



The Buzz

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Volume 25, Issue 5

May 30, 2012

Richard Martin - Potomac Paddlesports

Upcoming Items

PRSC Meeting

Boat Night
June 27, 2012

PRSC Raffle

Drawing May, 2012

Potomac Riverkeeper

June, 2012

Potomac Cons.

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Potomac Paddlesports Expert To Speak in May

Richard Martin from Potomac Paddlesports will be our speaker at the meeting on May 30th. He will primarily discuss things that you should consider before purchasing a new kayak as well as water safety tips.

Richard is a native Marylander. He lives in Ellicott City with his wife and two children. Martin is a "shop survivalist," primitive skills expert, owl caretaker, hunter, play-boater, and Level 2 archery instructor. Rich does a little bit of everything, including the occasional repair or customer outfitting installation for your kayak.

In his spare time, Rich can often be found caring for a barred owl named Ranger with the Howard County Conservancy's Owl Outreach Program. He's also a primitive skills expert, which means he's the guy you hope to have around when you become stranded on an island or lost in the woods for a long period of time. Richard is also a passionate hunter and avid outdoorsman. And if that's not enough, look for Rich on the theatrical stage from time to time as well.

Potomac Paddlesports is an award-winning kayak school and a small, independent, locally owned specialty shop serving the needs of paddlers in the Washington Metropolitan area. In addition to high-quality instruction, they offer high-quality new and used kayaks for sale, as well as other kayaking gear. Their store is located in Rockville, Maryland; they give lessons in Potomac. Check out their Website at www.potomacpaddlesports.com.

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Upcoming Items

Potomac River Smallmouth Club - Boat Night

Join Us June 27th for Boat Night at Riverbend Park

Boat Night has become a Club tradition. The event typically features an example of every type of boat used for river smallmouth fishing, from jet boats to pontoons, canoes and kayaks. We are returning to [Riverbend Park](#) in Great Falls, VA, offering the opportunity to see boats closer to their natural habitat and the potential to paddle or ride in some. This is a great opportunity to see a variety of different boats, see how they are outfitted, and talk to the owners. The event will start at 6:30 and we'll be providing food, so come hungry! We are looking for volunteers to help with the food. For more information on the park, go to <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend/>.

PRSC Picture Raffle - Mark Susinno Print

As a fund raiser, PRSC is raffling off a Mark Susinno print. It was donated to the club by Garnet Kauffman. It is signed by the artist, and numbered 112/400. Tickets are \$4 per ticket, and 3 tickets for \$10. We will be selling tickets until we have the drawing at the May PRSC meeting. We will have the print at the May meeting. Here is a photo of the print.



Potomac and Shenandoah Riverkeepers

Potomac Riverkeeper Gala. June 10th, House of Sweden, Washington, DC. Our annual gathering of friends and supporters set in the spectacular House of Sweden overlooking the Potomac is our major fundraising event of the year. Planning begins now to ensure success in June.

Potomac Conservancy

National Trails Day. Saturday, June 2, 2012, 8:30am - 2:00pm. River Center at Lock 8. Celebrate National Trails Day with Potomac Conservancy and REI. Join us for a day of service and outdoor fun on this nationwide day of appreciation.

Canal Stewards at Fletcher's Cove. Sunday, June 17, 2012, 10am - 12pm. Fletcher's Cove. They will be meeting at Fletcher's Cove to clean up the picnic area and surrounding trails. This cleanup is open to all ages, and they will provide all the necessary supplies. This event is part of the National Park Service's Canal Stewards program, engaging volunteers to become long-term caretakers of a site within the C&O Canal National Historic Park.

For more information go to their website at www.potomac.org.

PRSC Updates

By Steve Moore

PRSC Gear Now Available

At the meeting this month, we will have examples of a PRSC logo'd hat and Tshirt. The logo is embroidered. Cost for each will be \$15.00. Since we have to order in bulk and in advance, we will take orders at the meeting. You must pre-pay with cash or check. The gear will be back in time for boat night and we will deliver it to you at Riverbend Park.

First Annual Fishing Contest with Richmond's Old Dominion Smallmouth Club

On June 9, we will meet with members of the Old Dominion Smallmouth Club for our first annual "fishing contest" with them. We won the right to host the inaugural year on the Potomac and will fish with them on the James next year. Depending on the inclinations of the individual participants, we will split up and some will float from the 340 bridge to the Brunswick Camp-



Examples of PRSC embroidered hats and shirts.

ground/Lander while others can go from the Brunswick Campground to Point of Rocks. The ODSC will stay at the Brunswick Campground and invited us to join them for a cookout after the float starting at 6PM. They anticipate bringing nine of their anglers to the fray and I hope we could match that number. Please register on Meetup (<http://tinyurl.com/PrscOdsc>) if you would like to participate so we can have an accurate count.

I am working with the ODSC to sort out the details of the contest and have recommended we just use our rules. Basically, each person should keep track of their five largest fish. We can assemble a "top five" for each club to determine the winner. No real prize, just bragging rights. Since this event is not part of our normal set of membership meetings, we will end up charging each participant to fund our portion of the cookout; probably around 10 bucks. Earlier, we had discussed using this event as a fundraiser for the Jackson River Defense Fund and certainly encourage people to make a donation, but it will not be a prerequisite for participation. Watch Meetup for more details and we will finalize everything at our monthly meeting.

Maryland DNR Creel Survey

Editor's Note: Herschel Finch received the following request from John Mullican at the Maryland DNR. The board has decided that we will partner with DNR to help them with this important work. More details to follow.

Hello Mr. Finch,

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Inland Fisheries Division is seeking partners to assist us with an angler creel survey on the Potomac River. Fisheries has many years of smallmouth bass population data, but we would like to improve our knowledge of angler catch and harvest rates. This data will be helpful in monitoring smallmouth population trends, harvest, and regulations.

For the pilot project this year, I hope to begin the survey in June and continue through October. For 2012, the survey area will be from the route 340 bridge downstream to the lower end of the Seneca pool at Seneca Breaks and will be divided into two sections (Rt 340 to mouth of Monocacy, mouth of Monocacy downstream to Seneca Breaks). Future surveys will run through the entire fishing season March through October and include various sections of the river.

Basically, the survey will consist of approaching boat, wading, and bank fishermen and providing them with a postage-paid survey card. At the conclusion of their fishing day, anglers will answer a few brief questions about their catch that trip and drop the card in the mail. To improve participation, each returned card will make them eligible for a chance to win cash prizes.

Because of the logistics involved with contacting boat, wading, and bank fishermen, I thought it would be most efficient to use kayaks/canoes and approach anglers during a float trip; boats can also be used if available. I need at least one trip within each river section mentioned above per month (we will also be doing this). One person or several can be involved in distributing the cards during each trip and volunteers are encouraged to fish and fill out a card at the conclusion of their trip as well.

Please let me know if the PRSC is interested in partnering with us on this project. Without partners, it would be very difficult for us to conduct such a survey given existing funding, staffing, and time constraints. As a partner, I would like to add the PRSC logo to the creel cards to recognize the clubs participation in the project. I am preparing a more detailed protocol and will e-mail if there is interest and can meet with the club to explain the project as well.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to working with the club to help manage the Potomac smallmouth fishery.

John Mullican
Maryland DNR, Fisheries Service
Large River Specialist - Inland Fisheries
Lewistown Work Center
10932 Putnam Road
Thurmont, MD 21788
301-898-5443
Cell: 301-988-0571

Help Save Belle Haven Marina

Editor's Note: We received the message below from Steve Chaconas, who has spoken to the club several times over the last few months.

I don't often get my fishing friends involved in issues, but this one is different. The biggest issue in fishing today is access! The National Park Service owns Belle Haven Marina and for those who have been there, it is obvious they have been trying to close it down for years. This is due to pressure from a bird watching group called Friends Of Dyke Marsh (FODM). They have been leaning on the NPS as well as sympathetic politicians for years to shut down the only access most have to the Potomac River. The NPS continues to throw money at two neighboring NPS facilities, Washington Sailing Marina and Columbia Island Marina...they were recently renovated from top to bottom even though they were in pristine condition compared to Belle Haven.

Belle Haven is not only direct access for boaters, canoes and kayaks, but they run one of the best sailing schools on the east coast. The location is perfect for sailing as the river is wider and the channel is far enough away to keep the sail boats out of harms way.

The NPS is opening up public comments on 4 Alternatives for restoration of the marsh. Tons of dredge were removed in the 1930s to fill the marshes to create the Pentagon and Reagan National Airport. This dredging allowed erosion to steal 270 acres from Dyke Marsh. I want to preserve the marsh. Restoration doesn't make physical or financial sense!

The Alternatives should focus on preserving what's left of the marsh with minimal restoration down the road. The alternatives other than "A" which does nothing, call for filling and choking off Belle Haven Cove and eventually the marina.

Please take a moment and read the Alternatives and MAKE A COMMENT! Spread this around and stay in touch!

To learn more about the 4 alternatives, click this link <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/document.cfm?parkID=186&projectID=20293&documentID=47011>

and download GWMP Dyke Marsh Alternative Concepts NewsletterGWMP Dyke Marsh Alternative Concepts Newsletter (1.4 MB, PDF file)

Thank you!

Steve Chaconas

Fishing Trip with Ca

By Mike Harmon

Last November, at member night, I was one of those lucky few left holding a ticket for one of the grand prizes. Mine was one of the last tickets pulled, but I still had a choice between waders or a half-day trip with Dave Schindler of Jst Fishin Guide Service on the Susquehanna. I've got waders (though they aren't fancy Simms) and life is more about experiences for me, so it was a no-brainer to snatch up that trip.

I emailed Dave the week after Thanksgiving to set up a trip for early spring. I've only been smallmouth fishing for about 4 years, and my largest fish so far has been 17 inches. My goal for this trip was to best that! Dave informed me that the Susquehanna smallmouth fishery was closed from mid-April to mid-June (something I was unaware of), but as luck would have it, I was going to be up in York, PA in late March visiting family, so we scheduled a Sunday morning to hit the river for some smallmouth action.

Now the question was who to bring along for the experience. I have two good friends that I fish with on a semi-regular basis. One of those friends was the main reason I was going on this trip to begin with. If I hadn't met Herschel at work, I would've never had my ear chewed off about the wonderful benefits of joining the Potomac River Smallmouth Club (all have been true, by the way), nor been dragged along to my first club meeting three years ago. With that consideration, oh, and the fact that my other fishing buddy was unavailable that weekend, I asked Herschel to come along on the trip.

As the trip approached, Dave decided we'd launch at the Goldsboro ramp near Three Mile Island at 6:30am. Unfortunately, as the weather forecast firmed up in the preceding days, it looked like my glorious trip on the Susquehanna would be dogged with cool temps and rain. The night before, Dave called and asked if we could push back the launch time to 9:00am to try and let the worst weather pass before getting on the river.

Herschel, Dave and I met at the Goldsboro ramp in damp, foggy, cool conditions. Thankfully, the rain had tapered to a mere drizzle. We hopped in Dave's jet boat and cruised up to the first rapid upstream. I must say that fishing with the cooling towers of TMI looming over us was a pretty unique experience! We started off throwing War Eagle spinnerbaits while drifting from the base of the rapid along the shoreline of one of the many islands that dot the Susquehanna. After 15-20 minutes, a nice 15 inch fish smacked my spinnerbait and the skunk was off... for me anyway! After about 30 more minutes without any fish, Dave decided to run further upriver, and we headed up to some ledges near Harrisburg International Airport.



The Cooling Towers of Three Mile Island



Mike with a nice Susquehanna smallie. Cpt. Dave with rod in hand.

Captain Dave Schindler

On the next drift, Dave was throwing just about every bait in the boat trying to find something that would work consistently. He finally managed to hook a couple of nice fish on a Lucky Craft Pointer 100 jerkbait. Herschel and I both kept getting light taps from fish, but getting them hooked was another matter. Finally, I felt a tap on my jerkbait and then something heavy on the end of the line. In the next half hour I managed to bring in three nice smallies in the 14-17 inch range.

As the morning progressed, the weather improved drastically. Blue sky was starting to appear between clouds, and finally, rays of sunlight started streaming down. Unfortunately, improved weather did not mean improved fishing. The fish were scarce. We headed back downstream to find some quicker water. Herschel and I went back to throwing spinnerbaits, and we actually managed a double hookup! We motored through the rapid and ended the day where we started. I started throwing the jerkbait again, and landed 2 more nice sized smallmouth. The largest was 18 inches, my new personal best. For the last excitement before heading to the ramp, I managed to hook a big smallie. Dave seemed to think it was pushing 20 inches, but halfway to the boat it shook its head and spit the jerkbait. That was disappointing, but it was an exhilarating fight while it lasted.



Mike with another nice fish.

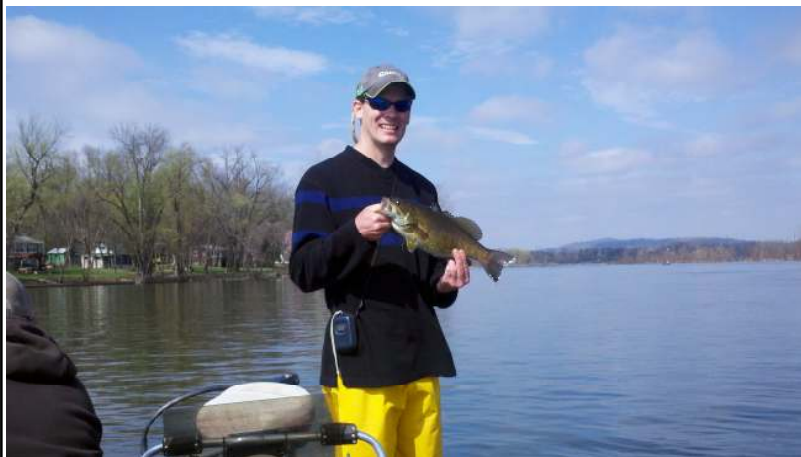
The theme for the day definitely seemed to be timid strikes with limited hookups. Herschel and I were tossing spinnerbaits, jerkbaits and the occasional tube or grub, but the fish just weren't being aggressive. The cold front that brought the cool temps and rain had really screwed up the patterns that the fish had been following in the previous week. Dave was relentless in trying to locate fish, and our half-day trip turned into almost 7 hours on the water (much to my wife's chagrin). In the end, I ended up boating seven fish, Herschel only one, but it was a great day and the weather turned beautiful in the afternoon. I know a lot of club members have been on trips with Dave, but if

you haven't and want a trip with a great guide (or want to again), give him a call at (717) 324-5769 or look him up at

www.susquehannariverfishing.com.

I talked to Dave about floating the stretch of river we fished in a kayak. Paddlers can put in at the New Market Landing in New Market, PA and float to Goldsboro Landing, which is approximately 8 miles. This stretch has lots of ledges and at least one boulder strewn riffle about a mile from the takeout.

Thank you to PRSC and Dave Schindler for the awesome trip!



Mike still catching some nice fish late in the day when the sun decided to come out.

Plagiarism is the Most Si

By George Thurston

I've been fishing Winco Custom Lure's flutter jigs for the past year. Al Winco donated some to PRSC a few years back for membership night, and I was fortunate enough to get a few. These jigs are virtually snag proof in rocky ledge-filled rivers. The only time I lose one is when the jig impales submerged wood or with an errant cast. Winco's flutter jigs are so nice, Jeff Little started making a similar one through his company Confidence Baits. Jeff markets them as a dragin' head jig. I got a sample from Jeff and figured, hey, I could make these.

These jigs are similar, but very different from the commercially marketed swim bait jigs. I believe the tapered lead by the eye of the hook make Al and Jeff's jig more snag resistant when slow dragging plastics across the bottom of the river. The commercial swim bait jigs are made by Owner, Mustad and Gamakatsu and the lead is on the shank of the hook down by the bend. Also, the lead is round with ridges that could snag. Another thing I didn't like about these manufacturer's jigs is the thick wire hook. I figured if I could find a thin wire hook, I could customize these jigs to my fishing style.

I spent a few nights researching the internet literature on molds, hooks, and hook thickness. The online DoIt catalog has a swim jig mold. It was for ice fishing, but looked very similar to the flutter & dragin' head jigs. I figured with the swim jig mold and a dremel tool I could reproduce the jig. Talked to a few of my buddies about my idea, and one had the DoIt swim jig mold, so I talked him into sending me a couple of jigs he poured. As soon as I saw my buddy's jigs, I knew I could make a jig similar to Al's and Jeff's.

The hook is a 28 degree bend hook and not many manufacturers make them. I discovered that Yamamoto contracted with Owner and they make a thin wire jig hook for swimming senkos. The Owner is an expensive hook, but it's what I wanted. Also ordered some Mustad 28d bend hooks, because not only are they cheaper than the Owners, but I believe this is the same hook that Al and Jeff pour their jigs with. The model number for the Mustad hook is 91768BLN and 5167 twistlock light worm hooks for the Owner. The Owner hook is a thinner wire than the Mustad. The other manufacturers of the 28 degree bend hooks use a very thick wire. The reason I like the thinner hooks, is I believe they penetrate the fish's mouth better.

After getting the mold, I had to drill out the hook eye section and the bottom part of the mold where the shaft of the hook sits on the 1/8, 1/4 and 3/8 oz molds. The pour cone on the 3/8 oz also had to be cut out at the bottom to get a complete pour.



Here are the results before painting.

Before cutting the mold, I placed the hook in the mold so that it could be completely covered by lead. Then I marked what I needed to cut in the mold with a Sharpie and slowly took off the aluminum with a carbide pencil-tool dremel bit. The dremel was set to its highest speed. You have to cut carefully, because the carbide tip will cut aluminum like butter. Work slowly and follow the lines marked by the Sharpie. If you cut too much, you can always repair the mold with JB

incere Form of Flattery

Weld. Then I blackened the inside of the mold with a candle. In order to get a good pour, the mold and lead have to be very hot. In the colder months, I've even heated up the hooks in a toaster oven to get a complete pour.

To paint them, hold the eye of the hook in an old set of hemostats so you get no paint in the eye. Next heat the jig over an alcohol Bunsen burner and coat with powder paint. Then clean out any residual paint in the eye. A lot is going on in the eye with the hitch hiker screw-in lock and the line, so you want it as paint-free as you can get it. Lastly, bake the jig in a dedicated toaster oven at 350 degrees Fahrenheit for 20 minutes to cure the powder paint. You want a dedicated toaster oven because you do not want lead fumes mixed with your morning toast.

After painting, I'll add the hitch hiker to screw on the soft plastic. The jigs are labor intensive to clean make, but well worth it.



I can fish all day with one and not lose it. I rig these jigs on small swim baits, paddle tail grubs, stick baits and even a tubes. Here are some of the results of the jigs in action.

Here is what one looks like finished.



Here are examples of the awesome fish George has caught with this rig.



PRSC On the Water

By: Jamie Gold

Members of PRSC have been busy this past month catching and photographing some awesome fish. Enjoy, and feel free to submit pictures of fish that you've caught for next month's Buzz.

22" 5lbs. Upper Potomac River Smallmouth Beast.



Larry DiJoseph. Photo by John Hayes.

26" 5lbs. Upper Potomac River Walleye.



Larry DiJoseph. Photo by John Hayes.

19" Potomac River Smallmouth.



Fish caught and photographed by Bob Ward.

3 ft. Shenandoah Musky. That's a 5" jerkbait in its mouth.



Fish caught and photographed by Jamie Gold.

Nice Healthy Potomac River Smallmouth.



Fish Caught and Photographed by George Thurston.

Great catch. A Potomac River Spring Shad..



Maria Schaupp. Photo by Chris Schaupp.

Potomac River Spring Smallmouth.



Mark Myers. Photo by Jamie Gold.



Lisa Schaupp. Photo by Chris Schaupp.

That's a rather large Potomac River snake on that rock.



Photo by George Thurston.

Largemouth Bass...Almost as Big as She is.



Sara Schaupp. Photo by Chris Schaupp.

A Day in Paradise

By Mike McCarthy

There is a verse from a church hymn that captures my experience this past weekend to a “T”.

The verse is as follows: **“In the wilderness you will find your heart.....and He will speak”**

My wife Janet bought me a Christmas gift from Harry Murray’s fly fishing shop in Edinburg VA, a full-day guided fly fishing trip for native brook trout in the Shenandoah National Forest. I booked the trip for March 31st.

On Saturday, I met my guide in Sperryville VA and we made our way over to the area known as the Piney Branch Wilderness Area. I was fortunate enough to have a guide by the name of CT Campbell. He worked as a Shenandoah National Park Ranger for 36 years, with 22 of those years managing the wilderness trails of the Park. Interesting to note that in the designated wilderness areas, no machinery is permitted. When a huge tree falls on the trail, the rangers have to cut it by hand (no chain saws).

CT was a walking encyclopedia. Some of you don’t recognize the term encyclopedia so call him a walking Google Search relating to the Shenandoah Park. About half way through the day I asked him what “CT” stood for. He said *Childs Thomas*.....I thought ...*I can’t even get away from Childs in the middle of the forest* – just kidding Eileen and seeing if you are reading this..... now back to the story.

CT and I hiked past the crumbling remains of settler homes and retaining walls made of stone at the turn of the century. The Park was actually bought from individual homesteaders who grew crops and raised cattle until ~1938 when the Park was established. We talked about environmental and social issues facing the forest today such as acid rain and different things impacting entire tree species. He was quick to point out things in the forest that I would have easily missed (I would have walked right by them). These included signs of deer, bear and wild turkey (not the drink).

And yes, we also found the time to fish. Fly fishing in a small stream was very challenging. The challenge was not only selecting the correct fly but also getting in the right location to present the fly. Getting to the right location included sliding down rock ledges, climbing under or over fallen trees and walking through moving water on moss-covered rocks.

There were a few “missteps” over the course of the day and I remember distinctly uttering, at least a few times, *“Well that is going to leave a mark”* and *“That’s going to hurt more tomorrow”*.

The day was full of history from start to finish and the fishing actually picked up in the afternoon as both the sun and temperature improved. There were insect hatches happening in great abundance in the afternoon, encouraging the trout to look up for insects hatching.

We covered approximately 5 miles that day, including 2.5 miles of stream and then 2.5 miles of return hiking trail. In all that “mileage” I only saw two bottle caps, no other sign of humans all day... really cool!

As you can see, the fish were very small but very colorful.



Conservation Corner

By Herschel Finch

Just a couple of weeks ago there was a rather serious tractor-trailer accident up in West Virginia on a 2 lane highway between PawPaw and Winchester, VA. The local truckers know this route as “going through the woods”. It’s very scenic, a lot of curves and twists, uphill and down, but it’s a quick route to get you to Paw Paw, Cumberland, and on up to Parkersburg, Wheeling and into central Ohio. It saves them time (money) and miles (more money) and gets them to their turn-around point sooner, which gets them back in time to sometimes run another short trip if they still have the hours left (even more money). The reason I know more about the trucking industry than your average Conservation Chairman is because my wife manages a trucking firm’s office.

This particular incident involved one of their trucks and was probably the single worst accident that they’ve had since my wife began working there in 1993. The truck left the roadway, went over a guard rail and sheared off trees about 15-20 feet above the ground on its way down into a 120 foot ravine. The cab was literally ripped off the chassis and ended up a pile of shredded fiberglass. The chassis is now basically scrap metal, and so is the trailer. The load, thankfully, was blocks of raw synthetic rubber bound for a Dow Chemical plant in Parkersburg, WVA. The driver, miraculously, needed just a few stitches in his ears, broke his wrist, and cut a tendon that required some surgery to reattach and is in a neck brace for about another 4 weeks or so. That’s it. That man must be living right.

So what does this have to do with conservation of our rivers? Lots as it turn out.

One of the fuel tanks ruptured spilling 150 gallons of diesel fuel into that ravine...and at the bottom of that ravine? You guessed it, a stream that feeds eventually into the northern reaches of the Upper Potomac. The other tank was leaking but was quickly sealed by the local Fire Department HazMat team before it could dispense its contents as well. EPA was on site before lunchtime and the cleanup was started before nightfall. In this case, they were able to isolate the fuel that was running downstream with a porous, desiccant “sausage” dam in the stream itself, to contain the physical spill and soak up part of the fuel that made its way into the stream. Later on, they moved pumps into place that started sucking up water from the stream and filtered it, removing more fuel before returning the water to the stream below the containment area.

But that’s not the end of it. Obviously, some of the fuel soaked into the ground before it got to the stream. Federal clean water regs require that that soil be removed and either cleaned or replaced. Not sure what’s being done about the soil, but I do know that now 2 weeks after incident, the cleanup is still ongoing and when all is said and done, this small operation is going to cost my wife’s company somewhere in the neighborhood of \$30,000. The cleanup up work itself is being done by a local HazMat remediation company that specializes in cleaning this kind of spill under the supervision and guidelines of the EPA. The EPA inspector comes out about every other day or so to check the progress and make sure everything is being done according to EPA guidelines. When all is finished to the best of the company’s ability, the soil and water will be tested to ensure that the contents of both meet the requirements of the EPA.

I hear a lot of people talk about deregulation these days, talk about how small businesses are drowning under reams of rules and regulations, especially EPA regulations that’s hurting their business. But I sure don’t want to think about there not being an EPA around to enforce our environmental laws and regulations. At one time this country treated her waterways as free sewer lines. I remember the days when you couldn’t even touch the water in the Potomac River, God forbid if you would actually EAT a fish out of it. That is...if you could even find one to catch. The Shenandoah River of the mid 70s, held mostly 8-12 inch Largemouth, a few scrawny Smallies, Carp, and 12 inch mud cats, and not a lot else. No, personally speaking, I kinda like the fact there’s an EPA around.

And speaking of small business, that Hazmat remediation company I spoke earlier about, they seem to be actually thriving because the EPA is around keeping an eye on our streams and waterways and helping to keep them clean. I wonder how many of these businesses and their employees would be out of a job if there was no EPA around making their kind of business necessary? Something to think about anyway.

PRSC

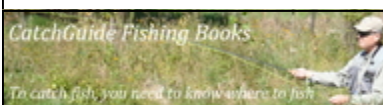
**P.O. Box 1240
Vienna, VA 22183**



Big Time BBQ (Scott Cocherell)

WALT'S POPPERS

Handmade Virginia Popping Bugs



PRSC would like to thank the following for contributing to Member Night and being friends of PRSC.



PRSC Wishes to Thank our Recent Speakers

August 2011 - Beau Beasley, www.beaubeasely.com

September 2011 - Walt Cary of Walt's Poppers

October 2011 - Capt. Steve Chaconas, www.nationalbass.com/steve.htm

January 2012 - Brent Walls, Upper Potomac River Manager

February 2012 - William Heresniak, www.easterntrophies.com

April 2012 - Capt. Steve Chaconas

2012 Contest Results

May 2012 Report By Wallace Harvey

Is our spring rush over? We had lots of new entrants last month, but almost no new one's this month. Mike Harmon had a good day with a 79-inch total for his best five on Section 1. This includes a best fish of 18.5". All were on plastics with a nice variety of plastics. He says he used Jacks Worm in watermelon/red flake for the large one. He also used a green/pumpkin with gold flake, Salty Shad in pearl and one in salt & pepper. All plastics were rigged weightless. Thanks to Mike for the great report!

Any one else been out there? I have not heard. We have had some good weather. Are we just waiting for the real summer weather to get here? I know I am a fair weather fisherman, but there are lots of you that have enjoyed the early spring warmth. Have we had a sudden lull of people wanting to wet a line? I bet not! It is just that you are not reporting and catching. Even if you don't raise the bar, there are others that want to know what is happening out there.

I plan to join the group of fishermen that will tackle the Shenandoah on the 26th of May. It appears we have a rather large group going. I am hopeful that someone, perhaps myself included, will catch the big one of the year. If we don't go we can't catch fish. A final word urging everyone to call Jack Cook at 703-573-4403 or email me at wwharvey@comcast.net with your catch. We look forward to hearing from you.

2012 Results

Section 1, Biggest Fish: Jeff Kelble, 21"

Section 1, Best 5 Fish: Mike Harmon, 79"

Section 2, Biggest Fish: Erica Kelble, 19"

Section 2, Best 5 Fish: Randy Chandler, 81.5"

Section 3, Biggest Fish: Bill Pearl, 20"

Section 3, Best 5 Fish: Bill Pearl, 86.5"

Largest on Fly:

New Member:

William Schriver Award:

Grover Cleveland Award:

The Potomac River Smallmouth Club was founded in 1988 as a non-profit recreational club in accordance with IRS section 501(c)(7). Dues are \$35/year. Monthly meetings are held at 7:30 PM on the last Wednesday of each month (except December) at the Vienna Volunteer Firehouse. Club by-laws and member rosters are published once a year and available during meetings or upon request. The Club newsletter, "The Buzz", is emailed to all members prior to each month's meeting and is available at local fishing/tackle shops. Articles, photographs and general information relating to smallmouth bass fishing are solicited. The Buzz reserves the right to edit all materials submitted for publication. Observations, conclusions and opinions expressed in The Buzz are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the club, its officers, or the editor. All materials submitted become the property of the club. Every effort will be made to return photographs at the monthly meetings, however the printing process occasionally results in the destruction of a photograph. Send copies and make sure YOU have the negative.