



Lateral Lines

The Monthly Journal of Winchester Trout Unlimited
Chapter #638

When two vegans get into an argument, is it still called a beef?

April 2023

Volume 28, Number 4

6 April 2023, Winchester TU Meeting

7:00 PM
Lake Frederick Community Lodge
Lake Frederick, VA
Dinner before the meeting
5:00 PM at Region's 117 Restaurant

Please notify Wayne (703-919-2952) before the meeting if you will be dining with us. We have only 10 seats available.

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing

The next Winchester PHW meeting
6:30 PM at the Lake Frederick Community Lodge
Wednesday, 12 April 2023

BarFly

The next Winchester TU BarFly
7:00 PM at Escutcheon Brewery
Wednesday, 19 April 2023
All BarFly events will be held on the third
Wednesday of the month in 2023.



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See you on 6 April 2023 WTU meeting.
Bill Prokopchak, Newsletter Editor, 540-722-2620



WINCHESTER HEALING WATERS VETERANS SHARPEN FLY-TYING SKILLS AND GET READY FOR SPRING FISHING

articles and photos by Wayne White

Winchester Project Healing Waters held two program sessions in March to accommodate its growing number of participants, just in time to get ready for spring fishing.

Phil Stevens and Dan Soper led the fly-tying instruction for the Slumpbuster and Caddis Mop Fly at the 8 March session, Shenandoah Lodge, Lake Frederick.

Phil guided his tyers through the different techniques and materials to produce a go-to fly when things are slow, or when finding fish in high water might be a bit challenging.

Phil helps Erwin with
the fine wraps on his
Slumpbuster.



“Winchester Healing Waters” continues on the next page.

WINCHESTER HEALING WATERS -- continued



The Mop Fly tyers were treated to Dan's in-depth experience with the entomology of the complete metamorphosis of the fly.

The Vets marveled at Dan's whiteboard free-hand drawing outlining the state of Virginia to scale to show locations of state streams where the caddis can be found.

The beginner tyers were impressed with their own version of the mop fly and appreciated its imitation of the insect larva. Dan pointed out that it, too, is a good fly to use when water is high or fast-moving.

The Caddis Mop Fly recipe

Caddis Mop Fly -- Video:

<https://youtu.be/R4FdZLzqBZs>

- ✓ Hook size 14-12 scud hook
- ✓ Tungsten bead, black preferable
- ✓ Thread, any color, 06-08 Uni
- ✓ Mop body (available at auto parts and household goods stores and are more expensive from a fly shop)
- ✓ Dubbing, synthetic, and natural for the collar behind the bead head
- ✓ Done.



The Slumpbuster Fly recipe

Slumpbuster Fly -- Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9xqV1-jhUQg>

- ✓ Hook size 4-8
- ✓ Cone heads to match hook size
- ✓ Thread 140 denier
- ✓ Lead wire 0.020 or 0.025 depending on hook size
- ✓ Silver Mylar tape 12mm
- ✓ Gold wire
- ✓ Rabbit strips of any color



Top: Karen Trueblood (left to right), Erwin Casto, and Heather Wright attempt the double surgeon's knot.

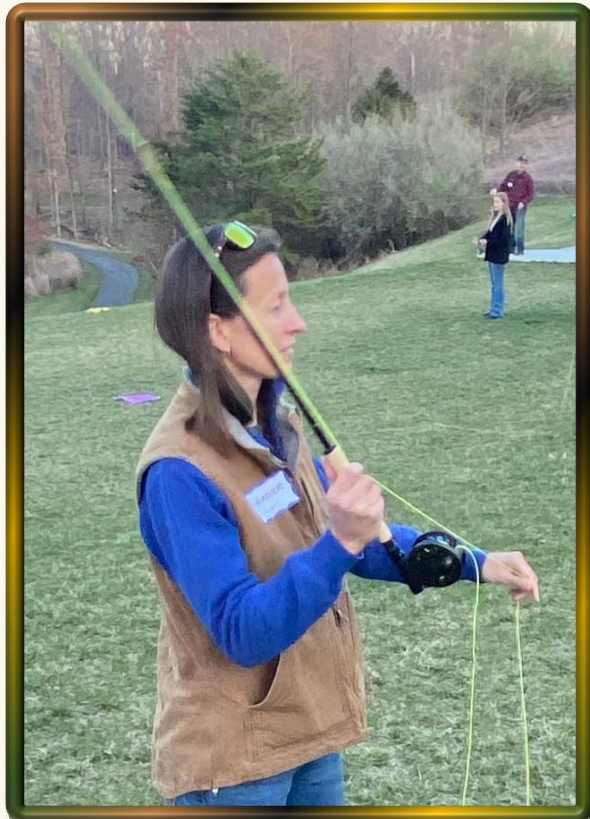
Above right: Dan Soper (standing) sets the bobbin for Mike Nemec to start the Woolly Bugger.

Above: Logan Williams proudly displays his new Mop Fly

Right: Chris Nelson believes her new Slumpbuster will catch fish.

“Winchester Healing Waters” continues on the next page.

WINCHESTER HEALING WATERS -- continued



The attendance for this class was beyond expectations and the flies tied were well done. A special thanks to Phil and Dan for leading the sessions and Mike Smith for coordinating the volunteer support, particularly Dave Harrelson, Jackson Dierberg, Jessica Michie, Ryan Sheehan, Pete Smith, Ray Schmidt, and Cade Bailey for their technical assistance.

At this session, we also welcomed our newest participants Heather Wright, Mike Flag, Erwin Casto, and our new volunteer Stan Nicklyn.

Now that the spring Trout season is here, Winchester Project Healing Waters held its first fly-fishing instructional clinic last Wednesday, 29 March at the Shenandoah Club, Lake Frederick.

The clinic included casting, knot tying, and Trout fly selection where the participants and volunteers were divided into five groups of three and participated in the three training stations.

Volunteer Jackson Dierberg, a Virginia Conservation Officer, and a former Orvis fly-fishing instructor, led the introduction to basic casting techniques on the lodge lawn overlooking Lake Frederick.

The volunteers served as additional primary and assistant instructors, coaching the participants in their grip and a pick-up and lay-down cast. Many of the new fly anglers surprised themselves quickly adapting to the fly rod casting technique.

Phil Stevens provided step-by-step instructions for tying an improved clinch knot, double surgeon knot, and a perfection loop. Using two different colored parachute cords for the initial instruction was quick and easy to grasp for most of the new anglers. Phil then challenged the group's new tying confidence with a monofilament line to test their new skills. And with that the frustration for many quickly became obvious. Welcome to the art of fly fishing!

Dave Harrelson provided several fly boxes of his many tied flies designed for early Trout fishing as well as other flies designed for angling other fish. Dave's particular attention to detail guided participants in their understanding and appreciation for the various flies and their use. With the counter covered in different fly boxes of assorted Dave's creations, it looked like we had opened a fly shop at the lodge!

A special thanks to the volunteer instructors and assistants including Bob Fish, Gary Myers, Pete Smith, Jim Stonestreet, Galen Hart, Mike Budnie, Billy McLeod, Michael Hart, and Ray Schmidt.

At our next meeting on 12 April, 6:30 – 8:30 PM, in Rachel's Kitchen, Shenandoah Lodge, Lake Frederick, we will continue with casting instructions and discuss our plans for upcoming fishing outings.

We would also like to thank Mr. Mark A. Wheeler of Culpeper, Virginia for his recent generous donations of fly rods, fly-tying material, and equipment. Mr. Wheeler is a long-time fly angler originally from New Hampshire and a meticulous fly tyer whose talent is evident in the many boxes of delicate and intricate Trout patterns he provided to our program.

Top: Heather Wright practices the basic cast.

Right: Jackson Dierberg explains the fundamentals of the basic cast.



The next Winchester PHW Program meeting is Wednesday, 12 April 2023, 6:30-8:30 PM in Rachel's Kitchen, Shenandoah Lodge, Lake Frederick.

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Bud on the Run: March 2023 Report
Please note that Bud has not finalized a date for the April 2023 workday.

by Bud Nagelvoort
photos by Bob Fish, Bud Nagelvoort, and Bill Prokopchak

March 11th, 2023, was a good day. We had an excellent crew to perform a miracle moving a giant sycamore in the first hour.

We anticipated another miracle in the second hour and weren't disappointed when Christina and Chris Nelson and their crew from Team Rubicon appeared at 10:00 AM for a special rock-selection effort at the big warehouse construction project just off Route 11, a few miles away.

The giant sycamore was a dead one Terry Lay had dropped diagonally across the stream several years ago at the invitation of Bill and Clark after several big limbs had come close to falling on them and making an awkward mess in the stream.



The chore with the main trunk was to move its base from its location resting a few feet up and dug into the bank, away from the bank and into the stream to provide attractive “active” cover for fish.

(If you recall from maybe ten years ago at Chapel Run Terry installed a 4-block-and-tackle-pulley system for dragging a giant, dead ash tree 20 feet upstream to a location incorporating the tree into one element of an inverted V.

With the cable/pulley system attached to Bud's truck and an anchor tree at the V and the tree, each 10 feet the truck moved caused the tree in the stream to move 1 foot.)

The tree at Redbud is probably 2X the size of the Chapel Run tree. On the other hand, it only needed to be moved downhill and laterally maybe three feet at its base to submerge the trunk's lower edge a foot into water.

It remains to be determined if/how far the remainder of the trunk extending across the stream diagonally needs to be lowered into the stream at the north bank to provide the ultimate fish cover.



Fred prepares to move an 8-ton sycamore log.

Left: With the huge sycamore in place to provide cover for fish, Terry finishes the job, enabling the log to settle into place.

Below: Team Rubicon delivers tons of new rocks for the restoration effort at Redbud.



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

Bud on the Run -- continued

At the same time, it will be appropriate to dovetail the cover provided with this huge log and the flow characteristics from a new inverted V to be installed just upstream while also constructing a log structure just downstream from the present log pool designed to optimize the pool under the big log while also contributing to the establishment of a structure just above Boyer's Bog.

That element may be able to create and maintain another long, deep pool enhancing fish habitat while protecting the steep banks there from undesirable erosion.



Terry moves a sycamore log destined to become an inverted-V structure, part of the overall plan for this section of Redbud Run.

And you wonder why we were so excited to have the Team Rubicon crew arrive at 10:00 AM to proceed to the new source for rocks for the 3-element project now contemplated at and above Boyer's Bog?

Great group of veterans and their equipment including trailers who picked up 2-hand and 2-hand-plus rocks to add to our present substantial supply of giant rocks and in-between sizes along the south bank and ready for use in the near and distant future.

Much appreciated help from Team Rubicon!

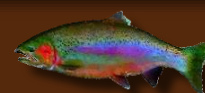
Above: Bud briefs Team Rubicon members about the Winchester TU work on Redbud Run.

Below: Team Rubicon and Winchester TU members relax after a busy morning.

Important note:

As of press time, the date of the April work session on Redbud Run has not been finalized.

Bud will contact team members once he has selected a date.



**Winchester TU Recycles Aluminum.
Bring your cans to any Winchester TU event.**



Barbara's Books

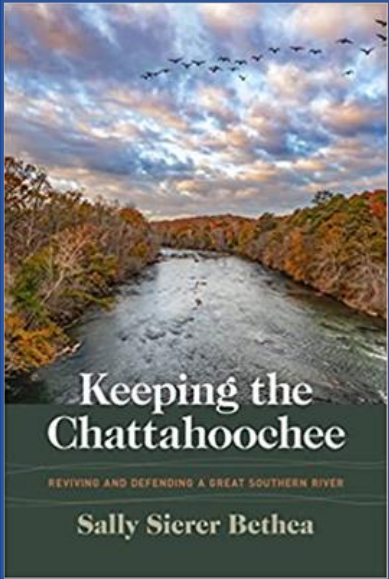
Compiled by Barbara Gamble

Keeping the Chattahoochee:
Reviving and Defending a Great
Southern River

Author: Sally Sierer Bethea
Hardcover: 232 Pages
ISBN-10: 0820364320
ISBN-13: 978-0820364322
Publisher: Wormsloe Foundation Nature
Books
Publication Date: 15 July 2023

Sally Sierer Bethea was one of the first women in America to become a “riverkeeper” -- a vocal defender of a specific waterway who holds polluters accountable. In *Keeping the Chattahoochee*, she tells stories that range from joyous and funny to frustrating -- even alarming -- to illustrate what it takes to save an endangered river. Her tales are triggered by the regular walks she takes through a forest to the Chattahoochee over the course of a year, finding solace and kinship in nature.

For two decades, Bethea worked to restore the neglected Chattahoochee, which provides drinking water and recreation to millions of people, habitat for wildlife, and water for industries and farms as it cuts through the heart of the Deep South.



Pairing natural and political history with reflective writing, she draws readers into her watershed and her memories. Bethea’s passion for the natural world—and for defending it with a strong, informed voice animates this instructive memoir. Offering lessons on how to fight for our fundamental right to clean water, Bethea and her colleagues take on powerful corporate and government polluters.

They strengthen environmental policies and educate children, reviving the great river from a century of misuse.

My husband Rutherford and I realized that we needed to safeguard our life-sustaining drinking water. We co-founded Chattahoochee Riverkeeper and hired Sally Bethea. Beginning with only a canoe, she eventually won billions of dollars for the protection of one of America’s most important waterways. In this inspirational book, Sally describes her journey with entertaining stories that illustrate how to step up and make a significant difference. --Laura Turner Seydel, co-founder of Chattahoochee Riverkeeper, board trustee of Waterkeeper Alliance, and board chair of Captain Planet Foundation

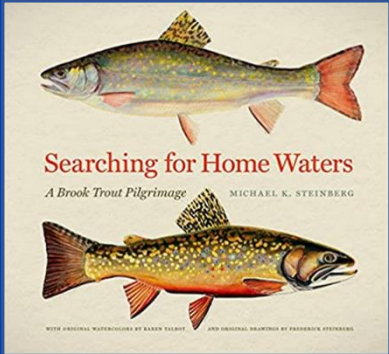
Sources: amazon.com and the publishers

Searching for Home Waters:
A Brook Trout Pilgrimage

Authors: Michael K. Steinberg
Illustrators: Karen Talbot &
Frederick Steinberg
Hardcover: 200 pages
ISBN-10: 0820363626
ISBN-13: 978-0820363622
Publisher: University of Georgia Press
Publication Date: 15 June 2023

The brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) is an iconic species among fly anglers and cold-water conservationists in eastern North America. This fish registers as a powerful symbol for its beauty and its imagery in art and literature. Its presence also tells us a great deal about the health of the larger environment. When an angler has a brook trout in hand, there is confidence that the water is close to pristine. Besides being an important indicator species, the brook trout, with its gold and reddish markings and its camouflaged green and black back, is one of the most beautiful freshwater fish in North America. And beyond the beauty of the fish itself, the environment in which it is found is also part of its past and present appeal. To fish for brook trout is often to fish in the last remote and rugged landscapes in the East, “fishscapes” that have not been polluted by stocking trucks that dump nonnative brown and rainbow trout in most of the East’s accessible cold waterways.

Searching for Home Waters is part science, part environmental history, and part personal journey of the author, Michael K. Steinberg, and those he interviewed during his travels.



The work takes a broad perspective that examines the status of brook trout in the eastern United States, employing a “landscape” approach.

In other words, brook trout do not exist in a vacuum; they are impacted by logging, agriculture, fishing policies, suburban development, mining, air pollution, and climate change. Thus, while the book focuses specifically on the status and management of the brook trout—from Georgia to Labrador—it also tells the larger story of the status of the eastern environment. As a “pilgrimage,” this book is also a journey of the heart and contains Steinberg’s personal reflections on his relationship with the brook trout and its geography.

This multifaceted book is part personal memoir, part recovery narrative, part road travelogue, part environmental and natural history, part love letter to moving waters, and part fly fishing adventure. An excellent book! --Robert DeMott — author of *Angling Days: A Fly Fisher's Journals*

Sources: amazon.com and the publishers



My Trout Fly Box

Tying the Elk-Hair Caddis Fly

article and photos by Burr Tupper

Ask any fly angler about the Elk Hair Caddis and they will tell you that it's one of the best dry flies. It catches a lot of Trout and isn't super difficult to use, if you know how and when to use it.

Al Troth of Montana developed the Elk Hair Caddis. It is an imitative pattern as well as a standard Caddis pattern for fishing riffles and runs of freestone streams.

Fished to mimic a fluttering adult caddis, the fly relies on the elk hair for keeping it afloat as well as providing the tent wing silhouette when view from below.

When hoppers and stoneflies are present the Elk Hair Caddis is a great searching pattern. It can be fished throughout the main fly-fishing months (Spring, Summer, and a bit of Autumn).

Caddis Flies and Stoneflies are two insects that spend a lot of time in and on the water. These flies also have a distinct look to them, and they both make a lot of movement in the water.



The best way to replicate that movement of the Caddis Fly with an Elk Hair Caddis is to fish it in shallow choppy or turbulent waters such as riffles and pocket water. This will give the tumbling and movement that is more than likely going to convince a Trout to bite. Caddis flies jump, bounce, and skitter across the water.

The Elk Hair Caddis fly has been altered and changed since its first appearance in the fly-fishing community. You can find flies in all sorts of different colors and sizes, but the domination of the fly remains strong.

This fly has continuously proven that it's one of the best flies that a fly fisherman can store in their box for a long time, and changing the color only adds to its versatility.

I sometimes add a little colorful poly yarn to the wing and create a small tail of the same material. This helps me see the fly in turbulent water.

Burr's "My Trout Fly Box" continues on the next page.

My Trout Fly Box -- continued

The following proportions and pattern aspects should be kept in mind while tying the fly:

- Wing -- constructed of light elk hair and extended just beyond the hook bend. Elk hair has a larger air chamber than deer hair and therefore floats better in turbulent waters,
- Hackle should be 1 ½ times the hook gap.
- Wing butts should be cut on an angle.



Materials

- Dry fly hook size 12-14
- Thread – tan or matching the dubbing used if tying in a color other than tan
- Fine gold wire
- Tan dubbing for the body. Can also be tied with olive or black dubbing
- Brown hackle, palmered, or a hackle color to match dubbing
- Wing -- use light-colored elk hair

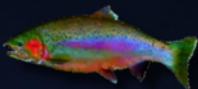


A Tribute to Winchester TU's Paid Staff

As all active members of Winchester TU know, we depend heavily on our paid staff to do the day-to-day work while we volunteers are fishing and/or talking about fishing. Below, in the order we hired them, are our paid staff and their job titles. A Huge **Thank You !**

Juana B. Fishing ----- Fishing Trip Planer
Windan Snow----- Steelhead Specialist
Holly Day-Yinn ----- Fishing Trip Hotels
Sal Moe Trotta----- Brown Trout Specialist
Ken Tara----- Long-Rod Specialist
Meesha Downayre --- Fishing Trip Assistant
Jan U. Airy----- Steelhead Trip Assistant
Scrooge Rhyver ----- Chief, Fly-Reel Repair
Phillip Scrooge
Rhyver ----- Assistant, Fly-Reel Repair
Tigue R. Trout ----- Hybrid Researcher
Juan A. Rainbow ---- Mykiss Researcher
S. Lipton Fell ----- Director, Angler Safety
B. A. Lert----- Assistant, Angler Safety
Mike Iss ----- Steelhead Researcher
Upton Ight----- Chief of Over-Night Travel
Alfrick N. Lyre ----- Collector, Fish Stories
Lando Lakes ----- Lake Fishing Expert
DeDee Tueferteen---- Veteran Services
Blaise Orange----- Angler Safety Coordinator
Dee Yoder-Aunt, RN Angler Hygiene
Joe DeRant ----- Angler Hygiene Assistant
Beau Loney ----- Lateral Lines Fact Checker
Donny Brook ----- Chief, Conflict Resolution
Collin D. Schotz----- Office Manager
Connie Furz ----- Arboreal Forest Angler
Willby Sweat ----- Backpack Angler Coach
Mose DeGrasse----- Head Groundskeeper
Cheech N. Eetza----- South America Guide
Moe Sam Beak ----- East Africa Specialist
Avi Ann Pflugh, MD- Medical Director
Reese Ling ----- Chief Sommelier
Jenn U. Wine ----- Assistant Sommelier
Taylor “Tay” Sting--- Deputy Sommelier
Crystal DeCanter----- Mixologist
Beethoven S. Fifth --- Distiller
Silas Cyban ----- DEA Contact in Virginia
Dan Driff ----- Barber
R. C. Nick ----- Chemist
Brock Lee ----- Nutritionist
Red Herring ----- Menu Planner
Phil Thee ----- Dish Washer
Josh Rogan----- Chef, South Asian Cuisine

Chip Fission
AKA Fission Chips -- Chef, British Cuisine
Dee Calf----- Barista
Rich N. Creamy----- Chef, Desserts
Ken U. Opnitt ----- Kitchen Handyman
Edgar “Eggs” Ploit --- Chef, Breakfast Bar
Olive Yew ----- Inclusive Practices Coach
Mary N. Bright----- Holiday Party Planner
Miss L. Tow----- Assistant Planner
O. Lang Syne----- Holiday Party Musician
Hugh Q. Laylay----- Holiday Party Musician
Marie Auchee ----- Holiday Party Musician
Whit Sport-Goat &
A. Ping R. Nation----- WTU Haberdashers
Tex Stiles &
Tex Chure ----- WTU Tailors
Shar Truce ----- Dubbing Acquisitions
Bertram “Berr”
Grinder ----- Barbless Hook Advocate
Mel N. Collie----- Chapter Psychiatrist
Rue D. Day ----- Chapter Psychologist
Dee Nile----- Marriage Counsellor
Sissy Fuss----- Obsessive Angler Hotline
Warren Peace ----- Chief, Conflict Resolution
Juan Hitt-Wonder ---- Angler Failure Coach
Ruth Less ----- Tough-Love Coach
Carrie Yawn ----- Hypnotist
Ruby Cahn----- European River-Trip Guide
Polly Ticks ----- Chapter Lobbyist
Jay Loppie ----- Mechanic
Mandy Lorain ----- 4X4 Fleet Manager
Rod N. Berry ----- Exoplanet Fishing Guide
Anne Tweeks ----- Bamboo Rod Repairs
Carrie Booh ----- Frozen North Guide
Foxxe N. Hound ----- Kennel Manager
Ken I. Dooitt ----- Odd Jobs
Polly Nator ----- WTU Gardener
Lucy Furr ----- Accountant
Kerr Mudgeon ----- Auditor
Cindy Kate ----- Chief Negotiator



Winchester TU 2023 Speaker Schedule

Mark your calendar now and plan to hear all of these presentations.

Thursday, 4 May 2023
Ami Riscassi, PhD
Senior Research Scientist
University of Virginia

Ami will present an overview of the Shenandoah Watershed/Virginia Trout Stream Sensitivity Study. She has been the coordinator and research scientist for this project since 2014.



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.



Winchester TU Monthly “BarFly” Event

Wednesday, 19 April 2023 at 7:00 PM
Escutcheon Brewery
Commercial St., Winchester

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.

We hope all of you can attend our monthly “BarFly” at Escutcheon Brewery.

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

Please invite your friends. We hope to introduce more folks to the Winchester TU chapter and support a local business that supports WTU.



THE CIGAR SISTERS by Lynn & Dora Butler

Oliva

Serie V

Wrapper: Ecuador

Binder: Nicaragua

Filler: Nicaragua

5 X 54 Double Robusto

Editor's Note: We want to welcome all the new subscribers to LATERAL LINES. Our distribution list has grown 9-fold during the past 14 years and continues to grow. A few of our new readers wonder why we include cigar and whisky/whiskey reviews.

Because a significant number of our readers enjoy a good adult beverage and even fine cigar after a long day on the water. These reviews seemed to be a natural part of the fly-fishing experience for many of our readers.

Our cigar reviewers, writing under the *noms de plume* of Lynn and Dora Butler, actually found us and, as fly anglers themselves, volunteered to write an occasional review for LATERAL LINES.



Photo courtesy of cigarsinternational.com

Lynn: I'm Lynn.

Dora: And I'm Dora. We are The Cigar Sisters...

Lynn: And we are here to enjoy and tell the readers of LATERAL LINES about this cigar from Oliva.

Dora: This is a 6 X 54 Double Robusto. This is a great size for a long relaxing evening.

Lynn: Let's light up these cigars and see what they have to offer. By the way, Dora and I are enjoying these cigars via FaceTime. Our homes are almost 500 miles apart. We can't often share cigars at the same location.

Dora: But with luck, we will be able to get together a couple of times this coming summer.

Lynn: This is a beautifully dark wrapper. Smooth to the touch.

Dora: Slightly oily. Firm, and I mean firm pack. It is quite a heavy cigar for such a short size. The aroma of the wrapper is just heavenly.

Lynn: Fermented tobacco aromas. Glorious aromas. I really don't have words to describe it. Dora what would you say?

Dora: First coffee in the morning? Maybe? Slightly green? On a Wyoming cattle ranch in the spring? This is going to be an interesting cigar.

Lynn: On light up I have a little pepper on the lips and on the back of the tongue. Not overpowering. Huge, huge smoke output.

Dora: The draw is indeed snug. We could have predicted that because this is a densely packed cigar, and it is heavy for its size.

Lynn: The flavors are very much like what I smelled before I lit the cigar. We have a green grassiness with fermented tobacco.

Dora: Hints of dark black coffee. This Oliva V is packed with flavor. I'm getting all kinds of things. There's a woodiness, a nuttiness....

Lynn: A little hint of cedar, of walnut, oak, floral notes.

Dora: I am enjoying this cigar on a soft evening March evening – unusual for central PA this time of year. I think we are between winter blasts so I'm thoroughly enjoying it. I had the opportunity to light my cigar the old-fashioned way with a cedar spill. I can only do that when the air is totally calm, like it is this evening.

Lynn: I'm in my garage here in NC. There's a light rain and, by the weather app, the air temperature here is several degrees cooler right now than it is where you are, Dora!

Dora: Back to the Oliva. The burn on this cigar is perfect. Like a stack of dimes. We wouldn't expect anything less from Oliva.

Lynn: Despite the early grassy notes, this is an ideal one for a person who enjoys a full-flavored cigar. This one has flavor all over the place.

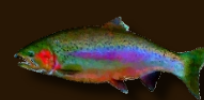
Dora: Deep and rich. Wonderfully packed cigar. The draw is a little tight, but the flavors are so complex. I'm getting wood, spice, nuttiness, dark chocolate, leather.

Lynn: I'm on my final third. Considering the weight of this cigar and the two-hour burn time, I'm only just now beginning to feel a slight nicotine rush.

Dora: It is a lot of cigar, that's for sure. I'm down to the final third of this delightful cigar, too. By my iPhone, it's exactly two hours since light up.

Lynn: It's been a delightful FaceTime evening with you, Dora.

Dora: Talk to you soon. Bye.



Poet's Corner:
Poems selected for the angler.

In Nature's Realm

Attributed to
Adelaide Bridgewater-Hastings
Circa 1850-1901
Norwich, England



Ink wash portrait of Adelaide Bridgewater-Hastings by W.M. Prokopchak ©2023 all rights reserved after the only known photograph of her

Our thanks to Professor of English Literature, Emily R. Williams-Watkins, PhD, of Balliol College, Oxford University, England, for the work she has done bringing this formerly unpublished poet to the attention of the public and for securing for us permission from the Bridgewater-Hastings estate to include several of her poems in LATERAL LINES during 2023.

The Complete works of Adelaide Bridgewater-Watkins will be available for purchase everywhere in 2024.



In nature's realm, a gift divine, Her beauty endless, ever-shine,
The earth, the sky, the sun, the sea, All parts of God's great mystery.

The trees, they dance in gentle breeze, Their leaves a-shimmer,
green like seas, The flowers, fragrant in their bloom, Their colors bright, dispel all gloom.

The birds, they sing a sweet refrain, Their melodies, like gentle rain,
The beasts that roam, free and wild, A sight to see, both fierce and mild.

Oh, how the world sings with delight, In every season, day or night,
God's beauty shining all around, A joyful, peaceful, wondrous sound.

So let us marvel at this sight, This precious gift of pure delight,
And thank the Lord, who in His grace, Has given us this sacred place.

Let's wander through the meadows wide, And watch the streams that gently glide,
Or climb the mountains tall and steep, And marvel at the sights we keep.

The sun that sets in fiery blaze, The moon that shines with gentle grace,
The stars that twinkle in the sky, All tell the tale of God on high.

For in each leaf, in every stone, In every creature that we've known,
We see the hand of God at play, And hear His voice in every way.

So let us treasure nature's gift, And all the joys that it can lift,
And in our hearts, let's hold it tight, And praise the Lord with all our might.

Let us remember, every day, The beauty that surrounds our way,
The gentle breeze, the sunlit sky, The soaring bird, that passes by.

For in each moment, we can find, A glimpse of God, within our mind,
A piece of heaven, here on earth, A taste of life, of joy and mirth.

So let us live in harmony, With all the world, both great and small,
And let our hearts be filled with love, For every creature that we love.

And when the time comes, as it must, For us to leave this earthly trust,
May we look back with grateful eyes, And see the world, in all its guise.

For in that moment, we will know, That nature's beauty, in its glow,
Has been the gift that God has sent, To fill our hearts, with sweet content.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Two-Day Trip to the Salmon River

I got back last night from my two-plus day trip up to the Salmon River country around Pulaski NY. The first day offered awful steelhead weather: bright blue sky and a sudden temperature drop. It didn't get out of the twenties until midafternoon. But yesterday was overcast and "balmy" -- mid-30's up to 40. And the fish responded well!

Managed to land only one fish Thursday; and "quite a few" yesterday.

It helps to have a great guide. Left to my own devices, I'd just be hooking trees and rocks as usual.

— Mike S., Lake Frederick, VA



ANGLER REFLECTIONS

Fishing the LeTort

by Nick Brognano



I first fished the LeTort many years ago and walked away with a broken rod and a creel full of frustration and no fish. I was much younger back then and was just beginning to learn how to fly- fish. The long rod was difficult to handle in the thick cover beside the stream. Why go back then, and how did the second experience compare to the first? The answer is found in the following narrative:

Last month I was in Carlisle with my wife who was shopping. I noticed a small, clean stream meandering behind the store. The store employee said it was the LeTort. I promptly left the store and walked to the stream I hadn't seen in years. Looking down into the water from the small wooden bridge I could see him lying there facing up stream. It was a nice size Brown Trout inviting me to test my skills. I scouted the stream a little more and ran into a fly fisherman from Ohio. He said he had just caught "a nice one" and showed me the home made fly he had used. That did it; I could not let the Trout season go by without trying the LeTort once more.

I contacted Gene Giza, a guide referred to me by a fishing buddy. I met Gene and we drove to the stream. As we were standing by our cars and getting ready to go in, something unforgettable and unexpected occurred. A fisherman was leaving the stream and spent a few minutes with us. He said he had several "chases", a term I had never heard used in that context. "Chases" was all he was after since he intentionally fished with a broken hook. I had never met a fisherman who fished this way, and I initially thought it to be odd. However, once I got into fishing this beautiful little stream I could better understand and appreciate the broken hook technique. A few minutes later a second vehicle pulled up and out stepped a living legend. It was Ed Shenk, an author of several popular fly-fishing books and a lifelong caretaker of the Le Tort.

Ed is now in his 80's and is soon to be recognized for his lifetime work with induction into the Fly Fisher Hall of Fame. Gene and I spent some memorable moments with Mr. Shenk. As we talked, I learned to better respect the hard work and dedication that goes into preserving a small, clean, clear stream such as the LeTort. Ed now visits his boyhood stream; not to fish, but to simply walk it and reminisce.



**“Fishing the LeTort”
continues
on the next page.**

ANGLER REFLECTIONS

LeTort -- continued

He continues to look for ways to preserve and protect something near and dear to him. As we walked toward the stream, I thought of the first fisherman we met who had no intention of catching anything and of Mr. Shenk's love for this water. I began to feel as if I was about to enter a fly-fisherman's sanctuary where habitat and fish are treated with tender loving care.

I had my favorite 4-weight rod, and Gene supplied the flies. The first spot produced no fish, but I was pleased nevertheless because I did not get hung up in any trees or bushes and, so far, I lost no flies. My fly-fishing skills had improved over the years.

As I quietly walked alongside the running water, I could see evidence of long hours spent in protecting the stream from erosion and sink holes. Sandbags and logs had been strategically placed along the banks and now looked as natural as if they had always been there. More casts were made with the same negative result. While I saw fish, I couldn't draw their interest. We moved on.

It was at this new spot that Gene introduced me to two other legends I had heard so much about in relation to the LeTort. Two stone monuments were standing side by side. One dedicated to Vince Marinaro and the other to Charlie Fox.

What a fitting place and deserving honor to two fellow outstanding anglers. Seeing this shrine convinced me I was on hallowed ground. The anticipated excitement of catching a Trout was beginning to mellow. After all, where else are you going to run into monuments like this on a Trout stream? It would not surprise me if more homage was paid to these two stones than to most family monuments. As we walked down to the water, I began to sense the spiritual presence of Steve and Charlie.

While we meandered along, Gene told me that the "regulars" annually and reverently convene at the twin monument site where food and drinks are shared, and fishing stories are told. On hearing this I imagined an outdoor "upper room" and the gathering of fisherman some 2000 years earlier where bread and wine was served and fishing stories, among other things, must have been spoken.

It was time to try a different fly. Gene tied on a black ant. I literally approached the quiet flowing stream on my knees to not spook George, the granddaddy Trout Ed Shenk had named and often mentioned in his writings. Neither George nor any of his relatives came out of their cover to chase the little ant. It didn't take us long to see that nature was providing a food source much more succulent. Fat, chunky caterpillars were falling from the overreaching trees into the stream. What hungry Trout would go after a small, skinny ant when there were juicy caterpillars to choose from? As we walked to another spot Gene pointed to an old mailbox standing in the middle of nowhere. He said it had been put there years ago by someone and it was customary for fishermen to write a note in one of the old black books kept inside the mailbox. For some strange reason the old black metal mailbox triggered a flashback to my youth, and I recalled the biggest fish I had ever caught up to that point in time. Somebody was playing with my mind. This is what I wrote:

"I was 13 when I landed that big Carp. It had to have been huge because its tail kept getting caught in the front wheel spokes of my bike as I hurriedly peddled home to show off the prize to my father. With fish in hand, I asked my mother where my father was. She said, "he is sleeping." I was overwhelmed with excitement and didn't stop to think as I rushed into the bedroom with a beat up, smelly, carp on a stringer. I woke him and held the fish about a foot from his face. I said, "Dad, Dad, look at this!" He rolled over, opened his eyes, and shouted, "Get that thing the hell out of here." That is when I learned what to one is a heavenly dream can be a nightmare to another." This old memory had nothing to do with the LeTort and I don't recall reliving that moment of long ago ever before.

After I wrote that note, a few more casts were made with the same result, no fish, but I didn't really expect to catch anything on this trip anyway. I did get hung up in a tree once and Gene showed me how to get out of such a mess without losing a fly. He instructed me to point the rod toward the fly and "make the sign of the cross" with my rod. It worked! The fly became untangled and fell out! I am now curious to see if this "religious" technique will work elsewhere where high level spiritual presence may be absent. I can honestly say I left the LeTort in a prayerful state of mind. It made for a perfect end.

While I love the sport of fly-fishing, I realize the skill required to catch a LeTort Trout may be beyond my level. Nevertheless, I immensely enjoyed the folks I met, the conversations we had, and the beautiful, quiet, clean, stream. I surmised that the wild excitement of my youthful fishing days has been replaced with a more subtle, mature contentment of simply being grateful at X years of age to be able to enjoy getting out and trying my luck at such a unique, historically important, and challenging Trout stream. I can't think of many places where I can honestly say I had a wonderful time fishing even though nothing was caught.



The Skunk & Goat Tavern

American Restaurant and Bar
North East, PA

Editor’s Note: With this edition of LATERAL LINES, we begin a new and occasional series of reviews about the eateries near the fishing locations that we frequent. We call this series “Fishing and Feasting”. This series will NOT, I repeat, will NOT publicly humiliate any dining establishment that does not make the grade. We WILL only review ones that the reviewer personally enjoyed.



We begin this series in North East, Pennsylvania. Now don’t be confused by the name, North East, PA, is not really in northeastern Pennsylvania. North East, PA, is in northwestern Pennsylvania. Got that?! The locals tell me that it got its name because it is in northeastern Erie County, PA.

With that out of the way, we can begin talking about The Skunk & Goat Tavern, located at 17 West Main Street, North East, PA 16428.

I enjoyed meals there twice recently during Steelhead fishing trips, and I had eaten there several times before. The Skunk & Goat is my go-to restaurant in the Erie area for just about any reason you might consider.

The ambiance: After an exhausting and frigid day on the water during Steelhead season, it presents a warm and inviting environment, the service is pleasant and efficient, and they use real, absorbent cotton napkins at both lunch and dinner. Amazing! No paper napkins here. And believe me, you will need a good napkin while devouring their delicious and juicy burgers, barbecue, and fish -- and the milkshakes!



The Skunk & Goat is an eclectic sort of place: bar stools at the bar; tables, chairs, and padded-bench seating in both the bar and restaurant side. Quirky works of art line the walls and equally quirky and delicious menu options – and don’t forget the Billy Goat looking across the bar and the Skunk holding court.

The bar: Although not extensive, the bar is adequately stocked with spirits, wines, beers, ciders and mocktails. They really excel at milk shakes: How about Caramel Latte, Smores, Orange Creamsicle, and Peanut Butter Cup?

The food: Everything on the menu is prepared right. Don’t miss the house-made cinnamon roll at breakfast, the Daddy Blue Burger and the Tomato Bisque at lunch, or the Seared Salmon at dinner. One of my favorites is the dipping oil that they serve with the Toasted French Baguette – heaven on bread.

Don’t even get me started on their desserts. And if you like Irish Coffee, you gotta try their Billy’s Irish Coffee.

The service: Service sets this restaurant apart. The waitstaff are at the top of their game. Remember that everything is made fresh here so you will need to be a little patient while the chefs in the kitchen make your meal a one-of-a-kind.

The price: Coming from one of the highest cost of living areas in the country, Northern Virginia, the prices at The Skunk & Goat are great. I got out of there absolutely stuffed with dinner for \$32, not counting tip, and even more stuffed for \$22, not counting tip, for lunch. Equivalent multi-course lunches in Winchester typically push \$40 or even \$50. I’ve even had a few lunches at \$100 in Northern Virginia.



Red Letter Hospitality owns and operates The Skunk & Goat. Their Director of Marketing, Annë L. Lewis, was most gracious host during my visits. And the chef, John Boquin, was masterful. Red Letter Hospitality owns two additional restaurants in Erie, PA, and one in Boardman, Ohio.



2023 Calendar of Events Winchester Trout Unlimited

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

Reminders

All Winchester Project Healing Waters monthly meetings will be on the second Wednesday of the month during 2023. The location remains the same: Lake Frederick Community Lodge.

All monthly Winchester BarFly sessions will be on the third Wednesday of the month during 2023. The location remains the same: Escutcheon Brewery.

April 2023

- ✓ Winchester Trout Unlimited Meeting – 6 April 2023 -- 7:00 PM
- ✓ Saturday -- ?? April 2023 -- Redbud Run workday – Time and date to be announced later.
- ✓ Wednesday -- 12 April 2023 -- 6:30 PM - Monthly Project Healing Waters meeting
- ✓ Wednesday -- 19 April 2023 -- 7:00 PM - BarFly at Escutcheon Brewery

May 2023

- ✓ Winchester Trout Unlimited Meeting – 4 May 2023 -- 7:00 PM - Ami Riscassi is the featured speaker. Topic: Virginia Trout Study
- ✓ Saturday – 6 May 2023 -- Redbud Run workday -- Time to be announced later.
- ✓ Wednesday -- 10 May 2023 -- 6:30 PM - Monthly Project Healing Waters meeting
- ✓ Wednesday – 17 May 2023 -- 7:00 PM - BarFly at Escutcheon Brewery

June 2023

- ✓ Winchester Trout Unlimited Meeting – 1 June 2023 -- 7:00 PM
- ✓ Saturday – 3 June 2023 -- Redbud Run workday -- Time to be announced later.
- ✓ Wednesday -- 14 June 2023 -- 6:30 PM - Monthly Project Healing Waters meeting
- ✓ Wednesday – 21 June 2023 -- 7:00 PM - BarFly at Escutcheon Brewery

July 2023

- ✓ Winchester Trout Unlimited Meeting – There is no Winchester TU monthly meeting in July.
- ✓ Saturday – 8 July 2023 -- Redbud Run workday -- Time to be announced later.
- ✓ Wednesday -- 12 July 2023 -- 6:30 PM - Monthly Project Healing Waters meeting
- ✓ Wednesday – 19 July 2023 -- 7:00 PM - BarFly at Escutcheon Brewery

August 2023

- ✓ Winchester Trout Unlimited Meeting – 3 August 2023 -- 7:00 PM
- ✓ Saturday – 5 August 2023 -- Redbud Run workday -- Time to be announced later.
- ✓ Wednesday -- 9 August 2023 -- 6:30 PM - Monthly Project Healing Waters meeting
- ✓ Wednesday – 16 August 2023 -- 7:00 PM - BarFly at Escutcheon Brewery

September 2023

- ✓ Winchester Trout Unlimited Meeting – 7 September 2023 -- 7:00 PM
- ✓ Saturday – 9 September 2023 -- Redbud Run workday -- Time to be announced later.
- ✓ Wednesday -- 13 September 2023 -- 6:30 PM - Monthly Project Healing Waters meeting
- ✓ Wednesday – 20 September 2023 -- 7:00 PM - 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.