

25th YEAR
of
LATERAL LINES

Lateral Lines

The Monthly Journal of Winchester TU
Chapter #638

Never tuck your raincoat into your chest highs.

November 2020

Volume 25, Number 11

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.



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

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October Steel - 2020 photos courtesy of Fred Boyer

Having been locked out of Canada for his usual fishing trips up there this summer, Fred was especially anxious to do some Erie fishing with his buddies.

Although they had no luck with the Smallmouth because Lake Erie was too rough, they did manage 8 for 8 on the Largemouth side of the ledger in the lake and 11 for 14 with Steelhead in the tributaries.

Fred reports that he was 4 for 4 with the Steelies including the one below that he says he caught on his first cast in a new fishin' hole.

Size 16 hooks were the key to their success, says Fred.



The October 2020 gang included from the left, Don Adams, Chuck Laudermitch, Mike Budney, Larry Marsh, Preston Fox. Photo by Fred Boyer.



Bud on the Run: October 2020 Report article and photos by Bud Nagelvoort

Orangutan's Eyebrow

On October 10 at Bill's special modest gathering at noon at Seipel's, there was a normal drawing for fishing Redbud at Seipel's property won by Galen Hart.

And at Galen's request Bud agreed to provide guide service on that occasion which took place Monday, the 19th. Conditions were excellent on that date and the fish were moderately cooperative despite Galen's insistence on trying out what I can only describe as one of the wildest flies imaginable, something like an orange orangutan's eyebrow on maybe a size 12 barbless.



Galen nets a nice Rainbow on Redbud Run.

We were off to a slow start fishing up from the bridge, but a large chub liked this fly and I thought that made sense considering chubs seem to like anything when they must compete with trout for food. But on to the rootwad pool.

After several warmup casts attracted no attention and almost led me to suggest a change of flies, an excellent cast to the edge of the waterfall found one of the beautiful 12-13" rainbows known to hang out there. I successfully tried not to show how nice this fish was in this picture.

Further upstream were some taps and another chub or two, but nothing exciting. I promised Galen another big fish at the waterfalls pool. But forty casts from every possible angle found nothing, not even a tap there, which, of course, I blame on the orangutan fly, certainly not on my guide service.

We worked our way on up to the long pool below the cattle crossing when Galen found another rainbow on that danged orange fly, this time maybe just an 8 incher, but still a rainbow. I thought of asking Galen where I could buy one of those flies.

At that location, it was necessary to climb up the stream bank to avoid the rocky rapids below the crossing. I led the way and waited for Galen to appear. I could not see downstream to the point where I had exited the stream – nor was Galen in sight. He didn't appear. I called to him. No answer.

Then he appeared although something didn't look just right. He was strangely damp above his chest waders and had his glasses in hand wiping them dry. Oh no! Well, I immediately recalled the time Bill managed to take one step too many while fighting a fish at the rootwad pool and ended up sitting almost up to his neck in the pool with the fish still dashing about.

Not quite the case here, but enough discomfort to end the fishing and head back to the vehicles. And another lesson for guiding – stay behind the client on steep banks!



Bud planted Whitlock-Vibert Boxes full of Brookie eggs ready to hatch.

Brookie Eggs and Whitlock-Vibert Boxes

And just a couple words about the TIC eggs and the Whitlock Vibert Boxes.

On the 8th of October, with 250 TIC eggs from Lisa, I set up 4 of the 5 Viberts with roughly equal numbers of eggs, gravel in the bottom of the cages, and placed all 4 Viberts on larger rocks at Redbud in a plastic grocery carrying basket having open webbing for water circulation. Then placed the basket in the stream at Seipel's at a crosslog waterfalls just upstream from the Morgans Mill Bridge.

“Bud on the Run” continues on the next page.

Bud on the Run: October 2020 Report -- continued

article and photos
by Bud Nagelvoort

I tied the basket to a tree to keep it in place in case of high water. The flow over the waterfall caused nice circulation of water through the basket placed next to that flow.

On the 11th, with heavy rains forecast for the 12th, I returned to the basket site and installed a chain to further protect the basket from being washed away. It was not possible to see the eggs in the Viberts at that time. On the 19th, with Galen, I examined the site and found it intact.

I do not know how long it will take the alevins to mature sufficiently to exit the Vibert gravel, but will check on them again after the rain events of the 29th of October and try to determine any evidence of their continued presence -- or departure.

In any event, it will likely be two years before any resulting fingerlings would show up in the DWR water downstream.

I'm thinking of removing the Viberts from the stream in early December in anticipation of utilizing them with rainbow eggs from DWR at the same location for feeding additional fry to DWR water to enhance the single hook, catch and release public fishery there. Will be reviewing the literature and any suggestions from experienced sources as to the logic of this process during the month of November.

Regarding Redbud work sessions, if conditions seem appropriate, I will be considering a session on November 7 at 10:00 a.m. to move rocks from our rock piles out of Wayne's pasture to stream side, but at least under the fence to clear the pasture. Will get out an e-mail to this effect on November 6th.

Stay well and tight lines,
Bud



Conservation Film Festival -- Free retrospective

by Carolyn Thomas

The American Conservation Festival is hosting a **free retrospective** featuring eight favorite films from the last 17 years on Friday, November 6, through Sunday, November 8. Stay home (unmasked) and watch four features and four shorts as well as conversations with special guests.

Features include:

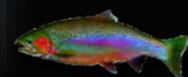
"DamNation" which explores the sea change in our national attitude from pride in big dams as engineering wonders to the growing awareness that our own future is bound to the life and health of our rivers.

Dam removal has moved beyond the fictional Monkey Wrench Gang to go mainstream. Where obsolete dams come down, rivers bound back to life, giving salmon and other wild fish the right of return to primeval spawning grounds, after decades without access.

The majestic cinematography and unexpected discoveries in **"DamNation"** move through rivers and landscapes altered by dams, but also through a metamorphosis in values, from conquest of the natural world to knowing ourselves as part of nature.

Check them all out and register for your free ticket at:

<https://conservationfilmfest.org/retrospective-2020/>



Barbara's Books

Compiled by Barbara Gamble

Fly Fishing for Freshwater Striped Bass: A Complete Guide to Tackle, Tactics, and Finding Fish

Author: Henry Cowen
Foreword: Dave Whitlock
Paperback: 208 pages
ISBN-10: 510735011
ISBN-13: 978-1510735019
Publisher: Skyhorse
Publication Date: November 17, 2020

Here fishing guide and fly designer Henry Cowen shares decades of hard-earned knowledge of stripers for the first time.

Learn about the species, its food, and where and how to find them, so you can land far more and bigger stripers.

Knowing where and how to find stripers is key, and Cowen offers proven techniques for locating fish in both reservoirs and rivers, including water temperature, seasonal patterns, weather patterns, locating the bait, water clarity, and wildlife and how it can help anglers.

The popularity of fishing for striped bass in freshwater is growing quickly, especially as global warming allows the fish to live in waters that used to be too cold.

This is the first major book on the subject, one that is sure to be part of a big trend among fly fishers.

Cowen takes a close look at freshwater striped bass, explaining how natural and stocked fisheries are managed as well as the difference between the various species.

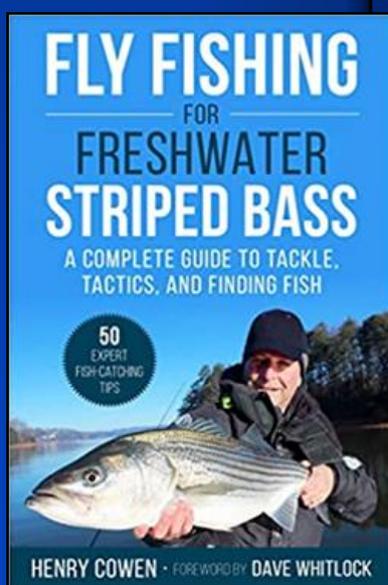
Along with help choosing equipment and some notes on wading tactics, anglers will have everything they need to improve their fishing techniques or make a start on this popular all-American outdoor sport.

Henry Cowen grew up in Brooklyn, New York, where he learned to fish for striped bass at an early age. He is an Umpqua Feather Merchants fly designer as well as a writer for many nationally renowned fly-fishing magazines, including *American Angler*, *Fly Tyer*, and *The Angler Magazine*.

He started guiding for freshwater stripers around 2000 and has been at it ever since. Henry and his wife, Tina, reside in Atlanta, Georgia, with their two dogs, Starlet and Sweet Pea.

Dave Whitlock was born in Oklahoma, where he now lives, and is the author or illustrator of many fine angling books, including *Dave Whitlock's Guide to Aquatic Trout Foods*, the *L.L. Bean Fly-Fishing Handbook*, and the *L.L. Bean Fly Fishing for Bass Handbook*. Dave lives with his wife, Emily, but the Ozark Mountains in Welling, Oklahoma.

Sources: amazon.com and the publishers



The Fly Fisher (updated version): The Essence and Essentials of Fly Fishing

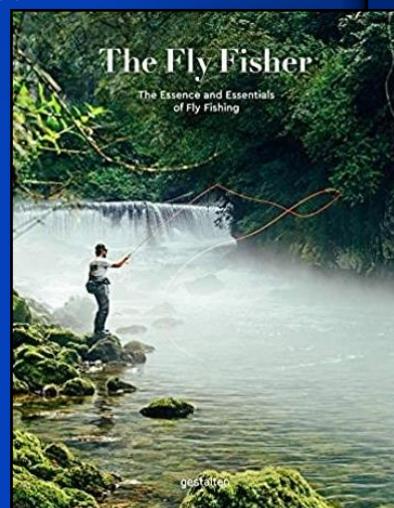
Editor: gestalten (International Publishing House) and yes, they spell it with a lower case g
Editors: Maximilian Funk, Thorsten Strüben, and Jan Blumentritt
Hardcover: 256 pages
ISBN-10: 389955146X
ISBN-13: 978-3899551464
Publisher: gestalten
Publication Date: Updated edition; November 1, 2020

Reel the rewards of fly fishing while being surrounded by nature and wildlife.

The lure of pristine rivers coupled with the sensation of casting a net into the open, make fly fishing the perfect balance of outdoor activities. *The Fly Fisher* is a celebration of both the community and artistry of a sport with an ever-growing global appeal.

By showing a new generation of aficionados alongside an established, avid band of global fishers, we take a refreshing overview on the essence of the sport, while showing how to care for nature and connect with the environment.

For both curious minds and prolific fishers, this is an updated version of a gestalten favorite.



In this definitive look at contemporary fly fishing, we go through gear essentials and knot patterns, and explain the techniques needed to master this pastime. Join us as we explore new fishing spots, introduce new-comers to the sport on a beautiful scale, and exhibit an opulence of stunning new photography.

From the Publisher

An updated edition of the best-selling title *The Fly Fisher*

Reflecting the growing want for a life-style connected to nature and spending time outdoors

The combination of inspiring photography, people, and initiatives

Step-by-step illustrations on basic techniques and equipment

Exclusive illustrations by Japanese artist Yusei Nagashima

About the Author

THORSTEN STRÜBEN is an instructor with the European Fly Fishing Association and has a wealth of knowledge over the sport extending nearly two decades. Hamburg-based freelance creative director

JAN BLUMENTRITT is an active fly fisher with several years' worth of knowledge in the sport.

Sources: amazon.com and the publishers



Poet's Corner:

Poems selected
for the angler

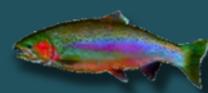
Nutting Song

by Paul Laurence Dunbar
1872-1906
U.S.A



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

The November sun invites me,
And although the chill wind smites me,
I will wander to the woodland
Where the laden trees await;
And with loud and joyful singing
I will set the forest ringing,
As if I were king of Autumn,
And Dame Nature were my mate,--
While the squirrel in his gambols
Fearless round about me ambles,
As if he were bent on showing
In my kingdom he'd a share;
While my warm blood leaps and dashes,
And my eye with freedom flashes,
As my soul drinks deep and deeper
Of the magic in the air.
There's a pleasure found in nutting,
All life's cares and griefs outshutting,
That is fuller far and better
Than what prouder sports impart.
Who could help a carol trilling
As he sees the baskets filling?
Why, the flow of song keeps running
O'er the high walls of the heart
So when I am home returning,
When the sun is lowly burning,
I will once more wake the echoes
With a happy song of praise,--
For the golden sunlight blessing,
And the breezes' soft caressing,
And the precious boon of living
In the sweet November days.



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



The Gathering photos by Gene Lewis



On Saturday, October 10, a group of Winchester TU members gathered at the farm of Wayne and Stephanie Seipel for a couple of hours of social-distance time and lunch. In addition to Wayne and Stephanie, there were Gene Lewis who took some photos, Bud Nagelvoort, Barbara Gamble, Bill Prokopchak, Galen and Sandy Hart, Mike Nemec, and Clark Thomas. Because of the pandemic interruption, this was the first “meeting” of WTU since March. Bud presented his plans for installing Whitlock-Vibert Boxes containing viable Brookie eggs in Redbud Run.



Trout in the Classroom (TIC) News

The 2020-2021 Trout in the Classroom Program, sponsored by the Winchester Chapter of Trout Unlimited, is under way!

On September 30, Winchester TU (WTU) chapter volunteers collected rocks and delivered brook trout eggs (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) to schools and the Shenandoah Valley Discovery Museum.



WTU members deposited packets of 200 eggs into baskets in cold-water tanks in the City of Winchester; Frederick, Shenandoah, Clarke Counties of Virginia; and panhandle Counties of West Virginia.

This is the 16th year that WTU has supported the TIC program.



Winchester TU 2020 Speaker Schedule

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



May 7th

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 4th

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 6th

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.

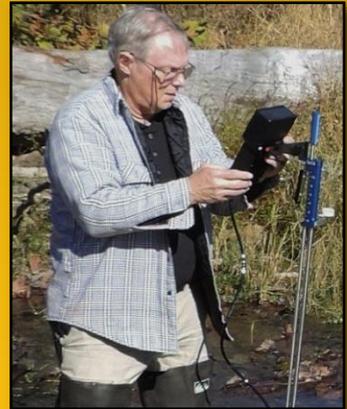
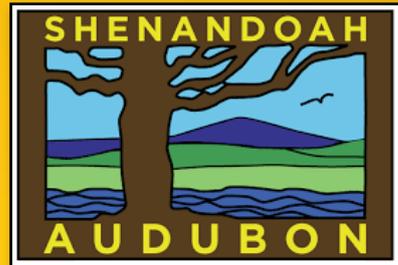


Photo courtesy of The Downstream Project



October 1st

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 5th

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



Several weeks ago I took Mark Zimmerman (aka The New Guy) down to the North River so that he might get a second chance at catching some nice trout this far north. I think you'll remember the story about his initiation when we took him up to fish the North Branch with 8 inches of snow on the ground, and the torture we made him go through hoofing it down to the river and back up in the winter wonderland.

By the way, I clocked the distance the next time I went back and it was 3.1 miles one way. Thanks to Bud, we all got our exercise that day.

Mark has recently moved here from North Carolina and has not had much luck fishing Passage Creek, so I figured I would act as guide for the day and get him into some fish on the North River. We managed to pick an absolutely beautiful Saturday after a week of rainstorms. The water level was great so we suited up and started our mile-long walk downstream so that we could fish back up.

As you go down stream at the North River, you need to ford the stream three times. The wading is not particularly difficult so I told Mark he would not need his wading staff. The first crossing is on flat rocks and we crossed without difficulty. The second crossing on the other hand is an entirely different story. This one contains some greased bowling balls which are just waiting for the next sucker to try to cross. I stumbled as I waded across, but was able to get to the other side without further incident.

Mark followed but wasn't quite as fortunate. He stepped on one of those demons and started staggering. Anyone who has been in this situation knows how hard it is to regain your balance. Mark didn't, and seemed to sit straight down on his fanny in slow motion. No problem, he had chest waders on and the water was only about 12 inches deep. But getting back up is an entirely different problem. You have no choice but to get your arms wet and to dunk your fly rod.

Mark tried to stand before I could get to him and the slippery devils did it to him again as he laid back again in slow motion allowing the 48 degree water to go over the back of his waders.

I was a big help when I got there, but unfortunately, it was too late. I contained myself, at least I think I did, and didn't laugh out loud. We finally got Mark back on his feet. I'll say this for Mark, he didn't let a little cold bath stop him, and we proceeded downstream.

The next ford was uneventful and we finally made it down to where we were going to start to fish. Mark, like the rest of us, had a million flies with him but no bead head princes or hare's ears. I set him up with this deadly trout duo and waded upstream a way to start fishing. By the time I got to where I was going, Mark had a fish on but lost it. This same scenario was carried out several more times before Mark got the feel for the subtle strikes and started to catch fish.

Mark turned out to be a knowledgeable trout fisherman and held his own as we made our way up stream. We both found quite a lot of fish and managed to land a good number of them. At the end of a great day, I was happy that I found myself another fly fisherman who loves the sport as much as I do.

That's about it, so until the next time, as Bud would say "tight lines and singing reels."



Our old friend, Carl A. Rettenberger, published this article in **LATERAL LINES** way back in May of 2004.

Whisky/Whiskey

edited by Bill Prokopchak

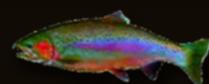
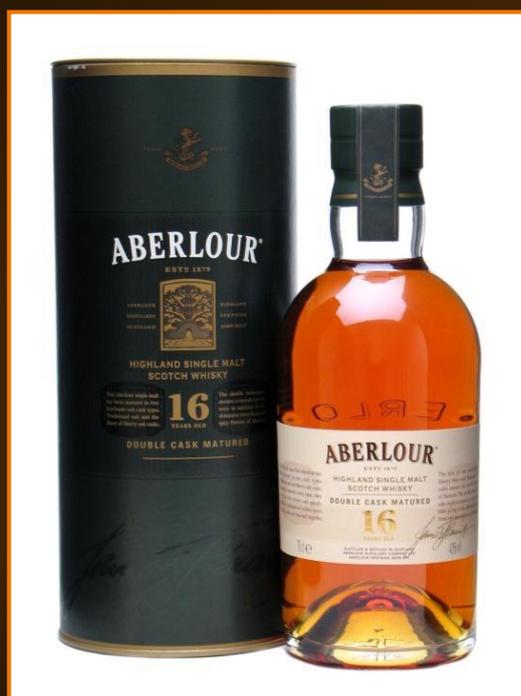
This evening we are going to enjoy the first of two Aberlour, Highland Single Malts. This one is a double cask matured, 16-year-old, Speyside whisky that was matured in both sherry butts and oak casks. (Speyside and Highland? We will go into that at some later time.)

The thing I like most about this Scotch is the way its aromas fill the room the instant you open the bottle. To my nose, I get the wonderful fragrance of a rose garden in spring, sweet dried fruits, and a hint of nutmeg.

The first sip, you get the distinctive floral notes that are characteristic of all Aberlour spirits, along with spice, dried fruits, sherry sweetness, and subtle oak notes that enhance the complexity of this fine Whisky.

The finish is long, warm, and autumnal. The flavors of fruit, spice, and oak mingle with the sherry sweetness for a long pleasing finish.

Aberlour 16 is available through Virginia ABC at about \$85 for a 750 ml bottle.



2020-2021 Calendar of Events Winchester Trout Unlimited

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

See also

<http://winchestertu.org/>

November 2020

- ✓ Thursday 5 November 2020 -- 7:00 p.m. -- Monthly TU meeting **canceled**
- ✓ Saturday 7 November 2020 -- 10:00 a.m. -- Redbud Run workday
- ✓ Wednesday 11 November --7:00 p.m. - BarFly at Escutcheon Brewery **canceled**
- ✓ 8 to 14 November 2020 -- Winchester TU Steelhead Week **canceled**

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

May 2021

- ✓ Thursday 6 May 2021 -- 7:00 p.m. -- Monthly TU meeting
- ✓ Saturday 8 May 2021 -- Redbud Run workday -- Time to be announced at a later date
- ✓ Wednesday 12 May 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.

