



December Newsletter

-Meetings on third Thursday of the Month-

Don't Miss the Club's Christmas Party!



December's Meeting will be the 3RD Annual Christmas Party and Auction. Come enjoy the refreshments and the excitement of the auction. Auction guidelines: We ask you bring at least one item and donate it to the club, then the total proceeds of the sale go to the club. You can bring other items (fishing and hunting related) to add to the auction. The club will take a 10% commission of the sale price. You may also set a reserve on you auction items – that is a minimum starting price.

Ozzie Ozefovich's presentation about *trout feeding lies* -highlight of November meeting

The Nov. meeting was well attended. Judging by the size of the audience and the quiet room, Ozzie's video presentation was well received.

Prior to the show John Jungers told the group about the Marcellus Shale gas exploration and drilling taking place in Pennsylvania. As with any endeavor to extract energy from the ground there are environment impacts and concerns over this work effecting the water sheds in Pennsylvania.

For more information you can 'google it' or contact John Jungers.

Note: The club is not getting involved or taking a position on this, we're just passing the information along to you.



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Special points of interest:

- The Fly Fishing show at Somerset, NJ Jan. 22—24
- Have any good game recipes? Post them in the SOURCE (see page 6)
- Next meeting December 17 th
- "Thanks" goes to the Delaware River Club for providing raffle prizes for our monthly meetings
- "Thanks" to French Creek Outfitters for providing raffle prizes, as well

Products: Carrots anyone? ...

While reading through some magazines from the UK, I stumbled across an article about a Scottish company, called CelluCorp, that has developed a process to use carrot fibers to produce veggie-based fishing rods! The article was hidden away in the pages of the April 2007 issue of *Fly Fishing and Fly Tying*, which is published by Rolling River Publications, Ltd. From Locus Centre, Perthshire, PH in the UK. The material was being touted as, "...probably an improvement on carbon-fibre" as behaving better under compression, stretching further, thereby absorbing more energy before breaking.

I'll have to admit that this "revelation" somehow totally evaded my radar. The strange part is that most of my research came up with references that dated back to 2007, with very little info in the current timeframe. I'm not sure what that means other than new material can take a long time to fully implement and deploy. I can remember when graphite first came on the scene; there were many issues with the first prototypes. Notch-sensitivity was one of the biggest problems that was faced; especially with the high modulus materials. It took a while to work out the "bugs" but the rods today are better for it.

The Editor's page of the magazine describes a composite-style construction of 70/30 veggie-to-graphite mix that addresses the dual needs of stiffness and strength. There's also a favorable reference to its damping qualities, as well.

Am I ready to run out and buy one? Not quite yet; I'd at least like for someone else to work out the "bugs" first. Until I actually get to talk to someone that's owned for a few years—I wouldn't touch one with a ten-foot carrot stick. Good fly rod design actually involves *many* principles and techniques. I designed and built a bamboo fly rod from scratch many years ago. I made my own planning forms, hand split the cane, glued and sanded the six segments, and then skimmed on the temperature curing phase—only to find that the resulting temper was way wrong. The moral of the story is that a truly great rod is a work of science/art. In spite of all of the high-tech advances, it's still a treat to drag out and old bamboo rod and throw some roll casts—at least until your elbow gives out from the excessive weight. Then you remember why some of the great new rods evolved.

Meanwhile, it's interesting to see that with a little research you'll find that there are such things as *The Trout Underground* website (which says that the worlds largest carrot weighed 18.99 lbs), there's a *World Carrot Museum* on the web, and there's even a giant statue, as seen above (don't these people have jobs?).

Where will it all end? What next—a rutabaga rod? -editor 🍷



*They're not just good for your eyesight
you know!*



*A tribute to the lowly carrot that stands in
Ohakune, North Island, New Zealand*

Book Review—Montana River Maps & Fishing guide

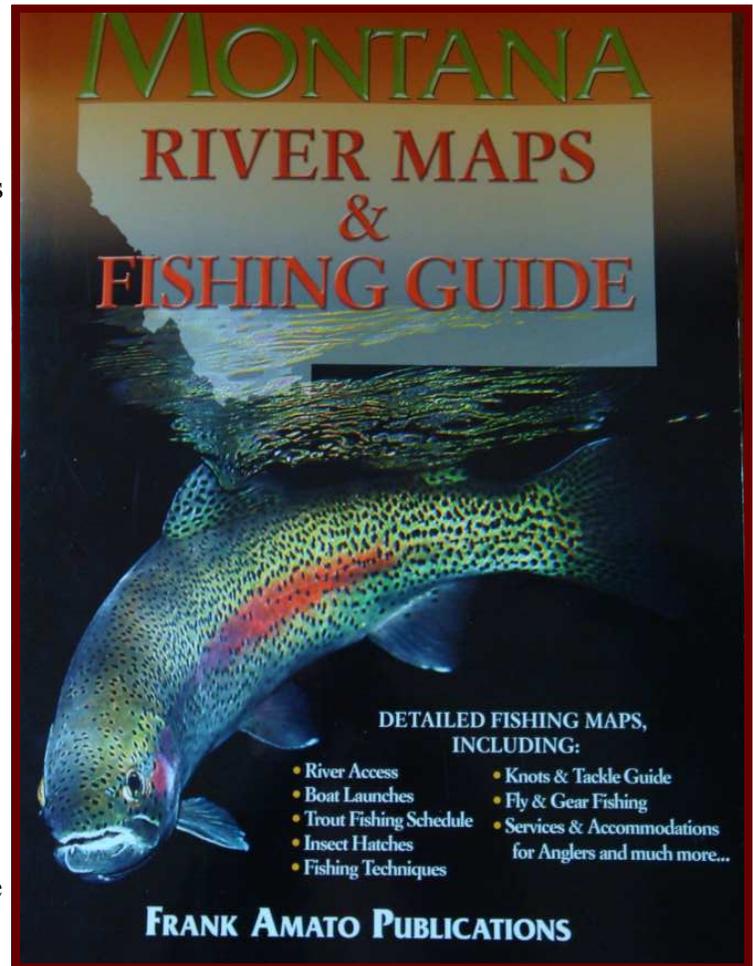
This guide is in magazine/soft cover format but that is actually a plus, as you can pack this in with your gear and take it out when you need it. It is kind of like a road atlas for some of the best trout waters in the country. There are very detailed maps covering more than 1,000 miles of these world-famous western rivers. For us poor eastern trout fishermen, who often fish over familiar waters again and again, this guide helps to unravel the sometimes overwhelming dilemma of having *too much* water to fish. Unlike our crowded eastern streams, the western rivers challenges our ability to spot the pockets and ignore the steady parade of drift boats. It's hard to "tune out" their presence and fish the productive water instead.

The beauty of this book is that it helps us to constrain our plans for our "dream trip" to Montana. Whether you hire a guide or go-it-alone a book like this is a must in figuring out your "master plan". We all know that in the fly fishing world there are no guarantees; that's just the nature of the sport. Last year, for instance, my wife and I drove along many, many miles of trout water in late June and didn't see even a single drift boat or raft; the late spring runoff had blown out even the most ardent fishermen. The only fly fishing around was in the high country of Yellowstone Park where the runoff had already expired.

The book is organized by section of the state; western rivers (ie. Clark Fork, Bitterroot, Blackfoot, and Flathead), central rivers (ie. Missouri and Big Spring Creek), southwestern (ie. Big Hole, Beaverhead, Madison, Gallatin, and Yellowstone), and southeast (ie. Boulder and Bighorn). There's some reference material at the beginning of the book in the form of color plates of the fish species, hatching tables, and some insect plates, to boot. Also included are two full pages of proven fly patterns (no instructions, though). It's best to tie up your flies well in advance, even though the western fly shops are well stocked. You might save enough bucks for one of those awesome western steaks at a nearby steakhouse.

Part of the fun is in the planning and this book fits the bill. The maps are clearly marked with the best known danger points but remember that early runoff can changes things a lot.

The book is published by Frank Amato Publication, Inc. in Portland, Oregon and lists for \$25. I stumbled onto mine at Costco in Kalispell, MT for \$14.99 - editor



Back Casts—Are Valley Creek’s trout at risk? (cont.)

(Continued from page 5)

stocking list but PCB contamination forced the PFBC into dropping it from the list. This was a blessing-in-disguise as what was once an over-fished, put-and-take fishery became a little gem of a natural limestone creek.

The history of the creek has been filled with misfortune, as many fish-kills have ravaged this delicate ecosystem. Not so many years ago the construction of nearby Chesterbrook Development posed a siltation threat which stressed the creek environment, as well.

It is nearly a modern-day miracle that some of the trout have managed to escape these repeated setbacks.

In spite of all of the hardships, these hearty trout still thrive and reproduce here in the shadow of this urban sprawl. They occupy every suitable part of the creek

and increase in numbers from year to year.

Don’t be fooled! Even though they are numerous they are not always easy to catch. They mainstay hatches include a good sulphur hatch and a good number of baetis and tricos. When

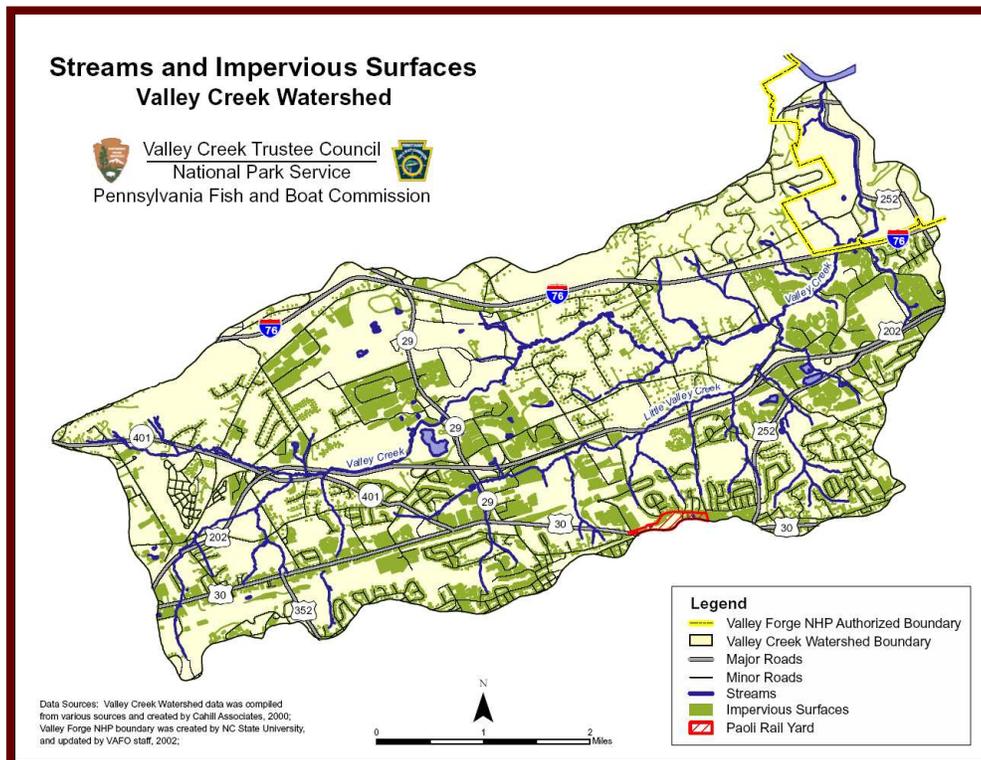
The construction of a fish ladders at Fairmount and Norristown has marked the return of the American shad to the Schuylkill River. While the numbers of shad returning remains low the eventual goal is to return thousands and for a substantial fishery. My research hasn’t

found publications that address the trout/shad compatibility question. I’m sure that the impact studies must have been made but so far I’ve come up short.

Whether or not the shad are a real threat, there’s one thing for sure- Valley Creek is a little gem. It’s a fragile little

place that has been damaged (but not broken) for the more than thirty-some-odd years that I’ve been privileged to have been fishing it. Make sure that you give it a try for a time or two while it is still healthy and strong.

With the proper care Valley Creek will challenge future generations, as well.—editor



the creek is clear, some of the holding pockets are impossible to approach in full daylight; you’ll need to wait until dusk for lighting to go in your favor.

Currently, the creek is in good shape. The Valley Creek Trustee Council and TU are keeping a good watch on the creek. However, my concern is this: will the creek be affected by the effort to return shad to the watershed?



MAIN LINE FLY-TYERS

Greater Plymouth Community Center
2910 Jolly Road
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

Club Officers:
President: Frank Howard
Vice Pres.: Mike Ebner
Treasurer: Jim Costello
Newsletter: Dwaine Glidden
Secretary: Al Kotake
Librarian: Ed Sclarow
Website: Mike Ebner

submit newsletter items and suggestions to:
dglidden43@verizon.net

Driving Directions:

From Pennsylvania Turnpike (I-276)

Take Exit 333 (Norristown - old exit 25). At the end of the ramp, turn left onto Plymouth Road. At the light, turn right onto Germantown Pike West. Continue approximately one (1) mile, through four (4) traffic lights (not counting the left hand turn light at Sandy Hill Road). At the fifth light, turn right onto Jolly Road. The Community Center is on the right at 2910 Jolly Road.

From Blue Route (I-476)

Take exit for Germantown Pike West (Exit 20). Continue on Germantown Pike west for approximately one (1) mile, through five (5) traffic lights (not counting the left hand turn light at Sandy Hill Road). At the fifth light, turn right onto Jolly Road. The Community Center is on the right at 2910 Jolly Road.

From Route 202

Follow Route 202 to Germantown Pike. Travel EAST on Germantown Pike, through five (5) traffic lights. At the next traffic light, approximately half a mile, turn left onto Jolly Road. The Community Center is on the right at 2910 Jolly Road.

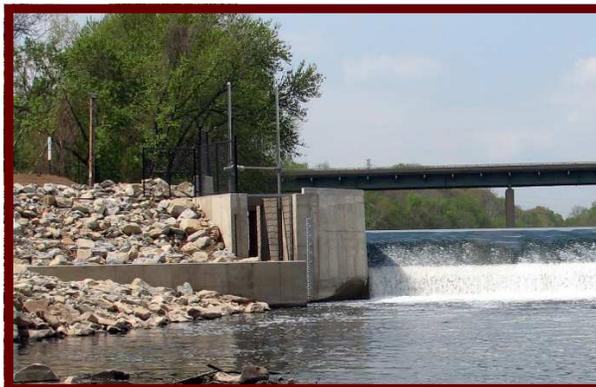
We're on the Web
www.mainlineflytyers.net

Back Casts—Are Valley Creek’s trout at risk ? ...

We all know a little of the history of Valley Forge and the Continental Army and how they endured a harsh winter in their encampment during 1778. A little less known is an alleged miracle regarding a supposed early shad run that may have saved the very lives of the troops. Even though the event has been disputed, historically, it’s a sad commentary to modern man that “progress” may have ended the once plentiful and bountiful natural resource; the lowly shad.

One of the reasons that the “miracle” has been disputed is that the historical records report a number of purchases of dried

shad that were made by the army and another reason was given that the British troops had strung



*Fish ladder on Schuylkill River
at dam in Norristown*

nets across the Schuylkill river, to stop the migration and starve Washington’s troops.

The truth may never be known but we do know that by some means the Army survived and went on to win against insurmountable odds. We also know that the shad runs have been absent for more than 100 years.

As far as Valley Creek is concerned, it was very likely that it was part of the shad spawning grounds. Since these early times it has transformed into a very good little trout stream with a healthy population of self sustaining brown trout. The creek was once on the states

(Back cast to page 4)

THE SOURCE

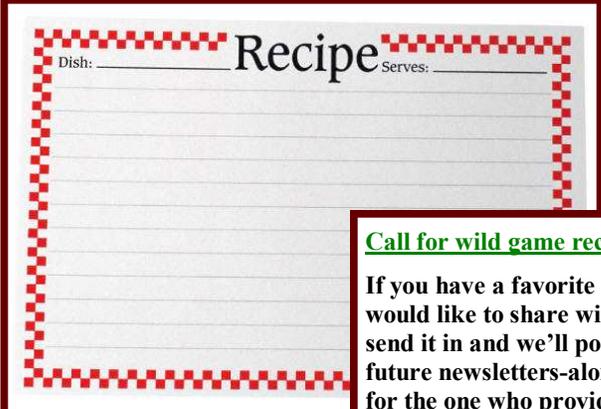
THESE PAGES ARE DESIGNED TO PROVIDE MEMBERS AND SPONSORS WITH A LOCATION ONTO WHICH THEY CAN POST ITEMS WHICH MAY BE OF INTEREST TO CLUB MEMBERS.

IT WILL BE PROVIDED AS A COURTESY AND DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN ENDORSEMENT OF THE ITEMS SHOWN. IT WILL BE A BULLETIN BOARD FORMAT AND SHOULD INCLUDE ITEMS FOR SALE, EVENTS OF INTEREST TO OUR MEMBERS, PHONE NUMBERS OF AGENCIES, AND WILL BE OFFERED FREE OF CHARGE TO OUR SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS.

CONTROVERSIAL SUBJECTS AND OPINIONS ARE BETTER ADDRESSED IN THE WEBSITE "FORUM".

THE EDITOR REQUESTS THAT ADVERTISEMENTS BE SUPPLIED IN THEIR FINAL CONFIGURATION AND EMAILED AS AN ATTACHMENT SO THEY CAN BE DOWNLOADED AND DIRECTLY INSERTED, AS RECEIVED.

THIS IS BEING DONE ON A TRIAL BASIS AND WILL BE MAINTAINED IF INTEREST JUSTIFIES ITS CONTINUATION



Dish: _____ **Recipe** Serves: _____

Call for wild game recipes:

If you have a favorite recipe that you would like to share with our members, send it in and we'll post it in one of the future newsletters-along with a credit for the one who provided their "secret recipe" to share with the world.

Notice

2009-2010 - Fly Tying & Tactics and Strategies Classes

The MLFT club offers two classes for beginning through advanced fly tyers.. Classes are held twice a year. There is a fall session in October and the winter session starts in January. The tying class has multiple instructors available and ready to teach and coach beginners, novice, intermediate and advanced tyers. The Tactics and Strategy class includes particular tips for fishing the Upper Delaware River.

FLY-TYING



If you're interested in fly-fishing and fly-tying, this is the course you've been waiting for. Don't wait; be ready for opening day. Learn how to create wet flies, dry flies, nymphs, streamers, and bass bugs. Suggestions for tools and materials will be given at the first class. Advanced instruction will also be available for experienced tyers wishing to advance their fly-tying skills.

Upper Moreland classes:

The class meets on Thursdays and includes 6 class sessions at the Upper Moreland High School, Room 608.

Winter Class (2010): Jan. 28, Feb. 4, Feb 11, Feb 17 (Wed), Feb. 25 and Mar. 4 - at HS Rm. 608 7:00-9:00

Instructors: Sam Vigorita & Dave Shillington, Main Line Fly Tyers Club

Lower Providence class:

The class meets on Tuesdays at Lower Providence Township Administration building starting on March 9. The class runs for six weeks.

Details will be posted on http://www.lowerprovidence.org/parks_recreation.htm

Instructors: Mike Ebner & Ed Emery

FLY-FISHING TACTICS/STRATEGIES

Improve your skills and catch more fish! Learn how to "read" the waters of a trout stream. Find out where fish live, how to approach them, and how to catch them. Know what they feed on and learn the types of flies to use at different times of the year. Become a better fisherman and reduce your chances of coming up empty. The instructor is one of the area's most successful trout anglers and has logged literally thousands of hours fishing and instructing on East Coast trout and salmon waters.

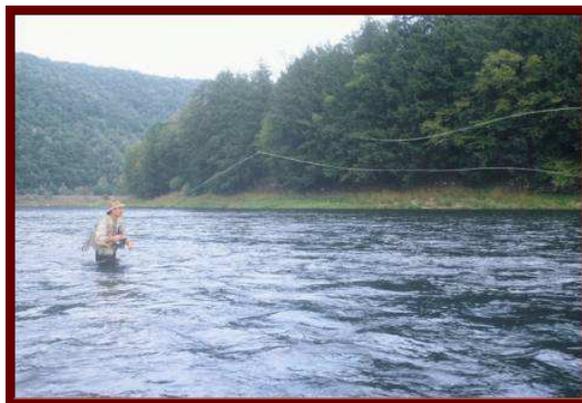
The class meets on Tuesdays and includes 5 class sessions at the Upper Moreland High School, Room 608

Winter Class (2010): Feb. 2, Feb. 9, Feb 16, Feb 23, and Mar. - 2 in Rm. 608 from 7:00-9:00pm

Instructor: Sam Vigorita, Main Line Fly Tyers Club

Registration

The cost for each class is \$47. To register call the Upper Moreland Parks and Recreation Dept. at 215-659-3100 x1039 or 267-607-1038



Upcoming Events

The Fly Fishing Show – Jan 22nd to 24th 2010

Southeast PA Opening day - April 3rd 2010 at 8:00 AM

Not a scheduled Club Event

Learn to fish Day – April 10th 2010 at 9:00 AM

- ✦ Resica Falls Scout Camp
- ✦ Coffee in the AM
- ✦ Lunch Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chips and Soda

Optional: For Cabin information call Scout Headquarters at 610-688-6900

Northeast PA Opening day - April 17th 2010 at 8:00 AM

- ✦ Brodhead Creek, Stroudsburg, PA
 - ✦ Meet for lunch at the Park right under the Rt 191 bridge
- Lunch Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chips and Soda**

Stick day – April 24th 2010

- ✦ Brodhead Creek, Stroudsburg, PA
 - ✦ Meet for lunch at the Park right under the Rt 191 bridge
- Lunch Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chips and Soda**

Delaware River - June 4th to 6th 2010

- ✦ Pleasant Valley camp ground - Linda, 570-224-4038, Equinunk PA
- ✦ Each tent must call up for a reservation with number camping
- ✦ Bring your own food
- ✦ Must arrange own tenting/Sleeping arrangements

Will break up in groups to fish

Penns Creek - June 11, 12

- ✦ Make reservations at The Feathered Hook, Colburn PA 1-814-349-8757
- ✦ Breakfast included
- ✦ Sleep two to a room and two rooms share a bath
- ✦ Local Restaurants for dinner, pay for what you order, or Grill at the Feathered Hook, every-one splits the cost

Guides available, Contact Feathered Hook

Around the club

Cast & Blast: About ten people showed up for the annual pheasant hunt and fishing. A good time was had by all. Steve (Rocketman) Larson may know how to launch a missile into space – but he is still working on finding the correct gathering location. Steve, have you heard about automobile GPS units. Maybe Santa can bring you one if you were a good boy this year.



Oak Orchard and Pulaski trips: Many members have gotten together for big brown, salmon and steelhead fishing at the ‘Oak’ and the Salmon River. The weekend trips have been productive for the folks and in particular the weather has been nice making the outings even more enjoyable. Big fish and good times – if you haven’t experienced this type of fishing you should plan on it later this season or make sure to plan on it for next fall.

Kudos to Sam Vigorita: Sam has been a busy man representing the club this past month. He is doing an afternoon tying class for the Anglers Club of Philadelphia (*) on Dec. 13th, he and Dave Shillington did a tying demo at the December meeting of the Bucks County TU, and he struck out and presented a show on fishing tactics for the Delco Manning TU chapter. Rumor has it; his wife may be locking up his fishing and tying equipment until after the holidays.

(*) If you would like to attend you can call Betsy Miraglia at 610-526-0604 to see if there are openings available as seating is limited to 10 people.

From our friends at French Creek Outfitters:



FRENCH CREEK
HUNTING & FISHING
OUTFITTERS

610.933.7200

270 Schuylkill Road, Shoppes at Valley Forge, Phoenixville, PA 19460



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Everything for the Sportsman

- ▶ FIREARMS
- ▶ ARCHERY
- ▶ FISHING
- ▶ CAMPING
- ▶ CLOTHING
- ▶ FOOTWEAR
- ▶ PAINTBALL/AIRGUNS
- ▶ PADDLE SPORTS
- ▶ GIFTS AND HOME



Our store hours are:

Monday 10 am - 6 pm

Tuesday - Friday 10 am - 9 pm

Saturday 10 am - 6 pm

Sunday 10 am - 5 pm

Contact

French Creek Outfitters is Open 7 Days a Week.
Located just West of Phoenixville,
in the Shoppes at Valley Forge, Next to Staples

270 Schuylkill Rd.
Phoenixville, PA 19460

Phone: 610-933-7200
Email: info@frenchcreekoutfitters.com

Our store hours are:

Monday	10 am - 6 pm
Tuesday - Friday	10 am - 9 pm
Saturday	10 am - 6 pm
Sunday	10 am - 5 pm

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**MAKE IT SIMPLE FOR YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY TO GIVE
YOU WHAT YOU WANT THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!**

- **Stop In Or E-mail Us a "Wish List" of Gifts You Would Like to Receive -**
- **We'll Keep It on File & Assist Gift-Givers In Selecting Your Perfect Gift -
We Accept & Honor All ORVIS Coupons, Sale Prices, & Promotions**

FREE SHIPPING to your door (NO \$ MINIMUM)

EXTENDED HOLIDAY HOURS

Open 7 Days A Week Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 10am - 5:30pm

Thursday: 10:00am to 8:00pm

Saturday: 10:00am to 5:00pm Sunday: 12:00am to 5:00pm

Don't Forget To Give Us Your Wish List!

Happy Holidays from Your Friends at

The Sporting Gentleman!

Barry, Christine, Mary, Donald, Ray, Josh, Bill,

Marc, and Ahmed

Some Local Shops

<p>Clouser Fly Fishing 101 Ulrich Street Middletown, PA 17057 717-944-6541</p>	<p>Evening Hatch 5 Rt. 940 East Lake Harmony, PA 18624 570-443-0772</p>	<p>Little Lehigh Fly Shop RD 2 Fish Hatchery Road Allentown, PA 18103 610-797-5599</p>
<p>Mainstream Outfitters 1121 N. Easton Rd Doylestown, PA 1890 215-766-1244</p>	<p>Slate Run Tackle Shop PO Box 1 Route 414 Slate Run, PA 17769 570-753-8551</p>	<p>TCO Fly Shop 895 Penn Avenue Bryn Mawr, PA 19010 610-527-3388</p>
<p>TCO Fly Shop 2229 Penn Ave. Reading, PA 19609 610-678-1899</p>	<p>The Feathered Hook 516 Main Street Colburn, PA 16832 814-349-8757</p>	<p>Wilderness Trekker, Inc. 22 Hughes Street RR3 Box 3 New Ringgold, PA 17960 570-943-3151</p>
<p>Yellow Breeches Outfitters 2 First Street, PO Box 200 Boiling Springs, PA 17007 717-258-6752</p>	<p>A.A. Outfitters HC Box 1030 Blakeslee, PA 18610 800-443-8119</p>	<p>Anglers Pro Shop 3361 Bethlehem Pike Soudertown, PA 18964 800-934-4862</p>
<p>French Creek Outfitters Rt. 23 Phoenixville, PA 610-933-7200</p>	<p>The Sporting Gentleman 300 W. State Street Media, PA 19603 610-565-6140</p>	<p>Franks Fly Fishing Shoppe 7906 High School Road, 2nd floor Elkins Park, PA 19027 267-475-6055</p>
<p>Classic Fly Fisherman 222 S. Broad Street Lansdale, PA 19446 (215)412-3667</p>	<p>The Delaware River Club 1228 Winterdale Road Starlight, PA 18461 570-635-5880</p>	

