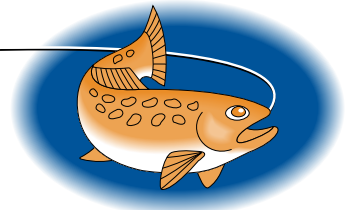


TROUTLINE



www.nvatu.org • The Newsletter of the Northern Virginia Chapter of Trout Unlimited • May 2017

MAY MEETING



DETAILS

May 4, 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.

MAY PROGRAM

Steve Moulton
Caddisflies 101

MAY CALENDAR

4: Members Meeting
6: FWAM Trip to Jeremy's Run (VA)
6: Reston Spring Festival
11: Members Meeting
12: (Friday) FWAM Trip to Rapidan (VA)
27: FWAM trip to E. Branch of Antietam (Waynesboro, PA)

WHAT'S COMING OFF

STEVE MOULTON

Caddisflies 101

Dr. Steve Moulton, NVATU chapter member, will deliver a presentation of interest to fly fishers and conservationists alike featuring information about the distribution, diversity, biology, and ecology of caddisflies. Dr. Moulton has conducted research on the biogeography, taxonomy, and ecology of caddisflies throughout North America, with special emphasis on the faunas in the Ozark/Ouachita mountains and the southwestern United States.

Caddisflies are one of the most important insect groups known to flyfishers. There are approximately 1,700 species of caddisflies in North America alone. Their numbers worldwide are variously estimated between 10,000 and 50,000 species; more than 300 species have been documented in Virginia. Caddisflies play an extremely important role in aquatic ecosystems by processing organic material and serving as a food base for other animals. They occur in springs, streams, rivers, ponds, and lakes throughout the world; a few species are predominantly terrestrial throughout their entire life cycle and one group



Dr. Steve Moulton discussed aquatic insect topics with several Boy Scouts at a NVATU-sponsored Boy Scout Fly Fishing Merit Badge event October 2016.

inhabits marine waters. Despite occupying a wide range of habitats, Caddisflies are generally intolerant of poor water quality and stressed environmental conditions. As such they are often used by water resource management agencies as indicators of the aquatic health.

Caddisflies undergo complete metamorphosis that includes a larva, pupa, and adult; each of these stages are modeled as flies. These stages range in size from

approximately 2mm (No. 24 or 26 size hook) to greater than 40 mm (No. 4 or 6-size hook). Larvae are soft-bodied and usually cream-colored or greenish with the head and thorax (segment of body possessing the legs) variously colored from tan to dark brown or black. Depending on geography and habitat, caddisfly adults will emerge year-round. Some groups (e.g. grannoms) are highly synchronous in their development and ultimately emerge in large swarms for a one or two week period. Most other species have asynchronous development and multiple generations throughout the year such that adults are found almost year round.

TRIP 1

Jeremy's Run

VIRGINIA

When: May 6, 2017
Depart: 8 a.m.
Return: Whenever
Meet: Dick's Fair Lakes parking lot

The first trip will be to Jeremy's Run. Keep your eyes peeled for insects on the ground, in the air and more than random rises. There should be good quantities of Blue Winged Olives, dark Caddis, and some smaller stoneflies. You should find Sulphurs or Red Quills as well as March Browns hatching in good numbers.

Here's a tip I suggest you try when using these patterns. Both species can take a long time to emerge. Certainly nymphs and emerger patterns will work well suspended a few inches below the surface. Suggest using a dry fly pattern with a trailing shuck or an old tattered fly fished in the surface film. Both species are prone to hatching stillborn and these make easy targets for the fish. You should also find sizable quantities of ants and beetles. The insect I look for the most is ants. Bring plenty of water along because Jeremy's Run requires a long hike in and out. Short rods, 5x or 6x tippets, and hip boots will be all you need to fish this stream. The terrain is very steep so pack light. Wading boots suitable for hiking make for a better day.

TRIP 2

Rapidan River

VIRGINIA

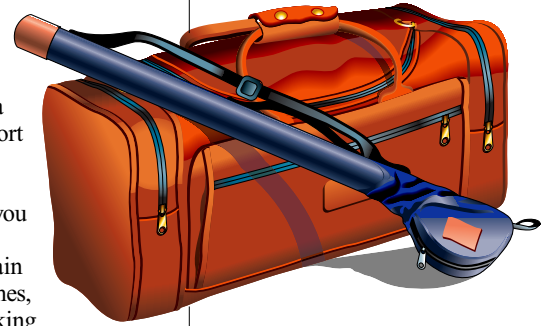
When: FRIDAY, May 12, 2017
Depart: 8 a.m.
Return: Whenever
Meet: George Paine at Dick's parking lot in Fair Lakes

The second trip is to the Rapidan River. Make sure you have a current Virginia license, and remember this is a catch and release only stream. Spring is officially here so there should be plenty of bug life.

You should find a variety of medium, and even some larger bug hatches. You can always do well with a size 12 Quill Gordon, or a size 14 or 16 Mr. Rapidan, Blue Quill, or Royal Wulff. As for insects, look for ants – big Carpenter Ants. Don't know what it is about ants that make trout go nuts. If you like dry fly fishing, the ant is probably the easiest hatch to match. There is something about a splashy and voracious take on an ant that is addictive. Even if nothing is rising, brookies will often hit a dry fly. If you nymph, a size 14 or 16 Hare's Ear, flash-back Pheasant Tail, and Prince nymphs, fished deep and allowed to tumble along the bottom, or a soft hackle fished on a swing will usually take fish.

Bring some water along because you will be doing quite a bit of hiking. You will want to carpool if you own a car. The road in is rough

and unforgiving. Arrive early at Dick's parking lot so you can secure a ride in a truck or SUV. Short rods, 5x or 6x tippets, and hip boots will be all you need to fish this stream. The terrain can be steep at times, so I suggest packing light and bringing some water to keep you hydrated. A backpack can slow you down, so if you can fit lunch and water in your vest or on your belt you'll be able to wade and fish more efficiently.



terrain is fairly level and is an easy walk for people of all ages and the trails are well marked. The average trout (stocked) caught here is between 12 and 16 inches. The stretch we will be fishing is partially delayed harvest/catch and release. There are signs posted to let you know. Regarding flies, of notable mention are ants and beetles. Elk Hair Caddis and stimulators work. For subsurface, switch to Hare's Ear nymphs and Copper Johns without a strike indicator as it spooks the fish. They return to normal behavior within minutes. So sit still and study the pool while giving the fish time to calm down.

A shorter rod helps due to the tree canopy. There are a few places where you need a very gentle cast. You can get away with hip waders for most of the stream. Wet wading isn't totally out of the question, but it is spring fed and will get a little chilly.

TRIP 3

East Branch Antietam Creek

PENNSYLVANIA

When: May 27, 2017
Depart: 8 a.m.
Return: You decide
Meet: North End of Firehouse Parking Lot

THIS IS A SELF-GUIDED TRIP

Contact George Paine at ppafish@hotmail.com to link up with a buddy

The East Branch Antietam Creek is a spring-influenced creek. The

MAY FLY OF THE MONTH: DEMONSTRATED BY JOHN HADLEY

Foam Beetle Plus



I need to refill my fly box with 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 combination of several recipes is quick and easy to tie, and adds a wing tip sticking out from under the back shell of a struggling beetle; recommended in an article by A.K. Best.

Techniques to be learned:

- Attaching white Z-Lon wing tip
- Preparing peacock herl - snapping off weak tips before tying in

- Twisting and wrapping peacock herl body with thread reinforcement
- Using moose hair for legs (stubs left over from making moose hair tails on another fly)
- Cutting, attaching, stretching and tying down a foam wing case back
- Attaching various colored indicators to top/back of fly
- Finish with two half hitches

Pattern:

- 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: 1/4 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.

HS Students Mix it up With Professional Scientists



Jackson Ayers, Director of JMHS Brook Trout Sustainability Program, at a presentation at Virginia's American Fisheries Society's annual meeting at W&L University in Lexington, VA., recently.

In the midst of a warm winter month of this past February, two high school students from James Madison High School presented scientific findings during Virginia's American Fisheries Society's annual meeting at W&L University in Lexington, VA. The students are

supported by NVATU and have recently been applauded for discovering a new release site for Trout-In-the-Classroom (TIC) fish raised in Northern Virginia classrooms. A presentation by Jackson Ayers ('17, rising Air Force Academy cadet) demonstrated the

use of a sophisticated smart phone app used by the teens while they collect and record data in the field. Emily Garcia ('18) revealed how Madison's Stream Team aims to utilize results from macroinvertebrate (aquatic insects) surveys as a biological validation

of the team's stream ratings. Before Emily's contribution, the team rated streams for brook trout suitability based solely on physical and chemical attributes without any biological verification.



NVATU members Scott Allen, Bill Errico, Don Hart and Tim Quinn braved a cold opening day of trout stocking at Lake Fairfax on March 4 to explain the benefits and value of becoming chapter members.

CHAPTER OFFICERS

President: Jay Lovering, (703) 734-1558, jaylovering@gmail.com
Vice President: Kiki Galvin, (703) 893-7020, angla56@msn.com
Treasurer: Scott Allen, (703) 471-5253, scallen@cox.net
Secretary: George Paine, (703) 860-0862, ppafish@hotmail.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board Member (FY 2015): Art Brantz, (703) 980-5776, abrantz@aol.com
Board Member (FY 2016): Bill Errico, (703) 825-8801, dadoopman@hotmail.com
Board Member (FY 2015): Terry Lowe, (703) 486-3978, terryalowe@aol.com
Board Member (FY 2015): Suzanne Malone, (571) 641-9705, flyfishgrl@aol.com
Board Member: VACANT

ADVISORS TO THE OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Financial Reviewer: Hal Metcalf, (703) 395-8046, hrm2000@verizon.net
Legal Counsel: Victor Kernus, (703) 690-3133, vkernus406@gmail.com

NVATU COMMITTEES

Communications

Facebook Administrator: Scott Russell, (703) 517-3299, SJRusselJr@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor: George Paine, (703) 860-0862, ppafish@hotmail.com
Newsletter Art Director: Gary Visgaitis, (570) 436-0839, tulogoguy@gmail.com
Secondary Newsletter Editor: Andy Manley, (703) 984-9875, manleyam@ymail.com
Secondary Newsletter Editor: Jim Galligan, (703) 256-0244
Publicity Chair: Tim Johnson, (571) 419-1654, scers1811@aol.com
Webmaster (ACTING): Otto Barnes

Conservation

Conservation Chair: Tim Johnson, (571) 419-1654, scers1811@aol.com
Secondary Conservation Chair: Roy Lindquist, (703) 627-5837, luv2at8@verizon.net
Delegate to Virginia Council: Jim Wilson, (703) 859-2992, jhw210@juno.com
Fish with a Member Coordinator: George Paine, (703) 860-0862, ppafish@hotmail.com
Stream Projects Coordinator: Kirk Smith, fishdr@netzero.net
Western MD Trip Coordinator: Bob Bidwell, (703) 471-9287

Education

Education (Fly-Tying) Coordinator: John Hadley, (703) 933-6629
TIC Coordinator: George Paine, (703) 860-0862, ppafish@hotmail.com
Youth Conservation Camp Co-Chair: Suzanne Malone, (571) 641-9705, flyfishgrl@aol.com
Youth Conservation Camp Co-Chair: Paul Kearney
Youth Education Chair: Bill Errico, (703) 825-8801, dadoopman@hotmail.com
Secondary Youth Education Chair: Kirk Smith, fishdr@netzero.net

Financial

Merchandise Sales: Russ Short, (770) 598-0762, ras749@bellsouth.net
Secondary Chapter Treasurer: VACANT

Membership

Meeting Coordinator: George Paine, (703) 860-0862, ppafish@hotmail.com
Secondary Meeting Coordinator: Andy Manley, (703) 984-9875, manleyam@ymail.com
Membership Chair: Art Brantz, (703) 980-5776, abrantz@aol.com
Secondary Membership Chair: Hal Metcalf, (703) 395-8046, hrm2000@verizon.net
Veteran's Services Coordinator: Kiki Galvin, (703) 893-7020, angla56@msn.com
Women's Initiative Coordinator: Kiki Galvin, (703) 893-7020, angla56@msn.com
Youth Representatives: Mason and Palmer Kasprovicz, fb2bemail@gmail.com

Keep up with the latest chapter happenings on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/334014474470/>



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.

CONSERVATION CALENDAR

MAY

- 4: Members Meeting
- 6: FWAM Trip to Jeremy's Run (VA)
- 6: Reston Spring Festival
- 11: Members Meeting
- 12: (Friday) FWAM Trip to Rapidan (VA)
- 27: FWAM trip to E. Branch of Antietam (Waynesboro, PA)

JUNE

- 1: Members Meeting
- 3: FWAM Trip to Lower Rapidan/Staunton (VA)
- 8: Board Meeting
- 24: FWAM Trip to Big

Hunting Creek (MD)

JULY

- 1: FWAM Trip to Rapidan for Smallmouth (VA)
- NO MEMBERS MEETING - HOLIDAY
- 13: Board Meeting
- 29: FWAM Trip to Big Spring, PA

AUGUST

- 3: Members Meeting
- 5: FWAM Trip to Rappahannock (VA)
- 10: Board Meeting
- 26: FWAM Trip to Yellow Breeches (PA)

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Recycled and Recyclable



MEMBER ALBUM



Steve Long and guide, Nico, with their 25" Brown on Rio Chimehuin, Patagonia, in January 2017.



NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED
PO BOX 273
BURKE, VA 22009-2182



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