



# Lateral Lines

The Monthly Newsletter of Winchester Trout Unlimited  
Chapter # 638

January 2012

Volume 17, Number 1

## From the Prez

by Stan Ikonen, Chapter #638 President

### Going it Alone

We have all probably done it. I know I have. Your fishing partner bails at the last minute. You have left work early, and now you don't have a fishing partner. But why waste the day? You load up your gear and head out to a stream or lake by yourself. Why not? You enjoy your own company and you don't have to be tied to anyone's schedule. You can start when you want, fish where you want at your own pace, and head home when you want. Sometimes it is just simpler and less hassle to head out on your own.

But bad things can and do happen: like my mishap on a recent backpacking/fishing trip in Montana's Bob Marshall Wilderness. Wearing a 60+ pound pack, I tripped over a fallen pine log, landing on another one and ending up with a small branch stuck in my neck. I was lucky. First of all, the branch did not hit any arteries or veins. I was also most fortunate to have two comrades with me. Terry Lay is an Eagle Scout and had just taken a refresher course in wilderness first aid. I was also fortunate that we had brought along good first aid supplies and an irrigation syringe. Terry and our fellow hiker Charlie Loudermilk were able to remove the branch, clean the wounds, staunch the bleeding, and bandage the wounds. Oh yes, more than one wound. Besides the branch in my neck, I had a deep cut above my ear. Charlie even had a five-day supply of antibiotics. So I was well healed before the end of the 10-day trip and suffered no ill effects.

The story would have been different had I been alone like Terry had been a couple of years prior. I would have had no choice but to turn around and hike out 15 miles back to the car. There is no way I would have risked removing the impaling piece of pine branch. The standard operating procedure for such a wound is to bandage the area without removing the offending object and get to an emergency room. In this case, the nearest hospital was at least a day's journey away. Of course, one could say that if the pine branch found an artery, there is a good chance I would have bled out anyway before I could be taken to a hospital regardless of whether or not I was alone.

But that is not the point. The point is that it is not a very good idea to go traipsing off into the woods alone. My accident has certainly awakened me to the fact that I am not bulletproof and I am really rethinking my behavior. In the event I can't find a partner, and I am planning to enter an area that is remote, I just won't go. If I am heading to a more public area or one of several fishing spots in my neighborhood, I will at least let someone know where I am going and when I will be back. I will make sure they have my cell phone number and a description of the vehicle I will be using. For areas where a cell phone won't work, I am considering purchasing one of the personal locator devices that can track me via GPS satellite, which will allow me to send limited messages. The price of these devices has really come down. Several are under \$200 and base service contracts run around \$100 per year. I am thinking it is better to be safe than worry about the cost. So, I plan to start 2012 with personal safety taking a higher precedence than it has in the past.

Be Safe, Stan



## January 5, 2012 Meeting Schedule and Agenda

5:30 p.m.  
7:00 p.m.

Dinner at IJ Cann's  
Monthly meeting at the  
Gander Mountain store,  
Winchester, VA

See you at the next  
meeting on Jan. 5, 2012  
Bill Prokopchak  
Newsletter Editor  
540-722-2620

### Agenda

1. Treasurer's report
2. Red Bud Run report
3. Chapel Run report
4. Trout in the Classroom update
5. Fish With a Member proposed schedule for 2012
6. Other business
7. Fishing in the Shenandoah National Park: Paul Kearney

## Bud on the Run (Chapel Run Update) By: Bud Nagelvoort

On December 3rd a motley crew managed to drag, haul, tow, pry, and otherwise disturb several large segments of the gigantic sycamore that dumped into the stream just above Chain Log V this summer. Yes, it is the same tree we've been attacking for the last few work sessions. Of course, with a fifty ton tree only Terry's extra large noise maker has had the capacity to reduce any part of it to manageable size and his unique gang blocks have often been necessary to move the larger logs. Dave, Bill, Fred, and Robert along with Terry and Bud enjoyed the most recent social outing.

Our next Chapel Run Work Session is January 7.

With most of the light work finished on the big sycamore, the remaining challenge is to wire/post/rock in the bank protection logs. Rocks have appeared as if by magic at most locations, and Bill's nails and staples are ready. Dave may want to wear his best wet suit for the wiring operation, and Robert should bring his neoprene gloves.

Somewhere I saw that January 7 is going to be sunny and 79 degrees, but that may have been in Fort Lauderdale. If the forecast is for deep snow, please bring your snow shovels. At least the drinks should stay cold.

Let's start at 10 a.m. to allow the sun to appear and raise the water temp above freezing. I know Bill likes to break ice, but I don't know anyone else with those inclinations.



# On the Fly

Compiled By: Carl A. Rettenberger

In some of my earlier entomology articles, I discussed the importance of “midges” as a food source for trout and other fishes. Although they are rather small, their numbers are so great that they provide considerable protein substance for all species of trout, salmon, and all other fishes right down to carp and suckers. Next time you’re on the water and see a cloud of insects flying in a tight swarm, you’re more than likely looking at a swarm of midges. They hatch all year long, and so if you bend low to the water surface this time of the year when it’s really cold, you’ll still see them swarming around near the water.

Midges make up part of the Group referred to as “True Flies” within the following: (For your information, I have included the phonetic spelling for the Latin translation of the scientific terms associated with these creatures)

- Kingdom: Animalia (ann-knee-mal-e-a)
- Phylum: Arthropoda (ah-thro-po-da)
- Class: Hexapoda (hex-a-po-da)
- Subclass: Insecta (in-sec-ta)
- Order: Diptera: (deep-tear-a)



Non-Biting Midges (Midges/mosquitoes) 2mm - 20mm  
Family: Chironomidae (ker-rone-o-me-die)

Chironomidae (Non-biting midge); Hardened clearly visible head; long worm-like body; two pairs of prolegs with terminal hooks. Some may be red in color due to a hemoglobin-like compound. Crawler/burrower; Collector/gatherer; high tolerance to human-induced stress; less than 5 to 60 mm length

With that said and in keeping with the spirit of the season, I’ll share with you one of my all time favorite fly tying patterns, that imitates the pupal or emerger stage of this invertebrate. If I told you how many fish I’ve caught with this fly since I first created it, you probably wouldn’t believe me, but I have shared the fly with other Chapter members, so you can ask them about how successfully it has performed for them. As big as steelhead are, I can tell you for a fact they still are partial to these little insects.



# Redbud Run

By: Carl A. Rettenberger

Well, it appears that the regulations restricting fishing in Redbud Run to “Catch & Release Only” is official. I fished the VDGIF’s section on Monday the 26<sup>th</sup> of December and was pleased to see the following signs posted near the stream on both ends of the VDGIF’s property.

I fished the entire length of the VDGIF’s section and was very near getting skunked until I got near the top end. There in a small pocket I managed to catch two rainbows in the 6 to 8 inch class and a beautiful seven to eight inch brook trout. As I was landing the brook trout another one was swimming with it as they often do. So I’m pleased to announce that some of our T.I.C. fish from the 2010 stocking have survived.

I saw two sets of tracks indicating that others had fished since the last rain, but I saw no other fisherman on that date. If you fish the Run send me an email telling me how you did so that I can get an idea as to how the fish population is doing.



Copyright  
W. M.  
Prokopchak  
2011

## The Well-Schooled Angler

Compiled by Barbara Gamble

With this edition of *Lateral Lines*, we introduce Barbara Gamble's reports on new books of interest to the angler in all of us.

### Fifty More Places to Fly Fish Before You Die

**Author:** Chris Santella  
**Hardcover:** 224 pages  
**Publisher:** Stewart, Tabori & Chang  
**(October 1, 2011)**  
**ISBN-10:** 1584799374

*Fifty More Places to Fly Fish Before You Die* is the latest offering in the bestselling Fifty Places series. Chris Santella's first book, *Fifty Places to Fly Fish Before You Die*, has more than 100,000 copies in print, and Santella—now a regular fly-fishing contributor to the *New York Times* and many angling periodicals—has finally returned to the subject that started it all. Santella profiles 50 more first-class fly-fishing destinations around the world, as shared by top fishing-expedition leaders and journalists. This volume includes many of fly fishing's "next big things": fishing in San Diego for mako sharks; sight-casting in Bolivia for golden dorado; flats-style striper fishing in Maine's Casco Bay; nocturnal sea trout angling in Wales; and fishing for giant mahseer in the Himalayan foothills of India. Gorgeous photography showcases the beauty of these destinations, and the "If You Go" section enables readers to embark on the fishing trips themselves.\*

### A Practical Guide to Fishing Flies

**Author:** Martin Ford  
**Hardcover:** 96 pages  
**Publisher:** Anness (November 16, 2011)  
**Language:** English  
**ISBN-10:** 0754819108

An easy-to-use directory featuring over 100 flies.\*

### The Perfect Cast: A Celebration of Fly-Fishing

**Author:** Tom Quinn  
**Hardcover:** 160 pages  
**Publisher:** Stackpole Books (December 15, 2011)  
**ISBN-10:** 0811710572

Inspiring collection of three centuries of angling stories and art from the great angling writers. Tom Quinn has fished the world over and is editor of *Country Landowner* magazine.\*

\* Abstract provided by the publisher



### Fly Fishing and Tying Videos

By: Carl A. Rettenberger

I believe by now that those of you who are or were interested in viewing my library of fly fishing and tying videos have already done so. So unless you send me an email asking that I bring in my library, I'll put it back on the shelf.

I ask that those of you who still have my videos outstanding to bring them with you to the next meeting so that I can cross your name off my lender's list.



### Winchester TU Upcoming Events

- |               |           |   |
|---------------|-----------|---|
| Jan. 5, 2012  | 5:30 p.m. | Dinner at IJ Cann's   |
| Jan. 5, 2012  | 7:00 p.m. | Monthly meeting at the Gander Mountain store, Winchester, VA  |
| Jan. 7, 2012  | 10 a.m.   | Chapel Run Work Session   |
| Jan. 14, 2012 |           | Stan and Bill present Trout Unlimited to the Men's Group at Fellowship Bible Church, Winchester, VA |

### Winchester TU Chapter Officers

**President:** Stan Ikonen  
**Vice President:** Jerry Casey  
**Secretary/Website Editor:** Charlie Loudermilk  
**Treasurer/Newsletter Editor:** Bill Prokopchak  
**Programs Committee:** Roy Boyd, Tom Fore  
**Education Committee (TIC):** Mark Zimmerman, Jerry Casey, Charlie Loudermilk  
**Projects Director:** Bud Nagelvoort

For contact information visit  
[www.winchestertu.org/Meetings.htm](http://www.winchestertu.org/Meetings.htm)



Photo by  
 Bill Prokopchak