



# The Buzz

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January 31, 2018

# Shenandoah Riverkeeper!

## Upcoming Events

**Great American Outdoor Show**  
February 3-11, 2018

**Rapidan Trout Unlimited Show**  
February 17, 2018

**PRSC Meeting**  
February 28, 2018

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Our featured speaker for January 2018 is Mark Frondorf, the official Shenandoah Riverkeeper. He will be speaking to us about the state of the Shenandoah River, an update on the EPA lawsuit (of which PRSC is a co-plaintiff), efforts to address excessive nutrients entering the Shenandoah, the DuPont mercury settlement, and attempts to stop the Atlantic Coast Pipeline.

Mark joined Potomac Riverkeeper Network in 2015. Having guided on the Shenandoah and Potomac for almost 20 years, Mark Frondorf comes to the Shenandoah Riverkeeper position used to hard work and recognizing the importance of a hands-on approach to protecting our rivers. His passion for the water, combined with his people and analytical skills, honed over 25 years as a think tank senior policy analyst tackling some of the most vexing issues facing our nation, make him ideally suited to defend the Shenandoah against pollution, protect our right to clean water, and promote the recreational use of this beautiful river. Mark was the principal investigator and author of a government study that examined the ocean dumping of U.S. chemical weapons and explored the full-range of issues, challenges, and potential solutions to this complex problem.



As a former president of the Potomac River Smallmouth Club (early 1990s), he successfully lobbied both Virginia and Maryland officials to implement and expand catch and release regulations and he was instrumental in getting the federal government to revise the Code of Federal Regulations to permit wade fishing on portions of the Potomac. Mark also served on the Board of Directors for the Mid-Atlantic Federation of Fly Fishers. He holds an M.A. from the George Washington University Elliott School of International Affairs.

Please join us and learn more about issues that pertain to our local waterways.

## Club Executive Board

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#### Past President

Steve Moore

# Upcoming Events

Join us Wednesday, February 28th, for our monthly meeting. 7:30-9:00 PM at the Vienna Firehouse, 400 Center St. S, Vienna, VA 22180.

**Volunteers Needed**—Our club will have a table on **17 February** at the Rapidan Trout Unlimited Fishing Show. If you can help man the table, please speak with Jamie Gold or Steve Kimm at our next meeting.



**KEEP THE SEASON ALIVE**

**NRA GREAT AMERICAN OUTDOOR SHOW**

PRESENTED BY: **MOTV** MYOUTDOORTV

Cabela's **RAM**

**FEB. 3-11, 2018**

PA FARM SHOW COMPLEX | HARRISBURG, PA

[GreatAmericanOutdoorShow.org](http://GreatAmericanOutdoorShow.org)

The Great American Outdoor Show is a nine-day event in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania that celebrates hunting, fishing, and outdoor traditions treasured by millions of Americans and their families.

# Upcoming Events

## RAPIDAN TROUT UNLIMITED 29TH ANNUAL FISHING SHOW

Saturday February 17, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Sponsored by : Rapidan Chapter Trout Unlimited (WWW.RAPIDANTU.ORG)

Highland School,  
597 Broadview Ave,  
Warrenton, VA 20186



Admission:  
Adults \$5.00  
Children under 12—Free  
Credit cards accepted

Featuring Vendors Offering Modern & Antique Fishing Tackle, Guided Trips, Flies, Hackle, Outdoor Accessories, Art, Seminars, Fishing Equipment, Fishing Services, Beginner / Advanced Fly Tying

**HOURLY DOOR PRIZES, BUCKET RAFFLES, PREMIUM ROD RAFFLE AND MONTANA / YELLOWSTONE TRIP RAFFLE.**

Raffle drawings will start at 3:30 PM

For more information and speaker schedule:  
<http://www.rapidantu.org/>  
Chuck Hoysa choysa1@comcast.net

### 2017 Premium Rod Raffle Prizes

1. Custom Cane Rod-Blue Ridge Classic--7', 4wt, 2pc, 2 tips (CBogart)
2. Phillipson Vintage Bamboo Peerless Rod--7' 6", 5wt, 2pc, 2 tips(MMcCaffrey)
3. Tenkara Iwana 12' Outfit(TenkaraUSA)
4. Orvis Clearwater Rod--9', 5wt, 4pc(MossyCreekFF)
5. Box of 100 Custom Flies(AHolmaas)

<p><b>1 Week in Yellowstone</b> For 2 people <small>Subject to availability. (See back)</small></p> <p>Airfare Rental Car Lodging--7 Days/6 Nights Flies Permits</p> <p>\$25 per Ticket <small>(only 300 tickets sold)</small></p>	<p><b>Rapidan Chapter</b> Virginia Council of Trout Unlimited Drawing 2/17/2018</p>
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To purchase a Montana raffle ticket send a check payable to Rapidan TU for \$25 per ticket to: Doug Farmer, 5231 Swain Dr., Warrenton, VA 20187

Please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.



# Thank You Sponsors

The Potomac River Smallmouth Club would like to extend our warmest thanks to our 2017 sponsors and friends.



Dan Grulke – Custom Rod Builder – [Musky13@Yahoo.com](mailto:Musky13@Yahoo.com)

Captain Brady Bounds Guide Service – [CaptainBradyBounds@gmail.com](mailto:CaptainBradyBounds@gmail.com)

Walt Carey – Walt's Poppers

Capt. Charles Wright – <https://www.evergladestours.com/>



Bruce Ingram – Outdoor Writer/Photographer

<https://sites.google.com/site/bruceingramoutdoors/>

Steve Chaconas – National Bass Guide Service

<http://www.nationalbass.com/>



<http://www.bigmooksbbq.com/index.html>

# Conservation Corner

By Herschel Finch

So I'm sitting here on Saturday and feeling mondo sorry for myself with a big pile of drugs, a pounding headache, and a cough that feels like I'm trying to expel a lung. Yes the creeping crud going around can knock down even the heartiest of DoahRats. The worst part of it all is, there's a brand-new float down at the beginning of the mainstem at the new Morgan's Ford Bridge and the inaugural 4.5-mile float down to the new ramp off Howellsville road is under way as I type this. I am just in no shape to participate right now. But I suspect I'll be getting updates as the day wears on. \*IF\* I make the meeting Wednesday night, I'll let you know how they did. Jury is still out on whether I will be at the meeting right now. I surely don't want be labeled the club's Typhoid Mary.

This is the time of year I start looking at long range forecasts, looking for those sharp multiday warmups that bring heavy downpours and runoff into our rivers. And those who've been club members for a while know what that means. Warm rains and daytime rises in temps that don't go back down at night allow algae, bacterial and viral blooms that cause issues with our beloved smallmouth. The virus and bacteria attack our smallmouth right before they're trying to get their immune systems ramped up to handle them as Spring spawn is approaching. Now this scenario does not have a scientific stamp of approval on it, but this has been the pattern I have seen just about every year we've had a die off; Heavy warm front that moderates both daytime AND nighttime temperatures so the water holds the warmth and a heavy rain accompanying the front adding the food that the viruses and bacteria need to thrive. Keep a watch on those forecasts coming out of NOAA and the USGS so we can react with personal observations and photos if need be.

I'll take it easy on you folks this week. Mark Forndorf is going to give you a full dose of the Riverkeeper/environmental stuff on Wednesday night. Somebody eat a chili cheese dawg at the Vienna Inn for me if I don't make it.

# PRSC Fishing Contest Explained

By Rick Mrstik

It's a question even veteran PRSC members ask: Where do Sections 1, 2, and 3 begin and end? Here's everything you ever wanted to know about the PRSC Fishing Contest but didn't know where to look.

- **Section 1:** All water above Harper's Ferry on the Potomac, all of the North and South Forks of the Shenandoah, and all tributaries flowing into these waters.
- **Section 2:** Main Stem of the Shenandoah and the Potomac from Harper's Ferry to the Mouth of the Monocacy, and all tributaries flowing into these waters. The Monocacy is included in this section.
- **Section 3:** The Potomac River below the Mouth of the Monocacy, and all tributaries.



Prizes are awarded for each of the three sections for the following:

- **Best 5 Fish** (total length)
- **Largest Fish** (based on length)

In addition, several highly coveted awards are also presented.

- **Grover Cleveland Award:** Overall largest fish from any section
- **William Shriver Award:** Highest cumulative total for all three sections
- **New Member Award:** The largest fish caught by a new member in any section
- **Largest Fish on a Fly:** Largest fish caught in any section
- **Best 5 Fish on a Fly:** Caught on a single trip in any of the sections

**PRSC**  
**P.O. Box 685**  
**Vienna, VA 22183**

I managed to get out fishing on Saturday, January 20th and catch seven keeper-size largemouth on the tidal Potomac, but not without having to break some ice! As you can see, the ramp at Leesylvania Park and a fair amount the route to my fishing hole still had ice, despite the warming trend that preceded my trip.



## 2017 Fishing Contest

### Fishing Contest

The 2017 Fishing Contest has concluded. Take a moment to congratulate the winners next time you see them.

Visit our contest page to check out the complete rules or to submit an entry for the 2018 contest that is now under way. <http://prsc.org/fishing-contest/>

### 2017 Winners

<b>Section 1, Biggest Fish:</b>	George Moran	21"
<b>Section 1, Best 5 Fish:</b>	Marcel Courtillet	79.5"
<b>Section 2, Biggest Fish:</b>	Rick Mrstik	18"
<b>Section 2, Best 5 Fish:</b>	Rick Mrstik	82"
<b>Section 3, Biggest Fish:</b>	Ernie Rojas	21.5"
<b>Section 3, Best 5 Fish:</b>	Chun Rhee	86"
<b>Largest on Fly:</b>	Jamie Gold	15"
<b>Best 5 Fish on Fly:</b>	No Report	
<b>New Member Big Fish:</b>	Marcel Courtillet	18.5"
<b>New Member Best 5:</b>	Marcel Courtillet	79.5"

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, Virginia Fire Station. 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. 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.