

## CALENDAR

### Next Meeting 1 April 7.30pm on Zoom

The Chapter Meetings will be hosted on Zoom at 7:30 pm starting with our guest speaker and followed by Chapter business. To participate in the meetings you must register by clicking [here](#) for the April meeting. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing instructions and the confirmation number needed to join the meeting.

### April

**1 April**  
7.30pm Virtual Member Meeting

**8 April**  
7.30pm Virtual Board Meeting

### May

**6 May**  
7.30pm Virtual Member Meeting

**13 May**  
7.30pm Virtual Board Meeting

**16 May**  
TU Fly Cedar Creek

### June

**3 June**  
7.30pm Virtual Member Meeting

**10 June**  
7.30pm Virtual Board Meeting

### July

No July Meeting

## Strategic Plan

### NVATU Sets Strategic Plan Initiatives

Last November, NVATU's Board of Directors approved the chapter's new 5-year Strategic Plan.

The purpose of the Strategic Plan (SP) is to set a clear direction for programs and chapter initiatives going forward. It does this by re-organizing activities under a two-pronged approach to chapter management: operations and programs.

Operationally, the SP places more responsibility on board members to chart the future directions of the chapter.

Programs will now be divided into three pillars reflecting future chapter priorities: Conservation, Education and Community. Coordinators for the three pillars, elected at the March general meeting, are Daniel Lazenby,

Conservation ([dlaizenbynvatu@gmail.com](mailto:dlaizenbynvatu@gmail.com)), Bob Parker, Education, ([streamguidenvatu@gmail.com](mailto:streamguidenvatu@gmail.com)) and Tony Hill, Community ([thillnvatu@gmail.com](mailto:thillnvatu@gmail.com)).

The Strategic Plan identified specific initiatives and goals for the Coordinators:

- ◆ Enhance membership engagement and retention
- ◆ Develop demographically diverse leadership
- ◆ Identify a conservation project that is unique to NVATU
- ◆ Develop a branding approach that results in a consistent chapter identity
- ◆ Create unique educational content that raises awareness of the chapter in community-based media

New committees are being formed in youth education, conservation and community development. If you have an interest in these or any of the above initiatives, please contact a coordinator to talk about how you may help. We are looking for members wishing to become more active in supporting the mission of Trout Unlimited. Remember, our chapter is only as strong as the involvement of our members.

### OFFICER ELECTION

During the Chapter business portion of the monthly membership meeting on Thursday, March 4th, Tony Hill chaired NVATU's annual election. The meeting was on Zoom, as are all meetings until it is deemed safe to gather in large groups.

The following officers were elected for two-year terms by acclamation:

President: Tony Hill  
Vice President: Scott Allen  
Treasurer: Ken Bailey  
Secretary: George Paine

The following new board members were elected for three-year terms by acclamation:

Carl Jordan, Bob Parker.

Jay Lovering as immediate past president will become an ex-officio board member.

Roy Lindquist is stepping down from the board.

Continuing board members are: Bill Errico, Kiki Galvin, Daniel Lazenby, Terry Lowe, Suzanne Malone, Steve Peters, and Jim Wilson. Terry and Suzanne's terms expire in Nov 2021. The rest expire in Nov 2022. Also, Terry Lowe continues as Assistant Chapter Secretary and Steve Peters as Assistant Treasurer.

## April Speaker

### The Cicadas Are Coming!



Bryan Kelly, White Fly Outfitters

This spring, billions of Brood X (Brood Ten) cicadas will awaken from their 17-year underground slumber to take to the tree canopies, call for their one true love, mate, die and restart the cycle of life. In some areas, as many as 1.5 million cicadas

will emerge from one acre, according to one newspaper report.

Will this be a boon or bust for fly anglers? According to Bryan Kelly, owner and guide of White Fly Outfitters, Harpers Ferry, WV, ([www.whiteflyoutfitters.com](http://www.whiteflyoutfitters.com)) and the speaker at our April 6 meeting, it will be a little of both. It will stimulate feeding, but at times there will be so many cicadas dropping that fish will quickly gorge themselves on the protein and, unless your fly and presentation are just right, the fish will completely ignore your offering.

Bryan will talk at the April 1 meeting about where and when to fish on West Virginia waters, which flies to use and the best ways to take advantage of this 17-year cycle without getting too frustrated.

# Steelheading in Pennsylvania

## Fish With a Member



Although our Fish With a Member trips are a healthy alternative, psychically, and physically in the current environment, we are suspending them until further notice. The primary concern is that if park or state officials observe close interaction at the assembly points the fishing exemption could be affected. Trips have traditionally been run informally—without requiring a reservation—so we have no control on the number of members. This is obviously an evolving issue so we'll continue to consider options.

*George Paine*



*Justin Schillaci*

Justin Schillaci, owner of Steelhead Alley Outfitters, ([www.steelheadalleyoutfitters.com](http://www.steelheadalleyoutfitters.com)) and Dustin White, one of SAO's top guides, will talk everything about steelhead fishing at the June 3 chapter meeting.

If you've never ventured north in the fall to fish for Lake Erie steelhead as they migrate up the Pennsylvania streams – or if it's been too long – don't miss this meeting. These experts will talk about gear, flies, lodging, where to go, and just as important, where not to go. It can get ugly crowded on some creek entrances with spin anglers standing and sitting cheek to jowl.

Bookings for the fall/winter runs can fill up quickly, so if you want to get a head start, reach SAO at 1-888-453-5899.

## SHAD DART



### APRIL FLY OF THE MONTH

*More in the continuing series of fly-tying techniques and materials by John Hadley.*

**Originator:** Newell Steele, Angler's Lie (former fly-fishing shop in Arlington, VA).

Newell showed me this fly when I first went on a NVATU chapter's "Fish with a Member" trip for shad on the Rappahannock River many years ago. I caught lots of shad with this fly. It is an easy, simple and fast fly to tie. It can be tied with white or any other color chenille and is a good fly for beginning tiers and anyone fishing for shad.

### TECHNIQUES

- ▶ Attach a cone head
- ▶ Use slinky fiber and holographic fiber for a tail
- ▶ Attach various color chenille bodies

### RECIPE

**Hook:** TMC 3769, TMC 3761 (Sproat Bend), Orvis 122J or any

2X Long hook

**Thread:** White 3/0 or 6/0, some use mono-thread

**Head:** Red Cone 3/16- or ¼-inch. Or use other colors: brass, pink

**Tail:** White Slinky Fiber, craft fur or other synthetic fiber; Silver/Gold Holographic Fly Fiber – four to eight strands on each side. (Optional: Flashabo or Krystal Flash)

**Body:** Pearl/White Speckled Chenille or other colors: especially light green

### FISHING TIP

I start with the original white Shad Dart but if it is not working, I'll try another color. In my limited shad fishing experience, I've found it's best in the early morning, late

afternoon or on a cloudy day – and worst on a bright sunny day. Cast about 45 degrees out from straight down stream and let the fly sink and drift to dead downstream then strip in the line. Add a few yards with following casts, and then add weight to get deeper if necessary. In wadable water I fish with a floating line and a sinking tippet. From a boat, in deeper water, I fish with a sinking line. The fish run in schools so if fishing from an anchored boat and other boats are catching fish but you aren't you need to up anchor, move a few yards to one side or the other, and try again until you get over a school and start catching fish. I like using a seven-weight rod the best.

## TURKEY FLAT SULFUR WITH ORANGE BUTT



### MAY FLY OF THE MONTH

A few years ago, while fishing one of my favorite Shenandoah National Park (SNP) streams I noticed a Mayfly hatch going on; that is, I saw three or four

Mayflies at one time. I was able to grab one; it was a sulfur Mayfly with an orange/red egg sack. So, I used some orange "salmon egg" yarn to simulate an egg laying sulfur. I split the turkey flat wings, but you don't have to. I've had good luck with this fly, fishing for Brookies, when I've seen two or more yellow sulfur mayflies on SNP streams in the spring.

**Originator:** I'm sure someone has tied this before; there is very little new under the sun. I just combined commonly used materials and tying techniques to represent what I observed.

### RECIPE

**Hook:** TMC 100 #16-12 (any 1x dry fly hook)

**Thread:** Yellow or white 6/0, 8/0

**Tail:** Microfibetts or yellow or dun hackle

**Wing:** White Turkey Flat

**Butt:** Red/Orange wool

**Body:** Superfine Pale Yellow

**Hackle:** White, Dun, or Ginger

### TYING TIPS

Make a small bump of thread at the hook bend to help spread the tail and bend it up a bit. Don't make the orange butt too big; it only takes a little red/orange wool. Keep the body thin with a slight taper from the butt to the wing. If you split the turkey flat wing the fly may drift off to one side or the other as it gently falls to the water surface; if you don't split the wing it tends to drop straight down where you aimed it to go.

### FISHING TECHNIQUE

Stay low and go slow on small SNP streams. Cast to a likely spot in a pool, try for a soft landing or a puddle cast and let it drift. If your fly starts to drag, lift and cast again to another spot. Observe the action of egg-laying sulfurs; they generally just dip down and touch the water to lay some eggs then pop back up and dip down again. You may want to try to imitate that action but you risk spooking the fish with all that action of your fly line, so I guess it is a tradeoff of letting it drift or popping the fly around the pool like a real mayfly. Good Fishing!



# Gary V's Imprint on NVATU, TU

April  
1997  
Issue



Until the relatively recent addition of e-mailed communications, TroutLine (TL) has been the principal news source for members. Dating from the earliest days of the chapter, TL then was typically a four or eight page black & white sheet composed, presumably, on a word processor.

In 1998, the newsletter took a giant leap forward in graphic design and impact thanks to the work of long-time NVATU member and award-winning graphic artist, Gary Visgaitis.

A native of Hazleton, Pa., Visgaitis moved into the area in the late '80s to work at *U.S. News & World Report*. It was while also doing some freelance graphics for Trout Unlimited's national



Trout magazine that he met Neal Emerald, then NVATU chapter president. From that relationship grew Visgaitis' connection with NVATU and TroutLine.

"I got a call from Neal, who worked for National TU, regarding freelance work for his Coldwater Conservation initiative at National TU and produced several designs that were adopted at the time," Visgaitis said. "Neal was the impetus to redesign TroutLine that debuted on his watch in [February and March] 1998."

Chapter officers at that time were Neal, Vice President Tom Tobey, Treasurer Chris Jaufmann and Secretary Mike Fisher.

Visgaitis has been a NVATU member ever since, and his design work can be seen in the chapter's and TU national's material. In 2002, he won a competition for the redesign of TU's national logo. The logo is still used today and appears in TU material and each issue of TL. The chapter's 40th Anniversary logo is based off of his original design.

"The (national logo) debuted in Portland, Ore., at the National TU conference in [August] 2001," Visgaitis said. "I was honored . . . but the best part was afterwards fishing the Deschutes River with author/guide Scott Richmond for 'Redsides' . . . Never saw such an intense red color on the side



Photo credit: facebook.com/bill.reshter.7

Gary Visgaitis

of a trout; absolutely gorgeous."

Elements of the TU National logo were incorporated into TU's Conservation and Fishing Camp logo and also on Pennsylvania's "TU" license plate.

Today, TroutLine's layout is done by Anna Rockett, but Visgaitis' decades-long work with the chapter is still evident. His legacy is embedded in our history and our future.

## 5th NVATU 2 Fly Tournament

Mark your calendars for Sunday May 16, 2021! Levi Pitcock from [Double Spur Outfitters](#) in Star Tannery, VA will host our event on Cedar Creek. We've arranged for the river to get stocked for the tourney.

We will again have teams of two anglers, with beats assigned by random drawing, and will switch beats after lunch.

**Benefits:** Supports NVATU programs, Project Healing Waters, Kids Fly Fishing Camp, stream restorations, Merit Badge classes, Casting for Recovery and much more.

**Rules:** Use only two flies per angler, Points awarded for three measured fish, number of fish caught, not losing your two flies

**Donation:** \$250 per team of two anglers.

To Register Contact: Tony Hill [thillnvatu@gmail.com](mailto:thillnvatu@gmail.com); (914) 420-4311

Please reach out to fellow anglers and spread the word!

## Trout Stream Study in Late April

More than 30 NVATU members and guests will head to the Shenandoah National Park on Saturday, April 24, to take water samples from 22 streams and rivers as part of the 2021 Virginia Trout Stream Sampling Survey (VTSSS).

The VTSSS is designed to track the effects of acidic deposition and other factors that determine water quality and related ecological conditions in Virginia's native trout streams. Since the program's inception, VTSSS data and findings have proven important to both local resource management and to the development, evaluation, and implementation of national air pollution control policies.

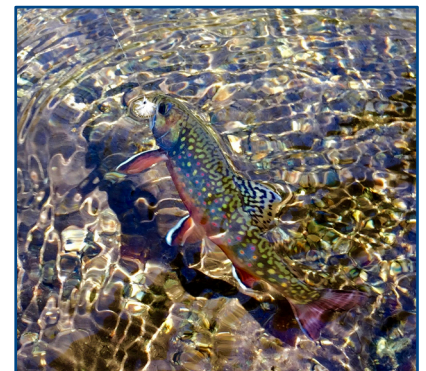
Statewide, approximately 450 stream sites will be sampled in 34 counties, representing most of the mountain headwater streams in Virginia that support reproducing brook trout.

The program is overseen by the University of Virginia in collaboration with the Virginia Council of Trout Unlimited.

## OBITUARY

### Jim Brassell Passed

Jim Brassell, a longtime NVATU member and fishing buddy, died recently after a long bout with cancer. He will be sorely missed, said Jim Aliff.



A brookie Jim Brassell caught in the Staunton.

# Updating Save Our Streams Program

At the February NVATU Chapter Board Meeting, Kirk Smith highlighted the progress that had been made in the Save Our Streams (SOS) initiative.

Trout Unlimited, Izaak Walton League of America, and American Fisheries Society (collectively the ‘TIA Alliance’) partnered to deliver a mission-based program for high schools focused on stream science and fisheries management.

An outgrowth of the Trout in the Classroom and Trout Out of the Classroom programs developed at James Madison HS, SOS offers students hands-on field experience working on projects with biologists, college students and faculty, community leaders and other individuals interested in conservation and science. A successful model launched in VA last year is the genesis for the program.

## Member Photo Album



### CONEWAGO CREEK

Adams County (Pa.) TU, NVATU’s 39-year Conewago Creek partner, will stock the creek with trophy trout (18”-20+”) for Pennsylvania’s April 3 Trout Season Opening Day. This follows an earlier joint stocking on February 27 (above) when NVATU members John Milbow, Luke Hendrixson, Daniel Lazenby, and Jon Johnson helped place 600 beautiful trout, and a few large palominos, in their new Conewago Creek homes.

## Public Waters Access Under Siege

Planning a DIY Fishing Trip? Public waters access laws differ in every state and access is under a low-key siege to close off public water to traditionally public water. A Public Waters Access Report from Back Country Hunters and Anglers covering all 50 States could keep you out of hot water with the locals. To find out more, go to: [www.backcountryhunters.org](http://www.backcountryhunters.org).

Trout Unlimited (TU) and Backcountry Hunters and Anglers (BHA) are rooted in common values. Both organizations are passionate about caring for and recovering the places they fish, hunt, live and love. Native and wild trout fisheries and backcountry lands and waters matter to all members of both organizations. Please consider becoming a member of both organizations.



### CHAPTER WEBSITE

[www.novatu.org](http://www.novatu.org)

[inforvatu@gmail.com](mailto:inforvatu@gmail.com)

### MAILING ADDRESS:

Northern Virginia Chapter of Trout Unlimited  
P.O. Box 3592  
Oakton, VA 22124

Go to the Chapter website to sign up for a full year of TU member benefits including TROUT Magazine, chapter activities, discounts on travel and fishing gear, opportunities to win trips, prizes, and more. Be sure to specify Chapter 360.



Keep up with the latest chapter happenings on Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/groups/334014474470](http://www.facebook.com/groups/334014474470)

VA STATE TROUT UNLIMITED WEBSITE



[www.virginiatu.org](http://www.virginiatu.org)



NATIONAL TROUT UNLIMITED WEBSITE

[www.tu.org](http://www.tu.org)

## NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED – CHAPTER LEADERS

### Officers

Chapter President .....Tony Hill  
Chapter Vice President .....Scott Allen  
Chapter Treasurer .....Ken Bailey  
Chapter Secretary .....George Paine

### Administration

Secondary Chapter Treasurer .....Steve Peters  
Secondary Chapter Secretary .....Terry Lowe  
Chapter Legal Counsel .....Victor Kernus  
Chapter Financial Review .....Steve Peters

### Board of Directors

Board Member (FY 2019) .....Bill Errico  
Board Member (FY 2019) .....Kiki Galvin  
Board Member (FY 2021) .....Carl Jordan  
Board Member (FY 2019) .....Daniel Lazenby  
Board Member (FY 2018) .....Terry Lowe  
Board Member (FY 2018) .....Suzanne Malone  
Board Member (FY 2021) .....Bob Parker  
Board Member (FY 2019) .....Steve Peters  
Board Member (FY 2019) .....Jim Wilson  
Ex-officio Board Member (FY2021) .....Jay Lovering

### Operations

Communications Chair .....vacant

Newsletter Editor .....Jim Galligan  
Secondary Newsletter Editor .....George Paine  
Newsletter Designer .....Anna Rockett  
Email Coordinator .....Gregg Rockett  
Webmaster .....Rob Snowwhite  
Facebook Administrator .....Scott Russell  
Instagram Administrator .....Jeff Mangeno  
Merchandise Marketing Chair .....vacant  
Membership Chair .....Carl Jordan  
Meeting Coordinator .....Jim Galligan

### Programs

#### Conservation Pillar

Conservation Chair .....Daniel Lazenby  
Project Committee Chair .....vacant  
Conewago Project Coordinator .....Daniel Lazenby  
External Coordination Committee Chair .....vacant  
Opportunity Development Coordinator .....vacant  
Legislative Awareness Coordinator .....vacant  
Climate Change Coordinator .....Jim Wilson  
Natural Resources Advisor .....Kirk Smith  
Road Salt Sampling Coordinator .....Bob Speegle

#### Community Pillar

Community Chair .....Tony Hill  
Delegate to Virginia Council .....Jim Wilson

Activity Development Chair .....vacant  
Veteran's Service Coordinator .....Kiki Galvin  
Women's Initiative Coordinator .....Kiki Galvin  
Diversity Initiative Coordinator .....vacant  
Youth Representative .....Palmer Kasprowicz  
Events Coordination Chair .....vacant  
Fund Raising Chair .....vacant  
Member Engagement Chair .....vacant  
Fish With a Member Coordinator .....George Paine  
Western MD Trip Coordinator .....vacant

#### Education Pillar

Education Chair .....Bob Parker  
T.I.C. Committee Chair .....George Paine  
T.I.C. Microinvertebrates Instruction .....Bob Speegle  
Youth Education Coordinator .....Bill Errico  
Secondary Youth Education Coordinator .....Kirk Smith  
TU Tri-State Conservation Camp Co-Chair .....Suzanne Malone  
TU Tri-State Youth Conservation Camp Co-Chair .....Paul Kearney  
Content and Publications Committee Chair .....vacant  
Stream Guide Editor .....Bob Parker  
Education Activities Committee Chair .....vacant  
Fly-Tying Coordinator .....John Hadley  
Stream Sampling Coordinator .....Bob Speegle