



Monthly Meeting – Sept. 10th Learning Stations

By Larry Forte

Got questions? We got answers. One thing about fly fishing is that there is always something new to learn, even if you have been fishing for many years. At our September meeting, the goal is to help our members learn something new about the sport we all enjoy. Join us on **Tuesday, September 10th, at 7pm** for some hands-on learning. At our meeting, we will have several learning “stations” for our members.

Have a new reel and fly line? Bring it to the meeting and we will add it to your reel. Want to learn more about Entomology? We will have a table for that. Want to learn more about fishing our local waters? We will have a table for that. Want to start tying your own flies ? We will have a table for that. Interested in catching salmon and Steelhead in NY? We will have a table for that. Interested in Tenkara? We will have a table for that. These are just a few of the tables that we will have at the next meeting.

Here’s a list of all the Learning Stations:

1. Basic Fly Tying
2. Entomology
3. Adding a Backing Station: Bring your reel and line!
4. Project Healing Waters
5. Knots table
6. Fishing local streams
7. Tenkara
8. NY Fly Fishing: Salmon/Steelhead

Our “senior” club members will be on hand to share their knowledge on a variety of subjects. Hope to see you on the 10th!

Beginner’s Fly Tying – Sept. 16th

By Don Fine



The September Beginner’s Fly Tying session will be held on **September 16th starting at 7:00pm**. The pattern chosen for that evening is the Squirmy Wormy.

You might ask, why has Don chosen the same pattern for the September Beginner’s tying session that Vernon Wilson covered in the August combined Roundtable/Beginner’s tying session? Frankly, for several reasons. For those who did not attend the August fly tying session, you too will have the opportunity to learn to tie this amazingly animated and productive worm imitation. And for those who

Fly Tying Roundtable – Sep. 19th

By Jon Thames



did attend the August tying session, you will have the opportunity to practice and perfect your tying of the Squirmy Wormy. After all, trying to tie a piece of rubbery material to the shank of a hook can be a challenge, especially when glue is not an alternative.

For those who missed the August 19th tying of the Squirmy Wormy, Vernon demonstrated step-by-step with detailed explanation of why, and how he ties his version of the pattern. As an example, Vernon reverses the bead on the hook, which allows for unobstructed movement of the anterior (head) section of the fly.

“Trying to tie a piece of rubbery material to the shank of a hook can be a challenge, especially when glue is not an alternative.”

While the Squirmy Wormy has gained its fame, as a great trout fly pattern, but it is similarly very productive for smallmouth and panfish. Be sure to carry the Squirmy Wormy in your fly box. It may get you through those days when you simply can't match the hatch. As usual, the Beginner's Fly Tying will be held in room 207 at Trinity United Methodist Church. Tying materials and basic equipment will be provided for those who are new to fly tying.

We welcome Adam Wilcox as our guest tyer for his first time as the instructor. Adam will be tying the Keller Crane Fly and supplying information on how to fish this rather large dry fly. The crane fly nymph is familiar to many of us and this is the adult stage of that popular nymph.

Join us Thursday night and, as is our policy, all materials will be supplied. Please bring tan or light brown 140 denier or 6/0 thread. Loaner equipment is available for those needing it for the evening. We meet at **7pm on Sept. 19 at Trinity United Methodist Church, Room 207**, 703 Patrick Street, Frederick. MD.

Roundtable Fly Tying: Special Announcement

By Jon Thames

Our PVFF monthly fly tying events continue to be a tremendous success. Please make a note that starting with the September Roundtable we are moving to the **3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM in Room 207 (downstairs) at Trinity United Methodist Church.**

We have outgrown our old space and this is the best option we have. I hope you will all join us starting in September on Thursdays. If you have any questions please contact me at: **jonthames24@gmail.com.**

2019 PVFF OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

President.....Larry Forte
Vice President.....Dave Keane
Secretary.....Karen Baker
Treasurer.....Dennis Allen
3 year Director.....Lynn Ashe
2 year Director.....Andy Mekelburg
1 year Director.....Russ Hanson
Past President.....Don Fine

Club Rod Loaner Program

By Larry Forte

Do you know the Club has several fly rods and reels that you can borrow for that special fly-fishing trip? Perhaps you do not own an 8 Weight Fly rod, but have a chance to fly fish for Salmon in New York. No need to invest in a new rod/reel if you don't want to. Just borrow one of the club rod and reel outfits!

We have four 5-weight rods, two 8-weight rods, and one 9-weight rod. Each Rod includes a reel with fly line. There is no cost to use these rods as a PVFF member. What a great deal! If you are interested, contact Karen Baker at kbcab@aol.com.

Conservation Update: Pawpaw Trees

By Dave Keane

As fall approaches and you are out on your local stream, you may wonder what is that tropical looking tree with all the fruit hanging on it. It's one of nature's best kept secrets, the Pawpaw tree.

Here are some quick facts on the Pawpaw tree:

- Native deciduous tree with leaves that can grow up to 12 inches in length which gives it a tropical appearance.
- Look for Pawpaws in the understory and forest edges along floodplains and streams throughout the eastern states. The trees often create dense thickets or Pawpaw patches.
- In the spring, the trees produce very interesting maroon flowers that are turned downward and pollinated by flies and beetles.
- Backyard gardeners and fruit enthusiasts will be happy to know that the tree is resistant to deer browse.
- Leaves are the sole food source for the Zebra Swallowtail caterpillar.
- The Pawpaw tree is the largest native edible fruit in North America.

Pawpaws ripen in the fall and the fruit should be soft to the touch and give little. The fruit will also have a very nice fruity aroma. Inside the fruit is filled with a yellow soft creamy custard tasting pulp combined with large flat shiny seeds. Pawpaws can be eaten fresh, made into bread, preserves and even ice cream.

Andrew Moore, author of the book: *PawPaw In Search of America's Forgotten Fruit*, provides a great recipe for Pawpaw ice cream:

- 2 cups pawpaw pulp (more, if you have it)
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 cups cream
- 2 cups milk

Combine the pawpaw and sugar. Stir in the cream and milk. Pour mixture into an ice cream maker and freeze according the manufacturer's directions.

Pawpaw foragers are very secretive and much like morel hunters, so if you find a patch, be careful who you tell!



PVFF Project Healing Waters – Frederick Program (PHWFF)

By Andrew Frutiger



On August 17th, several of our folks participated in the 10th Annual Stars & Stripers Fly Fishing event at Kent Island Yacht Club. This is an amazing event for Project Healing Water Programs in the Mid-Atlantic area. The weather was perfect, the food outstanding and everyone caught fish. It was a great day!

If you have any questions or would like to participate in any of our upcoming fly tying sessions at Fort Detrick, please reach out to me any time at andrewfrutiger@yahoo.com. To learn more about the program and follow our Chapter's progress, follow us on Facebook at Project Healing Waters — Frederick Chapter.

Our next PHW Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, September 24th at 7pm** at our **NEW LOCATION**, the Francis Scott Key Post #11 American Legion, 1450 Taney Avenue, Frederick, MD.

Flies for New Members Needed

By Jon Thames

For the past several years, Don and I have been making up a dozen flies for our new members. Dave has been meeting with the new members after each general meeting to pass out these flies along with a furred leader made by Ray Ouellette, as a thank you for joining our club.

We are looking for donations of flies from our members as we are down to very small flies at this point. Please check your fly boxes and see if you can pull a dozen or so to donate to this effort. You can bring them to the September meeting or drop them off at any other meeting that is convenient.

Annual Family PVFF Club Picnic

By Dave Keane

Thanks to everyone who came out for our annual Family Picnic at Catoctin Creek Park & Nature Center. We had 49 PVFF members and family come out to enjoy fellowship and a great potluck dinner.

Special thanks goes out to Lou Stohlman and Russ Hanson for cooking the hot dogs and hamburgers!



Our third annual “One Fly” Competition attracted eight club members. There were a total of seventeen fish caught between all of the participants. The winner of this year’s competition was Adam Wilcox. He caught seven fish on a number 12 black leech with his biggest fish being a nine inch smallmouth bass. Adam received a \$25.00 gift certificate to Beaver Creek Fly shop for catching the most fish. Thanks to all the members who participated in the event. Everyone who fished was rewarded with some *Swedish Fish* candy.

New this year at our picnic was the Casting Competition for both adults and youth. Lynn Ashe challenged casters with hula hoops to see who could put the line in the target.

Adult winner was Adam Wilcox. The younger fly casters all enjoyed the activity. Thanks Lynn for organizing and creating a fun event for the picnic.

PVFF 52nd Annual Banquet

By Andy Mekelburg

It is not too early to mark your calendar for the Club’s Annual Banquet and Celebration. It will be held on **Saturday, October 26th, from 4:00 PM to 9:00 PM** at the AMVETS Post #9 in Middletown, MD. We have some exciting plans for this year’s event, starting with a change from past menus, our Banquet will be catered by Lt. Col. Big Jim’s Tennessee BBQ!

As you sort through your equipment, now would be a good time to set aside some items to donate for the Silent Auction and Bucket Raffle. We will also have a Thomas & Thomas Rod Raffle and much more! If you have any ideas and/or suggestions, please let Andy Mekelburg, Banquet Chairman know. See you there!!!

Banquet Donations Needed!

By Larry Forte and Andy Mekelburg

Monies raised during our banquet come primarily from donations by club members.

The banquet is our main fundraiser for the year — these funds help pay for the various activities we offer throughout the coming year. The \$12.00 annual Club dues that everyone pays does not cover all of our expenses.

Donations can be a fly rod or some other piece of fly fishing equipment that you are no longer using, but it doesn’t need to be fly fishing related. It could be a bottle of wine or a gift basket. Please consider donating to the banquet.

If you would like to make a donation, you can bring your donation to any Monthly Meeting or contact Larry lbforte@verizon.net or Andy at andymekelburg@outlook.com.

Upcoming Club Outings

By Larry Forte

It's time to go Fishing! Here's the current list of upcoming Club Outings for you:

- **Big Run State Park:**
Garrett County, MD, September 6-8.
For more information, email Larry Forte at lbforte@verizon.net.
- **New York Salmon River Trip:**
We will hold two trips this Fall to Pulaski, NY: September 20-22 and October 11-13. For more information, email Dan at danneuland@verizon.net.

Last Cast

By Larry Forte

I hope everyone had a great summer. While I am sorry to see the summer come to an end, I am ready for the fall. It will be a unique fall for me as it will be my first time as an "Empty Nester". By the time you read this, all 3 of my girls will be away at college. This will be a challenge for me but I am looking forward to football, fishing more (but on a budget) and getting back to some fun PVFF activities, like our monthly meetings.

It is also the time to start planning for 2020. My 3rd year as President is coming to an end and while I have enjoyed being the club's President, I am also looking forward to taking a break and having new club members take over.

The challenge for me and the club, as always, is finding more volunteers. I have said many times that this is a very special and amazing club. The reason is it so special is because of its members.

So, the goal of my column is to urge you to consider giving back to PVFF. We have an amazing group of volunteers that allow us to do what we do. I can't thank them enough for their commitment and the time they invest in this club. But that does not

mean that we don't need help. In fact, now more than ever, we need club volunteers. We need help with monthly programs, we need help with fly-tying classes, we need help with Project Healing Waters, we need help with raising trout, and we need help with conservation efforts. Plus, we need a new President.

Just about 3 years ago Don Fine asked if I would consider being Club President. I agreed to run. I am not sure that I would have had I known it would be a 3 year stint! But I agreed because it was a way to give back to the club given what the club has given me over the past 15 years.

I started fly fishing knowing very little about the sport. Through PVFF, I have become a better fly-fisherman, a better caster, a better fly tier, a better steward of our environment. The more I learn about the sport, the more I want to explore the sport.

Through our monthly programs, I have an extensive list of places to fish. Because of our conservation efforts, I have learned to take better care of our environment. Because of Project healing Waters, I have been given an opportunity to help others in our community. And the best part – I have made some great friends along the way.

I ask that you think about it and give it a try. You won't be disappointed. The club really needs your help. If you are interested or would like to learn more about ways you can help, just let me know. Call me or send me an email (lbforte@verizon.net).

Hope to see you at our September meeting on the 10th.

— Larry Forte
lbforte@verizon.net
301-943-7533

Membership

By Ruby Fine

Would you believe I will be accepting 2020 PVFF membership renewals at the September Meeting? You may pay at the meetings or you can mail your check along with the membership/renewal form (found on the last page of the monthly newsletters) to the address shown on the form.

It's important for you to provide a phone number so you can be reached in the event of cancellation of our monthly meetings or other functions due to bad weather, etc.

Also remember to answer yes or no regarding FFI (Fly Fishers International) membership. See you at the meetings.

Monthly Calendar of Events

- Sept. 6-8** Big-Run Outing
Big Run State Park
- Sept. 10** Monthly Club Meeting
Tuscarora High School
5312 Ballenger Creek Pike
Frederick, MD
7:00 PM – Room A170
- Sept. 16** Beginners Fly Tying
Trinity U.M. Church
703 W. Patrick Street
Frederick, MD
7:00 PM – Room 207
- Sept. 19** Roundtable Fly Tying
Trinity U.M. Church
703 W. Patrick Street
Frederick, MD
7:00 PM – Room 207
- Sept 20-22** New York Salmon River
Pulaski, NY
- Sept. 24** PHW Meeting
Francis Scott Key Post #11
American Legion
1450 Taney Avenue
Frederick, MD
Meeting Time – 7:00 PM
- Sept. 25** Board of Directors' Meeting
Trinity U.M. Church
703 W. Patrick Street
Frederick, MD
7:00 PM – Room 109

POTOMAC VALLEY FLY FISHERS

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