

WINCHESTER
TROUT UNLIMITED



CHAPTER #638

Celebrating
30 Years of
Lateral Lines

Lateral Lines

The Monthly Magazine of Winchester Trout Unlimited
Chapter #638

If olive oil comes from olives, where does baby oil come from? -- Anonymous

June 2025

Volume 30, Number 6

Winchester TU Meeting

Thursday, 5 June 2025, 7:00 PM
Rachel's Kitchen, Shenandoah Lodge,
Lake Frederick, VA

Winchester TU Priority Waters Meeting

Thursday, 5 June 2025, 6:00 PM
Rachel's Kitchen, Shenandoah Lodge,
Lake Frederick, VA

Project Healing Waters Monthly meeting

Wednesday, 11 June 2025
Agenda to be announced later
RSVP Required

BarFly

The next Winchester TU BarFly
Wednesday, 18 June 2025
7:00 PM at Escutcheon Brewing Co.
142 W. Commercial Street, Winchester

For complete calendars, please see
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Bill Prokopchak, Newsletter Editor
wilpro@comcast.net

Winchester TU Featured Speaker

Thursday, 5 June 2025 at 7:00 PM

Fishing Licenses, Rules, & Regulations in Virginia

with featured speaker

Jackson Dierberg,

Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources
Conservation Police Officer

Officer Dierberg will help all of us understand and remain in compliance with Virginia's fishing and boating regulations while we are enjoying the abundant natural resources that our state has to offer.



photo courtesy of
Jackson Dierberg

Winchester TU Featured Video

Thursday, 7 August 2025 at 7:00 PM

Elwha River Dam Removal video

"Return of the River"

introduction by

Luke Robins

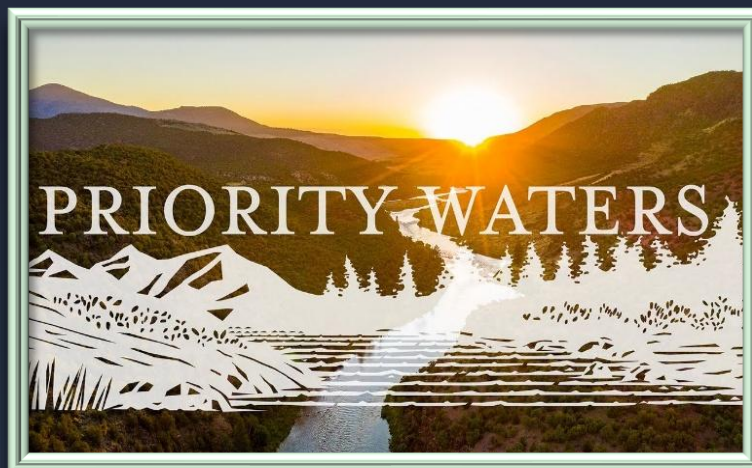
Luke has lived near the Elwha River in the state of Washington and is very familiar with the river before and after the removal of both dams. He has seen first hand the initial recovery of migrating salmon in the Elwha River.



photo credit: "Return of the River"

Winchester TU Priority Waters: Barriers – Taking Their Measure

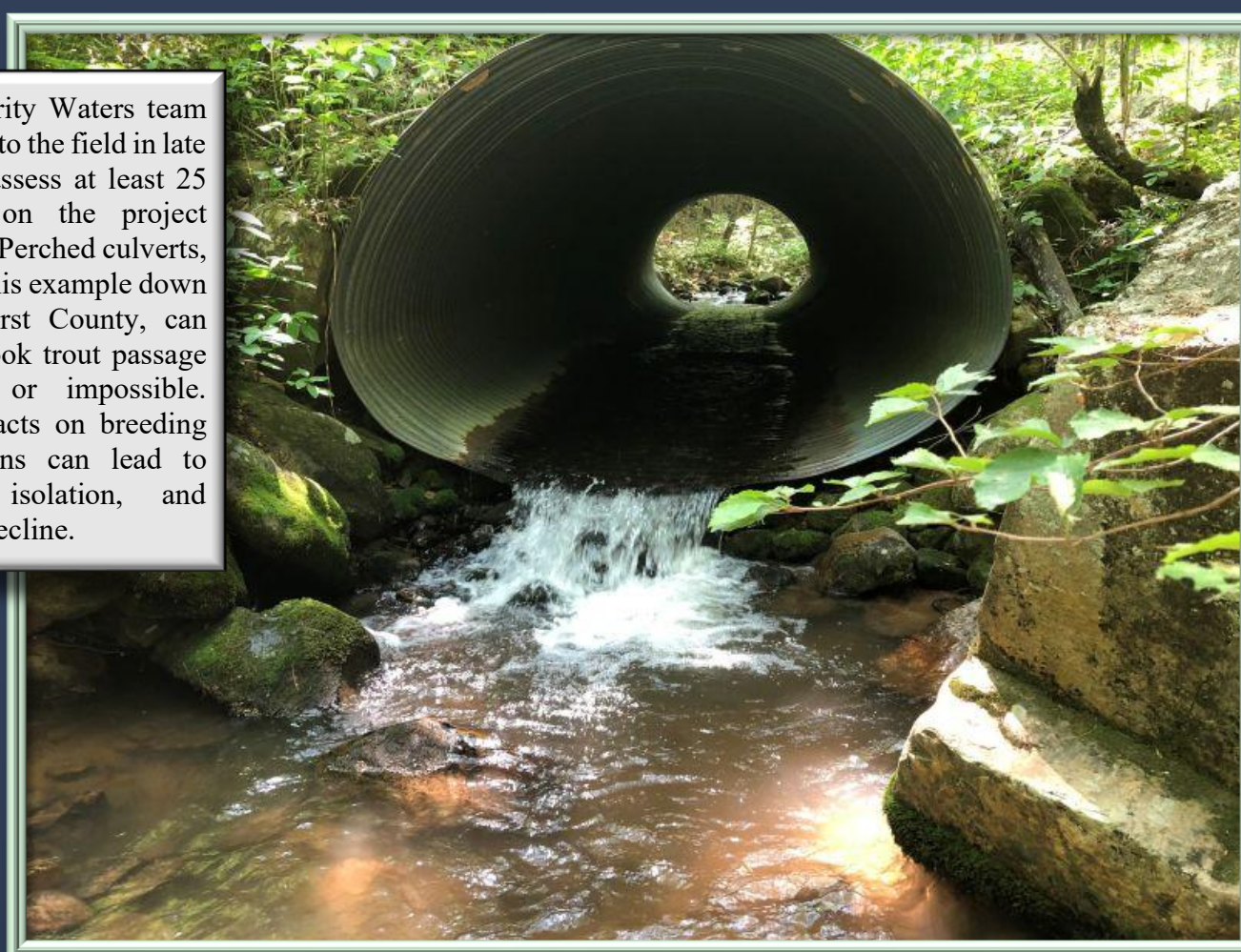
article & photos by Michael Lawler Smith



One of the chapter's key tasks under its cooperative agreement with the George Washington & Jefferson National Forest is a thorough evaluation of potentially impassable stream barriers on both project streams, Mill Run at Veach's Gap and Little Passage Creek.

When the Priority Waters group met 1 May 2025, before the regularly scheduled chapter meeting, team leader Mike Makufka presented the gathering (Ben Coffman, Tedd Gimber, Stan Ikonen, Dave Juth, John Prescott, Luke Robins and Mike Smith) a very focused agenda detailing recently acquired survey gear, including the official stadia rods and laser distance measuring devices, and suggestions on when and how to deploy field crews.

The Priority Waters team will go into the field in late June to assess at least 25 barriers on the project streams. Perched culverts, such as this example down in Amherst County, can make brook trout passage difficult or impossible. The impacts on breeding populations can lead to genetic isolation, and species decline.



The group discussed best approaches for their tasks, and agreed that Tedd and Luke, the newly trained and certified barrier assessment trainees, would jointly head the initial assessment outings. This approach would assure standard, agreed-upon protocols for subsequent outings. Mike Makufka reminded the group that the team faced a significant logistical challenge – 20 known barriers on Little Passage and five on Mill run, both figures per earlier preliminary assessments conducted by the Forest Service. But data on stream barriers can change significantly over relatively brief periods of time – especially in an era of marked climate change.

The Priority Water team will field its first barrier assessments Wednesday, 25 June 2025, with the group gathering at the Target parking lot, Crooked Run Plaza, Front Royal, for an 8:00 AM departure.

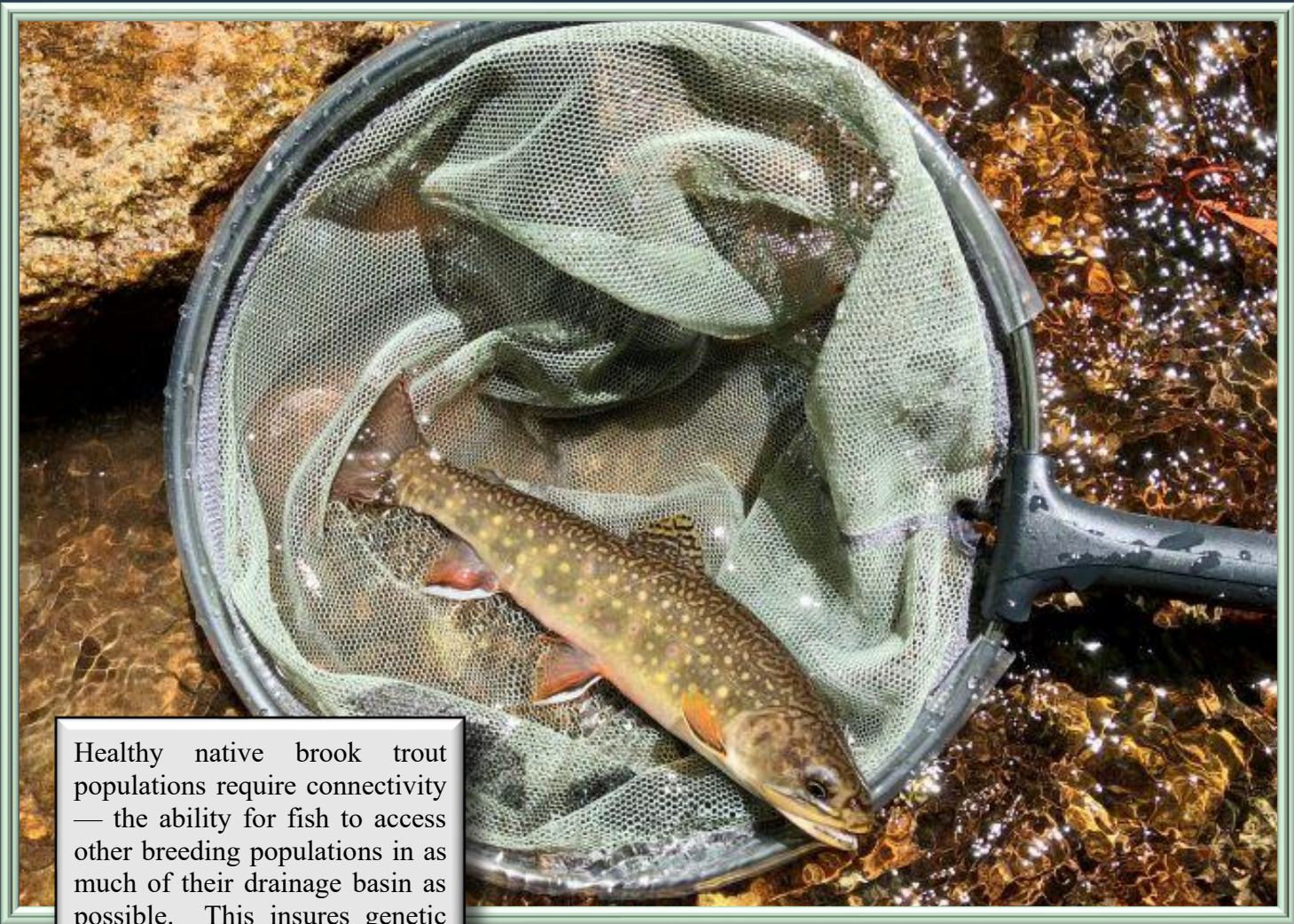
Mike Makufka reported that all essential equipment has now been acquired for the team's 2025 endeavors (and likely beyond), including chemical testing kits for dissolved oxygen and pH meters. Mike walked the group through budget outlays to date, and Dave Juth indicated they match with expenses shown in the overall chapter monthly budget report.

“Priority Waters” continues on the next page.

Priority Waters -- continued

The team also discussed preliminary plans for the next stream monitoring session scheduled for 8 July 2025. This outing will represent the very first data harvest from the TidBit data loggers and will afford the group the opportunity to assess the interim success (or, possibly, the lack thereof) of their chosen test sites. DO and pH tests will also be conducted at that time.

The question was raised whether or not the team might be capable of sampling aquatic insects at the data gathering stations. All agreed to the value, but noted that a standardized procedure should be developed. One team member suggested that aquatic invertebrate collections might be a valuable place where the Northern Virginia Chapter could easily “plug in,” with a win/win allowing NoVa TU a substantive role in Priority Waters and enriching the data sets Winchester TU could array for the Forest Service.



Healthy native brook trout populations require connectivity — the ability for fish to access other breeding populations in as much of their drainage basin as possible. This insures genetic diversity and long term health of the species.

In other discussion matters, Luke Robins volunteered to draft a press announcement about the chapter’s partnership with Forest Service and its efforts for conserving Massanutten Mountain’s restored native brook trout for future generations. The press release could be issued to The Northern Virginia DAILY and The Winchester STAR and possibly other news outlets in the Shenandoah Valley and Northern Virginia metro area. Mike Smith volunteered to assist Luke in editing the offering; he also suggested approaching Forest Service about placement of specially designed Priority Waters signage (with FS and TU logos) at both streams indicating the goals of the partnership.

The Priority Waters team will convene again one hour before the next monthly Winchester TU Chapter meeting, thus at 6:00 p.m., Thursday, 5 June 2025, in Rachel’s Kitchen, Shenandoah Lodge, Lake Frederick.



Winchester TU Priority Waters 2025 Calendar of Field Days

courtesy of Mike Makufka



- Wednesday, 25 June 2025
- Tuesday, 8 July 2025
- Tuesday, 9 September 2025
- Tuesday, 18 November 2025

WINCHESTER HEALING WATERS ERWIN CASTO TAKES PHW SKILLS INTO A CREATIVE NEW DIRECTION

by Michael Lawler Smith

photos by Irwin Casto
unless otherwise noted

As one of the Winchester Project Healing Waters' earliest and most devoted participants, Erwin Casto has taken to fly fishing like the proverbial fish takes to water. He has participated in PHW angling adventures at Freedom Ranch in Montana; the Virginia Elks Camp near Millboro, VA; Winchester Izaak Walton League; and Shenandoah University's Cool Springs campus. Another venue is worth mentioning: the trout pond at the National Fisheries Center at Leetown, WV. In fact, Erwin has been so successful at this last site, he's practically earned the nickname "the Leetown Legend."



Stated succinctly, Erwin catches fish. But he is always quick to ascribe his success to good luck or the skills of the PHW volunteer accompanying him that particular day. He has been a regular at the PHW monthly fly-tying events since the outset; and his skills have advanced accordingly. He also takes part in the extra, more in-depth tying sessions offered regularly at Jake's Bait and Tackle on Ezra Lane on Winchester's north side.

But Erwin soon realized as he was getting into fly tying, the gear and materials really start to multiply quickly. Soon enough, that question emerges: "How do I carry all this stuff!?"

Erwin looked online. Various internet searches soon revealed what he was looking for – portable fly-tying stations. What he hadn't sought was the sticker shock. Some ranged from \$600 - \$800!

There has to be a better, cheaper solution, Erwin thought. So, he studied the designs of some of the better ones he had found, noting the strengths and drawbacks of each.

Above right: Erwin Casto shows the main interior chamber of his traveling fly tying set up.

photo by Mike Smith

Above: The components of Erwin's fly tying project are ready for assembly.

Right: Using the table of his Hitachi saw, Erwin checks the fit of each piece.



"Winchester PHW"
continues on the next page.

WINCHESTER PHW -- CONTINUED



EST. PROJECT 2005
HEALING WATERS



"The hardware actually cost more than the wood," Erwin noted. How much did his materials run?

He says, "not that much – certainly less than \$50." Quite a savings over the offerings off in cyber-land! And one that easily rivals the best of them.

He decided on a simple yet very functional design – one that would allow ample storage for essential tying tools and materials, and one that could provide a very sturdy base for his new rotary vise.

After some thought, sketches and a trip to Lowe's, Erwin set to his task. As the photos illustrate, Erwin is no stranger to woodworking. Crafting the New Zealand softwood into its 16" x 11" x 7" finished dimensions, he applied a chestnut stain and fitted the hardware.



Above left: The pieces fit as planned

Above: Erwin Casto, right, explains to Mike Smith how he selected hardware for his portable fly tying desk.

photo by Wayne White

Left: Irwin's fly-tying station is ready for action.

photo by Mike Smith

Below: Irwin's fly-tying station is closed and ready to travel.



If you would like to see Erwin's handiwork firsthand, you need only visit one of the second Wednesdays of each month PHW fly tying sessions at the Shenandoah lodge, or the extended sessions usually offered on the third Saturday's.

Unsurprisingly, Erwin is happy to share details on how to replicate what he constructed. And stay tuned: Erwin has another desktop home fly tying station in the works. Hope we can share photos of that in a coming LATERAL LINES.

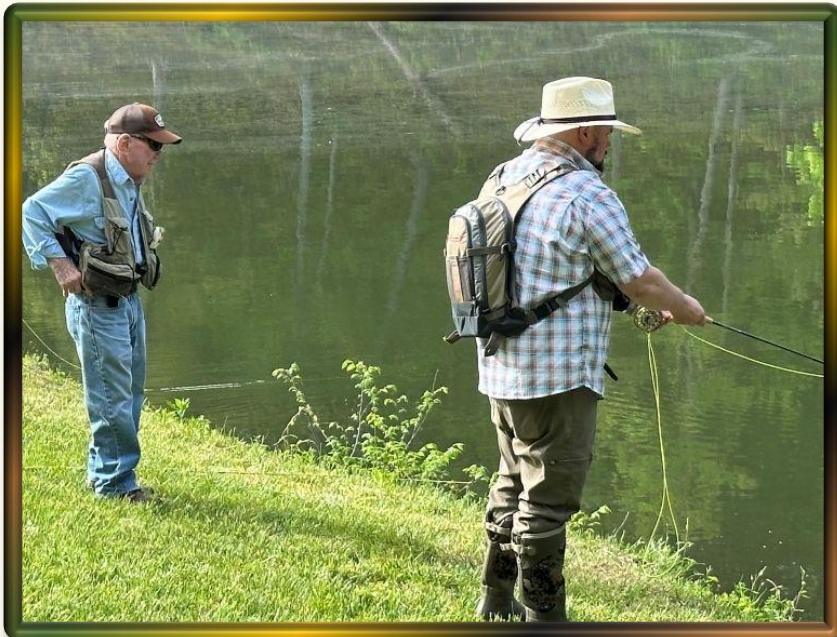




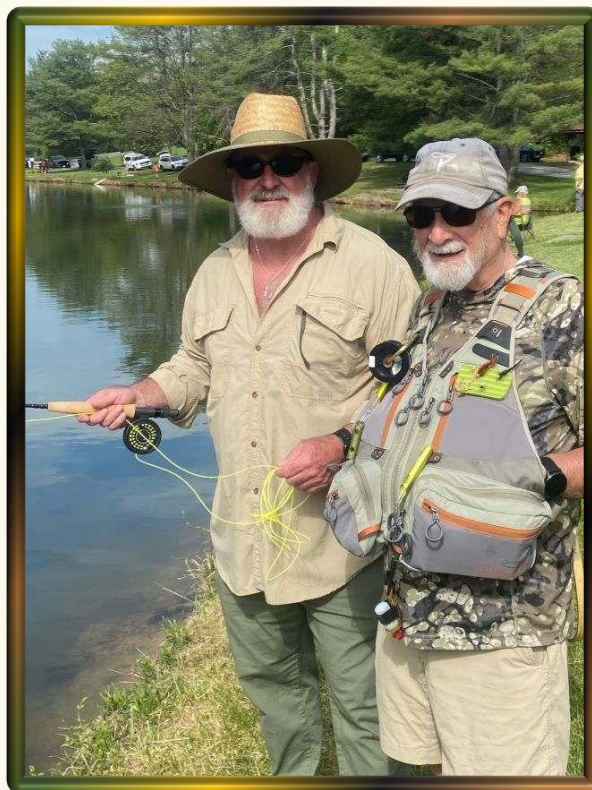
EST. PROJECT 2005
HEALING WATERS

WINCHESTER PHW FOCUS IS TROUT FISHING IN MAY: AT THE WINCHESTER IZAAK WALTON PARK

by Wayne White



May is often the high point of spring trout fishing in Virginia. Stream flows are excellent, bugs are hatching, and cool temperatures keep the fish active and happy! With that in mind, the Winchester Healing Waters program and activities centered around preparing for and getting out on the water at three events for optimal spring fishing.



Winchester veterans and volunteers began honing their casting and fishing skills with a day outing at Lake Neff, Izaak Walton in Winchester on Saturday, 3 May. Participants landed a few small game fish, and one trout came to the net. It was a day for patience and practice.

Rain earlier in the week and cool temperatures kept the lunkers off the bite. Nonetheless, plenty of practice casting, fly changes, and knot-tying made the event educational.

Thanks to Phil Stevens for arranging the Winchester Mission BBQ lunch, which was an overwhelming success. The luncheon provided an excellent opportunity to recognize some volunteers with their PHW service pins and participants with the recognition pins.



Top: Galen Hart (l) carefully watches Kristjan Ruahala's casting technique.
photo by Mike Smith

Above: Burr Tupper (r) surveys another spot for Ray Benjamin to fish from the bank at Lake Neff.
photo by Wayne White

Left: Thomas Giles checks the slack in his line before making a cast at Lake Neff.
photo by Mike Smith

Below: Winchester participants and volunteers take a break from fishing at Lake Neff to capture the outing with the new banner.
photo by Mike Smith



"Winchester PHW"
continues on the next page.

WINCHESTER PHW FOCUS IS TROUT FISHING IN MAY: AT THE WTU MONTHLY MEETING

At the monthly meeting on Wednesday, 14 May 2025, a presentation of lines and leaders, tying the Clouser minnow, tying basic knots, and a casting session provided participants and volunteers three opportunities to learn and sharpen their angling skills. Burr Tupper's presentation focused on the types, purposes, and selection of different fly lines and leaders' use. The tutorial helped simplify the complexity of determining what to use when fishing for various fish species in varying situations.

Dave Harrelson and Jim White led the Clouser Minnow fly-tying session. The pattern introduced new materials and techniques requiring a focused, disciplined approach, resulting in some great-looking baitfish imitations. This pattern continued skill development for the novice and intermediate fly tyers. The excellent results are another solid addition to the fly box.

In preparation for upcoming fishing outings, Jackson Dierberg held another basic casting clinic on the lawn behind Shenandoah Lodge to prepare participants and some volunteers for the various fishing venues. The class focused on the basic pickup and laydown of the fly line and the complete overhead cast using two false casts to target fly placement. The presentation also included line management for fighting a fish initially and guiding it to a landing net.



Top right: Mary Weiss (r) teaches a loop to loop connection for fly line and leader to Tony Young.

Above right: Brian Peeler (r) helps Christian Nelson with the finer details in finishing the Clouser Minnow.

Above: Jackson Dierberg (r) shows Nickey Cook the proper rod height to begin his line pickup to start his back cast.

Right: A.D. Carter is quite proud of his first-ever Clouser Minnow.

all photos this page by Wayne White



“Winchester PHW” continues on the next page.



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WINCHESTER PHW FOCUS IS TROUT FISHING IN MAY: AT THE LEETOWN TROUT HATCHERY IN WV



With its ample rainbow and brook trout population, the Leetown Trout Hatchery in Kearneysville, WVA, challenged our Veterans and volunteers' angling skills on Saturday, 17 May. Although many large fish were hooked, fought, netted, and released, the lessons learned gave the anglers a new appreciation for fly fishing.

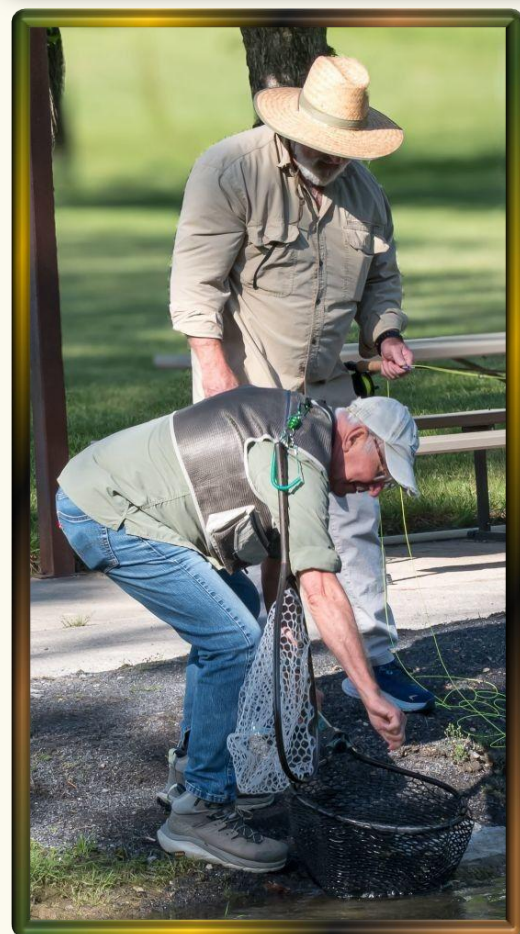
"The constant windy conditions gave all of them real-world casting challenges," noted volunteer Mike Smith. "It made them focus on good casting techniques and mechanics."



Top: Charles "Doc" Smith started the catching at Leetown. Here, Burr Tupper (r) nets another beautiful rainbow for Doc, who premiered his newly restored fiberglass rod. photo by Mike Smith

Above: Erwin Casto landed this beautiful fish, one of the few Brook Trout caught at the Leetown pond. The hatchery stocked around 200 of these fish. photo by Mary Weiss

Below: Gary Meyers crouches over the net to release one of Ray Benjamin's rainbows. photo by Mary Weiss



As most fly anglers realize, there is more to the sport than casting. "You can listen to presentations all day long and not understand all of the elements of fishing with a fly rod," noted volunteer Mary Weiss, whose resume includes fly fishing instruction with TU and other fishing organizations.

Later, reflecting on Leetown's value and benefits, Mary pointed out that Leetown is a special place for our veterans to put into practice all of their new knowledge while catching some huge fish.

"Leetown is a 'fishing fantasy,' a unique fishery with excellent access where new anglers can practice casting and catching fish while gaining more knowledge about the sport. It's an outdoor clinic for fly fishing," she added.

Beyond the fun of fishing and catching, Mary also described the Leetown experience as a workshop that can help build confidence in someone new to fly fishing. "When they have a good day catching fish, they are likelier to embrace the sport that is not only a healthy activity but promotes camaraderie and connectedness with others in the group," she said.

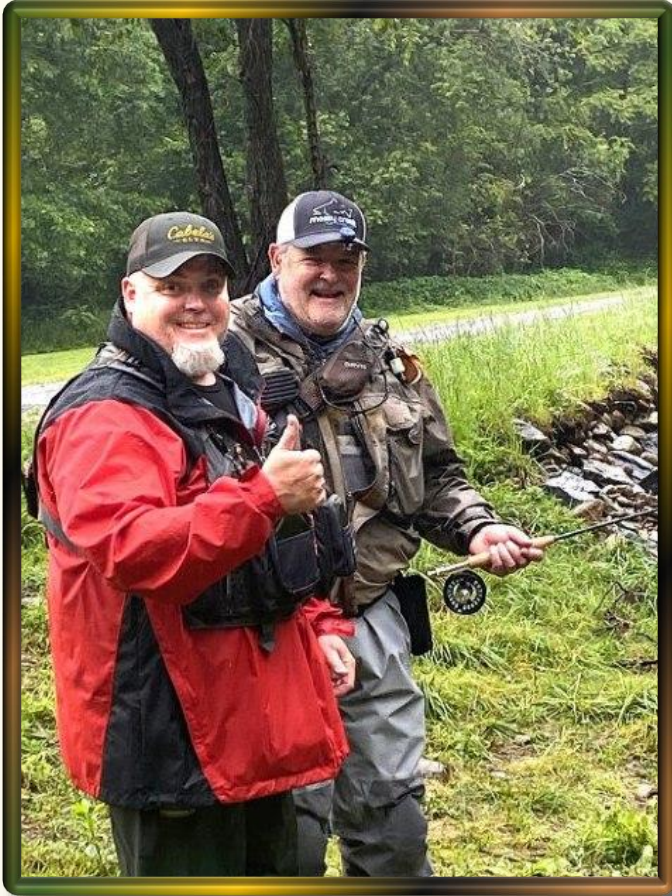
The Leetown Hatchery, as part of the USGS Eastern Ecological Science Center at the Leetown Research Laboratory, may be impacted by the current federal workforce reduction initiative. Decisions about the future of the trout hatchery have not been made. The Science Center has requested letters of support from organizations that benefit from the facility. All inquiries can be directed to Thomas J. O'Connell, USGS Eastern Ecological Science Center, Director, 11649 Leetown Road, Kearneysville, WV 25430, or email him at toconnell@usgs.gov.

"Winchester PHW" continues on the next page.



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HEALING WATERS

WINCHESTER PHW FOCUS IS TROUT FISHING IN MAY: ON THE ROSE RIVER



Above: Cole Bradshaw gives the thumbs up after landing several fish with volunteer guide Rich Brooks.

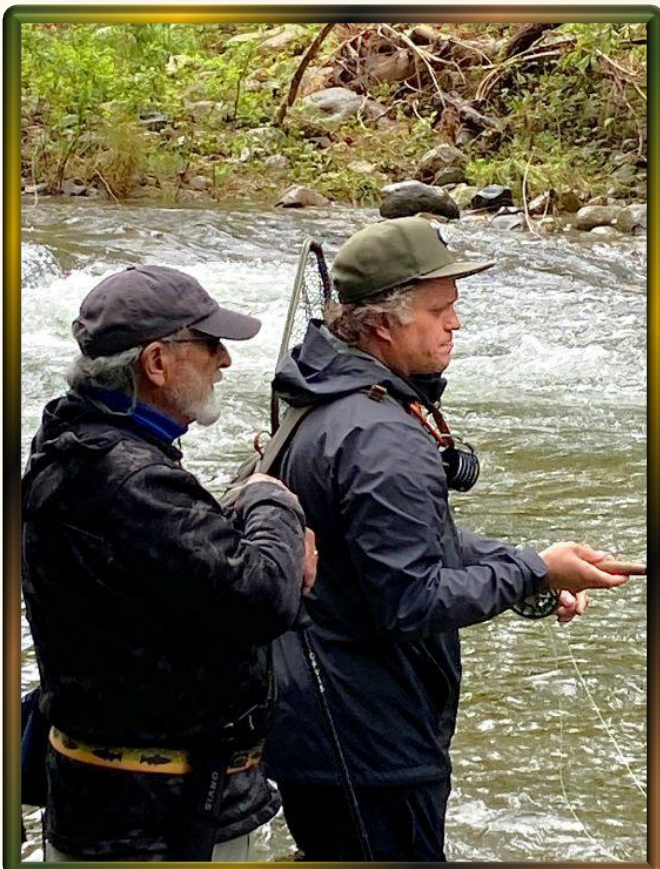
photo by Wayne White

Right: Ray Benjamin prepares to release another beautiful rainbow.

photo by Jess Michie

Below: Volunteer guide Burr Tupper (l) carefully directs Thomas Giles' technique in swinging a wet fly through some fast water on the Rose.

photo by Wayne White



The recent unusually cool and rainy weather did not dampen the spirits or enthusiasm of the Winchester Veterans as they landed many feisty, large rainbows last Wednesday during the program's first-ever outing on the Rose River.

Even on a wet spring day, the pristine setting of the Rose River Farm in Syria, Virginia, offered spectacular views and a serene environment, greatly enhancing the first-time experience for our fly fishers. As one eager angler commented, "It's raining. Who cares? The fish don't; they are already wet!" To that Volunteer guide, Rich Brooks, an Army Veteran, added, "If it ain't raining, it ain't training!" a saying every Army vet knows and well understands.

With the recent rains, the Rose was running somewhat faster than its normal flow at 200 cfs (cubic feet per second) with a greenish color. The overcast skies allowed the anglers to position themselves more effectively in the stream, enabling them to find and locate the fish.



The rain prevented any regular hatch, and with no bugs on the surface or in the air, determining what the fish might take was a process that the guides and anglers worked through during the day. Although many sub-surface offerings seem to work in different sections of the stream, wooly buggers, squirmy worms, and a few select wet flies produced the best results.

Everyone caught several fish. However, the process of where to fish, locating the fish, selecting the correct fly, and making a good presentation were all part of a new learning experience. Add to that properly setting the hook, fighting the fish in moving water, and then landing the fish, and you have a comprehensive education in the art of angling with a fly rod.

"This is such a great opportunity to learn what fly fishing is all about," noted volunteer guide Jeb Stewart. "This is a lot more than Leetown. It's fishing at the next level!"

Many thanks again to Mission B-B-Q, who provided lunch with enough leftovers for some of the group to take home.

"Winchester PHW" continues on the next page.

AT THE ROSE RIVER – CONTINUED



Left: Winchester Healing Waters capture their day at the Rose River Farm.

photo by Eric Custer



WINCHESTER PROGRAM UPDATE JUNE 2025



The Winchester Project Healing Waters program will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, 11 June 2025, from 6:30 to 8:30 PM, at the Shenandoah Lodge, Lake Frederick.

The meeting will include a review of recent fishing outings at Leetown and the Rose River Farm, as well as fly-tying, a casting clinic, and a knot-tying class.

The following fly-fishing activities and events, tentatively scheduled for 2025 and subject to change, are designed to support our veterans' ongoing education and skill development in fly-fishing.

June

- 8 -- Beaver Creek Outing – this is limited to five participants and five volunteer guides.
- 11 -- Monthly Meeting – Rachel's Kitchen, Shenandoah Lodge, Lake Frederick
- 14 -- Army's 250 Birthday! Flag Day
- 18 -- Shenandoah National Park Youth Fishing Day – Community Outreach
- 21 -- Fishing Flea Market and Vendor Show – Jake's Bait and Tackle

July

- 9 -- Monthly Meeting – Rachel's Kitchen, Shenandoah Lodge, Lake Frederick
- TBD -- Fishing Outing Cool Spring, Shenandoah University Cool Spring Campus

Additional information and updates about these activities and events will be published in *LATERAL LINES* at <https://winchestertu.org/>.

Updates and post-activity information will be posted on Facebook at **Winchester Project Healing Waters**.

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Students Come Together for Brookie Release Day on May 7th

by Mike Makufka

photos by Mike Makufka unless otherwise noted

On a beautiful day in May, students from area schools joined the members of the Winchester Chapter of Trout Unlimited and the Discovery Museum to participate in Brook Trout Release Day at Wilkens Lake in Jim Barnett Park. The students were part of the nationwide Trout in the Classroom (TIC) Program sponsored by Trout Unlimited.

The Trout in the Classroom program is about students learning not only about trout and what conditions are necessary for them to survive, but about nature, science, water quality, and many other lessons. The TIC program is designed to link with the curriculum that teachers are already using with their students.

In a nutshell, each year students receive brook trout eggs from one of the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources fish hatcheries. Coordinated by Lisa LaCivita, local Trout Unlimited chapter members deliver these eggs, along with fish food, to the schools. The students place these eggs in cold-water aquariums which the TIC teachers had already prepared with the proper water temperature, aeration, and water chemistry. The students maintain the aquariums and care for the eggs through the various stages of egg hatching and early trout development until they release the fish in the spring.

This year's Brookie Release Day included six schools from across Frederick, Clarke, and Shenandoah Counties. Approximately 200 students from Boyce Elementary, D.C. Cooley Elementary, Millbrook High School, Orchard View Elementary, Sherando High School, and Strasburg High School participated in the Wilkins Lake event. The students ranged from first through twelfth grade.



The elementary students participated in the morning sessions and the middle and high school students followed in the afternoon.

Not only did the students and teachers release their fish, but they also participated in four different learning stations during the day. Members of the Winchester Trout Unlimited Chapter demonstrated fly tying, fly casting techniques, aquatic macroinvertebrates investigations, and demonstrations from the Discovery Museum. The students and teachers enjoyed the day and the chapter members who participated enjoyed it just as much.

Brookie Release Day started at 8:00 AM with the arrival of the volunteers. Trout Unlimited members included: Burr Tupper, Mary Weiss, Bill Prokopchak, Mike Smith, Stan Ikonen, Fred Boyer, Luke Robins, Ted Gimber, Mark Zimmerman, and me. There was a mixture of enthusiastic anticipation and a bit of apprehension. This author primarily experienced the latter. As we waited for the arrival of the elementary students, all hands were busy setting up "shop."



Above right: An elementary student marvels at the brook trout swimming in the plastic cup. Moments later she released the fish into the wild.

Above: A high school student has the honor of releasing her school's entire stock of brook trout.

photo by Bill Prokopchak

Right: Having only seen brook trout in a large classroom aquarium, an elementary student views his fish up close.

Jim Barnett Park offered ample space to set up tying stations and grassy areas and lake access for the fly casting demonstrations and lessons.

"Brookie Release Day" continues on the next page.

Brookie Release Day -- continued



Left: Winchester Trout Unlimited member, Mike Smith, demonstrates fly tying for elementary school students at Brookie Release day at Wilkins Lake.

Below: Luke Robins, Winchester Trout Unlimited member and expert fly tyer, shows the students many kinds of fishing flies.

Below Left: Long-time Trout in the Classroom teacher from Millbrook High School, Katie Bethke, tries tying a giant fishing fly using colorful materials showing the head, thorax, abdomen, and wing case of a macroinvertebrate.

photo by Bill Prokopchak

The first wave of elementary students arrived at 8:30 AM, closely followed by the rest of the students, teachers, and parent volunteers. At around 9:00, TU members directed the students to the lakefront to release their fish. Students were happy to see their fish adapt quickly to the new environment.

After releasing the fish and taking photographs, teachers divided the students into four groups and started rotating through the learning stations. Each station lasted for a half hour. That half hour did not seem to last very long nor was there enough time to answer all the questions. The students were really involved with the activities.



The fly-tying volunteers showed how to tie a variety of patterns and one tyer, in particular, demonstrated with a very large facsimile of a hook: a very clever idea. The fly-casting instructors were experts, demonstrated casting techniques and provided guidance to the students.

Personnel from the Shenandoah Valley Discovery Museum here in Winchester staffed another favorite station in the morning. They brought skulls and pelts of various animals found in nature and an "Insect Investigators" activity, so that students could understand the trout as both higher and lower on the food chain and compare them to other adaptations animals have for surviving.

The morning had many more students than the afternoon session so sometimes things got a little hectic.

The afternoon session began at roughly 12:15 to 12:30 with the fish release followed by three learning stations. The Discovery Museum did not participate in the afternoon since their educational emphasis geared towards elementary students. The afternoon groups were smaller, allowing more individualized instruction.

"Brookie Release Day"
continues on the next page.

Trout in the Classroom (TIC) News



I led the macroinvertebrate station which presented a bit of a dilemma. The two streams that run through and adjacent to it, Abrams Creek and Town Run, are impaired streams. Finding any type of macroinvertebrate was challenging. In fact, I found very little insect activity other than some sowbugs, or roly-polies, as the students called them. Substituting pictures of various mayfly and stonefly nymphs and caddis larvae as well as the adult version of the insects did help but could not replace the actual living insects. I will come up with a creative solution for future TIC macroinvertebrate lessons.

From the comments that I and others received, the event was successful and inspired thoughts to hold similar events in the future. A first-time success story and a well-deserved pat on the back to the members of the Winchester Trout Unlimited Chapter. Special thanks also to the Shenandoah Valley Discovery Museum, the Winchester Parks and Recreation Department, Britt Miller, and the teachers who embraced this event.

Special thanks to Lisa LaCivita who starts this whole program every autumn by coordinating the delivery of brookie eggs from the hatchery to all of the TIC schools in our region and the Shenandoah Valley Discovery Museum.

Above left: A Sherando High School student delivers his school’s brookies to the waters of Wilkins Lake.

Below Left: Lisa LaCivita prepares to distribute brook trout eggs to Winchester TU volunteers who transport the eggs to schools and the Discovery Museum every autumn.

photo by Bill Prokopchak

Below: These brook trout eggs became the fish that students raised through the school year.

photo by Bill Prokopchak



Winchester TU Monthly “BarFly” Events

Wednesday, 18 June 2025, 7:00 PM

Wednesday, 16 July 2025, 7:00 PM

Wednesday, 20 August 2025, 7:00 PM

Escutcheon Brewery, Commercial St., Winchester, VA

The Winchester Chapter of Trout Unlimited (WTU) will be gathering at Escutcheon Brewing in Winchester to offer anglers and **non-anglers** in our area the opportunity to learn about Trout Unlimited and to tie fishing flies.

No fly-tying or fly-fishing experience is necessary.

All participants under age 21 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.



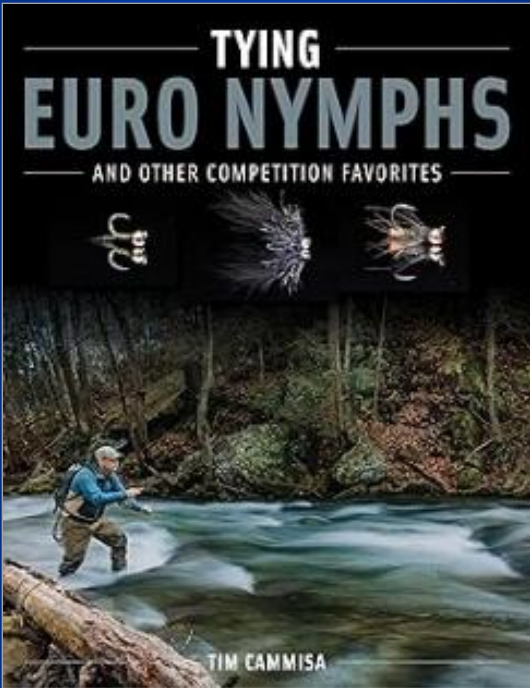
Barbara's Books
Compiled by Barbara Gamble

**Tying Euro Nymphs
and Other Competition Favorites**

Authors: Tim Cammisa
Hardcover: 232 Pages
ISBN-10: 0811774937
ISBN-13: 978-0811774932
Publisher: Stackpole Books
Publication Date: 14 January 2025

Perhaps no other area in fly fishing has experienced as much sensation, and growth, as “Euro Nymphing.”

This term, which is actually not the most accurate but has been the one that has stuck, describes a broad category of nymphing (fishing flies under the water as opposed to on top of the water) techniques from around the world -- Czech, Polish, Spanish, French, as well as American -- brought to the forefront by the rise of fly fishing competitions.



This pioneering fly tying book focuses on teaching the most popular patterns in this category and includes approximately 15 flies with over 350 full-color tying steps.

In his new book, Tim does the homework for you and presents proven patterns in a condensed form. **Tying Euro Nymphs and Other Competition Favorites** will walk you through the tying process of each pattern and reveal the concepts founding each fly. -- Lance Egan, Fly Fishing Team USA member, instructor, and fly designer

Tim Cammisa of “Trout and Feather” has been a YouTube creator of fly tying and fly fishing videos for over seven years. Starring in 200+ videos with great response, Tim now has an audience of over 17,000 subscribers and nearly 3 million video views.

A featured presenter and tier at events such as the International Fly Tying Symposium and Midwest Fly Fishing Expo, Tim has traveled around the country helping others improve their fly fishing and fly tying skills. Tim is the author of *Fly Tying for Everyone* (Stackpole, 2021). He lives in Pennsylvania with his wife, Heather, and son, Angelo, both of whom enjoy fly fishing, too.

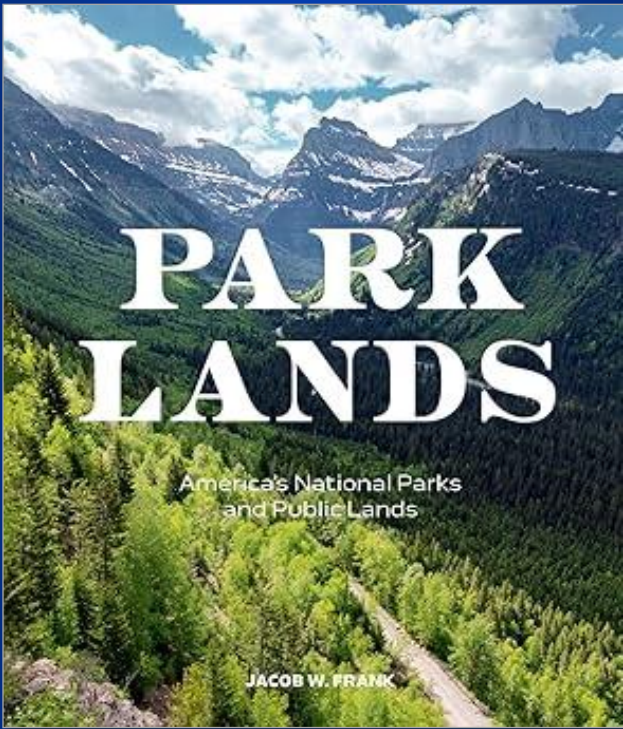
Sources: amazon.com and the publishers

**Parklands:
America's National Parks and
Public Lands**

Author: Jacob W. Frank
Hardcover: 240 pages
ISBN-10: 1423668510
ISBN-13: 978-1423668510
Publisher: Gibbs Smith
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The United States has designated over 800 million acres as public land. Over the last ten years, photographer Jacob W. Frank has boated, climbed, caved, hiked, biked, skied, dog mushed, backpacked, snowmobiled, flown over, and driven through some of the most scenic public lands the U.S. has to offer.

In the pages of this book, Frank invites you to embark on a visual odyssey through the wild beauty of America's public lands. Through stunning photographs, we trace Frank's love affair with the wilderness, beginning with his first internship in Grand Teton National Park to the present day.



Through his lens, we witness the diversity of the natural and cultural re-sources within our public lands, reminding us of the need to protect them for future generations.

Frank's photographs serve as both a celebration of the natural world and a call to action, inspiring us to become stewards of the land and champions for its preservation.

"Featuring hundreds of stunning images of parks and public land across the US, Jacob W. Frank's *Parklands* is an extraordinary book of nature photography that embraces outdoor adventures.... Combining spectacular photography with insightful commentary, *Parklands* is a stirring and timely tribute to the nation's wild places. Frank's enthralling perspectives will inspire awe, curiosity, and a commitment to preserve these beautiful sites."—*Foreword Reviews*, Starred Review

Sources: amazon.com and the publishers



My Trout Fly Box

The Stimulator

article and photos
by Burr Tupper

While I prefer to fish for trout with either nymphs or streamers, when I do use a dry the Stimulator is one of my favorites.

The Stimulator is an amazing fly pattern developed by tying legend Randall Kaufmann. The Stimulator was originally developed to imitate a stonefly adult, but that is not only insect that this fly imitates. It also emulates a grasshopper, a caddis, or even a large drake mayfly.

When fishing the Stimulator, I will use it when fishing a dropper underneath. The bushy profile and deer hair make the Stimulator a highly buoyant fly. This fly is most often tied with an olive, orange, black, or yellow body. My favorite is orange.

I usually tie it in hook sizes #06 - 16.



The Stimulator



Materials List

- Hook: Size #06-16 Tiemco 2312 or equivalent
- Thread: Orange
- Rib: Copper wire, size small
- Tail: Deer hair
- Body: Orange, yellow, or olive superfine dubbing
- Body Hackle: Brown
- Wing: Deer hair
- Head: Orange, yellow, or olive dubbing
- Head Hackle: Grizzley



“My Trout Fly Box” continues on the next page.

My Trout Fly Box -- continued

6, 7



8



9, 10



Tying the Stimulator

1. Place the hook in the vise and tie on the thread
2. Cut out a small clump of deer hair, place in a stacker and even the ends
3. Tie in a short tail wrapping from the butt end to the bend of the hook
4. Tie in a small diameter copper wire wrapping to the bend of the hook
5. Sparsely dub in your choice of dubbing and wrap to the butt end of deer hair.
6. Tie in a brown hackle and wrap to the bend of the hook and capture with the copper wire. Snip it off.
7. Counter wrap the copper wire to the butt ends and tie off
8. Take generous clump of deer, place in stacker and remove and tie in a $\frac{1}{4}$ from the eye.
9. Tie in the grizzly hackle and build a ramp with the thread
10. Build a small head with the dubbing of choice
11. Wrap grizzly forward
12. Tie the hackle and whip finish

11, 12



Bud on the Run:
The next workday is set for Saturday, 7 June 2025
at 9:00 AM weather permitting.
Bud will notify the Redbud Regulars of any changes to the plan.
by Bud Nagelvoort

For some reason, the cameraman was not at work at the last Redbud work session on May 10. That does not mean important work was not performed by Fred, Terry, Clark, and Bud in installing the final log of the long string providing protection of the south bank at Terry's giant sycamore (the one with the attached notched waterfall log that we call Sycamore Falls). Protecting the south bank with rocks at that site remains, however. Hopefully, the work session scheduled for 7 June 2025 at 9:00 AM will provide north pasture conditions suitable for securing rocks from two sites there and allowing us to complete that necessary stretch of bank protection at the south bank

Should good conditions prevail as hoped, time should allow us also to begin a process to improve bank protection on the north bank downstream from Terry's giant sycamore. The problem there is severe and steep bank erosion undermining and threatening with collapse into the long pool parallel to Boyer's Bog two large trees.

The first step will be to move into the stream a large limb of Terry's sycamore now resting out of the water on top of the downstream end of Terry's sycamore. When slid into the stream and against the north bank it will become an important part of the plan to keep the mentioned two large trees from collapsing into the Boyer's Bog pool. It will require Terry's power winch technique using Bill's truck winch.

There is a third activity possible given the right conditions and time. It requires pasture on the north bank to be dry enough for truck travel to begin adjustments to Terry's Rock Notch/Clark's Notch to reduce related sedimentation issues at those sites.

Sorry I can't offer anything else but refreshments along with Bill's specials.
Tight lines,
Bud



ANGLER REFLECTIONS

Self-Inflicted Frustration
reflection by Nick Brognano



I recently said to myself, “You have got to get out, you have been sitting around way too long.”

I then decided to make up for this ennui by doing something I enjoy more than most things, that is, fish for Trout. Unfortunately, the nearest Trout stream is not conveniently located. It is a long drive to the Yellow Breeches in Boiling Springs, PA. Fortunately, I only drove the first 60 miles where I met Elmer, my long-time fishing partner. From his place I rode in a high-rise comfortable diesel truck. Elmer is a wonderful person with big feet and a big truck. It has always been our tradition to stop at the nearby Sheetz gas station and get a cup of coffee and delightful Hostess Cupcake to feast on along the way. The combination has become our angler’s communion breakfast whenever we start out to fish.

It had been raining all night, and we drove in the early morning rain. We were determined, and no amount of rain falling on our heads could dampen our spirits and stop us from fishing. Sitting in the truck with the rain falling, my mind wandered off again, and I envisioned Gene Kelly dancing and singing, “Fishing in the Rain.” In my imagination he held a 5-weight fly rod in his hand as he danced and not a worthless umbrella.

We arrived at our usual spot, and it appeared the stormy clouds had chased everyone from the place. With Mr. Kelly still on my mind we started out with “High Hopes.”

To avoid serious errors of judgement we first relieved ourselves of the coffee we had swallowed along the way. Only then did we put on our waders and boots. The nearby small tributary stream had a nice normal flow which was a good sign. There are always Trout under the small nearby walkway bridge, but their IQ is far superior to most Trout and why make a fool of yourself when less intelligent Trout are present elsewhere? Nevertheless, Elmer could not resist the bait and stayed under the bridge while I wandered off as is my habit. Smart, eh?

“Angler Reflections” continues on the next page.

ANGLER REFLECTIONS -- CONTINUED

After a 100-yard hike I got to the river only to face my first disappointment and frustration. The water was muddy and way too high. I knew enough not to attempt to cross it. This meant I would not be able to fish the very deep holes I had come all this way to fish. The last time I had fished it, I saw rises everywhere. With diminished excitement I decided to keep close to the bank and fish down river as far as I could.

I had tied on a wet fly and a bead head nymph. If there were any fish they would be hugging the bank, I surmised. I tried, I really did, but nothing hit. While in this deep state of despair, it appropriately began to rain. As I look back, I should have put some weight on the line, given the water flow there. Also, I should have tried a different fly. Why I didn't do that only added to my growing frustration. I have always been short on patience, which is not good for any kind of fishing. I decided to go back and try my luck at the smaller stream Elmer was at.

When I got back to the tributary Elmer was still trying to trick some Trout lying under the bridge. I went a short way upstream and kept flinging the same set up I began with. Neither of us was having much luck until I saw several Trout darting about. When I saw that movement, I got excited and made a huge mistake, I called Mr. Big Foot over. I was standing in shallow, fast running pocket water at the time. With alacrity in his step, Elmer approached along with his unavoidable patented disturbance. My face then took on the look of a lost man second guessing himself.

Incidentally, Elmer wears a size-16 boot and when he walks in a stream it is no different than if I wore snowshoes instead of wading boots. Disturbing a clean, clear water flow is an unavoidable natural talent of his. It is most frustrating for me to witness such a disruption, especially when despite his shoe size, Mr. Sasquatch hooks onto fish swimming at my very small feet. My buddy quickly hooked and landed three Trout at this invitational spot while I just stood there sucking my thumb. The last Trout he caught was the biggest one I have ever seen here. A nearby young man with a net helped Elmer land it. What a catch!

I got lucky and hooked on to one, but my luck quickly gave out when Mr. Trout jerked himself loose and swam off with my fly. I sure didn't say thank you when that occurred. Of course, it immediately began to rain again. I could have predicted that would happen. It would have been very prudent of me to have waited for the malign influence of the stars to pass over before casting another fly; I am an impatient guy.

Nevertheless, I persevered and tried different flies but the only thing I caught was a lonely bare branch hanging over my head and beyond reach.

I wiggled my rod hoping to shake the fly loose but only got big drops of water in my eyes. I later lost a couple of more flies to that limp piece of wood. Another cast latched onto a rock and again I had to tie on another fly. I even tangled with Elmer's line once, twice, or more. As you can imagine, I was having the time of my life.

Throughout all this misery I did not cry once.

I finally decided Elmer had God on his side and I gave up. By this time, my state of mind was under the rocks and stuck in the mud. I certainly didn't feel like dancing or singing.

As bad as this experience was it got worse.



image generated by Copilot on a prompt by Bill Prokopchak 31 May 2025

Unable to control his exuberance in catching more Trout than me, Mr. Big Foot sent way too many proud smiley pictures of himself along with an unwarranted, boastful, lengthy narrative to Fred, our third fellow angler who was unable to make this terrific outing. Elmer could not resist repeatedly describing my foul ups. He even took a picture of that "limp piece of wood" with a few flies attached. "Et tu, Brute?"

I now know how it must feel to have your naked body on public display. Was this act on Elmer's part intended to result in my being institutionalized or was he so overwhelmed with joy after having fished with me for eons to finally catch more Trout than me, is only known to God. Incidentally, I don't remember the drive home or any of the braggadocio, but I do recall it raining all the way, and it has not stopped!



2025 Calendar of Events Winchester Trout Unlimited & Winchester TU Priority Waters

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

June

Thursday, 5 June 2025
6:00 PM – Winchester Priority Waters monthly meeting

Thursday, 5 June 2025
7:00 PM – Winchester TU monthly meeting
Featured speaker is Jackson Dierberg, VA DWR Conservation Police Officer on Virginia fishing and boating rules and regulations.

Saturday, 7 June 2025 – Tentative Winchester Trout Unlimited Workday
9:00 AM – Redbud Run restoration work session
Bud will contact the “Redbud Regulars” with details about time and place.

Wednesday, 18 June 2025 – Winchester Trout Unlimited BarFly
7:00 – 9:00 PM – Escutcheon Brewery, Commercial Street, Winchester

Wednesday, 25 June 2025 – Winchester Priority Waters field day
Meet at the Target parking lot, Crooked Run Plaza, Front Royal, for an 8:00 a.m. departure

July

Thursday, 3 July 2025
There is no Winchester TU monthly meeting in July

Tuesday, 8 July 2025 – Winchester TU Priority Waters Field Day

Saturday, ? July 2025 – Tentative Winchester Trout Unlimited Workday
Bud will contact the “Redbud Regulars” to schedule a July workday that does not interfere with the Independence Day weekend.

Wednesday, 16 July 2025 – Winchester Trout Unlimited BarFly
7:00 – 9:00 PM – Escutcheon Brewery, Commercial Street, Winchester

August

Thursday, 7 August 2025
6:00 PM – Winchester Priority Waters monthly meeting

Thursday, 7 August 2025
7:00 PM – Winchester TU monthly meeting
Elwha River Dam Removal video “Return of the River” introduced by Luke Robins

Saturday, 9 August 2025 – Tentative Winchester Trout Unlimited Workday
Bud will contact the “Redbud Regulars” to schedule a July workday that does not interfere with the Independence Day weekend.

Wednesday, 20 August 2025 – Winchester Trout Unlimited BarFly
7:00 – 9:00 PM – Escutcheon Brewery, Commercial Street, Winchester



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.

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