

Lateral Lines

The Monthly Journal of Winchester Trout Unlimited
Chapter #638

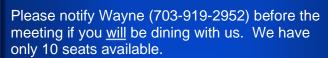
The problem with being on time is that no one is there to appreciate it.

September 2023

Volume 28, Number 9

7 September 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

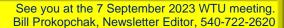




The next Winchester PHW meeting 6:30 PM at the Lake Frederick Lodge Wednesday, 13 September 2023

BarFly

The next Winchester TU BarFly 7:00 PM at Escutcheon Brewery Wednesday, 20 September 2023











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Cade Bailey is Winchester TU Featured Speaker 7:00 PM, Thursday, 7 September 2023

Cade Bailey

Owner of Dead Drift Fishing, Master Fly Tyer, Youngest PHW Volunteer, and Middle School Student

Cade will show us his amazing skills and teach us about the incredible flies that he has created. He will also talk about his business, Dead Drift Fishing, his Nor-Vise sponsorship, and his volunteer work with Project Healing Waters.

Cade's photo courtesy of https://www.instagram.com/dead_drift_fishing/





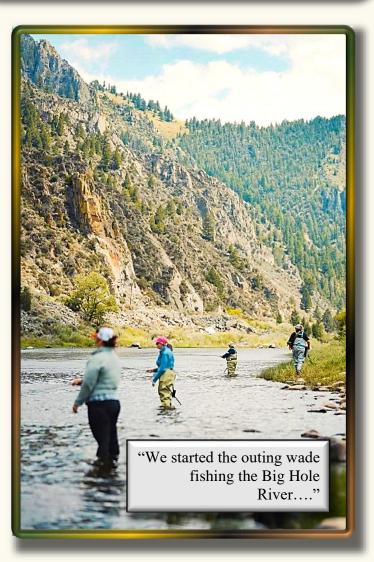
FREEDOM RANCH FOR HEROES PROVIDES REAL HEALING FOR WOMEN VETERANS

by Wayne White and Christine Erin photos by Cameron Cushman, Flylords, LLC

"It was a dream come true," explained Christine Erin, as she reflected on her "once-in-a-lifetime" fishing trip to the Project Healing Waters Freedom Ranch for Heroes in Wise River, Montana 25-29 July.

Christine, a Winchester Program participant, along with seven other women military veterans representing all branches of the service were selected from Healing Waters programs all over the country for the Second Annual Ladies-only fishing outing. Their three days of fly fishing provided them with the chance to experience the therapeutic value of the sport in the company of fellow lady fly fishers in the beauty of the big sky country.

Since 2018, Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing has been sending 160 disabled veterans each fishing season to the Freedom Ranch courtesy of the generous support of the George and Betty Harbaugh Foundation. The Ranch sits on 100 acres with the Big Hole River, a world-class, blueribbon Trout habitat, right out the back door of the lodge.



Christine, who was a Coast Guard Veteran port security specialist called to duty in the wake of the 9-11 attacks on the World Trade Towers says, "Fly fishing is a very important way to now balance my life. As a working single mom, it's the best way to cope with the traumatic memories of my service and everyday stresses in a healthy way."

Christine shares her experience as well as the thoughts of the other women veterans through the photos contributed by Flylords; a digital media company known for its inspirational fly-fishing photography.



"We started the outing wade fishing the Big Hole River on the first day. The night before, the guides provided some practice casting classes, water safety instructions, and tactics and techniques for fighting fish in fast water. The serenity of the river and the wide-open landscape made it easy to disconnect. Without our phones, it was easy to decompress. This time at the Ranch was a complete 'neurological reset' for me." ~CE

"The Big Hole is a freestone stream, and the rocks are slippery, and their size makes it difficult to wade the river. It was hot, so some of us ditched the waders and wet-waded instead. That was a blessing for me especially when I fell in not once but TWICE! I gave everyone the 'okay sign' and after the second time we had a good laugh and the ladies nicknamed me Double Dip." ~CE

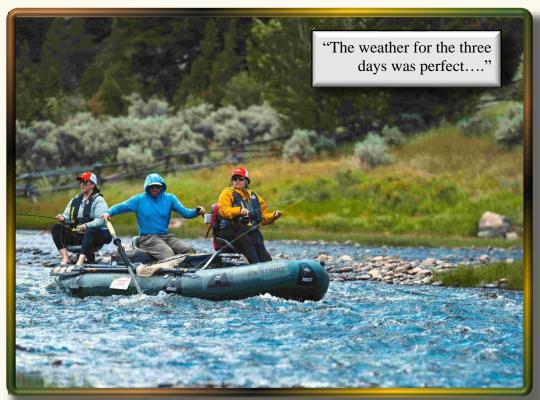
"Real Healing for Women Veterans" continues on the next page.

REAL HEALING FOR WOMEN VETERANS

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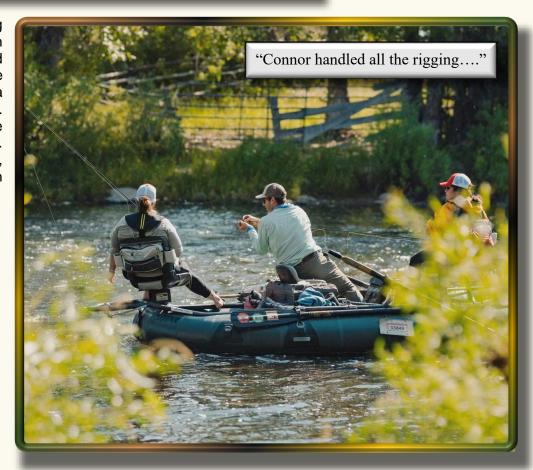
"Kim is also a single mom and we really connected. We joked non-stop about silly things during our time on the water and back at the lodge. I can't remember laughing that much in a very long time. Kim is from the Rocky Mountain South Region and is also Native American. She shared some great insight about her heritage and the surrounding area with the group during our evening talks." ~CE





"The weather for the three days was perfect and the Big Hole was at just the right flow for this time of year, according to Connor. We learned a lot from him about reading the water, making a good cast from a sitting position, and anticipating his navigation to get us best positioned to scout and prospect for the fish." ~CE

"Connor handled all the rigging for Kim and me. I offered to tie on my own flies, but he insisted and set up the line for each of us. We mainly fished a dry hopper and a nymph dropper most of the days. It was very effective; most of the fish we caught took the dropper. Over the two days of float fishing, we caught over 50 fish between the two of us." ~CE



"Real Healing for Women Veterans" continues on the next page.

REAL HEALING FOR WOMEN VETERANS

-- continued

"We all accepted the traditional Freedom Ranch 'Grand Slam' challenge. This Cutthroat Trout, which I caught, was the largest fish landed during the week of all the boats. It is one of the five fish required to win the Slam. I successfully brought several Browns, Rainbow, and Greyling, to the net but came up short for the Brookie. Connor said he had not seen a Brook Trout in a couple of weeks. So, we knew we gave it a great try." ~CE

"This Cutthroat Trout, which I caught, was the largest fish landed...."

"The Ranch awards certificates for the biggest fish, the most fish, the Slam, and the smallest fish. It was a great outing for me, taking top honors for the biggest Trout and four out of five of the Slam. Kim won the award for the most fish caught and received a certificate for coming up short in the Slam only missing the Brookie as well." ~CE





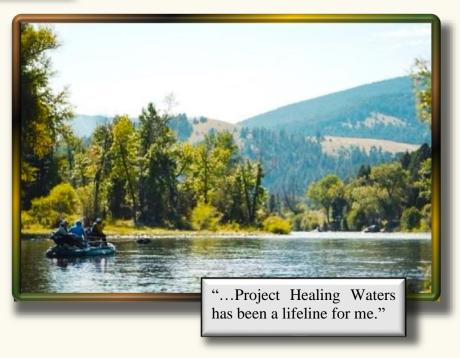
"Kim and I found it difficult to leave, but we agreed we'll always have the memories of a great week on the water. As a veteran who has struggled with the transition back to civilian life, Project Healing Waters has been a lifeline for me. The camaraderie, connection to nature, and joy of fly fishing have given me a new sense of purpose and peace. I can't thank this program enough." ~CE

Note from the Winchester PHW Lead:

During their outing, the lady veterans were also part of a continuing study on the therapeutic benefits of outdoor activities for people recovering from mental health issues. Nathan Hicks, a senior at Carroll College in Helena, MT, is conducting the research as part of his senior study. Nathan, an Army veteran who also suffered from mental health issues related to his service, is trying to show the benefit that outdoor activity therapy such as fly-fishing has on reducing drug dependency and improving good mental health. He plans to present his study to the Veterans Administration for their future consideration of prescribing outdoor activities as a medical treatment for veterans battling mental and physical issues.

For more on Freedom Ranch, visit The Power of Partnerships: Freedom Ranch for Heroes Video at:

https://projecthealingwaters.org/announcements/the-power-of-partnerships-freedom-ranch-for-heroes-video/







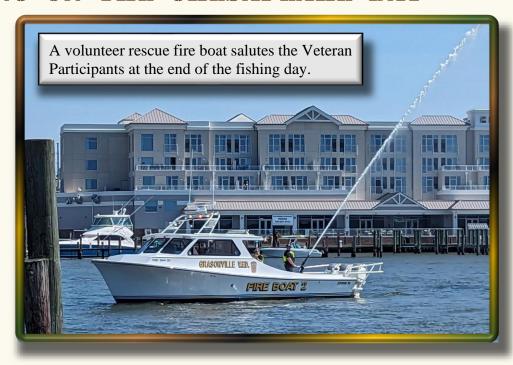
VETERANS TREATED TO

A DAY OF FISHING ON THE CHESAPEAKE BAY

by Wayne White photos by Steve Tegtmeyer Stars and Stripers logo courtesy of Project Healing Waters

More than 70 Project Healing Waters Veterans were treated to a day of fishing on the Chesapeake Bay at the 11th Annual Stars & Stripers Fly Fishing, on Saturday, 19 August.

Thirty-eight private fishing boats and their crews volunteered their time, services and equipment for the event staged at Kent Island Yacht Club, Chester, Maryland.



Catching stripers on a fly rod is an exciting fishing experience; however, weather conditions and changing fish populations made for a frustrating day for the anglers.

Winchester Program participant Erwin Casto noted that the event was extremely challenging.

"The wind gusts were up to 15 knots and the seas were very choppy; they were running one to two feet all day. It was almost impossible to cast a fly line with any consistency and accuracy. Most of the boat captains went to using bait casting reels and lures. A total of three fish were caught and none were keeper size," Erwin said.



Erwin Casto (left front) enjoys the traditional summer feast provided for all the participants and volunteers. The Striper population over the last few years has changed significantly. Virginia Region trip lead Steve Tegtmeyer said according to his boat captain that the "teenage" stripers in the six to 15-inch size which is normally the size targeted for this kind of event cannot be found. Besides, August is not always the best time of year to hunt Stripers in the Bay.

After the fishing, the participants were treated to a feast of crabs, steaks, hamburgers, and hot dogs and sides. There was also a random drawing of some very nice fishing swag – rods, reels, bags, shirts, hats, and an assortment of great giveaways.

According to Erwin, the camaraderie, beautiful sunny weather, the food, and the hotel accommodations the night before for those who traveled more than three hours, made for an excellent event.



The charter fleet returns to the docks at the Kent Island Yacht Club, Chester Maryland after a difficult day of fishing.

STARS

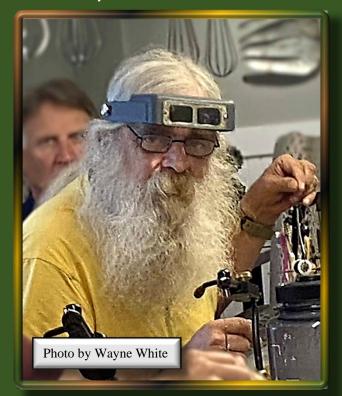
FLY FISHING

A special thanks to all the sponsors and local vendors that made this event possible: Hardee's Restaurants - OTAC, Inc.; Cyma Builders & Construction Managers; Kent Island Elks Lodge 2576; Centreville American Legion Post 18; Ebb Tide Tents & Rentals; Kent Island Yacht Club; Kent Island Volunteer Fire Department; and Fisherman's Inn & Harris Seafood.



WINCHESTER PROJECT HEALING WATERS SEPTEMBER 2023 CALENDAR

The Winchester Project Healing Waters Program will hold its next monthly meeting on Wednesday, 13 September 2023, in Rachel's Kitchen, Shenandoah Lodge, Lake Frederick, 6:30 - 8:30 pm.



This will be a fly-tying class featuring Walt's Worm, and Dave Harrelson (in yellow shirt) will be the lead instructor.

Casting instructions will also be available for those interested in working on their technique.

Upcoming fishing outings for participants and volunteers:

<u>Saturday, 9 September 2023</u>, USGS Fish Hatchery in Leetown, WVA. If you would like to attend, please contact the Program Lead and Assistant Lead if you have not received an email invite.

Sunday, 1 October 2023, Beaver Creek, in Ottobine, Virginia. This outing will be limited to 12 people – six participants and six volunteers. Details of the event will be available at the monthly meeting on 13 September.

The Winchester Program now has 28 Veteran participants and 40 volunteers. Thank you for all you do in supporting our program and our Veterans.

If you know of someone who would be interested in joining our program as a participant or a volunteer, please contact:

Wayne White
Lead, Winchester Program
Project Healing Waters
Wayne.white@project healingwaters.org
703-919-2952

Phil Stevens
Assistant Lead, Winchester Program
Project Healing Waters
Phillip.h.stevens@projecthealingwaters.org
703-380-4088

Winchester TU 2023 Speaker Schedule

Mark your calendar now and plan to attend.

Reminder: The WTU October meeting will be at the Middletown Campus of Laurel Ridge Community College.



Thursday, 5 October 2023 7:00 PM at Laurel Ridge Joshua Kincaid, PhD

Professor of Environmental Studies and Geography, Shenandoah University

Josh will talk about the importance of large woody debris in streams. Woody debris in streams plays important roles in stream ecology, erosion, and sediment storage, and there has been a great deal of research on this over the last decade.

Winchester TU and PHW Participate in Second Annual TSC TRACTOR Event

by Michael L. Smith photos by Michael L. Smith and Danielle Bailey

The Winchester Chapter and its Project Healing Waters partners staffed a dual outreach booth at the second annual Tractor Supply Farmer Market Event on Saturday, August 19, at their store located off US 50 west of the Winchester Medical Center.

Volunteers staffing the event were Wayne White, Michael Hart, Mike Smith, Pete Smith, and Cade Bailey.

[As an aside, Smith took great delight in introducing booth visitors to Cade, describing him as "probably the best fly tyer in the Northern Shenandoah Valley... which will likely be irrefutably true before long!"]

Located next to a Walmart, the new Tractor Supply store, opened in the spring of 2021, hosted the now-annual event as an exercise both in community outreach and to provide its public with opportunities and experiences about which they may have been previously unaware.







"We had the chance to talk to some veterans today who didn't know Project Healing Waters existed," noted PHW lead Wayne White, "and they were truly very interested in pursuing it further."

Mike Smith echoed similar public responses regarding TU. "Several booth visitors had heard about Trout Unlimited — but were pleasantly surprised to learn they could join a local chapter here in Winchester and Frederick County."

Turnout for the event was very good overall and booth "traffic" remained steady throughout. An added plus for the location: the Walmart store next door also provided an additional stream of interested participants through the day.



Bud on the Run: August 2023 Report

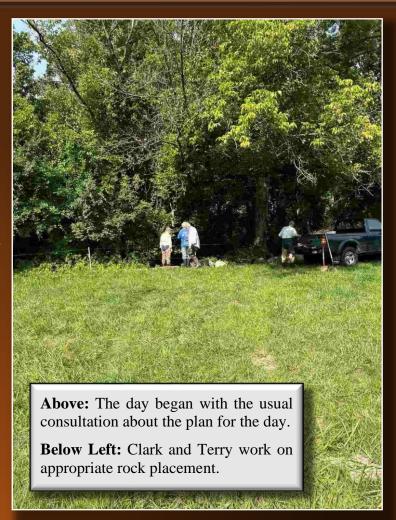
The next workday is set for Saturday,

9 September 2023 at 9:00 AM.

by Bud Nagelvoort photos by Bob Fish & Bud Nagelvoort

Had a great crew on August 5 who added a new Chapter chapter about rocks. It may be the Chapter's chapter on stream improvement most remembered in the annals of Winchester TU!

Clark and Terry handled the placing of rocks at the merged smaller and gianter dead sycamores unique stream flow pool enhancement project.





While their work was extremely important, even if not absolutely completed, our other three heroes (Bob, Nick, and Bud) created a unique launching ramp on the high bank edge to launch all the remaining hundreds of small, medium, and larger rocks still resident there to the stream edge. All of this occurred without one of these hundreds of rocks causing the slightest injury to the team members in the stream.





"Bud on the Run" continues on the next page.

Bud on the Run -- continued

Unfortunately, there remain a few leaks under the base sycamore logs which undermine (Is that the right word?) the desired performance of the entire project. Who ever thought that rocks leaked?

The challenge at the Saturday, 9 September, work session at 9:00 AM will be to tighten up the gaps in the current rock placement that now prevent the needed damming effect to raise the water to a level where it must flow through the notch in the smaller log to perform its responsibility. It will take quite a few small rocks to accomplish this objective.

We don't have many small rocks. We may decide to invade the new warehouse construction site for the acquisition of a truck load of small rocks. One of us will visit the construction site on 2 September to resolve this question.



If we are not able to secure any (or enough) small rocks for our purposes, we have the alternative of utilizing a sheet or sheets of old swimming pool fabric installed properly along with our rocks to block most of the undesired flow under the sycamores.

Or, as a last and perhaps the easiest way to solve the problem, let debris plug up the gaps over time, especially if/when we ever get heavy rains again.

We look forward to a full crew on the 9th and a day in which the dry weather we have been experiencing recently does not turn out to be the beginning of a wet season or reflects the results of a hurricane the day before."

Expect the usual e-mail on the evening of the 8th if there is a change in plans. Tight lines -

Bud



Above: The notch in the smaller sycamore was functioning more or less as planned on 5 August.

Left: However, by 14 August, water intrusion under the smaller sycamore log and through the rock barriers had reduced the flow through the notch to a trickle.



Barbara's Books

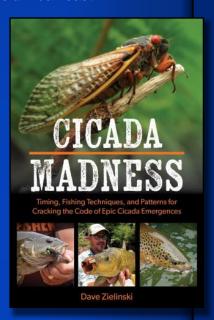
Compiled by Barbara Gamble

Cicada Madness: Timing, Fishing Techniques, and Patterns for Cracking the Code of Epic Cicada Emergences

Author: Dave Zielinski
Paperback: 176 pages
ISBN-10: 0811771822
ISBN-13: 978-0811771825
Publisher: Stackpole Books
Publication Date: 17 October 2023

Cicadas are large, loud insects that spend their nymphal stages underground until they crawl out, climb a tree trunk, and emerge as winged insects. The adult insects emerge on a 1-year (annual) and 13- or 17-year (periodical) cadence. Yearly emergences are consistent and plentiful in certain places East to West and become a dependable "hatch." Species from carp and smallmouth bass on eastern rivers to trout on fabled waters such as Utah's Green River or Pennsylvania's Spring Creek grow fat on this annual feast.

But the feeding frenzy kicks into high in most years when a brood of periodical cicadas emerge in their predictable range. These insects have been underground for 13 or 17 years (identified by different brood names) and emerge en masse in mind-boggling numbers. Many of them trees to along highways or deep in the woods where their call is deafening, and animals from birds to snakes to turkeys feed voraciously on them.



Millions of cicadas also emerge at the bases of the trees and bushes that line streams and lakes, and they fall into the water so regularly that fish become attuned to them. Even fish that are not designed to feed on the surface, such as carp, catfish, and freshwater drum, contort their bodies to take part in this daily buffet, which lasts for about a month. Anglers can follow this hatch and fish cicadas for almost two months and, if they understand which broods are hatching where, can fish cicadas almost every year.

This is the first book dedicated to the patterns, techniques, and, most important, the science of locating the best hatches of these insects.

Dave Zielinski has fished periodical and annual cicada emergences for decades on waterways in Arizona, Colorado, Utah, Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, Michigan, West Virginia, Virginia, and Maryland. He has been featured in a film and several podcasts on fly fishing, cicadas, and wooden boats. In addition to his day job, he owns Down Home Boat Works (www.downhomeboatworks.com), an online business for wooden boat designs, plans, and finished boats for fly fishing. He contributed to *Drift Boats & River Dories: Their History, Design, Construction, and Use* by Roger L. Fletcher. He lives in Saltsburg, Pennsylvania.

Sources: amazon.com and the publishers

Fly Fishing Evolution: Advanced Strategies for Dry Fly, Nymph, and Streamer Fishing

Author: George Daniel Hardcover: 240 pages ISBN-10: 0811738760 ISBN-13: 978-0811738767 Publisher: Stackpole Books

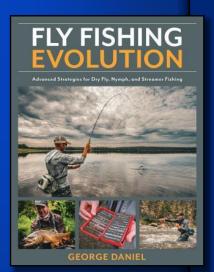
Publication Date: 1 November 2023

Complete breakdown of the mono system (arguably the best way to control your drift when Euro nymphing)

- Jigging streamers for tougher trout
- Author's top patterns for dry fly, nymph, and streamer fishing

The sport of fly fishing is constantly changing -- fish are getting tougher to catch on many streams, tools and tackle are improving, and new materials are being introduced into the fly-tying world that can help you create more-effective patterns. As these different aspects of our sport change, fly fishers need to evolve as well -- if they want to catch more fish.

In this book, George Daniel cutting-edge discusses strategies for nymphing, dry-fly, and streamer fishing gleaned from his own onthe-water experience and insights from other top anglers around the country. He covers everything from equipment basic favorite fly patterns to proven rigs, casting approach, and common troubleshooting scenarios, and he includes his best tips to help your fly-fishing game evolve to the next level.



George Daniel is the author of the bestselling books *Dynamic Nymphing* (978-0-8117-0741-1), *Strip Set* (978-0-8117-1297-2), and *Nymph Fishing* (978-0-8117-1826-4), and a contributing editor for *Fly Fisherman* magazine.

He is director of the Joe Humphreys Fly Fishing Program at the Pennsylvania State University. He is also the owner and operator of Livin on the Fly, a fly-fishing educational/guide company based near his home in Beech Creek, Pennsylvania. George conducts fly-fishing seminars and clinics across the country.

Sources: amazon.com and the publishers



My Trout Fly Box Fly Fishing with the Muddler Minnow

article and photos by Burr Tupper

One of the most popular and versatile streamer patterns is the Muddler Minnow. What makes the Muddler so effective is it can be fished in so many ways. Having made that statement, I will confess that it is one of my least favorite flies to tie due to the spinning and trimming of the deer hair since it makes such a mess.

Fished high or low, wet or dry, there are few conditions under which the Muddler fails to take fish. Developed in the mid-1930's by Don Gapen, the Muddler imitates the sculpin, a bottom-dwelling baitfish common in many lakes and streams. Muddlers represent several forms of aquatic and terrestrial life and so can be used to catch Trout and Bass along with Panfish.

MUDDLER VERSATILITY FISHED WET OR DRY

Traditionally, the Muddler is fly fished as a streamer deep in the water column. Sculpin hug the bottom and dart around cobble bottoms searching for food.





For a deep presentation, tie the Muddler weighted or add a few split-shot pinched onto the leader. The deer-hair head on the Muddler gives it a unique option of also fishing it as a dry fly. The buoyancy of the deer hair combined with a liberal application of floatant makes a convincing top water fly.

In smaller hook sizes (10 and 12), I've had Panfish smack Muddlers until they're torn apart. The deer hair causes an irresistible wake. In larger hook sizes (4 and 6), Bass strike Muddlers just like other popular poppers. Of course, any of these sizes work for Trout as well, but I prefer them in sizes 8-10.

One of the ways to use a "dry" Muddler for Trout is to use it as a grasshopper imitation. The niche best filled by the Muddler Minnow, however, is as a streamer. The most popular technique for fishing it wet is the standard down-and-across approach. Using this method, you cast the fly across and slightly downstream, then allow it to drift freely, making no effort to avoid drag.

The strike often comes as the fly completes its drift and begins to swing around and rise to the surface. When fishing faster, deeper water, cast the fly upstream and across, giving it time to sink to the desired depth. A good mend adding slack, moments after casting, will also help this fly sink.

My Trout Fly Box -- continued

When streamer fishing, you won't have to worry about detecting tentative takes. Usually Muddler strikes are a bone-jarring jolt, and all you need is a firm grip on the rod to set the hook.

Dry, wet, or as a streamer, versatility is what makes the Muddler one of my first choices when there isn't a hatch. Whether fishing a stream for the first time or wading familiar waters, if I see no hatching activity when I first enter the water, I tie on a Muddler or a Muddler variation and begin searching the water.

The Muddler Minnow and the variants that spawned from it like the Humpy and Bunny Muddler are very effective flies for both fresh and salt water fishing.



Muddler Minnow: Materials

- Hook: Size 4-12
- Thread: Brown or Black than
- Tail: Oak Mottled Turkey (matched pair, use small side)
- Quill Body: Holographic Flat Tinsel (size: medium; color: gold)
- Ribbing: French Oval Tinsel or wire (size: small; color: gold)
- Underwing: Gray Squirrel Tail
- Wing: Oak Mottled Turkey Quill (matched pair, use large side)
- Collar: Deer Body Hair (color: natural)
- Head: Deer Body Hair (color: natural)

I used wire instead of the French oval tinsel as it gives the fly a little weight. Lead wire could be added if there is no intent to fish it dry. Spinning the deer hair requires a loose pinch wrap to start, another loose wrap and then several tight wraps will spin the hair. The deer hair collar should have tips pointing rearward. For subsequent wraps, I trim the tips and then spin. This helps me separate the hair for head from the collar when trimming.

Editor's Note:

Remember to fish with barbless hooks or bend down your barbs, especially when catch-and-release fishing.









Poet's Corner:

Poems selected for the angler.

Departing Summer

George Moses Horton 1789-1883 U.S.A



George Moses Horton was an enslaved man living in North Carolina and later in Philadelphia in the 19th century. There is no known photo or portrait of him, but there are two known signatures. Here is one of them.

To learn more about George Moses Horton please click on the links below.

George Moses Horton - Wikipedia

https://www.npr.org/2017/09/30/554307300/sl ave-poets-lost-essay-on-individual-influence-resonates-through-centuries

When auburn Autumn mounts the stage, And Summer fails her charms to yield, Bleak nature turns another page, To light the glories of the field.

At once the vale declines to bloom, The forest smiles no longer stay; Gardens are left without perfume, The rose and lilly pine away.

The orchard bows her fruitless head, As one divested of her store; Or like a queen whose train has fled, And left her sad to smile no more.

That bird which breath'd her vernal song, And hopp'd along the flow'ry spray, Now silent holds her warbling tongue, Which dulcifies the feast of May.

But let each bitter have its sweet, No change of nature is in vain; 'Tis just alternate cold and heat, For time is pleasure mix'd with pain.



ANGLER REFLECTIONS WIGHER REFLECTIONS

Redbud Revisited

by Nick Brognano

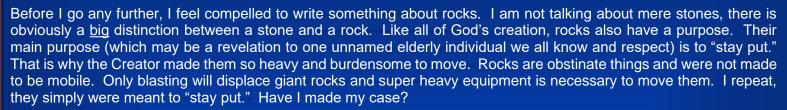
I was a few minutes late on my arrival, but as I pulled into the pasture parking lot meeting place, I quickly saw I had missed nothing. The work party of Bud, Terry, Clark, and Bob were just standing beside their vehicles discussing philosophy again I surmised. Fixed there doing nothing but jawing before working seems to be the ritual with the Red Bud group. They were dressed for work but that was about it. A passerby could have easily thought the guys were on a coffee break or possibly sipping tea.

The last time I was here, I laboriously moved Bud's big, heavy rocks to several different and distant locations. It seemed like an all-day ordeal. My suspicion is that it could have been my initiation into the gang. I believe to some; I am now considered an ass while to others an asset. I thought all of Bud's rocks had been moved and placed in the stream because I did not notice any others when I left the site two weeks ago or now upon my arrival today. I was wrong. Oh, how wrong I was! There were rocks a plenty. I hereby accuse Bud of being one of the slickest characters I have ever met. He had either hidden or innocently discovered a whole mountain of rocks.

"Redbud Revisited" continues on the next page.

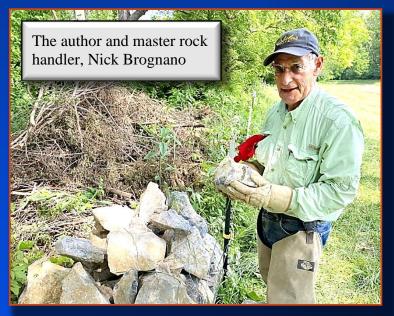
ANGLER REFLECTIONS

Redbud Revisited -- continued



The reader may wonder why I went off like that regarding rocks. By way of an analogy, I will try to answer. When I was about 16 my uncle once asked me if I wanted to make a few bucks, I said sure. He owned a rental car agency back then. I washed all 15 cars and thought I was finished in more ways than one. I wasn't. He then wanted all 15 waxed! So, what I thought would take a few hours ended up ruining my entire youthful weekend. This was family so don't think for a minute I made a pile of dough when the job was done. With that perspiring recall in mind, you can better appreciate how I felt when out of nowhere Bud located another abundant pile of rocks no one knew existed. Incidentally, upon reflection, Bud does resemble my uncle with his sly grin and nononsense manner.

Before I get back to the Redbud and Bud there is one more family story, I would like to share that relates to rocks.



My grandfather came from the "Old Country" and whenever we asked why he didn't go back at least for a visit he would respond by pointing his index finger at the table and seriously say, "This [America] is the country. There is nothing [referring to the old country] but rocks over there." Bud should pay a visit to Italy. I bet he would enjoy it. Now back to the stream.

Only Bud knows if the location of the concealed pile of rocks was known to him or if he discovered it by accident. From my standpoint, it really didn't make a difference since I voluntarily attacked the mysterious pile regardless. If this was an accidental find, then Bud should explain what he was doing so far away from the work site and why was he poking under a huge pile of cut branches and debris. The thick pile of broken and tangled branches stood close to five feet. Nevertheless, I found myself on my belly reaching under all that prickly stuff pulling out hidden heavy rocks one by one. They were stubborn rocks, and many had to be pried loose with a long, heavy pry bar. It was like washing and waxing an endless string of cars all over again. Once, and it took a long time, the rocks were removed they had to be carried to the point where we could more accurately shove them down the embankment and into the stream. In short, this one pile of Bud's rocks had to be moved three times before finding a final resting place.

Bud came up with the clever idea of sliding the rocks off a long board that jutted out from the bank. Using a second long board Clark would push each rock off the first board while I would guide it along. This method was much easier and safter than throwing them. Of course, Bud had brought the boards. A lot of rocks slid off that board. During this long process Clark was rock bitten twice. Bud and I innocently witnessed a spontaneous exhibition of an Irish jig as Clark tried to dance away the pain and sting to his toes. Clark also got his fingers pinched between the rocks. Bruises may appear once the boots and gloves are removed. As an attorney in my pre-retirement days, I instinctively thought of advising him of his rights but then realized he had none, so I kept quiet. Other than that, there were no injuries.

Earlier that day Bud had cut two smaller logs that Terry and Bob had placed under the much larger ones lying in the stream. As for the rocks, sliding them down to the stream was step one. Step two was smartly placing them where they could be most effective directing the water flow. In the process of properly placing the rocks I learned something. Terry said a rock in the water is 25% lighter. I think I got that correct but then my hearing isn't what it used to be. When he told me that I began focusing on lifting the rocks that had fallen into the water. Terry was right, the rocks setting on the stream bed were much lighter but that was only temporary. Invisible gravity, I assume, struck each stone once it was lifted out of the water, increasing the weight I guessed by at least 25%. Terry never said that. I had to learn that the hard way. Remember now, I only went to law school not MIT.

With all of us lifting and placing the rocks under the fallen trees and along the banks we could see the water slowly rising. Eventually, the water began to flow over the square cut made in the log placed across the stream. A miniature waterfall began to grow on the downstream side of the log. In a short time, the waterfall should carve out a deep hole in the stream bed inviting Trout to gather, feed, and multiply.

As a newcomer to this veteran group of Trout caretakers, I asked if this was the first barrier built to improve Trout habitat. When told several more like this had been built upstream over the years, I realized the dept of dedication all have put into the Red Bud restoration program. I immediately began to imagine the countless number of rocks that must have been introduced into the Redbud. Whoever found all those nonnative rocks, had them delivered and properly placed in the stream can only be one sly person we all know and respect. It certainly wasn't my grandfather!

Winchester TU Monthly "BarFly" Event Wednesday, 20 September 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.

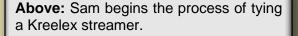
We hope all of you can attend our monthly "BarFly" at Escutcheon Brewery.

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. Anyone under age 21 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.







Right: Cade trims the tail on his yellow "Game Changer" streamer.





Escutcheon Brewery,

20 September 202

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Four Cutthroats over 20" today. The biggest [approximately] 22". Turned my favorite Scott G rod into a 6 piece.

Dave J. Boyce, VA





Tara caught a fish [Coho]!

Tara & Bob W. Winchester, VA



It was an excellent day on the Northern Wisconsin water. 20+ Smallies, and they just crushed the fly.

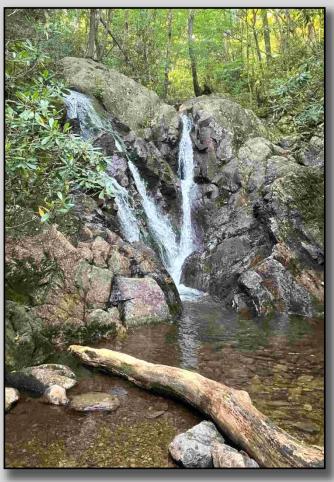
Phil S.

Loudoun Co., VA



...four [beautiful Brookies] from this magnificent pool located on Cabin Creek in Grayson Highlands State Park.

Fred B. Lake Frederick, VA





2023 Calendar of Events Winchester Trout Unlimited

See also

http://winchestertu.org/

Reminders

September 2023

- Winchester Trout Unlimited Meeting 7 September 2023 -- 7:00 PM Our featured presenter will be Cade Bailey, fly tyer.
- ✓Saturday 9 September 2023 -- Redbud Run workday 9:00 AM
- ✓ Saturday 9 September 2023 PHW Leetown Fishing Day -- 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

Editor's Note: Please see page 6 of this newsletter for more details about the Winchester Project Healing Waters schedule.

October 2023

- ✓ Sunday 1 October 2023 PHW Beaver Creek Fishing Day -- Time to be announced later.
- ✓Joint Meeting of Winchester Trout Unlimited and Northern Shenandoah Audubon Society – 5 October 2023 -- 7:00 PM

The featured speaker is Joshua Kincaid, PhD, Professor of Environmental Studies and Geography at Shenandoah University

The meeting will be at Laurel Ridge Community College, Middletown, VA

- ✓Saturday 7 October 2023 -- Redbud Run workday -- Time to be announced later.
- Wednesday -- 11 October 2023 -- 6:30 PM Monthly Project Healing Waters meeting
- **VWednesday** − 18 October 2023 -- 7:00 PM BarFly at Escutcheon Brewery

November 2023

- ✓ Winchester Trout Unlimited Meeting This is the "Annual Meeting" required under our bylaws. 2 November 2023 -- 7:00 PM
- ✓Saturday 4 November 2023 -- Redbud Run workday -- Time to be announced later.
- Wednesday -- 8 November 2023 -- 6:30 PM Monthly Project Healing Waters meeting
- ✓ Wednesday 15 November 2023 -- 7:00 PM BarFly at Escutcheon Brewery

December 2023

- **✓**There is no Winchester Trout Unlimited Meeting in December
- ✓ Saturday 9 December 2023 -- Redbud Run workday -- Time to be announced later.
- ✓ Wednesday 13 Dec 2023 -- 6:30 PM Monthly Project Healing Waters meeting
- ✓ Wednesday 20 December 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 <u>all</u> 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.