

# STREAMSIDE

VOLUME 25 ISSUE 3

DAME JULIANA LEAGUE

SUMMER/FALL 2019

## Riffle & Runs

By John Burgos



Hello all. My hopes are that you are well on your way to your most productive summer yet on the water.

I have been fortunate to have spent my entire summer in Bozeman, Montana. Starting with chasing the salmon fly on the Henry's Fork on Memorial Day, I'm

settling in for the "Fall Run" of browns on these local rivers.

Whatever you've been doing, I just wanted to let you know that DJL has been busy prepping for a great fall season. First, though, I'd like to heap some praise on all those members who stepped up and helped us fulfill our commitment to the Kimberton Fire House(KFC). We provided support for their donations collection at this year's fair (as we do every year). All of you who helped, thank you. Thanks, also, to Troy Dunn for coordinating the roster for each of the nights.

Our season starts of with a bang this year. DJL is proud to host Ed Jaworowski at our September meeting. Ed has a resume too long to list in this short segment. Please join us in welcoming Ed in September.



## Dabbler or Devotee? The Fly Fishing Mindset

By Matt Marran

Think of how much there is to know about fly fishing—the actual quantity of knowledge relating to fly fishing. Think of how much shelf space of books it consumes; how many hours of podcasts, gigabytes of video, and how much bandwidth of your concentration it consumes. The physics of casting, the ichthyology & entomology, the geology

### This Issue

- Page 1, **John Burgos** kicks off the DJL season
- Pages 1-2, **Matt Marran** answers the question "How much is enough?"
- Page 3-4, **Bob Molzahn** gives a solid introduction to what increasing atmospheric CO2 means to fishing
- Page 5, **Bob Bonney** shares the lighter side of fish a game law enforcement.
- Page 5-6, **Jeff Nissle** takes us back to a place when time fly-tying giants roamed
- Page 6-7, **Abby Miller** shares how her marriage became stronger on the stream
- Page 7-9 **John Burgos** gives his thoughts on mono- rig nymphing
- Page 9-10, **Anita Coulton** gives us a look at making it as woman in the fly fishing industry

& geography, the fly tying, knot tying, rigging & tackle. If you could draw a circle around all there is to know about fly fishing, that circle would be about as big as the one you could draw around playing an instrument, learning another language, or just about any other serious academic subject.

Presented with a large body of knowledge, we seek a way to classify it. As Aristotle discerned vertebrates from invertebrates, we partition freshwater fishing from saltwater. Linnaeus gave us family, order, class, and phylum; we ascribe to our fly boxes dry, wet, nymph, and streamer. Because the body of knowledge around fly fishing is so large, very few anglers become proficient in many of its disciplines. There are about as many Lefty Krehs on the fly rod as there are Yo-Yo Mas on the cello.

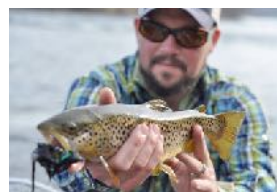
If you are a musician, you know something about history, you know genres, and you have spent countless hours learning about music theory and skills specific to an instrument. Musicians know scales, chords, modes, hundreds of songs from memory; really good musicians know all of these things for many styles of music. Really, really good musicians know these things for multiple instruments. And here's the thing - even self-taught musicians who don't read music or commit to proper fingering of each note and chord can sound great even if they can't explain the why & how of it all. The same is true in fly fishing. Dabblers catch fish all day long on days they pick on waters close to home, but well-versed anglers can catch fish in various conditions, with a range of approaches, for fish in freshwater and salt, at home and abroad.

A well-read angler who treats fly fishing with an approach of some scholarship will be more versatile, can catch fish away from home, and can form at least a tentative hypothesis for why a certain species of fish might exhibit a particular feeding behavior and how to exploit that with a of year the kids get out of school. We'd call that the light Cahill hatch and we'd also be fishing shallow nymphs or soft hackles that afternoon and spinners first thing the next morning.

Being a well-read angler is no guarantee for more fish in the net or more enjoyment of your time on the water, but it certainly doesn't hurt; neither does the confidence that comes with having done your homework on a new-to-you piece of water or species of fish. Having a plausible explanation of where to go & what to throw is the starting point for every fishing trip we take. All the homework we do as anglers adds to the explanation of what we might expect out of a day's fishing and forming a strategy for going about doing it.

Fly fishing is a lifelong activity, so you might as well get really good at some part of it. Get good at nymphing, particularly without a floating indicator. Learn to fish soft hackles upstream and read a leader (I'm terrible at this). Cast dry flies with just one or two false casts (also terrible). Read pocket water. Remind yourself that mends in the air are worth twice as much as mends on the water. Hire guides and casting instructors along the way—they will shave years off your learning curve. Pry locals for intel. Figure out the overlap of what you like to do & what you're good at in fly fishing and crush it. Make yourself a graduate-level syllabus for fly fishing.

Want to catch trout on nymphs? Start with an accessible book on the subject and work your way up to plane tickets to Poland (but Pennsylvania will do). Want to catch bonefish on the flats? Find a casting instructor who can diagnose your casting stroke like a jockey can read a horse's gait. The point is, there's a connection between skill and enjoyment. It's just too easy to dismiss the dedication necessary to become a good fly angler because it is "fun" and "good sport." Sure it is. We just don't see MFA (Master of Fly Angling) after our favorite anglers' names.



*Matthew Marran is a high school teacher and fly fishing guide with Wild East Outfitters. He's worked seasonally in the outdoors industry as a camp cook and boat shuttler in Colorado to*

*working behind the counter at Orvis in Downingtown. Look for him in Centre County fishing the long rod.*

# Climate Change & Fishing



## Part I: A Climate Change Primer

By Bob Molzhan

The subject of *Climate Change* and its potential effect on our fisheries and fishing has fascinated me for some time. Dealing with *Climate Change* and its effects was a major federal initiative under the previous administration but under the current administration it seems to have been designated as fake news. Unfortunately, the scientific basis for making this issue a priority is anything but fake.

Politics aside, in thinking about this subject and then talking with a few people about it I soon realized that there seemed to be a lack of understanding as to what *Climate Change* means. With that thought in mind, I felt it might be a good idea to get some basic facts laid out on *Climate Change* before getting into the meat of the subject. That being said, the issue is complicated and there is a lot to consider...and write about. As a result, rather than take up several pages in this issue of STREAMSIDE I thought I would divide it up into at least two issues and hit the highlights. This is Part I: A Climate Change Primer (condensed). In the next issue, I will talk about the

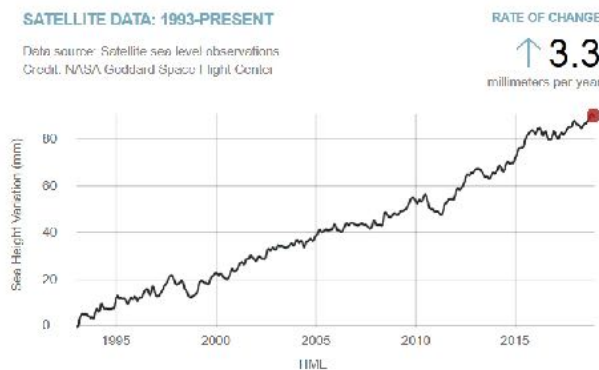
potential effects on our fisheries and fishing as I see it.

### The Culprit - Carbon Dioxide

Ancient air bubbles trapped in ice enable us to step back in time and see what Earth's atmosphere, and climate, were like in the distant past. They tell us that levels of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) in the atmosphere are higher than they have been at any time in the past 400,000 years. During ice ages, CO<sub>2</sub> levels were around 200 parts per million (ppm), and during the warmer interglacial periods, they hovered around 280 ppm with fluctuations. These levels were sustained through about 1950. Thereafter a dramatic increase took place coincident with a worldwide economic expansion and an increase in the burning of fossil fuels (coal, oil and natural gas) by power plants and industry. In 2013, CO<sub>2</sub> levels surpassed 400 ppm for the first time in recorded history. This recent relentless rise in CO<sub>2</sub> shows a remarkably constant relationship with fossil-fuel burning, and can be well accounted for based on the simple premise that about 60 percent of fossil-fuel emissions stay in the air.

Today, we stand on the threshold of a new geologic era, one where the climate will be very different to the one our ancestors knew.

If fossil-fuel burning continues at a business-as-usual rate, such that humanity exhausts the fossil-fuel reserves over the next few centuries, CO<sub>2</sub> will continue to rise to levels on the order of 1500 ppm. The atmosphere would then not return to pre-industrial levels even tens of thousands of years into the future. If you graph these scientific measurements of CO<sub>2</sub> it underscores the fact



that humans have a great capacity to change the climate and planet.

All of this extra carbon needs to go somewhere. So far, land plants and the ocean have taken up about 55 percent of the extra carbon people have put into the atmosphere while about 45 percent has stayed in the atmosphere. Eventually, the land and oceans will take up most of the extra carbon dioxide, but as much as 20 percent may remain in the atmosphere for many thousands of years. Excess carbon in the atmosphere warms the planet and helps plants on land grow more. Excess carbon in the ocean makes the water more acidic, putting marine life in danger.

It is significant that so much carbon dioxide stays in the atmosphere because CO<sub>2</sub> is the most important “greenhouse gas” for influencing Earth’s temperature. Methane and halocarbons are also greenhouse gases that absorb infrared energy (heat) emitted by the Earth and then re-emit it but are not as important as CO<sub>2</sub>. The re-emitted energy travels out in all directions, but some returns to Earth, where it heats the surface. In fact, rising carbon dioxide concentrations are already causing the planet to heat up. At the same time that greenhouse gases have been increasing, average global temperatures have risen 0.8 degrees Celsius (1.4 degrees Fahrenheit) since 1880.

**Real Threat I - Weather Changes**

Don’t confuse climate change with weather conditions on a day-to-day basis. Unusual or out-of-the-norm weather is a manifestation of climate change. Record high temperatures experienced this past July are a good example of this. Higher atmospheric temperatures also means there will be more evaporation and more water in the atmosphere with increasing humidity levels. Likewise, ocean temperatures will slowly increase causing potential changes in ocean circulation patterns. Oceans drive weather patterns and storm formation especially

in the northern hemisphere. Major weather events such as droughts, hurricanes, rain events and so forth may become more pervasive and extreme. Floods, forest fires, increasing tornado activity and hurricane frequency/intensity are all manifestations of such conditions.

**Real Threat II - Sea Level Rise**

Sea level rise is caused primarily by two factors



related to global warming: the added water from melting arctic ice sheets and glaciers and the expansion of seawater as it warms. Since 1993, sea level has been rising at

the rate of 3.3 mm per year or about 3.4 inches through present day based on worldwide satellite measurements. Sea level rise continues to steadily increase (see chart) posing an ongoing threat to coastal communities.

***Next Issue- Part II: Climate Change and the Potential Effects on Fisheries and Fishing***

*Data Source: NASA*

*Bob Molzahn, a longtime member of the Dame Juliana League, has over 43 years of professional experience in environmental resource management and regulatory issues. During his working career he served as the General Manager of Environmental Affairs for Delmarva Power & Light Co. and as President of the Water Resources Association of the Delaware River Basin. He holds a degree in Fisheries Science from Cornell University and was President of the League from 1996-2008.*



## The Trifecta (A Series)

By Bob Bonney

While waiting for the stocking truck to arrive at the Glenmoore Fire Department a woman ran into the lot asking for help for a man who had collapsed at the Glenmoore Sandwich Shop. There is no cell service in this area and the store didn't have a landline, so she ran to the fire department for help.

Officer Marchese and I drove to the store where we found a man giving CPR to an unconscious individual. I radioed county dispatch for EMS. We took turns administering CPR until EMS arrived 20 minutes later. Sadly, the gentleman did not survive, he was pronounced at the scene.

We returned to and completed stocking the East Brandywine, then began our patrol. Later I received a call about an individual keeping too many fish. Paul and I were in the immediate vicinity and responded. We hid behind some trees and watched the individual until he left the stream. We met him at his vehicle and after a brief introduction issued him a citation for one fish over the limit. It was late so we headed home.

On my way home I decided to make a pass through the Delayed Harvest area of the East Brandywine. Upon pulling into the parking lot at Dowlin Forge Rd. I observed (3) individuals crouched down behind some weeds in an area of the stream known for poaching. As I watched I saw they didn't have what they should and had what they shouldn't. They didn't have fishing licenses and had bait and fish.

By now I was two hours past my normal quit time, (takes a while to write 9 citations while

keeping my eye on three individuals I do not know or trust). However, that was perfectly fine, you see they were also responsible for me getting some much appreciated "Overtime!"



*Bob Bonney is Chester County's Waterways Conservation Office and valued member of The Dame Juliana League, Valley Forge Trout Unlimited and Project Healing Waters. He may be a poacher's worst nightmare.*



## Local Legends At The Bench

By Jeff Nissle

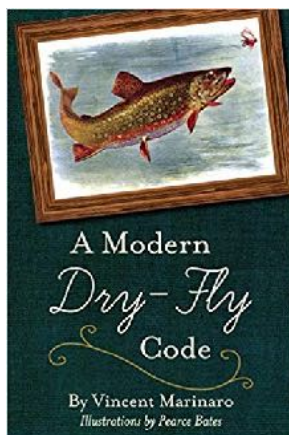
The smell of moth balls, animal hides and feathers was intoxicating even for someone that was new to fly fishing and fly tying. As I walked into Jack's Tackle for the first time at the age of 13, I tried to take it all in. I roamed around awhile looking at everything there was to see. Jack Mickievicz emerged from the back and asked if I needed help. I wanted to start tying flies so I needed to get the basic tools and materials and his store seemed to have everything. Jack found a box and started to fill it with the necessary items to give me that start I was looking for. I am certain that what he put in that box was worth more than the 25-30 dollars that I had to spend. From then on I was in Jack's shop on a weekly basis looking through the bins and barrels for things I didn't yet have.

A year later when I entered high school, I met Dick Allebach who was a gym and health teacher at Great Valley High School. He offered to take me fishing after school with another teacher Tom Ellis. I rode the bus to school on the appointed day with my fly rod, vest and other fly fishing paraphernalia. I don't recall catching anything that trip, but I had a great time. It was the first I had been to the Little Lehigh, and just to see so many trout in one place was amazing. Dick, (or Mr Allebach as I called him) took me on many trips over the next few years to

memorable places. Places like Spring Creek, Big Springs, Penns Creek, and Mud Run, as well as many others.

I expressed interest in the fly tying lessons that the Dame Juliana League was offering, but because of basketball practices I couldn't make it to them. Mr Allebach talked to Jack and convinced him to give me individual lessons for the same price. Jack agreed to do it and as soon as I could I set up at the shop with Jack. I spent the next 6 weeks or so working on the basics with Jack's guidance. I then progressed to advanced lessons for the 6 weeks after that. Jack then asked if I wanted to learn about the materials themselves. Learning more about the care, dyeing, blending, and what materials were best for what flies. I soaked it all up.

When I could afford them I bought the books that were available at the time. *Matching the Hatch* by Schweibert, Art Flick's *Streamside Guide*, Preston Jennings' *Book of Trout Flies*, Ed Koch's *Fishing The Midge*, and Vince Marinaro's *A Modern*



*Dry Fly Code*. I read them cover to cover and tied the flies shown on the pages. I subscribed to *Flyfisherman* magazine and to the *Pennsylvania Angler*. When the *Angler* would arrive I would anxiously open it to Chauncy Lively's fly tying column to see what he was tying next.

Dick Allebach taught me to rummage through Jack's Indian neck barrel for the best badger necks, which we used to tie beautiful caddis flies from Leonard Wright's book *Fishing The Dry Fly As A Living Insect*.

I spent a lot of my free time at Jack's Tackle, and there was always someone to talk to and ask questions of. Tom Basile, one of Jack's employees and friends, was full of tips and stories.

Carol, Jack's wife, not a flyfisher herself was still very helpful with materials. There were many others like Dick Estler, Jack Nealy, Dick Snyder, and

George Schuler (a Vietnam POW) and of course Dick Allebach. By hanging out at Jack's Tackle you also might run into Ed Koch, Lefty Kreh, Charlie Meck or Sam Slaymaker. For a young guy that was trying to learn as much I could, I couldn't have asked for a better classroom or teachers!

Looking back on nearly 50 years of fly fishing and fly tying, I can see that there were many influences on my life as a fly fisherman. I crossed paths with many people and learned things from each of them. I'm still learning today. There is always a new fly, technique, or place to explore. I am most appreciative of those that helped me early on and presented me with the opportunities to experience and learn what I did.

*Jeff Nissle has been fly fishing most of his life and has spent the past 35 years working in the fly fishing industry. Currently he is working at French Creek Outfitters in Phoenixville. He has fished all over the United States and Canada for everything from bluegills to atlantic salmon.*



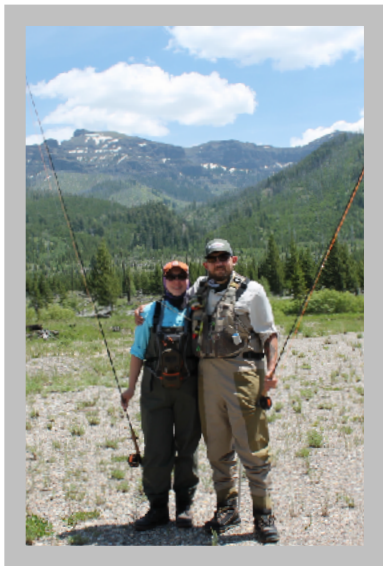
## How Fly Fishing Saved My Marriage

By Abigail Miller

In 2012, after celebrating 2 years of marriage, life seemed bright. If you would have told me just 2 months later my world would be flipped upside down, I would have thought you were crazy. If you would have then told me five years after that, a once in a lifetime fly fishing trip to Montana would be the reason my marriage survived past seven years, I would have looked at you like you had three heads. There is no way to see how something

small like fly fishing can have such a huge impact until you lived it.

In late 2012 after celebrating those two years of marriage my husband, Dan, had his first hospitalization due to PTSD and depression. Dan is a war veteran who has suffered nightmarish memories from his 2 tours in Tikrit, Iraq. This set our course to find the best options for his healing. Through the ups and downs I supported him fully in the paths he chose. Stood by him while certain medicines and therapies didn't work. At one point in 2015 Dan was looking at alternatives to help him cope with the illnesses along with life's stressors. He came across a program called Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing. After reading and researching the benefits of fly fishing and using it to deal with PTSD, Dan decided it was his new focus. At the time, having a one-year old son and learning to



deal with the added stress of a child, I was all for Dan finding a healthy outlet for his stress. I knew what fly fishing was but had never personally attempted it. I have always fished with a spinning rod, mainly targeting bass while on vacation in Canada or fishing for trout in the springtime. As time went on Dan's interest (obsession?) with

fly fishing grew. Dan spent three months in the Coatesville VA PTSD clinic in 2016. Here he became involved with the Project healing waters Coatesville Chapter. Dan's time there cemented his love of the sport. It was through his time in Coatesville that an opportunity arose for Dan and me to go on a Trout's Unlimited Veteran Service Partnership (TU VSP) trip to Montana. When Dan asked if I had any interest in learning to fly fish, I decided I wanted to see what all his obsession was about. The trip to Montana was truly a once in a lifetime trip. The stories and memories are seared into my mind. It was there, that I understood Dan's fly-fishing addiction.

Our marriage was in a good place during that trip in 2017. It seemed like a few months after that trip the thread that was holding our marriage together unraveled. I couldn't believe that in July we were so elated coming home from Montana then in August I started to seriously contemplate divorce. That's the thing about PTSD and depression, the good times feel like the top of a mountain, but the lows are in the deepest valleys. We were back in the valley. It felt like Dan and I weren't getting out of this valley with our marriage intact. As Dan worked with his doctors at the VA to get back on track with his therapy and medicine, I found hope in the memories we had just made on the fly-fishing trip to Montana. It was in those moments of remembering the good times fishing together that I knew I didn't want to give up on us.

I can say today, coming up on our 9<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, that fly fishing saved my marriage. Not only was it the memories of an amazing trip that got me through a dark time, but it continues to bring Dan and I together. We make a point to fly fish together, on fishy dates as I like to call them. It has become a thing Dan and I can dream about and use to create bucket lists. As I type this Dan and I plan to celebrate our ten-year wedding anniversary in 2020 with a fly-fishing trip. The goal



of the TU VSP trip to Montana was to give couples the tools to be able to successfully fish together. That goal was obtained and then some. Fly Fishing continues and will always be a major part of my life and marriage.



*Abby Miller lives in Halifax, PA and is a full time working mom of two. Fishing has been a favorite pastime throughout her life. Her husband Daniel introduced her to fly fishing 3 years ago and she hasn't looked back since. Chasing trout on the local creeks with Daniel is a favorite escape from everyday life.*

# Flyfishing Down Under

## *Nymph Fishing with the Mono Rig*

By John Burgos

Matt Seymour tasked me with writing an article for this newsletter about the "Mono Rig" and nymph fishing.

What could I say that isn't already said, much more eloquently, than by my good friend Domenick Swentosky. You can read all the technical details of what I'll refer to on his website. [<https://troutbitten.com/the-mono-rig/>]

So, I thought about how I got to where I rely on it so heavily.

The "why" really comes down to how and when I fish. For some fly fishermen, this method may seem odd, or even counter to many principles we've held about fishing. There are no judgments made here. This is not about right or wrong, good or bad or even best or worse. It's simply about recognizing how to make the most of the slim time we all have to chase our pastime.

Like most of the guys I fish with, I am deeply passionate about fly fishing. I take my time on the water seriously.

I'm always perusing maps. I wake up early, stay out late, drive far, walk farther. All this is fine. But, what really gets you into fish is implementing demonstratively effective techniques. And this is where the Mono Rig comes in.

As above, see [troutbitten.com](https://troutbitten.com) for details. But, the Mono Rig, properly used allows the angler to effectively present nymphs to trout in all water types while reducing the effects of the prominent drag that you would get fishing a traditional fly line setup.

It is common to think of Mono Rig nymphing as an extension of "Euro Nymphing", with roots in competitive fly fishing. The "comp" fly guys impose strict restrictions on leader length, flies and weighting methods. I consider those elements as

guidance only. The methods I choose to use are a "mix & match" to meet current conditions and abilities.

For example, I will quickly add split shot to my leader when fishing fast water if I sense my flies are not getting through the water column.

The basic premise of the Mono Rig (very basic) is that a presentation of properly weighted nymphs will gain stream bottom rapidly and be much more resistant to current drag than use of conventional fly line and shorter leaders. This technique requires few to no line mending and is designed to keep the flies in the "strike zone" for a longer period of time. It isn't unusual for Mono Rig leaders to exceed 20 ft. (If you employ this method, pay careful attention to local regulations. In particular, PA Fly Fishing Only areas restrict leader length to 18ft).

Don't think the Mono Rig necessarily simplifies things. This technique is not without its gadgets and intricacies.

You'll adopt the use of sighters, suspenders, tippet rings, anchor flies, droppers and enough different types of tippet and leader material to fill your vest. But, all good. Who of us don't look forward to stocking up on "stuff" for the season.

What I like best about nymphing with the Mono Rig is that the fishing experience requires constant concentration. This method is predicated on the laser focus following of the particular sighter method with each cast. Any hesitation, twitch or unexpected movement of the sighter draws a strike. Don't worry about how many times you do not hook up. As my friends say, "Strikes are free".

And don't think big fish don't eat nymphs! Knowing both terrific streamer and nymph fishermen, the strike may not be "extreme", but I feel confident in saying that more big trout are brought to hand with nymphs.

Recently, I was fishing with one of my friends in Montana. Matt is a die-hard Mono Rig nymph fisherman and has to be one of the finest "tightliners" I've ever had the pleasure to fish with. I



don't even want to tell you the ratio (and size) of fish



we caught.

During the day I asked him to critique my method. Far and away, my number one sin was to allow sighter hesitations to go without a strike. *Don't do that. React!*

Using the Mono Rig takes practice, lots of it. For those that love the beauty and fun of casting a fly line, this technique will surely be a diversion. Often, casts are "lobs" of the heavy flies into an enticing current. The "tuck cast" is also an important technique to get used to. By and large, fishing with the Mono Rig will result in catching more fish much closer to you than you had normally thought.

As I age and get a bit more reluctant to wade deep, I see another interesting benefit of adopting the Mono Rig method. Nowadays, the 10ft and longer fly rod has become a standard of the nymph fisherman.

I highly recommend a rod of at least 10ft. The extra length allows the angler to reach out of the current and help control the drift. Try a longer rod. You'll instantly realize how much more stream you can cover. And this is my point. A longer rod allows me to fish much more of a stream without wading into areas that are otherwise too dangerous.

As you start to use the Mono Rig and a longer fishing rod, you'll find how it will become much more natural in areas where you expected it to be "to tight".

Lastly, and I'm sure I'm leaving 90% out, becoming a proficient nymph fisherman increases the opportunities on the water. No longer will you need to plan around a hatch. Winter becomes "prime time". First light, dusk, even mid-day? Sure. All the water opens up to this method. On a crowded stream, you find ways to adapt to open water whether "pocket water" or deep pools.

If you want to adopt a new technique that will increase your fish count, nymphing with the Mono Rig is it!

*John Burgos is currently the DJL President. He has been chasing spotted fish on the fly for nearly 45years. If not prowling around the streams of Central Pa, he is likely lost on some dusty dirt road outside of Bozeman, Mt.*



## Challenges of Being a Female in a Male Dominated Sport

**By: Anita Coulton**

The life of a fly-fishing guide is something I've been working towards a long time. It's not for everyone. This gig comes with a job description that includes long physical days and an affinity to be outside in everything that mother nature can dish out. Add to that callused hands, fish handling, endless bad hair days, and zero chance for decent looking nails. Seriously, why would any female choose this for a living? It's not something I fell into and settled for. With a license in physical therapy, I risked chasing my dream of being a full-time fishing guide. And I chased it hard.

No matter what job you choose, there are going to be challenges. Being female in this industry is no different. In any male dominated profession, females are usually viewed differently.

Stereotyping, be it right or wrong, will never go away completely, and it certainly affects how females are viewed as fishing guides. The challenge stereotyping presents to lady guides is that we are assumed to be less competent. Social media has also played a part in adding to this challenge. Women in the fly-fishing industry make up a relatively small percentage, but our numbers are steadily growing. With growth comes new blood, new mind sets, and even new obstacles. Don't get me wrong. I'm all for growth.

As a drift boat guide on the Upper Delaware River, I spend my days with some wonderful people. However, as a woman, I've been the recipient of stereotypical comments. I've been asked if my boat belonged to the shop, and I just use it for trips. I even had one guy ask me if my truck belonged to someone from the shop. Naive comments don't offend me. I politely respond that yes, the boat and truck are both mine, and I bought them with my very own money - although the bank still owns about half of my truck!

I went to guide school in Montana and learned how to row under the tutelage of Lori-Ann Murphy, one of the best female guides there are, and the very first female Orvis Endorsed Guide of the Year. As we pulled into a gas station, 3 of us women got out of a tattered pick up with a drift boat in tow. A guy with a weathered fishing hat approached Lori-Ann and asked where we were going. She responded that we were going fishing. This man looked at us all, and quickly asked if we knew what we were doing. Lori-Ann replied "Nope". After a few polite chuckles, she identified herself as a guide, and gave the man a business card. A bit embarrassed, he quickly got in his truck and drove off. I just smiled and shook my head. These examples are nothing new to female fly-fishing guides. They simply serve as gentle reminders that not everyone views us the same. That stigma is there, alive and well, unfortunately.



Social media has a huge roll in defining our society, in both positive and negative ways. Jump on Instagram on just about any general fly-fishing page and you're sure to see that half dressed female fin and grin pic. You know the one, perfect hair and that strategically placed fish. Social media has opened the door for many female anglers to promote themselves. And that's good. Some women are choosing to post pictures with lengthy hashtags, pro staff and ambassador status of companies few have ever heard of. Sadly a few others have taken the big jump to the all skin approach. Not the most professional way to market, but hey, to each their own. I prefer to keep the focus

on the fishing. I don't blame women for wanting to promote themselves. I think our industry, like many, has led to the sexualization of females to sell their products. It's no different than any other industry. Let's face it, sex sells. It does. I just feel that fishing may be the wrong place for it and serves to lessen the credibility of those females who are out there putting in the work to improve their skills. I say let's keep the focus on the fishing, where it belongs.



I'm a full supporter of the "More fin, less skin" movement, if there is such a thing. In my opinion, being a successful angler has zero to do with gender. Fish are receptive to taking a well-presented fly and couldn't care less if the person holding the rod is male or female. If you wish to promote yourself in the fishing industry, let your fishing skills do the talking. You may not turn as

many heads, but you'll turn the right ones.

Being a female guide is challenging. If it was easy, I'd probably be doing something else. Amidst the world of social media darlings, there exists a group of serious female anglers, who are working hard to

gain a foothold in this industry, fully clothed with hat-head and callused hands. I stand alongside them with respect and admiration, living the dream and loving every minute.

*Anita's journey with a fly rod began at age 3 when her father sat her on the bank with a tattered Zebco. A passion to pursue anything that could be caught with a fishing rod ensued. A former competitive angler, in 2017, she earned the title of NJ Flyfisherman of the year. Anita is a graduate of Reel Women Guide School, based in Montana. She is proud to be an Orvis Endorsed Guide with Cross Current Guide Service who was named the 2019 Orvis Endorsed Outfitter of the Year, and in season you can find her navigating her Clackacraft on the Upper Delaware River, chasing some of the toughest wild brown trout around. She is also an avid writer and contributor for magazines such as Dun Magazine and Fly Fisherman.*



## Last Cast

By John Burgos

As we head into the fall season, mark your calendars. Open up every last Monday of the month. Attend the DJL general meetings. We'll have great presentations and demonstrations. This is a great opportunity to find out what's been happening on the streams, lakes and even salt.

Fall is not the end of the season. A whole new world opens up now. If you're not sure how to extend your season, come on out and ask. You'll find answers.

*John B*



## Editor's Notes

### Thanks, Contributors!

Hope you members enjoy the newsletter. We've put together a piscatorial potpourri this quarter. Looking forward to more ingredients in the Fall/Winter edition!

### Comments Welcome

We're striving to create a newsletter that offers a diverse collection of fishing perspectives and writing styles.

Our toughest challenge is getting writers to shed their inhibitions and write something of quality.

Hit me with some ideas.

*Matt Seymour*

[mseymour1128@earthlink.net](mailto:mseymour1128@earthlink.net)

484-678-1652



Juliana Berners, O.S.B., born 1388. English writer on heraldry, angling, hawking and hunting, is said to have been prioress of the Priory of St Mary of Sopwell, near St Albans in Hertfordshire.



**TCO Fly Shop**  
 1990  
[www.tcoflyfishing.com](http://www.tcoflyfishing.com)  
 West Lawn • Haverford • State College • Boiling Springs



**Jack's Tackle**  
 Fly TYER, ROD MAKER  
**Jack Mickiewicz**  
 8 Heather Lane, Douglassville PA 19518-0757  
 phone = 610-323-3017  
 e-mail = [jackm@ptdprolog.net](mailto:jackm@ptdprolog.net)



**Downingtown Bicycle Shop**  
**833 W. Lancaster Ave.**



Cannondale  
 Giro  
 NightPro  
 Hoffman  
 Continental  
 Profile  
 Hollywood  
 Shimano  
 Blackburn

Raleigh  
 Thule  
 Park  
 Haro  
 Bell  
 CateEye  
 Terry  
 Lake  
 Primo

**610-269-5626    [Downingtownbike.com](http://Downingtownbike.com)**

**THE SPORTING GENTLEMAN**



128 Glen Mills Rd, Glen Mills, PA 19342  
 610-361-2001    [gentsporting@gmail.com](mailto:gentsporting@gmail.com)  
[www.sportinggentleman.com](http://www.sportinggentleman.com)



**ORVIS** **FRENCH CREEK** **610-933-7200**  
 CHESTER COUNTY'S LARGEST FLY FISHING SPECIALIST

Come See Our Large Selection of Flies, Fly Tying Material & Books  
 St. Croix • Loomis • Okuma • Air-Flo • Rio  
 • Cortland • Ross • Renzetti • Dr. Slick • And More!

Located on Rt. 23, Just West of Phoenixville, Next to Staples    Open 7 days a Week, Visa, MC, Dis, Amex  
 Mon 10-6, Tues.-Fri. 10-9, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5  
 Visit our NEW website @ [www.frenchcreekoutfitters.com](http://www.frenchcreekoutfitters.com)

**ORVIS**  
 SPORTING TRADITIONS  
 Since 1938

DAN OGREN  
 Fishing Manager

BRANDYWINE SQUARE SHOPPING CENTER  
 70 QUARRY ROAD UNIT K  
 DOWNINGTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 19335

TEL 610 873 8400 FAX 610 873 3830  
 RETAIL-DOWNINGTOWNSTR093@ORVIS.COM  
[HTTPS://CAREERS.ORVIS.COM](https://careers.orvis.com)

Dame Juliana League  
 Fly Fishers  
 P.O. Box 178 Kimberton, PA 19442  
 Officers and Board of Directors :

President- John Burgos,  
 Vice President-Emerson Cannon,  
 Secretary- John Burgos,  
 Treasurer-Brian Fulop  
 Membership/Communications - Mike Ferraro,  
 Sponsor Relations- Joe King,  
 Outreach - Ted Nawalinski,  
 Website - Tim King,  
 Other Board Members: Dick Allebach,  
 Bob Moser, Jr., Jerry Sizemore, Mike Costello

Member dues per calendar year are \$20- Individual, \$25-Family.  
 For new members please add \$5.  
 Newsletter Editors- Matt Seymour, Bob Molzhan

Articles, news, and fly tying tips are gratefully accepted & are due by November 1, February 1, May 1, August 1.  
 Please send them to:  
[mseymour1128@erthlink.net](mailto:mseymour1128@erthlink.net)  
 Dame Juliana League Fly Fishers is an affiliate member club of Fly Fishers International. Visit our website at