

January 2020 Newsletter

The Tight Loop

www.flyfishersinternational.org



ANTIETAM FLY ANGLERS
<https://www.afa-md.org/>

a charter club of the Fly Fishers International



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Antietam Fly Anglers

Meeting Minutes 11/21/19

Attendance

Attendance was taken; 7 members were in attendance.

Meeting Minutes

Ken summarized the October 17 Meeting Minutes. Minutes were approved without objection by voice vote.

Financial Report

Walt reported on the current finances. The current balance is \$1909.23.

Fly Casters' Rendezvous:

Rendezvous date has been established as April 25, 2020. Bob has reserved the River Bottom Park for that date.

Conservation:

The November 2, 2019 Beaver Creek Riparian Maintenance Day was a successful day with 5 AFA members participating.

Program Ideas:

November 21 AFA Meeting Guest Speaker:

James Harris from the Beaver Creek Fly Shop gave an excellent presentation on Tenkara Fly Fishing. James provided instruction on how to setup a Tenkara rod and demonstrated casting techniques. He showed us examples of reverse hackle flies used in Tenkara fishing. He advised that the system is deadly on small streams where there is room overhead.

Penn's Creek Wade Fishing will be scheduled for May 19, 20 and 21; two nights and three days. Mike Saylor, Bill Ruland, Ken Oldham, Dave Hellane and Walt Lachenmayr will be participating. All AFA members and potential participants must advise Bill Ruland of interest or changes so details can be finalized with the Feathered Hook Bed and Breakfast. Membership in Fly Fishers International (FFI)/ Antietam Fly Anglers (AFA) is required to participate in AFA functions.

Adopt-a-Highway Program

Bill advised that he would like AFA to adopt a one mile section of MD 66 adjacent to the Beaver Creek Fly Shop. AFA's name would be posted as the sponsor on an Adopt-a-Highway Sign posted at both ends of the adopted section. The measure was put forward for discussion and vote. Concerns were raised about the long term responsibility and effort required for a small group of people. Safety was also a concern. Walt made motion to approve the program, Scott second the motion and the motion was approved by voice vote, no objections and two abstentions.

Program Ideas:

Annual Montana Spirit Lodge Fishing

There has been insufficient interest in the 2020 Montana fishing trip; trip has been cancelled.

Other Program Ideas

Bill advised that we need other program ideas for the January and future meetings. If we don't have a program, we may cancel the January meeting.

Fund Raiser/Bamboo Fly Rods Renovation

Bill has arranged for two bamboo fly rods to be renovated and offered for fund raising purposes. One rod will be raffled in 2020 and the other will be raffled in 2021. FFI will provide a \$75 dollar credit toward the purchase of an Orvis Battenkill Click-and-Pawl Reel and Beaver Creek Fly Shop offered to provide a fly line. Scott advised that he needs a detailed description of the rod, reel and line to be included on the raffle tickets. Walt made a motion to purchase reel, Dave seconded the motion and the purchase was unanimously approved by voice vote.

AFA Trifold Development

It has been suggested that AFA needs a trifold pamphlet so we have something available to give out at AFA functions and display at local fly shops; all in an effort to get the word out about the club. Dave has agreed to develop a draft for our review.



Saturday 1/11/2020

written by Dave Hellane

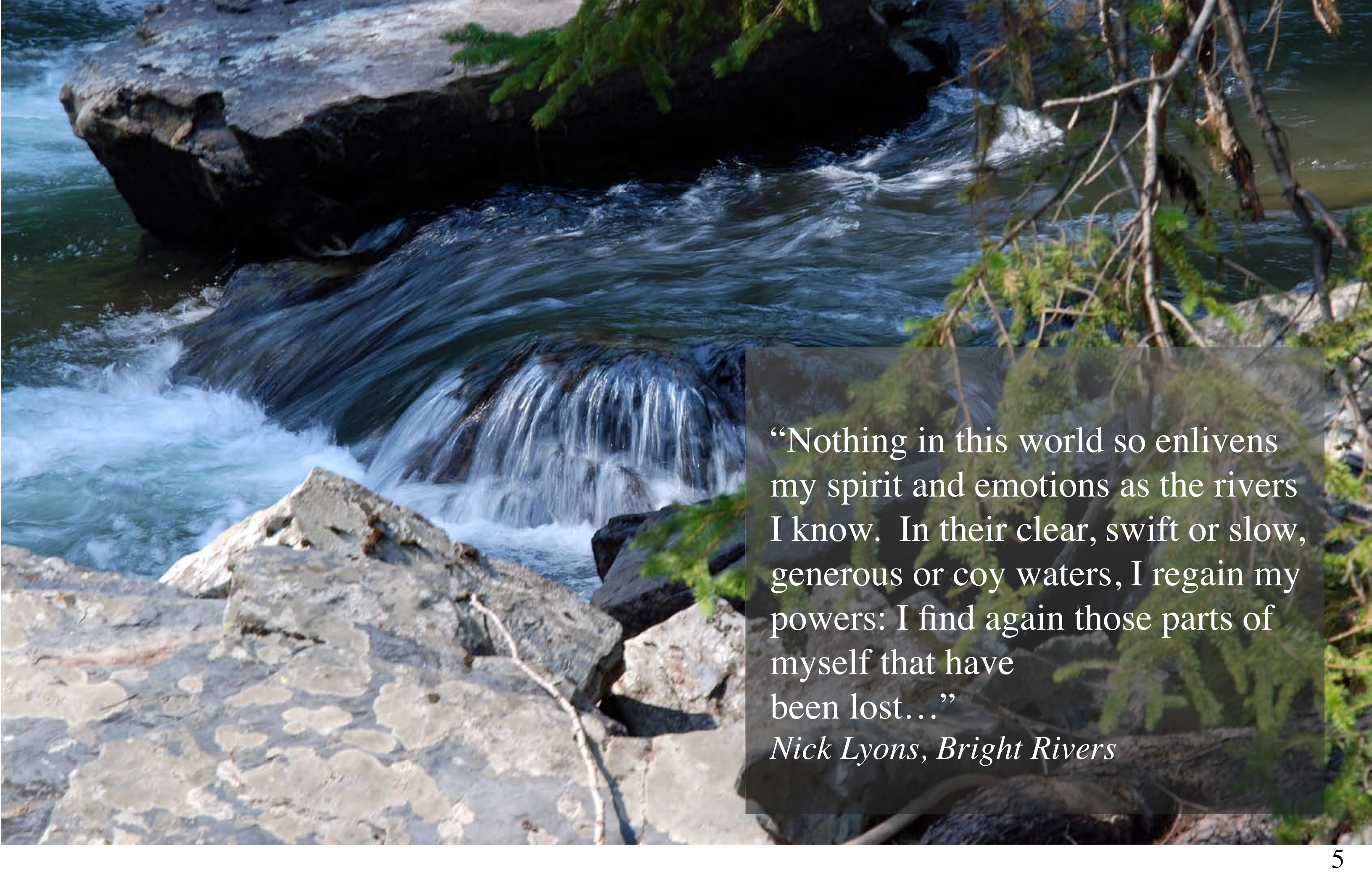
After meeting for breakfast Bill, Ned, Walt, Darren and myself met at Cunningham Falls. I thought I would try fishing with my Tenkara rod, its my first time out with this rod and I found the rod to be very easy to use. Its quick to setup and break down to 18" for traveling through the brush, I went with a single tenkara fly, not much luck with my single Tenkara fly fishing skills, but I was quiet happy with the accuracy and the joy of placing the fly at difficult spots on the stream without getting hung up.

"The Key to fishing in the winter are Midge flies. Let's be honest: midge fishing is tough. Imaginary tippet and nearly invisible flies make setting a hook without breaking off difficult, and that's before you come to the fight! Many anglers swear midge fishing off entirely as "too difficult," preferring to swing Woolly Buggers." – Zach Matthews

Down stream Darren hook a nice brown with what else a (red zebra midge) size 18. I didn't walk away feeling frustrated, if anything, why not merge Japanese Tenkara and Euro Nymphing together, it would make fishing in tight over hanging foliage a joy. Like anything else "You got to get your feet wet."



Darren's propitious brown trout



“Nothing in this world so enlivens my spirit and emotions as the rivers I know. In their clear, swift or slow, generous or coy waters, I regain my powers: I find again those parts of myself that have been lost...”

Nick Lyons, Bright Rivers

January 16, 2020 Meeting

Noel Gollehon and **Doug Hutzell** are going to present tail water fishing on the San Juan River in New Mexico. They will show locations along the river to wade fish and what tackle to use. They will have flies and leader materials for fishing small flies. Also, they will discuss the time of the year to fish, due to dam water releases and weather.





AFA information:

Next AFA Meeting

Mt. Aetna Retreat/Nature Center 7:00 PM.

Mt. Aetna is located off I 70 at Exit 35.

Take Route 66 N and then Right on Mt. Aetna Road.

Address is 21905 Mt. Aetna Road

Calendar:

January 24 to 26, 2020 –Fly Fishing Show, Edison, NJ, .

March 7 & 8, 2020 –Fly Fishing Show, Lancaster, PA, .

March 14th –Maryland Fly Fishing Show and Collectible Tackle Show, Towson, MD, .

For the February or March meeting, we are trying to get someone from the Great Feathers fly shop to talk about fishing on the Gunpowder. See the next newsletter for more details.

Spring 2020—start benthic sampling

April, 25th– **Annual Fly Casters Rendezvous**

May 18 through 21 2020—**trip to Penn's Creek Club members notify Bill to let him know if they plan to come and which days.**

June, 27th–AFA picnic

Shawnee State Park trip this summer

July, Potomac float trip?

AFA information:

Just a reminder.

Bob Davis organizes the Bob Abraham Fly Casting Club every Saturday at River Bottom Park at 9 a.m., weather and other fishing plans notwithstanding.

We typically go to breakfast beforehand at 7:45 a.m. at the Farmers' Market in Hagerstown, Come join us. All you might lose is your tailing loops!

Scott Robinson is the contact for the fly tyers' roundtable and beginners' fly tying instruction. Come to the meeting, meet Scott, and arrange for some fly tying instruction!

Don't forget to support your local fly shops:

Beaver Creek Fly Shop 301-393-9090

Hunting Creek Outfitters 301-668-4333

White Fly Outfitters 304-876-8030

There has been a change in the Potomac River gauge. See the following for more information:

<https://www.weather.gov/lwx//PotomacWilliamsport>

<https://water.weather.gov/ahps2/hydrograph.php?wfo=lwx&gage=pdfm2>

