

Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : FISHIN' WITH AKID

Fishin' with Maurice

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I was a young turk and wouldn't listen to the voices of experience. But, having had business scheduled in Cambria County, I came to PAFF for advice on where I might fish. Maurice offered to meet me on a semi-limestone creek in the area. (Mind you, he lives in York Co.) The day turned hot.

Upon my mid-afternoon arrival, it was 89 degrees... in the shade, which I barely passed through on the way to the creek. I had never fished here, but access and parking was simple to clue into.

When I got to the stream, there was another angler. I called out to him, "Maurice?" and he responded with a nod. We shook hands and both adjusted our cartoon-image of one another we had built on-line to the reality we confronted. Instead of an elderly wise man that I expected, I met a man about my age, maybe younger in months that seemed genuinely glad to make my acquaintance. What he expected, I can only imagine.

We took an obligatory stream temperature and were surprised how warm the water had become. But having traveled so far, we both decided to tour the stream anyhow. Fortunately we did not kill many trout, only torturing a few. When I posted our meeting later, Maurice was a little embarrassed that I admitted that we fished a creek and risked stressing the inhabitants. It was only 69.5 degrees, and at that time of day, I thought we were safely respecting the health of our quarry. Fortunately, lesson having been learned, I have never since *posted* a stream temperature reading above 69.4-- Unless it was a stocked water, Class D or below after June 15.

What a long strange trip it has been since then. I've fished with Maurice numerous times since, and was introduced through him to many other wonderful FFing companions, Paul, Merle, everyone from my earliest Jams, more than I can name.... Now, that fledgling website that gave me an opportunity to meet Maurice and so many others who post here, is continuing to foster new friendships and cooperatives and it does us all proud that these kinds of things happen nearly every day.