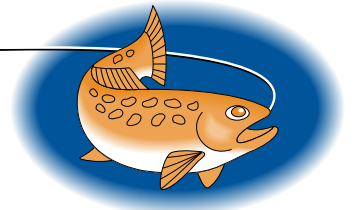


# TROUTLINE



www.nvatu.org • The Newsletter of the Northern Virginia Chapter of Trout Unlimited • January – February 2018

## FEBRUARY MEETING



### DETAILS

**February 1, 2018**

**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

**Steve Moyer** on conservation  
**Jim Wilson** on clean power

### FEBRUARY CALENDAR

**1:** Member meeting  
**3:** FWAM Trip to Conway River (VA)  
**8:** Board Meeting  
**17:** Rapidan TU Show  
Highland School, 597 Broadway, Warrenton  
**25:** FWAM Trip to Big Spring (PA)

## WHAT'S COMING OFF

STEVE MOYER

# Conservation Efforts Critical On Capitol Hill



February's main speaker will be Steve Moyer, TU's Vice President of Government Affairs. Steve serves as TU's senior advocate on Capitol Hill and with the federal agencies. He will talk about his department's work and whether TU's conservation efforts are being threatened by the current administration's environmental policies and what NVATU can do to support his efforts on the Hill.

Steve works with TU's local chapters and state councils to help them with their state and local advocacy efforts and develops and implements TU grassroots advocacy campaigns. He has worked for TU for 25 years. Prior to joining TU, Steve led advocacy efforts at the National Wildlife Federation on behalf of fisheries, and wetlands, and related appropriations legislation. He holds a B.S. in Wildlife Management from the University of Maine and an M.S. in Fisheries from Virginia Tech. He lives in Reston.

In addition, Jim Wilson will give a brief review on what is happening with the proposed repeal of the Clean Power Plan. Jim is an environmental consultant with experience in air pollution and climate change.

Steve Moyer off Fletcher's Boat House.

TRIP 1

# Conway River

VIRGINIA

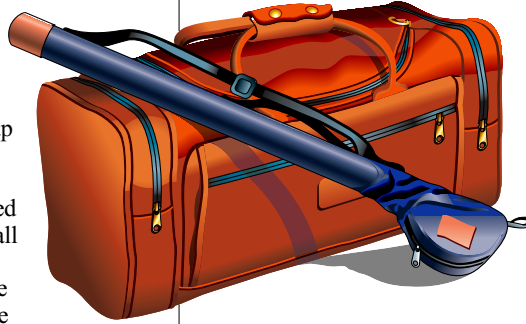
**When:** February 3, 2018  
**Depart:** 8 a.m.  
**Return:** Whenever  
**Contact:** George Paine e-mail ppafish@hotmail.com  
**Meet:** Dick's Fair Lakes parking lot

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's 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 blue winged 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.

## Fish with a Rapidan Member

We have been invited to fish with Rapidan TU members on their trips, and we have in turn invited them to join us. The list of their trips is on: <http://www.rapidantu.org/fish-with-a-friend/>

## Volunteers Needed for Scout University, Feb 24, 2018 and Pow Wow

This February 24, 2018 event will be attended by 1500+ Scout Leaders. Our participation will be focused creating interest for the Scouts and Venture Program, (includes older girls), recruiting participants to sign up for our Merit Badge Event, TIC, Stream Restoration, the Tri-State TU Camp, Assistance for Community Support Programs, PHW, CFR and the membership diversity programs.

It will be held at Hayfield Secondary School, 7630 Telegraph Rd, Alexandria, <https://scoutingevent.com/082-15037>. It will require set up, participation at our booth and breakdown. If we are going to make this work we will need volunteers from 7am to 1:30 p.m.

Please email Bill Errico at [dadoopman@hotmail.com](mailto:dadoopman@hotmail.com) directly if you can participate.

In addition, at a date later to be selected, we will be participating in a similar event in the fall Pow Wow.

### FEBRUARY FLY OF THE MONTH: DEMONSTRATED BY JOHN HADLEY

## Prince Nymph



#### Originator:

Doug Prince of Monterey, CA, 1941, for fishing the Kings River, California. This is a favorite nymph in many fishermen's fly box. The Prince doesn't necessarily represent any particular nymph; it is just something buggy with a little flash to attract the fish. Some say it is a stonefly imitation or that the white biots

represent the wings emerging from a Mayfly's nymph casing and serve as a good trigger for a hungry trout. A search of the Web finds many variations but they all agree on the key materials: peacock herl body wrapped with gold material, split brown biot tails, split white biot wings and brown hackle. The key options are the size and length of the hook, type of gold material, type and color of the hackle beard and use of a bead head.

#### Materials, tying techniques to be learned:

- Using gold bead head (optional)
- Tying in goose biot tails and wings
- Tying in peacock herl and a couple different ways to wrap the body
- Using gold wire or mylar for ribbing
- Tying in brown hen cape or partridge hackle for the beard
- Form a head, whip finish and then apply head cement to seal

#### Recipe:

**Hook:** Tiemco 101 size #18-#10 or a standard

2X or 3X length nymph hook

**Thread:** black 6/0 and 8/0 (optional brown or red)

**Bead:** gold 1/8"; or glass, copper or tungsten

**Weight:** lead wire (optional)

**Tail:** brown goose or turkey biot

**Body:** peacock herl

**Rib:** fine gold mylar (spool is silver one side, gold the other), optional reverse wrap gold wire or oval gold tinsel

**Hackle:** brown hen cape or partridge, wrapped around or tied in as a beard

**Wing:** white goose or turkey biot

#### Fishing Technique:

Primarily a trout fly for streams but works just fine for bass and sunfish, and in ponds and lakes too. With or without a strike indicator, cast upstream and float along near the bottom keeping a tight line. Use as a searching pattern when there is no surface activity. You can also fish it like a streamer, cast across stream, let drift down then slowly strip back in.



# 2017 Chapter Year in Review

The end of the year is typically a time for reflecting so it seems right to recap the huge amount of good the chapter has done in the past year. From my perspective, the chapter operates as a cluster of satellites around the chapter leadership base. A look at the long list of committee chairs on the back of the newsletter makes this point. Behind the list of chairs is a great corps of members who enthusiastically donated more than 7,000 hours of their time last year. Beyond our cluster, a closer look reveals that we are connected to a bright universe of other groups doing good work.

## JANUARY

We acknowledged the chapter members who supported a 2016 Casting for Recovery retreat on Beaver Creek to which the chapter donated funds, and celebrated the successful Oak Orchard trip.

## FEBRUARY

We provided a format for Bryan Kelly of White Fly Outfitters to highlight his knowledge of smallmouth, taught the first of many flies for the year - the Mop Fly, and James Madison students who are supported by a member-scientist presented the findings of their brook trout sustainability study at the Virginia American Fisheries Society meeting in Lexington.

## MARCH

We learned some important safety tips from our speaker, Michael Abromowitz, members participated in the PHW Fourth Fly Tying Marathon at the National Museum of the Marine Corps, chapter members manned a booth at the Lake Fairfax opening day to

highlight our chapter programs, and at the monthly meeting we learned to tie the Simple Elk Hair Caddis.

## APRIL

We learned how to transition from fresh to salt water from speaker-guide Tim Welch. Two members organized the first of two Mossy Creek trips for members, held our Second Annual TU-Fly, co-hosted about a dozen vets for a PHW fishing day of relaxed fishing at Mount Vernon Farm, and a number of members participated in a PHW tournament the next day. Several members had great western Maryland fishing thanks to the generosity of one of our members at his lodge, and at the monthly meeting several members learned the Mr. Rapidan Parachute. The first of more than 20 Trout in the Classroom fingerling releases began with more than 1,000 total fingerlings released into Wildcat Hollow Run over three months.

## MAY

Speaker-member Steve Moulton opened our eyes to the complexity of caddisflies. The second Mossy Creek trip was held. We learned how to tie the "Foam Beetle Plus."

## JUNE

Member-scientist Jim Wilson described the power point presentation he assembled to provide chapters with recent scientific information about climate change and potential effects on trout and coldwater fisheries. Several NVATU members instructed 17 students at the TU Tri-State Camp at Graves Mill, explaining the joys of trout and the wonders of fly fishing and fly tying. Again, we co-hosted about

a dozen vets for a PHW fishing day of relaxed fishing at Mount Vernon Farm, and a number of members participated in a PHW tournament the next day. The first Trout in the Classroom brook trout fingerlings were released into Catharpin Creek. This is a site identified by the JHMS students (see February). We learned the Hares Ear nymph.

## JULY

We didn't meet due to the holiday but put away our light weight rods and went smallmouth fishing. Members participated in a workday on the Conewago in Adams County, a restoration project which the chapter helps finance.

## AUGUST

Tom Carroll, recently relocated shop owner from North Carolina and now located near Winchester, spoke about fly rod construction; how to get more fun from a custom fly rod; various custom improvements that a custom builder can perform.

## SEPTEMBER

Tommy Lawhorne, whose flyshop is in Waynesboro, described how over several years he has worked to install habitat structures, remove dams, and increase public access on the South River. Several members participated in a Casting for Recovery Retreat on Beaver Creek. We learned the Foam Ant.

## OCTOBER

Jim Cummins, a fisheries biologist with a truly impressive resume on bass and shad, spoke on "When Trout and Trees Were Old - Humans and Environmental Change in the Potomac and its North

Branch.

Again, several members had great western Maryland fishing thanks to the generosity of one of our members at his lodge. We learned the Griffith Gnat.

## NOVEMBER

The James Madison High School Stream Team spoke to the members about their brook trout sustainability study. Holmes Run and Accotink Creek were stocked with rainbows by members led by a former member now relocated to PA, and DGIF. We learned the Minibugger

## DECEMBER

George Gaines, National Capital Region Coordinator, described the dramatic story of how Project Healing Waters was born and how he and others continue to grow new PHW chapters, including one he recently started at Washington DC Veterans Hospital. DGIF biologists shocking Catharpin Creek find a brookie from the June stocking that survived the heat and low water of the summer. We learned the Beadhead Red Fox Squirrel.

Although I didn't mention them, there are several kids' fishing days that spanned several spring months in Herndon, Reston, Vienna and Fairfax City. We usually see only a few of the "usual suspects" at these. I'm hoping we see more in the new year as nothing beats helping a kid catch their first fish.

Finally, don't forget our Fish With a Member Program (schedule at top of [www.nvatu.org](http://www.nvatu.org)). It's an easy way to learn a new stream and connect with fishing buddies, old and new.

Tight Lines to All in 2018!  
George Paine

## 2018 Rapidan TU Chapter Annual Fishing Show

The Biggest Little Fishing Show will be held February 17, 2018. Please note the NEW location at Highland School, 597 Broadview Ave, Warrenton. Go to: [www.rapidantu.org](http://www.rapidantu.org) for information on the show, including raffle tickets for custom-made rods, flies and

more (see below).

This is the annual fundraiser for the Rapidan Chapter's conservation projects, annual Youth Conservation and Fishing Camp, Trout in the Classroom, Heritage Day (Kid's Day fishing), Chapter operations, and stream restoration and cleanup. Contact Chuck Hoysa ([choyasa1@comcast.net](mailto:choyasa1@comcast.net)) for more info. More updates to follow,

including our speaker list, vendor information and event schedule.

The premium Rod Raffle prizes for the 2018 show are:

- 1: Custom Cane Rod-Blue Ridge Classic - 7', 4wt, 2pc, 2 tips (C. Bogart)
- 2: Phillipson Vintage Bamboo Peerless Rod - 7' 6", 5wt, 2pc, 2 tips (M. McCaffrey)
- 3: Tenkara Iwana 12' Outfit

(Tenkara USA)

- 4: Orvis Clearwater Rod - 9', 5wt, 4pc (Mossy Creek Fly Fishing)
- 5: Box of 100 Custom Flies (A. Holmaas)

Tickets are \$5 each or 6 for \$20. To be eligible for the Premium Raffle drawing, mail your completed tickets and check (Payable to Rapidan TU) to: Doug Farmer, 5231 Swain Drive, Warrenton, VA 20187.

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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](http://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**

**Board meetings:** 10300 Eaton Place, Suite 150, Fairfax, VA 22030

**13:** FWAM Trip to Rose (VA)  
**28:** FWAM Trip to Conewago (PA)

**MARCH**

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

**APRIL**

**5:** Member meeting  
**7:** FWAM Trip to Rapidan (VA)  
**12:** Board Meeting

**MAY**

**3:** Member meeting  
**5:** FWAM Trip to Jeremy's Run (VA)  
**10:** Board Meeting  
**26:** FWAM Trip to E. Branch Antietam (PA)

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Recycled and Recyclable



**MEMBER ALBUM**



Jim Galvin with 19" Colorado River brown near Kremmling; caught with a #22 nymph.



NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED  
P.O. BOX 273  
HERNDON, VA 20172



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