



The “summer break” is over and we invite you to join us at our live and virtual Chapter meetings, events, and instructional opportunities beginning in September.

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President’s Note

Hoping you had a good summer with lots of fishing! But as we roll into fall, Seneca Valley TU is starting up after our summer break. Please make plans to include us in your fall activities. We have an excellent set of educational opportunities upcoming with our fall speakers. What a low-cost way to add to your fishing knowledge!

Please look for our e-mails and check the website for details on all our activities! The first one coming up is Ties and Q on September 14, a chance to tie some flies, have some BBQ and catch up with your fellow members and friends. We have the back room at Mission BBQ in Germantown reserved so come out and have some BBQ and catch up. If you want to tie flies, bring your own material and tools. It is good chance to catch up and have some fun. If you just want to come out and have some BBQ and a beer that is fine too.

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How are we Doing?

The SVTU Board of Directors would like to hear from you! We welcome your input on potential speaker topics, events, outings, and anything else you think might improve participation. We’ll follow up on all leads and will hopefully bring many of them to life. Please e-mail thoughts, comments, or suggestions to senecavalleytu.org/contact-us. We’ll confirm receipt of all suggestions, and if it happens, we’ll give you a shout-out in gratitude.Thanks!

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Schedule

September 14	Ties and Q @ Mission BBQ in Germantown
September 18	Final Fly Casting @ Seneca Creek State Park 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
September 26	IWLA-R Hunting & Fishing Day
October 24	Fly Fishing 101 @ IWLAR Lake
November 7	Beaver Creek Workday
November 9	Speaker: Jake Villwock of Relentless Fly Fishing
December 14	Speakers: Sam Brown and Gregg Trilling with Nature Forward

[Check our website for information.](#)

Updates to our schedule will be provided via Chapter emails and posted on our website.

All our in-person happenings are typically held at the address below:

IWLA-R Chapter House
18301 Waring Station Road
Germantown MD 20874

Upcoming Fall/Winter Chapter Meetings

September—(In person)

When: Monday, September 14, 2026
What: In-person
Where: Mission BBQ • 19800 Century Blvd., Germantown MD 20874
Time: 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.
What: Stories, fly tying and BBQ

We're trying something a little different for our September SVTU happening. Everyone is invited to join us on Monday, September 14 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. for an evening of fly-tying, stories, and BBQ at Mission BBQ in Germantown, MD.

This is a gathering to have a bite to eat, tie a few flies, and discuss summer fishing trips now that fall is here. (No one one will be upset if that smallmouth grows by a couple of inches in your story!)

October—In Person

When: Saturday, October 24, 2026
What: Fly Fishing 101
Where: IWLA-R Jim Berrier Lake

Details will be on the website by October 1. You must register to attend.

November—(ZOOM only)

When: Monday, November 9, 2026
What: ZOOM
Zoom Sign-in: 7:15 to 7:30 p.m.
Program Start: 7:30 p.m.
Speaker: Jake Villwock of Relentless Fly Fishing
Program: Fishing for Smallmouth on the Fly

December—(In person & ZOOM)

When: Monday, December 14, 2026
Where: IWLA-R Chapter House
18301 Waring Station Road
Germantown, MD 20874
Social: 7:00 to 7:30 p.m.
Zoom Sign-in: 7:15 to 7:30 p.m.
Program Start: 7:30 p.m.
Speakers: Sam Brown & Gregg Trilling with Nature Forward
Program: Macroinvertebrate identification and stream and ecosystem health in Maryland

January 2027—To be Scheduled

When: Monday, January 11, 2027
Program: TBD

February 2027—(In person & ZOOM)

When: Monday, February 8, 2027
Where: IWLA-R Chapter House
18301 Waring Station Road
Germantown, MD 20874
Social: 7:00 to 7:30 p.m.
Zoom Sign-in: 7:15 to 7:30 p.m.
Program Start: 7:30 p.m.
Speaker: Mark Bange
Program: How Panfish will make you a better fly angler

Upcoming 2026/2027 Chapter Events

Fly-Casting Instruction—Final Session September 16

When: Wednesday, September 16, 2026
What: Instruction in casting a Fly Rod
Where: Seneca Creek State Park
Time: 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

This is the last casting clinic of summer.

IWLA National Hunting & Fishing Day



SVTU partners with the Rockville Chapter of Izaak Walton League on facilities and events. Izaak Walton Rockville's annual National Hunting & Fishing Day open house is free and open to the public. On this day, the organization opens its doors to the public to showcase what the organization has to offer (fishing, archery, shooting, trails, drones, beekeepers, kayaking, SOS, and more). The event will include local conservation partners' exhibits, which creates a fun family event and strengthens the relationships with the community. Visit IWLAR.org for more info.

Fly-Fly Fishing 101

When: Saturday, October 24, 2026
What: Fly Fishing 101—Introduction to Fly Fishing
Where: IWLA-R Jim Berrier Memorial Lake
12057 Clopper Road
Time: Exact time TBD. Late morning until about 4:00 p.m.

Join the Seneca Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited (SVTU) on Saturday, October 24 at the IWLA-R Jim

Berrier Memorial Lake for our [Fly Fishing 101—Introduction to Fly Fishing](#)—a hands-on program designed for beginners and those looking to improve their skills.

Our experienced instructors will cover everything from fly casting and knot tying to stream fishing techniques, providing you with the knowledge and confidence to enjoy this rewarding sport. After the instructional sessions, you'll have the opportunity to practice your skills on both a lake and stream with expert guidance. Don't miss this chance to connect with nature and fellow fishing enthusiasts.

All of the information will be on the SVTU website. Lunch will be provided. Let's keep the plastic use limited. Please bring your own water bottle.

You must register for the event.

November Beaver Creek Workday

When: Saturday, November 7, 2026
Where: Beaver Creek catch and release parking lot
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Starting in 2004, SVTU has been actively involved in helping with the Beaver Creek restoration project. During this time, our chapter has purchased trees, provided funds, and volunteered hours of labor to help with the restoration efforts. This November we plan to continue these efforts.

Plan on bringing gloves, loppers, and pliers to remove/add wire cages for tree protection. Lunch will be provided; please bring your filled water bottle.

Check SVTU website for info regarding the location to meet up.

2027 Fly Tying Sessions

Check the website for information on fly tying details.

Winter/Spring 2026 Chapter Program Recap

Following is a brief description of some of the recent 2026 SVTU Chapter activities. Many of the meetings and events were live, with online viewing.

January 2026

When: Monday, January 12, 2026

Who: Lou Digena

Lou gave an outstanding presentation about how he uses his fine arts background to produce patterns with a simple and studied elegance by following the KISS rule (Keep It Simple Stupid) when designing patterns. He discussed how he uses photos of the tops and bottoms of flies, and mimics the different colors in his flies as well as making them more slender. His primary target is trout throughout the United States.

February 2026

Who: Jeff Slevin

Program: Techniques and Tactical Approaches to Fishing New Trout Waters

Since January 2023, Jeff has been traveling the country with his wife in an Airstream travel trailer in his pursuit of catching a trout in all 50 states, along with visiting the high point of each state. During that time, Jeff has caught a trout in 39 states and 3 Canadian provinces while fishing 77 different streams and rivers. He has been successful on 75 of those 77 waters, i.e., only been skunked twice the first time he fished them, and his story is that there were extenuating circumstances in both instances. His talk was very interesting and provided ideas for how to approach fishing a new stream.

May 2026

Who: Matt Lawrence

Topic: The past and present status of eastern brook trout in Maryland

Matt Lawrence is a Coldwater Fisheries Biologist with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Freshwater Fisheries and Hatcheries Division. Matt gave an outstanding presentation on the past and present status of eastern brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) in Maryland and described current projects

that seek to expand brook trout occupancy through translocation and propagation.

2026 Chapter Events Recap

Fly Tying Sessions

February thru April 2026

SVTU held their in-person fly tying classes starting in February 2026. There did not seem to be as much interest in fly tying as in past years. We will reconsider continuing in 2027.

SVTU Summer Fly-Casting Clinics

SVTU sponsored Fly Casting Clinics that were organized by FFI-certified instructor, David Cleeves. Dave recruited members John Smith and Jack Higgins from the chapter, as well as Jim Lowell from Frederick Maryland. There have been three successful outings with one cancellation for weather. Clinics were held on the third Wednesday of the months of May, July, and August. The next clinic will be in September. All of our information has been posted on the SVTU website.

This year the venue changed from the IWLA lake property to the Seneca Valley State Park on Clopper Road. The intention was to get more practice on the water. Dave had made arrangements with the park ranger to facilitate our use of the park.

Our initial turnout was about 16 students with an average of 11 at each session. There were equal numbers of new casters and several with previous experience.

Initially, Jim Lowell worked with the new casters on the grass where he emphasized the basic pickup and lay down of the over head cast as well as the roll cast. His next lessons were on the water where the students could experience a more realistic approach to casting.



Casters with previous experience demonstrated their skills with Dave. During that first clinic, Dave observed and diagnosed the areas where each student needed coaching.

He formulated a diagnostic chart of their abilities and areas where we could break down their stroke and make improvements to get a better casting stroke. This was our teaching guide and it worked extremely well.

Dave's chart revealed the following areas that needed to be addressed.

- Not loading the rod and feeling the rod load
- Rushing and overpowering the forward cast
- Too much line on the water, or too much slack that hampered the back cast
- Not using the line hand efficiently
- Believing the MYTH of having to cast 80 feet to be a good caster
- Control of the line speed
- To haul or not to haul, and when

This year we had an enthusiastic group that improved with each lesson. Cooler nights and fewer bugs would have been welcomed but that's something we can't control.



Some of the students were purchasing rods for an upcoming trip or to hone the skills that they had learned. We have had some very positive feedback

from the students and they appreciated our time and teaching.

Other Information

Trout In the Classroom – (TIC) Appeal for Volunteers

By Noel Gollehon, President SVTU

The trout in the classroom (TIC) program needs volunteers for Montgomery County. Every year the TIC program struggles to find enough volunteers to keep the program running. If you have some time to help with this program, please reach out. Maryland's TIC program is run entirely by volunteers in cooperation with Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) who helps fund the tanks and find the eggs.

The program literally puts trout in the classroom. When a cooperating school and teacher sign up, a large aquarium is put in the classroom along with aerators, filters, and chillers for cold water. Trout eggs are acquired for all the schools by MDNR and then delivered to the schools by volunteers. Volunteers are on standby if a school has trouble with the tank or the associated equipment.

Then the magic happens. The eggs hatch and grow into trout fingerlings while the kids watch and learn. The final stage is the release of the fingerlings into an approved stream. In our area it is Little Seneca Creek. The release is also a learning day for the students who will test the water quality in the creek, look for macroinvertebrates, and have a fly rod casting session all in a few hours. It takes a lot of volunteers to repeat that process for each of the schools. If you have some time during the school day (generally from about 9:30 a.m. to 2:00) p.m., teaching 30-60 kids is really a lot of fun!

Contact us at <https://senecavalleytu.org/contact-us/> and we will add you to the list of possible volunteers. We are happy to discuss the many areas where the TIC program could use your time to find the right role for your interests.

Recent Beaver Attacks Complicate Fishing for SVTU Anglers



Photo from Montgomery Parks Department

By Peter Viechnicki, SVTU Board Member

Portions of Seneca Creek State Park which are popular fishing holes for SVTU members remained closed due to recent beaver attacks, as the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) continues to investigate animal populations in the affected areas.

Fishing access to Seneca Creek at Berryville Road in Darnestown and Black Rock Road in Germantown was closed on August 13, after a ten-year old girl was bitten by a beaver while swimming. According to local TV reporting, the victim was attending a summer camp, and was swimming at a popular swimming hole off Berryville Road, when she was bitten by the animal. Her counselors intervened and removed the beaver, which subsequently fled. That same day, a canoe was charged by a beaver in the same area. DNR wildlife officials on August 17th found a dead beaver downstream from the swimming hole where the attack occurred, but the Department has not yet reported whether that carcass tested positive for rabies.

Earlier this summer the DNR closed portions of Cunningham Falls State Park in Frederick County, following two separate beaver attacks. In one incident a young boy was bitten while swimming in the protected swimming area of the Cunningham Falls reservoir. The other attack involved a 19-year old fisherman angling on Big Hunting Creek. Both beavers subsequently tested positive for rabies. All portions of Cunningham Falls State Park were reopened on August 24th, according to DNR, after extensive

investigations revealed no further traces of rabies in local animal populations.

State officials at this time are considering the attacks as unrelated, and see no evidence of a larger regional trend of increased rabies incidence. SVTU has no information at this time about restrictions on the use of Seneca Creek State Park. Check before you go.

SVTU Stories

James River Smallmouth on the Fly

By Bob Irvin, SVTU Board Member

For the past five years, my friend David Hoskins and I have enjoyed a summer's day fishing for smallmouth bass in Virginia. In four of the five years, we have booked a guided float with Shane Maybush, a smallmouth savant working with Mossy Creek Fly Fishing (<https://mossycreekyflyfishing.com/>) located in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Usually, we fish the South Fork of the Shenandoah River. This year, however, Shane told us that, due to the low water resulting from the ongoing drought, the grassbeds on the South Fork were thick, making floating the river more difficult and fishing less productive. He suggested that we float the James River instead. We readily agreed and had one of the best days of smallmouth fishing I have enjoyed.

The James River is considered one of the premier rivers for smallmouth bass in the mid-Atlantic. Smallmouth bass were introduced to the James in the late 19th century, loaded on trains from their native Midwest rivers and dumped from rail cars into the Potomac and Shenandoah rivers, and from there the fish spread to the James. Once established in the James, smallmouth quickly became the dominant apex predator in the upper reaches of the river above the fall line. In the early 21st century, James River smallmouth populations dwindled, as did Shenandoah River populations, possibly due to both floods and drought exacerbated by climate change, pollution from agricultural runoff, and overharvesting of fish. Measures to address these problems include better water management from upstream dams, creation of riparian buffers to reduce polluted runoff, and encouragement of catch and release fishing, particularly during spawning season in the spring. As a result, smallmouth bass populations in the James and

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Shenandoah rivers appear to be rebounding, albeit slowly.

We met Shane at a put-in on the James at Scottsville, Virginia on an early August morning. The day was sunny and warm, with a light breeze cooling us periodically throughout our trip. The James is wide and relatively shallow in this reach south of Charlottesville and west of Richmond. The river has a rocky bottom interspersed with grassbeds and woody



debris, providing excellent habitat for smallmouth bass and other fish species.

David fished with a spinning rod for much of the day, hooking a smallmouth shortly after we started down the river. Throughout the morning, he caught smallmouth steadily on a purple worm lure dubbed a PB&J.

I fished with my 7 wt., 9' fly rod with a floating line and a 2X leader. Since Shane had guided us on previous trips, he knew of my impaired vision and, consequently, that I prefer to fish streamers so I can feel the take and set the hook. Accordingly, Shane tied on one of his hand-tied hellgrammite streamers which is a close match for the larval stage of a Dobson fly.



Dobson flies and their larvae are found in clean, well-oxygenated rivers in North and South America and Asia. Hellgrammites prey on other aquatic insects and are themselves a favorite prey for smallmouth bass. When a smallmouth decides to eat a hellgrammite, the take is often aggressive. I would cast about 20 to 30 feet in the direction Shane suggested, then retrieve the fly by stripping line, pausing to allow the fly to sink before stripping again. The action was slow for me until mid-morning when I

caught a small bluegill, taking the skunk off. After that, I caught a couple smallmouth, about 8 to 10" in size. Then, shortly before lunch, I landed a nice 14" smallie.

After enjoying subs and chips, washed down with Gatorade, for lunch, we resumed our float and fishing. We passed a few islands along the way. We spotted osprey, a bald eagle, and a great blue heron. We also saw several large catfish and long-nosed gar, some as long as 3 feet, cruising along the river bottom.

Shane pointed out a pawpaw tree along the bank and retrieved a pawpaw fruit for me to take home to my wife Nancy. She and I tasted it at home a couple days later and



it was delicious, tasting like a cross between a banana and a mango. The fruit is full of seeds and, since the pawpaw tree is native to North America, we may try growing one in our yard.

The fishing was slower but steady for David in the afternoon as he regularly hooked smallmouth and even a couple spotted bass on the spinning rod. David switched to a 9 wt. fly rod for the last hour or so of our trip, landing a few smallies on the fly to top off his day.

Fishing picked up significantly for me on the fly rod in the afternoon. Shane tied a heavier hellgrammite



on my leader, which proved to be just the ticket. I caught smallmouth steadily, including a beautiful 16-3/4" fish—the largest smallmouth I have ever brought to the net!

By the time we pulled ashore six miles downstream from Scottsville in the late afternoon, David and I had each caught more than a dozen smallmouth bass. Moreover, we fished the entire day with the river to ourselves, not seeing any other boats or anglers, a rarity in this region. Thanks to our terrific guide, we enjoyed a memorable day fishing the beautiful James River.

Night Fishing for Central PA Browns

By Andrew Iams, SVTU Board Member

Central Pennsylvania is home water to one of fly fishing's legendary figures, Joe Humphreys. Joe taught fly fishing at Penn State for nearly 20 years and, in 1977, famously landed a 34 inch brown trout while fishing at night on Fishing Creek. The fish, weighing nearly 16 pounds, became the Pennsylvania state record.

Having grown up in Pennsylvania, I knew the story of Joe's record brown, but I had fished at night only a handful of times, and never with a fly rod. However, when I was living in Central Pennsylvania during the pandemic, I decided to give night fishing a try.

It did not disappoint.

Brown trout can become active after dark, and night fishing can be especially productive on heavily pressured water. More importantly, it offers a completely different perspective on a familiar stream. Steams I thought I understood during daylight often seemed like entirely different places at night.

Safety First: The most important part of night fishing is safety. It is not something I like to do alone, and I only night fish water that I already know well.



Before fishing a section after dark, I want to know the stream well. For that reason, my favorite night fishing spots aren't necessarily remote or

adventurous. They are stretches of water I have fished frequently enough that I know where I am even when I cannot see much beyond the end of my rod.

Go Big: At night, I typically fish large articulated streamers. The large patterns and movement give a brown trout plenty to detect in low light, while the articulation creates, lifelike action during the retrieve.



I have also had success fishing mouse patterns on the surface. There are few things in trout fishing more exciting than hearing a brown trout break the surface for a mouse in the darkness. Even a small fish sounds enormous when you cannot see the take.

Still, I have had considerably more success fishing large streamers below the surface. Brown trout tend to consume their prey sub-surface, and larger fish will take other fish. A large streamer gives me an opportunity to imitate that substantial meal.

I generally cast across or slightly upstream, allowing the fly to sink deeper into the water column and swinging through promising water. At night, I am less concerned with covering every inch of stream and more focused in putting the fly alongside banks, structure, seams, and other places where a large trout can intercept prey.

Don't Set on the Splash: For me, as a novice night fisher, one of the hardest things is controlling the instinct to immediately set the hook.

A trout may bump or miss a streamer entirely before coming back for another attempt. In complete darkness, the splash can make every instinct tell you to lift the rod. I try not to. Instead, I continue the retrieve until I feel the weight of the fish, then strip set.

The strip set has another advantage: if the fish misses, the fly remains in the water and continues moving through the strike zone. Raising the rod can

pull the fly away from a fish that might otherwise make a second pass.

It is a simple technique to describe and a surprisingly difficult one to remember when a large brown explodes on your fly in the darkness.



What the Darkness Reveals: One the fun parts of night fishing can be when the fishing is over.

Once I am finished, I turn on my headlamp for the walk back. As I wade through water that I had just fished in darkness, I pay attention to where the trout are holding.

The light usually sends trout darting for cover, but for a moment it provides a glimpse into how differently they use the stream after dark.

Fish that spend daylight hours in deeper water or under overhead cover, may venture into more exposed habitat at night. Places that seem almost too shallow to hold a good trout during the day can suddenly become productive. That observation changed the way I fish after dark.

In one area where I regularly observed nesting eagles, I even caught trout with what appeared to be talon scars across their backs. Whether those particular injuries came from eagles or another predator, they were a reminder of one reason trout take cover during daylight. Darkness changes that calculation.

Night fishing can be a thrill and highly productive, particularly places that see anglers throughout the day. And every once in a while, when something large moves your fly in the darkness, it is difficult not to think about Joe Humphreys and that record brown trout.

The Wallace's 2026 Fishing Adventures

By Nate Wallace, SVTU Treasurer

Fly Fishing for Trophy Trout in the South Island of New Zealand in January 2026

Eve and I toured the North and South Islands of New Zealand in January. We were on a two-week self-guided tour and had contracted with Globus to handle the logistics. On the North Island, we toured Auckland, Hobbiton, Rotorua and Wellington (the capital). The North Island was created mostly by volcanic activity. Auckland has 53 volcanic cones within its city limits.

We flew from Wellington to Christchurch on the South Island and then on to Queenstown. The South Island was created mostly by tectonic plates pushing it up and sculpted by glaciers. The western side of the island is a chain of mountains which are called the Southern Alps. We picked up our friend Mandy who flew in from Australia and drove our rental car to Te Anau where we had rented a house for a week.

I spent three days wade fishing with the fly-fishing guide, Dean Bell. We fished to the north and south of Lake Te Anau. I learned that he is the president of the New Zealand Professional Fishing Guide Association. He took me to three rivers, including the Edlington River, which is located in a national park and requires a guide with a specific license. The weather was challenging because of a storm that came from the Southeast (from Antarctica) that brought cold, wet and windy conditions.

The rivers on the eastern slopes of the Southern Alps are fed from cold glacial melt that is crystal clear, which means that trout are exposed and extremely cautious. These fish are wary, are "scent sensitive" (if someone wades as much of a mile upstream the fish will put down), and will scatter if they see anything out of the ordinary, especially bright colors. Dean advised me to bring drab clothing, e.g., olives, khakis, tans, etc., fly lines of grey, olive or dark green, and 9' to 12' leaders of 3X.

Dean would walk upstream along the bank searching for fish. When he spotted one, he would point it out to me and then maneuver me into position to cast. Casts must be precise or the fish will quickly spook. This requires casts of 30 to 45 feet. The fishing is technical and quite challenging. We fished dry flies, nymphs and dry droppers.

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The trout I caught were mostly very large. I caught a few rainbows under 18", but the rest were all 20 to 24 inches long and of large girth. I was unable to land some that were even larger. Dean explained that spawning trout go upriver to spawn, the largest fish chase out the smaller ones and remain in the upper sections of the rivers.



Fly Fishing at the Kingfisher Lodge on Montana's Big Horn River

Eve and I reserved three full days with the Kingfisher Lodge to float the Big Horn River on the Crow Reservation in Southeastern Montana. The Big Horn is a tailwater coming out of the Yellowtail Dam.

We had two excellent guides: Chad Becker on day one and Clint Krumm on days two and three. The weather on all three days was hot and clear. The fishing was terrific. Eve out fished me on the first day (as is typical), catching the first fish, the largest fish and the most fish. Her smallest was a 19" brown; the biggest was a 22" rainbow. The second and third days were very productive for both of us. The smallest fish were probably 17", and the largest was about 23". About a third were browns, and the rest were rainbows.

We saw an incredible variety of wildlife: bald eagles, golden eagles, ospreys, red tail hawks, white pelicans, ravens, kingfishers, many smaller birds, deer, muskrats, and more.



The staff of the Kingfisher Lodge are welcoming and friendly. This was our second year at the lodge. Shalon Hastings is the general manager. Eve notes that the lodge staff and guides are female friendly, which definitely enhanced the experience for her. The food is excellent, and we enjoyed the other guests. If you go, remember the lodge is located on the Crow Indian Reservation. So, if you want to imbibe alcohol, it must be purchased before entering the reservation.

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Fly Fishing for Smallmouth Bass on the West Branch of the Susquehanna River with Taylor Hess of Appalachian Fishing Guides

Eve and I hired Taylor Hess for a full day float trip on the West Branch of the Susquehanna River on June 11 to fish for smallmouth bass. We put in just below the town of Loch Haven and floated to the bridge between Avis and Jersey Shore (someone had a sense of humor naming that town Jersey Shore). It's a beautiful section of the river.

The day was hot and humid with an occasional breeze, which put the fish down for the most part. We mostly stripped poppers and caught the biggest fish on them. Eve caught a beautiful fat 21" smallie; I caught a nice 19" fish.



Taylor is a friendly and skilled guide. He spoke at the SVTU Chapter Meeting on December 8, 2025, which is why we chose him. I recommend him.

The Piper Aircraft Company was headquartered in Loch Haven for many decades. We happened to be there at the same time as the annual Piper aircraft fly-in, called the Sentimental Journey to Cub Haven Fly-In.

One of the Piper aircraft flew up and down the River at about 6' altitude and dipped his left wheel in the water briefly as he flew past us. We toured the Piper Aviation Museum the next day, which was quite a thrill for me as a Piper J-3 Cub is the first airplane I flew.

President's Note

Continued from page 1

Next our Fly-Casting Summer series has the last class for this year on September 16. These classes, held at Seneca Creek State Park, are in the evenings and we are running out of daylight. The classes have been very well attended, and we may try an alternative fly-casting format over the winter. Watch the website for news.

Speaking of upcoming events, our big event in the fall is Fly Fishing 101 on October 24. It is a great chance to bring people who have never held a fly rod to get an introduction to the sport. We have everything that is needed, plus we furnish lunch. All you have to do is register and show up. You will not find a better deal than that! Details will be on the website in mid-September.

Please watch the website for more educational opportunities and activities, including our annual Beaver Creek workday to be held on November 7, 2026.

As a volunteer organization, we always need more hands, ideas, and time. In general, the time commitment can be as much as you want, or only a few hours a month. What we need are new ideas and a desire to help make those ideas become a reality. We are all volunteers.

If you like to fish, you need someplace to do it. We look forward to your support and participation as SVTU works to restore the wild brown population on Beaver Creek and protect trout across Maryland.

Stay safe and Tight lines!

Noel Gollehon, President SVTU

Support SVTU By Making a Donation!

We have made it easy to make a monetary donation to SVTU by clicking the 'Donate Button' on our site. Or you can [go directly to the donation page here](#). It will redirect you to a donation page where you can donate as much as you wish. We thank you for your donation.

Stay Informed About Happenings in our Chapter

Website

<https://www.senecavalleytu.org> is the primary manner we reach all friends of the Chapter. Check it out for info on upcoming events/activities.

Social Media

We are now on social media, follow us on [Instagram](#) and/or [Facebook](#). eMail

Our email is a secure opt-in email alert and event invitation system that is used only by the Chapter for functions that we sponsor or support. This service, along with the Chapter's website, provides up-to-the-minute details of upcoming activities. **We do not share or sell our email list.** Our database is separate from National TU's email system. If you wish to opt-in or opt out to our email list, please contact the Chapter at svtroutunlimited@gmail.com.

Trout Unlimited Online Community

TU National has an [ONLINE COMMUNITY](#) which is open to the entire Trout Unlimited membership.

In the past, the online community has been specific to volunteer leaders. A separate forum for leader-specific conversations will be maintained for volunteer leaders.

The Open Forum enables both leaders and all TU members to participate with the discussions in all the communities.

Supporting the conversations in both the Open Forum and the Leaders Forum helps to grow engagement in the online community and our local communities as well.

To sign up for the new community, go to his link: <http://community.tu.org/browse/welcome-guide>

Verify Your TU Membership Status

There has been a lot of chatter on the TU website regarding membership by many chapter reps around the country. One key issue is that many members do not review and update, if necessary, their profiles.

As newsletter and email communications editor, I utilize the Chapter membership roster that TU National provides to approved Chapter Officers.

Login to www.tu.org and check your profile information in the TU national database. Membership reports from TU national indicate the email or mailing address for several chapter members needs to be corrected. ***Also, don't forget to renew your membership!***

Note from the Editor

If you have articles, photos, fish stories, fishing/stream reports, that you think might be appropriate for inclusion in the newsletter or the website, send an email to me at wjunium1@hotmail.com or to the Chapter at svtroutunlimited@gmail.com.

We hope to see you at future meetings & events!