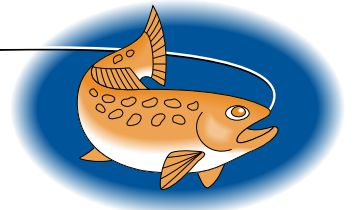


TROUTLINE



www.nvatu.org • The Newsletter of the Northern Virginia Chapter of Trout Unlimited • June 2015

JUNE MEETING



DETAILS

June 4, 2015
6:45 p.m. Fly tying demonstration
7:30 p.m. Chapter meeting

WHERE

Flame Room of Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center Street, SE, Vienna.

GETTING THERE

Chain Bridge Road (123) becomes Maple Avenue in Vienna. Turn south on Center Street. Continue on Center Street past the athletic field on the left; note the fire station on the left at the intersection with Cherry Street. Turn left on Cherry and park behind the building. Go in the side door at the corner of the building and proceed up the stairs to the meeting room.

JUNE PROGRAM

John Lipetz
Fish and Explore

JUNE CALENDAR

4: Chapter Meeting
6: FWAM trip to Lower Rapidan (VA)
11: Board Meeting
27: FWAM trip to Big Hunting Creek (MD)

WHAT'S COMING OFF

JOHN LIPETZ

Innovative Camps for Kids



John Lipetz's company, Fish and Explore, is dedicated to developing programs that are structured around elements that naturally excite children – Animals, Water, and a little Dirt! Their programs build confidence in a natural way, by providing guided instruction to introduce kids to the outdoors while allowing them to explore their abilities. Be it through fishing, exploring, or both,

they promise to engage them in the wonders of the great outdoors in a safe and fun environment.

Look around the site and see what they have to offer – Birthday Parties, Summer and Weekend Camps, Fishing Trips, Field Trips, Individual, Group and Private Lessons:

<http://www.fishandexplore.com/about/>

Honoring New Members

We would like to welcome aboard our newest members! We look forward to seeing you at our Chapter events.

Melbourne Boughman, Alexandria, VA
Nicole Bayert, Woodbridge, VA
Keith Brown, Bristol
Terry Busby, Arlington, VA
Steven Butler, Reston, VA
Andrew Czarnecki, Leesburg, VA
Freddie Dobbs, Vienna, VA
Cash Dusina, McLean, VA
Robert Hayduk, Annandale, VA
John Heffren, Vienna, VA

Embree Hunnicutt, Arlington, VA
Paul Layman, Lorton, VA
Patrick Lucrezio, Springfield, VA
Joey Morzenti, Stafford, VA
Edward Pearce, Alexandria, VA
Justin Robertson, Stafford, VA
Greg, Schossler, Fairfax, VA
Charles Stein, Clifton, VA
John Unglesbee, Stafford, VA
William Zolp, Dumfries, VA

TRIP 1

Lower Rapidan-Staunton

VIRGINIA

When: June 6, 2015
Depart: 8 a.m.
Return: You decide
Contact: George Paine
 www.nvatu.org
Meet: Dick's Fair Lakes parking lot

This will be a self-guided trip as I will be in Maine. The Lower Rapidan-Staunton is described in the new chapter fishing guide. If a novice angler arrives, I hope someone will help him/her get oriented.

The gravel road leading north from Graves Mill (instead of going up the Conway you turn right at Graves Mill) leads to the trailhead parking area. The Rapidan is next to the parking area so you can start fishing anywhere and continue

upriver. About a half mile up on your left is the Staunton, which is well worth the hike past the blown section of the stream to get to classic, productive brookie water.

I would cast yellow sallies, Adams, terrestrials and caddis. On the Rapidan, you made need at least waist high waders. On the Staunton, you should be able to wet wade if it is warm.

Be sure to have non slip footwear. A wading staff is always a good idea.

Tight Lines,
George Paine

TRIP 2

Big Hunting Creek

MARYLAND

When: June 27, 2015
Depart: Whenever
Return: You decide
Meet: Vienna Fire House Parking Lot

This SELF-GUIDED trip (we are still in need of a leader for MD and PA trips) will be to Big Hunting Creek, near Thurmont, MD. Light (3, 4, or 5 weight) trout rods and hip boots will suffice for this trip. Big Hunting Creek offers plenty of room to cast. On this stream, longer rods can be an advantage as they make mending the line much easier. The brown trout in Big Hunting Creek are stream bred, tend to run small, and are the most beautiful trout you may ever see. The rainbows and brookies are mostly stocked, but by now have adapted to stream life and may ignore flies outside their feeding lane. Big Hunting is heavily fished, and the list of effective flies is almost endless. There won't be any major mayfly hatches. A #14 Light Cahill would be a good imitation. A few olive bodied mayflies, most likely from the Ephemerella genus could also be present—try a #16 or #18 Blue Winged Olive. I suspect attractor dries (like yellow stimulators) would be equally as

effective. The little yellow stonefly (#16) could still be hatching, as could small numbers of a summer caddis. If you happen to see fish feeding on the surface try a dark midge or dark parachute in size #18-20. For nymphing, I'd start with a bright green caddis larva. I don't fish Elk Hair Caddis much, but an olive or grey bodied one is a popular fly on Big Hunting Creek. By the end of June, no matter where you fish for trout in our area, terrestrials have become important. There are a few spots, from the Brooks Memorial on up, where hoppers fall into the stream from the adjacent grassy area. I once caught an 18" stocked rainbow here on a hopper. If the weather has been dry, and the flow is low, use smaller terrestrials and lighter tippets. You will be less likely to spook the fish. Higher flows permit larger patterns that land with a bit of a splat.

—Excerpted from a Mike Daly classic article



Left to right: John Lipetz of Fish and Explore, Roger Brown, George Paine and John Odenkirk of DGIF.

April 25 Vienna Family Fishing Rodeo

NVATU volunteers supported the second annual Vienna Family Fishing Rodeo on Wolftrap Stream. A big Thank You to Roger Brown, John Davey, Jack Tenshaw and Dave Lee for assisting the novices! John Lipetz and his assistant, Quinn, provided assistance and encouragement to the challenged anglers.

JUNE FLY OF THE MONTH: DEMONSTRATED BY JOHN HADLEY

Foam Beetle PLUS



I checked my fly box and found my inventory was low. One of my favorite flies for late summer and fall, and a sure winner for brookies in the Shenandoah National Park streams. It is also a hit with pan fish and smallmouth bass. This is a combination of several recipes, is quick and easy to tie, and adds a wing tip; recommended in an article by A.K. Best.

Techniques to be learned:

- Attaching white Z-Lon wing tip
- Preparing peacock herl, twisting

and wrapping peacock herl body with thread reinforcement

- Using moose hair for legs
- Cutting, attaching, stretching and tying down a foam wing case back
- Attaching visibility indicator
- Finish with two half hitches

Recipe

Hook: Standard Dry Hook, TMC 100 #12, 14, 16
 Thread: Black 6/0
 Wing Tip: White Z-Lon or yarn
 Body: Peacock Herl - 4 strands
 Legs: Moose or deer hair, pheasant

tail fibers or black rubber legs
 Wing Case: Inch strip of Black foam (width the gap of the hook)
 Visibility Indicator: Yellow Calf's Tail or synthetic material of any color that helps you see the fly under various lighting and water flow conditions

Fishing Tip:

This terrestrial fly is best fished in summer and fall. Apply your favorite floatant, dead float once through a likely lie and then dead float with occasional twitching.

Streamside: Intersexed Fish Issue

A NVATU member: *“So, what’s the latest on your research with those historic Shenandoah River fish kill incidents?”*

FishDr: An article I wrote last year briefly described some initial research I was conducting on possible environmental impacts of the herbicide, atrazine. In February I presented a possible explanation for those early 21st century fish kill events. Speaking in front of about 100 fisheries experts and students at Virginia’s annual AFS meeting held at Virginia Tech, I laid out one hypothesis that may explain both fish kill and intersex occurrences.

For several years researchers have issued warnings about the possible links between atrazine use and sub lethal impacts on fish and wildlife. Unfortunately, laboratory replications of environmental conditions have not consistently produced the deleterious results predicted by those studying animals in the wild. Therefore, atrazine use continues as the most industrially

used pesticide in the United States. Interestingly, its use has been banned in Europe, which regulates under the precautionary principle, after residues of the pesticide started appearing in well water.

So how might one explain the connection between atrazine, fish kills and intersexed fish? It all resides in the use of poultry litter for fertilizer. While humified (cured through months of composting) animal waste is environmentally inert, unhumified waste can be biologically active. For those of us who grew up with farm animals, we remember incidents when our skin was accidentally stained from handling fresh manure. That stain was proof manure penetrated our skin cell membranes. Yes, the poop was actually in us! The same thing happens with unhumified poultry manure when it enters surface waters and encounters fish—some of it goes right through fish cell membranes. What’s worse, chemical fate models (theoretical predictions

of where chemicals eventually end up) suggest atrazine may dissolve in unhumified manure much more readily than it would bind to its intended target, soil particles. When it rains in the spring, runoff from agriculture areas treated with atrazine and poultry litter may contain unhumified manure laced with atrazine. As a consequence, atrazine could possibly accumulate in fish at concentrations much higher than measured environmental concentrations of atrazine might indicate.

Atrazine has been linked to intersex problems in several animal species and has also been linked to immunosuppression. Scientific evidence suggests the proximity of atrazine and poultry litter to fish kills and intersex fish found in the Shenandoah River through the first decade of this century is unlikely to be coincidental. My hypothesis offers one explanation linking agriculture practices with these devastating historical events.

Update- Problems with fish kills and declining smallmouth bass populations continue in the Susquehanna River. Evidence suggests the scenario of events in the Susquehanna are not all that different from the earlier events I’ve described in the Shenandoah River. Just recently a press release of a rare cancer found on a smallmouth bass suggests the environmental issues in the Susquehanna could be quite serious. This news release made the national news.

Link to story:
<http://abcnews.go.com/US/small-mouth-bass-cancerous-tumor-raises-concerns-story?id=30830218>

If you have any questions you’d like to ask the Fish Doctor, please e-mail me at: fishdr@netzero.net. And you just might see an answer printed in an upcoming TroutLine.

Kirk Smith
—The Fish Doctor

May 9 Merit Badge Class

NVATU held its Spring 2015 Fly Fishing Merit Badge program at River Bend Park Nature Center in Great Falls on May 9th for Scout Troop 55.

We certified 5 candidates. Scout Master Ted Reuss was so pleased he asked that we conduct another session for his troop in the Fall. Now we have another troop and the Trout in the Class Room teed up to keep us busy growing new flyfishers.

This is a direct result of the program agenda and the volunteers:

General Overview of Fly Fish, Safe and Conservation Initiatives -
John Davey

Entomology and How Trout Feed -
Dr. Steve Mouton

Fly Tying - John Hadley and Paul Jacobs

Knot Tying - George Paine



Casting - Dave Semler
Fishing - All Hands
Photos - Richard Wagner

And the support of Orvis in Tyson

and Leesburg and LL Bean in Tyson.

We would like to continue this program in the fall but we more volunteers to make it happen.

Please contact Bill Errico or any of the other volunteers. This is a worthwhile event to ensure the continuation of Fly Fishing for the younger generations.— **Bill Errico**

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CONSERVATION CALENDAR

Unless otherwise noted:

- **Chapter meetings:** Vienna Volunteer Fire Station, 7:30 p.m.
- **Board Meetings:** Century 21 Office, 6631A Old Dominion Drive, McLean, VA, 7:30 p.m.

- 10:** Board Meeting
- 26:** FWAM trip to Patuxent (MD)

OCTOBER

- 1:** Chapter Meeting
- 3:** FWAM trip to White Oak Canyon (VA)
- 8:** Board Meeting
- 31:** FWAM trip to Morgan Run (MD)

NOVEMBER

- 5:** Chapter Meeting
- 7:** FWAM trip to Little Stony (VA)
- 12:** Board Meeting
- 28:** FWAM trip to Gunpowder (MD)

JULY

NO CHAPTER MEETING DUE TO HOLIDAY

- 9:** Board Meeting
- 11:** (2nd Sat due to holiday) FWAM trip to Rapidan for Smallies
- 25:** FWAM trip to Big Spring Creek (PA)

AUGUST

- 1:** FWAM trip to Rappahannock (VA)
- 6:** Chapter Meeting
- 13:** Board Meeting
- 29:** FWAM trip to Yellow Breeches (PA)

SEPTEMBER

- 3:** Chapter Meeting
- 5:** FWAM trip to Rappahannock (VA)



TU website: www.tu.org
 Virginia Council of TU website: www.vctu.org



Recycled and Recyclable



MEMBER ALBUM



Pristine Stream: Jeremy Stehle on Namesake Jeremy's Run, April FWAM.