

## MARCH MEETING



### DETAILS

**March 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.

### MARCH PROGRAM

Restoration effort and Shad talk at Fletcher's Cove

### MARCH CALENDAR

**1:** Chapter meeting  
**3:** FWAM Trip to Piney Branch (VA)

**8:** Board Meeting  
**17:** PHW Fly Tying at Quantico

**31:** FWAM Trip to Mountain Creek (PA)

## WHAT'S COMING OFF

# Update on Cleanup Work, Shad Run at Fletcher's

As Spring and the annual shad run approach, engineering work continues on the first phase of the restoration effort at Fletcher's Cove, the go-to location for generations of Potomac fishers. Mark Binsted is one of the founding members of Friends of Fletcher's Cove, a volunteer group working to preserve public river access at the Cove. Mark will present a short history of the area, explain the causes behind the extreme sedimentation and bring us up to date on the latest developments. He will also report on the American shad resurgence and preview this year's shad run.

Mark, who is vice president of the National Capital Chapter TU, describes himself as an architect and a river rat, not necessarily in that order. He has fished the Potomac out of Fletcher's Cove since he was a teenager in the late 1960's. In those early days he worked for the Fletcher family and came to understand the appeal of the river and its many unusual characters. Mark would later share his love of the river with three sons and still lives in the Palisades neighborhood within sight of the Cove. Alex, his oldest, returned to the river after college and became the manager of Fletcher's Boathouse last year.



## Honoring New Members

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

**Kevin Avery**, Ashburn, VA  
**Mary Bono**, Alexandria, VA  
**Bobby Bourgeois**, Arlington, VA  
**Roger Bowers**, Alexandria, VA  
**James Coakley**, Alexandria, VA  
**Mike Connors**, South Riding, VA  
**James Crawford**, Alexandria, VA  
**Alex DeLeon**, Alexandria, VA  
**Ryan Delaney**, Burke, VA  
**Marissa Delgado**, Fairfax, VA  
**John Dudzinsky**, Herndon, VA  
**David Gorsline**, Reston, VA  
**Natalie Hodapp**, Alexandria, VA  
**Paul Jarris**, Springfield, VA

**Patrick Julian**, Vienna, VA  
**Mark Kane**, Sterling, VA  
**Edward D Keegan**, Arlington, VA  
**Jeffrey Ketron**, Fairfax, VA  
**James Kilby**, Annandale, VA  
**Jim Kilby**, Annandale, VA  
**Case Knight**, Fairfax, VA  
**Douglas Lilly**, Fairfax, VA  
**Bill McGilvery**, Arlington, VA  
**Ricky, Teresa Monterosa**, McLean, VA  
**Ryan Mullaney**, Falls Church, VA  
**Robert Neff**, McLean, VA  
**Louis Nuzzo**, Falls Church, VA

**Randy Palmer**, Oakton, VA  
**Joseph Payne**, Arlington, VA  
**Scott Plein**, Falls Church, VA  
**Skip Ringo**, Reston, VA  
**Kimberly Sanders**, Fairfax, VA  
**Maryrose Schlegel**, Oak Hill, VA  
**William Taylor**, Alexandria, VA  
**Jack Thunell**, Clifton, VA  
**Bradley Trager**, Burke, VA  
**Robert Werth**, Alexandria, VA  
**Cooper Williams**, Vienna, VA  
**Robert Williams**, Vienna, VA

TRIP 1

**Piney Branch**  
VIRGINIA

**When:** March 3, 2018  
**Depart:** 8 a.m.  
**Return:** On your own schedule and the schedule of those you ride with  
**Meet:** Dicks Sporting Goods in Fair Lakes Shopping Center

The first trip will be to the Piney Branch. The only license you need is a current Virginia license. The terrain can be steep at times, so pack light and bring water to keep you hydrated. Hip boots will be all you need to fish this stream. It will take few warm days to get the fish moving. If we get lucky, you may see some black winter stoneflies, and if trout are rising it is a good bet they are taking these small stoneflies. These small (size 18-20) flies can be fished behind a larger dry fly or piece of poly yarn. Both serve as a visual reference because you won't be able to see the stonefly. If a fish rises in the vicinity of your fly, set the hook. Small parachute Adams work well even when fish aren't rising. Working upstream with short casts and keeping the slack out of your line works best. Try to keep the end of your fly line pointed upstream. If the line stops or moves upstream, lift your rod to set the hook. I would suggest trying an ant

pattern in size 14 or smaller as the trout appear to mistake them for winter stoneflies. Another fly that works well is the green weenie, which imitates caddis larvae that are common in Park streams. Carry flies in several different sizes. A final tip to avoid getting lost on the return: stay on the Piney Branch Trail, and don't turn onto the Piney Ridge Trail. Remember that fish live in "branches" but not on ridges!



TRIP 2

**Mountain Creek**  
PENNSYLVANIA

**When:** March 31, 2018  
**Depart:** 8 a.m.  
**Return:** You decide  
**Meet:** Vienna Community Center Parking Lot North of Fire Station Lot  
**THIS IS A SELF-GUIDED TRIP**

**Advice from a vintage Mike Daly article**

Mountain Creek eventually feeds into the Yellow Breeches several miles downstream. This freestone creek is stocked with Brook Trout.

Park all the way up the trail until you hit the gate. If you decide to fish the reservoir you will often find a significant number of spin fishermen.

The stream is fairly low gradient, so you will find quite a few families out walking the trails if the weather is nice. The trails follow the stream very closely. The stream is shallow enough in most places to get away with hip waders.

You'll find yourself spooking a lot of trout before you even notice them. The water is usually gin clear and the fish often see you before you see them. Pick a place to start and only walking upstream. If you encounter a brookie that is feeding on the surface you will likely walk right into their cone of vision. A stealthy approach with subdued clothing is your best bet for success.

Believe it or not, the light spectrum has more to do with the colors trout see than anything else. Green light is more dominate in the morning and

red light is more dominate in the afternoon. Using these tactics for fly selection as well as clothing selection should be considered. Avoid green colored clothes in the morning and oranges and reds in the late afternoon. Clothes in blues and grey actually work best, not khaki like most tackle companies would have you believe. However, those are the exact colors I would choose in fly selections. The light will actually highlight the fly to the fish making it more visible. Greens, brown and even black will work best in the morning and you will be surprised just how well you can see them on the surface as well. Conversely as daylight comes to an end you will find it near impossible to see your fly with those same colors.

If you are fishing dry flies, consider generic patterns like the Royal Wulff or a Stimulator and actually tie them in several colors. There is nothing against the rules in tying a Royal Wulff with green or chartreuse floss instead of the traditional red. You can often find Stimulators in a variety of colors. I would recommend light and short tackle for this stream. A 7' 4 weight is more than enough rod. With such clear water I would highly recommend using the finest tippet material you can see. Casts are generally shorter, calling for a rod that can roll cast well as well a short, delicate false casts.

A Pennsylvania license and trout stamp are required.

MARCH FLY OF THE MONTH: DEMONSTRATED BY JOHN HADLEY

**Mr. Rapidan Parachute**



It is time to restock my fly box with my favorite spring fishing fly for brook trout in the Shenandoah National Park streams. This is a good fly to learn how to tie any parachute pattern.

**Originator:** Harry Murray from Edinburg, VA. Designed through systematic trial and error to attract Brook Trout and is representative of a number of flies found in a Shenandoah National Park or any brook trout stream. Visit Harry Murray's website and his fly shop/drugstore in Edinburg for the latest conditions on the Shenandoah Park Steams and nearby stocked streams. You can buy #34 Fly Rite "Quill Gordon/Brown Drake Yellow" dubbing at his store. Bring your vise, bobbin, tan or light color thread and stacker if you have one and tie a few of these flies; other materials will be provided.

**Techniques to be learned:**

- Tying in Moose Hair tails; precut,

- stack and glue butts to the lid of a medicine bottle to speed up tying
- Dubbing the body
- Tying in post of calf hair and other materials
- Tying in and wrapping parachute hackles and different ways of tying off the hackle
- Using two half hitches to tie off the thread at the head

**RECIPE**

Hook: Standard Dry Fly, TMC 100 #12-16  
 Thread: Tan 6/0, or 8/0 for #16 if you wish  
 Tail: Moose body hair  
 Body: #34 Fly Rite "Quill Gordon/Brown Drake Yellow" dubbing  
 Hackle: Grizzly and Brown, three wraps each, one size larger than the

hook size  
 Wing/Post: Yellow calf tail (optional pink or other color synthetic material to improve visibility in various lighting conditions)

**Fishing Tips:** I use a size #14 and #16 fly, mostly in the spring. Check the water level, normal or a little above normal is optimum. Best right after a rain so the water is a little turbid, Cloudy days are best in the spring and early summer. Approach a pool slowly and keep low. Cast first to a big brook trout that may be lurking in a prime feeding lane at the lip of the pool. Next cast to the likely spots to the left and the right side of the pool, especially above large boulders, and then up to the head of the pool.

# 3rd Annual NVATU 2-FLY Fishing Tournament

**Mark your calendars for Saturday April 14, 2018!** Levi Pitcock from Double Spur Outfitters in Star Tannery, VA will host our event on Cedar Creek. We've arranged for the river to get stocked for the tourney.

We will again have teams of two anglers, with beats assigned by random drawing, and will switch beats after lunch. This year lunch will be burgers and bratwurst.

**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](http://www.nvatu.org)

**To Register Contact:** Tony Hill (914) 420-4311  
[tonyhill05@gmail.com](mailto:tonyhill05@gmail.com) or Jay Lovering (703) 973-1024.

Please reach out to fellow anglers and spread the word!



## Volunteers Needed for Kids Fishing Days



Volunteers are needed to help set up tackle and help kids catch fish at this year's Kids Fishing Days in Herndon and Reston.

**Herndon:** March 10, from 8 am – Noon. Location is behind the Herndon Police Station on Sugarland Run Trail.

**Reston:** March 24, from 8 a.m. – Noon. Location is on Snakeden Branch Stream between Soapstone

Dr. and Lake Audubon. Meet near the 7-Eleven at Soapstone Dr.

Reston Kids' Trout Fishing Day is made possible by a partnership with Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc., NVATU, VDGIF and Reston Association.

**April 21:** In Vienna from 8 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Family Fishing Rodeo to be held at Wolftrap Creek in Wildwood Park

<http://www.viennava.gov/Facilities/Facility/Details/11> If you are able to help stock, and/or help kids or represent NVATU at a table with flyers, please send an e-mail to: [ppafish@hotmail.com](mailto:ppafish@hotmail.com)

**Contact:** George Paine  
[ppafish@hotmail.com](mailto:ppafish@hotmail.com) if you can participate.

## March PHW Fly Tying

Sign up to participate in the 5th Annual Project Healing Waters (PHW) Fly Tying Marathon, which will be held on **March 17** in the main lobby of the Marine Corps Museum (Exit 150A, I-95). All the flies tied will be sent to PHW programs across the country. Last year, we sent more than 9,000 flies to 72 Programs.

If you don't tie flies or are unable to attend, you are invited to contribute flies through our TU Chapter. Bring flies of your own creation or that you purchased commercially to the TU Chapter meeting.

At the March meeting we will have a large white display board for flies to be donated to the PHW Fly

Tying Marathon. You are asked to simply attach your donated flies directly to the cardboard.

Each person that contributes one or more flies is invited to sign the board, which will be hand delivered to the PHW Fly Tying Marathon on March 17 at the Marine Corps Museum. The white board will be presented to PHW as a gift from the Northern Virginia Chapter of TU.

Recommended patterns, in a size and color of your choice, include, but are not limited to: Wooly Buggers, Prince Nymphs, Copper Johns, Elk Hair Caddis, Muddler Minnows, Kreelex, Golden Retriever or your personal favorite pattern.

## TU Tri-State Conservation & Fishing Camp June 24-29

The Trout Unlimited Tri-State Conservation & Fishing Camp will run from Sunday, June 24 to Friday, June 29, 2018, at Graves' Mountain Lodge, Syria, Va., adjacent to Shenandoah National Park.

NVATU supports this camp with many volunteers as well as funding. Please check it out and spread the word. This is in fly-fishing's future.

<http://www.tucamp.org>.

Apply soon; the camp fills early.



NVATU Board Member Suzanne Malone instructing at a previous camp.

**CHAPTER OFFICERS**

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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 (FY 2018): Tony Hill, (914) 420-4311, tonyhil05@gmail.com

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Western MD Trip Coordinator: Bob Bidwell, (703) 471-9287

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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  
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Secondary Chapter Treasurer: VACANT

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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**

**APRIL**

- 7:** FWAM trip to Rapidan River (VA)
- 5:** Chapter Meeting
- 12:** Board Meeting
- 13:** (Friday) FWAM trip to Rose River (VA)
- 27:** PHW Veterans Fishing on the Thorton River
- 28:** FWAM trip to Conewago Creek (PA)

**MAY**

- 4:** Chapter Meeting
- 5:** FWAM Trip to Jeremy's Run (VA)
- 10:** Board Meeting
- 11:** (Friday) FWAM Trip to

Rapidan River (VA)  
**26:** FWAM trip to E. Branch of Antietam (PA)

**JUNE**

- 1:** PHW Veteran's Fishing on the Thorton River
- 2:** FWAM Trip to Lower Rapidan/Staunton (VA)
- 7:** Chapter Meeting
- 14:** Board Meeting
- 30:** FWAM Trip to Big Hunting Creek (MD)

**JULY**

**No chapter meeting due to the holiday**

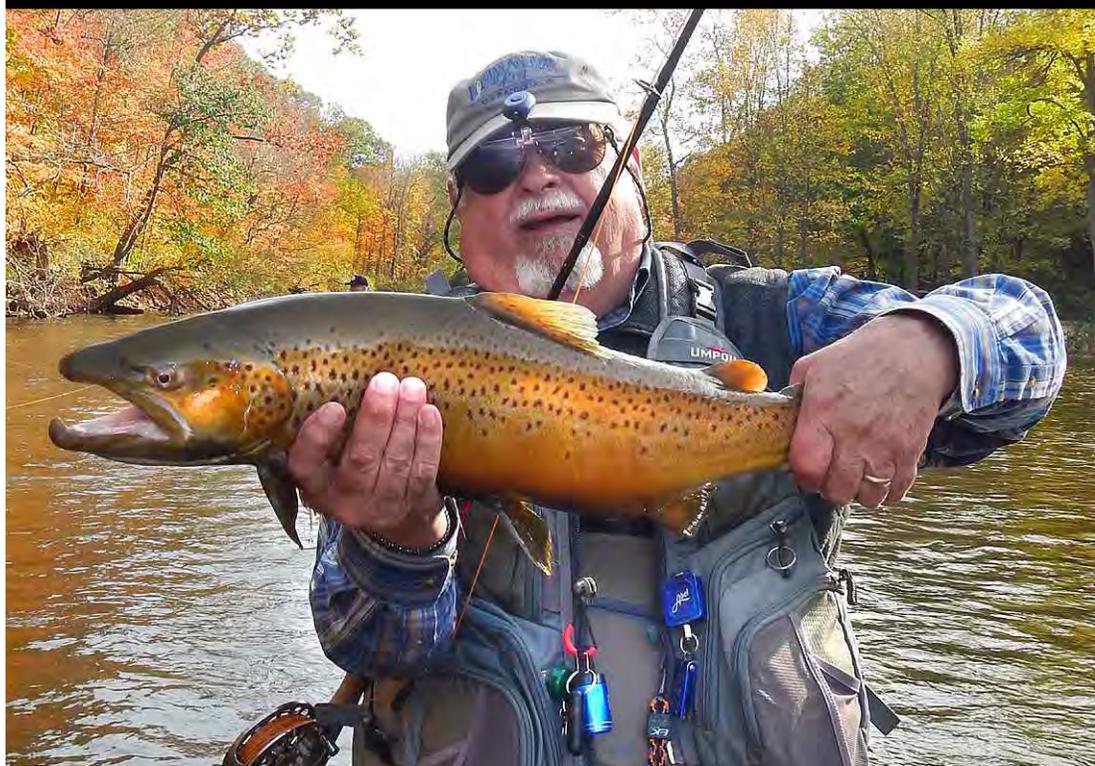
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RMLV info: <http://rentals.deepcreek.com> (866) 544-3223



Recycled and Recyclable



**MEMBER ALBUM**



**Handsome Hal:** Holding a handsome pumpkin colored brown trout from Oak Orchard in October.



NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED  
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NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED  
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