



The Buzz

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Capt. Steve Chaconas

Upcoming Events

PRSC Meeting
October 17, 2018

Lake Fairfax Veterans Family Trout Derby
November 3, 2018

In This Issue

UPCOMING P. 2

PRSC ON THE WATER P. 3

PRSC SPEAKERS SHARE TIPS P. 4

CANADIAN SMALLIES P. 6

FISHING CONTEST P. 6

This month Capt. Steve Chaconas will talk about the different characteristics of fishing line. He will define applications of mono, fluorocarbon, and braid with various lures under varying conditions.

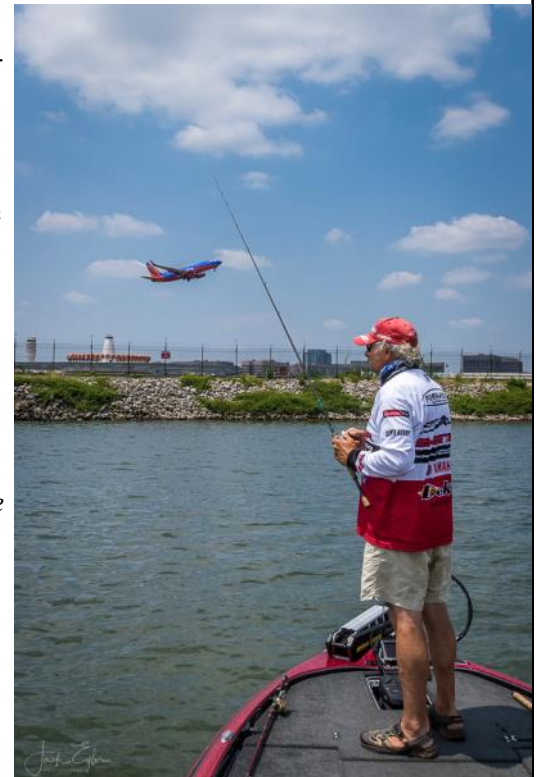
Capt. Steve Chaconas provides clients with guided fishing trips for largemouth bass and northern snakeheads on the historic and scenic Potomac River. He is a former radio and TV talk show host, who has been fishing on the Potomac since the mid 1960s. He writes for several publications covering pro bass tournament trails for radio and newspapers.

Capt. Steve Chaconas brings 25 years of bass fishing experience on the Potomac River to columns featured in: *Sportsman's Magazine*, *Woods & Waters*, and *The Old Town Crier*. He has also written for the *BoatUS Angler Tacklebox*, *BoatUS Trailering Magazine*, *Free Lance Star* newspaper, *The Mount Vernon Gazette*, *The Mount Vernon Voice*, *The American Sportfishing Association* and many others. Steve also hosted the National Bass Fishing Radio Show. In addition, "Capt. Steve" is featured as the BoatUS.com and monkeysee.com fishing experts. His reports and commentaries appear on line: bassfan.com, wfls.com, potomacbass.com, bass-nedge.com, ultimatebassin.com and others.

A U.S. Coast Guard Captain, licensed by the Potomac River Fisheries Commission and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Steve has the opportunity to fish with anglers of all skill levels, including some of the biggest names in pro bass fishing.

Steve's been featured in local and national newspapers, magazines and on TV and radio: *BASSMASTERS*, *BASS TIMES*, *BASSIN' Magazine*, *Field & Stream*, *BoatUS Magazine*, *The Washington Post*, *The Washington Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *National Geographic*, ESPN and others. He's been emcee of the St. Jude Children's Hospital Tournament the past 25 years; a member of BoatUS Speakers Bureau; the Southeastern Outdoor Press Association; and a member of the American Sportfishing Association.

Check out his Website at www.nationalbass.com for more information on fishing with Capt Chaconas.



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Upcoming Events

Join us Wednesday, October 17th, for our monthly meeting. PRSC member Leon Kates will talk about his trips to Lake Beauchene, Quebec Province, Canada. He will discuss logistics, techniques, and lures and display numerous pictures on the 50,000-acre private reserve that contains 40 lakes and seven fish species. 7:30-9:00 PM at the Vienna Firehouse, 400 Center St. S, Vienna, VA 22180.



Open to wounded, injured, and ill from all campaigns

November 3, 2018

1400 Lake Fairfax Drive
 Reston, VA, 20190

Family Fishing: 9am - 1pm

Trout Fishing
 Fishing Instructions

All Equipment Supplied!

Awards Luncheon 1-3pm

Prizes
 Raffles
 Comradery

Lunch is Provided



POC:
 Ernie Rojas
 203-912-2173
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For more information, Wounded Hero sign up, volunteer, donate or sponsor visit
www.fishingcommunity.org/events/lftd2018

PRSC on the Water



On September 8th PRSC members met up at Lander to float to Point of Rocks. The original plan called for starting at Brunswick, but the weather forecast suggested ending earlier might be wise. It was the fifth attempt at this float since early June; high river levels nixed all previous plans. The water was a bit pushy but looked good. With Steve maneuvering the raft, Ernie quickly got the skunk off, and Steve soon followed. Ernie's 18-incher blasted a Sammy knockoff while Steve's 17-incher put up a great fight. Clyde got a 20" catfish and took a nice swim at the takeout. Terry caught 16 fish, including a 13" and 14". Bernie caught nine fish, including an 18-incher. The group was lucky to get the half-day float in before the next monsoon hit.



PRSC Speakers Share Tips

By Bill Amshey

We were lucky to have **Capt. Dave Kerrigan** speak to us in January 2005. Dave started guiding the Mid-Atlantic region in 1998 for Life Outdoors Unlimited, probably better recognized as Ken Penrod's guide service. He focuses on the Potomac River, both tidal and upper portions, and the Susquehanna River near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Dave grew up fishing these waters and has extensive knowledge of the many great fishing opportunities. I was able to contact Dave and update his story.

Dave is licensed by the US Coast Guard for charter service and also belongs to many outdoor associations. He is a member of Under Armour ProStaff, Navico/Lowrance ProStaff, Power Pole ProStaff, and Pure Fishing Select Angler Team. His guide vessels include a Ranger Z21, Sea Ark ProJet 20, and a Parker 2520 XLD Sport Cabin, which he uses to pursue offshore and inshore species like tuna, mahi, marlin, shark, bluefish, flounder, rockfish, and tilefish out of Ocean City, Maryland.

One of Captain Dave's favorite guide trips is the "D.C. Slam." This outing includes great sights along with great fishing! While surrounded by the majesty and history of our nation's capital his clients will attempt to catch "The Slam," which consists of a smallmouth, largemouth, rockfish, and catfish. And if the day is right and luck is with you, your grand slam could include a walleye and even the toothy northern snakehead.

On that night in January 2005, Dave said his favorite fishing river is the Susquehanna and that he likes to fish out of the Riverfront Campground. He urged us not to fish with light tackle, noting that while it is fun to fish light, it stresses the fish too much. He uses medium to heavy weight rods with 8-pound or heavier line.

In the winter when the water temperature is in the 35-degree to 39-degree zone, fish the banks where the water will tend to be a little warmer. When the temp is in the 40s, he recommended fishing mid-river structure that provides current breaks. When there is a warming trend, he suggested fishing moving water, and still water in a cooling trend. In cold water situations, Dave uses suspending jerkbaits and tubes. When temps get to 50, he will start using spring and summer patterns. He said that the spawn will usually start when the water temp hits 58 degrees; usually in March. This, he said, is when you will catch the biggest fish of the year.

Dave said he likes Mizmo and Campground Special tubes in green pumpkin and the Penrod Series colors. He believes in dipping them, just a touch, in fluorescent green or orange Spike It in gamefish or crawfish flavors. He uses smelly jelly on the lead jig head, which makes it easier to get the jig into the tube and leaches out well. Dave prefers to use 1/8-ounce jigs with 2/0 or 3/0 hooks, preferably Owner or GMC hooks, with a weed guard. If it is windy or in periods of higher water flows he will use 1/4-ounce



PRSC Speakers Share Tips

Continued

jigs for better casting control and contact with the bottom. In recent years Dave has gone almost exclusively to the smaller 2.75" "teaser" tube. In cold weather conditions, Dave throws mini-tubes in black with red or blue flake VERY slowly crawling them on the BOTTOM! Other lures that Dave likes include Big Mouth Spinnerbaits and Big Shakeys, squarebill crankbaits and Case Magic Stix.

Dave said he uses Ardent rods and spinning reels. He does not like using baitcasters for river small-mouth fishing unless the angler is extremely skilled with them. And no braid!! – it does not stretch and is merciless on rods and hands when trying to get a snag loose!!

Dave explained that water levels also are important. He likes fishing the Susky when the Harrisburg gauge registers 5 to 7 feet, hitting the obvious eddies and the slipstream near pools, which is where the ambush point is. He said that when the gauge reads 8 to 10 feet, the fishing is "pretty hairy," but some good bank eddy's can be the ticket where groups of fish have gathered to "ride out" the flood. Anything over 10 feet is dangerous and not recommended for all but the most experienced boaters.

Back in March I wrote about **Ed Keller**, who spoke to the club back in September 2003. Well, my high school buddy, Bill Rogers, and I got to fish with Ed on 28 August. We put in at Clemson Island and fished that area of the Susky above Harrisburg. It was a pretty tough day because the river was still a bit high and dirty because of all the rain we have had this summer. There was also a water treatment plant overflow that may have contributed to the slow day. And after the fog burned off—burned in the literal sense—the temperature spiked to 96 degrees.

I was lucky enough to catch the biggest Smallie at 18 inches, and I also played with a couple of bigger brutes that spit the lure at the side of the boat. But even though we had a slow day, it was better than a good day in the office.

I took my wife, Bonnie, on this expedition. To make up for staying in a motel near the put-in that many of you probably know, the day before we fished I took her to a nearby vineyard, which I will call the Purple Sign Vineyard, where they had some rather good wines, particularly the whites. The Gruner Vetliner, which I became familiar with when I lived in Austria for 3 years, was outstanding.

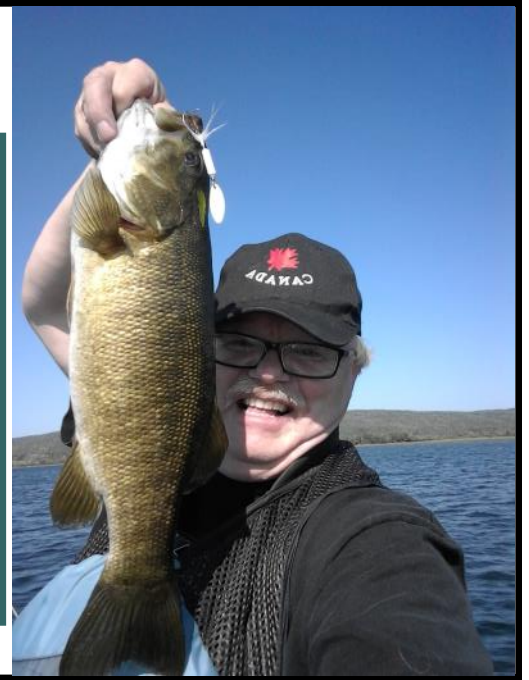


After we fished, instead of driving back, I took Bonnie to the Allenberry Resort, which is near Carlisle and is located on the Yellow Breaches Creek, which I learned is a very big deal if you are a trout fisherman. The rooms are spacious and inexpensive, and the \$50.00 discount for dinner was quite generous. And most important, Bonnie was happy that she didn't have to listen to 18-wheelers speeding by all night on Rt 15. Consider the Allenberry if you feel like treating your wife or girlfriend.

PRSC
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Former PRSC member **Jed Woodill** sent in this picture of **his personal best smallmouth**. He caught the 18-incher a few days ago on his home lake in Nova Scotia. Congratulations Jed!

He included the following details: “When I set the hook the reel broke away from the rod. It had been broken before when I fell climbing over riprap and I thought I had fixed it. So I had a fish on the hook and the reel spinning wildly around the deck as line was being stripped off of it. I drop the rod and hand-lined the fish to the boat, cutting my finger in the process. Once at the boat, I managed to net her despite the uncontrolled rod flopping about just above the fish. Other similar-sized smallies were trying to take the lure out of her mouth all the way to the boat. If I had three hands, I could have netted another one.”



2018 Fishing Contest

Fishing Contest

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

2018 Reports

Section 1, Biggest Fish:	Jamie Gold	20"
Section 1, Best 5 Fish:	Jamie Gold	80"
Section 2, Biggest Fish:	No Report	
Section 2, Best 5 Fish:	No Report	
Section 3, Biggest Fish:	Bill Pearl	20"
Section 3, Best 5 Fish:	Bill Pearl	91.5"
Largest on Fly:	Jamie Gold	15"
Best 5 Fish on Fly:	No Report	
New Member Big Fish:	No Report	
New Member Best 5:	No Report	

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.