

WELCOME MEMBERS, PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS AND SPONSORS!

As we usher in 2025, we have a lot to look back on and a lot to look forward to, but more about that later. First, most of you have your mind set on trout season. Below we've provided some of the big dates that many of you want to have on your calendars. For anyone new to our operations, DCAC raises and stocks roughly 8,000 trout each year, in cooperation with the PA Fish & Boat Commission. We stock trout in sections of Manada, Stony, Clark's, Powell's, Armstrong, and Wiconisco Creeks. Cooperative trout nursery's, such as ours, are truly one of the best private-public partnerships imaginable, all made possible by our members, volunteers and sponsors.

Please keep in mind that if you're planning to bring kids fishing at our location along Clark's Creek, this section of stream is a special regulations fishing area for children 15 years of age and under. Please also know that the DCAC maintains several rods and reels for loan to those that may need to borrow one.

ELECTED OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES FOR 2025:

President – Joe Sherrick

Vice President – Terry Barkley

Treasurer – Chris Rowe

Secretary – Cindy Reardon Gravino

Trustee – Ryan Jorich

Trustee – Joe Gravino

Trustee – Barry Klunk

Trustee – William Stence

Trustee – Clair Shoop

IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS FOR 2025

March 29	Statewide Mentored Youth Fishing Day
April 5	Statewide Opening Day Trout Season
May 3	C.A.S.T. for Kids Special Needs Children's Trout Derby
May 17	DCAC's Annual Children's Trout Derby
June 5	DMVA & VA Hospital Trout Derby

WHAT DOES 2025 HOLD IN STORE?

MINOR STOCKING CHANGE FOR UPPER REACHES OF CLARKS CREEK

We'll soon be preparing our annual stocking list and volunteers are always welcome but we stress the importance of contacting us first to assure that everything is still on schedule. New to our stockings this year is a species limitation that will affect only the upper reaches of Clark's Creek. The Fish & Boat Commission biologists at the Cooperative Nursery Unit have instructed that we only stock Rainbow Trout in the waters above the DeHart Reservoir, meaning that Brown Trout can no longer be stocked in this area.

RACEWAY ROOF CONSTRUCTION?

Our stockings typically run from the opening week of trout season through the month June. We typically try to have the trout raceways emptied by the end of June because of increasing water temperatures. We remain focused on efforts to construct a roof over the raceways that would shade and help cool the raceway waters, which would help us keep fish longer into the season and possibly hold them over another year, thereby enabling us to stock much larger trout. Our challenge has been in obtaining local zoning approvals and we hope to have better luck with that this year. In anticipation of constructing the raceway roof, we had removed a section of sidewalk that was slated for removal, in association with this project. Because we don't want to go another year without this sidewalk being in place, we will be pouring concrete to replace it this spring. We don't anticipate this to cause any inconvenience but visitors will be asked to walk around this area during and immediately after completion.

MEMBERSHIP DUES INCREASE?

It should come as no surprise to anyone that costs for just about everything have continued to increase. The DCAC has not had an increase in dues for many years but it is a point of consideration being discussed this year at our monthly meetings. Each year, at the end of these newsletters, we provide a look into some of the important statistics for our organization. It's clear by looking at some of these numbers that dues alone don't come close to supporting the operations of our organization and our members and officers donate 100% of their time and labor. We are largely supported by donations and sponsorships but, arguably, we should be expecting a little more from our members in dues payments. We welcome comments and discussion on this important matter and all aspects of our operations. Members and other interested persons are encouraged to attend our monthly meetings, held the third Monday of each month, at 7:00 PM, at the clubhouse. Members and interested persons may also contact us via email at dauphinalglers201@gmail.com, at our website (dauphincountyanglers.com), or by visiting us on Facebook.

There are two other simple ways you can help support the DCAC:

As usual, DCAC is holding its annual raffle with winning tickets being drawn after noon, during our annual children's fishing derby on May 17. If you received this newsletter in the mail, tickets were likely included. If you need additional tickets they can be purchased at the club.

If you'd like to support our work by making a donation or volunteering, please reach out to us by phone at (717) 921-8777, email at dauphinalglers201@gmail.com, or via our website at www.dauphincountyanglers.com.

Feel free to stop by at any of our meetings held the third Monday of every month at 7:00 PM.

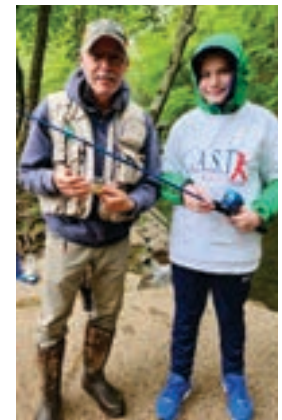
2024 REWIND

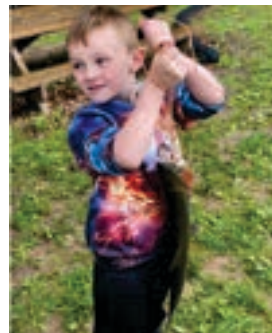
Last year was fairly good for us. We received 8,080 fingerlings in late September 2023, averaging about 4" to 5". We had relatively few losses (less than 2.0%) among the fingerlings we raised for stocking. On average, our trout were 9" to 10" during most of our spring stockings but by June, those fish were averaging 12" to 14". That's really good growth in such a relatively short amount of time, especially considering that the fish eat and grow very little during the coldest months.

Last spring was very wet and rainy which, we believe contributed to lower turnout at some of the special events. While the numbers of children participating in Mentored Youth Fishing Day and our annual children's fishing derby were down, it certainly didn't put a damper on the fishing action. The DCAC staff and other volunteers held and hosted several special events in 2024. The pages that follow in this newsletter include several pictures from the C.A.S.T. for Kids derby, our annual DCAC's Children's Fishing Derby, and the annual Veteran's Fishing Derby.

C.A.S.T. FOR KIDS FISHING DERBY

On May 4, the DCAC hosted the C.A.S.T. for Kids fishing derby, an event for special needs children. The mission of the C.A.S.T. for Kids Foundation is to enrich the lives of children with special needs, support their families, and strengthen communities through the sport of fishing. These ideals are at the core of what DCAC is all about. If you have an interest in helping to volunteer or donate towards this special event or, if you have a special needs child and would like more information about C.A.S.T. for Kids please reach out to us and we'll put you in contact with the local coordinator for this organization and event.





DCAC ANNUAL CHILDREN'S FISHING DERBY

On May 18, we held our annual Children’s Fishing Derby and, as previously noted, the weather wasn’t the greatest. Participation was down significantly to only 69 kids but you wouldn’t know it by all the smiles and happy faces of the kids eager to show off their catch, prizes, and trophies after the event ended. In addition to the hundreds of trout stocked for this event, the DCAC purchases several trophy trout from Limestone Springs, to add to the excitement. Many of these trophy trout are over 20” in length, some of which can be seen in the pictures above. As always, each kid leaves with a prize, such as a new rod and reel, and the trophies are awarded to the boys and girls, for the three largest fish in each of three different age categories. There were several 17-inch and 18-inch trout caught during the derby but two young anglers were heads and tails above the rest. The largest overall fish caught among the boys was brought in by Hunter Ricker, who caught a 22 1/8-inch Rainbow Trout. Adelyn Stoneroad was at the top of the leaderboard for the girls, bringing in a 21 1/8-inch Rainbow Trout.

ANNUAL VETERAN'S FISHING DERBY

On May 30, and with much better weather, DCAC coordinated with the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs to host several veterans in an annual TAG Fishing Contest. The veterans and their aides come from three different VA Administration hospitals in southeastern PA. We are pleased to provide these men and women an opportunity to step outside the confines of their hospitals to enjoy nature and some recreational fishing. Two of the veterans in attendance for the event were WWII survivors. It's a true honor and privilege to play host to these men and women.



TAGGED TROUT CONTEST

2024 marked another successful year for our annual tagged trout contest. Each year we look for businesses and individuals interested in sponsoring this event, with the proceeds benefitting DCAC. Participants purchase an annual button/pin for the chance to catch one of 35 specially tagged trout that we place in area streams. A small metal tag is fixed to the trout that are then placed in area streams. When an angler catches one of these trout and has a current year tagged trout button/pin, they simply stop by the club to claim their cash prize. Prizes range from \$50 up to \$500. The contest runs through the calendar year. This past year DCAC paid out \$300 in prize money. Posters advertising the program will be posted along streams and by some area merchants. For more information, about the program, please contact us or stop by the clubhouse.



By late fall we were fortunate to have Cooper Horne, of Boy Scout Troop 195 in Mechanicsburg complete his service project for Eagle Scout. Cooper’s project included repairing a portion of the side wall of our upper dam and backfilling the area with rock (see pictures below). The project has stopped the inflow of water that was bypassing the overflow of the dam and now provides a safer access area for kids to fish from. In the near future we’ll be looking to make this area and the trail leading to it more ADA accessible to make it easier and safer for some of our mobility-challenged anglers and visitors to utilize this area.



DCAC 2024 Operations by the Numbers:	
107	Members (1)
\$1,870	Membership Dues
5	Streams Stocked
7,680	Trout Stocked (2)
5,500	Pounds of Feed Used
\$5,366	Feed Cost
\$9,900	Nursery Operations & Maintenance Costs (3)
\$26,139	Total Expenses
858	Volunteer Hours Logged
Priceless	Value of Volunteer Time / Contributions in Kind
\$32,870	Fund Raising & Donations
6	Special Events Held / Facilitated
110	Children Participating in Annual Kid’s Derby

- (1) Includes Family memberships
- (2) Approximate number of trout stocked
- (3) Includes costs for feed, electric, maintenance and repairs. Does not include costs associated with stocking trout, building and grounds maintenance, food and prizes for special events, etc.

As always, we wish to thank all of our members and volunteers and we are particularly grateful to our sponsors because without all of you, we simply wouldn’t exist. And finally, remember to take a kid fishing!

DCAC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Dauphin County Anglers & Conservationists

PO Box 33 | Dauphin, PA 17018
Phone 717.921.8777

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

SEND CHANCES: Yes _____ No _____ By _____



Annual Dues:

\$25 - Family

\$15 - Active

\$11 - Senior (Over 65)

MARCH 2025

THE TROUT TIMES

D C A C N E W S L E T T E R

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



DAUPHIN COUNTY
ANGLERS &
CONSERVATIONISTS

***IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A SPONSOR
PLEASE CONTACT US AT, (717) 921-8777***

TAG TROUT PROGRAM – DCAC will be offering for sale our Tag Trout Buttons for our 2025 season. You may purchase your buttons for the low cost of \$3.00 at the DCAC club house. Buttons will also be available at participating sponsor locations. Please check our website for additional locations (www.dauphincountyanglers.com) and remember you must purchase a button to be eligible for cash prizes! The top prize Trout will be worth \$500 to some lucky angler! Good Luck!