

FEBRUARY MEETING



DETAILS

February 2, 2017

6:45 p.m. Fly tying demonstration

6:45 p.m. Boy Scout Merit Badge group

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.

FEBRUARY PROGRAM

Bryan Kelly

Smallmouth Bass Fishing

FEBRUARY SCHEDULE

2: Members Meeting

4: FWAM Trip to Conway River (VA)

9: Board Meeting

25: FWAM Trip to Big Spring (PA)

WHAT'S COMING OFF

BRYAN KELLY

Three Moods of the Smallmouth Bass



Bryan Kelly of Whitefly Outfitters, “I started fishing when I was six, we all did right? Seriously, my professional career when I was a tournament angler in the late 80’s early 90’s (boos and cat calls from the crowd) which lead to me guiding in 1994. That year I qualified for the BASS Master Classic. In 1995 I become more serious about guiding, I enjoy helping people fish and sharing the knowledge that I’ve gained through my own experiences and time on the water.

In 1996, my wife Debi and I created and

opened the Anglers Inn B&B and Guide Service in Harpers Ferry, WV. This year we celebrated our 22nd wedding anniversary and 20th operating our small business.

In the presentation I’ve prepared for the chapter, hope to share some insights into the underwater world of the Smallmouth Bass. Titled the Three Moods of the Smallmouth Bass the presentation is designed to help explain why some days you just can’t buy a fish and why a week later you’re catching fish almost every cast.”

TRIP 1

Conway River

VIRGINIA

When: February 4, 2017
Depart: 8 a.m.
Return: Whenever
Contact: George Paine at ppafish@hotmail.com
Meet: Dick's Fair Lakes parking lot

Since you will be on the east slope of the mountains, the sun will dip behind the mountain by mid afternoon and leave you in the shade an hour or two before it actually sets so the nicest part of the day will be late morning and the early afternoon. Ordinarily bright sun spooks the fish but brookies start moving more after the sun warms the streambed.

As usual on our mountain streams, light rods and hip boots will suffice. If you prefer waders, that is fine, and they allow you to sit on wet rocks while keeping your backside dry and free of moss. Make sure the waders do not restrict your ability to move around. I prefer waist high waders for those reasons. Since the terrain is steep, the less stuff you carry, the less fatigued you will become. A gravel road parallels the Conway for most of the stretch you will be fishing so it will be possible to return to your vehicle to warm up or have lunch.

A floating line and a leader tapered to around 5X are all you should need. Water temperature will most likely be somewhere in the thirties. The quarry is native brook trout, but there are browns in the Conway. The little winter stoneflies

could be about, and you could run into a few midges. It's a little early for the slightly larger brown stonefly. A warm day may see a few terrestrials about, but numbers will be sparse but a black ant imitation sometimes works, possibly because trout mistake them for little black stoneflies. Most trout food will be beneath the surface. There won't be enough of it to make the fish selective, so you can have fun with your favorite underwater patterns. The colder the water, the less effort the fish will be willing to expend to strike your fly. Short line nymphing, slow and near the bottom, will most likely be the order of the day. If you are lucky enough to see a fish rise, that fish will also be unlikely to be selective. An attractor dry like a Patriot or Royal Wulff, or a #18 Adams to imitate bluewinged olives should be fine. If you can't interest the fish in your fly, change it; but changing size, usually to a smaller size, may be more effective than changing patterns.

TRIP 2

Big Spring Creek

PENNSYLVANIA

When: February 25, 2017
Depart: 8 a.m.
Return: You decide
Meet: Vienna Civic Center Lilt North



THIS IS A SELF-GUIDED TRIP

The second trip will be to Big Spring Creek, near Newville, PA. Light rods and hip boots will be fine, but consider chest waders, if it is a little chilly. (Chest high and waist high waders allow you to sit down without getting your backside wet, or moss-stained. There is plenty of room for a long rod if you prefer them. You will be able to park near where you fish, so your comfort hiking in and out is not an issue.

Fish Big Spring with midges and cress bugs. The midge patterns are simple pupal forms that are well illustrated in a book by Don Holbrook and Ed Koch titled, Midge Magic or a pattern with a black and white striped abdomen and a black thorax in sizes down to #28. Holbrook lists about five patterns for the fourth week of February, including one that is very light gray and white in both a #18 and a #20.

As far as cress bugs go, none have proven demonstrably more effective than Ed Shenk's classic cress bug pattern. Just take some muskrat, guard hairs and all, and put it in a dubbing loop. Dub it on a Mustad

3906B hook (preferably from #12 to #20). Tie off and trim the fly later on the top and bottom. Pick the sides out a bit with a dubbing needle.

A #16 is a good size to tie if you don't have time to tie a range of sizes.

—A longer version of this article was originally written by Mike Daly.

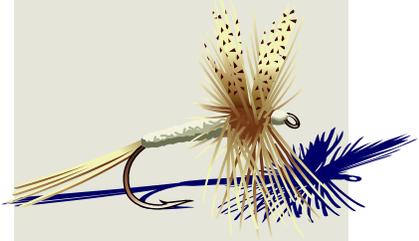
29th Annual Fishing Show

Saturday February 11, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Sponsored by: Rapidan Chapter Trout Unlimited (www.rapidantu.org)

Where: Fauquier County Fairgrounds, 6209 Old Auburn Road, Warrenton, VA 20186

This is a highly popular show and a great way to catch up with old friends and meet new ones!



FEBRUARY FLY OF THE MONTH: DEMONSTRATED BY JOHN HADLEY

The Mop Fly



My sister-in-law sent me a Wall Street Journal article about this fly. Looks like it will catch fish so want to tie some up to use this spring and summer.

ORIGINATOR

Jim Estes about 10 years ago saw one of the dust mobs in a dust mop in a North Carolina Dollar Store and thought the microfiber nubs on the mop would make a fine, easy to tie fly.

RECIPE

Hook: Size 12, nymph or dry
Thread: Green, black or color to match the body
Bead head: Gold or other colors (optional)
Body: Chartreuse (or any color) microfiber nubs from a dust mop
 The original fly was a chartreuse microfiber nub tied in just behind the bead head, but any color will do. I have also seen some tied with hen hackle or various colors of chenille behind the bead head.

FISHING TIP

Fish bead head flies just as you would any nymph. Cast above a likely lie and let the fly sink to the bottom before retrieving. You can use an indicator if you want. If fished without a bead head or weight just let the fly float until it sinks. I think it imitates a big green caterpillar that I saw in the mouth of a big brook trout on a Shenandoah National Park stream a few years ago.

2nd Annual NVATU-FLY

By Kiki Galvin

Mark your calendars for Saturday April 22, 2017! Levi Pitcock from Double Spur Outfitters in Star Tannery, VA will be hosting our event on Cedar Creek. For those who competed in our inaugural event we were most grateful and the TU-FLY committee hope to increase our team participation in 2017 and we look to our members to take part in this wonderful event

as well as other members from neighboring chapters.

Benefits: Supports NVATU programs, Project Healing Waters, Kids Fly Fishing Camp, stream restorations, Merit Badge classes, Casting For Recovery and much more.

Rules: Use only two flies per angler.

Donation: \$250 per team of two

anglers.

For further information:
www.nvatu.org.

To Pre-Register Contact:
• Art Brantz, (703) 980-5776
or e-mail to abrantz@aol.com.
• Jay Lovering: (703) 973-1024
• Kiki Galvin: (703) 899-6793

Reach out to fellow anglers and spread the word!



Spring Member Trips to Mossy, et. al.

Mossy Creek Fly Fishing, Harrisonburg, VA, is offering Northern VA TU members the opportunity to fish a day on private trout water for \$90 per angler, half the normal price. There are two trips scheduled: Monday, April 3 and Monday, May 8. Eight anglers will fish each day (two groups of four will each fish with a guide for the day).

This private water includes stretches on Mossy Creek, Beaver Creek, Smith Creek, and others. The guides will choose which streams we actually fish, based on weather, water levels, and fishing conditions. Anglers bring their own lunches, flies, and gear. (The guides will have extra equipment and flies if needed).

A check for \$90 payable to NVATU is required to reserve a spot on one of these trips. Sign-up sheets will be available at the February and March chapter meetings. You can also sign up by mail. Send a check and your date preference (April 3 or May 8) to Northern Virginia Chapter 360. Mail: Trout Unlimited, PO Box 273, Herndon, VA 20172. Deadline for signing up and paying is four weeks prior to each trip. Once a spot has been reserved for the trip the check is nonrefundable unless we can get a replacement. If we get more the 16 anglers sign up we will talk to Mossy Creek Fly Fishing about adding a third outing. Anyone who cannot get on a trip will have their checks refunded.

For questions contact Dennis Suddarth (suddardt@yahoo.com) or Andy Manley (manleyam@ymail.com).



Dennis Suddarth with a Mossy Creek brown in 2016.

CHAPTER OFFICERS

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Board Member: VACANT

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Youth Conservation Camp Co-Chair: Suzanne Malone, (571) 641-9705, flyfishgrl@aol.com
Youth Conservation Camp Co-Chair: Paul Kearney
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Women's Initiative Coordinator: Kiki Galvin, (703) 893-7020, angla56@msn.com
Youth Representative: Mason Kasprowicz
Youth Representative: Palmer Kasprowicz

Want to join the Northern Virginia Trout Unlimited Chapter?



Use this QR Code to sign up or use the following URL link to sign up online for a special offer:

<https://gifts.tumembership.org/member/intro>
Will quickly link to the national www.TU.org website to become a member for **\$17.50 for your first year.**

In the pull-down menu select 360-Northern Virginia and Introductory Rate.

Not sure you want to join us?

- Check us out at one of our monthly meetings – first Thursday of (almost) every month.
- Or, join us on one of our “Fish with a Member” outings!

CONSERVATION CALENDAR

Unless otherwise noted:

- **Chapter meetings:** Vienna Volunteer Fire Station, 7:30 p.m.
- **Board Meetings:** Century 21 New Millenium, 10306 Eaton Place #120 Fairfax, VA, 22030-7:30 p.m.

MARCH

- 2:** Members Meeting
- 4:** FWAM Trip to Piney Branch (VA)
- 9:** Board Meeting
- 25:** FWAM Trip to Mountain Creek (PA)

APRIL

- 1:** FWAM trip to Rapidan River (VA)
- 1:** Graves Mtn Lodge Heritage Day (VA)
- 6:** Chapter Meeting
- 7:** (Friday) FWAM trip to Rose River (VA)
- 8-9:** Virginia Fly Fishing and Wine Festival
- 13:** Board Meeting
- 29:** FWAM trip to Conewago Creek (PA)

MAY

- 4:** Members Meeting
- 6:** FWAM Trip to Jeremy's (VA)
- 11:** Members Meeting
- 12:** (Friday) FWAM Trip to Rapidan (VA)
- 27:** FWAM trip to E. Branch of Antietam (PA)

UPCOMING SPEAKERS

March 2: Michael Abramowitz on Fishing Safely.



Recycled and Recyclable



MEMBER ALBUM



Chapter Treasurer: Scott Allen and a Fletcher's Shad in 2015.



NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED
PO BOX 273
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NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED
www.nvatu.org

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