

November 2020 Newsletter

The Tight Loop

www.flyfishersinternational.org



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

a charter club of the Fly Fishers International

photo credit: David Hellane



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Antietam Fly Anglers
Meeting Minutes
10/14/20

Attendance

Attendance was taken; 9 members were in attendance and 1 guest. (Bill Ruland, Dave Hellane, Pat Brezler, Frank Morrissey, Ken Oldham, Ned Strange, John Hersey, Chris Appleman, Doug Hutzell and guest speaker, Susan Simonson).

Financial Report

Walt Lackenmayr, Treasurer (not present at the meeting) distributed the 10.5.20 Financial Report via e-mail. The balance remains unchanged from the previous September report with a balance of \$1093.03.

Antietam Conococheague Watershed Association Presentation (ACWA) Susan Simonson with support of Doug Hutzell, gave a presentation on ACWA's stream temperature monitoring during July and August of 2020. Temperature loggers were placed in Little Beaver Creek, Black Rock Creek, Beaver Creek, Mt Aetna Creek and Little Antietam Creek. Other surveys have been taken including benthic sampling, water chemistry analysis and ambient air temperatures. This is all part of a Citizens Science project that document and support decisions made regarding water quality in the watershed. Stream improvement projects can be supported with scientific data. The take away information is that trout thrive in temperatures that do not to exceed 20 degrees Celsius (68 F). On sections of Beaver Creek and the other streams where summer temps exceed 20 C, there is an absence of tree cover. Trees are needed to shade streams to mitigate high summer temperatures. ACWA is looking for opportunities to plant trees along streams in the watershed.

Promoting Antietam Fly Anglers

At the September meeting, Ned Strange took on the task of developing a document (proposed trifold) that promotes the club. Ned with the support of others developed a draft document for review that was met with general approval. Our guest speaker, Susan Simonson, had some worthwhile suggestions such as not to list details of events and people that can change making the document obsolete. Trifolds can be expensive to print so you want to make the document to last. Another suggestion was to consider a rack card in lieu of a trifold. Another suggestion was to ask the question what are we trying to accomplish? That would be to get the information out there that we exist and the benefits membership could bring to them. Perhaps a condensed version of the document we have could be printed as a rack card. The concept seemed to meet with general approval.

Post Office Expenses

Bill Ruland looked into the cost of a P.O. box at the Williamsport P.O. and the price is nearly the same as we currently paying. No savings there.

November Meeting

We will move to a Zoom meeting and hope to have Matt from the Feathered Hook give a presentation. Bill Ruland suggested a practice run to work out the bugs prior to the meeting.

Beaver Creek Cleanup Day November 7, 2020

Doug Hutzell advised that a Beaver Creek Cleanup day is scheduled for November 7 of this year. Bring tools such as wire cutters, pruners, loppers, and gloves. Lunch will be provided. Doug is to provide details including meeting time and location.



Antietam Fly Anglers

Calendar:

November 19—Penns creek presentation by The Feathered Hook fly shop. It will be a Zoom meeting. Details on how to view the meeting will be sent on Wednesday, November 18th.

December 17—No meeting

Calendar:

January 21— Meeting

February 18— Meeting

March 6-7—Lancaster Fly Fishing Show <https://fly-fishingshow.com/lancaster-pa/>

March 13—Maryland Fly Fishing and Collectible Show <https://marylandflyfishingshow.com/>

March 18— Meeting

April 15—No meeting due to Rendezvous

April 24—Rendezvous (tentative)

May 20— Meeting

June 17—Fishing at Mt. Aetna pond



"Small Stream Review"

This is my first book review for the newsletter. I plan on reviewing a fly fishing book, DVD, or website each issue. If you would like to submit a review or suggest a review, please let me know.

Book: Orvis Guide to Better Fly Casting, a Problem-Solving Approach, by Al Kyte. Copyright 2008.

https://www.amazon.com/Orvis-Guide-Better-Casting-Problem-Solving/dp/1592288707/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=Orvis+guide+to+better+fly+casting&qid=1605297517&sr=8-1

Author: Al Kyte, in the early 1990's, was among the first group of instructors to organize and oversee the national fly casting instructor's certification program for the then Federation of Fly Fishers. He has taught fly fishing and casting for over 60 years.

Target Audience: This book, as explained in the preface, is for folks that already know what a casting loop is and regards themselves already as fly anglers.

General Approach: He uses pictures, diagrams, and accompanying descriptions to help the casters diagnose their own problems by adjusting four variables: speed, stoke length, angular rotation, and up/down tilt. The book is broken up in three parts: Better Basic Cast, Better Distance Cast, and Better Problem Solving. He also differentiates between casting styles and casting principles, which, more recently, has been championed by Lefty Kreh and Ed Jaworowski in their recent TFO DVD. Yes, I know that it can be difficult to teach yourself fly casting but this book will give you the principles that you can use either by yourself or with an instructor.

Personal Reaction: This book was given to me by my mentor, Bob Stouffer, on St. Patrick's Day, 2012, three years before I became a certified casting instructor. Bob's comment in the book was, "The reading of this small book, its principles and application, can be both life changing and seminal." I couldn't say it any better. This book has been foundational for me as a fly fisherman and fly casting instructor and it means the world to me that Bob gave it to me. The satisfaction I receive from a well-executed cast by either myself or one of my students continues to enthrall me unabated since that day over eight years ago.

photo credit: *David Hellane*



“...spending more time with my fly firmly attached to the branches of trees and almost none of it attached to the lips of a trout.”

—*Tom Sutcliffe, M.D., Reflections on Fishing (1990)*

AFA information:

Just a reminder.

**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

AFA is on facebook

