



SENECA

VALLEY ANGLER

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JANUARY 2010 Chapter Meeting – REVISED LOCATION !!!! See below

7:00-7:30 p.m. – *Social Time*

7:30-8:00 p.m. – Meeting

8:00-9:15 p.m. – *Program: FLY-TYING*, Jim Greco will present some new Hendrickson patterns that worked for him in the Delaware watershed this year. The techniques may be known to some but you won't see them in a fly shop.

**Location: Up-County Regional Service Center; Rm. D
12900 Middlebrook Road
Germantown, MD 20874
240-777-8000**

Note: Future meetings will resume @
ISAAC WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA (IWLA):
Rockville Chapter Clubhouse, 8301 Waring Station Rd,
Germantown, MD 20874 Phone: 301-972-1645

BEST WISHES TO ALL FOR 2010!

Don't forget to purchase your 2010 Fishing License(S)!
Also, commencing this year, **if you plan to fish tidal or salt waters as in any of the coastal states , you must register with NOAA's National Saltwater Angler Registry. It is free for 2010 and easy to do.**

Registration is a way for NOAA and anglers to work together to help ensure the long-term future of saltwater fishing. The following link explains the what and why about the requirement, as well as how to register.
<https://www.countmyfish.noaa.gov/index.html>

Future Events: 2010

- Jan 19 Fly-Tying Evenings Begin (see website)
- Jan 22-25 The Fly Fishing Show, Somerset NJ
- Jan 27 SVTU CHAPTER Meeting / Election and Fly-Tying**
- Feb 20 SVTU Board Meeting
- Feb 27 Tidal Potomac Fly Rodders "Tie-Fest" 2010, Kent Narrows Yacht Club (see SVTU website for details)
- Mar 13 Natl. Capital Chapter TU Angling Show @ Georgetown Prep
- Mar 17 SVTU Board meeting
- Mar 24 SVTU CHAPTER Meeting**

- Mar 27 MAC Banquet (see info under TU-MAC News)**
- Apr 21 SVTU Board Meeting
- May 19 SVTU Board Meeting
- May 26 SVTU CHAPTER Meeting**
- Jun 16 SVTU Board Meeting
- Jul 21 SVTU Board Meeting
- Aug 19 SVTU Board Meeting

Other Events planned are:

TBD: Casting Clinic – First Saturday of every month, resuming in March (see website for updates)

Continued support of Beaver Creek improvements and other conservation activities / events.

Check our website, or, as noted below, sign up for our listserv to receive updates and announcements!

Current SVTU Officers and Board

The current officers and open board positions include:

Officers:

- President – Noel Gollehon
- Vice President – Dave Cleaves
- Secretary – Charles August
- Treasurer – Nate Wallace

Board Members:

- Stan Oaks Jr. (*ex officio*)
- Charles August (*ex officio*)
- Noel Gollehon (*ex officio*)
- Nate Wallace (*ex officio*)
- Garry Bush '09
- Leslie Gollehon '09
- Jason Andrick '11
- Dick Switalski '11
- Warren Junium '10
- Al Smeltz '10

Committee Chairs:

- Conservation Chair: Noel Gollehon
- Program Chair: Garry Bush
- Newsletter Editor: Warren C. Junium, Jr.
- Education Chair: *Vacancy*
- Banquet Chair: TBD (for 2010)
- Membership Chair: *Vacancy*
- Activities Chair: Dick Switalski

Chapter Delegates to the Mid-Atlantic Council:

- Charles August
- Gary Bush
- Noel Gollehon
- Stan Oaks
- Al Smeltz
- Ron Uleck
- Nate Wallace
- One vacancy*

YOUR Chapter!

Many of our members may not be aware of the activities and opportunities provided by SVTU.

2009 SVTU highlights:

- Co-sponsored and provided the volunteer instructors for the Children's Fishing Clinic and Kids Fly Fishing Clinic;
- Transported, displayed, and manned our invasive species booth and associated educational material at three regional fishing events;
- Sponsored fly tying classes and fly casting instruction;
- Held six Chapter meetings with educational and informative speakers; and
- Sponsored a Western Maryland fishing trip.

In 2010, we plan to do all of the above PLUS engage in a restoration project on Beaver Creek and sponsor additional outings.

To accomplish this and more, your Seneca Valley TU Chapter needs your help. We are a volunteer-based organization. We are limited by the number of active members willing and able to assist with Chapter leadership and activities. Our active membership is less than 10 percent of those that pay dues to TU and are members of SVTU. We could do much more if more members became involved.

What can you do, given the little time that you have between family, work, and other commitments? You might be surprised! And you might be surprised at how much you enjoy it if you give it a chance. It is easy to become involved at a level to match your time and interest.

How? Start by "Opting In" for the SVTU listserv described in this newsletter. It will become the primary means of conveying opportunities and information to our members.

Have a great 2010! Find some time for fishing and, hopefully, find some time for SVTU!

Noel Gollehon, SVTU President

Sign-up for Email Updates from SVTU

The chapter has started a secure opt-in email alert and event invitation system. In December and early January, TU members within the chapter's geographic location who have provided email addresses to TU's National Office were contacted with an initial opt-in email from svtroutunlimited@gmail.com (the chapter's Gmail account). Some non-members were also invited to opt-in, based on interest expressed by them at recent chapter meetings. The new communication tool will be used, in addition to our newsletters, to provide brief periodic (e.g., monthly, quarterly) updates regarding – chapter meeting reminders, invitations to chapter events, and volunteer opportunities.

In addition to providing more timely information, the e-mail system provides significant cost savings to SVTU. With printing and mailing costs on the rise, the Chapter will be utilizing e-mail more over time.

If you would like to opt-in to this new communication service:

1. Email your name, address, phone number, and preferred email address to:
svtroutunlimited@gmail.com.

2. You will receive an opt-in message from:
svtroutunlimited@gmail.com.
3. In the email, you will be required to simply click an opt-in link to begin the service.
4. You can unsubscribe to the free service at any time by clicking "unsubscribe" at the bottom of any update message, or by emailing us at:
svtroutunlimited@gmail.com.
5. We will not provide/sell your e-mail to others.

Gearing up for the New Year

The longer I fish, the more gear and gadgets the fishing industry produces. I must admit, I have enough gear to outfit 3-4 anglers on the stream. In the past 12 months, I have been "streamlining" the amount of gear I carry on my back and in my truck for wading trips. Having taken inventory several times and tested my outfit, I have begun to fine tune my list and have come up with a list of favorites. Below is some advice on items outside of the norm (flies, tippet, leader, weight, nippers, etc) I have come to rely on.

For the Truck

- **First Aid Kit** – I actually pull it out every New Year's Day and check for expiration dates and things needing refilling – usually duct tape and Tylenol.
- **License** – I buy mine each New Year's Day (online). If you save the pdf version, you can print unlimited copies. I store copies in my vest, truck, lake tackle box, and kayak PFD.
- **Wader Box** – 14 gallon Rubbermaid Roughneck Tote (\$15). As I pack up my fishing stuff, I put my boots, waders, socks and wading mat in the bin. Keeps them from snagging on other gear and makes them easy to carry. When I am done fishing for the day, all the wet, muddy stuff goes into the bin. Keeps the back of the Land Cruiser dry and clean. It also doubles as a wash station for your gear if a multi-day/stream trip.
- **Changing Mat** – I use an indoor-carpeted doormat that didn't match our décor at home. I have seen folks use towels, but in a rocky parking lot, the towel does not cushion your stocking/bare feet from the sharp rocks that can break through. You could also use a carpet remnant or bathroom mat. On camping trips, I use the mat by my bunk as a dry place to put your feet when you roll out of the sleeping bag.
- **Hand Sanitizer** – Nice way to clean up prior to lunch or after a day on the stream.
- **Rod Holder** – For leaning your rigged fly rod against the truck while donning waders. I use a homemade device made from 2 foam toe separators hot glued together with a flat magnet attached. You can make this by raiding your wife's pedicure stash, or covertly sneak into the Wal-Mart beauty section and grab a set of foam toe separators for about \$1.

For the Vest or Pack

- **Water** – I carry a 1-liter "camelback" style poly reservoir (\$10-15) in my vest (rear pocket). This makes for hands free hydration and is the easiest way to carry 2 lbs. of water when fishing.

- **Snack** – Cliff Bar. One of the few energy bars out there that actually tastes okay. I love peanut butter crackers, but they are generally dust after a days worth of fishing. Let alone the fact that when I resort to snacking, the food has usually been in my vest for 1-2 trips. Cliff bars are resilient and have an above average “vest-life.” My favorite flavor is apricot.
- **Gum/Hard Candy** – Good pick-me-up if you forget a snack or are generally having a birds-nest laden day. Often, stopping to pop some gum or candy in my mouth causes the knots to come free a little easier.
- **Frog’s Fanny** – Excellent dry fly and nymph treatment. Worth every penny.
- **Whistle** – I have the Fox 40 Micro attached to my vest – small, powerful, and a great way to get a fellow fisherman’s attention on the stream.
- **Fire** – Strike anywhere matches (in waterproof case) & a Bic Lighter. I have several fancy butane lighters that claim to be waterproof, windproof, and storm proof. However, for reasons yet unknown, none of them is more consistent than the basic name brand disposable lighter.
- **License** – Place it in a small Ziploc bag.
- **Camera** – Small point and shoot, digital, waterproof camera. Olympus and Pentax both make decently priced waterproof cameras. I have had a Pentax model for a few years that I have used for all my point and shoot needs. Remember, although waterproof, they still do not float.

I hope the hints are helpful. Everyone has their own style and it is always fun to pick up new hints while fishing with a new friend. You’ll notice I did not provide any hints in regards to cell phones. I have never dunked a cell phone in the stream. My solution – I always leave my phone in the truck.

Submitted by Jason Andrick

Invasives Continue to Move in Maryland

For the past two years, your Seneca Valley TU Chapter has maintained an angler education program on preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species. SVTU developed the educational display, handouts, and educational materials after the spread of Whirling Disease in Western Maryland. For 2009, the display was modified, with emphasis placed on preventing the spread of another invasive found in Maryland – Didymo – which was found in the Gunpowder River north of Baltimore. With the recent announcement of the finding of Didymo in the Lower Savage River, in Western Maryland, it has never been more important to educate anglers on proper techniques to clean gear to prevent the spread of Didymo, Whirling Disease, and other invasives that threaten our cold-water fisheries.

Invasives directly threaten habitat (in the case of Didymo) or trout native to North America (in the case of Whirling Disease) and are most likely spread by humans, likely anglers in many cases. Do you know the procedures you should take to prevent the spread of invasives? Do you follow them?

To reduce the likelihood of spreading the spores of Whirling Disease:

- Do not to move fish from one stream to another
- Do not discard trout carcasses in streams or on stream banks
- Clean mud from boots and equipment (and if possible, allow to dry) before moving from one stream to another
- Clean all boats / kayaks and do not transport water from one area to another

The whirling disease parasite was introduced into the eastern US from Europe in the late 1950s and is currently known to exist in wild fish and fish hatcheries in 25 states including Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia.

To reduce the likelihood of spreading Didymo (a type of alga, an invasive freshwater diatom that attaches to streambed material) forming a thick mat that covers rocks, submerged plants, and other materials. Didymo removes oxygen, making it impossible for other life to survive.

- **CHECK:** Before leaving a river, remove all clumps of algae and look for hidden material.
- **CLEAN:** Soak and scrub all items for at least one minute in a 5 percent salt solution or dishwashing detergent.
- **DRY:** If cleaning is not practical, after the item is dry to the touch, wait 48 hours before contact with another waterway.

It is up to all of us to prevent the further spread of these and other aquatic invasives.

See <http://www.tu.org/science/aquatic-invasive-species-ais> for more information.

Submitted by Noel Gollehon

Catoctin National Park Tree Planting

At 9:00 am on October 31, Chapter representatives gathered in the parking lot by the Catoctin National Park Ranger Station to present two fly rod outfits to the Park staff for use in their children’s fly fishing program (see photo). Following the presentation, we planted about 50 maple trees and witch-hazel plants along the edge of the stream about ½ mile below the ranger station. The Park is attempting to replace the dying hemlock trees with other native vegetation to protect and shade Hunting Creek.



Don't worry; if you missed out on this opportunity to help out, there will likely be future plantings on Hunting Creek – stay tuned!



Submitted by Stan Oaks

Trout and Grayling in Alaska

While on a cruise/land tour of Alaska in early September, with my wife Linn, I spent 8 hours fishing with a guide on Byers and North Troublesome Creeks, near Talkeetna. Both were loaded with spawning salmon, most of which had become pretty lethargic, but my goal was to catch my first grayling, and maybe some of those famous Alaska rainbows or even a Dolly Varden. The morning was crisp, but sunny, and the stream was gin clear although the trout were so intent on eating salmon eggs that I'm not sure they were even aware we were there in the stream with them. Casting a salmon egg imitation on Byers Creek, it didn't take long to catch my first rainbow, a smallish one at about 13 inches. That wetted my appetite for bigger and better things!

Robert, my guide, had been exhorting me to point my rod tip downstream when I got a fish but I guess the excitement of the moment took over when the big one hit my fly – a flesh fly, I believe. He was big and beautiful (Robert estimated him at 24-25 inches – and kept telling me to point the rod downstream!!) and I marveled at the trout's acrobatic ability...for about 30-45 seconds. He got off and Robert was rather upset, but I was happy – I don't mind a quick release, although I would really have liked to have seen him up close and got a tape on him (or her), and maybe even a photo! Next time I will remember to point the rod downstream. I caught about 6 more rainbows, all under 16 inches, and then we headed for another stream, as one of the fisherman we ran across said that there was a wounded grizzly in the area and Robert was not inclined to meet up with any grizzly, much less a wounded one, even though well-armed.

The second stream was slightly larger and even more scenic. We found some nice looking water and I soon discovered the other reason why Robert wanted to switch streams – this one had some nice graylings. It wasn't long until I tied into my first, a beauty at almost 15 inches! We fished for a couple more hours and I caught about 4 more grayling – it was not a great day for numbers of fish but that didn't matter - I finally got my first grayling! I would love to go back and catch that big rainbow, and a Dolly Varden, and maybe even a salmon or two, or three.

Here's a shot of me with my first grayling:



Submitted by: Stan Oaks

SVTU Fishing Expeditions

Depending on the interest of our members, SVTU is planning on organizing a number of fishing expeditions that cover a cross-section of angling experiences and price ranges. In addition to good companions, the trips are aimed at providing participants with an opportunity to fish new fisheries and see some exhilarating country, such as Western Maryland, Alaska, and Montana. They will be organized and led by SVTU members who have been guided on and had great fishing experiences in these areas.

Western Maryland – has a wide variety of trout fisheries from 'Big Water' such as the Western Potomac to spring creeks such as Bear Creek and the Casselman. Most of the creeks and rivers are stocked and have good flows in the Spring. Lodging is planned for the Deep Creek Lake area, which provides easy access to many of the fisheries in Western Maryland

Alaska – The Parks Highway, runs North from Anchorage and provides easy access to the numerous rivers and creeks of the Susitna (Su) Drainage and some of the best and most economical Silver Salmon fishing in Alaska. Approximately a million Silvers run this watershed annually. This is twice the volume of that at Kenai. Most of the rivers and creeks have easy access and wading with opportunities for Trout, Char, and Grayling in addition to Salmon. Reasonable lodging is available in Talkeetna (i.e., 110 mile drive from Anchorage). It's approximately a two-hour drive from Talkeetna to Denali National Park (Mt. McKinley).

Montana – While Montana has numerous rivers with great trout fishing throughout the state, the upper Madison river below Quake lake offers some of the most diverse fishing and sightseeing opportunities in the state. In addition to fishing the Madison, and Gallatin rivers & tributaries, Hebgan and Quake lakes are nearby with large Browns and Rainbows (e.g. 5 lbs) taking surface flies in the morning and evenings. Kelly's fisherman's camp, at the 3-mile post of the Madison, offers cabins and campgrounds, and is approximately 25 miles from the Western entrance to Yellowstone National Park.

Approximate costs and details are:

Fish	Location	Length	When	Cost Factors	Cost
Trout	Western Maryland	3 days	April	Lodging and Food	\$40/day
Salmon (Coho) +	Alaska	7 days	Late Aug.	Flight to Anchorage, Auto Rental, Lodging	\$1,200
Trout	Montana	7 days	July	Flight to Bozeman Auto rental, Lodging	\$1,000

Contact Dick Switalski (dswitalski@verizon.net) if you are interested in any of these expeditions. A minimum number of members and deposits will be required approximately two months before trips are scheduled.

Major Activities from Sep – Jan 2009

Chapter sponsored events, since the last newsletter, as well as other events that members attended or participated in:

Sep 23 – Chapter Meeting - Fall Trout Fishing in Maryland, presented by Jay Sheppard, Vice Chair for Resources of the Mid-Atlantic Council of TU, as well as a past president of the Potomac-Patuxent Chapter of TU. Jay, who has fished for over 65 years - over half of that time for trout in Maryland with a fly rod – imparted his vast knowledge on fall fishing for trout in Maryland. Along with describing his special tactics for enticing wary trout to the end of your line, he provided advice and handouts on some flies that have proved reliable at this time of the year.

Oct 31 – Several SVTU members took time away from thinking about pumpkins, goblins, and handing out candy to kids, to plant trees. The idea was to plant other species of trees now, before the hemlocks die, so that the new trees have some time to get established. For more details, see the story above.

Nov 8 – Chapter delegates attended the Mid-Atlantic Council fall meeting at Greenbrier State Park.

Dec 2 – Chapter Meeting – Steelhead Fishing Forum. The evening started with several experienced Chapter steelhead fisherman presenting tips to improve the outcome of your steelhead trips. They then responded to questions about fishing for steelhead. Topics covered included where to go, when to go, what equipment you need, how water levels affect the fishing, how to rig both fly and spin fishing gear, proven flies and bait, etc. It was a very informative and worthwhile evening of back and forth discussion on steelhead fishing!

TU - Mid-Atlantic Council (MAC) News

The Council includes the six TU Chapters in MD and the District of Columbia. Two of our Council delegates, Charles August and Stan Oaks, are currently on the MAC Executive Committee.

MAC is planning a banquet/fundraiser for March 27, 2010 at the BWI Airport Marriott. The evening will include dinner, an open bar, auctions, and raffles. It promises to be a fun evening. Ticket prices are not yet set. At last year's banquet SVTU filled a table. While the evening was not "cheap," it was very enjoyable. (Especially for the two SVTU members who brought home new fly rods from the raffle.) MAC operates on a revenue sharing plan. Attending the MAC banquet and fundraiser financially supports both MAC and SVTU. Watch the website for more details. SVTU hopes to fill two tables this year!

SVTU Website

Organize a special fishing outing, spread the word about a new fly, tell us about a conservation opportunity, and share your fun and serious information with your fellow SVTU members and others who visit the SVTU web site. Go to the SVTU site, <http://www.senecavalleytu.org>, (register, if you have not already done so) and then click on 'Forum,' under 'PAGES' on the right side of the front page. Add a new post or read and respond to items that others have posted.

2010 TU Youth Fly-Fishing Camps

TU chapters across the country conduct numerous educational programs ranging from one-day casting or fly tying clinics to overnight summer camps. In 1995, Pennsylvania's Cumberland Valley chapter started the Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp under the guidance of the late Dr. John R. "Jack" Beck and the late Enoch S. "Inky" Moore. The award winning camp has served as a model for the growing number of camps being held around the country by other TU chapters. To find out more about TU's conservation and fishing camps, click on the following links:

Pennsylvania

Dates: June 20-25, 2010

Contact: Matt Lourdeau :MLflyfish@hotmail.com
(717) 386-0549

Location: Allenberry Resort Boiling Springs, PA

Website: www.riverscamp.com

Washington DC, Virginia, Maryland, & West Virginia

Dates: June 27-July 2, 2010

Contacts: Paul Kearney :(540) 229-0563

kearney@tucamp.org

George Gaines: gaines@tucamp.org

Location: Graves' Mountain Lodge Syria, Virginia

Website: www.tucamp.org

Editor's Note

Contact me if you have articles, photos, fish stories, fishing/stream reports, etc. that you think might be appropriate for inclusion in the next edition of the newsletter. My e-mail address is: wjunium1@hotmail.com.

**Seneca Valley Angler
Seneca Valley Trout Unlimited Chapter #369
9 Lavenham Place
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877-3469**

