, the fishing one must just taken in the vastness (Right: View from Beartooth Highway, Madison River Brown Trout)

It's been a quite summer. We've been working (well, mostly Emerson has) to bring you a great slate of speakers this

season so be sure to join us on September 25th for **Steve Turrisi**. Steve works with the Sporting Gentlemen and will do a program on fishing Valley Creek.

Do you think you know Valley? Join us and find out. Please see below for the



complete slate of presentations.

On the subject of presentations, another year has gone by and lots of new experiences gained. If you have a story to tell,



and we know you do. What fisherman doesn't? Please use the club as your forum. We welcome all "homegrown" presentations. Contact me if you have any questions or ideas for a presentation.

Beyond presentations, we'll be jumping back into the planning next spring's fly fishing course. Note that next year will be the 25th year that we've been able to offer this course. It is hard to extend as much thanks and praise on **Bob Molzahn** for all the effort that is involved in making this course happen for the past 25 years. This course continues to be our single largest club fundraiser and supports our contributions to the **Chester County Conservation Camp** for kids to attend and our donation to **Project Healing Waters**.

We are always in need of planners, instructors and helpers to make this course successful. This coming year we will need help in putting together the course manual. If you have some extra time and can help, please contact any board member or send us an email.

Several of our members, most notably **Ted Nawalinski** and **Mike Ferraro** routinely volunteer their time with **Project Healing Waters (PHW)**. We can't say enough about this organization that is dedicated to giving back to our veterans. PHW will be holding a series of fly fishing gear auctions that will be conducted through email. If you would like shop and bid on some great new fishing gear, while at the same time supporting a great organization, please see Ted to have your name added to the email distribution list.

As always, we have the need for volunteers to attend civic meetings (eg. township meetings) whenever discussions involve any matter that impacts our watershed or public access. No past expertise is necessary. We need folks who can take detailed notes and give us a run down on what local institutions have in mind.

We'll see you this fall.



## Fall 2017 Meeting Schedule

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

### **September 25 (Monday)**

Featuring Steve Turrisi from the Sporting Gentlemen Fly Shop  
**"Fly Fishing Valley Creek (PA)"**

### **October 30 (Monday)**

Featuring Tim O'Neill of O'Neill's Fly Fishing  
**"Fly Fishing for Shad-Tactics and Techniques"**

November 27 (Monday)

Featuring Sam Vigorita from Main Line fly Tyers  
**"Upper Delaware Tactics for Wild Trout"**

December 26 (Tuesday)

Featuring the League's Expert Fly Tyers  
**"Fly Tying Roundup"**

*Fly tying equipment, materials and instruction will also be provided to all members who want to learn this craft—email djlffpa@gmail.com to sign-up.*

**"Meetings are open to the public so bring a friend"**

## THE LAST FISH

Mid-June found Joe King and Skip Krause fishing for brook trout and landlocked salmon from small boat, kayak and wading on the fly fishing only Kennebago River and Lake System in Rangeley, Maine.

Accommodations were in one of a group of traditional lakefront cabins with individual docks at Grant's Kennebago Camps.

The forecast for the week was less than desirable. *The rain in Maine fell mainly on Rangeley.*



Entrance to the lake was via a seven mile logging road that pot holed its way along the lower river.



All meals were served at the Grant's Camps dining room. Breakfast-7:30; Lunch-12:30 and Dinner-6:30. There was plenty of time to fish before and after each "belly busting" meal.



The Friday night lobster was sooo good, as was the view from our reserved table.



It was fascinating to watch the hummingbirds come and go as the float plane docked below our window.

4:24 a.m. Fishing Day One Anticipation woke us early to find that nature set the lake on fire....



And the brook trout did not disappoint:



Skip caught the FIRST trout. Joe caught the BIGGEST, the MOST, and - then fished an extra half hour by himself on our last day just to say....*at a quiet moment on the long drive home... with a wry smile and a quiet chuckle*"...BTW, I ALSO CAUGHT THE LAST FISH".

Another early wakeup and another beautiful sunrise.



And the trout did not disappoint. One morning Skip released 31 brookies without changing a fly.

*Continued on page 3*

## THE LAST FISH

The views in every direction were unspoiled and panoramic, accentuated even by the rain



We kayaked down the Kennebago River



Through Little Kennebago Lake watched by a doe



Through the Logan Shallows



To Big Kennebago Lake and more ominous weather.



And the brook trout did not disappoint. Twitching a small deer hair popper (Deer John) combined with Joe's BWO dropper proved irresistible to the brookies...as evidenced by one of Joe's doubles.



Sunsets, when not screened by storms, were quite dramatic.



We hiked the mile up to Flat Iron Pond, took out a canoe, and had the lake completely to ourselves.



We had to watch our step on the way out. Moose crossed our path and left an impression...and some other things...."Watch Your Step"!



*Concluded on page 4*

## THE LAST FISH

Fishing in the Upper River, Logan Area and Main Lake was hotter than the Lower River, although the Lower River was beautiful and held promise for another time.



Unlocking the secret to catching landlocked salmon was challenging. But it was simple when discovered:

*Fish where the salmon are.*



Joe tied some classic Kennebago flies and Skip bought a few...but neither threw a Hornberg or a Ghost. On this trip, what worked for the brookies also worked for the landlocked salmon.

The views were phenomenal. Big Kennebago Lake was deep, clear and managed exclusively for brook trout and salmon.



"Dragonspike" (lupines) bloomed on every hillside.



Swallowtails swarmed on fresh turned earth



5:30 a.m. on our last day...the path home was blocked by an angry mama who threatened to stomp our Ford 250 if we got any closer to her baby.



We were looking for breakfast and there was a sign for "MOMS". Anywhere else MOMS would be a diner....not in Maine. You just know you are in the right part of the USA when MOM is on the right track!



By the way, have you heard?  
JOE KING..."CAUGHT THE  
LAST FISH"

**The Last Fish** was contributed by Skip Krause and has been presented as it was received. Many thanks to Skip for a great article. For more information on Kennebago Lakes fishing see [www.grantscamps.com](http://www.grantscamps.com). - *The Editor*

## Bird Brain Pike - A True Story

*contributed by Emerson Cannon*

Just a few days ago, I received an email from Michaels to review an item that I had purchased. Earlier this year, I purchased a few styrofoam birdies from Michaels and the Dollar Tree to use as an experiment for Pike....as in Northern Pike in Alaska. My goal was to use the birdies as a fly and have a pike inhale the birdie. Does Michaels want to know how that went???? By the way, the experiment worked GREAT!!!! Pike love Michaels and Dollar Tree birdies!

The new birdie I purchased was shown to me by Michaels email and they wanted to know how I liked it!

The original birdie I used is seen here on the upper right....I added a willow leaf blade to simulate a birdie paddling its little feet as I moved the "fly" ever so slowly. All of a sudden this 43-inch pike on the right erupted with its mouth open wider than I have ever seen and viciously inhaling the birdie. The barbless 7/0 hook did its job and hooked the pike. The hook was popped out and all participants lived to see more pike days. The birdie had one more pike to its credit before being retired on the wall in Alaska. On the immediate right you see the new Michael's birdie ready to attract another pike.



▶ PRODUCTS TO REVIEW



Gloria Burgos and John share a smile over her catch on the Madison - August 2017

### ARTICLES/PICS WANTED!!

The next edition of **STREAMSIDE** is due out in January 2018. If you would like to write an article or story, share a fly pattern or picture or write a poem please do so and send it by December 31, 2017

to Bob Molzahn at  
*rjfm1949@comcast.net.*

All articles received will be published.



Project Healing Waters has been mentioned very briefly at the League's monthly meetings and the board and members have responded generously with cash contributions and some nice serviceable fishing tackle, which are much appreciated and needed, but our greatest need is your few hours monthly as a volunteer.

**MISSION STATEMENT** *Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, Inc. is dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled active military service personnel and disabled veterans through fly fishing and associated activities including education and outings.*

This area of Chester County hosts two local chapters. Wednesday evening (6-8 PM) tying and fishing outings are held for the in-patients at the Coatesville VA Medical Center. This is a specialized psychiatric facility so most of the vets are troubled with PTSD, depression, anxiety, or substance abuse. They remain residents there for a few weeks or months. Once discharged, dedicated attendees who want to continue with this healing program are placed with a chapter near their home. In this area, an out-patient chapter is located at the West Bradford Fire Hall, and they meet on the first and third Mondays from 6 to 8 PM. At both sites, the veterans learn to tie flies, build rods, and they get much-needed outings to fish their creations on local waters.

PHWFF is a national 501(c)(3) charitable organization based in Virginia. Your mileage to the weekly meetings is a tax deductible expense, as is your cash or gear donations. But you won't be coming for the tax write-offs, or the pizza, or the cookies, or the venison jerky. It will be the great satisfaction of teaching a vet tie his first fly, helping him cast to fish on Kurtz's Pond and other local waters, or listening if he opens up about the trauma that brought him to Coatesville. We believe the meditative focus that comes with tying a fly and following its drift on the stream are great antidotes to the demons these men and women brought back from combat. Success stories from current and former patients testify to the remarkable ability of fly fishing to turn a life around.

And you thought fishing was just a way to get out of the house for a few hours . . .

Every day, 22 veterans commit suicide. We hope our contact, our attention, our caring, our listening during the tying and fishing sessions, as well as later, when on their own, the serenity of fly fishing gives them a reason for wanting to continue the struggle for a normal life.

Volunteering requires nothing more than showing up. Ask some DJL member-volunteers for details. For the Coatesville VAMC Ken VanGilder [610-873-0830] is Program Lead. Ted Nawalinski [484-686-8919] is Assistant PL. Matt Seymour [484-678-1652] is a former PL. Mike Ferraro [610-909-2580] is a regular volunteer. You can also buttonhole Ken Leung at our Dame Juliana Mon-

days; he teaches fly casting to our VA participants as well as to those at West Bradford. If you want to explore the West Bradford first-and-third Mondays, call Dave Riggio, former PL there and now Assistant Lead for Pennsylvania [484-225-0452] or Jay Brenneman, current PL [610-613-3079]. Others you may know from the fishing community would include anyone from Valley Forge Trout Unlimited, which was the originating sponsor group to get our chapters going, especially Jim Clark, Ed Penry, Chuck Cutshall, John Dettry, Pete Hughes, Pete Goodman, and Robbie Friesem.

For 2017, as of the end of July, VAMC volunteers have touched 90 disabled veterans and contributed 1070 hours of their time to build a hopeful alternative to what many vets face as a downward spiral of recurring illness. The West Bradford program continues the healing program to build on the VAMC foundation with former in-patients (and, really, ANY vet, patient or not, who wants to get involved with PHW or who just wants to learn to fish). You are needed at both sites.



#### Donated Fishing Gear Fundraising Sale

One Week Only - September 12 through September 18, 2017



#### How This Works

PHWFF volunteers teach fly fishing skills to disabled veterans. We rely totally on donated funds to buy the fly-tying equipment and to pay for the fishing outings for the CVAMC patients, most of whom suffer from PTSD and associated disorders.

We received a generous cache of new and used fishing equipment which will be sold to fund our activities:

\* Numbered items will be available for **one week only** from the time you get this email.

\* A bargain minimum price will be set and the highest offer will get the item. Bidding is not competitive - we ask you to be generous in helping our work with your one-time best offer. Earliest high bid wins.

\* Control+click the item's [hyperlink](#) OR email directly to Ted Nawalinski (*Assistant Program Lead*) at <mailto:biologee@verizon.net> with your name and contact information.

\* Winning bidder will write a check (or cash) to Ken VanGilder (*Program Lead*) who will forward the funds to our account at PHWFF national headquarters.

\* Item pickup/delivery will be decided by phone or email contact with Ted Nawalinski at

<mailto:biologee@verizon.net>



**Dame Juliana League  
Fly Fishers**

P.O. Box 178 Kimberton, PA 19442

**Officers and Board of Directors**

President- John Burgos  
Vice President- Emerson Cannon  
Acting Secretary- John Burgos  
Treasurer- Bob Molzahn  
Past-President- Emerson Cannon  
Membership/Communications- Mike Ferraro  
Sponsor Relations- Joe King  
Fly Fishing Course/Newsletter- Bob Molzahn  
Outreach- Ted Nawalinski Website- Tim King  
Board Members- Dick Allebach, Troy Dunn,  
Bob Moser Jr., Mike Costello, Jack Mickievicz,  
Jim Graves, John "Skip" Krause

Member dues per calendar year are  
\$20-Individual, \$25-Family.  
For new members please add \$5.

Newsletter Editor- Bob Molzahn  
Articles, news, and fly tying tips are  
gratefully accepted.

Please send them to [rjm1949@comcast.net](mailto:rjm1949@comcast.net)

**Dame Juliana League Fly Fishers**  
is an affiliated member club of the  
**International Federation of Fly Fishers**

Visit our website at

[www.djflyfishers.org](http://www.djflyfishers.org)

Send comments, inquiries and address  
changes to [djffpa@gmail.com](mailto:djffpa@gmail.com)

Located on Rt.  
23, Just West of  
Phoenixville,  
Next to Staples



Open 7 Days  
A Week  
Visa • MC  
Dis • Amex



**Chester County's Largest  
Fly Fishing Specialist**

- EXOFFICIO & BUZZ OFF CLOTHING
- St. Croix • Loomis • Okuma • Air-Flo
- Rio • Temple Fork Outfitters
- Cortland • Ross Reels • Renzetti
- Dr. Slick • Fishpond • J.P. Ross Rods
- Flymaster • Sunrise And More!

Wide Variety of Flies & Fly Tying Material



- Books & Videos • Fly Tying Classes
- Knowledgeable Staff

**610-933-7200**

[www.frenchcreekoutfitters.com](http://www.frenchcreekoutfitters.com)

**ORVIS®**

**DOWNTON TOWN**

**BRANDYWINE SQUARE SHOPPING CENTER**

**70 QUARRY ROAD, UNIT K (off Rt. 30)  
DOWNTON TOWN, PA 19335**

*Over 10,000 Flies*

*Extensive Selection Of Fly Rods,  
Reels, And Lines*

*Fly Tying Materials And Supplies  
Casting Lessons And Trips Available*

**Tel/610-873-8400**

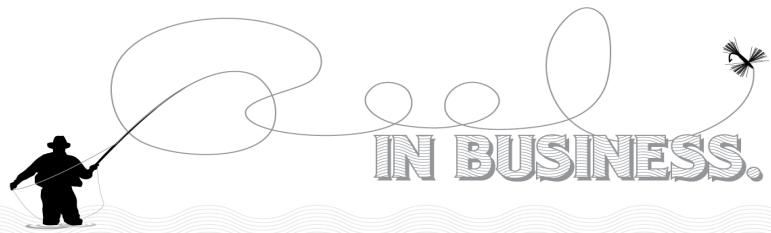
**Fax/610-873-3830**

[www.orvis.com](http://www.orvis.com)

**"A Sporting Tradition  
Since 1856"**

**TCO Fly Shop**  
At  
Tulpehocken Creek Outfitters

2229 Penn Ave • Reading, PA 19609  
610.678.1899 - voice • 610.678.4029 - fax  
[www.tcoflyfishing.com](http://www.tcoflyfishing.com)



Branding / Advertising / Marketing / Web Sites / **Creative Small Business Solutions**

[www.VirtualFarm.com](http://www.VirtualFarm.com) | Cultivating Business Personalities.



**THE  
SPORTING  
GENTLEMAN**

128 Glen Mills Rd, Glen Mills, PA 19342  
610-361-2001 [gentsporting@gmail.com](mailto:gentsporting@gmail.com)  
[www.sportinggentleman.com](http://www.sportinggentleman.com)



**Downington Bicycle Shop  
833 W. Lancaster Ave.**

Cannondale  
Giro  
NightPro  
Hoffman  
Continental  
Profile  
Hollywood  
Shimano  
Blackburn



**610-269-5626**

[Downingtonbike.com](http://Downingtonbike.com)

Raleigh  
Thule  
Park  
Haro  
Bell  
CateEye  
Terry  
Lake  
Primo