

Presidents Pool

What's stirring in the Presidents Pool

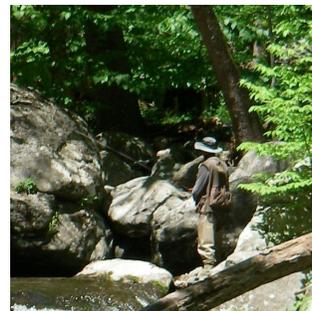
I want to start this article by saying that your Chapter has reason to be proud again - still - as usual - etc. - and you too, especially if you have been physically participating in any of our activities. We've done a bunch of outreach efforts, trout in a classroom releases, stream clean-up/Chapter picnic (with another planned in the fall), Kids-day/Heritage day, volunteer participation in the Virginia Trout Stream Sensitivity Study VTSSS, Project Healing Waters 2 Fly, and most significantly – our volunteer involvement – Bill Hobson and Danny DeLongis, who headed up and supported our Special Love Camp activities. AND, we've had fun with several FWF fishing-with-a-friend events over the last several months, which is the topic I want to focus on in this article.

I've had a blast these last couple of months participating in each one of them – I'm still a novice too. If you are like me, aside from the cool cap and the quarterly magazine, plus honoring the national conservation efforts, the reason most of us join TU is to learn where to fish, with what, how, and to associate with kindred spirits -- our FWF events are established to afford exactly that. We want our Chapter members who haven't learned where, what, how, etc. to have an opportunity to get with some of the Chapter's other knowledgeable/skilled veterans, and do that very thing – learn. We have a schedule of when these fish dates are, where we're going to be fishing, for what (Trout, Small-mouth/Largemouth, Shad, etc) with what, and who that knowledgeable/skilled veteran host is. So, if you've joined TU and haven't been able to 'scratch that itch' yet, (in coming out and learning), we encourage you to join us for our next event June 5th – this newsletter may not be published, nor mailed by that date, so if you miss this one, check out our FWF calendar for our September event on our web site www.rapidantu.org. If you're not on the FWF email list, and want to participate, send an email to Fred Kallmeyer – our FWF Chairman at fredkall@aol.com.

Once again, I want to acknowledge our Chapter's efforts and the many, many volunteers who do what they can, when the can in moving TU forward. I know we all have busy schedules, but if you can join us for the future events, we'd enjoy having you participate with us.

Meanwhile - get-up, get-out, and trick-fish...tight lines and screamin' reels!! - Rob

Fish trickster and FwF coordinator Fred Kallmeyer putting the sneak on a Rapidan trout.



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"Leaves of Three...."

After delivering some samples to UVA for the VTSSS study I decided to stop by a favorite stream on the way home. The sky was angry to the west but I figured that I had an hour to wade a bit and maybe catch a few trout. Half an hour and 150 yards later the approaching storm forced me off of the water where a new challenge awaited. As far as I could see, the path to the nearby road was blocked by Poison Ivy.

Poison Ivy is a native to the region and is easily identifiable by its distinctive 3 leaf cluster from whence the old saw "leaves of three– let it be" comes from.

Urushiol is the oil on the plant that causes severe allergic reactions in most people. It binds to skin on contact. Common over the counter solutions help to mitigate the itching.



HERITAGE/KID'S DAY

By Marcia Woolman

The weather could not have been better. April 3rd was like the first day of summer after a very long winter, and the crowds of people and children just kept on coming all day long. Jimmy Graves said they parked 700 cars by 10AM.

Three years ago when VDGIF suggested we team up with Graves Mt. Lodge to host an annual celebration of the states Heritage Day, and bring the Rapidan Kid's day, that had been held in that area for nearly 30 years, together, it was a stroke of genius. Our Kid's Day has always drawn a great crowd, usually about 400. But they came and caught fish and left. Now with the Graves family building up the Heritage Day aspect, providing a hands on experience in many aspects of hunting and country life, and Rapidan putting on a fantastic fishing experience with chapter guides to help; an insect ID station to learn what trout eat; fly casting and tying instruction; and now catch & release fishing in the pond for older kids, we have the perfect family day in the country. This is a true educational opportunity, and is no longer "catch your limit and go home".

VDGIF lends a hand by providing live animals to see, and in some cases to touch, also an educational information table, hunting simulator, and a variety of other learning opportunities. This effort is now supplemented by help from other TU chapters, and we need to thank Northern Virginia, Winchester and Northern Shenandoah Valley chapters for assisting our chapter in putting on this most impressive educational opportunity for the youth of Virginia.

Next year we will celebrate the 30th year of Rapidan's Kid's Day. We were the first and now the oldest Kid's Fishing Day in the state of Virginia.

VTSSS 2010

By Marcia Woolman

The Virginia Trout Stream Sensitivity Study (VTSSS) is a once every 10 year project that organizes volunteers, mostly TU members, who comb the western part of VA finding specific locations on streams where tagged trees mark the spot of previous samplings. The research is primarily to determine the level of "acid rain." But other chemicals in the water such as ammonia, nitrogen, etc. are also measured. This research allows real science to be considered by Congress when clean air and clean water legislation is being considered. The Virginia Trout Stream Sensitivity Study (VTSSS 2010) was a perfect success. This indeed was a team effort. Lead UVA scientist, Rick Webb, who had the complete information for each of the 485 sites in the mountains of Virginia. Maps, GPS coordinates, pictures, sampling bottles, even the latex gloves and coolers were provided.

On the volunteer end of things, statewide coordinator Marcia Woolman, found five regional coordinators, one of whom was Rapidan's Kevin Daniels. These key people managed the logistics of the water collection from several chapter coordinators within their district. These chapter leaders then solicited volunteers from their chapters. All together approximately 200 volunteers went forth on the weekend of April 24, & 25 and sampled the streams returning to predetermined meeting places. Then the regional coordinators got all the samples to UVA, on ice, ASAP.



Rapidan Volunteers were as follows: Hank Woolman and Andy Holmaas (who have now participated in all three VTSSS projects), Shane Fletcher, Amy Orr, Fred Fox, Bill Hobson, Danny DeLongis, John O'Toole, Chuck Hoysa, Fred Kallmeyer, and Rob Paul.

One outcome that will benefit TU is the potential for obtaining grants using these volunteer hours as a basis for matching funds. The approximate value of these volunteer hours when translated into IRS allowable monetary values should exceed \$25,000. Congratulations are in order for all those who participated.



Pictured are Hank Woolman on his third VTSSS collection and Amy Orr gathering a sample on Doyles River.

Upcoming Events

June 2010

- 2 7:00Casting Clinic/June meeting
- 5 FwF Conway
- 12 FwF Shenandoah R.
- 19 Special Love Camp
- 26 FwF Little Stony Creek
- 27 - July 2 Tri State Youth Camp

July 2010

- 10 FwF Rapidan
- 21 FwF Rapidan R./Germana
- 28 FwF Rappahannock R.

August 2010

- 5 Mossy Creek
- 14 FwF Upper Potomac R.
- 19 Special Love Camp
- 28 FwF Goose Creek

For detailed information regarding events visit our website: www.rapidantu.org

Project Healing Waters

The day dawned nice and calm for those who attended the 2-Fly Tournament at Rose River Farm on May 2. The tournament is a fund raiser for Project Healing Waters who are dedicated to helping wounded warriors. The teams consist of either a wounded veteran with professional guide or two regular fishermen. Rapidan provided 4 stream monitors; Fred Kallmeyer, Danny DeLongis, Rob Paul and Kevin Daniels. Member Gary Burwell coordinated the volunteers for the event and member Chris Murphy was present as a guide. Learn about the Project Healing Waters mission at www.projecthealingwaters.org



Hatches Notice

Due to the lack of Chapter funds following the cancellation of the 2010 Fishing Show, we can no longer afford the printing costs associated with the Quarterly Newsletter and monthly interim flyer.

Hatches will now be delivered via email using TU Nationals E-Blast function. For this reason, it is essential that you update your information, to include current email, at the national office. You can do this by going to www.tu.org and logging in as a member or you can phone TU National at 1-800-834-2419.

For those members without electronic access or who simply wish to continue to receive a printed copy of *Hatches*, fill out the information below and send it to the editor.

Hatches issues both past and present will continue to be posted on the chapter website www.rapidantu.org.

Unless and until another funding mechanism becomes available, this will be the last printed issue.

For those members who wish to receive a printed newsletter in the future, please clip this section. Fill it out and return to:

Hatches
 C/O Kevin Daniels
 11305 Park Gate Dr.
 Nokesville, VA 20181

Name _____
 Address _____

 Phone _____

Hatches

11305 Park Gate Dr.

Nokesville, VA 20181

Spring 2010 Casting Clinic

Would you like to:

- Get the best out of your rod?
- Improve your casting technique?
- Try a variety of rod / line combinations?
- Learn fly casting to begin with?



Then join us for our annual Casting Clinic at the June 2nd membership meeting. Our guest instructor will be David "Griz" Lambert from The Urban Angler shop in Arlington.

Please note that the Casting Clinic begins at 7:00 p.m. Half an hour earlier than our normal meeting time of 7:30. We meet in the basement of Sun Trust Bank 251 W. Lee Hwy., Warrenton, VA. The clinic will be held on the far side of the shopping center in the grassy area, meeting and refreshments to follow at the bank.