



The BUZZ

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March 30, 2016

Potomac Riverkeeper To Speak at April Meeting

Upcoming Items

Snakehead Fishing Derby
May 21, 2016

PRSC Meeting
May 25, 2016

Kayak Demo Day
June 11, 2016



Dean Naujoks, who joined the Potomac Riverkeeper Network in 2015 as the Potomac Riverkeeper, will speak to the April 27 meeting of the Potomac River Smallmouth Club.

Dean has over 20 years of environmental non-profit experience. He began his non-profit career in 1991 with the North Carolina Wildlife Federation. After graduating from North Carolina State University with a self-created degree in Environmental Policy and Sustainable Development, he was hired as the first Upper Neuse Riverkeeper, serving from 2001 to 2008. He became the first Riverkeeper on the Yadkin River with Yadkin Riverkeeper, Inc. in 2008, also serving as Executive Director until 2014.

Dean was awarded River Network's 2009 National River Heroes Award. River Network's River Heroes Award celebrates rivers and those who protect them by recognizing victories and honoring those who provide leadership and inspiration along the way. Yadkin Riverkeeper also won the 2011 North Carolina Wildlife Federation Governor's Achievement Award Water Conservation Organization of the Year.

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Commenting on his work, Dean said: "Clean water is a fundamental human right. The greatest legacy we can leave for our children is access to clean water. Safe-guarding the Nation's River, which provides drinking water to approximately 7 million people, is a serious responsibility."

As the Potomac Riverkeeper, Dean is responsible for watching the issues of the Potomac River from Harpers Ferry to Point Lookout. He considers the biggest issues are nutrient pollution, agricultural runoff, storm water runoff, and sewage overflows, primarily from old sewage plants in Washington, D.C.

According to Dean, the biggest problem of the future is coal ash pollution, largely from Dominion Power holding facilities at Possum Point on Quantico Creek, a tributary to the Potomac, and at Bremo on the James River, among other places. Dean, the Potomac Riverkeeper Network, and several other environmental organizations are doing their best to ensure that more untreated coal ash waste is not dumped into the Nation's River. This waste will only further damage the Potomac and the Chesapeake Bay.

At our April meeting, Dean will discuss these and other issues regarding the condition of the Potomac River, our club's namesake, as well as inform of us additional ways we can help protect the river for future generations. Hope you can join us, as this should prove to be a very informative meeting.

| Club Executive Board | Upcoming Items |
|---|----------------|
| President Steve Kimm president@prsc.org | |
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Join us Wednesday, May 25th for our monthly meeting. Our speaker will be David Hu, National Fisheries Biologist for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). 7:30-9:00 PM at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean, VA—Stedman Room.

Fishing Derby To Focus on Snakeheads. A “Stop the Snakehead” Fishing Derby set for May 21 will lure anglers to the C&O Canal’s Pennyfield Lock with raffles and prizes. The aim of the derby is to raise awareness about snakeheads while providing biologists with information about this non-native’s impact on existing fish populations. For more information, go to <http://dnr2.maryland.gov/fisheries/Pages/snakehead-derby.aspx>.

Appomattox River Company will hold a “Demo Day” event on June 11th. The Demo Day will take place at its 614 North Main Street, Farmville, Virginia store location. If you are looking for a new kayak or canoe, this is a great opportunity to test paddle many of the models they carry. ARC also has store locations in Ashland, VA and Hampton, VA. Check out their website: <http://www.paddleva.com/>

PRSC on the Water



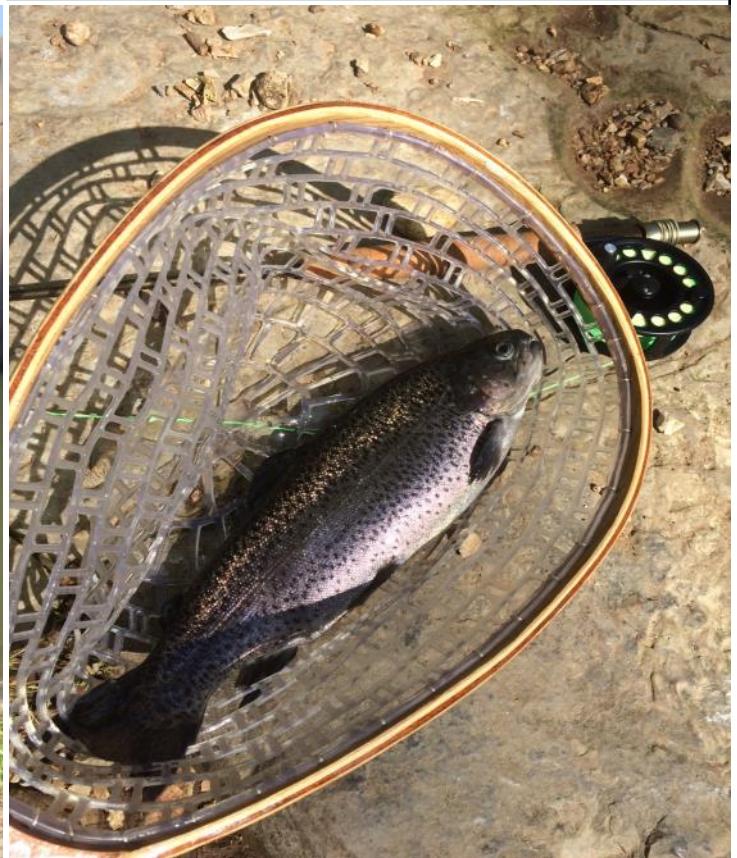
Max Shaupp with his first fish of 2016 , caught while fishing with his Dad, Chris Shaupp, near Fletcher's Cove.



Julia Odelgova, the Shaupp's Au Pair with the first fish she's ever caught!



Marty Burkard with a nice 5-pound largemouth that he caught in Arlington's Four Mile Run.

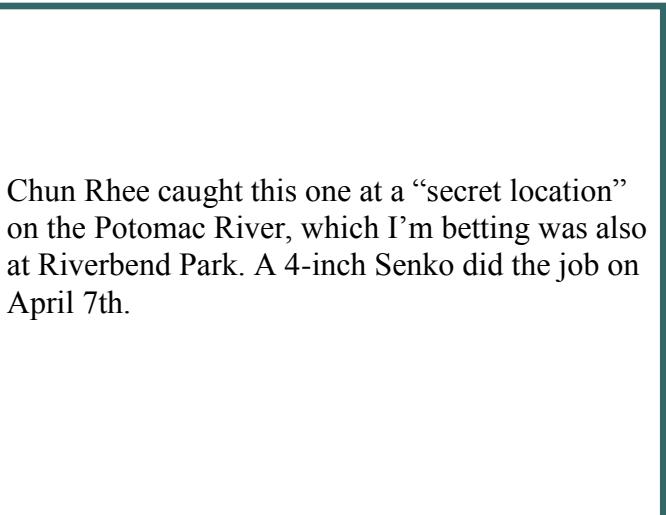


15-inch rainbow caught by Rick Mrstik at Roaring River State Park in Missouri. First fish he caught on a streamer!

PRSC on the Water



PRSC member Chun Rhee has been getting in plenty of fishing lately, as evidenced by the nice smallmouth bass pictured on this page. At left is an 18-inch 4-pound female that was nearly ready to spawn when caught on 4-inch Senko on March 30th at Riverbend Park.



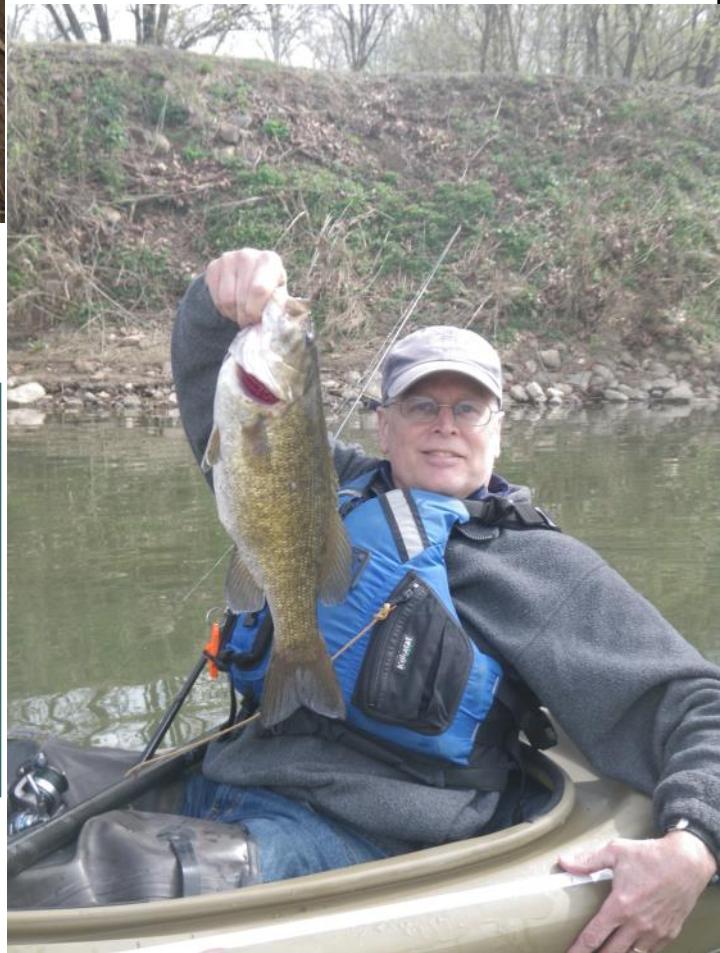
On April 22nd at Riverbend Park, Chun Rhee tallied a five-fish total of 71.25 inches, including this 17.75-inch beauty. Tubes and Yamamoto Hula Grubs made up his successful arsenal that day.

PRSC on the Water



Jed Woodill commented on the picture at left, "I spent 10 hours over two days fishing for shad at Fletcher's. Both days from the shore. And this time I figured it out. I hooked 32 fish and landed 22 of them on a variety of shad darts and a red and white Mackerel jig."

Randy Chandler caught this 20-inch bruiser on April 2nd while fishing on the Shenandoah River with George Thurston.



Bruce Ingram Offers To Lead Float Trips

By Bill Amshey

PRSC friend and noted outdoor sports writer Bruce Ingram will speak to the Club at our July 27 meeting. Bruce plans to talk about underutilized float trips on the South Branch and Upper Potomac, detailing his 10 favorite unknown trips in this region. He has also made an offer to the Club membership that I think is simply fantastic. Depending on the membership's response, Bruce has offered to lead one, two, or even three trips on the Upper Potomac. Please let me know your thoughts at future meetings, or drop me an email.

Float Trip Possibility I: Paw Paw to Bonds Landing (13 1/2 miles) and Bonds Landing to Little Orleans (8 1/2 miles). Pros: The first float, in Bruce's opinion, is the most beautiful on the Potomac Main Stem, lightly fished and isolated. Fishing should be great. The second float is very good, too. Class I rapids are the max on the entire junket. This is a true "bucket list" excursion. Cons: There is no place to camp until after Trestle 5 and mile 9 on the Paw Paw trip. This would be a long two-day trip of 22 miles, but, perhaps, it could be a 3-day one. This trip possibility would be the farthest for members to travel and shuttle time would be long. A West Virginia license is required.



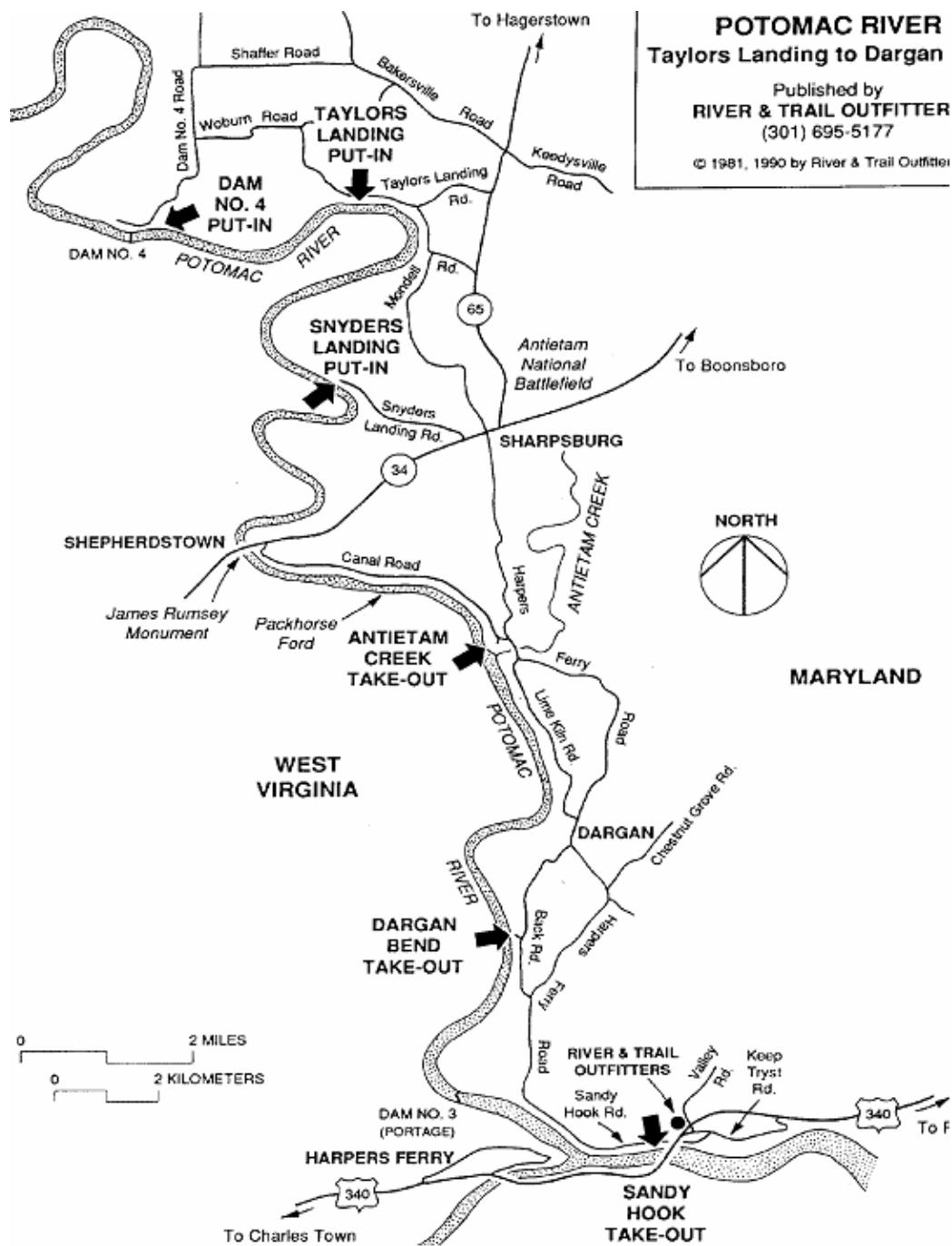
Float Trip Possibility II: Taylors Landing to Snyders Landing (4.5 miles) and Snyders Landing to Shepherdstown (4 miles) and Shepherdstown to Dargan Bend (8 miles). Pros: Bruce has taken these first two trips many, many times, and he loves them both, especially the Taylors Landing one. He doesn't think he has ever taken the Taylors Landing float without catching "good" fish. There are no serious rapids. It is much closer for members to travel, much shorter shuttle time, and plenty of places to camp. This is a very manageable 2-day float. Cons: More heavily fished but not terribly so. A West Virginia license is needed. The end of the Shepherdstown float is dead, slow water.

Bruce Ingram Offers To Lead Float Trips

Continued

Float Trip Possibility III. A one-day trip from Taylors Landing to Shepherdstown on Thursday, July 28.

Pros: Manageable day-trip, good fishing, no camping gear needed, easy shuttle. Cons: A West Virginia license is needed.



Float Trip Possibility IV: No organized club float trip. Just a few folks decide to go fishing on Wednesday or Thursday, July 27 or 28.

Conservation Corner

By Herschel Finch

I'm writing this on Earth Day, and as usual, my Facebook page is filled up with tributes to mother earth and folks touting their plans to celebrate the day. There were all the usual ideas: plant a tree, go on a litter pickup, walk or bike or use public transportation to get to work instead of driving an individual auto, etc. Given my cynical nature I had to wonder how many were truly doing something or did they believe posting something on FB was enough. Was this more "arm-chair patriotism" as all the folks who post "Support Our Troops!!" memes on their FB page or sport the yellow ribbon magnets on their cars and think they really did something? But when someone asks if they'll stuff care packages or help out at a Heroes on the Water event . . . they suddenly have a prior engagement.

Here at PRSC, we've had our own programs come and go as interest peaks and wanes. Many of us participate in river and stream cleanups, or clean up landings with other organizations, as in my case with the Izaak Walton League out in Warren Co. If you haven't noticed lately, Karo Landing is looking pretty much trash and garbage free thanks to a couple of "IKEs" who live close by and clean up about every two weeks. We also clean up Happy Creek four times a year where it flows through Front Royal, and we adopted Browntown Road some 20 years ago, all 11 miles of it, where it runs from Rte 340 just in front of the new high school to the gates of the chapter park.

Since our own landing cleaning parties have waned and the "Sandford Cup" award has been on hiatus, I've been looking for something to boost our conservation karma in the PRSC . . . and I think I may have found it.

Recently, I've learned about a program similar to the Adopt a Highway program that involves the rivers of our state. And of course, the Shenandoah River has numerous sections up for grabs from groups who would like to take the job of helping to keep it clean. I don't have all the particulars yet, but when I do, I'll pitch it at a club meeting. The Shenandoah Riverkeeper is actively helping to find these groups and has adopted Lupton's landing to Burnshire Dam on the North Fork as their particular section. I think our club is uniquely suited to do this job because of our experience on the water, and most of us having boats to do the job.

My idea for doing this:

We'll need folks who own canoes to serve as the 'trucks,' to carry most of the trash we remove from the river as we move along. Folks in kayaks will ferry back and forth across the river looking for trash and removing it as it's feasible, and I can't emphasize this enough: **safe to do so** and then swing by the canoes as you need to unload, because the canoes have the room to carry the trash. We're going to need some long poles and few boat-hooks to snag stuff on the bottom, like trash bags, old lawn chairs etc. One item that's makes an awesome trash pickup device is those long handled "grabbers" that seniors and short folks use to grab stuff off the higher shelves in the kitchen. We use them on the road pickup Sundays for the Izaak Walton League. Really saves the back. Not everyone will have all the tools they'll need to get stuff out of the water, so we all need to break out those old 2-way communicators we all used to carry so when we find something we can't reach or handle solo, we can get on the horn to each other to get help, or borrow the proper device to get it up and out of the water. I'm willing to foot the bill for the contractor bags we'll need to bag this stuff up and I'll transport it to the Warren Co. Transfer station.

I'm going to be gauging interest in doing this for the next couple of meetings. I definitely want to hear from those folks who own canoes and are willing to serve as "trash boats." And I definitely want to hear from everyone in the club who might be interested in doing this. Come talk to me.



Potomac RiverKeeper Network Program Director Alan Lehman serves as the "truck" for a cleanup on the North Fork of the Shenandoah River near Woodstock. *Northern Virginia Daily* photo.

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Rebel's First Rainbow by Rick Mrstik

My wife Amy and I spent the past week in Missouri visiting with my family and with my daughter's family, who live a short distance away in Arkansas. One of the great joys of this time away from Northern Virginia is spending time fishing on my home waters of Table Rock Lake and Roaring River. Dad and I usually spend four or five days fishing, and Amy usually joins us on at least one of those days.

This year, however, I took a big step toward turning my 9-year-old grandson Rebel into a fishing buddy for life. We did the usual blue-gill fishing from our dock, and Rebel was thrilled to catch them. But he was dying to go with me and Dad to Roaring River for trout. Once there, he hooked his first fish within minutes but fought it like a bass and lost it quickly. I urged him to be very gentle with the next one he hooked and let me net it. Here's the proud result! He went on to catch two more that day before we had to leave.



2016 Fishing Contest

Report by Jack Cook

I have nothing new to report since last month. At least part of the problem is weather related.

Still nothing reported in Section I, fly fishing, and new member categories. I remind new comers that if you joined at the Member Night in November of 2013 or later, you are still eligible for the new member category.

Get out there and go fishing!

- Jack

If you have entries to report for the 2016 contest, please contact Jack Cook.

For contest rules and information, visit
<http://www.prsc.org/fishing-contest/>

Entries Thus Far

Section 1, Biggest Fish:

Section 1, Best 5 Fish:

Section 2, Biggest Fish:

Section 2, Best 5 Fish:

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----|
| Section 3, Biggest Fish: | Jack Cook | 20" |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----|

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------|-------|
| Section 3, Best 5 Fish: | Bill Pearl | 85.5" |
|-------------------------|------------|-------|

Largest on Fly:

Best 5 Fish on Fly:

New Member:

Grover Cleveland Contest:

William Shriver 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 \$40/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.