

## COVID-19 Cancelations

All Winchester TU group activities are canceled until further notice.

The staff of LATERAL LINES will keep subscribers up to date via periodic special bulletins during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our September 3, 2020, meeting is canceled.

See you whenever we are able to have our next meeting.  
Bill Prokopchak, Newsletter Editor  
540-722-2620



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## Bud on the Run: September 2020 Report

by Bud Nagelvoort

It is grim to think that our work on Redbud at Seipel's has been stalled for 5 months -- or has it been a full half year? Seems like an eternity. I worried that our fishery there might have been wiped out by the recent hurricane, but it breezed through here with only light rain. Hogue Creek and the Opequon hardly budged.

I've been working on the Whitlock-Vibert Box concept for the last month to determine if the box has a potential use for Redbud Run to enhance the trout fishery at Seipel's and at the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) - newly renamed the Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) -- property. Communication with National TU turned up only a rather testy exchange with a SE Region rep who thought he needed to lecture and threaten with legal action anyone who explored the subject without his direction.

But through Seth Coffman and our old friend, Urbie Nash, with the Shenandoah Valley Chapter, I found their Chapter had used the Whitlock-Vibert in the South River to stock browns with some 40 of these devices which hold 500 eggs each. That led to discussion with Steve Reeser, Chief Fisheries Biologist at the Valley office of DWR and also an old friend, who noted DWR would be shocking the South River in late September to determine the Whitlock device efficacy there.

Steve also suggested DWR would provide eggs for our Whitlocks when they are available in early December. They are a Shasta strain which DGIF uses for its hatchery(s) and then stream-stocking purposes. We'll see how that evolves.

I'm planning to talk with Roger Orndorff at his trout farm in deep-south Frederick County on Cedar Creek about his egg source or availability from him. Haven't been there since we gave up on Chapel Run in 2015 so I don't know quite what to expect. Maybe he would order extra eggs and sell them to us if we proceed to use the Whitlocks.

There has been no word from anyone in the Winchester Chapter who may have fished the DWR site this summer and, while I fished the Seipel stretch from bottom to top in early August in an effort to ascertain fish numbers for Whitlock-related considerations, I was unsuccessful in stirring up more than a couple hits.

I haven't felt too badly about missing the work sessions this summer as hot as the weather has been. Will check on the status of our rock piles that need to be removed from Seipel's pasture and plan to tackle them in an early October work session if we are allowed to return to action. It is a shame not to keep Bill's winch in shape to say nothing of crew muscles deteriorating with this hard-labor recess.

And lest I forget, a personal thank you when we meet again, I very much appreciate the notes and cards for my 90<sup>th</sup> event. Life is so much fun I'm beginning to plan the 100<sup>th</sup>.

This photo by Bud clearly shows the size of a Vibert box compared to a standard coffee mug.



# ANGLER REFLECTIONS

## Restoring the Family Canoe

by Wayne White

My Old Town canoe was a thing of beauty the day it left the dealer showroom. A red, 16-foot fiberglass flat-bottom Katahdin, it was a great fishing vessel and navigated many Virginia streams and lakes. It also served as the go-to boat for young canoe enthusiast at family summer reunions on Penns Creek.

But after 35 years of dutiful service, the faithful craft was well worn and in grave need of some real repair.



I really longed for my canoe to return its former splendor. But with no experience in any type of boat restoration, I did not have a clue how to patch the deep scrapes and damaged keel, replace the cane seats and restore the hull to its once magnificent luster. If tackling those problems was a daunting challenge, determining the parts and paints and where to find them seemed unmanageable as well.

Returning home from retrieving the Old Town from our cabin's boat house in PA, my neighbor Stew Nystrom came over to help me take the canoe off the car. He immediately asked what I was planning to do with it. After explaining my vision to return the boat to its glory days, he said that he used to restore small boats as a hobby in his backyard when living in Annapolis. He said that there were two philosophies with boat restoration. There were those who wanted to just get the thing painted and get back in the water, and those that wanted to take pride in the final result. The former group he said were usually fisherman who thought that there was no point in spending too much time on making the craft pretty since it was just going to get banged up anyway. From our discussion, Stu knew I was willing to take the extra time necessary to achieve my vision.

**Top:** Stew works epoxy into deep scratches.  
**Left:** Stew rolls non-skid paint inside the canoe.  
**Below:** Wayne and Stew roll and tip the paint on the hull.

The next day, Stew emailed me a complete restoration plan. He outlined the approach and process to repair the wear and tear as well as recommendations on paint products. He also provided links to videos for viewing the "tipping" paint technique used to get that high-quality finish.

Armed with that information, I searched on-line for paint and products. Due to COVID-19, Old Town in Maine was closed, and they were not processing any orders for parts or seats. However, cross-referencing sites for after-market canoe parts, I found replacement cane seats at Austin Kayak and Canoe (ACK) in Austin, Texas. Fortunately, numerous Old Town customers had used these replacement seats with great results. A few weeks into the project, Old Town re-opened and I was able to obtain the needed seat hanging dowels and hardware as well as a new carrying yoke for the boat and the Old Town trademark decal.



After removing the seats and hardware, we began work on the keel and the bottom of the boat. We covered the keel with six-inch wide fiber glass tape applying an epoxy resin and hardener holding it in place.

Filling in the deep scratches first with the epoxy, we covered the entire hull with the same mixture. Waiting two days for it to set, we sanded the entire hull with an orbital sander using a 120 grit mesh pad. Some areas on the keel needed extra fiber glass and epoxy as did some of the more severe scratches. In total, we spent 18 hours filling and sanding in preparation for the initial coat of paint.

**"Restoring the Family Canoe"  
 continues on the next page.**

# ANGLER REFLECTIONS -- continued

## Restoring the Family Canoe

Before painting and finishing the hull, we decided to paint the gunnels and the inside of the boat. Based on a recommendation from the West Marine customer service in Alexandria we used Petit Deck Paint for the inside. It's a non-skid paint and UV treated with a very nice off-white high gloss finish.

The original canoe color was red, and I wanted the same look. Based on West Marine's recommendation we used Interlux Brightside Polyurethane enamel in Fire Red! It did not need a primer.

Using four-inch rollers and a sponge brush Stew demonstrated the tipping technique. The paint is applied with the roller in small sections and the bubbles from the roller are pulled out using the sponge brush and pulling the new paint back into the section previously covered. No sanding was necessary between the four coats we painted over a week. However, a few spots that did not set well required some light sanding before applying a fifth coat to port side. The paint usually set in two to four hours and took 12 to 14 hours to harden. The finish was a hard, high gloss and was a great match to the original showroom look.

Wayne launches his restored Old Town on Lake Frederick.



With all the painting completed, we installed the new seats and the new carrying yoke. Since the new seats are after market, we had to cut them to fit the bow and stern locations using the old seats as templates. As the reviews from the ACK website promised, the seats were simple to install.

Finally, my wife had the honors of applying the Old Town decals to mid boat on both sides officially marking the project finished. I kept the original "Katahdin" decals on the bow and stern since Old Town no longer makes that model. It was important to me to keep that piece of authenticity for the boat.

Launching the newly refinished Old Town on 24 August at Lake Frederick was almost exciting as the first time I paddled it on Burke Lake more than three decades ago. The more than 65 hours Stew and I invested in the project was definitely rewarding and duly noted with the many compliments we received at the marina. Although it was my first thought to use the revitalized boat for local area float fishing trips, I think for now the old family canoe will remain a showboat at Lake Frederick for building memories with just-family outings.



## A Great Day on the Delaware photos courtesy of Matt Borkowski



## Barbara's Books

Compiled by Barbara Gamble

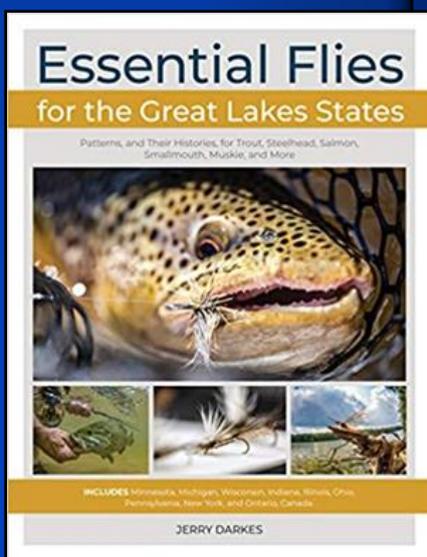
### **Essential Flies for the Great Lakes Region: Patterns, and Their Histories, for Trout, Steelhead, Salmon, Smallmouth, Muskie, and More**

**Author:** Jerry Darkes  
**Hardcover:** 272 pages  
**ISBN-10:** 0811739627  
**ISBN-13:** 978-0811739627  
**Publisher:** Stackpole Books  
**Publication Date:** October 1, 2020

The Great Lakes (GL) sport fisheries (both in the lakes and the streams that flow into them) are extremely popular and key recreational outlets for anglers around the country who want premier fishing for trout, steelhead, salmon, bass, and other species on the fly fishing frontier such as drum and carp.

Jerry Darkes, in his successful book, *Fly Fishing the Inland Oceans*, only scratched the surface of the innovative fly patterns coming out of the Great Lakes region.

Now, working with professional photographer Jimmy Chang, Darkes goes beyond that to compile in this book the first ever collection of GL patterns (steelhead, salmon, brown trout, musky) by contemporary tyers of the region.



Over 600 patterns and recipes cover the historically important patterns from well-known tyers such as Schweibert and George Griffith and Swisher and Richards as well as flies that are on the cutting edge from tyers such as Kevin Feenstra, Walt Grau, Jon Kluesing, Rick Kustich, Jeff Liskay, Dave Pinczkowski, Ray Schmidt, Greg Senyo, and Matt Supinski.

Jerry Darkes is a fly tackle sales rep, instructor/guide, and writer based in northern Ohio. He has over four decades of fly-fishing experience in both fresh and saltwater and is recognized as an expert on Great Lakes steelhead and warm water fly fishing.

He is also a member of the Scott Fly Rod and Scientific Anglers Pro Staffs. Jerry was the first "fly fishing only" guide on Ohio's Lake Erie tributaries and helped to pioneer many of the fly patterns and techniques used today.

He has been featured in several books and video/DVD productions about Great Lakes fly fishing and is a well-known fly tyer who created a series of instructional fly tying DVDs focusing on Great Lakes steelhead and other gamefish. Jerry gives many programs and demonstrations throughout the region and has been featured on several television shows including *Trout Unlimited TV* and *Outdoors Ohio*.

He has authored numerous articles in publications including *Ohio Outdoors*, *Warmwater Fly Fishing*, *Saltwater Fly Fishing*, *Wild Steelhead and Salmon*, *Fly Fish America*, *Midwest Fly Fishing*, *American Angler*, *Fly Tyer*, *Southwest Fly Fishing* and *Eastern Fly Fishing*. He is the author of *Fly Fishing the Inland Oceans*. He lives in Strongsville, Ohio.

Sources: amazon.com and the publishers

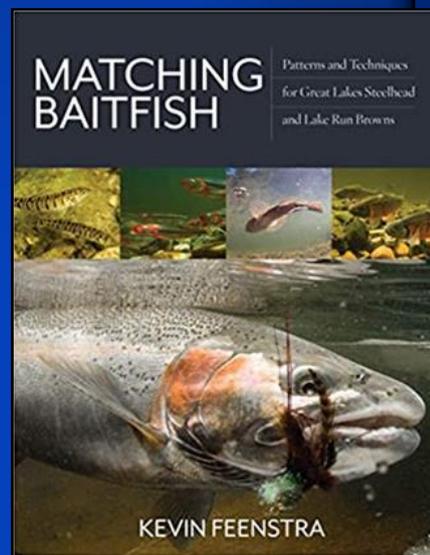
### **Matching Baitfish: Patterns and Techniques for Great Lakes Steelhead and Lake Run Browns**

**Author:** Kevin Feenstra  
**Hardcover:** 256 pages  
**ISBN-10:** 0811737152  
**ISBN-13:** 978-0811737159  
**Publisher:** Stackpole Books  
**Publication Date:** November 1, 2020

One of the country's top guides and fly tyers covers how to effectively imitate the baitfish that the premier game fish of the Great Lakes feed on.

Stunning photographs of the baitfish underwater, in their habitat, complement the detailed information on presenting the fly and other key tactics.

**Matching Baitfish** includes guide tips for reading the water, strategies for swinging flies, and 20 guide flies and detailed recipes.



Indispensable information for anglers in Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York, as well as Ontario, Canada.

Kevin Feenstra is a full-time fly fishing guide with a passion for steelhead. He grew up fishing streams, ponds, and lakes throughout West Michigan. After fishing many Midwest rivers, Kevin found his calling on the Muskegon River.

For more than twenty years, Kevin has shared his love of fly fishing as a guide on the Mighty Muskegon. He loves all kinds of fishing, but specializes in Spey fishing for steelhead.

Kevin has spent countless hours on the river studying the baitfish, insects, and wildlife of his home water. He also has a passion for nature photography and is a member of the national pro staff of Scott Fly Rod Company. Kevin resides in Newaygo, Michigan, with his family.

Sources: amazon.com and the publishers



**Winchester TU  
 Recycles  
 Aluminum.**

**Please CONTINUE  
 to save your  
 aluminum cans.  
 We will collect  
 them when it is  
 safe to do so.**



# Notes from a Neurotic Angler

by Bill Prokopchak

## Bending Down Your Barbs May Not Be Enough

I learned to fly fish from my dad in the stocked and wild-fish streams in the valleys near the small Western Pennsylvania steel-mill town where I grew up in the 1950s and early 1960s.

My dad and I did a lot of fishing for stocked trout for the frying pan, and we used barbed hooks.



But when it came time for some serious wild Trout catch-and-release fishing, it was strictly:

“Bend down your barbs!”

But bending down your barbs might just not be enough. Look at the photo to the left.

Grabbing your forceps and bending down the tiny barb of that size 12 fly may leave you with a nasty and incomplete bend that will still inflict more injury to the fish than necessary.

And, if your old eyes are like mine, you might not even notice that you’ve done a poor job “Bending down your barbs.”

My dad had this great set of nippers. They were very tiny, about the size of finger nail clippers, which he used to **cut off the barbs** of his hooks. I’ve never seen a set of nippers like the ones he had, and I have no idea what ever came of his. I wish I had them.

I have not been able to buy a pair of nippers that small, so I have developed a method using my fishing forceps. When I squeeze down the barb, I rotate the forceps a couple of times back and forth around the hook. With small Trout-sized hooks, it takes just a twist or two and the barb is gone.

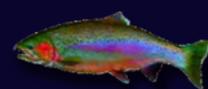
It takes more effort with larger hooks. And with some of my larger Bass hooks, I use a pair of needle-nose pliers to do the job.



The barbless size 10 Royal Coachman wet fly to the left is the very same fly pictured at the top and middle of this page.

It clearly shows the complete removal of the barb using the twist-off method.

“Twist off your barbs!”

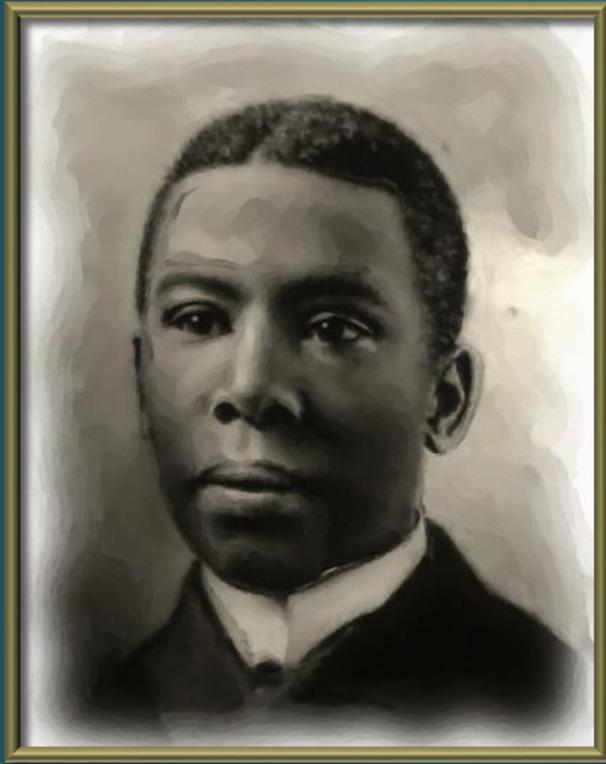


## Poet's Corner:

Poems selected  
for the angler

### In Summer

by *Paul Laurence Dunbar*  
1872-1906  
United States



Ink wash portrait of Paul Laurence Dunbar  
by W. M. Prokopchak © 2020

Oh, summer has clothed the earth  
In a cloak from the loom of the sun!  
And a mantle, too, of the skies' soft blue,  
And a belt where the rivers run.

And now for the kiss of the wind,  
And the touch of the air's soft hands,  
With the rest from strife and the heat of life,  
With the freedom of lakes and lands.

I envy the farmer's boy  
Who sings as he follows the plow;  
While the shining green of the young blades lean  
To the breezes that cool his brow.

He sings to the dewy morn,  
No thought of another's ear;  
But the song he sings is a chant for kings  
And the whole wide world to hear.

He sings of the joys of life,  
Of the pleasures of work and rest,  
From an o'erfull heart, without aim or art;  
'T is a song of the merriest.

O ye who toil in the town,  
And ye who moil in the mart,  
Hear the artless song, and your faith made strong  
Shall renew your joy of heart.

Oh, poor were the worth of the world  
If never a song were heard,—  
If the sting of grief had no relief,  
And never a heart were stirred.

So, long as the streams run down,  
And as long as the robins trill,  
Let us taunt old Care with a merry air,  
And sing in the face of ill.



## PHW Update COVID-19 Update

PHW has suspended all activities nationwide for the rest of the year. Headquarters is in the process of developing a re-engagement plan that will be rolled out over the next couple of months. Wayne White and I have seen and commented on the first drafts. As more information becomes available, I will publish it in future editions of LATERAL LINES.

Phil Stevens, Program Lead  
Project Healing Waters, Martinsburg WV  
703.380.4088  
[phillip.stevens@projecthealingwaters.org](mailto:phillip.stevens@projecthealingwaters.org)



## THE FEATHER THIEF: Revisited

In July, the book entitled THE FEATHER THIEF by Kirk Wallace Johnson was recommended in this newsletter. Our fishing buddy, Larry Holmes, reports that PBS did a series of eight episodes about the book. The story is just stunning. **Here's a link to the PBS series.**

<https://www.thisamericanlife.org/654/the-feather-heist>



# Whisky/Whiskey

edited by Bill Prokopchak

Welcome to "Whisky/Whiskey", the very first review in what will be an ongoing series featuring adult beverages and written by fly anglers, for fly anglers.

The idea came about this summer when a couple of Winchester TU members, fishing buddies of mine, suggested that I include whiskey reviews in LATERAL LINES.

"Whisky/Whiskey" will focus on high-quality sipping spirits: The kind of spirits you linger over in front of the fireplace after a long day on the water. This is not about a cocktail before dinner: this column will concentrate on the character, flavors, aromas, of straight spirits meant to be enjoyed with nothing more than a drop or two of water added -- if that.

We are starting this series with one of the most approachable Irish Whiskies:

QUIET MAN TRADITIONAL IRISH.

If you have wanted to start experiencing fine Whiskey, QUIET MAN is a great place to start.



Before we begin

## Two Notes for the Novice

1) There's an ongoing debate about the spelling of the word *whiskey* or *whisky*.

Some sources say that if the country of origin includes the letter "e" the word is spelled with an "e": Whiskey. United States and Ireland are examples.

If the country's name has no "e", you leave out the "e": Whisky. Scotland, Japan, Canada are examples.

In this series, we will defer to the makers of the individual sprits when making spelling decisions. QUIET MAN calls itself "Whiskey" so we will go with that spelling today.

2) A new bottle of whiskey needs to breathe before it reaches its perfect flavor profile. When you get your bottle of whiskey, don't rush that first sip.

Pour yourself a *wee dram* in a clean, clear glass. We will discuss whiskey glasses in future articles. But for now, pour yourself not more than one ounce of the golden liquid and set it aside for at least 20 minutes. 30 minutes is even better. Coming from a newly opened bottle, the spirit needs to breathe. That means that you will give it time to allow harsh volatiles dissipate and allow air to come into contact with the surface of the whiskey.

Limiting yourself to one ounce will force you to sip your whiskey slowly and enjoy its aromas and flavors.

QUIET MAN TRADITIONAL IRISH WHISKEY is a blended whiskey which is aged in oak bourbon casks and sold at 40% alcohol by volume, making it perfect as it is -- no need to add water. If you do choose to add water, use only filtered water and add no more than a couple of drops.

You are immediately greeted by hints of sweetly oaked bourbon as you bring the glass to your nose. There's no hiding the bourbon cask aging. The first tiny sip reveals vanilla, banana, caramel, and cinnamon-pear. I describe the mouth feel as being as soft and light as silk.

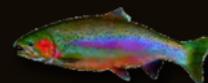
The flavors linger and linger on the palate. There's no reason to rush the second sip because the finish is quite long considering that this spirit is aged for only four years. On the finish, I taste buttery spices and sweet autumnal earthiness.

It's no wonder that this accessible whiskey has gotten rave reviews including gold and silver medals and a rating of 95 from *Wine Enthusiast* magazine.

Remember that your taste buds are your own. It is likely that you will respond in your own unique way to this whiskey.

QUIET MAN TRADITIONAL IRISH WHISKEY is available for those over age 21 from Virginia ABC stores for about \$35 for a 750 ml bottle.

Drink responsibly.  
Never drink alcohol while on the  
water. Obey all applicable laws  
while enjoying adult beverages.



# Benthic Macroinvertebrates of North America with Latin translations and phonetic pronunciations

Compiled By: Carl A. Rettenberger after

J. Reese Voshell, Jr's "A Guide to Common Freshwater Invertebrates of North America"

**Editor's Note: This is Part Five of a multi-part series which has been appearing in LATERAL LINES.**

## Part 5: Plecoptera (stoneflies)

Kingdom: Animalia (ann-knee-mal-e-a)

Phylum: Arthropoda (ah-thro-po-da)

Class: Insecta (in-sec-ta)

Order: Plecoptera (ple-cope-tear-a)

Roachlike Stoneflies 6mm - 11mm

Family: Peltoperlidae (pel-trop-perl-e-die)

Peltoperlidae (Roach-like stonefly): Small stout body; rear divergent wing pads; thoracic segments are oval or triangular shaped and cover much of the upper body; some have fine gills on the front legs. Clinger/crawler; Shredder



Giant Stoneflies 35mm - 50mm

Family: Pteronarcyidae (tear-ohn-nich-e-die)

Pteronarcyidae (Giant stonefly): Very large and usually dark brown in color; finely branched gills on all thoracic segments plus the first two abdominal segments. Clinger/crawler; Shredder



Perlodid Stoneflies (Patterned) 6mm - 26mm  
(perl-ode-ed)

Family: Perlodidae (perl-ode-e-die)

Perlodidae (Patterned stonefly): Strikingly patterned and colored similar in appearance to Perlidae; hind wing pads divergent; no gills on the thoracic segments. Clinger/crawler; Shredder



Common Stoneflies (Patterned) 8mm - 30mm

Family: Perlidae (perl-e-die)

Perlidae (Common "Golden" stonefly): Usually a large strikingly patterned and often having a golden color; finely branched gills present on all thoracic segments; wing pads diverge slightly from the midline. Sometimes called the golden stonefly. Clinger/crawler; Predator



**"Benthic Macroinvertebrates:  
Plecoptera"  
continues on the next page.**

# Benthic Macroinvertebrates of North America with Latin translations and phonetic pronunciations

Compiled By: Carl A. Rettenberger after  
J. Reese Voshell, Jr's "A Guide to Common Freshwater Invertebrates of North America"

## Part 4: Odonata -- continued

Green Stoneflies (Patterned stoneflies)  
6mm - 18mm  
Family: Chloroperlidae (clor-ro-perl-e-die)

Chloroperlidae (Green stonefly): Body elongated, front of the thorax slightly wider than the abdomen; wing pads not divergent from the midline; tails shorter than the abdomen. Will sometimes have patterns similar to Perlodidae. Clinger/crawler; Shredder/predator



Little Brown Stoneflies (Other stoneflies) 4mm - 9mm  
Family: Nemouridae (nem-ouh-rud-e-die)

Nemouridae (Little brown stonefly): Very small, often hairy appearance; wing pads diverge greatly from the midline; hind legs as long as the abdomen; gills often present between the head and thorax. Clinger/crawler; Shredder



Small Winter Stoneflies (Winter stoneflies) 5mm - 10mm  
Family: Capniidae (cap-n-e-die)

Capniidae (Small winter stonefly): Slender elongated body; front of thorax slightly wider than the abdomen; wing pads not divergent from the midline; abdominal segments separated by a membranous fold. Clinger/crawler; Shredder



Large Winter Stoneflies (Winter stoneflies)  
7mm - 15mm  
Family: Taeniopterygidae (tan-en-ooop-treg-e-die)

Taeniopterygidae (Large winter stonefly): Stout bodies with pronotum much wider than the abdomen; wing pads greatly divergent from the midline. Clinger/crawler; Shredder/scrapper



Rollwinged Stoneflies (Winter stoneflies) 6mm - 10mm  
Family: Leuctridae (lea-ock-tri-die)

Leuctridae (Rolled-wing stonefly): Slender elongated body; front of thorax slightly wider than the abdomen; wing pads not divergent from the midline; abdominal segments not separated by amembranous fold. Very similar characteristics to Capniidae. Clinger/crawler; Shredder



**Acknowledgements:** Carl thanks the following individuals and or organizations for use of their photographs of the various macro-invertebrates as used or contained herein.

Bugguide <http://bugguide.net>  
Cacapon Institute <http://www.cacaponinstitute.org>  
Google Images <http://www.google.com>  
Guide to Aquatic Invertebrates <http://www.dep.wv.gov>  
Jason Neuswanger & Troutnut.com  
<http://www.troutnut.com/>  
Mayflies of the United States  
<http://www.npwr.usgs.gov>  
Stroud Water Research Center  
<http://www.stroudcenter.org>



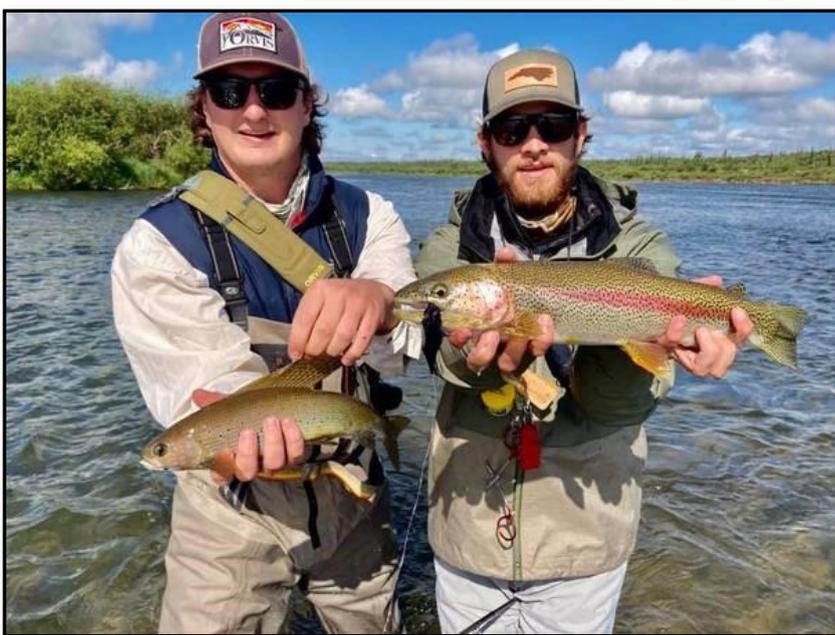
# Fishing Camps Suffering During COVID Ear

by Drew Patterson

Camps in Alaska are struggling this year due to travel issues with COVID-19, so some have not opened for this season.

Three of my lifetime friends had made their 1<sup>st</sup> Alaska trip plans, but they fell through due to a camp closing.

Fortunately, someone referred them to a camp (Alaska Trophy Adventure) that I visited on the Alagnak River in 2016.



During their visit, they caught a variety of species and had a great time as one would expect. However, they had an extraordinary experience at a location on the Alagnak River called "The Gorge" which I've fished but never saw anything like what they experienced.

There's a link to a video taken with a drone that is remarkable, even for those that have visited Alaska or seen salmon runs in the Great Lakes.

Since we're all suffering from cabin fever and probably not fishing as much as we'd like, I thought this could be of interest to you and the Winchester TU gang. Hope you find it interesting and worth sharing!

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=suQbw5m5iHQ&feature=youtu.be&utm\\_source=ActiveCampaign&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=ATA+Adventure+with+Johnny%2C+Armour%2C+and+Wells+-+Plus+4K+Video&utm\\_campaign=Alaska+s+Best+Kept+Secret++ATA+Lodge++Who+Seeks%2C+Shall+Find%21](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=suQbw5m5iHQ&feature=youtu.be&utm_source=ActiveCampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_content=ATA+Adventure+with+Johnny%2C+Armour%2C+and+Wells+-+Plus+4K+Video&utm_campaign=Alaska+s+Best+Kept+Secret++ATA+Lodge++Who+Seeks%2C+Shall+Find%21)



# Smallie Summer, Largemouth Summer



**Upper left. Dave's Main-Stem Smallie**

**Above. Charlie's Shenandoah Smallie**

**Left. One of Phil's Wisconsin Largemouth**



# Winchester TU 2020 Speaker Schedule

Please note that we will reschedule these presentations when it is safe to do so.



May 7<sup>th</sup>

Nathaniel Hill, PhD, research biologist for the US Geological Survey will be back! Than will talk about Brook Trout health and welfare in our region.

Photo courtesy of USGS



June 4<sup>th</sup>

Mike Fies, wildlife biologist and Forecaster Project Leader with the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, will be with us to talk about the role of the coyote in the ecology of Virginia. Mark calls coyotes "the most adaptable mammal in the world."



August 6<sup>th</sup>

Wayne Webb (Director of the Lord Fairfax Soil and Water Conservation District, Retired water quality specialists for the USGS, and research manager for Friends of the Shenandoah) will talk about the bacteria levels in the Shenandoah River.

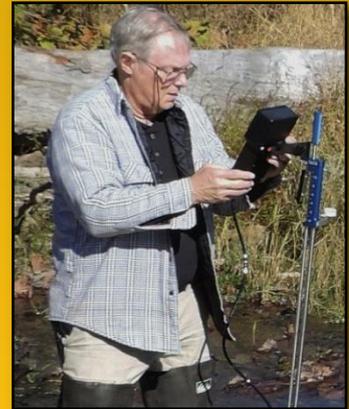
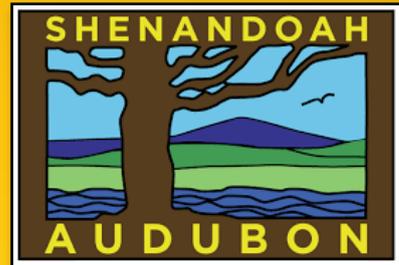


Photo courtesy of The Downstream Project



October 1<sup>st</sup>

Our annual joint meeting with the Northern Shenandoah Valley Audubon Society at Lord Fairfax Community College in Middletown is set for Oct. 1. The topic will be recycling.



November 5<sup>th</sup>

Tom McCabe will regale us with photos and stories about his fishing trip to South America.



## In Negotiations:

We are working on a dates for the following presentations

- Novice fly anglers fish Wyoming
- An encore presentation of Lisa LaCivita's "Frederick County Frogs: What are they telling us and why should we care?"

If you have an idea for a Winchester TU meeting speaker, please let me know. We are always looking for great programs on topics of interest to the fly angler.



# From the Archives of Winchester Trout Unlimited

Our old friends, Carl and Bud,  
published these articles in  
LATERAL LINES way back in  
**August 2003.**



Well friends, here we are again in the middle of summer, and it won't be long before the trees are turning and the nights get cooler. Fortunately for us and the fish, the summer has not been a scorcher and we are getting enough rain to keep things green and growing. Which leads me into my article for this month. You guessed it -- I'll be reporting on conditions on the North Branch of the Potomac above Kitzmiller. Yes, I am in a rut, but believe me, when you get a chance to see and experience the beauty of the wilderness surroundings and can catch trout in the middle of the day, you too will be hooked. Unlike last year, there has been sufficient rain and cool evenings to keep enough dissolved oxygen in the water to keep the fish in good condition. I guess you all know that it's not the temperature of the water in itself that creates unfavorable conditions for trout, but it's the warm water inability to carry dissolved oxygen that the fish need to breath, which causes them to die. Enough of that morbid stuff.

I'm happy to report that Robert Friedensen and I fished the river on the 9<sup>th</sup> of August and found enough fish to keep us happy. It was a hot, humid, overcast day which threatened all day to break loose at any time. The morning session was slow, which I attribute to the front moving in. Things did pick up in the afternoon, and between us, we managed to find some 30 fish. These are early spring holdovers that are starting to show good color. We had a real downpour at about 4:45 PM, but I did manage to keep my rain jacket all snug and dry in the back of my truck.

This month I'll try to get you there and to tell you how to fish the water. The eight-mile section that I am in love with is on the Maryland side at Lost Land Run in the Potomac State Forest. You'll find it on the Maryland/Delaware, "Delorme" map 64, at grid coordinates A, B, 3. From Winchester, take Route 50 west until you reach Elk Garden. When you reach Elk Garden, take Route 42 to Kitzmiller. At Kitzmiller, you take a left on West Main Street, which is the second left after you cross the river. Follow West Main Street to North Hill Road, turn right onto North Hill Road, and follow it to a tee Intersection. Turn left onto Potomac Camp Road and follow it to the Park sign. Turn left at the Park entrance, just after you cross Lost Land Run. Follow the stone road to the river until you can't go any further and by gosh you're there.

Now that you are there, tie on a size 12 or so Bead Head Prince, with either a Bead Head Hare's Ear or a Bead Head Flashback Pheasant Tail dropper. You'll want to place your strike indicator as far up on your leader as you can with the dropper in the hook keeper. I have never found the need to move the strike indicator to match the water depth, but suit yourself. I suggest you use a lot of small split shot as opposed to larger shot. Doing this will help you from getting caught between the rocks. I use weighted bead heads with from four-to-six, size six shot. OK, we're rigged and ready to go fishing. Follow the road back from the parking lot area about 200 feet and you'll see a small trail on the left which leads you down to the river. The fishing in the first stretch is best from the left side. Remember, you do not want to fish the river if the flow is above 400 to 450 c.f.s. Cross over and start fishing all the pocket water and seams that you can see. I cast straight upstream whenever I can get as long a drift as I can. Presentation and drag are not as critical as they might be in other waters. The fish really have to work to find food, so they'll take anything that goes by them. I usually fish nymphs in the morning and dries in the afternoon. Don't wait until you see rising fish to change over to dries, 'cause chances are you'll never get to fish dries if you do. Like I said, these fish are not fussy and will go for anything that looks like food.

That's about as much help as I can be, but if you want to go up, send me an email and I'm sure we can get together.



I'll keep this short because our President says I'm too wordy. On Tuesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, the Winchester City Council held the first reading of a proposal to sell much of its property at Fay Spring to the Shenandoah Valley National Battlefield Foundation. Don't see any reason to believe this sale won't be consummated.

This would place the land under permanent protection as part of the Third Battle of Winchester, help to guarantee the long-term protection of part of the headwaters of Redbud Run, and likely give us another link in the development of Redbud Run greenway with a catch-and-release/fly-only recreation trout fishery in the stream. (The City plans to hold onto about 11 acres, which includes Fay Spring and most of the stream (Editor's note -- most of the stream in the vicinity of the spring.) At some future date, the City might need to use some of the water for municipal supply -- a bridge we will have to cross if and when it occurs.)

As reported last month, a plan is moving ahead to establish naturally reproducing (Editor's note -- native) brook trout in the stream on City of Winchester property as part of the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries program to reestablish fish species in their native habitats throughout the State.

Permission from the City has been secured, and the stocking date is set for August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2003, at 2 PM by DGIF. Members of the City Council, the Frederick County Board of Supervisors and others, including the press, have been invited to a press conference associated with the stocking. TU members, the Lord Fairfax Soil and Water Conservation District Board Members, the Opequon Watershed Board, and property owners along Redbud Run are also invited.



## 2020-2021 Calendar of Events

### Winchester Trout Unlimited

All scheduled WTU events are **tentative** due to COVID-19.

**See also**  
<http://winchestertu.org/>

#### September 2020

- ✓ Thursday 3 September 2020 -- 7:00 p.m. -- There will be no Monthly TU meeting due to COVID-19
- ✓ Saturday 5 September 2020 -- Redbud Run workday -- **Canceled**
- ✓ Wednesday 9 September 2020 --7:00 p.m. - BarFly at Escutcheon Brewery is **canceled** due to COVID

#### October 2020

- ✓ Thursday 1 October 2020 -- 7:00 p.m. -- Our annual joint meeting with the Northern Shenandoah Valley Audubon Society is being postponed due to COVID-19
- ✓ Saturday 3 October 2020 -- Redbud Run workday -- Time to be announced at a later date
- ✓ Wednesday 14 October 2020 --7:00 p.m. - BarFly at Escutcheon Brewery

#### November 2020

- ✓ Thursday 5 November 2020 -- 7:00 p.m. -- Monthly TU meeting
- ✓ Saturday 7 November 2020 -- Redbud Run workday -- Time to be announced at a later date
- ✓ Wednesday 11 November --7:00 p.m. - BarFly at Escutcheon Brewery
- ✓ 8 to 14 November 2020 -- Winchester TU Steelhead Week

#### December 2020

- ✓ December 2020 -- No monthly meeting in December
- ✓ Saturday 5 December 2020 -- Redbud Run workday -- Time to be announced at a later date
- ✓ Wednesday 9 December --7:00 p.m. - BarFly at Escutcheon Brewery
- ✓ December 2020 -- Winchester TU Holiday Party & Fundraiser  
-- Date to be announced at a later time

## 2021

#### January 2021

- ✓ Thursday 7 January 2021 -- 7:00 p.m. -- Our annual joint meeting with the Northern Shenandoah Valley Audubon Society is being **postponed** due to COVID-19
- ✓ Saturday 9 January 2021 -- Redbud Run workday -- Time to be announced at a later date
- ✓ Wednesday 13 January 2021 --7:00 p.m. - BarFly at Escutcheon Brewery

#### February 2021

- ✓ Thursday 4 February 2021 -- 7:00 p.m. -- Monthly TU meeting
- ✓ Saturday 6 February 2021 -- Redbud Run workday -- Time to be announced at a later date
- ✓ Wednesday 10 February 2021 --7:00 p.m. - BarFly at Escutcheon Brewery

#### March 2021

- ✓ Thursday 4 March 2021 -- 7:00 p.m. -- Monthly TU meeting
- ✓ Saturday 6 March 2021 -- Redbud Run workday -- Time to be announced at a later date
- ✓ Wednesday 10 March 2021 --7:00 p.m. - BarFly at Escutcheon Brewery

#### April 2021

- ✓ Thursday 1 April 2021 -- 7:00 p.m. -- Monthly TU meeting
- ✓ Saturday 3 April 2021 -- Redbud Run workday -- Time to be announced at a later date
- ✓ Wednesday 17 April 2021 --7:00 p.m. - BarFly at Escutcheon Brewery



The opinions expressed in *Lateral Lines* are those of the individual authors and are not necessarily those of Winchester Trout Unlimited or Trout Unlimited National.

All water sports, including fishing, and stream restoration activities have inherent dangers. Participation in all Winchester Trout Unlimited activities is at the participant's own risk and participants agree to hold harmless Winchester Trout Unlimited and its members.

A responsible adult must accompany all minors.

