



THE DAM NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE FRIENDS OF RAYSTOWN LAKE

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MEET RAYCEP!

Paige Hollibaugh



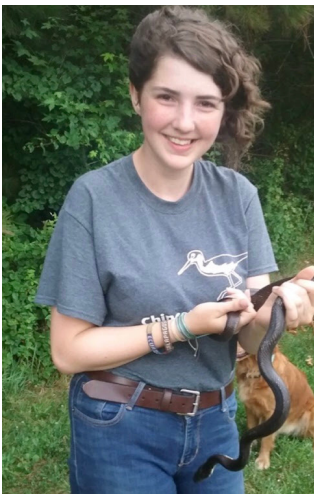
My name's Paige Hollibaugh! I was born and raised in Huntingdon, and I grew up spending most of my summers at the lake. I just finished my freshman year at Juniata, and I'm majoring in Wildlife Conservation. I'm an avid artist and I've competed in state level envirothon for three years; a conservation based competition for high school students. My favorite place in Huntingdon to visit is the Ridenour Overlook. I love to hunt and fly fish with my Pap, and I personally think the Pennsylvanian woods are one of the greatest places in the world. I really look forward to another summer out at the lake; I hope to see you out there!

Michael Macalus



My name's Michael Macalus! I'm a junior at Juniata and come from State College. I study Environmental Science at Juniata and have been the treasurer of the rock climbing club for two years. I have a passion for the environment both academically and recreationally. Environmentalist literature, rock climbing, kayaking, hiking are a few of my interests. I love sharing my knowledge and appreciation for the natural world to others and I look forward to learning more each day.

Rachel Stuber



My name's Rachel Stuber! I'm a recent high school graduate, graduating from the Grier School in the class of 2019. I plan to attend Jacksonville University in the fall to study marine science. In the past I have worked at the Smithsonian National Zoo, Lincoln Caverns, and the Chincoteague Bay Field Station and I have always had an interest in environmental education.

A third RayCEP Intern you ask?! That's right! Rachel was hired through CareerLink and FRL as addition to this years program!

FRIENDS OF
RAYSTOWN LAKE
P.O. BOX 87
HESSTON, PA 16647

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Raystown Lake Project
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Park Manager + Vacant

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PSBA Update by Nelson Wert

One Step Closer

Hello Friends- We are in the midst of our spawning efforts at the hatchery, and I will have a full report on those efforts in the next Newsletter. Today I want to focus on some of the research that we are doing to answer questions about the failure of Striped Bass to reproduce naturally at Raystown Lake. Raystown Lake has several strains of striped bass, the Chesapeake strain whose fertilized eggs are buoyant and float, and other strains such as the Roanoke strain whose fertilized eggs sink and will die unless kept suspended in moving water. One can understand why the Roanoke strains may not be able to reproduce in slow-moving lake waters or a river with significant areas of still water, but why are the Chesapeake fish not reproducing when we observe them spawning in the lake. We know that Raystown waters are much softer (low hardness) and contain lower levels of alkalinity than that preferred by striped bass. Are our fish rendered infertile by living a number of years in water with these characteristics? That answer is no. If we take male and female fish from the lake and spawn them in our hatchery, we achieve fertilization and hatching of the tiny fry. Are the tiny fry incapable of surviving in Raystown's waters or does fertilization of the eggs never occur for some other reason. We have just begun placing tiny fry from our first spawn in water collected from Runk's Bay where we hope to place a small net pen to raise these fry.

As I write this today, 24-hour old fry placed in water from Runk's Bay have survived the first 24 hours in that water. This is very encouraging because if these results are validated further, we may be able raise the fry in net pens where they have access to copepods and zooplankton to eat as they would normally have outside of the hatchery setting. It also suggests that the adverse effect of Raystown's water is on the sperm or eggs during the active spawning process rather being detrimental to the newly hatched fry. We continue to monitor water characteristics in various parts of the lake in our efforts to find the best location to stock fry or very young fish. If what we have seen in this first experiment continues to be documented with additional work, it is certainly encouraging as it may provide a better and more efficient opportunity to feed and raise these young fry for subsequent stocking in the lake. I will have more to report the next newsletter.

Pictured : Three female striped bass ready for spawning.



Captain's Quarters

by Ron Rabena, President

The Friends of Raystown Lake is ready for the summer season at Raystown Lake. A successful two days of fish structure construction was done in late April, followed by the annual Lake Cleanup in early May. Our RayCEP interns are ready for their season of environmental and conservation programs. The Friends of Raystown Lake ended the five year lease agreement for two washers and dryers in Ridge Camp and purchased our own machines that are up in running. This should alleviate the long delays in servicing from the previous company. Friends of Raystown Lake will have ice available for purchase at the entrance station. T-shirts with the FRL logo are available at the gift shop in at the Raystown Lake Visitor Center. Enjoy the summer as time flies quickly!





New Laundry Machines at Ridge Camp

The Friends of Raystown Lake recently voted to end operation with laundry service provider CSC and to purchase their own laundry machines. You can find these new laundry machines in the Ridge Camp restroom facility in Seven Points. The Marketing Committee also decided to take advantage of these brand new machines as a way to reach the campground audience and to promote donating to the Friends. Thank you to Brent Rader, and Andi and Tim Clark for their efforts in retrieving and installing the new machines!



Wear Your Lifejacket to Work Day-Ranger Edition

Permanent and Seasonal Park Ranger staff participated in the annual Wear Your Life Jacket to Work Day on Friday, May 17th. This day is celebrated to help normalize the wearing of a life jacket.

2019 Lake Cleanup Day Results!



100 + volunteers

12 tires

1 refrigerator

2 tons of recyclables

2 dumpsters full of trash



Thank you to all of the volunteers!



FRL T-Shirts for Sale

Check out the new FRL T-Shirts for sale at the Raystown Lake Visitor Center Gift Shop!



\$15

Check out the new wayside exhibit recently purchased by the FRL to promote membership and donations at the Allegrippis Trailhead!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, June 7th at 6:00 PM

National Get Outdoors Bird Watching Paddle Tour. Raystown Lake is home to some beautiful scenery that can only be viewed from the water! Join a Raystown Park Ranger on this boating adventure. We will meet & launch from Aitch Boat Launch. This outing is open to experienced swimmers with their own kayak or other non-motorized boat. Participants need to bring their own boat, U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket (properly fitting and serviceable), and paddles. Pre-registration for this event is required and space is limited. Call (814)658-6813

Wake up Receptions: FREE Visitor Wake-Up Receptions will be held at the Raystown Lake Visitors Center on Tuesday Mornings from 9:30-10:30 beginning June 18th.

June 17-23 National Pollinator Week: To celebrate pollinators and raise awareness of this important conservation issue, Raystown Lake will hold daily activities all week long from June 17-23 for National Pollinator Week. You know you want to “BEE” apart of it!

Saturday, June 29th at 8:00 PM

Glow Swim. Come out and enjoy the 7th annual Raystown Lake Glow Swim. This event takes place on the beach after hours, in the dark! Learn about the importance of life jacket safety and have the chance to cool off with an evening swim!

Saturday, July 27th at 11:00 AM

Chalk the Walk. Join us at the Seven Points Beach for the 8th annual Chalk the Walk. Participants of all ages are encouraged to compete for cash and prizes for the best chalk drawn—water safety message. Registration will be open from 11 AM to 6 PM and judging will be from 6 PM to 7 PM.

FRL Meetings: The Friends of Raystown Lake will hold the monthly board meetings on Thursdays June 13th, July 11th, and August 15th. Meetings will begin at 7:00 pm at Hoss’s Steak and Sea House, Huntingdon.

Membership Application

Please complete this application and send it along with a check payable to:

Friends of Raystown Lake
PO Box 87
Hesston, Pa 16647

- New Member Renewal
- Special Friend \$500 (lifetime)
- Individual Friend \$10/year
- Family Friend \$15/year
- Club / Organization Friend \$25/year
- Business Friend \$50/year
- Corporate Friend \$100/year

Extra Embroidered Patches: _____
@ \$3.00 each

Extra Decals: _____ @ \$1.00 each

Pins: _____ @ 5.00 each

Donation: _____

Please send my quarterly newsletter by email

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Thank You !



Membership Reminder

The year 2019 membership dues have started! Our memberships are set up on a calendar basis—January through December. As you may know, the bulk of our operating budget comes from membership fees. Please help to keep FRL strong and renew your membership today.

Dirt Fest

By: Brent Rader (FRL Board Member/Allegrippis Volunteer)

When May rolls around at Allegrippis, it means one thing: Dirtfest. Organized by Dirt Rag Magazine, it's a festival of all things mountain biking. This annual event takes place the third weekend in May, and brings together mountain bikers from all over the Northeast and beyond. Riders descend on a transformed Susquehannock campground. In place of the normal tent sites are rows of vendors of bikes and accessories showcasing their latest products. Food vendors and a big top tent (featuring live music and seminars) round out the exhibition area. The sites farther down the peninsula are reserved for camping, with many groups camping and celebrating the weekend together.

During the day, riders are encouraged to demo bikes from the various manufacturers, and to participate in the various skills clinics that are offered. For children, there is a kids fun area featuring a zip line, bikes, and more. Kids are also invited to participate in a costume bike parade Saturday evening. In the evening, entertainment is provided by live music at Susquehannock, and movies at the Seven Points Amphitheater. A beer tasting, featuring brews from smaller, more independent brewers is always a hit with those who are of age.

This year's event was the first to be organized by newly appointed Dirt Rag events coordinator, Trina Haynes. Trina has been with Dirt Rag for a number of years, but made the switch to events last year.

In organizing Dirtfest this year, Trina said that she sought to make it a more inclusive, welcoming event. As evidenced by the crowd, she was successful. There seemed to be more women, families, and diversity than ever before. It was a wonderful atmosphere. Volunteers from near and far, including some FRL members, helped to keep things running smoothly.

The festival this year was also marked by great weather. Riders were out on the trails early and didn't return until late in the day. Thanks to FRL trail volunteers, the trails were in great shape. A few last-minute logs had to be cleared, but other than that, there were no trail problems.

Be sure to check out "Dirt Rag's Dirtfest" on Facebook for pictures of the event. Based on the success of this year's festival, we look forward to working with Dirt Rag again next year!



Putt's Camp at Raystown Lake

Putt's Camp provides camping opportunities for boy scout troops, girl scout troops and non-profit groups. The camping facility includes a large pavilion and fireplace, chapel, and Adirondack shelters along with lake access for fishing and boating. If you are a Boy/Girl Scout Troop or are part of a non-profit group who is interested in Putt's Camp, please contact the Friends at: puttcampFRL@comcast.net for more information!

Update: As part of an Eagle Scout Project, Troop 471 Boy Scout Colton Riley along with several other volunteers installed a new metal green roof on the Putt's Camp Pavilion this past winter. Wayne Hammond, Putt's Camp Ranger applied to a Land o' Lakes grant to assist in paying for the materials for the project. Colton and his family have been very active in all past cleanup events and the Friends can't thank them enough for all of their support! Colton will be attending WV University in the Fall where he will be doing a 4 year ROTC scholarship.



New Roof at the Pavilion



Wayne Hammond presenting Colton Riley a life time scout award.

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