

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

June 2008

Fly-fishing is full of challenges. Until recently those challenges revolved around "Matching the Hatch, reading the water and getting a drag free drift" but how they have expanded into politics and economics. I forwarded an email from the State Council requesting letters to be sent to your political representatives to avoid severe budget cuts in the New Jersey fish and Wildlife programs. Hopefully you complied. Part of the budget issue is the lack of license sales. The overall number of licenses sold has declined significantly over the years since 1975. Many of you may have received a large postcard from NJ Fish and Wildlife in an attempt to have you renew your license. You can access the site to get the info through 2007 but 2008 there's a real sharp drop in numbers of licenses issued. http://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/pdf/license_sales01-07.pdf On the up side there has been an increase of Senior licenses (65 to 69 years old). The second part of the economic impact is the cost of gasoline. Anyone considering a fishing trip should invite other TU members to go along and share the costs. So if you're planning a trip contact me and I'll put the word out to the members.

For those of you who are interested in the welfare of the Delaware River I've attached an email from the Friends of the Delaware regarding the Flex Flow program. It's a scary overview of this season's history of flows. It can best be described as a trout deadly roller coaster ride. Please take the time to read it.

Carl Wyckoff will run this month's meeting and program. He has put together another one of his fantastic Power Point programs on his 2007 trip to Alaska for salmon.

Carl is putting together a return trip to Alaska in September of 09. If you're interested see him for details. Jerry Martina has supplied the fly of the month.

Our July meeting is the barbeque meeting in the grove with fishing at the lake and will be starting earlier at 6:30 p.m. There will be no meeting in August and September's meeting will be at Corson's Inlet.

In closing, I'd like to thank Carl for stepping up to the plate and covering for me. As many of you know I've had some recent medical issues. Well I'll be dealing with those issues starting June 18th and will be out of the mix for some time. This will probably be the last newsletter until September.