

Lateral Lines

The Monthly Newsletter of Winchester Trout Unlimited
Recognized as VCTU's best newsletter in 2014 & 2015
2013 Bollinger Award as TU's Finest Newsletter
Chapter #638

March 2016

Volume 21, Number 3



Next meeting is Thursday, March 3, 2016

5:30 p.m. Dinner
IJ Cann's



7:00 p.m. Meeting
NW Works
3085 Shawnee Drive
Winchester

Our featured speaker is Bryan Kelly.
See details below.

Next TU Barfly is Wednesday, March 9, 2016

See details on page 3.

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See you at the meeting on Thursday, March 3, 2016
Bill Prokopchak, Newsletter Editor
540-722-2620

Bryan Kelly, Fishing Guide Winchester TU Featured Speaker March 3rd at 7:00 p.m.

Bryan Kelly will talk about fly fishing for Smallmouth Bass and Muskies in the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers. He will also share information about Trout fishing in private waters available through Kelly's White Fly Outfitters.

Owner of Kelly's White Fly Outfitters and river guide, Bryan Kelly fished the Upper Potomac near Harper's Ferry for fun in the 1980s and 1990s as an escape from the pressures of B.A.S.S. Federation Tournament competition. His passion grew for the hard-fighting Bronze Back and getting away from the Upper Bay and Lower Potomac boat traffic put him on some of the most beautiful scenic rivers in the Mid Atlantic.

After opening the Anglers Inn with his wife Debi in 1996 he was then able to focus on guiding clients on the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers full time.

Author, artist, fly designer, and casting instructor, Bryan brings a full arsenal of fishing techniques, knowledge, and history to all of his guided trips.



Photo and bio courtesy of Bryan Kelly



Bud on the Run: Redbud Run Update - February 13th Workday article and photos by Bud Nagelvoort

Next Work Session: 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 5th

A small, but geologically skillful and cold water insensitive crew appeared on a bright, warm, and sunny February 13th to complete several elements of bank restoration projects at Sites #1 and #3, and further protection for the inverted V installation.

We also explored the beaver dam way upstream from the cattle crossing and identified two ash trees along the north fence line of the long pasture which have succumbed to emerald ash borer. They have subsequently been approved by the proprietor for his firewood supply with the exception of a 12' log which we will use for further bank protection above the inverted V along the north bank, Site #4.



Left: Robert is hard at the intimate work of recovering a large rock that errantly landed in the streambed rather than in the bank protection area.

We recovered a number of small and big rocks inadvertently over-tossed from the high banks at earlier work sessions and bounced into the stream bed rather than the bank protection bed.



Left: The work crew also placed rocks at the north end of the V structure at Site #3.

**“Bud on the Run: February 13th Workday”
continues on the next page.**

Bud on the Run: February 13th Workday -- continued

Article by Bud Nagelvoort

The old beaver dam will get more attention at future work sessions. It backs up a long, shallow pool gradually filling in with sediment. It appears to offer no real benefit for beavers since the depth of the pool does not accommodate beaver residential facilities and cannot be made to do so at that location.

Robert and I poked at it with our long handled garden hoe and pulled several small logs out from the north end in part to determine on another visit if the beavers try immediate repairs. We did see one 4' x 2" tree limb whose bark had been recently chewed off.



The impoundment behind this ancient beaver dam has completely silted in over the decades. There has been no beaver activity in this area in recent years. The dam will be observed for signs of new beaver activity.

We'll work to remove the dam gradually over spring months so there is no major load of sediment and dam materials washing downstream in a roar.

While walking back to vehicles from the beaver dam we noted the two ash trees and mentally pictured a proper sized log for use at the V structure. Wayne has since given his permission for our use of the log.

One other situation related to Redbud. The new development area just south of the VaDGIF parking lot is now excavating basements for several houses and may be producing more shale rock for possible streambank protection use. No one there after the work session for an inquiry, but I will venture there some time before the next meeting to see what, if anything, is available.

In the meantime, think about the next work session planned for March 5. It will no doubt involve cutting and moving an ash log into place where it will be boarded in. If we have shale rock opportunities we will plan to secure them and deposit along the new log, otherwise a few loads of limestone rock will be secured at the Sulphur Spring Road site.

By the way, the cover and pool at the inverted V looks as if it could hold at least one and maybe two 20" rainbow gems. Maybe a cast or two will be in order before disturbing the site with new construction at the next work session.

In any event, tight lines -----

Bud



Winchester TU Monthly "Bar Fly" Event Wednesday, March 9th at 7:00 p.m.

The Winchester Chapter of Trout Unlimited will be gathering at Escutcheon Brewing in Winchester to offer anglers in our area the opportunity to learn about Trout Unlimited and to tie some fishing flies. We hope all of you can attend "Bar Fly" at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 9th, at Escutcheon Brewery.

No fly-tying or fly-fishing experience required. Please invite your friends. We hope to introduce more folks to the Winchester TU chapter and support a local business that supports TU.

Escutcheon Brewing Company is a craft brewery. The brewery and tasting room are located at 142 W. Commercial St. in Winchester.





PHW Update

Upcoming Classes for the April 22nd Fly-Fishing Outing

by Paul Wilson, PHW Program Leader,
Martinsburg VAMC

We have a Project Healing Waters (PHW) fly-fishing event date for Earth Day, Friday, April 22nd. We will be doing an all fly-fishing event at the Leetown Fish Hatchery Pond for the Martinsburg VA's PRRP (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Recovery Rehabilitation) Program. The Charles Town American Legion Post will provide meals for veterans and volunteers.

Casting classes for the PRRP Program will be during their regular gym hours, which are Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. We will hold casting classes on April 6th, 13th, and the 20th. I will send out a call for volunteers on March 30th with directions to the VA's gym ("Heroes Center").

Another Equipment Donation !



In February, Mr. George Gaines, PHW Director for the Maryland and Washington, DC, PHW programs, donated two fly reels and 11 fly rods to our Martinsburg PHW Program.

With the other equipment donations over the last few months from the Elks of West Virginia and from Mrs. Laurie Morrison of Winchester, we now have about 30 rods and reels for veterans' fishing outings.

Also in February, a used fly-rod and reel was donated to each of the VA programs that have been active in our PHWFF program. PRRP (the PTSD group) and CAT-5 (substance abuse recovery program) each received a 5-weight rod, case, and reel with 5-wt line. The program Recreation Therapist will now have a rod and reel to loan out to a vet who wants to practice casting skills.

Our PHW Project needs your gently used fly reels: With the recent equipment donations, we have built a good stock of rods and reels for the veterans to use; HOWEVER, some of our reels are quite old and barely usable. So, if you have a gently used reel (for 5-6 wt. lines) with or without line **PLEASE DONATE!!**

New Social Media: Please remember to send pictures to Charlie and Kenny for our Chapter and PHW program websites. And please "like" us on Facebook, use the calendar on our TU site, and, of course, all suggestions and additional content are much appreciated.

And as always, if you are available to volunteer for any of our Project Healing Waters fly-fishing events or classes, please contact me to be added to my email list.

Paul Wilson
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Check out our **new** Website: <http://www.healingwatersmartinsburg.org/>

Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ProjectHealingWatersOfMartinsburgWestVirginia>

National PHW website: <http://www.projecthealingwaters.org/>



On the Fly:

Fifth Annual Project Healing Waters Harman's Fly Fest

by Carl A. Rettenberger

photos courtesy of Lally Laksberg

Once again, I had the honor and privilege of being invited to and attending the 5th Annual Project Healing Waters Harman's Fly Fest held in Cabins, West Virginia, during the weekend of December 4th, 5th, and 6th, 2015.



The event was well attended by 69 wounded warriors, guides, and support staff, filling all 20 of Harman's cabins. Somehow, the weather gods smiled down on us and we were blessed with perfect weather all weekend.



Besides fly fishing a beautiful and well stocked private section of the North Fork of the South Branch of the Potomac River for some really fat rainbow and brown trout, there were, as shown in the photo below, fly tying lessons to occupy the evening hours.

In the photo to the right, the veterans learn the fundamentals of tying my "Pheasant Tail Variant".



"On the Fly"
continues on the next page.

On the Fly:

Fifth Annual Project Healing Waters Harman's Fly Fest by Carl A. Rettenberger and photos courtesy of Lally Laksberg

Saturday evening was awards time, during which I had the honor of awarding two of my trout carvings to three worthy veterans and friends of mine.

The first of which was the 18.5inch North Fork rainbow pictured below, which I caught and released during the 4th Annual Event, after my wounded warrior was done fishing for the day.



Editor's Note: Angler artist, Carl Rettenberger, is a dedicated catch-and-release angler. To commemorate fish that he or others have caught, he carves wooden replicas so that the original fish can be released unharmed.

This carving was awarded to Jim Ottevaere (above in green jacket) and Vic Edwards (black jacket) for their efforts in starting and running Bamboo Bend. This North Fork Rainbow carving will be auctioned off in June of 2016. It is anticipated that it will add a tidy sum to the Bamboo Bend treasury, given that the silent auction is well attended by what I've been told are some real "High Rollers".

Bamboo Bend is a great project best described by the following:

"Six PHWFF participants from programs across the country traveled to Grayling, MI, for the 5th Annual Bamboo Bend rod building class. Each year the Bamboo Bend Project invites PHWFF participants to attend a nine day program, during which they are instructed in the art and craft of building a bamboo fly rod. They are offered professionally guided fishing trips, fly tying sessions, and good fellowship.

"The PHWFF Bamboo Bend Program was originated by Jim Ottevaere, a volunteer with the PHWFF programs at Quantico and Fort Belvoir in Northern Virginia. Jim's passion for the participants of PHWFF spurred onward the idea of a bamboo rod building class and approached his friend, and Grayling, Michigan, resident, Vic Edwards, with the idea. Jim's passion and Vic's military background, and rod making skills, were the perfect combination in the creation of a bamboo rod building project. Experienced instructors were recruited and the Bamboo Bend was born. Both Jim and Vic also engaged the local community and the resulting support was overwhelming."



The second award was the 11inch Brown Trout Carving pictured below, which went to Bob Gartner (in camo hat), a good friend of mine and Program Lead for the Fort Belvoir Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing Program. This carving is a half scale of a beautiful 22-inch Bighorn River Brown Trout that Bob Caught in Wyoming last fall.

As always, I'm looking forward to this year's event!!



If you want to spend a few quality days fishing for some really nice Rainbow and Brown Trout, I would strongly recommend a trip to Harman's Cabins. It takes less than two hours to get there from Winchester and is well worth the trip. Check it out on their website: <http://www.wvlogcabins.com/>

c.a.r.



The Well-Schooled Angler

Compiled by Barbara Gamble

Backpack Fly Fishing: A Back-to-Basics Approach

Author: Daniel E. Steere
Paperback: 208 pages
ISBN-13: 978-1634507493
Publisher: Skyhorse Publishing
Publication Date: March 15, 2016

Simplify! A simpler approach, simpler fishing trip, and simpler fly-fishing mindset.

Increasingly, the trend in fly fishing has been toward greater specialization and complexity. This trend has taken many anglers away from what they loved best about fly-fishing: catching a wide variety of fish with simple, minimalist equipment that can fit into a daypack. *Backpack Fly Fishing* helps readers to understand why we need to get back to a simpler approach and how to enjoy doing it.

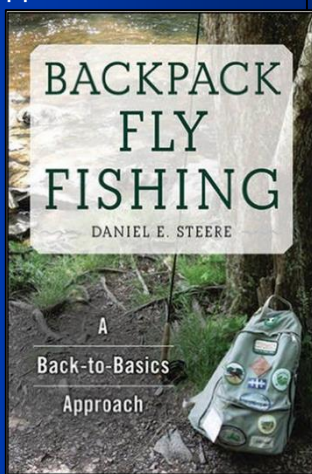
In *Backpack Fly Fishing*, Daniel E. Steere provides a comprehensive philosophy for this back-to-basics approach to fishing. He includes chapters on equipment selection, fish that can be caught using this equipment and how to catch them, how to approach different types of waters, and important flies and how to tie them.

Additional chapters address how backpack fly-fishing fits into the context of other outdoor activities such as camping, hiking, and birding.

Everyone can benefit from Steere's helpful information, including current fly fishermen who want to try a less complicated, back-to-basics approach; spin and bait fishermen who want to try the sport of fly fishing without breaking the bank on fishing equipment; and hikers, campers, bicyclists, and other outdoors people who want to be able to fish in waters that they may happen upon during their journeys through the wilds.

Daniel E. Steere has been fly fishing for over thirty years. During that time, he has fished in the eastern and western United States and in the Maritime provinces of Canada catching trout, bass, pan fish, salmon, and saltwater fish. He has field-tested these backpack fly-fishing strategies over the past three decades.

Sources: Amazon.com, Barnesandnoble.com, and the publisher



Joan Wulff's New Fly-Casting Techniques

Author: Joan Wulff
Paperback: 224 pages
ISBN-10: 1493022644
ISBN-13: 978-1493022649
Publisher: Lyons Press
Publication Date: April 1, 2016 (2nd edition)

This remarkable book is for everyone who fishes with a fly rod—or wants to learn. In its first edition, *Joan Wulff's Fly-Casting Techniques* became an instant classic, revolutionizing the art form of fly casting and changing how an entire generation approached the sport.

Now, with *Joan Wulff's New Fly Casting Techniques*, Joan brings her pioneering set of casting "mechanics" to a new audience, offering precise descriptive terms for every part of the cast. Sections are included on improving accuracy and distance, loop control, shooting lines, aerial mending, the double haul, correcting common mistakes, and more.

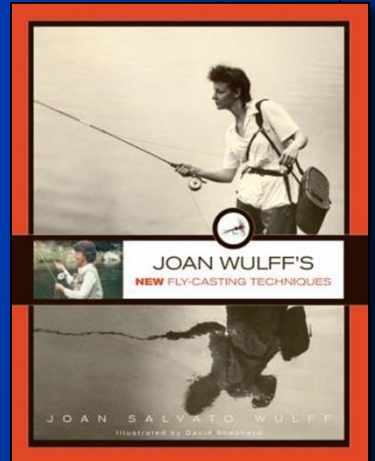
With improvements and refinements on her original techniques, and with a set of extraordinary drawings by David Shepherd, this becomes the most comprehensive book ever written on fly casting.

"If you're going to get one casting book, get this one, period, exclamation point."
 --Fly Rod & Reel

Joan Wulff is the first instructor to unravel the mystery of fly casting to the point of pioneering a set of mechanics. These were presented in her book, *Joan Wulff's Fly Casting Techniques* (1987).

She is also the author of *Joan Wulff's Fly Fishing: Expert Advice from a Woman's Perspective* (1991), and *Joan Wulff's Fly Casting Accuracy* (1997).

Sources: Amazon.com, Barnesandnoble.com, and the publisher



The American Museum of Fly Fishing

in Manchester Center, VT, maintains an impressive collection of 1,200 reels that demonstrate the evolution from the early cast bronze reels to today's lightweight aluminum reels. The collection includes some well-known and other lesser-known reel makers from around the world. - See more at: <http://www.amff.com/reels.html#sthash.3StmRMw6.dpuf>



One of their display items is the Hewitt Reel. Edward Ringwood Hewitt (1866-1957) is one of the great figures of 20th century angling. He wrote voluminously on trout and salmon fishing, popularized nymph fishing in this country, was an early exponent of dry-fly fishing for salmon, and was also one of the first to help promote catch-and-release fishing.

It is currently believed that Hewitt built only 22 fly reels. At present, only seven Hewitt reels are known to exist, including this one once owned by angler-author Maxine Atherton.



Product Line: Making Your Own Fly-Tying Trash Bin

by Mark Zimmerman

I made this trash bin yesterday for my fly tying vise and it came out well, so I thought I'd share the idea.

I wanted a small, light-weight, portable, removal waste basket, and I didn't want to spend \$35 on the commercially available ones.



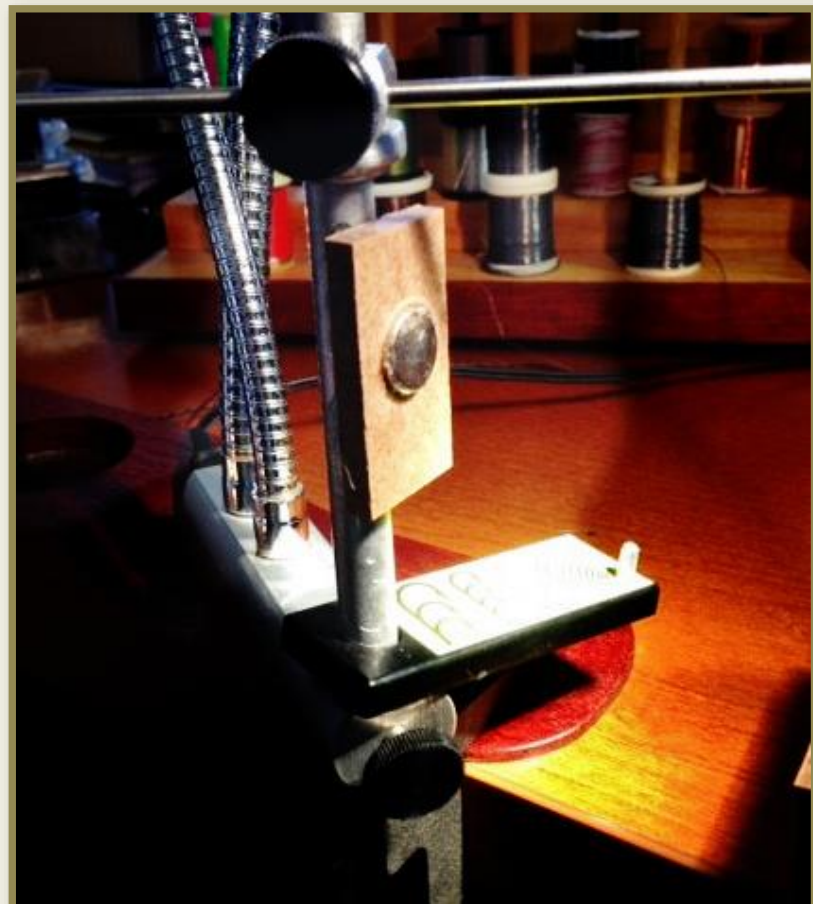
So I took a light weight plastic container that I had in my shop (6 inches long X 4 inches wide), cut it down to the right depth, and hot-glued a wood strip to the outside top edge -- before gluing, I drilled a 1/2 - inch hole 3/4 of the way through the wood strip and hot-glued in a rare-earth magnet.



I took a similarly drilled and magnetized wood strip and hot-glued it to the post of my vise.

It works really well, isn't in the way, and is completely portable so I can take it to the Bar Fly and other tying events. And it's easy to empty.

Editor's Note: It also catches those bead heads that always want to bounce off your fly-tying table and get lost.



September Visit to the Glasgow Family Tree Farm

article and photos by Lisa LaCivita

It was raining pretty hard and steady on that Saturday morning last September. Despite the rain, about fifty people came to Allan & Jodi Glasgow's Hampshire County, West Virginia, property to visit the family's "tree farm". Allan received "Tree Farmer of the Year Award" in 2015. This award was from the West Virginia Forestry Association and the tour was designed to showcase the property, Allan's approach to "tree farming" and his land management techniques. I was interested in this tour because of a conversation about the merits of the traditional plastic "tree tubes" used extensively when riparian buffers are planted. This was not Allan's approach, he used wire mesh cages, and he obviously has enjoyed some success.

If a visitor was expecting neat rows of a plantation type monoculture, on the Glasgow Family property, then a visitor would be surprised. The property, spanning the Cacapon River, was a lush, well-vegetated portion Appalachian deciduous forest. There was a mix of age classes and plant types -- native "wild planted" or "volunteers", native species planted by Allan and his team, and some non-native varieties hosting seeds or fruit eaten by wildlife.

There was also the usual array of unwanted invasive species ready to colonize a disturbed area.



The Glasgows manage their land for timber and for wildlife. The forested areas, in close proximity to the Cacapon River, also protects water quality by stabilizing banks, limiting erosion, intercepting nutrients and providing the water filtering and absorbing properties of forests and forest soils. These forests shade and cool the Cacapon and help the waters to run clear, proving great habitat for those cold water fish that Trout Unlimited is dedicated to.

Allan's technique has a common sense component. He plants the seedlings in raised beds and lets the saplings establish a good root system before they are planted in permanent locations. Because the beds are raised, it is easier to move this root mass when the time comes for transplanting. The developed root system is essential for a sapling to compete with grasses and other vegetation as the tree gets established. Allan was able to demonstrate the success of this approach by showing us older, smaller trees that did not get the period of root development and contrast them with younger, taller trees that did.



The riparian forest was well supplied with native Paw Paw trees and we were able to find a few ripe ones to sample. We enjoyed a tasty lunch, featuring local apples.

After lunch, those interested in exploring more of the forest were ferried to the opposite bank of the river. The rain had let up by then, allowing for an enjoyable hike through the forest and up to a forested bluff with an old family cemetery.

My thanks for the very interesting tour go out to Allan, Jodi, their family and friends who helped, and to The West Virginia University Department of Forestry a co-sponsor the event.



2016 Calendar of Events

Winchester Trout Unlimited

By Fred Boyer

See the complete calendar
of Winchester TU events at
winchestertu.org

March 2016

- ✓ Thursday 3 March 2016 -- 7:00 p.m. - TU monthly meeting featuring Brian Kelly of White Fly Outfitters
- ✓ Saturday 5 March 2016 -- 9:00 a.m. - TU workday at Redbud Run and Morgan's Mill Road
- ✓ Wednesday 9 March 2016 -- 7:00 p.m. - TU Bar Fly at Escutcheon Brewery, Winchester

April 2016

- ✓ Thursday 7 April 2016 -- 7:00 p.m. - TU monthly meeting - Speaker Dee Dee Barbour who is the Director of Philanthropy for the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley
- ✓ Wednesdays 6, 13, 20 April 2016 -- 1:00 p.m. - PHW Fly-fishing lessons at Martinsburg Veterans Hospital
- ✓ Saturday 9 April 2016 -- 9:00 a.m. - TU workday at Redbud Run and Morgan's Mill Road
- ✓ Saturday 16 April 2016 -- time?? - Fly-casting clinic at Cool Spring
- ✓ Friday 22 April 2016 -- PHW fly-fishing trip for veterans

May 2016

- ✓ Sunday 1 May 2016 -- TIME? - Subaru Adventure Show
- ✓ Thursday 5 May 2016 -- 7:00 p.m. - TU monthly meeting - Featured speaker is Harry Reid
- ✓ Saturday 7 May 2016 -- 9:00 a.m. - Redbud Run Cleanup Day preparing for Brookie Release Days
- ✓ 13 & 14 May 2016 -- Brookie Release Days - Tentative dates

June 2016

- ✓ Thursday 2 June 2016 -- 7:00 p.m. - TU monthly meeting
- ✓ Saturday 4 June 2016 -- 9:00 a.m. - TU workday at Redbud Run and Morgan's Mill Road
- ✓ Sunday 26 June 2016 to Saturday 1 July 2016 -- Tri-State Fishing Camp for High School Students (Stan Ikonen is our chapter contact person.)

July 2016

- ✓ No monthly meeting in July
- ✓ TBA -- 8:00 a.m. - TU workday at Redbud Run and Morgan's Mill Road

August 2016

- ✓ Thursday 4 August 2016 -- 7:00 p.m. - TU monthly meeting
- ✓ Saturday 6 August 2016 -- 8:00 a.m. - TU workday at Redbud Run and Morgan's Mill Road

September 2016

- ✓ Thursday 1 September 2016 -- 7:00 p.m. - TU monthly meeting
- ✓ Saturday 3 September 2016 -- 8:00 a.m. - TU workday at Redbud Run and Morgan's Mill Road

October 2016

- ✓ Thursday 6 October 2016 -- 7:00 p.m. - Joint TU and Shenandoah Audubon Society meeting at Lord Fairfax Community College - Featured speaker is Gregory D. Wiens, PhD, of the USDA fisheries research facility in Kearneysville, WV
- ✓ Saturday 8 October 2016 -- 8:00 a.m. - TU workday at Redbud Run and Morgan's Mill Road
- ✓ Sunday 30 October through Saturday 5 November 2016 -- Steelhead trip to Erie

November 2016

- ✓ Thursday 3 November 2016 -- 7:00 p.m. - TU monthly meeting



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.



Winchester TU December Dinner 2015

by Lisa LaCivita
with Mark Zimmerman

It can be a little bittersweet when an organization outgrows its past traditions. Previous to 2015, the Winchester Chapter of Trout Unlimited gathered at a member's home for a December Dinner. Notably, our hosts for the past 5+ years were Chele & Charlie Loudermilk, who not only had the dinner at their home, but prepared it as well! We are grateful for their wonderful hospitality.

As the membership of WTU has continued to grow, the 2015 December Dinner needed to be relocated to a new venue, which allowed us to include a chapter fundraising event with the meal.



Gene Lewis, who is the Site Manager for the Shenandoah River Campus at the Cool Spring Battlefield (Shenandoah University), was able to offer this site for the function. It would have been tough to host 45 people, for a sit-down dinner, at any member's home, so the Cool Spring Campus was a great fit.



Photos by Lisa LaCivita
and Dan Barkensiek



The building provided a spacious dining area and an adjacent room that we used for appetizers and the silent auction. Did I mention the food? Chef Jason Vanbenschoten (son of member Dave & Dianne Vanbenschoten) and his team prepared appetizers and a delicious meal for us. We enjoyed a fabulous dinner, a fun evening mingling, visiting, and getting to know other members, spouses, and guests; plus, the silent auction and bucket raffle brought in over \$1,300 for the chapter!

Many thanks to those who donated and purchased auction items, to Gene Lewis for orchestrating use of the Cool Spring Campus, and to the holiday party volunteers who arranged the silent auction and other details of the event: Mark Zimmerman and Paul Wilson handled most of the silent auction and bucket raffle planning and implementation; Charlie Loudermilk and Gene Lewis coordinated all of the meal-related activities; Dan Brakensiek was also involved with the planning and helped with the set up and cleanup; and Bill Prokopchak did all of the email/head count tracking and treasury-related activities at the event.

