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Conservation
Doug Hutzell  doug.hutzell@myactv.net
For the May meeting, we went fishing on the pond on the Mt. Aetna retreat center. We were doing everything we could to keep the bluegill from taking our flies, to no avail. Doug Hutzell even tried to coach Ned Strange on how to fish for them, and he failed, and Ned kept catching bluegill.

Shout out to Scott Robinson for hosting at Shawnee State Park. It’s a great place to do some Stillwater fishing. Unfortunately, it rained. Both myself and Ken Oldham stopped by Scott’s RV. Hopefully, we will get more participation next year.

The annual AFA picnic went off without a hitch in June. Bob and Barbara Abraham were great hosts as usual. There was about two dozen club members and their families in attendance. The weather was perfect, unlike the rain last year. Not sure how we pulled that off. There was lots of great food, including the gourmet BBQ pork and salmon cooked by our resident chef, Darren Wishard. If you haven’t tasted Darren’s cooking, you are missing a big treat. We raffled off a fly rod, Scott as usual sold a bunch of raffle tickets (thanks, Scott), and we auctioned off the AFA club rod for another year. The picnic was our only fund raiser this past year due to the cancellation of the Fly Casters’ Rendezvous due to high winds. Here’s hoping that the weather gods look favorably on us next year.
President’s column.
I hope everyone had a great summer. Now’s the time when we try to get our last few fly fishing outings in before the weather turns cold. Fall is a great time to be on a river. You can wear your waders without losing 15 pounds, fewer people are on the river, and most of the hatches have come and gone with the fisherman. It’s terrestrial time. Go get ‘em!

Tight lines,
Bill
On behalf of the club, I presented Doug with the sieves for the benthic sampling next year. We submitted the photo to the Herald-Mail, which included it with a short description. Consider coming out and helping with the sampling next spring.
AFA information:
Next AFA Meeting
Mt. Aetna Retreat/Nature Center 7:00 PM.
Mt. Aetna is located off I 70 at Exit 35.
Take Route 66 N and then Right on Mt. Aetna Road.
Address is 21905 Mt. Aetna Road

Calendar:
September 19th: Board planning meeting, open to all. Come help us improve the club and our activities. We need your input!

October 17th: Michael Abramowitz, The theme is how to get home safely to fish another day, situational awareness, fishing injuries, using personal locator devices and more.

November 21, December (no meeting), January 16, February 20th, March 19th, April 16th (tentative due to the Rendezvous), and May 21st. We need ideas for the programs.

January 24 to 26, 2020 – Fly Fishing Show, Edison, NJ.
March 7 & 8, 2020 – Fly Fishing Show, Lancaster, PA.
March 14th – Maryland Fly Fishing Show and Collectible Tackle Show, Towson, MD.
Late April, 12th – Annual Fly Casters Rendezvous
June, AFA picnic
Shawnee State Park trip
July, Potomac float trip?
The Potomac Float trip also had great weather. Apparently the fish were enamored with the weather too since they weren’t focusing on our flies. Six of us floated from Taylor’s to Snyder’s landing under perfect blue skies. Bob Davis caught a catfish and Darren caught a (very) smallmouth, but that was it.

AFA information:

Just a reminder.

Bob Davis organizes the Bob Abraham Fly Casting Club every Saturday at River Bottom Park at 9 a.m., weather and other fishing plans notwithstanding. We typically go to breakfast beforehand at 7:45 a.m. at the Farmers’ Market in Hagerstown. Come join us. All you might lose is your tailing loops!

Scott Robinson is the contact for the fly tyers’ roundtable and beginners’ fly tying instruction. Come to the meeting, meet Scott, and arrange for some fly tying instruction!

Don’t forget to support your local fly shops:
Beaver Creek Fly Shop 301-393-9090
Hunting Creek Outfitters 301-668-4333
White Fly Outfitters 304-876-8030