OWNERSHIP CONFUSION

Our Commonwealth abounds with flowing streams ranging from remote mountain brooks to rivers of all sizes including the Susquehanna, the greatest river on the east coast of these United States.

The beds of a great majority of the smaller streams clearly are privately owned. Confusion regarding ownership frequently occurs on the larger creeks where deeds often refer vaguely to low and high water lines or to the theoretical center of the stream. The beds of our rivers and navigable streams and many lakes are considered to be property of the Commonwealth. Again, the theoretical low or high water level boundary line comes into discussion.

One clear point on this murky subject is that we very urgently need a modern day determination of just where Commonwealth ownership begins and precisely what water courses are included in the public domain. Much the same can be said for a great many of our natural lakes where clear and unquestionable titles to the ownership of the lake beds are rare occurrences.

We must be mindful that our miles of streams and acres of natural lakes are not increasing, but in actuality are decreasing. How? Streams are regularly being shortened through natural and manmade changes that straighten channels, eliminating curves and oxbows. Lakes are steadily filling-in from erosion and the accumulation of debris and organic material and sadly, through deliberate manmade encroachment along the shores.

It has become common practice for both private and industrial waterfront owners to expand their property holdings toward the water, often onto the public waterway domain when added ground is needed. It has become a recognized practice to fill in small bays, marshes and waterfront areas along streams and around our lakes to provide more land. It has become common practice to build private docks that extend out into public waters thereby making the public a trespasser on its own property should they come on such a dock. It is common practice to remove millions of tons of sand and gravel from our river beds each year with no compensation to the public for this encroachment. It is common practice for private firms to dam our rivers and manipulate them as they see fit in the conduct of their business with little or no return to the public who owns the resource. These are but a few general examples of the growing encroachment on our public waterways that threaten to eventually eliminate or seriously reduce this public resource for any public use.

There can be no doubt that we are long overdue for legislative action to clearly define the public domain and the public right as it relates to waterways, stream beds, lake beds, access to these public lands and the use of these public water resources for private purposes.
PENNSYLVANIA ANGLER

Published Monthly by the
PENNSYLVANIA FISH COMMISSION
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

Raymond P. Shafer, Governor

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PENNSYLVANIA'S OFFICIAL FISHING AND BOATING MAGAZINE

MAY 1969 VOL. 38 NO. 5

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SUGGESTS LOCKS

Gentlemen:

I am old enough to remember the fish ladder that was built at Shenks Ferry. It sure was a flop. All these years I have read about the suggestions to build fish passage facilities, but I have never heard anyone suggest locks. In my opinion the locks would be the solution. Boats could leave Lake Meade and go to Port Deposit and from there to anywhere they desire. While the locks were operating, the fish could come through.

If man can put a man on the moon, I am sure they could put herring, shad and striped bass back in the Susquehanna.

—F. E. Silar, York

ON STOCKING—

Dear Sirs:

I have read the letters in the Angler about trout planting (Put and Take) also (Distressed) and I feel it will do no harm if I add a few lines.

In the first place I think the Commission is doing a very good job stocking our streams. I don’t see how there can be a million trout planted in the streams and lakes of our state without some of them being taken easily. On the other hand there are not as many of the freshly stocked trout caught within a day or two as most people think.

I believe a good many trout soon move after they are stocked while a good many fishermen continue to fish where the stocking was made for two or three weeks. When these anglers don’t catch anything, they think the trout have been all caught out. And this is when the experienced angler gets good fishing.

Mr. Kommer states in his letter (December issue) that he did not catch any trout in the open streams which he fished the last week of July.

I fished the streams of our state fifty years ago when there were plenty of native trout in most all streams and it was not unusual to go out in July and not catch anything. Yet you could see trout and plenty of them in every pool.

My idea of trout fishing is to get into a stream where you have to work to get them. When you hook one in this kind of going, you enjoy it.

I disagree about all trout stocked in the fall of the year being caught the first day of the following season. I think these trout will be scattered over many miles of the stream, under rocks, logs and overhanging banks. Some of them would be hard to find and harder to catch.

—Ellsworth “Elt” Lee, Starrucca

THROW AWAY AGE—

Gentlemen:

The shoppers really have it good in this age of throw away, no deposit, no return. What today is waste and refuse, years ago was an asset—papers, magazines, cardboard, metal, glass, etc.

Before we run out of land and load our environment with waste, why not process this for reuse even if it is at no profit. Let’s make a liability an asset. All containers should have a deposit and the manufacturers or retailers should handle this. We live too soft a life and someday will pay and pay dearly for this waste.

Pollution of our land, water and air is to be our great nightmare. Already you can see this. What we need is a movement for clean air, clean land and clean streams and lakes.

Let’s give up a bit of the T.V. for something that is worthwhile and will pay big dividends!

—Valentine Botka, Stillwater Valley Conservation Association, Jamestown, N.Y.

ANTI-LITTER PATROL—

Gentlemen:

I also have been an ardent “Pennsylvania Angler” reader for a few years and get great enjoyment out of it.

I volunteered for an anti-litter patrol many years ago. I wrote to the Commission and asked for a badge and paper giving me the right to stop the littering whenever I am fishing. I got a lot of song and dance about having to take a test to get a badge. What test is there to be man enough with a little authority to tell a so-called fisherman he is doing wrong? I spoke up without the badge and almost had action over speaking my piece.

But let’s put some of the blame where it belongs, not all on fishermen but on cottagers and picnickers. I’ve seen a lot of it at Lake Winola where one day I spoke to some kids about breaking bottles and throwing cans in the water.

The people who owned the cottages where I was fishing also owned the children. Result—no more fishing there. So once again I volunteer for the anti-litter patrol and ask for a badge and paper. Mr. Hunter’s letter (February) in the Leaky Boots column of the Pennsylvania Angler is right.

—Joseph R. Fogmeg, Scranton
Otherwise nice people, most litterers suddenly become irrational hardheads who refuse to accept the criticism they deserve when someone has the courage to point out the mess they create. Those who litter public highways, parks, streams and streets probably never think of it, but every time they discard something they also discard some of the money they may have worked hard to earn. Litter in the city of Los Angeles costs the taxpayers who discard it about 10¢ a pound to have it picked up again—four million dollars a year!

Cottagers like those Mr. Fogmeg encountered might keep in mind that the bottles and cans their children toss away don’t contribute much to the value of their property—or that of their neighbors.

The Commission cannot legally issue a “badge and paper” to everyone who wants to help fight the litter battle but then one shouldn’t be necessary in order to pass the word that litter is costing the country millions of dollars each year.

People who would like to help make others more aware of just what litter costs, where it comes from, and what can be done about it might do well to write: Keep America Beautiful, Inc. at 99 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016. Formed in 1953, KAB serves to coordinate the efforts of those interested in fighting the litter battle.

—Tom Eggler, Editor

BOWFIN FISHING

Dear Sirs:

I recently bought a 1969 fishing license and would like to know where is a good water to catch my favorite fish, the dogfish or bowfin? There are a few of them in a river near where I live, but I would be glad to know of a water loaded with them. I found they hit plugs with a violent smack and put up a good fight!

The “Amia Calva” can be used as a “game-fish” in populated areas, where by misfortune, the waters may be warm, sluggish, muddy and possibly slightly polluted. A second place where they can be used is in a lake where there are large populations of stunted fish, but for one reason or another, pike, walleye, or musky cannot be used as a control.

In this way the dogfish can become popular.

—Regis Luxehi, Pittsburgh

You are correct when you say that the bowfin can be used to good advantage for controlling large and stunted populations of panfish. They were stocked in Somerset Lake, Somerset County in 1961 for this purpose, and have apparently done well there. We have obtained young specimens as well as 24 to 26 inch adults during spring trap netting work. However, I would not say that this lake is “loaded” with bowfins.

Black Moshannon Lake in Centre County is another place where this species may be found although, once again, it is not particularly abundant.

Perhaps the best place in this state to look for any great number of bowfin would be Lake Erie, particularly the region around Presque Isle. The lagoons in this area apparently harbor a good population of these fish.

—Clark N. Shiffer, Fishery Biologist

AT ODDS WITH EDIT

Gentlemen:

I had only to turn the cover page of my November issue of “Pennsylvania Angler” to take issue with Mr. Bielo. Does he realize that 47 of our states have “some type of natural resources department”? There remains Pennsylvania and two others with independent Fish Commissions.

It is a well established fact that multiple use is the key word in outdoor recreation management. I advocate maximum use. I am sure Mr. Bielo is aware that many of the best fishing waters in the state are on State Game Lands, Parks and Forests. When I see NO HUNTING signs on State Parks, I am ashamed to think I am a fisherman. This example of greed is the best one I can think of to illustrate Mr. Bielo’s motivation to maintain independent status for the Fish Commission.

Has Mr. Bielo read “Paradise Lost” and I am not referring to the literary classic by Milton. Or maybe “Kettle Creek Contaminated,” “Anadromous Migration Annull’d,” “Trout Spawn Thwarted,” or “Bass Bluestoned?” Has he ever seen trout dumped at two bridges with seven intervening miles of beautiful trout water remaining essentially barren for fifteen years? What efficiency is he talking about?

If there are over a million hunters in Pennsylvania and 600,000 of us also fish, I fail to see how the independent Fish Commission offers additional benefits, but I can see several disadvantages. I suspect that management associated with record deer and bear harvests, expanded turkey and beaver ranges, increased small game limits, and more hunting grounds could make the waters boil—and not just in hatcheries at feeding times.

A Pennsylvania Department of Wildlife, Fish, Parks, and Forests will bring more and better outdoor recreation, in

continued on page 26

MAY—1969

“MARTHA—THIS IS NO TIME TO CARRY ON FAMILY SQUABBLES!”
COMING ---

**MUSKIE/NORTHERN/WALLEYE/PICKEREL**—

May is the month when it all starts happening again for those anglers after the big ones. The season for these prizes of the freshwater opens May 3 and anglers after a real trophy will begin another season of trying to land some of these not-so-easy to catch whoppers. Check your regulations summary for sizes, limits!

**SNAKES**—

You'll find them in your coming June issue of the Angler! Two major stories will appear. One is called "The Timber Rattler" and will deal with this often feared reptile. The other is called "Snakes Alive" and it's all about a man who isn't afraid of them!

**CANOE RACES**—

May 17 and 18 the Upper Allegheny Canoe Races are scheduled at Port Allegany. They start Saturday morning at 10 A.M., continue during the afternoon and then again Sunday afternoon. The course stretches over 10 miles of the river. Information? Write: Port Allegany Sport-O-Rama, Inc., Port Allegany, Pa. 16743.

**DYNAMITE**—

If you enjoy a power boat on Pennsylvania's waterways then you should watch for this knowledgeable article dealing with the dangers of gasoline vapors on a power boat scheduled for publication in next month's Angler. Written by one of the Commission's boating experts, Dean Klinger, it could save your boat—and your life!

**MORE BIG FISH**—

Continued in your coming June issue of the Angler will be the list of those fishermen who brought in the big ones during 1968. Listed will be all those young anglers who won Pennsylvania Angler Junior Fishing Citations.

**TO TROUT**—

Fly/TROUT fisherman R. T. Trimmer has written an article of fly fishing that should please anglers who enjoy this popular aspect of the fishing sport. It starts in your June Angler and will be continued, so don't miss the first installment!
IF A POLL WERE TO BE TAKEN to select the fishing month of the year May would get many votes from Pennsylvanians, mine included. With the rigors of winter well behind us nature is out-doing itself in its presentations. Trees decked out in their shiny new greens are bursting forth with blossoms of every color and aroma. Birds dressed in their showiest pre-nuptial colors sing to their mates from every nook and cranny. Even our lowly aquatic insects are casting off their pupal shrouds and skittering over the waters in a liberation dance.

As gentle winds and rising temperatures slowly clear and warm the waters, fly fishing comes into its own. Most of our stream insects hatch during this month. They start with the Stone and Caddis Flies, work into the May Flies and the Duns during the middle part and then come the Crane Flies and the Drakes. Hatch of the famed Gray Drake is scheduled over much of the state from the 25th on. If the Gray Drake, also known as the Shad Fly or Canadian Soldier in some areas isn't the king of flies he certainly is a prince.

On a stream such as Penns Creek, just at dusk when clouds of Drakes numbering in the millions rise off the waters, stretches which only minutes before seemed void of any fish life suddenly boil. Dimpling, splashing, flushing fronts are everywhere as they gorge themselves on the hatch. To be there and to have the imitation fly be the dream of many fly fishermen throughout the state.

Another of May's highlights is the opening of the walleye, pickerel, northern pike and muskellunge season on May 3rd. Preparations for the opening date should include acquiring suitable sized minnows as bait. Minnows undoubtedly will take the major portion of walleyes, pickerel and northerns this month. Musky fishing calls for the larger minnows or suckers. Bigger lures trolled rather swiftly or cast shoreward and retrieved immediately will be more effective than those fished slowly.

Top pickerel areas in the state are located through Wayne, Lackawanna, Susquehanna, Bradford and Sullivan counties. The Susquehanna River from the York County area to Sunbury in Northumberland County and the North Branch of the Susquehanna to the New York state line plus the Allegheny River from Freeport in Armstrong County to Warren in Warren County are exceptionally good for wall-eye fishing. Northern pike hot-spots include Glendale Dam in Cambria County, Ontelaunee Reservoir in Berks County and Sweet Arrow Lake in Schuylkill County.

More actual planning and preparation time will be given to the musky opening date than to the other warm water species. And when a legal musky lies at your feet or is thrashing around in the bottom of the boat, no one will deny that all the preparations were well worth it.

Thanks to careful planning and much foresight on the part of our Commission many good musky fishing waters are scattered over the state. Leading choo of western fishermen and one of the top musky producers anywhere is the Tionesta Flood Control Reservoir in Forest County.

Another top prospect for May is the annual American Shad run on the Delaware River. Early in April as the water temperatures reach the fifties those migratory fishes gather in schools in the Chesapeake Bay. As temperatures rise they head for their spawning grounds on the Delaware roughly 100 miles upstream. These silvery-sided fighters have spent 3 or 4 years of their life in salt water and have attained average weights of 3 to 4 pounds for males and 5 to 6 pounds for females, or roe shad.

Schools of shad surge through the ruffles and the flat stretches resting before the next riffle and proceeding ever upstream, making 5 or 6 miles per day. No evidence has been found that these fish feed on their migratory trip. It is believed they strike either in curiosity or in anger.

From Yardley in Bucks County and through Northampton, Monroe, Pike and Wayne Counties as the season progresses fishermen gather at their favorite riffs and cast out shad darts. Most effective are red and white or red and yellow combinations. Four to six pound test line tied directly to the dart without using a swivel has proven over the years to be the best method of taking this fish.

The extremely soft mouth of the shad coupled with the almost unbelievable line-stripping speed of its initial run lowers the ratio of strikes to fish landed. As the line melts from the reel like butter on a hot knife, the natural tendency to tighten the drag or to apply pressure has caused untold grief to many Delaware anglers. A fantastic jumper, the shad will leap and shake until it is thoroughly played out.

Shad are also taken on darts trolled at about 75 feet behind the boat at a slow rate of speed. Fishing with bright gaudy wet flies tied on size 6 or 8 hooks at mid-depths will also take shad. Fly rodders attempting to catch shad should have at least 100 feet of backing attached to the fly line before wetting a line.

This year's shad run based on the fine spawning season of 1965 and return of the young to the sea that fall should be a good one. Water levels must remain just over normal during the critical April-May period to help to combat the pollution problem that exists in the Camden-Philadelphia area of the river.

One more word—while fishing or boating this spring take the lead in litter prevention. Hang onto your trash until you can dispose of it in trash containers.

Everyone will appreciate it!
As more and more people discover the joys of camping Pennsylvania's Bureau of State Parks, Department of Forests and Waters, is planning new camping areas as well as modernizing some of the old ones. Maybe it's time you discovered...

NEW CONTACT STATION where campers will register and be assigned a campsite at a new camping area in Gifford Pinchot State Park.

Camping in Pennsylvania's State Parks

It has been said that "Pennsylvania's State Parks Have Everything" and certainly camping facilities are rapidly becoming the most prominent.

The trend toward outdoor living, or camping, began before established camp sites were developed within the State park system and, at that time, many camping enthusiasts made use of State forest lands where there are still no specific areas set aside for this purpose.

However, as interest in outdoor recreation grew, and the need for camping facilities in State parks was felt within the Department of Forests and Waters, the Bureau of State Parks began incorporating such facilities in existing State parks and took camping into consideration when launching plans for new park facilities throughout the Commonwealth.

As a result today's State parks—those which offer camping areas—are filled to capacity on weekends. And often it becomes necessary to utilize overflow areas.

Pennsylvania, because of this tremendous growth in just this one facet of outdoor recreation, ranked tenth among all the States in the nation in the number of tent and trailer camp days for 1967 as based on the results of a survey—State Park Statistics 1967—published by the National Conference on State Parks. Of the total number of camper nights in all 50 states, 29,601,519, Pennsylvania's State parks accounted for 1,056,880.

This same survey revealed that Pennsylvania, during 1967, ranked fourth in total expenditures that year, $26,119,058; fourth in capital expenditures for improvements, $11,138,106; fifth for total operation and maintenance expenditures, $4,270,209; and second under capital expenditures for land, $10,710,741.

State park attendance over the past years has continued to grow and each year requires the addition of new facilities to meet the ever increasing needs of the general public.

For example, park attendance, including both day and overnight stays, reached the 31,983,090 mark during 1968. This was despite a wet and cold July which normally is the most active month of the year. During 1967 the total day and overnight stays amounted to 30,888,507.

Providing for the needs of campers has become a full time, 12 months out of the year, task for those personnel involved in operations, maintenance and advanced planning within the Bureau of State Parks.

There was a time, and not too many years ago at that, when primitive facilities were quite suitable for the majority of campers.

Such is not the case today and campers, for the most part, are quick to demand modern sanitary facilities.

As a result, the Central Office personnel involved in planning are taking into consideration the modernization of existing sanitary systems and are including modern, electrically equipped, systems in any new park installations throughout the Keystone state.

At present the camping season opens April 10 and closes December 20.
A TRAILER DUMP STATION and seven new wash houses are all part of the facilities created for the 350 sites at Gifford Pinchot State Park in York County.

It may be well to emphasize at this point, to avoid confusion on the part of the reader, that Pennsylvania's State Parks are open year round and even though the beaches and concession stands may have closed on Labor Day, picnic facilities remain available for Indian summer weekends, the fishing is excellent and, when the snow starts falling, there is ice skating, snowmobiling, skiing, ice fishing and tobogganing.

In 1965 there were 36 State parks which provided camping facilities. These ranged, at that time, from 25 camp sites at Little Pine in Lycoming County, to 600 at Pymatuning State Park in Crawford County, or a total of 3,370 camp sites. Not included in this total is the Cherry Springs state forest picnic area with 10 sites at that time.

For 1969 this total figure has grown (including Cherry Springs) to 5,222 camp sites with modern sanitary facilities under construction this year at three of the parks: Pymatuning, Laurel Hill and Hickory Run.

Modern sanitary facilities have also been provided at Caledonia, Keystone, Raccoon Creek and Shawnee State Parks; as well as at two brand new camping areas, slated to be opened this year, at Gifford Pinchot and Prince Gallitzin.

Besides providing healthful outdoor recreation it is logical to assume that camping also provides an economical boost to communities in the immediate area.

A survey to determine this factor, conducted in 1963 by a member of the Campground Association of Pennsylvania revealed:

1. Some 82 per cent of the campers stayed two days or longer

2. Each family spent an average of $17.78 in the surrounding retail and service establishments.

Camping in Pennsylvania's State Parks isn't limited to tents or trailers. There are also family cabins where all that is required is bedding, food, utensils and you're ready for a week of outdoor fun.

Such cabins can be found at the following State parks: Black Moshannon, Clear Creek, Cook Forest, Cowans Gap, Kooser, Linn Run, Parker Dam, Promised Land, Ralph Stover, S. B. Elliott and World's End.

These are one, two, three and four room structures capable of accommodating from two to four persons comfortably.

Cabins are available only to Pennsylvania residents during the Summer Rental Period which begins the first Saturday following Memorial Day and ends on the last Saturday prior to Labor Day.

Off-season rental periods, which do not require Pennsylvania residency, are from April 14 to the first Saturday following Memorial Day; and from noon on the Tuesday following Labor Day to December 20.

Based on the returns of the aforementioned “State Park Statistics—1967” the average state has been providing camping facilities for about 25 years and that, on the average, each state has 28 parks with camping facilities and a total of about 2,090 individual camp sites.

Thus Pennsylvania, with 42 State parks all offering camping privileges and a total of well over 5,000 individual camp sites for 1969, falls well above the national average which is proof enough that "Pennsylvania's State Parks DO Have Everything."

by

Robert G. Miller
Chief
Public Relations
FORESTS & WATERS

CAMPERs BY the thousands flocked to Prince Gallitzin State Park in Cambria County during the summer of 1967 for the national meet of the National Campers and Hikers Association. Temporary facilities were prepared at the park for the event, but by the end of the summer it should have 437 sites, second in size to the 600 sites at Pymatuning in Crawford County.
THREE NEW RULES FOR SKIERS

1. All boats towing skiers must be equipped with an approved type wide angle rear view mirror.
2. A pickup boat must follow when three or more skiers are being towed.
3. The pickup boat must display a ski safety flag.

by DEAN KLINGER
Chief Marine Services Specialist
Three new regulations governing water skiing on Pennsylvania's waterways are in effect this year as Keystone State skiers begin another new "season." Each of the three regulations is designed to provide the water skier with additional safety while pursuing the sport.

Beginning this year all boats towing skiers must be equipped with an "approved type" wide angle rear view mirror even if an observer is also aboard. A pickup boat must follow when three or more skiers are being towed and the pickup boat must be equipped with a ski safety flag.

With the rapid increase in ski activity on the waters of the Commonwealth it is only natural to expect the number of ski accidents to increase but in looking over accident statistics it is impossible to find even one that could not have been prevented if common sense had been used both on the part of the operator and the skier.

For example on a beautiful Sunday afternoon early last season a few friends were enjoying their favorite sport—water skiing. At the day progressed and everyone had a few refreshments the operator and the required observer became quite involved in conversation. In the midst of the gab session the observer noticed that the skier was no longer behind them. Swinging the boat around the pair traveled approximately five miles downstream before finding the body of their companion floating backside up with a ski belt on. Needless to say this could have definitely been prevented had the boat been equipped with a rear view mirror so the operator could have seen that the skier was no longer in tow even though the observer had fallen down on the job.

Another example might be the case of the couple that wanted to go skiing but did not have an observer along. They made the mistake of picking up an acquaintance that had a different interpretation of ski hand signals. The simple signal for a left turn was mistaken for a right turn by the observer. The operator made a sharp right turn and whipped the unprepared skier right into a pile of large rocks on the shoreline. The 50 mph plus impact resulted in a near fatality. The use of a wide-angle rear view mirror might also have prevented this.

Why is a pick-up required when towing three or more skiers?

The simplest answer to this question is that by having a pick-up boat everyone involved can have a much more enjoyable time—not to mention safety factors. When three or more skiers are behind one boat and one drops off the operator has the choice of keeping on going and letting the first who dropped float in the water to become a prime hazard to other boats navigating in the area or he can swing around dropping the remaining skiers and start all over, a process which can normally take from a few minutes to a half hour. Under this system a whole afternoon can be spent trying to get in a short time of actual skiing.

Take a look at the same operation with a pick-up boat. When a skier is dropped the pick-up boat moves in, retrieves the downed skier allowing the remaining skiers to continue. This method rewards the more experienced skier with much more skiing time while at the same time it gives the beginners experience in multiple skiing.

Why is a Ski Safety flag now required for the pick-up boat?

First a description of the flag—it is a white flag with a red stripe diagonally from the lower left to the upper right hand corner (color of flag and stripe is exactly opposite of divers flag) and an imprint of a pair of skis is shown on each side of the stripe.

When displayed by the pick-up boat, the flag indicates to other boaters in the area that the boat may be stopping to pick up dropped skis or downed skiers. Other traffic can give it a wide berth.

What does approved type wide angle rear view mirror mean?

This is a rear view mirror which is convex in shape and allows the operator to have an unobstructed reflected view of the skier at all times. It must be understood that a skier can cover a large area not only behind but on either side of the boat and a flat mirror, regardless of how large it is, will only reflect what is directly opposite it and not to either side. It is therefore not of an approved type.

Summing up the new skiing regulations it is safe to say that to the great majority of safety oriented water users these regulations are not actually new, but are instead common sense regulations they may have used in the past to promote safety afloat.
THERE AREN'T MANY LEFT anymore who can remember the old days on Kettle Creek when the brook trout migrations upstream in the spring of the year drew excited troutsters from all sections of Pennsylvania and congregated them at such famed fisherman's retreats as Olsen's and the Trout Run hotel. The news that the brookies had started their annual run spread like the proverbial wildfire throughout the state and it was an odd railroad coach heading in the general direction of Renova that didn't carry at least one or two passengers with rod cases strapped to their luggage.

These brook trout "runs" were truly remarkable. So much so, that back in the late 1920's either the biologist of the Pennsylvania Fish Commission or Pennsylvania State College spent an entire summer studying how the trout worked their way up the main stream and the tributaries in the spring, and their way back downstream in the fall. Mostly, it seemed, the time when the migration would start and the progress it would make towards the headwaters would depend on the temperature of the stream. If a warming trend would start the trout moving, a sudden cold spell would hold them almost stationary until the warmth would return.

I remember that as a general rule we could figure the run would be in the vicinity of the Trout Run hotel by Memorial Day. A week later, the best fishing would most likely be found somewhere around the mouth of Hammersley's Fork. Then the best fishing moved upstream on a dependable daily schedule, and in a matter of time advanced to Cross Fork, Olsen's, and eventually into the uppermost tributaries. As most of the fishermen moved right...
along with the migration their numbers alone indicated the progress of the run at any particular time.

There were great days of trout fishing on Kettle Creek. And while large numbers of the fishermen depended on natural baits to bring them luck, the fly fisherman was far from being a stranger on the stream. In addition to many of the local fishermen who had discovered the pleasure of fly fishing, most of the visitors who came to fish the waters of the Kettle were fly fishing enthusiasts.

Wet flies were the order of the day. While much of the talk that batted around during the evening sessions on the porches of the fishing retreats related to the "new" art of dry fly fishing, there were few of the fishermen of that day who had tried this form of trout enticement. And there were far fewer still among them who didn't consider wet flies the ultimate in catching trout and were fully convinced that they could take more trout with the sinkers than anyone ever would with a floating fly. They had their own methods for dealing with trout feeding on the surface.

And, from what I can remember I would have to agree that they could. For almost everyone of them were true experts at flipping a cast of three wet flies out on the surface of a pool or riffle and manipulating them in a manner to bring a strike from the most reluctant of the feeding trout. Not always on the forward flies that sank below the surface, but just as often on the dropper as it skipped along dapping itself on the surface.

Trout were plentiful then and I remember that many of the fishermen were highly displeased with the fact that a limit of only twenty-five trout per day kept them from filling their baskets to the brim with the fifty or sixty trout they could easily bring to net in a day's fishing. And some would even complain that fishing on the creek wasn't what it used to be for their fathers or grandfathers had told them of the time when a day's fishing would yield the troutster from 200 to 300 trout if the water conditions were right.

Yet fishing the stream and creeling a wealth of its handsome hemlock trout were sometimes the least of the pleasures. Some of my fondest memories center around those wonderful acquaintances seated at the supper table after a day astream, and the bragathons that continued well into the dead of night. Those sessions produced a brand of fellowship the modern trout fisherman may never know. For where in our modern world would a fisherman ever find retreats to equal Olsen's and the Kettle Creek hotel now that good roads and fast transportation have obliterated their kind?

And where would one ever meet up with the likes of Rube Kelly, the Wykoff boys, or a dozen other of the rustic natives who made a trip to Kettle Creek as worthwhile as all the speckled beauties swimming in the creek's crystal waters?

Yes, the old days on Kettle Creek are hard to forget. Much harder, even, than the old days on many of the other of the state's famed fishing streams. For off in the back-country as it was (and it certainly was in those days), its fabulous spring run of brook trout possessing a magnetic appeal that was almost irresistible, and its wild beauty enthrancing the very soul of man, the Kettle drew to it the wholly dedicated from all of the trout fishing fraternity. Like the faithful journeying to Mecca they came, and with a question in their hearts—what fly are they taking today?
NEVER BEEN CHECKED

Mr. Kopena and myself watched a fisherman fishing for approximately half an hour before we checked him for a license. When checked, he didn’t have one and was arrested. This was on the Clarion River in the Forest County section. The fisherman said that he had been coming up that way for 13 years and had never been checked by any officers so this time he decided to fish without a license. —Waterways Patrolman BERNARD D. AMBROSE (Elk County).

BACK YARD MUSKIES

Mr. James Yetter of Port Royal, Pennsylvania journeyed from his home to the St. Lawrence River year after year in hopes of landing a legal musky—without success. Last summer he began fishing the Juniata River at the mouth of Tuscarora Creek quite extensively. On July 9 he certainly was a jubilant angler as he landed a 32-inch musky. Three days later while fishing in the same area, he landed a second, this one 35-inches. And only about 300 yards from his back door! —Waterways Patrolman RICHARD OWENS (Mifflin-Juniata Counties).

RAT TRAP

While on night patrol awhile ago, I came across a fisherman with three rods and lines, but clearly within the law. Two of the lines were baited with worms and in the river, the other with cheese and cast on the shore for rats. A nice way to spend an evening! —Waterways Patrolman JAY B. JOHNSTON (Bucks County).

SUCCESSFUL “SUCKER” FLY

One of the best early spring flies used in Fisherman’s Paradise that is easy to tie and for which material is easy to come by tied with either white or yellow yarn looped on a hook and is fished like a nymph. The fly imitates the spawn of the sucker. —Waterways Patrolman PAUL F. SWANSON (Centre County).

FAST FOX

A friend of mine had been bothered by a groundhog near his garden so he proceeded to watch for it with his gun. He killed the groundhog but before he could pick it up, a gray fox picked it up and ran into the nearby bushes. —Waterways Patrolman WALTER J. BURKHART (Monroe County).

FIVE MILE HIKE

During January, I conducted a fishing school in Rochester (Beaver County). Among the students were two brothers from Monaca—Gary, 9, and Jim Stauffer, 15. After the first session, Mr. Len Szafaryn, Director of Beaver County Recreation, brought to my attention the fact that these young lads had walked about five miles to attend the school! —Waterways Patrolman DONALD PARRISH (Beaver County).

HUNGRY DUCK

Bob David of Big Run, an avid winter trout fisherman, told me that while fishing Cloe Lake near Punnetsawney in early December he asked one woman how she was doing. She replied “One and a bird.” It seems she had caught a nice brook trout and on the next cast a duck decided to take her minnow. It must have been quite a battle releasing the bird because her husband was complaining of duck “bites” on his fingers and hand. —Waterways Patrolman STANLEY C. HASTINGS (Cameron County).

TROUT TRAPPER?

While trapping for muskrats and mink, Paul Buchsen was surprised one morning to find a 19 inch brown trout.
in one of his coonbear traps. I knew coonbear traps were deadly on fur-bearing animals, but didn’t know they would work so well on fish life!—Waterways Patrolman KENNETH ALEY (Potter County).

**LOST TEETH!**

During the drawdown of Glendale Lake last fall many area anglers were able to restock their tackle boxes with lures they found. While walking the shore line one day, I noticed something white in the sand. A closer look revealed it an upper plate of someone’s false teeth. Apparently the teeth accidentally were dropped overboard, or was someone perhaps trying to rig up a new lure?—Waterways Patrolman ANTHONY MURAWSKI (Cambria County).

**LITTERING PROBLEMS**

While at the Cincinnati show it was interesting to talk with conservation officers from other states and hear the problems they have. It seems littering is a big problem no matter where you go. I learned a couple of states have a $25.00 to $500.00 fine for littering. A fine of $500.00 might make a potential litterbug stop and think before throwing cans, bottles, or papers along a stream!—Waterways Patrolman CLOYD W. HOLLEN (Blair County).

**LICENSED NON FISHERMAN**

While visiting an issuing agent I met a Mr. George Kochis who was looking at the various tackle. When he saw my uniform he approached me and asked if he needed a license to row a boat. I told him that this is no longer the law, so long as he didn’t fish. Then Mr. Kochis floored me—he told me he had never fished in his life but buys a license every year just to row the boat for his brothers. This has gone on for the last 25 years! As I left Mr. Kochis assured me he would again have his license this year, I guess there are still some people in this world that stand behind worthwhile organizations, even though they get nothing out of it. Waterways Patrolman ROBERT E. FASCHING (Lackawanna County).

**SUCCESSFUL OPENER?**

On the first day of buck season and the first day of winter trout season last winter Mr. Harold Mickey of Orrstown killed a spike buck in the forenoon and then caught his limit of trout at Letterkenny Reservoir in the afternoon.—Waterways Patrolman BRYCE CARNELL (Adams-Franklin Counties).

**FISHED OUT?**

I often hear complaints from fishermen that the streams are “fished out.” They say we never have a carry-over of trout from one season to the next and claim that the fishermen who do not follow the hatchery truck cannot catch anything. I was able to disprove these statements last fall while helping the Benner Spring Research Station staff at the headwaters of Big Spring Creek here in Cumberland County. While doing some research on a native strain of brook trout by employing the use of an electro-shocking device, we were able to count in excess of 150 native brook trout in less than a 500 yard stretch of the stream. Many of these trout were over 15 inches in length and some of them would have provided a fisherman with a Pennsylvania Angler Citation Award. To the best of my knowledge a hatchery fish has not been stocked in this section of the stream in the last eight years. In addition to the native brook trout population, this same area has produced three Citation brown trout and one Citation rainbow trout within the past two years.—Waterways Patrolman PERRY D. HEATH (Cumberland-Perry Counties).

**SPIRIT NOT DAMPENED!**

The walleye run in the Susquehanna River at Sunbury brings out hardy fishermen in force to enjoy their sport while braving the elements, and 'hardy' you must be to endure the snow, sleet and cold, but even they must bow to fisherman Joe Berholtz of Danville. Joe, pursuing his sport to the limit, ventured out onto Shamokin Dam and was rewarded for his effort by a fall from the dam into the icy waters of the Susquehanna. This of course dampened his clothing and tackle, but not his spirit. The very next day found him back at his favorite spot in quest of the abundant walleyes!—Waterways Patrolman ROBERT J. PERRY (Columbia, Montgomery and Northumberland Counties).

**HELPFUL**

At a fishing school in Bedford a fisherman told me he was fishing at the Shawnee Lake and on two occasions had large fish hooked—so large in fact that they would not come through the six inch hole he had cut. In the process of cutting the hole larger another fisherman told him that the law permitted only a six inch hole. The informer then graciously cut the line and released the fish for him each time. You should have seen his expression when I told him a ten inch hole was permitted by law! He was quite disturbed.—Waterways Patrolman WILLIAM E. McILNAY (Bedford-Fulton Counties).
TOUCHING THE ADVENTURES and Perils which we, the said Underwriters, are contented to bear and take upon us, they are of the Seas, Men-of-War, Fire, Lightning, Earthquake, Enemies, Pirates, Rovers, Assailing Thieves, Jettisons, Letters of Mart and Counter-Mart, Surprisals, Takings at Sea, Arrests, Restraints and Detainments of all Kings, Princes and Peoples, of what nation, condition or quality soever, Barratry of the Master and Mariners and of all other like Perils, Losses and Misfortunes that have or shall come to the Hurt, Detriment or Damage of the said Vessel, &c., or any part thereof; excepting, however, such of the foregoing Perils as may be excluded by provisions elsewhere in the Policy or by endorsement.

This may sound like a college exercise in Elizabethan English II, but it is really a verbatim extract from a marine insurance policy issued by an American company in 1968 to cover a 17-foot inboard runabout.

The point in all this is to demonstrate that marine insurance is not a simple subject, and no literary sleight-of-hand can make it so.

Many a pleasure boat owner has found to his regret that what he thought was covered by his policy was not, or that by his own actions he has voided his coverage.

No article of this length, or even a single book, can hope to explore the intricacies of marine insurance. No boat owner, unless he happens to be an expert in the field, can tell from reading his policy what is covered and what is not.

If this sounds rather hopeless, there is a solution for the problem. It is simply that a boat owner, in order to obtain the right insurance coverage at the right price, must deal with an agent or broker who is competent to handle this kind of insurance.

The fellow who sold you the policies on your home and auto is probably a nice guy, but the chances are he is just as ignorant as yourself when it comes to marine insurance. To get the right kind of protection, it is necessary to deal with an expert.

There are literally hundreds of different ways to insure a given boat. A small outboard might be covered by the owner’s Homeowner’s policy, but this affords relatively little protection, although it usually costs nothing extra.

It is just as easy to get too much insurance, for too high an annual premium. The experienced marine broker, by making a careful study of the boatman’s situation and all of the factors involved, can select the right policy, and recommend realistic limits for hull and liability protection that keep the premium to a minimum.

Too many boatmen make the mistake of thinking boat insurance is the same as automobile insurance. It is not even remotely similar, and particularly on navigable waters, will be considered in the light of federal, rather than state law.

While even the most superficial discussion of marine insurance would take many pages, there are a few suggestions that will enable a boat owner to obtain and keep the best kind of protection:

1. Get your policy from a broker or agent who is recognized as an expert in marine insurance; tell him everything about your boat and boating habits, as the failure to disclose any relevant fact can void your coverage.

2. Maintain your boat properly, with all required equipment, keep it seaworthy, and never take more passengers or cargo than the boat can safely carry. Never use an engine larger than that recommended by the manufacturer of the boat. The insurance company will not assume the risk of this kind of exposure.

3. Operate your boat sensibly and legally. Learn the Rules of the Road and all other regulations applicable to the waters where you will be boating. Illegal operation that results in a loss can often preclude a recovery.

4. Don’t leave valuables lying in your boat where they can be picked up by a passer-by. Most policies cover only losses caused by “assailing thieves,” which means essentially that some force must be used in the theft.

5. Don’t use your boat outside the area of navigation specified in your policy, or beyond the dates listed for the season, without first informing your agent.

6. If you have a loss, you are required to do everything possible to minimize it, just as if you had no insurance at all. The boat owner who negligently compounds a small casualty by his inaction is in for a rude awakening.

7. If you are involved in an accident with another boat, or if someone is injured by or on your boat, give the other party your name, address and boat registration number, and inform him that you have insurance. Never admit liability, or make any promise you are not personally prepared to fulfill. Few boatmen are competent to make on-the-spot determinations of liability or fault, and your rash statements may be binding upon yourself, but not upon your insurer.

8. If you have a claim, get in touch with your agent at once. You can generally make such repairs as are necessary for the preservation of the vessel, but the insurance underwriter will want to have his own surveyor or adjustor examine the boat before accepting liability.

9. Don’t try to make any extra money on a claim, and don’t let the boatyard or repairman try either. Your policy only binds the underwriter to pay the “reasonable cost” of losses caused by covered risks, and a reasonable settlement is always more profitable than a long law suit.

To sum up, a boat owner can best obtain the protection he needs by dealing with an experienced agent or broker who more or less specializes in marine insurance, and can serve his own interests best by being completely frank and honest with him.

In any dealing with marine insurance, be sensible and reasonable, keeping in mind that marine underwriters are fair and just, but can be very difficult if they have reason to believe that you are trying to take advantage of them.

In contrast with the situation in the auto insurance industry, which is characterized by inflated repair bills and ever-higher premiums, boat insurance is a bargain. A boat owner can obtain a great deal of protection for himself and his craft at a reasonable rate, generally only a fraction of what a comparable automobile policy would cost.

It should be kept in mind, however, that insurance companies are not charitable institutions. When the auto claims exceeded the amount paid in premiums, everyone’s rates went up. If boat claims evolve into the same kind of dishonest game, every boatman will pay his share.
INSURANCE—IT CAN MAKE YOU Sink or Swim—

by Capt. Jack Ross
Audubon
On Oil Creek

LAST SPRING 22 MEMBERS of the Western Pennsylvania Audubon Society floated 10 miles of Oil Creek from the Drake Well Park near Titusville, Crawford County, to Rynd Farm. The society was interested in the birdlife inhabiting the famous oil valley.

When the trip ended after six hours, James Wolf of Pittsburgh, the society's president, reported the canoeing bird-watchers had not only seen and heard 30 species of birds but had also found that Oil Creek is an ideal stream for the beginning canoeist.

Because conditions were quite dry in Northwest Pennsylvania, Oil Creek did not present its best spring canoeing stage and several members had to get out and guide their aluminum craft through rocky riffles. But a few of the 11 canoes made the trip without any occupants getting their feet wet.

The canoes were carried easily to the creek near the Drake Well Park Museum. They were taken out just below the Route 8 bridge at Rynd Farm. The trip, with breaks for lunch and bird observation, took six hours. The canoeists floated past the ghost oil towns of Miller Farm, Shaffer, Pioneer, Funkville and Petroleum Center.

Shortly after the discovery of oil in the valley in 1859, Oil Creek, despite its shallow water, floated thousands of barrels of crude oil to markets down-river. This was possible through the erection of dams which, when cut, would supply enough water to float 150 to 200 huge flatboats, some holding 5,000 barrels of oil per boat, down the creek at one time.

It is not expected that such boating activity or commerce will ever again spring up on Oil Creek, but with the Pennsylvania Department of Forests and Waters developing a 7,000 acre, Project 70 park in the valley the Pittsburgh society traveled, it is possible that large canoeing parties will now be seen quite frequently on Oil Creek.
Last spring in front of some of the canoes they trailered were Audubon members Dorothy Olson, Paul and Christine Wick, Arne Olson, and Beulah Fry, all of Pittsburgh. Below members of group take care to pass behind fishermen in mid-stream.

by STEVE SZALEWICZ
GOVERNOR RAYMOND P. Shafer who two years ago received a Citation himself for a shad he caught near Lackawaxen on the upper Delaware presents Junior Citations to three young fishermen who landed some big ones on a trip to the same area last spring. The boys are, left to right, C. J. Morrison, son of Woodstream Corporation’s Dave Morrison; Marty Conmy, son of the Governor’s former press secretary, Jack Conmy; and David Stampler, son of Governor’s aide Sgt. Manley Stampler.

1968 BIG FISH

Award Winners Listed
by TOM ECGLER, Editor, Pennsylvania Angler

EITHER MORE BIG FISH ARE BEING CAUGHT or more fishermen are talking about the ones they land, at least according to the number of Pennsylvania Angler Fishing Citations and Husky Musky Club memberships awarded during 1968.

Young fishermen made the biggest gain—some 287 Junior Citations were issued by this magazine for the year as compared with 81 in 1967. Senior Citations increased from 225 for the 1967 season to 257 in 1968. (Junior Citation Winners in June issue.)

And last—but certainly far from least—were the muskie fishermen who added 44 more regular memberships to the exclusive Husky Musky Club. This compares with 40 for 1967.

The number of Honorable Mention Awards for Muskellunge catches also jumped—from 24 to 36.

JUNIOR CITATION WINNERS WILL APPEAR IN JUNE ANGLER
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<tr>
<th>ANGLER'S NAME &amp; HOMETOWN</th>
<th>LENGTH &amp; WEIGHT</th>
<th>WATER AREA &amp; COUNTY</th>
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<td>Joseph Dropek, Mt. Carmel</td>
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<td>Charles A. Snyder, Jr., Hummelsown</td>
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<td>Wills Hunting, Clarion</td>
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<td>Paul Warner, Tintwood</td>
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<td>Louis J. Landrum, Ashland, Ohio</td>
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<td>Gary V. Fiechter, Eldersburg</td>
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<td>Carl Allen, Sharpsville</td>
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<td>Saul Kumpfmiller, Pittsburgh</td>
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<td>Frank A. Hildebrandt, Williamsport</td>
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**HONORABLE MENTION**

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<td>David W. Fulton, Carlisle</td>
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<td>Tom Drake, Pleasantsville</td>
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<td>Barry Carley, Highspire</td>
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<td>Victor P. Hines, Bethel Park</td>
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<td>James A. Carey, New Alexandria</td>
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<td>Robert C. Carmon, Lewistown</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert C. Carmon, Lewistown</td>
<td>38 inches, 12 pounds</td>
<td>Allegheny River, Greene County</td>
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<tr>
<td>John R. Keese, Mechanicsburg</td>
<td>39 inches, 13 pounds</td>
<td>Allegheny River, Greene County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Henry K. Grismer, Etters</td>
<td>38 inches, 12 pounds</td>
<td>Allegheny River, Greene County</td>
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<tr>
<td>John R. Keese, Mechanicsburg</td>
<td>39 inches, 13 pounds</td>
<td>Allegheny River, Greene County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Larry H. Blank, Tamaqua</td>
<td>38 inches, 12 pounds</td>
<td>Allegheny River, Greene County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roger Scarlett, Edinboro</td>
<td>39 inches, 13 pounds</td>
<td>Allegheny River, Greene County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fritz Guzy, Erie</td>
<td>38 inches, 12 pounds</td>
<td>Allegheny River, Greene County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Victor M. Mooney, Wellsboro</td>
<td>39 inches, 13 pounds</td>
<td>Allegheny River, Greene County</td>
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<tr>
<td>William J. Pollock, Central City</td>
<td>38 inches, 12 pounds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harold P. Stover, New Alexandria</td>
<td>39 inches, 13 pounds</td>
<td>Allegheny River, Greene County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harry P. Stover, Lewistown</td>
<td>38 inches, 12 pounds</td>
<td>Allegheny River, Greene County</td>
</tr>
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<td>Andy Petrick, Jr., Allegheny City</td>
<td>39 inches, 13 pounds</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earl Hoffer, Jr., Washington</td>
<td>38 inches, 12 pounds</td>
<td>Allegheny River, Greene County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael J. Peck, Sharon</td>
<td>39 inches, 13 pounds</td>
<td>Allegheny River, Greene County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Polko, Natrona Heights</td>
<td>38 inches, 12 pounds</td>
<td>Allegheny River, Greene County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jim Dennis, Lancaster</td>
<td>39 inches, 13 pounds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Curtis Fothun, Camp Hill</td>
<td>38 inches, 12 pounds</td>
<td>Allegheny River, Greene County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANGLER'S NAME &amp; HOMETOWN</td>
<td>SIZE, SPECIES &amp; BAIT USED</td>
<td>WATER AREA &amp; COUNTY</td>
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<tr>
<td>---------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert R. Edelman, Elkins</td>
<td>29 1/2 in., 13 lb., 6 oz. brown trout on a chain pickerel</td>
<td>Tom's Creek, Crawford County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert A. Everitt, Edinboro</td>
<td>30 1/2 in., 12 lb., 5 oz. yellow perch on a minnow</td>
<td>Broomtail Creek, Lawrence County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albert Salski, Bensalem</td>
<td>27 in., 7 lb., 1 oz. rock bass on a nightcrawler</td>
<td>Sunfish Lake, Montour County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward Getz, Reading</td>
<td>26 1/2 in., 4 lb., 9 oz. chain pickerel</td>
<td>Everything Lake, Luzerne County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John B. Basick, Huntingdon</td>
<td>27 in., 4 lb., 9 oz. bullhead on a nightcrawler</td>
<td>Slate Creek, Centre County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew S. Yablonsky, McMurray</td>
<td>27 in., 9 lb. rainbow trout on a minnow</td>
<td>Maggot Creek, Beaver County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Warren, Tioga</td>
<td>29 1/2 in., 33 1/2 lb. muskellunge on a nightcrawler</td>
<td>Oneida Lake, Montour County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melvin G. Reineck, Tyrone</td>
<td>27 1/2 in., 3 1/2 lb. chain pickerel on a salmon egg</td>
<td>Richmond Pond, Luzerne County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward R. Marszal, Dauphin</td>
<td>24 in., 3 lb., 4 oz. yellow perch on a shiner</td>
<td>Benzie Lake, Allegheny County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John S. Caulfield, Susquehanna</td>
<td>25 1/2 in., 2 lb., 6 oz. chain pickerel on cheese</td>
<td>Turkey Creek, Luzerne County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John G. Pfeifer, Easton</td>
<td>28 in., 9 lb., 1 oz. yellow perch on a minnow</td>
<td>Snake Creek, Clinton County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terry A. Babcock, Belle Vernon</td>
<td>24 in., 3 lb., 5 oz. chain pickerel on a swiss swing</td>
<td>Bear Lake, Clearfield County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael P. Walsh, Williamsport</td>
<td>27 1/2 in., 4 lb., 15 oz. salmon egg</td>
<td>Lake Wallenpaupack, Pike County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eugene R. Snyder, Dallastown</td>
<td>29 in., 1 lb., 5 oz. salmon egg</td>
<td>Lake Wallenpaupack, Pike County</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANGLER'S NAME &amp; HOMETOWN</th>
<th>SIZE, SPECIES &amp; BAIT USED</th>
<th>WATER AREA &amp; COUNTY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thomas R. Hensel, Shoemakersville</td>
<td>27 1/2 in., 7 lb., 4 oz. chain pickerel on a minnow</td>
<td>Lake Wallenpaupack, Pike County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph H. Carter, Jr., Avella</td>
<td>25 1/2 in., 6 lb., 15 oz. chain pickerel</td>
<td>Lake Wallenpaupack, Pike County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Roy Wise, II, Lebanon</td>
<td>27 1/2 in., 4 lb., 9 oz. chain pickerel on cheese</td>
<td>Lake Winola, Wyoming County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William F. Brinkman, Honey Brook</td>
<td>28 1/2 in., 9 lb., 1 oz. chain pickerel on cheese</td>
<td>Lake Wallenpaupack, Pike County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harry J. Smith, Sunbury</td>
<td>25 1/2 in., 6 lb., 15 oz. chain pickerel</td>
<td>Lake Winola, Wyoming County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James E. Shatzer, Dornsife</td>
<td>28 1/2 in., 9 lb., 1 oz. chain pickerel on cheese</td>
<td>Lake Wallenpaupack, Pike County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William J. Shipherd, Northumberland</td>
<td>27 1/2 in., 7 lb., 4 oz. chain pickerel on a minnow</td>
<td>Lake Wallenpaupack, Pike County</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WATER AREA &amp; COUNTY</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lower Woods, Wayne County</td>
<td>Robert J. Itinger, Alexandria</td>
<td>18 1/2 in., 1 lb., 2 oz. bluegill on a fly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANGLER'S NAME &amp; HOMETOWN</td>
<td>SIZE, SPECIES &amp; BAIT USED</td>
<td>WATER AREA &amp; COUNTY</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>James R. Campbell, Newport</td>
<td>24 in., 4 lb., smallmouth bass on a spinner</td>
<td>Susquehanna River, Perry County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilbur A. Young, Kinzer</td>
<td>23 1/2 in., 2 lb., smallmouth bass on a perch</td>
<td>Upper Muskingum Reservoir, Chester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walter G. Bowditch, Jr., New Kensington</td>
<td>25 1/2 in., 4 oz. smallmouth bass on a perch</td>
<td>Little Mud Pond, Pike County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert F. Shunk, Huntingdon</td>
<td>26 in., 1 lb., smallmouth bass on a perch</td>
<td>Raystown Dam, Huntingdon County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lloyd E. Berkheimer, Reading</td>
<td>28 in., 3 oz. smallmouth bass on a perch</td>
<td>Ohiopyle Lake, Berks County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Fugmeier, Scranton</td>
<td>29 in., 6 oz. smallmouth bass on a perch</td>
<td>Williamsburg, Wyoming County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jake Anderskovich, Menno</td>
<td>30 in., 1 oz. smallmouth bass on a perch</td>
<td>Morris Dam, Fayette County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marie Ursi, Connellsville</td>
<td>30 in., 1 oz. smallmouth bass on a perch</td>
<td>Connell Lake, Crawford County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David J. Knowles, Sr., Osgood Mills</td>
<td>31 in., 2 lb., smallmouth bass on a perch</td>
<td>Black Moshannon Dam, Centre County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andy Dole, Homesdale</td>
<td>32 in., 3 oz. smallmouth bass on a perch</td>
<td>Bunnell's Pond, Wayne County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Yeager, Sunbury</td>
<td>32 in., 3 oz. smallmouth bass on a perch</td>
<td>Susquehanna River, Northumberland County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claire J. Daiker, Shamokin</td>
<td>33 in., 5 lb., smallmouth bass on a perch</td>
<td>Susquehanna River, Northumberland County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrence C. Pfister, Erie</td>
<td>34 in., 10 lb., smallmouth bass on a perch</td>
<td>Lakes Erie, Erie County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caroline Sharpavack, Clarion</td>
<td>35 in., 12 oz. smallmouth bass on a perch</td>
<td>Sugar Lake, Crawford County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alex Aversa, Union City</td>
<td>36 in., 2 lb., smallmouth bass on a perch</td>
<td>Yellow Breeches, Cumberland County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warren C. Beckwith, Lookout</td>
<td>36 1/2 in., 5 lb., smallmouth bass on a perch</td>
<td>Allegheny River, Armstrong County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Chabal, III, Tarentum</td>
<td>37 in., 6 oz. smallmouth bass on a perch</td>
<td>Allegheny River, Armstrong County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frances W. Olmsted, Arlington</td>
<td>37 1/2 in., 8 oz. smallmouth bass on a perch</td>
<td>Allegheny River, Armstrong County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clem J. Daiker, Shamokin</td>
<td>38 in., 10 lb., smallmouth bass on a perch</td>
<td>Allegheny River, Armstrong County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walter L. Eckert, Laureldale</td>
<td>39 in., 12 lb., smallmouth bass on a perch</td>
<td>Allegheny River, Armstrong County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floyd E. Berkemeier, Reading</td>
<td>39 in., 12 lb., smallmouth bass on a perch</td>
<td>Allegheny River, Armstrong County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas D. Diskevich, Jr., Pennsylvania</td>
<td>40 in., 14 oz. smallmouth bass on a perch</td>
<td>Allegheny River, Armstrong County</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** The table contains information about fishing victories including the names of anglers, their hometowns, the species and species of fish caught, the size and weight of the fish, and the locations where they were caught. The data is organized in a tabular format with columns for Angler's Name, Age, Home Town, Species, Bait Used, Water Area, and County.
PAUL BARTELS, JIM SABIN AND BOB DOWNEY of Dravosburg and myself, arrived at Conneaut Marsh about daylight in our late spring quest for carp with archery tackle. The dark and murky waters were grim and foreboding, showing nary a sign of life as we shivered in the cool and fog-shrouded early dawn. "Perhaps we were misinformed?" I asked Jim. "No, this fellow stopped at my garage two days ago and said the carp were really acting up in here and no one was after them yet."

Still, it was with some misgivings that we started out. Paul and Jim would take the boat equipped with the air motor while Bob and I would stalk around the edges, though we did have another boat equipped with a conventional outboard. Jim was not concerned about the adaptability of his airboat, as he knew that it would go anywhere that had the slightest amount of water.

We watched as they breezed through the lily pads and beaded up the narrow channel to disappear in the fog-shrouded swamp. Bob and I started to work our way along the treacherous underbrush and as the sun came out the swamp came to life. We quickly decided to take the other boat and limit our travel to the narrow channels which looked more passable in the daylight. And besides we could hear the carp "working."

The larger carp were elusive targets and it was difficult to launch an effective arrow at them. The movement of your bow arm was all it took to generate instant flight and another miss. But finally we got the range and where to "aim" to get results. With the carp broadside, at a 20 foot range or less, we would aim about a foot inside them, and we started making hits, even in two to three foot of water. After scoring a hit, we would lay down our bow and bring the catch in by retrieving hand over hand.

By early afternoon we’d landed all the carp we could handle and decided to hang it up for another good trip.
Spectacular May

MAY, THE PEAK MONTH of the native wildflower season, certainly must be among the top contenders for most beautiful month of the year in Pennsylvania. Only the fall months with their spectacular foliage could rival it. An ideal place to view an abundance of spring-blooming plants is Raccoon Creek Wildflower Reserve, maintained by the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy in Beaver County. The 300-acre tract abounds with over 500 varieties of flora native to Penn's Woods.

A large oak tree on the Jennings Trail dates back before the arrival of the white man in the Beaver Creek Valley. Some of the smaller plants, such as the horsetail date back much, much further to the days when coal, for which this part of the Commonwealth is so well known, was just beginning to form.

The reserve is free to the public and is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day except Monday. If your camping club would like to tour the area as a group, with a trained botanist to guide you and identify the plants, you can make reservations by calling or writing the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, 204 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15222.

If you make the tour without a guide, we recommend you carry along a wildflower guide or handbook. We'd suggest the small paperback edition of "Flowers—A Guide to Familiar American Wildflowers," priced at just $1 from Golden Press, or "How to Know The Wild Flowers," by Mrs. William Dana, published by Dover Books, New York. It is also in paperback for $2.25.

Campsites, of course, are available at Raccoon Creek State Park adjacent to the Wildflower Reserve. The park is located in the Traverse Creek Valley in Beaver County and can be reached either by U.S. Route 30 or Route 18.

Built in 1938, the park was first under the supervision of the National Park Service and was turned over to the Commonwealth in 1946. A 102-acre lake offers trout, bass, walleye and pan fish, as well as a fine 873-foot swimming beach.

The camping area contains approximately 140 sites, some wooded, some open. The campground is located about one-fourth mile away from the lake. Sanitary facilities include showerhouse and flush toilets.

This park is often crowded in the summer but in spring you should be able to easily find a site. Grocery supplies, ice and gas can be purchased within one and one-half to three miles. During the swimming season, a refreshment stand is open in the main picnic area. Life guards are on duty from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

Frankfort Springs within the park produces seven kinds of mineral water and at one time a famous health resort stood on the site. Hiking trails follow the streams and ridges. Elevation in the park ranges from 850 feet to 1,300 feet.

Thanks to the extreme generosity and conservation spirit of a Pittsburgh industrialist, Mr. James F. Hillman, a new state park will be established in the near future eight miles south of Raccoon Creek State Park. In January of this year, Governor Shafer announced that Mr. Hillman had given a tract of 3,654 acres, valued at more than one million dollars, to the state for park usage. This is about one-half the size of Raccoon Creek park and is the largest single land gift ever given for a state park in the nation.

Mr. Hillman is president of the Harmon Creek Coal Company which had strip mined and then restored the tract. It is an excellent example of how such land can be reclaimed.

Governor Shafer has requested funds in the 1969-70 capital budget to provide a master development plan for the new park which could come from the Project 500 funds. He has also suggested to the State Geographic Board that the new park be named Hillman State Park in honor of this dedicated conservationist. At the present time the land will be placed under the administration of Raccoon Creek State Park.

This would permit immediate use of the area by the public for sports such as horseback riding, hiking, hunting and winter sports such as snowmobiling and cross-country skiing.

Beaver County has many historical points of interest. The most famous of which is the restored Harmonist village of Old Economy on Route 68. The Harmonists were a German religious group led by George Rapp who came to Pennsylvania to escape religious persecution in their country. They believed in a completely communal society, and later celibacy, which led eventually to their elimination.

Nineteenth-century buildings overlook the Ohio River. Buildings and gardens have been restored to look as they did when the Society thrived. Still standing are the Great House, the church, the music hall, a granary, community kitchen, cabinet shop, store, apothecary, tailoring shop, warehouse and Grotto. Two of the original dwelling houses also remain. Carriage house, greenhouse and gardens were also rebuilt. The area is managed by the State Historical and Museum Commission.

In great contrast to this reminder of earlier, quieter days are other tourist attractions in the county symbolic of modern America. At Shippingport tours can be arranged at the Shippingport Atomic Power Station, the first plant to produce atomic energy for commercial use. Conway has the world's largest yard for classification of freight cars, owned by the Penn Central Railroad, which handles more than 9,000 freight cars a day.
PITTSBURGH SAFE BOATING COMMITTEE

IN THE WESTERN PART of Pennsylvania, at the confluence of the Allegheny, Ohio and Monongahela Rivers, is located the Pittsburgh Safe Boating Committee.

This organization, now about 12 years old, had been the first of its kind in Pennsylvania and in its February, 1968, Boating Bulletin claimed to be "the only permanently organized safe boating committee functioning in the United States."

The Pittsburgh Safe Boating Committee is not the type of organization which meets once or twice a year to plan for some special event. Instead it continues its sessions from one end of the year to the other, meeting monthly to prepare its campaign to promote safe boating in the Tri-River area.

As a result, it has a well-rounded program, a program which begins prior to the local Safe Boating Week observance with spot safety announcements on radio and television. Committee members are often found on local television personality shows; news releases are sent to newspapers, and there is always the Pittsburgh Boat Show every February, in which the committee participates.

Unfortunately, the committee does not have a budget. Where any expenditures are involved, it is generally up to the membership to dig deep in order to bear the financial burden. This is one reason the committee has never attempted to include commercially printed leaflets, handouts and bumper stickers in its campaign.

Headed by Dale K. Williams, the committee had its beginning in 1957 when the first National Safe Boating Week was established by Presidential Proclamation. The U.S. Coast Guard was its first sponsor, and for three years directed the annual observance through local power squadrons and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliaries.

The committee then took over the local event and through 1963 its primary purpose was the organization and presentation of the annual Water Safety Show at Pittsburgh's "Point" during Safe Boating Week.

It achieved permanent status in 1964 when invited by the Western Pennsylvania Safety Council to serve as a sub-committee of the safety council on a year-round basis.

As a result, the committee's membership is made up of representatives of the following organizations: U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, both in 1957; U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District; Pittsburgh Chapter, American Red Cross; U.S. Power Squadron, Pittsburgh; and Western Pennsylvania Safety Council, all in 1960; Waterways Association of Pittsburgh, Propellor Club, Port of Pittsburgh; and Three Rivers Boating Guide, all in 1964; and the Office of Watercraft Safety, Pennsylvania Fish Commission, in 1965.

"All member organizations have continual representation on the Committee which is active year around, meeting monthly and more often, as necessary, in the coordination of programs, activities and planning for the promotion of water safety."

One of the committee's pet projects has been the distribution of a boating bulletin which is printed by the Corps of Engineers as a service to the boating public in cooperation with the Pittsburgh Safe Boating Committee.

Twenty thousand of these bulletins were printed and distributed at the Pittsburgh Boat Show, an event which provides the safety committee and its activities with plenty of exposure. Three printings of these bulletins are anticipated during 1969.

The bulletin is nothing elaborate. Printed on a standard size sheet of paper, it has a neat, commercial appearance and does the job.

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UNUSUAL FIND—

BROTHERS JACK AND CHARLES HARDY, age 12 and 14, of Harrisburg brought a "one in a million" albino frog into Pennsylvania Fish Commission offices awhile ago. A young specimen, the frog was determined to be a true albino. The boys reported finding it while exploring a small stream emptying into the Susquehanna River near the Commission's Falmouth Access Area.

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LEAKY BOOTS

including fishing and boating. The department would better represent the fisherman. Interdepartmental cooperation could avert deleterious practices of mining, industry, transportation, lumbering, utilities, farming, etc.

Robert J. Bielo should abandon the armchair notion of maintaining an independent status for the Fish Commission and take consolation in that the "Pennsylvania Game and Fish News" will be 9" x 11" and 100 pages of highly readable material for Pennsylvania Sportsmen as the "Pennsylvania Angler" and "Game News" are today.

—Wayne G. Johnston, Cumberland, Md.

You are quite correct in noting that most of the states in the Nation have combined Fish and Game Departments, many of which are part of a larger conservation department or Department of Natural Resources. The first question I would ask you is that if such a combined department is so successful, how is it that Pennsylvania rates as the number one hunting state in the Nation, and with one of the lowest per capita acres of fishable waters usually remains in the top ten in fishing states?

Frankly, I think the answer lies in the fact that with separate agencies we are able to do a more effective and efficient job of management for our water users and hunters.

Multiple use of our outdoors resources is necessary and I believe you will find the practice of multiple use carried out in Pennsylvania to a much greater degree than it is in virtually any other state. It has been well demonstrated in Pennsylvania that Fish, Game, and Forests and Waters programs are coordinated to assure maximum use is made of our resources without jeopardizing the prime or most important use of any individual area.

Somehow or other the middle portion of your letter is unclear as you seem to favor hunting to such an extent that you fail to recognize that probably there are areas where other use is more important to more people. Some of our good fishing streams do fall on State Game Lands — and certainly that Commission is most cooperative in permitting us to stock these streams for fishermen use.

By the same token the Fish Commission provides a great number of access points along our waterways which are used quite frequently by hunters, as well as by our boaters and fishermen. I might add that waterfowl hunting does take place on most Commission lakes and to my knowledge there has never been opposition to this form of use of these properties.

The main point of my article is a real concern that in a vast Department of Natural Resources sporting and hunting could well be bypassed or given lower priority, especially if the top administrator had limited basic interest and background regarding these sports.

As an example, much bitterness developed in a bordering state as recently as last year when conservation officials were concerned their programs were being slighted for the development of golf courses and public park areas where no fishing or hunting was permitted.

We are not perfect and never will be but one thing you may be assured of is that our total attention is devoted toward our responsibilities to making better boating and fishing conditions here in this Commonwealth.

I might add, I believe the separate system has existed in Pennsylvania for as long as it has because a good job has been done in outdoor recreation and woodland management.

—Robert J. Bielo, Executive Director
"SILLO" TROUT—
Members of the New Jersey Fish and Game Council toured the Pennsylvania Fish Commission's research facilities at Benner Springs during the winter and took a look at the experimental silo in which 21,000 rainbow trout are being reared. The system is a new concept which researchers are hoping will prove effective for rearing fish in areas where space will not permit conventional raceways.

AWARD—
Philip Weiner (left), Associate Director of Philadelphia Sportmen's Show, presents George W. Schneck, President of the Pennsylvania State Fish & Game Protective Association, a trophy for the Association's wildlife exhibit selected as the "Most Outstanding Exhibit of Wildlife" at the 1969 Show held in Philadelphia in February.

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SEA BAG

For example, the contents of the February, 1968, boat show issue included:

Instructions for operating the new signaling device installed for the benefit of pleasure craft owners using the locks.

News from the Office of Watercraft Safety, Pennsylvania Fish Commission.

An introduction to the river locks.

Announcements of future events such as the annual water show sponsored by the committee.

Schedules of classes provided by local flotillas, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Also, a brief history of the Pittsburgh Safe Boating Committee, its aims and objectives:

1. To promote safe boating practices among the pleasure boating population.

2. To promote attendance by pleasure boaters in safe boating classes held by recognized and reputable boating organizations.

3. To prepare, publish and distribute information in leaflet or other form that will, through its content, assist pleasure boaters in recognizing and correcting unsafe boating practices.

4. To continually endeavor to enlist the aid of individuals, organizations and governmental entities outside of Committee membership in furthering Committee objectives.

5. To support the activity of member and other organizations seeking attainment of goals consistent with Committee objectives.

6. To provide for exchange of ideas and discussion of mutual problems among the boating public, governmental agencies, commercial navigation interests and other interested organizations, and,

7. To engage in such activity as may be necessary to carry out these objectives.

Officers are seated in October and remain in office until the following September. The present slate includes:

Dale K. Williams, chairman. Dale is Public Information Officer for the Pittsburgh District, Corps of Engineers.

Fred B. Kissell, vice-chairman. Fred is the former Safety Officer for the Pittsburgh Engineer District. Now retired, he serves on the committee as a private citizen because of his interest in the safe boating program.

Harry G. Benion, secretary. Harry, better known as Hap, is on the staff of the Western Pennsylvania Safety Council.

**HEADS BOATING PROGRAMS**

Capt. Charles E. Leising (USCG-Ret.) has been appointed Assistant Executive Director in charge of the Pennsylvania Fish Commission’s Waterways Division. The position involves coordination, administering and implementing a statewide waterways program in enforcement, regulations, improving and maintaining waterways facilities and the waterways safety educational program. Capt. Leising replaces Commander Edward R. Tharp who resigned last May to accept a position in the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Captain Leising reported for duty in early January.

Captain Leising graduated from the Coast Guard Academy in 1938 and received a master’s degree in marine engineering and naval architecture from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1946. He retired June 30, 1968 from Coast Guard service after a 30-year career which included considerable experience in organizing and administering the recreational boating and watercraft safety programs in the Great Lakes Region. For the past four years he has served in various command posts in the Coast Guard’s Eastern Area and at the time of his retirement was Deputy Commander with headquarters in New York City. He is a member of the American Society of Naval Engineers.

**ALLEGHENY COUNTY LEADS BOAT REGISTRATIONS**

ALLEGHENY COUNTY, with 11,458 boats registered, led the state last year in numbers of active boaters, according to figures released this week by the Pennsylvania Fish Commission. The registration figures for the Pittsburgh area were almost four times higher than the next group of counties with registered boats, including Montgomery (3,665), York (5,583), Luzerne (3,594), Erie (3,911), Bucks (4,437), Dauphin (3,298), and Mercer (3,133).

Other Pennsylvania counties which had more than 2,000 boats registered in 1968 were: Beaver (2,235), Cambria (2,042), Crawford (2,109), Delaware (2,467), Lackawanna (2,182), Lancaster (2,596), Lehigh (2,003), Northampton (2,013), Philadelphia (2,949), and Westmoreland (2,702).

A total of 94,800 boats were registered in Pennsylvania during 1968, an increase of about 12,000 boats over 1967. By law all boats propelled by machinery, except marine vessels registered by the United States or foreign governments, must be registered annually, at fees of $4.00 for boats under 16 feet in length and $6.00 for boats 16 feet and over. The same registration number will be reissued to the same boat as long as it is registered in Pennsylvania regardless of whether it is sold, repossessed, traded, or otherwise transferred to another owner. All registrations are processed for the Pennsylvania Fish Commission by the Miscellaneous License Division of the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue. Sailboats, canoes and rowboats are not required to be registered unless equipped with a motor.

**MORE THAN 26 MILLION FISH STOCKED LAST YEAR**

THE PENNSYLVANIA Fish Commission reported today that 26,212,969 fish were stocked in waters open to public fishing last year, an increase of 2,839,501 fish over the previous year. Final figures on the fish stocking program, compiled at the Commission’s Benner Spring Research Station, show a total of 4,181,677 trout and 22,031,352 warmwater species were released.
SIX YEAR OLD
Carol Burkett of Glendale, Mo., landed this 23-in., 5½-lb. brown trout from Cove Creek while visiting her grandparents in Bedford last summer.

RANDY FORTNEY, 12, Titusville, won a Junior Fishing Citation and a Husky Musky Honorable Mention when he landed this 38-in., 15-lb. musky from the Allegheny.

A HUSKY MUSKY Honorable Mention was won by Walter Thomas Jr. of Perkiomenville, when he landed this 37 inch, 13½ pound muskellunge at Perkiomen Creek in southeastern Pennsylvania's Montgomery County.

ALLENTOWN ANGLER Joseph Sipotz caught this 27 inch, 8 pound walleye which is being held by Bart Strasser. It fell to the temptation of live bait fished on a tip-up in late January.

LAKE TOHEE in Bucks County produced a 26 inch, 5 pound chain pickerel for Quakertown angler Arnold Irbens, who won a Pennsylvania Angler Fishing Citation for the catch. It hit a live minnow fished on a tip-up.

BEECHWOOD LAKE in Tioga County produced this 25 inch, 6 pound brown trout for fisherman James A. Pratt of Mansfield. He caught it on a minnow while ice fishing at the lake in February.
BILL CLARK of Throop landed this 21 inch, 6 pound brown trout from Lake Wallenpaupack while ice fishing there this winter. It hit “live bait” on a tip up.

JOHN ANDERSON of Montrose landed this 22 inch, 6 pound, 5 ounce largemouth bass while fishing Montrose Lake in Susquehanna County. It hit a rebel.

CHAIN PICKEREL measured 27 inches and weighed 5½ pounds when caught by Blake Hotalen of Dingmans Ferry. He landed the Citation winning fish at Lattimer Lake in Pike County.

BERWICK ANGLER Steve Lipovskey, 15, won a Junior Citation for this 13½ inch yellow perch which he caught from Lake Wallenpaupack. It hit a minnow fished on a tip up.

STANLEY BRACHT, 11, of York Haven won both a Junior and a Senior Fishing Citation for this 20½ inch, 3½ pound smallmouth bass. He was using a bucktail when he landed it from the Susquehanna River in York County.

BIG MUSKELLUNGE was caught by Oil City angler Robert R. Winger. He was fishing the Allegheny River in Venango County using spinning equipment and a white jig when the big fish hit. It measured 43 inches, weighed 25 pounds and won him membership in Husky Musky Club.

DELAWARE RIVER muskellunge was caught by Richard Frensky of Greensward. It measured 52 inches and weighed 7½ pounds.

MARK AND ROSS PINGATORE, both of Somerset, hold stringer of fish they caught at a contest in the County last summer. The boys landed two rainbows and two largemouth bass.

BERWICK ANGLER, Bobby DeMens, 11, holds big channel cat he caught while fishing the Susquehanna near his home. It measured 24 inches and weighed 6½ pounds and won him Pennsylvania Angler Junior Fish Citation.

BERWICK ANGLER Steve Lipovskey, 15, won a Junior Citation for this 13½ inch yellow perch which he caught from Lake Wallenpaupack. It hit a minnow fished on a tip up.
CLYDE BUELL, Fish Commission maintenance foreman of Region Two landed this largemouth at Lake Somerset. It measured 20 ½ in., weighed 4 ½ lbs.

TWIN BROTHERS Paul and Terry Ramsey of Bedford hold a 30 inch carp they captured at the Raystown Dam. After a quick trip home the excited boys placed the fish in the family bathtub and it was still living when this photo was taken.

FISHERMAN Walter Dayfert of Dickson City holds a 36 inch, 10 pound northern he caught in "a northeastern Pennsylvania" lake.

L. G. TAXACHER of McKees Rocks won Husky Musky membership and a Fishing Citation for this 46 ½ inch, 23 pound muskellunge.

DONALD R. GEISS, Mansfield, landed this 42 inch, 18½ pound muskellunge while fishing Tioga County’s Hills Creek Lake. The big fish was one of several taken there during the year. It won Geiss membership in the Husky Musky Club.

SUNBURY ANGLER Sol Klingler holds a 21½ inch, 4 pound, 2 ounce smallmouth bass that won him a Pennsylvania Angler Fishing Citation. He used spin/cast gear.

NORRISTOWN fisherman Mrs. G. L. Sayre holds a 23 inch walleye, a 14 inch rainbow, and a 21 inch brown trout, caught on the last day of December at the Paupack.

FRANCIS MASIEWICZ, 15, of Scranton holds a 31½ inch, 2½ pound eel he landed from Wayne County’s Panther Lake.

GLENN DAILY of East Stroudsburg holds a 20 inch, 4 pound brown trout he caught while ice-fishing Deep Lake in Monroe County. The 14-year-old was ice-fishing.
HI-LA SPORTSMEN

OCCASIONALLY A COOPERATIVE NURSERY comes along with some unique features that set it somewhat apart from other nurseries that operate in a more conventional manner. Such a nursery is the Hi-La Sportsmen’s Club in Elk County.

To begin with, the nursery site is in the Allegheny National Forest which requires a special permit or lease to the club before the land may be used. Following the granting of the permit, there are periodic inspections of the nursery by the forestry people to see that the club meets certain specifications in maintaining an attractive site and the functional value of the water source.

However, the really unique feature of the nursery is not its location but its automatic feeder. Harold E. McCauley, club secretary-treasurer, demonstrated the device for us on a recent trip.

Originally designed for cattle feeding on the western ranges, the feeder is a relatively large tank that sprays pellets through a device at the bottom of the unit. A timer and battery power complete the feeder which holds enough food for several days feeding.

In operation, the feeder is swung on a pipe over the two cement raceways. The timer is set and that’s about all there is to it. A water-tight lid protects the food from rain and the lower spraying unit is likewise protected from the elements by a metal shield.

Harold mentioned the fact that some food is wasted and that the ponds need cleaning about once a month to eliminate the accumulated food in the feeder area. He felt that results—meaning trout growth and the saving on time and travel for the feeders—were satisfactory enough to warrant the feeder. He did note, however, that the brook trout showed better growth than the browns when the feeder was being used. Prior to the installation of the mechanical device, there was no noticeable difference in the growth rate of the two species. The club, incidentally, is raising 5,000 trout with half being brooks and the other half browns.

The essential diet of the trout, as a result of the mechanical feeding, is a dry pellet. McCauley did indicate that some variety in the diet is achieved by feeding ground liver about once a month to eliminate the accumulated food in the feeder area. The trout grow well on this combination and are stocked before the opening of the spring trout season in Elk County waters. The club keeps no hold-over fish. And so much for the mechanical feeder, which is in its second year of operation.

A final unique feature is the name of the nursery itself. Set in a beautiful sylvan scene with evergreens and a gurgling mountain brook, the nursery site has the rather incongruous name of “Pig’s Ear” for which there seems to be no logical explanation.

Now on to some other facts about this not-so-ordinary nursery. The two cement raceways were built in 1947 following the securing of a lease from the federal forestry officials. The current operation dates back to 1952 when the first trout were raised under the current cooperative nursery program.
FROM B. E. E., WEEDVILLE:

"Will I need anti-fouling paint on my fiberglass boat if I keep it in the water all year?"

—Absolutely. Marine vegetation will foul a fiberglass hull as readily as one made of wood or metal. Select an anti-fouling paint which gives good results in the waters where your boat will be docked; there are many types, and not all are effective in every location.

FROM W. F. R., STAHLSTOWN:

"Can you recommend a list of things to do to get an outboard motor ready for the beginning of the season?"

—Assuming that you laid up the engine properly in the fall, a few hours of pre-season maintenance can pay big dividends in trouble-free service. First remove the shroud and carefully clean the engine, using a solvent or degreasing solution if necessary. Replace the sparkplugs, and if any of the spark plug wires are deteriorated, replace these also. Clean the fuel tank and filters; flush the fuel lines and carburetor. Lubricate all moving parts and linkages with grease or oil according to the manufacturer’s recommendation, and drain and replace the lower unit lube. Check and tighten any loose bolts and nuts. Inspect the propeller carefully, and have it reconditioned if it is nicked or bent. If the engine has an electric starter, check and clean all leads and connections.

FROM P. L. K., FALLSTON:

"The canvassed cabin top of my cruiser is covered with cracks; how can I refinish it?"

—If the canvas itself is still sound, use any good paint remover to soften the paint, and remove it carefully with a dull scraper. Several applications of paint remover may be required to get through a heavy buildup of old paint. When the surface is dry, sand lightly and apply two or three coats of marine enamel. If the canvas is split or rotten, remove it and all traces of the old cement, and replace with glass or dynel cloth.

FROM W. D. S., ROARING SPRING:

"My planked boat usually requires steady pumping for two days after launching, until the seams tighten up. Last year I caulked the seams with compound, but it all squeezed out. How can I avoid the pumping without messing up the bottom with pushed-out caulking?"

—Fill up the boat with water every day for a week or so before launching, to help swell the planking in advance. For the higher seams, or those which just refuse to close, soften a cake of hand soap and daub this into the cracks. The soap will dissolve and disappear as it is squeezed out.

FROM M. W. H., PITTSBURGH:

"Is it better to change the crankcase oil in an inboard engine in the spring or in the fall?"

—Best time for a seasonal change is in the fall, when the boat is laid up. Leaving dirty oil in the engine over the winter can cause acid corrosion of bearings and other surfaces. Oil should also be changed after every 100 hours of operation, regardless of the time of year.

FROM R. V. C., McKeesport:

"My pre-war inboard runabout is finished all in varnish, and the deck seams are filled with a white sealer that has dried out and needs replacing. What is the best method and material for this application?"

—For lasting results, use a synthetic rubber caulk like Kuhl’s Rubber-Tex. You can avoid making a huge mess by running a strip of masking tape along each side of each seam, and after filling the seam, use a moistened finger to smooth out the excess caulk and leave a neat, concave surface.

FROM J. R. F., MASONTOWN:

"Contrary to what you wrote in the September Angler, the Continental Engine Co. does not handle Gray Marine parts. Where can I get a manifold for a model FB-140?"

—Shortly after we said that Gray parts could be obtained from Continental, the entire operation was purchased by Stokes Marine Supply, 498 E. Chicago St., Coldwater, Mich. 49036. They should be able to supply the manifold you need.
KEEP THE WHEEL TURNING

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