



— CLUB MEETING —

See You at Beaver Creek Fly Shop (at 6 PM)

By Andy Mekelburg

The next general membership meeting is scheduled for November 8th. Because it is Election Day, we will not be at Tuscarora High School. Instead, the Precision Fly and Tackle



team is hosting us at their Beaver Creek Fly Shop location, starting at 6:00 PM. The Shop is located at 9720 Country Store Lane in Hagerstown. Should be fun. See you there!

Beginner's Fly Tying: Zebra Midge and Griffith's Gnat

By Don Fine

Our next Beginner's Fly Tying session will be held at 7:00 PM on November 15th at Trinity United Methodist Church. The evening's class will focus on two common fly patterns which reflect this time of the year (late fall/winter) when the diet of a fresh water fish changes. The abundance of caddisflies, mayflies, and terrestrials has waned and now the fish focus their attention to smaller food forms such as midges and other invertebrates which are prevalent through the winter. The two flies chosen for our November class are the zebra midge and the Griffith's gnat (named for George Griffith, who first tied the fly).



Help make the Lefty Kreh statue a reality! Learn more and donate here:

friendsofleftykreh.com

(Beginner's Fly Tying Continued)

While the zebra midge represents an immature midge in the pupa stage of its life cycle, the Griffith's gnat represents a cluster of adult midges which have hatched, died, and collected together on the water surface.

Taking size into consideration for this beginner's class, we will tie the zebra midge in a slightly larger hook (size 16) and the Griffith's gnat in a size 12.

This approach is generally recommended for anyone tying a new fly pattern: first achieve skill in tying the pattern on a larger hook — and then advance those skills to smaller hooks in the size range closer to which the “fly” exists in nature.

Advanced Fly Tying: Stimulator Pattern

By Larry Forte

At our Advanced Fly Tying gathering on November 16th at 7:00 PM, Don Fine will be our tier and will teach us how to tie a stimulator.

Would you like to join us? This is open to everyone. Perhaps you are not sure if your skills are to the “Advanced” level yet? No worries. Come and watch and check it out. I am barely an intermediate tier but I learn something new at each session.

Plus, it is a lot of fun! We will meet in Room 108 at Trinity Church. For those that prefer to join us via ZOOM, no problem. We will have a Zoom hook-up at the church for folks.

Consistent with our recent Beginner's Fly Tying sessions, we will discuss midge entomology, materials used to tie midge patterns, and how to fish a midge imitation either as a single or multiple fly offering. As in the past, we welcome new fly tiers to these sessions.

Materials and instruction sheets are available to all who join us on November 15th and tying equipment is available for those who don't already have their own tying vise and tools.



Interested? We would love for you to join us. Just let me or Don Fine know. You can sign up on our website or you can email me at **lbforte@verizon.net**.

PROJECT HEALING WATERS FLY FISHING

Project Healing Waters: Getting Ready for Harman's Creek

By Andrew Frutiger

What's the old adage? "Success occurs when opportunity meets preparation." We are getting ready to test that sentiment next month with our two and a half day trip to Harman's Creek. The veterans have spent the summer tying flies, building rods, and fishing just about every piece of water that was deep enough to support anything with fins.

It's time to get out on some really great trout water and have a blast. This will be our longest and largest outing ever for the Frederick Chapter and just about everyone is going. I am definitely looking forward to a lot of pictures and stories for next month's meeting.

We would like to thank Mission Barbecue for providing the fantastic food for our meeting this past month. For those that may not know, Mission Barbecue proudly serves those who serve. They were founded on September 11, 2011, and are dedicated to supporting the men and women who serve and have served: in the military, firefighters, police, and first responders. Next time you are thinking about take



Monthly Raffle Winner – Jebediah Stevens

out, I can't recommend them enough. Great Food, Great Cause.

Last, but not least, I want to congratulate our raffle winner Jebediah (Jeb) Stevens for winning the G. Loomis 6-weight fly rod with Orvis reel. For anyone who has met Jeb, you know he is a fishing fanatic and will definitely test this rod's abilities.

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 at any time at andrewfrutiger@yahoo.com or go to our Facebook page at *Project Healing Waters — Frederick Chapter*.

Upcoming Outings

CATOCTIN MOUNTAIN WATERSHED, MD

Date: November 19, 2022

Time and Location: We will meet at PVFF club member Pete Ring's home at 8 am. It is located at 10910 Putnam Road, Thurmont, MD 21788.

Recommended Flies: Brook Trout flies including Elk Hair Caddis, Stimulators, Parachute Adams, Royal Wulffs, etc. Nymphs, such as Prince Nymphs, Copper Johns, and Zebra Midges also work well, and it is always good to have Woolly Buggers and San Juan Worms.

Outing Leader: Mike Holland and Pete Ring

How to Sign Up: Contact us

(michaeldhollandjr@hotmail.com, pete@lhc-inc.com) or go to the "Outings" page of our website.

SMITH CREEK, VA

Date: December 17, 2022

Time and Location: Meet at Susie Q Farm around 9 am. Directions will be provided upon reservation. We will break for a pot-luck lunch; Mike will bring the famous Glazier Hot Dogs. We will fish Smith Creek on Susie Q Farm, which is located off of Exit 257 of I-81 in Broadway, Virginia. There is a \$100 rod fee payable to the Mossy Creek Fly Shop; we typically call in at lunch time and each provide our payment information.

Recommended Flies: Nymphs, such as Prince Nymphs, Copper Johns, and Zebra Midges. Woolly Buggers always work well.

Outing Leader: Mike Holland

How to Sign Up: Contact Mike

(michaeldhollandjr@hotmail.com) or go to the "Outings" page of our website.

Calendar of Events

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|----------------|---|
| Nov. 8 | Club Meeting at 6:00 PM
Beaver Creek Fly Shop
Hagerstown, Maryland |
| Nov. 15 | Beginner's Fly Tying
7:00 PM
Trinity United Methodist Church
Frederick, Maryland
Room 207 |
| Nov. 16 | Advanced Fly Tying
7:00 PM
Trinity United Methodist Church
Frederick, Maryland
Room 108 |
| Nov. 19 | Catoctin Mountain Watershed
Outing, 8:00 AM
View details and register on our
website's Outings page. |
| Dec. 1 | Board of Directors' Meeting
7:00 PM
Trinity United Methodist Church
Frederick, Maryland
Room 109 |
| Dec. 17 | Smith Creek Outing, 9:00 AM
Meet at Susie Q Farm. View
details and register on our
website's Outings page. |

2022 PVFF Officers & Directors

President.....	Andy Mekelburg
Vice President.....	Kevin Haney
Secretary.....	Owen Davis
Treasurer.....	Dennis Allen
3 year Director.....	Dave Dowiak
2 year Director.....	Troy Kitch
1 year Director.....	Kevin Lynn
Past President.....	Larry Forte

Last Cast

By Andy Mekelburg

On October 20, the Frederick City Mayor and Council approved the Memorandum of Understanding to place the Lefty Kreh Statue in Culler Lake, the last of our necessary government approvals (hopefully). We're over 70% towards our fundraising goal. Many thanks to our members who have contributed (learn more at www.friendsofleftykreh.com). On the drive over to City Hall that evening, I happened to drive by Culler Lake and the future location of the statue. The sun was just setting and cast one of those orangey glows and I could envision how Lefty will look on the lake, making some last casts as the evening draws near. Outstanding!

This struck home to me: an overwhelming aspect of fly fishing, outside of the "fishing" part. The beauty of the "arena" in which we choose to pursue our passion is a great part of the enjoyment. Being in downtown Frederick and appreciating the atmosphere of the experience is an essential part of it. I'm sure you have your favorite places to go where you get those feelings. I recently was in Upstate New York with Mike Holland on our annual pilgrimage to the Salmon River and further North.

For those that have been to Pulaski for the Salmon or Steelhead run, or attended last month's meeting with Dan Neuland's presentation, there are two ways to fish there. There is the public area and the



Andy Mekelburg, Salmon River, New York

Douglaston Salmon Reserve (DSR), which charges a fee. You're on the same river either way, but the experience and atmosphere are much different. The public areas are almost like the wild west, if you can imagine dualists lined up across from each other in lines of 10 or more on each side. When someone hooks a salmon, theoretically everyone else stops until you bring one in. It reminds me of square

dancing where you do-si-do (or is it the promenade) through the lined-up couples. To me, it's too much coordinating and seems far away from the art and skill of fly fishing. This is in stark contrast to the DSR section, which limits the number of fishers.

I distinctly remember the feeling that I had last year while there. The weather was perfect, around 70 degrees, the leaves were changing and I had just caught a salmon on my first cast (a miracle). I was taking a break as Mike took up a position on the water. Standing there watching, with the sun shining, no wind, no big crowds — it was just one of those feelings that I can recreate in my mind's eye and within my senses.

We deviated from our usual plan of two days on the Salmon River and went up to Mike's parent's house in Malone, New York, another two hours North. We fished the "other" Salmon River near Malone — no actual salmon in the water and we didn't catch anything. We then drove down to Lake Placid to stay at the Hungry Trout. We fished the AuSable River with a guide, having booked the back country trip.

We went to a completely isolated private area where there was no one around (a locked metal cord across the entrance helps) and drove a mile or two back in. Another breathtaking area, some interesting cliffs, rock structures, and wilderness. The feeling of isolation and being lost in nature was so pleasant, I never noticed the rain showers that came through.

After our fishing experience was through, we started the trip back to Maryland and experienced what was perhaps the perfect peak season for leaf changes. Incredible color palettes painted the mountains and valleys. We enjoyed the drive until it got dark, then started thinking that we still have quite a distance to go. Oh well, well worth it.

The moral of this story is that it's not just the fishing that makes the experience, it's the totality of our sport — the weather, the nature of the stream, the surrounding landscape, and the people you fish with (or away from) that makes it so satisfying.

Tight lines.



Salmon River, New York

POTOMAC VALLEY FLY FISHERS

P. O. BOX 3001

FREDERICK, MD 21705

www.potomacvalleyflyfishers.club



FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL



POTOMAC VALLEY FLY FISHERS MEMBERSHIP and RENEWAL APPLICATION and LIABILITY RELEASE

Year _____

The purpose of the Potomac Valley Fly Fishers (PVFF) is (1) to promote fly fishing as the most sportsman-like and enjoyable way of fishing and the most consistent with the preservation and wise use of our resources; (2) to provide advice, suggestions and assistance to club members; (3) to publicize the best practices and techniques of fly fishing, fly tying, fly casting and other related subjects; and (4) to maintain liaison with other organizations of sportsmen and conservationists. By my joining PVFF voluntarily, I understand there are risks involved and will not hold the PVFF club, board of directors, and officers responsible for any injuries, accidents or death as a result of participation in the activities of the Club. I also grant PVFF permission to photograph me and/or my family at any activities and also to publish them in our monthly newsletter, at the meetings and any PVFF fly fishing functions.
Website: www.potomacvalleyflyfishers.club

The undersigned being in agreement with the above does hereby apply for membership/renewal in the Potomac Valley Fly Fishers.

Applicant's Name: _____ Date: _____
(Last) (First)

If family membership, other names: _____

Home Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Phone Number: _____ E-mail address for e-mailing newsletter _____

Applicant's signature: _____

Are you a Fly Fishers Int'l (FFI) member? Circle **Yes or No** **Yearly Dues:** \$15 single \$20 family \$ Donation

How did you hear about PVFF? Friend Facebook Newsletter Fly Shop Other

Interested in a volunteer position? Officer /Board of Directors Committee/Chair Banquet Trip Organizer Teaching Fly Tying Other Activities

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO POTOMAC VALLEY FLY FISHERS. Mail your check with this completed form to:

David Dowiak, PVFF Membership
8920 Bloomfield Road
Frederick, Maryland 21702

Dues for calendar year Jan 1-Dec 31

Cash _____ Check # _____ Amount _____ Date _____
New _____ Renewal _____ Life _____