



Preserving Franklin Township's Rich History & Rural Character

PO Box 314, Quakertown, NJ 08868

Second Place

Peterson's Paradise

By Ryan James Drwal

4th Grade: Tracy Strycky, Teacher

Fish on! Fish on! Hurry up! I think it's a big one. Fetch the net. It's so heavy! I say that he is a two-foot long catfish. Look at him! He's huge! Thanks for your help, buddy! Aren't you glad you moved to Franklin Township to fish?

Let's go this way to those really pretty cows. We can have the fish weighed at those tables. Anyway, Mr. Peterson has his fishing derby every year. He has the best place to fish. Just look at the cows, red barns, and huge tractors. Neat, huh? I love it here.

So, I come here every year. I haven't gotten an award, but I still have fun going. One year my brother caught a huge catfish. It was very nasty, but it was about one-and-a-half feet long. He got a big trophy that year.

When I was little, I wore my fishing derby shirt backward. My parents told me to turn it around, but I would scream, "NO!" My grandparents would feed me candy while I fished. The first time I caught a fish I was so happy. I jumped up and down! I thought that I was the best fisherman of all time.

My friends came to the derby also. I like to talk and run around with them. My parents tell us jokes while we fish. It's great! Every year in the spring my dad, brother, and I continue fishing on the weekends after the derby in other lakes and streams. A great time for any boy is when he has a rod in his hand and a fish on the line.

Hey, are you hungry? I know a great place to go for lunch...right over there! It's the hot dog stand. Do you want one? Would you like ketchup or mustard? I'm happy to get it for you! I'll get you a refreshing Coke also. Okay. Let's get back to the pond! There's another fish on your line! We had better hurry up and finish eating!