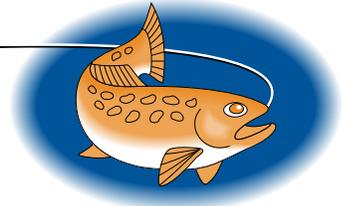


TROUTLINE



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

NOVEMBER MEETING



DETAILS

November 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.

NOVEMBER PROGRAMS

Main event is a **Stream Team** presentation by James Madison High, followed by **George Gaines** on tackle donations for PHW.

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

2: Members Meeting
4: FWAM Trip to Rose (VA)
9: Board Meeting, 10306 Eaton Pl., #120 Fairfax
25: FWAM Trip to Gunpowder; Self-Guided

WHAT'S COMING OFF

JAMES MADISON HIGH SCHOOL

Presentation on the Mission of Stream Team

Mary Waclawski (junior) and Hania Abboud (senior) will make a presentation on the organization and mission of James Madison High School's Stream Team.

Last year the team was successful in locating a new release location for Northern Virginia's "Trout in the Classroom" fish. A good portion of Mary and Hania's presentation will focus on the series of events that led up to the eventual

release of fish.

The Stream Team is a one-of-a-kind group doing real science while coordinating with government agencies to produce meaningful results. They have been featured in Trout magazine and were the subject of a documentary which showed at this year's Environmental Film Festival at the Angelika Mosaic Theater in Merrifield, VA.



November's speakers, James Madison H.S. students Hania Abboud (fourth from left) and Mary Waclawski (second from right), are shown last fall with the rest of the Stream Team's students and advisors at Catharpin Creek, Prince William County.

PROJECT HEALING WATERS

Donate Usable Gear to Project Healing Waters

After the speakers' presentation, George Gaines, Regional Rep for Project Healing Waters will be available to accept donations of usable fly fishing gear and tackle. Please bring any usable items to assist the new PHW chapter in

DC an incredible program for the use of wounded vets. George Gaines, who was a key player in the creation of PHW will describe this new chapter.

Thank you.

TRIP 1

Rose River

VIRGINIA

When: November. 4, 2017
Depart: 8 a.m.
Return: You decide
Meet: Dick's Fair Lakes parking lot

The first trip this month is to the upper Rose River. This freestone stream runs through the Shenandoah National Park and wild Brook Trout is the name of the game. Come prepared for a stiff 1- mile hike as both forks (Hogcamp Branch and main stem of Rose) require some aerobic effort.

This is still one of the streams that fall under the Brown Trout removal program that Shenandoah National Park has instituted. The following is quoted from Virginia fishing regulations: "The release of any brown trout back into any Park stream is prohibited and brown trout less than 7 inches must be disposed of within the Park but away from Park streams, roads, and trails. This is an effort to limit the impacts of brown trout on the native brook trout populations."

Note: If the Brown is over 7 inches, "bon appetit."

A 3-5 weight rod is more than enough rod. Casts are generally short, calling for a rod that can roll cast well as well as make short,

delicate casts. The stream is shallow enough in most places to get away with hip waders if you have them. You should start to see a mix of terrestrials and caddis. Ants and beetles always do well, and you may not need to throw anything else. Blue Wing Olives in sizes 16 and 18 will work as well late in the day or any "Wulff" pattern in similar sizes. Elk Hair Caddis and Stimulators in smaller sizes can be quite effective as well.



TRIP 2

Gunpowder River

MARYLAND

When: November 25, 2017
Depart: 8 a.m.
Return: You decide
Meet: Small Vienna Community Center, Parking Lot just across the street from Firehouse lot

SELF-GUIDED TRIP

By Scott Bearden

The second trip will be to the Gunpowder River in Maryland. The

fish here are stocked rainbows and naturally reproducing brown and brook trout. This is a premier tail water fishery on the East Coast and on Trout Unlimited's top 10 best rivers in America. It does get a lot of pressure, and this is not a stream to take lightly. However the rewards are great when you finally hook up with a feisty 12-inch brown trout that is as smart and hard fighting as a 20 incher.

These are PHD trout and they have seen their fair share of sloppy casts, dragging flies and splashy wading. Despite the demanding discipline needed for success on this stream, the rewards are jaw dropping beauty for a river so close to a major metropolitan area and the skills learned that would help you catch fish anywhere if you can catch them here.

You will have more room to cast on the Gunpowder and so I recommend longer rods in a four or five weight configuration. Longer

and lighter tippets are sometimes needed if the flow is less than 300 CFS. This time of year you may find a few ants or size 14 black crickets work if the temperature doesn't drop too low. Short of that, you won't find much surface action until January when a prolific black stonefly hatch occurs in the dead of winter.

You will find great success this time of year with nymphs and particularly stonefly nymph patterns. The water is full of sculpins and streamer fishing has produced 18 and 20+ inch fish when nothing else is working. The Gunpowder is one of those rivers that offers something different every couple of hundred yards. There are miles of shallow flat pools, deep plunge pools too deep to wade, plenty of riffles, and log jams and boulders that will keep you coming back to try that one spot you didn't get to try last time. This stream has something to offer for everyone.

You will certainly want chest waders, and especially this time of year you will want thermal underwear on underneath. The Gunpowder is notoriously cold year round and the winter is no time to risk hypothermia. There can be considerable hiking involved, especially if you fish above the bridge and head for Pretty Boy dam. Bring water and if you have room, a thermos of hot coffee, cocoa, or soup to keep you warm.

NOVEMBER FLY OF THE MONTH: DEMONSTRATED BY JOHN HADLEY

Minibugger



Originator:

Lance Putney, Arlington, VA. Bring your vise, thread and bobbin, other materials will be provided to tie a fly or two.

This is my favorite "go-to nymph" for stocked trout, pan fish, and smallmouth bass. It is basically

a small bead-head Woolly Bugger without palmered hackle. The standard pattern that was given to me on Four Mile Run in Arlington VA in 2002 had a gold bead head, olive chenille body and a black marabou tail with some Krystal-flash, but I've had good luck with an all-white version and an all-black version too.

I think the smaller size, which probably is seen by the trout as a crayfish, leech or minnow when used on smaller streams doesn't scare the trout as much as a big Woolly Bugger. Who knows what the trout really think but this fly really works.

After not knowing who the unknown fisherman who gave me the fly was in 2002 I finally met

him at Anglers Lie in October of 2007. Lance told me that his inspiration for developing this fly was to use up some left over egg hooks from a fishing trip in Alaska. He also told me that he has also uses a bushy dubbing in various colors (drab olive works best) as the body and they work well too.

This is a very easy and quick fly to tie; so if you want to try your hand at tying a fly this is a good one to start with.

Tying techniques to be learned:

- Fixing a bead head onto the hook
- Tying in a marabou feather tail
- Using Krystal-Flash to add accent to the tail
- Using various body chenille

Recipe:

Hook: TMC 105 # 8, #10 or any Egg Hook
 Head: 5/16 Gold Bead Head (can go up or down a size if you want)
 Thread: Black 0/6
 Tail: Black or other color Marabou and Krystal-Flash or some other synthetic material
 Body: Olive, Black, White or any other color small chenille. You can also use bushy dubbing (leave in guard hairs) in a variety of colors.

Fishing Technique:

Dead drift with an indicator then drift with short strips. If you are getting hits from fish nibbling, but no hookups, trim the tail.

NVATU, ACTU Celebrate 40 Years of Cooperation on the Conewago

Forty years ago, a small group of fishermen and outdoorsmen came together to discuss the need to protect the trout waters in Southcentral Pennsylvania along the banks of the Conewago Creek watershed. These conservationists felt that trout were a special gift and they wanted to educate the public on the many dangers facing trout habitat and the need to protect our waterways. The Conewago Creek needed major fishery habitat improvement work to restore it to a quality Trout stream.

The Adams County Trout Unlimited chapter's formation in 1977 was spearheaded by Larry Hartlaub, the first President, who recently became active in the Chapter again as the Chapter's Stream Coordinator. Some of the other founding members of the Chapter were Sparky Albright, Len Andrews, Fred Foltz, Gus Gentzler, Dan Herrick, Jess James, Ed Keyser, George Lower, Dean & Dick Simpson, and Charlie Weikert.

Today, in this milestone year, we salute those founding members and thank them for coming together to protect the streams and water resources of Southcentral Pennsylvania by forming this now historical Trout Unlimited Chapter.

When the ACTU Chapter was founded there were no graphite rods or breathable waders. You could purchase a fishing vest for \$5.95, hip boots for \$12.00 or chest waders for 20 bucks. If you tied your own flies, you could buy 100 hooks for \$2.00. These low prices were reflective of wages back then. One thing has changed – there weren't nearly as many fishermen then as



Classic photo of Jay and the usual suspects on a Conewago workday in 2014.

there are now.

One thing that hasn't changed is the need to keep working to protect and maintain our waterways and keep them safe and productive for the future. Our Chapter mission to conserve, protect, and restore cold water fisheries and watersheds for future generations has continued throughout all these years.

Now after four decades of Conewago Creek restoration work under the direction from the PFBC Habitat Division's Cooperative Habitat Improvement Program the results of our volunteer efforts have been noted nationally, statewide, and locally. In 2005, Steve Moyer

TU's VP of Conservation Programs explained it best, "Two distant chapters working together on a successful, shared restoration project is the essence of TU's grassroots conservation work". Northern Virginia TU Chapter members Burt Weisman, Rob Rosenthal, Jay Lovering, Mike Daly, Suzanne Malone, and others from ACTU, Rick James, Mel Brown, Dean Simpson and Dave Swope came together to form a joint ACTU/NVATU Conewago Creek Restoration Project.

Today after more than 40 years of teamwork between these two TU Chapters, PA Fish & Boat

Commission, Knouse Foods, and Mr. Wayne Rodgers the property owner, we can see not only the results of our stream habitat improvement work but have a picnic under a pavilion named Glady's Meadows and sit on a Memorial Bench recognizing the passing of those members who participated in this outstanding restoration project.

So here we are October 17, 2017 proud of our Chapter's accomplishments and still focused on our mission of "conserving, protecting, and restoring cold water fisheries and watersheds for future generations".

– David Swope, ACTU

CONEWAGO CREEK STOCKING CLOSURE



Portions of Conewago Creek will Temporary Close After Thanksgiving.

The 1.1 miles of the fly stretch section was float stocked from the cable downstream to the Route 34 bridge in Adams County, Pa.,

with beautiful brown trout in early October, David Swope said.

Fishers take note: the stream will be closed for fishing from Nov. 27 – Dec. 8, except for Sunday, Dec. 3, for deer hunting season.

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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

DECEMBER

- 2:** FWAM Trip to Little Stony (VA) (final trip for the year)
- 7:** Members Meeting
- 14:** Board Meeting, 10306 Eaton Pl., #120 Fairfax

JANUARY 2018

- No Member meeting due to Holiday**
- 6:** FWAM Trip to Hughes River (VA)
- 14:** Board Meeting
- 27:** FWAM Trip to Conewago (PA)

FEBRUARY

- 1:** Member meeting
- 3:** FWAM Trip to Conway River (VA)
- 8:** Board Meeting
- 24:** FWAM Trip to Big Spring (PA)

MARCH

- 1:** Member meeting
- 3:** FWAM Trip to Piney Branch (VA)
- 8:** Board Meeting
- 31:** FWAM Trip to Mountain Creek (PA)

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MEMBER ALBUM



Golden Brown: Gregory Rockett floating on Montana's Beaverhead in September 2017.



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