

Lateral Lines

The Monthly Journal of Winchester TU
Chapter #638

We never really grow up. That's why we go fishing.

January 2021

Volume 26, Number 1


TROUT UNLIMITED
WINCHESTER
VIRGINIA
CHAPTER 638

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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Clean Your Tackleboxes!

photo and article courtesy of David Colf, Editor of the Winchester Izaak Walton League Newsletter

When I was a young man in my first apartment, ostensibly to attend college in San Diego, I would spend my free time fishing the local waterways.

The apartment I had was quite large and had a lot of closets for storage. I kept my fishing gear in one of the closets. One day, the bathroom began smelling...less than fresh. Being a single young man, I did not take too much notice and gave the bathroom a good once over.

The odor did not abate.

I went back in and did a very thorough cleaning -- floor, toilet, sink, tub.

No change. In fact, it was getting worse.

I bought more cleaners, including bleach, and nearly discovered how to make mustard gas. Here is a hint from me to you: never mix bleach and ammonia.

Through the bleach came that persistent, and worsening, malodor.

I considered moving. Back home. It was that bad.

I went back into the bathroom for a final attempt. This time, I would leave nothing un-scrubbed.

Remember those cabinets, those awesome storage cabinets? I set to emptying them out, one by one, and scrubbing them inside and out. I kept no food in them -- it was a bathroom, after all -- but I was out of options. Everything had to be taken out, bleached, and returned.

One by one, I would open a cabinet, take out the contents, and clean. Then, I opened that fateful cabinet, and nearly passed out. I had found the source of the odor. The only thing in the cabinet was my tacklebox. I hadn't caught anything the last time I went fishing, and, in any case, I don't typically keep my catch in my tacklebox, but nevertheless there it was. I reached in and took hold of the handle to pull it out.

At that point, something in my 20-year-old brain finally kicked in and sent an alert: You left something in your tacklebox. The last time I went out fishing, I bought a container of chicken livers. Skunked at the end of the day, I simply returned my tackle to the cabinet and went about my business.

My chicken livers had come home to roost.

The container had, thankfully, not burst, but it was swollen and dangerously close. I gingerly plucked it out of the tacklebox, carefully placed it in a bag, tied the bag securely, and hastened it to the dumpster.

Immediately, peace was restored to not only the bathroom, but the rest of the apartment. It smelled clean, my eyes did not water when I got home, and my parrot was not complaining as much.

So, dear reader, please remember to always clean out your tacklebox. Even if you simply open it and ensure there are no perishable baits lurking about.



Editor's Note: We welcome Dave Colf as a first-time contributor to LATERAL LINES. He's discovered another reason to take up fly fishing.

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

First of all, Happy New Year. May our almost-forgotten, regular lives return to normal sometime soon.

Hopefully none of our members have suffered the current atrocity other than Fred who obviously recovered sufficiently to tackle (is that the right word) Erie successfully. Had us scared, Fred, but deeply grateful you survived this terrible plague.

Fish on a Board

Read more about this fish on a board on page 3 of this newsletter. Meanwhile, the used Vibert boxes pictured here held the TIC Brookie eggs that Bud installed at Redbud Run back in October.



Since the last report on activities at Redbud, the Vibert boxes with TIC Brookie eggs placed in the stream in early October were removed the second week in December in preparation for use again for Rainbow eggs on the 14th of December.

There was no evidence the TIC eggs had not hatched and proceeded to the swim-up stage and departed the Viberts. Of course, there was no evidence to the contrary, either. Only time will tell – like maybe in the fall when someone may catch a Brook Trout fingerling just above the Woods Mill bridge or in the DWR stretch downstream. TIC fingerlings don't ever seem to have survived after they were placed in the stream – except for several 8-9 inchers from the Museum. Stonestreet caught one not far below the Woods Mill bridge and I caught one that size below the DWR parking lot several years ago.

But the saga for Rainbow eggs from DWR that I planned to place in the Viberts at Seipel's in early December ended in major disappointment.

Substantial discussions that I had with the DWR hatchery manager at the Wytheville State Hatchery determined that 1250 Rainbow eggs would be available for us on the 14th of December in eyeing-up condition and requiring water temperature in Redbud at 46 degrees up to the optimal temp of 51 degrees (which also happens to be the temp required for the school tank water for our TIC eggs.) The reason for this particular temperature is that the water from the spring feeding the Wytheville hatchery is 51 degrees and that has become the acclimated temperature for DWR egg success.

The Wytheville hatchery manager, knowing the driving distance from Redbud to the hatchery, said he would be able to have his stocking truck meet me at Raphine on the 14th cutting my driving time almost in half and making it more reasonable to get the Rainbow eggs to Redbud and into the Viberts and the Viberts placed in the stream on December 14th.

Of course, none of this anticipated the snow storm that descended on the December 11th with the snow melting vigorously by the 13th when I visited Redbud that afternoon for a final stream temperature check.

Well, the stream temperature was a great 50 degrees. But the snow melt raised the flow to a level impossible for the installation of the Viberts. While there isn't a flow gage on Redbud, the numbers on the Opequon (25 cfs rising to 400) and Hogue Creek (6 rising to 80) told the story.

So, I cancelled the trip to Raphine for the 14th and unfortunately had to conclude there would be no Vibert placements this year using DWR Rainbow eggs.

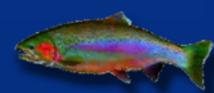
However, it occurred to me that Roger Orndorff's Trout Farm south of Star Tannery on Cedar Creek might have eggs. So I checked with him and he called me back on the 29th. Interesting grim story. He does not secure eggs from his own fish, but buys them from a hatchery in Washington State. Astoundingly, he is only able to secure female eggs, so all the fish he raises to sell are females! He doesn't quite understand how only female eggs are created, but apparently, there is some treatment process involved. (Can anyone think of the logic of all female eggs? Do female rainbows grow faster and bigger? It occurs to me that our male fish at Seipel's might have an interest in a few additions to their harems ----.)

He also described a very difficult business problem during this virus issue in that his sales of fish to restaurants have just about vanished. He normally sells a hundred fish a week for this purpose, but so far in December only 4 fish! Consequently, he has his fish on a low feed ration and won't be open for public sale until March.

No eggs from Roger. But he described a possible source in PA, Laurel Hill Trout Farm, which I will investigate.

So maybe a work session on the 9th of January to remove more giant boulders and smaller rocks out of the pasture to streamside if the pasture is dry enough for vehicle (read winch) access?

I will provide go or no go info evening of the January 8th.



ANGLER REFLECTIONS

Fish on a Board

photos and article by Bud Nagelvoort



During an exchange of emails recently, Bud wrote that the fish on the board to the right was:

"...the first rainbow I ever produced [read "caught"] in a spring pond on property I owned in Michigan.

The picture was taken in November of 1966 on the day before I left Michigan for Maryland and my job as administrative assistant to new Member of Congress."



Apparently in a reflective mood, Bud went on to write of this 20-pound Coho (Silver Salmon): "... landed [it] at Platte Bay in Lake Michigan on October 2, 1967.

"It was the second year after Coho fingerlings were stocked in the Lake by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to help the Lake recover from the explosion of alewives in the Lake after the major predator, Lake Trout, had been wiped out by Sea Lamprey eels that entered the Great Lakes through the Welland Canal.



Bud on the Run: Dressed Fish from Orndorff's Fish Hatchery request from Bud Nagelvoort

It occurs to me that Winchester TU members might be interested in the possibility of buying some dressed Rainbows from Orndorff to help him out financially during this period when his restaurant business has died. I don't know whether or not Roger would be interested in selling dressed fish to us by the pound, and at what price, but I would personally be interested in maybe 10 pounds for the freezer. I have left a message with him and will advise of his response to any members who let me know of interest."



Barbara's Books

Compiled by Barbara Gamble

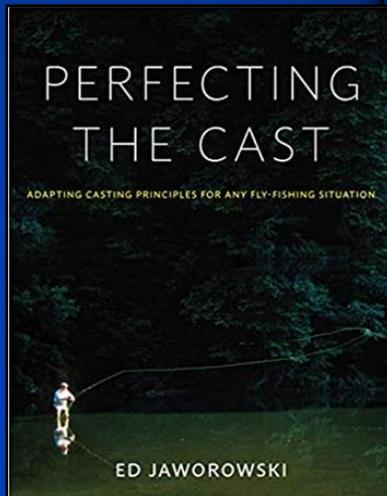
Perfecting the Cast: Adapting Casting Principles for Any Fly-Fishing Situation

Author: Ed Jaworowski
Hardcover: 224 pages
ISBN-10: 0811739716
ISBN-13: 978-0811739719
Publisher: Stackpole Books
Publication Date: February 1, 2021

Ed Jaworowski has spent his life learning, practicing, understanding, teaching, perfecting, and writing about casting.

He is an acclaimed and widely recognized expert of the subject with an exhaustive list of credentials. This, his third book, is his tour de force.

Filled with his 60+ years of casting wisdom, it explains the four principles of casting which if understood can be adapted to meet any and every specific fishing condition.



Instead of telling you what to do, how to stand, how to grasp the rod, where to start and end the stroke, and how to move the rod, Ed teaches the first few things that all casts have in common -- those principles -- and then shows how to apply those fundamentals in endless ways.

He covers casting theory and mechanics and then explains how to analyze and diagnose casts. Based on Ed's six decades of fishing for more than one hundred fresh and saltwater species, this is a book for all fly fishers, so that whatever fishing situation, whatever rod, whether on a stream, in a boat, offshore, onshore, or wading, the fly fisher understands what the aim is -- to deliver the fly to the fish -- and is able, because of an understanding of how casting works and what needs to happen, to make the cast and get the fish.

Review

Many years ago, while watching one of Ed's casting demonstrations, our late friend and mentor Lefty Kreh leaned over and said, 'No one knows more about casting than Ed.' This is certainly reflected in his casting book. It is a seminal work that is a culmination of his unbounded expertise and enthusiasm. Regardless of one's experience level, anyone who casts a fly line will benefit from this book's wealth of material. -- Nick Curcione, internationally recognized outdoor writer, instructor, lecturer and tackle consultant and author of *The Orvis Guide to Saltwater Fly Fishing*

Ed Jaworowski has taught countless students his casting methods. He has done seminars and lectured at fly clubs and shows across the country, designed rods for Temple Fork, made an acclaimed instructional video with Lefty Kreh, and written columns and articles for the major fly-fishing magazines. He has written two books, *The Cast* and *Troubleshooting the Cast*. He lives in Chester Springs, Pennsylvania.

Sources: amazon.com and the publishers

The ORVIS Kids' Guide to Beginning Fly Fishing: Easy Tips for the Youngest Anglers

Author: Tyler Befus
Paperback: 96 pages
ISBN-10: 1510763120
ISBN-13: 978-1510763128
Publisher: Sky Pony
Publication Date: February 16, 2021
Reading age: 8 years and up
Grade level: 2 and up

Kids can fly fish, too!

Tyler Befus has grown up fly fishing and in his twenty-three years of experience has gained many tips and tricks to help young anglers begin their fly-fishing adventure. In this guide, Tyler shows that fly fishing is easy to learn for anglers of any age! By reading this book, you'll learn about:

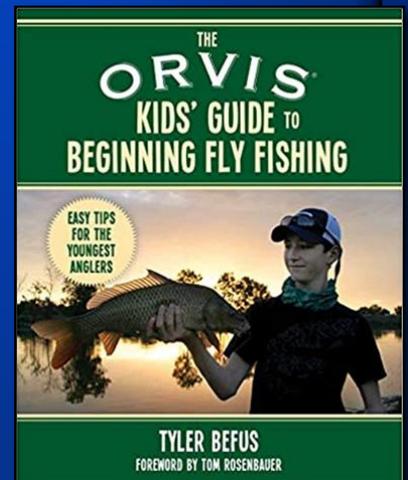
- What fish eat and where they live
- Basic fly-fishing equipment
- Fly and knot tying
- Casting techniques
- And much, much more!

Remember fly fishing isn't just for adults!

Tyler Befus landed his first fly-caught trout just before his third birthday.

He has since traveled the world teaching kids and adults alike how to fly fish.

Having recently completed his undergraduate studies at Western Michigan University, Tyler is now pursuing a master's of science in Watershed Science and Wetland Biology at Murray State University in Kentucky.



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.



Poet's Corner:

Poems selected
for the angler

Does Your Mask Ride Low? to the tune of the children's song "Do your Ears Hang Low?"

by *Karen Leeds*
Contemporary
U.S.A



Watercolor Portrait of Karen Leeds
by W. M. Prokopchak © 2021

Does your mask ride low?
Does it wobble to and fro?
Can you tie it in a knot?
Can you tie it in a bow?
Can you dangle it from ear to shoulder
when you are feeling bolder?
Does your mask ride low?

Does your mask ride high?
Does it hit you in the eye?
Can you flap it up and down
as you drive around the town?
Can you put it on real quick and more
when entering the store?
Does your mask ride high?

Do your ears get tired?
Do your glasses get all fogged?
Does a sneeze make your mask wet?
Does it stiffen when it's dry?
Can you recognize your neighbor
without squinting or some labor?
Do your ears get tired?



From the National Sporting Library & Museum in Middleburg, VA

Historically abundant throughout the East, the beloved Eastern Brook Trout has been declining over the past century. Join us for a talk about the state of Virginia's Brook Trout and hear from the Piedmont Environmental Council (PEC) about their work with partner organizations, local landowners and state and federal agencies to insure the survival of this iconic species.

Claire Catlett and Celia Vuocolo from PEC will be sharing their adventures in trout conservation.

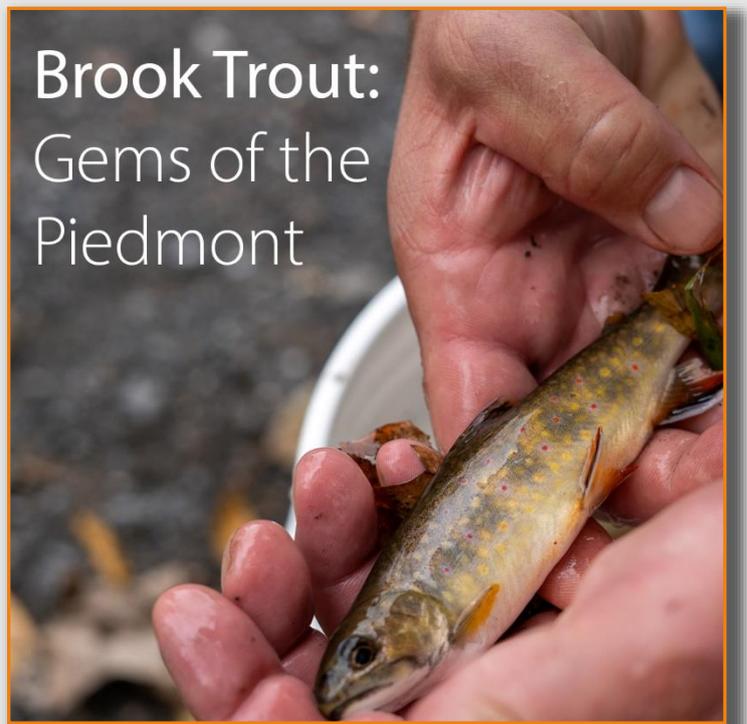
Thursday, February 11, 2021
Virtual only

Free to members of the NSLM and PEC
\$10 for non-members

TICKET INFO at the following link

https://app.etapestry.com/onlineforms/NationalSportingLibrary/Trout_nonmembers.html

Brook Trout: Gems of the Piedmont



Have I Created an Addict?

article and photos
by Fred Boyer

If you read my "Steelhead Fishing in the Tropics" article in the December Winchester TU newsletter, you were introduced to my friend Mike Budnie.

He is an avid spin fisherman and outdoorsman and lives along the shores of the Shenandoah Main Stem. With the Smallmouth fishing slowing down in our area, he is always wanting to hook into a fighting fish.



After seeing Steelhead caught on a fly rod during our trip to Erie with Phil Stevens in November, he decided he wanted to experience the addict's adrenaline rush of a Steelie bending a 9-foot fly rod and running out the line to the backing.

He ordered an Orvis 5-weight package deal and waited anxiously for the delivery. We were in frequent contact after our November trip monitoring the Erie water and temperature conditions. On Saturday, December 19th, we decided to pull the trigger and head north-west departing the following day for a three-day trip. His rod arrived just 3 days before our departure.

Since we had success on Elk Creek on our previous trip, we decided to get a motel on the west side of Erie. Remembering my first TU trip in 2008, I made reservations at the Sunset Motel in West Springfield. Not much of a motel but ideal for fisherman looking for a small clean room with lots of hot water. Oh -- and the price is right. \$31.07 a night each person! Amenities include Wi-Fi, cable TV, small fridge and microwave. What more could two fishermen want?

We had no success Sunday afternoon but did see three other fish caught at the Rt. 20 / Elk Creek bridge. It was time for some dinner. We were disappointed to realize that all our meals were going to have to be from take-out locations after we learned that PA had closed all indoor dining due to COVID-19. Thankfully, gas stations served made-to-order sandwiches and there is always the yellow M.

Monday found us up an hour before daybreak and back at the Rt. 20 / Elk Creek power line and bridge foundation holes as the sun was awaking the day. To our surprise, we were the only fisherman on the water and that was the case for most of the day. Fishing 4 days before Christmas must keep the amateurs off the water and in the malls shopping for their wives and girlfriends. We had no success at the powerline, so we headed down stream. I fished the bridge foundation hole and by 11 o'clock was 3 for 5. Not bad at all for me, and I was comfortable fishing in low 40-degree weather. The orange bead egg imitation was the go-to bait.

Mike headed several hundred yards down stream practicing his casting. About 10:30 I saw him walking up towards me raising his rod hand in triumph and carrying a much sought after Steelie in his other. A man truly addicted. I convinced him that many fly fishermen show off their catch while holding their fly rod in their mouth.

The proof is in the photo of Mike above!

We took a break at mid-day.

If you are ever in the North Springfield area and you love handmade chocolates, you must visit Peggy Gray Candies and Gifts. It is located just north of where Rt. 215 crosses Rt. 5.



I was introduced to these lovely morsels more than 40 years ago when Karin's family vacationed at a church camp along the shores of Lake Erie. Peggy Gray is located just a 10-minute walk from the church camp. Yes -- I purchased a gift box for Karin as well as a few to-go pecan delights for the road.

Since we are planning a spring trip for the strain of Steelies that spawn in the spring and is the strain that the State of Ohio stock, Mike and I decided to scout out the Conneaut. Its origin is in PA, flows west, crosses the state line, and empties into Lake Erie near Conneaut Ohio. Rt. 6N crosses the stream about 10 minutes from the Sunset Motel. We fished for about 45 minutes without success.

Our last stop was at the Conrail Railroad Tubes. We had success there during a previous trip, so we decide to give it a go. Unfortunately, it was not to be. Since we had some time before we had to check out of the motel, we hiked downstream a mile or more looking for future holes to fish. I realized that Elk is a much bigger stream than those on the west side of Erie and afford significantly more fishing locations.

Mike practiced his casting on the way. I had broken off my entire set up two casts in succession, and I was ready to give up, so I tried to provide some casting instruction. I'm not sure I am the best teacher, but he is making progress. AND I created an addict!



The Case of the Subtle Steelhead

fiction by Phil Stevens

apologies to Dir Arthur Conan Doyle

William always said that the most interesting case was the one just solved. With that thought in mind, and realizing that I had not seen William in several weeks, I decided to return to 221-B Lewis Street, not far from downtown Winchester.



It took Mrs. Hudson, the landlady, a rather long time to answer the door, and when she did, she went on at length about one of William's "outrageous, loud, messy, ridiculous dance experiments!" Apparently, William had decided to teach himself the salsa and, in doing so, the music was loud enough to break window glass, and his footwork (or lack thereof) ruined one of Mrs. Hudson's prized oriental carpets.

Walking upstairs, I found William lounging in his favorite chair, wrapped in a paisley robe, Persian slippers on his feet, and his face peering at the screen of his laptop. I also detected the scent of a cigar (an Arturo Fuente by the wrapper cast on the floor...I am not yet able to decipher cigars by their ash).

"Watson! Wonderful to see you! You must come look. I have deduced that the water and weather on the creeks in Erie are prime for the game fish known as Steelhead. I leave tonight exactly at midnight and shall be on the water by half six on the morrow. You MUST come with me. The air temperature will be a balmy 31 degrees, the water at around 38 to 40 degrees, and the levels are up."

Not being a cold weather person, I politely declined and left William rushing about loading his pickup with an amazing variety of fly-fishing equipment and cold weather clothing.

Several days later, I received a telephone call (amazing invention the telephone. You can ring up almost anyone; even the Queen should she be at Buck House) asking me to come right over to hear of his adventure in catching THE SUBTLE STEELHEAD.

Upon arriving at 221-B Lewis Street, William greeted me at the door, Arturo Fuente cigar in hand, and immediately began regaling me with his tale of travel to Erie through the dark and snow to arrive on 20-Mile Creek before dawn.



As William told the tale the water was, indeed, up and running well so he immediately began dressing in eight layers of clothing plus boots and waders. Striding into the creek, he began to cast his favored two fly rig of some combination (William at one point attempted to explain this, but given his scientific mind set it was all ancient Greek to me except for the use of something called 0X tippet and "split shot"). Unfortunately, this did not seem to please the subtle Steelhead and, for most of the day, he had no strikes.

After a brief rest and repast about noon, William decided to try one of his "secret flies" (After multiple attempts at discovering this fabled fly I have ceased my efforts.) After several casts, a subtle Steelhead subtly took the fly. William set the hook and thus began a massive effort to land what William believed to be a somewhat large subtle Steelhead.

The fish charged downstream, it jumped four feet into the air (one is free to be skeptical of this claim since William does tend to exaggerate fish stories at times), it turned and charged William attempting to scare William into dropping his rod and running away (really?).

Finally, finally William was able to beach the subtle Steelhead and discover that it measured 38 inches in length, and weighed 11 pounds.

I must admit to initially thinking that William had, again, stretched the boundaries to truth somewhat until he offered up proof of his conquest as you will see in the photo noted below and in the two choice filets that now reside in Mrs. Hudson's freezer (I must admit to hoping for an invitation to dine should Mrs. Hudson utilize her delicious Steelhead Trout Niçoise Salad recipe).

Thus, ends the tale of THE SUBTLE STEELHEAD and William is now on to his next case supposedly titled "The Case of Tenuous Trout."

Editor's Note: We thank Phil for submitting this, his first work of fiction to appear in LATERAL LINES.





Whisky/Whiskey

edited by Bill Prokopchak

Before we enjoy this sweet little single malt from Islay, you need to be sure you have a couple of table spoons of filtered water at the same temperature as your Scotch.

The water should approximate the temperature of the spirit so the addition of the water won't chill or warm the spirit beyond your favorite temperature.

Others will have differing opinions, but I personally think whisky tastes best at about 64 to 68 degrees. Some folks think a bit cooler is better. Some think that a bit warmer is better. Many think that whisky is best at whatever temperature the whisky happens to be at the moment!

Why am I adding water to this Bunnahabhain (boon-ah-ha-bin) 12 Year Islay Scotch? My particular bottle comes in at 46.3% ABV (alcohol by volume). You can experiment a bit to find your own preference, but for me, 46.3 is a bit high. A teaspoon or two of filtered water brings down the ABV and allows the delicious flavors to come forward, suppressing the taste of the raw alcohol.

Remember, let your whisky rest in the glass for 5 or even 10 minutes before the first sip. ESPECIALLY if it's a new bottle.

Let's finally get down to enjoying this dandy "unpeated" Scotch.

First, as always, let's enjoy the aroma. The Bunnahabhain 12 is a lightly smoked Scotch, making it an ideal entry whisky for anyone just beginning to develop an interest in fine spirits. On the other hand, it is complex enough to keep the more experienced sipper interested.

I get aromas of caramel with just a hint of banana, lightly toasted grain, hints of cinnamon and ginger, and a nicely balanced nutmeg and pumpkin pie.

On the first sip, those delicious autumnal aromas translate into similar flavors with the addition of mild black pepper notes. This is a sweet spirit with nut-like notes, vanilla, and caramel.

There's a layer of intriguing dry oak bitterness in this whisky that balances the overall sweetness, making it, for me a most interesting dram.

The finish is soft vanilla, sweet spices, and caramel. This is a delicious dessert whisky. For me it's perfect after lunch or dinner when you have a comfy easy chair in which to sit, and unencumbered time to enjoy this delightful spirit. It's also perfect after arriving home famished from a day on the Trout stream. You have a great dinner, collapse into your favorite chair, sip your Bunna' 12, and savor the memories of your day on the water.

Bunnahabhain 12 Year is available from Virginia ABS stores for about \$70 for a 750 ml bottle.

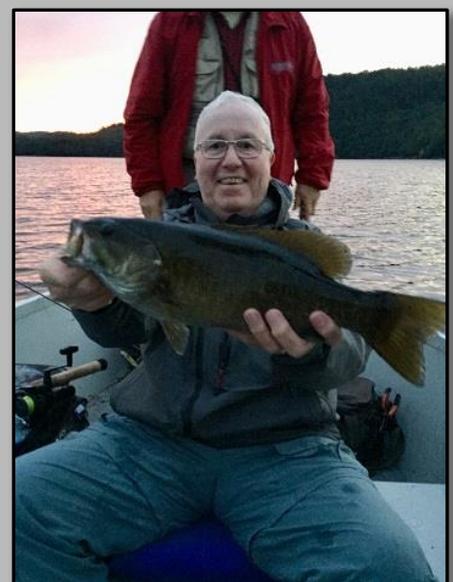


FISHING CAMP RECOMMENDATION NEEDED

Four of my fishing buddies that fish in Canada each July are concerned that the US/Canada border will be closed to tourists again in 2021 due to COVID.

We are looking for a backup plan in the event we cannot get to our favorite lake in western Ontario to routinely catch 15 to 20-inch Smallies. I have spent some time looking for a camp in the Lower and Upper Peninsulas of Michigan but have had no luck. As such, we are in need of a recommendation for a fishing camp / lodge that would accommodate 5 guys in the middle of July. We are locked into **JULY 9-16, 2021** due to vacation scheduling. At this point, we are not concerned what fish species we target. We are just looking for a great catch and release lake or stream. We would consider any location that is a 12-16 hour drive from Winchester. That would include New York, Michigan, or Wisconsin. I must admit that my buds are spin fishermen, so please don't hold that against us.

If any of you could provide a recommendation, it will be greatly appreciated. My contact is: red@boyersnet.com or 540-868-0787.



From the Archives of Winchester Trout Unlimited

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



ell friends, last month I thought I'd be kind and leave some room for Bud and Mark to tell their stories, and this month I don't have a whole lot to write about.

Mark and I fished the North Branch of the Potomac below the big blue hole several weeks ago but couldn't find any decent sized trout. We found a lot of fish up to 5 inches long but that was it.

At first I thought it was a good sign that there had been so much natural reproduction, but when we couldn't find any adult fish I came to the conclusion that the state had stocked fingerlings.

On the next trip, Bud and I went up to Smoke Hole and the results for me were just about the same. I had one 14 to 15 inch rainbow on my line long enough for him to make a five-foot broadjump and to spit me out with a good bye handshake.

On Monday the second of August, I fished Chapel Run and darned if the fish there didn't ignore me like those other fish did on my two prior fishing trips. So other than some time on good water, I don't have anything further to tell you about my latest fishing trips.



Notes From a Neurotic Angler

by Bill Prokopenak

Winter Fishing: The Secret to Staying Warm is to Stay Cool

"Layer up!" is the mantra that we often hear when heading out into the bitter cold. Or as my dad used to say, "Bundle up!"

That may be good advice, but there's more to it.



My fishing buddies often marvel at my ability to fish in the bitter cold and howling wind. Some of them (and they know who they are) will often retreat to the safety of the truck three or four times during an outing to warm up. Some don't even go fishing in December, January, or February !!!

My secret is to stay warm by staying cool -- especially on the drive and/or hike to the fishing spot. First off, I don't overdress for the drive. I want to be sure that I arrive at my destination with not one drop of excess perspiration in my clothing.

Next, I set the temperature control in my old truck to the LOWEST tolerable setting. These two actions, alone insure that my body and my clothes will be as moisture free as possible once I'm on the stream.

There's a saying in the hiking community: "Cotton kills." I avoid cotton clothing in the cold -- especially the bitter cold. All clothing holds some moisture, but cotton is the worst. Definitely, NO blue jeans and NO cotton long johns.

Now for my clothing. I wear two base layers (undies and long undies) of material that doesn't hold moisture. Silk and wool are my preferred fabrics. Thick pile wool socks that come up to my knees. I have two pairs of winter fishing trousers, one heavier than the other and made of synthetic material that does not retain moisture. I choose which pair depending on the expected temperature and precip.

Now for my body core. Remember I already have on two base layer shirts. Next comes a good quality fishing shirt of synthetic material, a polypropylene vest or two, and a warm-when-wet hoodie -- NEVER DOWN.

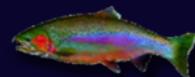
An angler can suffer a lot of heat loss from the head, so I wear a baseball cap, topped by a polypropylene beanie, and then I have the hoodie for additional warmth. The hoodie funnels body heat right up to my head.

Next, I put on my waders and wading shoes. The waders provide both a thermal and wind barrier.

It's now time for my rain jacket with hood which forms yet another combination thermal and wind barrier. Finally, my fishing vest.

All this cold-weather gear can be a bit pricy, but it can make a miserably cold, damp, and windy day a great day to go fishin'.

One Last Tip: Be sure to take a leak immediately before you gear up.



Winchester TU 2021 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.

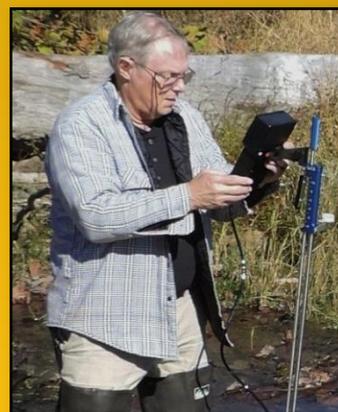
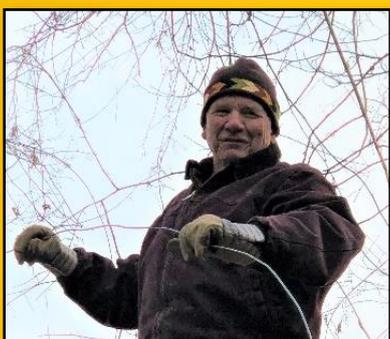
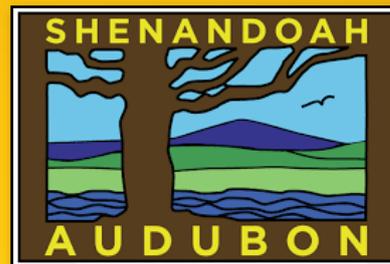


Photo courtesy of The Downstream Project



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.



2020-2021 Calendar of Events

Winchester Trout Unlimited

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

See also

<http://winchestertu.org/>

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 -- **Bud will confirm via email on January 8.**
- ✓ Wednesday 13 January 2021 --7:00 p.m. - BarFly at Escutcheon Brewery **canceled**

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

June 2021

- ✓ Thursday 3 June 2021 -- 7:00 p.m. -- Monthly TU meeting
- ✓ Saturday 5 June 2021 -- Redbud Run workday -- Time to be announced at a later date
- ✓ Wednesday 9 June 2021 --7:00 p.m. - BarFly at Escutcheon Brewery

July 2021

- ✓ Thursday 1 July 2021 -- 7:00 p.m. -- No monthly TU meeting in July
- ✓ Saturday 3 July 2021 -- Redbud Run workday -- Time to be announced at a later date
- ✓ Wednesday 14 July 2021 --7:00 p.m. - BarFly at Escutcheon Brewery

August 2021

- ✓ Thursday 5 August 2021 -- 7:00 p.m. -- No monthly TU meeting in July
- ✓ Saturday 7 August 2021 -- Redbud Run workday -- Time to be announced at a later date
- ✓ Wednesday 11 August 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.

