



Free State Fly Fishers Newsletter

Davidsonville, Maryland



SUMMER 2012

The Newsletter is published quarterly
Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall



A Message from the President

As the seasons change..... Spring gives way to summer and these last months of activity take a hiatus until the fall. **But, wait!** The monthly meetings may have ended, however, our outings continue with trips to the Monocacy River for smallmouth bass, the South Fork of the Shenandoah and the Potomac River for smallmouth bass and the Casselman River for trout. The Chesapeake Bay beckons with the opportunity to catch a variety of fish. **Read more about these outings in this issue of the newsletter.**

We have seen our membership grow as previous members have rekindled their involvement and new members have joined our ranks. The presence of several of our members at the Bass Pro Fishing Classic afforded the opportunity to promote our club. The fly fishing class lead by Bob Smith and his team provided an opportunity for members both new and old to hone their skills and increase their knowledge. The Swap Meet offered a chance for members to sell some old gear and buy something new. Bruce Morse got the word out to the media regarding club meetings and activities.

Club outings have offered a variety of opportunities for more than thirty of our members to fish some new waters, foster friendships and catch a variety of fish. Deer Creek provided for shad fishing and the outing to the Gunpowder River offered the opportunity to catch wild brown trout which proved to be elusive to some. A trip to some private waters on the Conewago in Pennsylvania was made available to members who were quick to respond to the offer and a chance to fish for brook, rainbow and brown trout. Trap Pond in Delaware provided a terrific venue to members and the chance to fish for crappie, bass and bluegill both from rowboats, canoes, and kayaks as well as from shore. The culinary skills of John Donnelly provided a cookout

I am happy to report that we have made progress in taking on a conservation project to help clean up the Patuxent River area on Queen Anne Bridge Road which Ray Cline has agreed to lead.

I look forward to joining you in some great fishing this summer with the chance to really tell some exciting stories. See you in fall, if not before on the streams! 🍄

- George Vincent

Monthly meetings are held in the FSFF Clubhouse

The **Free State Fly Fishers** meet the first Wednesday of every month at 7:30 PM except December, June, July and August. The meeting site is located in Davidsonville, MD at the Davidsonville Family Recreation Center (DFRC) in the Clubhouse behind Ford Hall, on Queen Anne Bridge Road off of MD Route 214.

DIRECTIONS TO THE DAVIDSONVILLE FAMILY RECREATION CENTER

From Rt 50/301: Take Davidsonville Rd (Rt 424) south 3.2 miles to Rt 214. Go right 0.7 miles to 3727 Queen Anne Bridge Rd. Turn left and go 1.2 miles to the DFRC.

From Rt 2: Take Rt 214 west 3.7 miles to 3727 Queen Anne Bridge Rd. Turn left and go 1.2 miles to the DFRC.

OFFICERS and DIRECTORS 2011 - 2012

President: George Vincent k3gv@verizon.net
First Vice-President: Denis LaCroix delacroix1@verizon.net
Second Vice-President: Rich Batiuk rbatiuk@aol.com
Secretary: Tom Gooding goodingthomas@comcast.net
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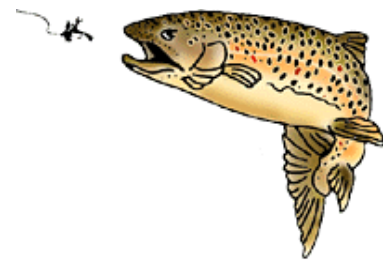
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Treasurer's Report - Summer 2012 - Cheryl Findlay

AS of 5 May 2012, the FSFF account has a balance of \$4297.20. Recent expenses include the donation of \$200 to the Davidsonville Family Recreation Center, paint for clubhouse maintenance of \$29.07. The club has sold all of its hats and more will be ordered (with a longer bill if possible as requested by George Vincent) and available probably in November. Monthly raffles are generating a steady income and memberships are up quite a bit. State tax forms were filed in March.

FSFF coffee mugs and patches are still available at the monthly meetings for \$3.00 each. 🍄



2012 FREE STATE FLY FISHERS OUTINGS: PAST, PRESENT AND PLANNED - Rich Batiuk

Starting out in January of this year as the outings coordinator, I committed to work towards at least one Free State Fly Fishers Club outing each month...well, each month during which our flylines would not freeze mid-cast, that is. So far, we have been very successful, with a number of club members stepping up and coordinating an outing, and with some months with 2 even 3 outings scheduled. Information on all outings is presented at club meetings prior each outing and the emailed to all club members a week in advance of the respective outing.

February: George Vincent led a trip to Allens Pond in Bowie for trout, getting an early start on the 2012 fishing season.

March: Our planned outing to Muddy Creek in lower Pennsylvania lived up the names of the destination—huge rain showers poured water from the sky and did not let up even when several hardy FSFF members waited in a car at the Park 'n Ride meeting location for over an hour. [Tom Gooding and I made a trip up to Muddy Creek the next weekend and both caught a number of nice size trout in the fly fishing only section on nymphs—

definitely a trip going on the 2013 outings calendar!]

April: George Vincent led an outing to the Gunpowder River mid-week for trout fishing. (Oh, to be retired and miss the weekend fishing crowds!) Tom Gooding brought a bunch of FSFF members to Deer Creek in search of spawning shad—a lot of searching with very limited number of shad caught. The crazy spring weather and temperatures kept the shad hanging out in the Susquehanna River until real late in the spawn. We are going back again, because anyone who have experienced a good evening of shad fishing on Deer Creek knows its truly an amazing experience.

May: We established a record for the club with three outings. John Donnelly led a larger contingent of Free State Fly Fishers back to Trap Pond for a full day and into the evening fishing, including an OUSTANDING mid-day feast. [You have got to be John's grilled chicken strips receipe...its almost better than fishing!] Rich Batiuk took club members to Unicorn Pond in search of spawning bluegills—found spawning beds, but limited mother bluegills (but a number of pickerel). Finally, Larry Myer hosted club members on his local waters—the Patapsco River for smallmouth bass and green ear sunfish.

June: We have two trips lined up for this month. Ken Moser and John Scarborough are heading back out to Western Maryland for June 7-10, with plans to hit a number of streams and rivers for trout. Members are welcome to join up with them for one day or all four. And on June 12, Ray Cline is leading an outing to the Monocacy River for smallmouth bass fishing in the afternoon and evening.

July: Rich Batiuk will be leading an outing to the Potomac River at Brunswick on Saturday, July 21, continuing a traditional annual summer wet wading outing during the infamous white fly hatch.

August/September: Have not scheduled club outings for these months—need some club members to step up and agree to coordinate an outing to their favorite fishing spot.

At our September Free State Fly Fishers club meeting, we will schedule the fall 2012 outings. And at our January club meeting, we will schedule the full year of 2013 outings. Remember, all that is involved with coordinating an outing is simply: identify a fishing location, write up a simple one page outing description, and meet club members at the defined meeting location. That's it! If George can do it, so can you. Just contact me at 410-268-5226 or rbatiuk@aol.com and let me know where and when you would like to coordinate an outing. We are a flyfishing club, so let's help other members get out and fish! 🐟

Tight Lines, Rich Batiuk



2012 Calendar

Outing Date	Location	Target Species	Outing Coordinator(s)
June	Monocacy River, MD	Smallmouth Bass	Ray Cline
June	South Fork Shenandoah River, VA	Smallmouth Bass, Sunfish	Rich Batiuk, Tom Gooding
June	Casselman River, MD	Trout	Ken Moser
July	Potomac River, MD	Smallmouth Bass	TBD
August	Ideas?		
September	Ideas?		
October	Chesapeake Bay Bridge, MD	Striped Bass	Tom Gooding
November	Lake Erie, PA	Steelhead	George Vincent
December	Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel, VA	Striped Bass	Jim Jacobs



So please show up, go fishing, and be sure to mark your calendars and check your email to learn the details.



Help To Stop Poachers

Reminder - If you spot poaching please place a call to

Catch a Poacher Hotline at 1-800-635-6124

A cash reward is available for information leading to an arrest and conviction of a violator.

REPORT POACHERS!!



The Maryland Fishing Challenge Featuring Diamond Jim is a free, year-round tournament sponsored by the Maryland DNR Fisheries Service, recreational fishing organizations, and generous donors across the state.

The purpose of the Maryland Fishing Challenge is to showcase Maryland as a great destination for sport fishing, with affordable, accessible, diverse and high quality fishing opportunities for Maryland's residents and visitors alike, and to help increase the number of youth and families participating in the sport of fishing. Recreational fishing offers opportunities for families and individuals to spend quality time together, enjoying the wonderful aquatic natural resources which Maryland has to offer.

For more information

<http://www.dnr.state.md.us/fisheries/challenge/index.asp>



Federation of Fly Fishers

News and Items of Interest

Federation of Fly Fishers –
PO Box 1688, Livingston MT 59047
406-222-9369

Conservation News

Conservation is one of the founding principles of the Federation of Fly Fishers. Contributing over 40 years of conservation work, the Federation of Fly Fishers is proud to continue protecting our fisheries and angling opportunities for the future.

The grassroots activities done by the work of our many Clubs and Councils are the heart of our conservation efforts. River trash pick-up, stream habitat restoration or letter drives to local government officials are all examples of conservation work.

FFF Announcements

The Federation of Fly Fishers supports the rights of anglers to recreationally pursue fishing in the waters of the United States.

The U.S. Clean Water Act of 1972 establishes a policy of maintaining fishable waters. The Federation of Fly Fishers and its members wholeheartedly accept this provision and adopt the following pro-active policy in support of the Clean Water Act.

The Federation of Fly Fishers and its members shall...

- Support the Federal and State environmental agencies in their implementation and enforcement of water quality standards applicable to fish.
- Coordinate our volunteer activities and financial resources with other conservation and environmental organizations seeking to protect water quality;
- Participate in clean-up and restoration projects to build or improve fisheries;
- Encourage our members to monitor our favorite fishing streams and lakes by utilizing the appropriate tests from the FFF or other sources to measure temperatures, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, and other state and federal water quality measures to assure compliance with established standards;
- Report pollution events (oil and chemical spills, suspected polluting outfalls, violations of water quality standards, etc.) to emergency and enforcement officials.
- In appreciation of the quality resources gifted us by our forbearers; we shall leave these resources no less diminished to our children.