



THE SINGING REEL

Jeff Kelble Shenandoah River Keeper

Thursday November 21 2013
Cocktails: 6:00PM

Salisbury Country Club
Dinner: 7:00PM



Potomac Riverkeeper, Inc. is home to two Riverkeeper programs: one for the Potomac River and one for the Shenandoah River. The Shenandoah River is the largest river that flows into the Potomac River. Shenandoah Riverkeeper uses community action and enforcement to protect and restore water quality in the Shenandoah Valley for people, fish, and aquatic life.

Jeff Kelble, the Shenandoah Riverkeeper, patrols the water, educates the community, and advocates for a healthier Shenandoah River. Jeff knows how an unhealthy river can hurt the local economy and the health of the local residents. In 2005, after fish kills ruined his fishing guide business, Jeff closed his 6-year old business and joined up with Potomac Riverkeeper Ed Merrifield.

Jeff's job is to investigate pollution in the Shenandoah and start a dialogue with the polluters. If the polluters do not listen, or do not stop polluting, Jeff is ready to use the citizen suit provisions of the Clean Water Act, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, and other environmental laws. Contact Jeff to learn more!

Special Afternoon Session
Mobjack Bay Capt. Ed Lawrence
5:00pm-6:00pm at the Salisbury Club

NEXT MEETING: January 25 2014 ANNUAL BANQUET

WWW.FLYFISHERSOFVA.ORG

VOL XXXI No 6 November 2013

Letter from the President

I was greatly saddened to receive the news that FFV charter member **Alan Hoover** passed away October 30th. It was a great honor for me, on behalf of the FFV Board, at our last annual Banquet to recognize Alan for his many years of dedicated service to the Club by making him an Honorary Club Member. I met Alan over 40 years ago when my desire to learn the art of fly fishing for trout lead me to the Va. Capital Chapter TU. It was there in 1972 that I had the pleasure and good fortune to meet, be taught by, and become friends with Alan- a Master of the Art of Fly Fishing in its truest sense. One of the very first lessons I learned from Alan was that catching big fish is nice, but much greater pleasures comes from the places and people you fish with. In 1982 when FFV was formed, Alan continued sharing his knowledge and expertise of fly fishing by teaching many of the club's very first classes and programs on fly fishing and fly tying, a practice that he never stopped. Alan's willingness to teach, serve and giveback to others was never more obvious than in his desire to be a part of Project Healing Waters and his dedication to the women and men in the program. Many of us enjoyed the pleasure of Alan's company while carpooling to and from many FFV and PHW functions. You quickly learned to know Alan for the gentleman he was and of his pride in his country, his love for his family, his church, and that he was truly a master so many more things than fly fishing. Many members were probable unaware of the seriousness of his medical condition for the past several years because of his upbeat and positive attitude and his continued participation during this time. Alan's zest for and determination to live his life to fullest is an inspiration to us all. I, like so many others will miss Alan greatly. I will never fish with Alan again, but I can truly say that he will always fish with me, like so many others, who shared their skills and knowledge which build the foundation from which I fish.

Please take note that your Annual Dues for Club Membership renewal for 2014 were due November 1st. Please contact Membership VP Ed Landry, at (804) 364-8124 or ed.landry@verizon.net, if you did not receive your annual renewal and dues notice. Annual Dues must be received by December 1st for your membership to be renewed for 2014.

I am once again inviting you to join me and follow members in attending **OUR CLUBS** meeting this month on November 21th. **Shenandoah River Keeper Jeff Kelble** will be our evening speaker and we will have an afternoon program on Mobjack Bay Speckled Trout fishing with Capt. Ed Lawrence. Preparations are underway for our 2014 Annual Banquet on January 25 with guest speaker Kelly Galloup.

Fall is a great and beautiful time to trout fish on our mountain streams. Please consider adding some blaze orange to your fishing attire as you will also be sharing the woods with many hunters at this time.

Fish Safely,
Steve Lewis

2



THE FLY FISHERS OF VIRGINIA IS DEDICATED TO THE
PROMOTION OF FLY FISHING, SPORTSMANSHIP,
CONSERVATION, AND THE ENJOYMENT OF ANGLING.

"The Singing Reel" is produced by the **Fly Fishers of Virginia** for its members and friends of the organization. "The Singing Reel" welcomes articles, news items, photos, and other items that may be of interest to club members. Items may be sent by email to rtphotography@comcast.net or they may be mailed to: Editor, "The Singing Reel," P.O. Box 9311, Richmond, VA 23227.

2014 Meetings

January 25 Annual Banquet Kelly Galloup

March 20 New River Brett Stoudenmire
Afternoon Program Upper James River Andrew Fenstermaker

May 15 Rod Building Rick Pope
Afternoon Casting Rodeo with Greentop Sporting Goods

July 17 Rivers of Virginia Bruce Ingram
Afternoon Program Warmwater Fishing

September 18 Fishing Virginia Saltwater Mike Buss
Afternoon Program Flies of the Virginia Coastal Fly Anglers

November 20 Conservation Program TBA

**If there is a Speaker that you would like to have at a meeting
please just let someone on the Board of Directors know.**

UPCOMING FISHING OPPORTUNITIES

Contact Dave McMahon at (804) 358-2290

The trips for the 2014 fishing seasons are in the scheduling stage. We are always looking for new adventures to pursue and different places to explore. If you have a trip you would like to lead please contact Dave. Get more involved with the FFV and go fishing more often.

Special Raffle

To be drawn at the November Meeting
Do not need to be present to win

Musky Fishing Trip

Hosted by Mossy Creek Fly Fishing
Fly or Conventional Tackle
****All Tackle, Flies/Lures, Lunch Included****
One or Two Anglers



Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

_____ Tickets @ \$10.00 each Total: \$ _____

Mail this form to:

FFV PO Box 29477 Richmond, VA 23242

“Bucket Raffle” planned for Annual Banquet

The raffle table at this years' Annual Banquet will have a different look as a “bucket raffle” is planned. Here's how it works: the table will have fewer but higher valued items. Each item will have a bucket associated with it. When you purchase your raffle tickets, you decide which prizes you want to go after by depositing the ticket in the respective bucket. You can spread your tickets around or put them all in one bucket to increase your chances. The winning tickets will be drawn at the end of the evening's program.

In addition, there will be a table of silent auction items available to the highest bidders and a raffle for the night's big prize. Your raffle dollars go to support FFV's conservation and education missions. Thank you for your support.

For Sale

Seamaster Fly Reel

**Contact FFV Member George Crosby
(804) 795-2026**

5

Special Afternoon Session

Thursday November 21 5:00-6:00PM

Capt Ed Lawrence

Fly Fishing Mobjack Bay

*****Everyone attending the afternoon session will receive a ticket for drawing of one dozen Clouser Minnows tied by Capt Tommy Mattioli*****

HIGH STICK



Bill Heindl
Bonefish Marquesas

6

WE WANT YOUR PHOTOS

"The Singing Reel" is always looking for photos of members with their catch. Deliver photos to:

MAIL: PO Box 29477, Richmond, Va. 23242

EMAIL: rtphotography@comcast.net

Back Creek





Oak Orchard 2013

The Twelve Pound Brown Trout Club



**Tom
Mlot
&
Ronnie
Sides**



**Rob
Thomas
&
David
Piotrowski**



Oak Orchard Trip Report From The “Newbie”

The annual Oak Orchard club trip left Sunday @ 0500, 10/20/13. We met at Rob Thomas' house. The trip leader, Robert Thomas, is veteran of the Oak going back to 1991. other FFV members included Steve Lewis, Billy Pearsall, Larry Baron, Tom Mlot, David Piotrowski, and Dave McMahon, all veterans of the Oak., and me, the "NEWBIE", Russ Handy. Before we left Richmond I had been officially christened the "NEWBIE" and on the drive up to Albion, NY I learned of the multiple initiation events to come. FFV member Ronnie Sides, his son Craig, and VAC Member Lynn Spurlin were to meet us there.

We crammed everything into Steve's van and Dave's jeep. The weather was great, bright and sunny. The companionship made the drive fly by. We got a tour of just about every Sheetz station en route, apparently a Steve Lewis tradition. On arrival in Albion the traditions continued with the trip to captain's Cove to get the NY fishing license followed by a quick trip down to the river to savor the river at last light and the upcoming challenges of fishing the Oak for the next 5 days.

As we drove back to our “rough” quarters at Tillman's Historic Village Inn Mother Nature treated us to a great sunset, ending a great day. Fishing the Oak is like a tale of two cities, with the Village Inn providing all the comforts of a fancy civilized family vacation. The rooms were great, with private bath, hot showers, clean sheets and linen daily, TV, and happy hour was that was unencumbered by no further driving once we got back to the Inn. The food was great, inexpensive, with huge portions. We made group reservations each night and the staff did a great job accommodating our party.

I was amazed when walking into the dining room; it was packed like there was a convention going on. It was like this every night. This little restaurant, in the middle of nowhere, had patrons from about a 50 mile radius. I was surprised when our crew entered the restaurant and my fishing buddies were off in different directions, hugging the waitresses, and joking with the owner and hostess like a family reunion. As the week went on it was like seeing old friends with the bantering going back and forth. As you would expect being the Virginia gentlemen we are, we never got thrown out, although it was threatened a couple of times. The dinner conversation was lively every night and enjoyed by all. Near the end of the week the hostess asked everybody how the trip was going and Billy summed it up well "we must be doing well since we are all still speaking to each other".

We were up each morning with waders on and ready to go before sunrise. We spent the day at the "St Marys Archers Club" which in spite of the name it ain't no towel club. It provides the essentials: cheap parking, hot food(\$5/bfast,\$7/lunch), a comfortable cabin heated with a wood stove with a great view of the river and best of all, flush toilets.

The river is a tailwater with spawning King Salmon coming up from Lake Ontario and followed by wary monster Brown Trout looking to gorge on salmon eggs. The river is about 200ft wide and most of it is easily waded with a shallow bar running right down the middle. Then came the shocker: fisherman lined up in the middle fishing both banks about 50 ft apart. If you are looking for solitude and a Zen like encounter with Mother Nature that ain't going to happen on this trip. The crowds in general were very friendly with respectful sportsmanlike attitudes. However, as you can imagine, there is one in every crowd. Of course no one from our group acted that way.

As the "newbie" I got a lot of kind advice and encouragement with the veterans taking me under their wing to show me the ropes. I hooked my first King Salmon on the first day, battling the monster with the thrill of the fight and anticipation of bringing it to the net. During the battle my back was to the cabin and eventually all the club members were lined up on the bank shouting instructions and encouragement. Then the fish broke off. Disappointed and dejected, there suddenly came a roar in unison from the club members on the bank of a loud "AAAАWWWWWWHHH!". Hey, what are friends for anyway.

The veteran club members had plenty of fish to cast to and were bringing them in right and left while "Net Boy" was running up and down the river landing everybody's fish with an occasional Tarzan yell of triumph ringing out up and down the river.

The third day on the river Steve gave me a lesson on how to deal with unsportsmanlike conduct. He saw one of the locals crowding my spot and trying to push me out. In his usual causal way he wandered down to where I was and showed me how to deal with this behavior. Every time the intruder would drift his line down to my hole Steve made sure he had plenty of lead on his line and would cast it over the intruder's line invariably apologizing for tangling his line and breaking off his fly. The guy finally got the point after losing several flies before he realized he was not going to win this battle and moved on.

Later that day I hooked and landed my first King Salmon after all the others had quit for the day but Dave McMahon and myself. I brought my first King to the net with Dave's help. I was shaking from the adrenaline and as we shared a victory drink of "River Hooch" I felt the monkey lifting off my back. The rest of the week brought more success on the river to everybody with the Richmond contingent bringing down the house with the most double digit monster browns caught that week. Although the newbie never landed a brown I did have one hook up and also managed to bring to the net the biggest King Salmon of the week (28#). We had good fishing, good company, and a great time!

At our last farewell dinner I looked at each of the guys on the trip and was amazed as to how different and unique we all were but we fit together like a jigsaw puzzle. What a great group of guys and a great trip! It reminded me of a saying from one of our recent fallen brethren, Alan Hoover, "it is not about the fish you caught but the people you fished with".

Submitted by, Russ Handy "The Newbie", "Son of Net Boy 2" along with numerous other monikers better left unprinted

Special thanks to : Robert Thomas- trip leader

Steve Lewis & Dave McMahon- outstanding volunteer drivers

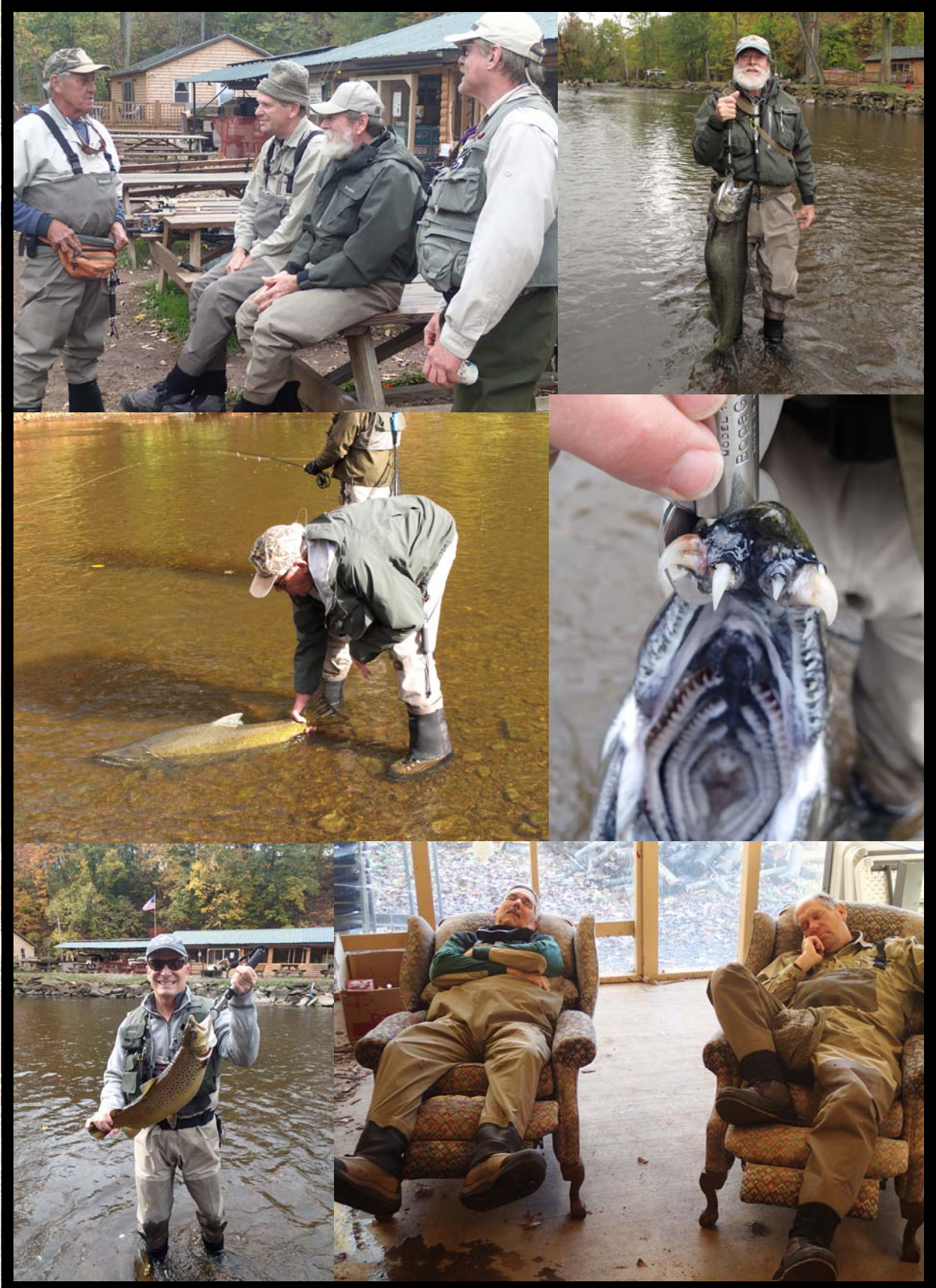


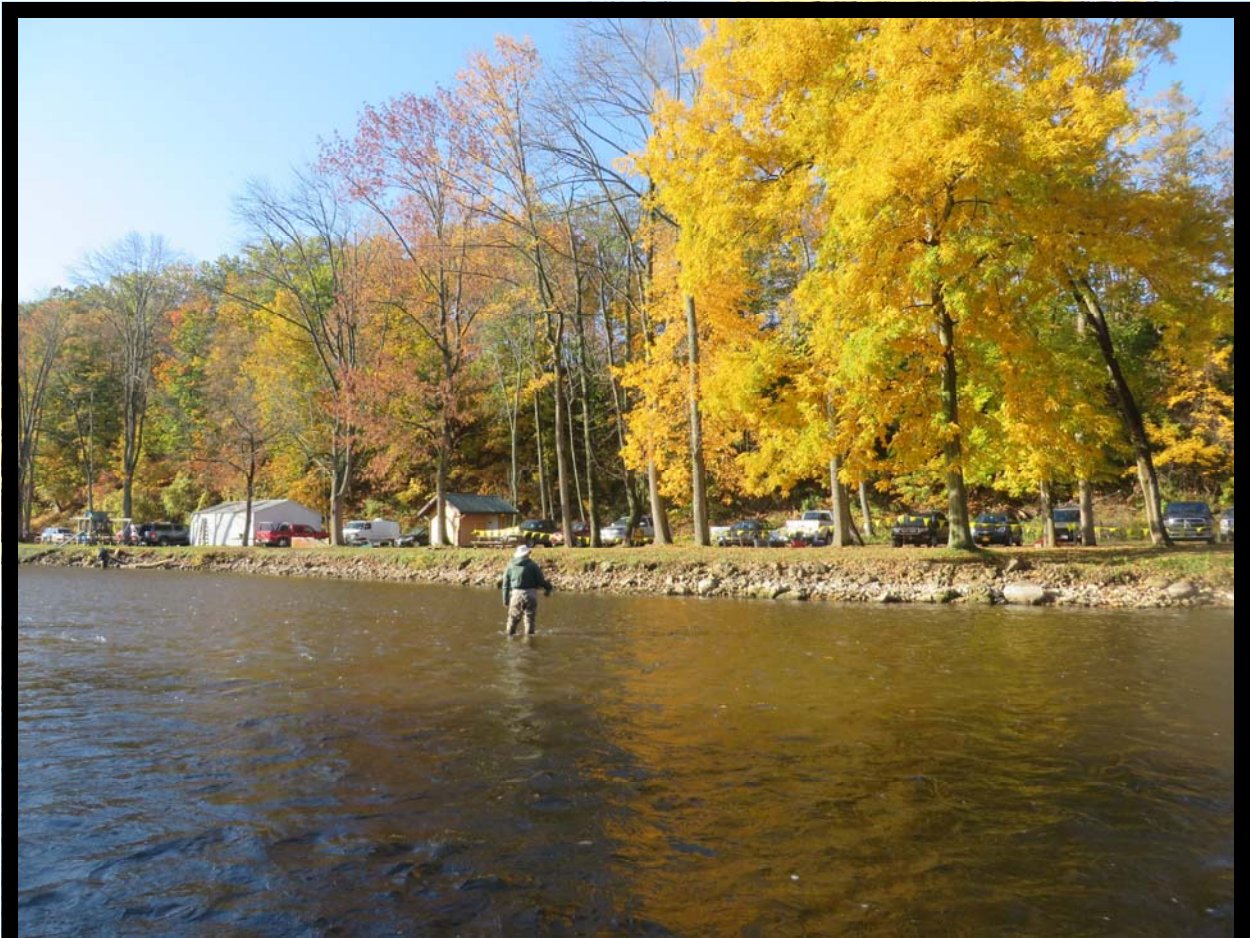












Beaufort, South Carolina Redfish



**Dan
Genest**



**Mac
Myers**

Harkers Island

From Mike Buss, VCFA President and FFV member

"This year the Virginia Coastal Fly Anglers trip to Harkers Island was the best ever. The club has been going down to Harkers Island for the last 17 years and this was the best by far as we hooked 240 false albacore and landed 188 of them over 13 days. We rented a beautiful beach house and had just a fantastic time. The albies were caught from the beach and from boats with 27 of them hooked from the beach. We had lots of double hookups and a few triple hookups which made for some interesting times on the boats. We also caught some nice Spanish Macs in the 6-8 lbs range. Next year we will be in the house again from Oct 17, 2014 through Nov 2, 2014. Point of contact is Mike Buss, 757-681-0328." thanks and tight lines



Mike will be our September 2014 Speaker



If you can help out in any way please contact:

**John Paramore 13861 Buck Rub Drive Midlothian, VA 23112
(H) 804-739-6416 (C) 434-693-3868 Johnp5286@hotmail.com**

Seven FFV Members Support the PHWFF Back Creek event with flies.

As part of the equipment which each vet and warrior receives when attending a Guilford funded trip is a fly box. Over the past few years we have purchased flies to start filling the boxes. In order to give more FFV members an opportunity participate in supporting our vets and warriors we asked for donations of flies this trip.

The following members came through with a total of 15 dozen trout flies

**John Larson
Alan Hoover
Dan Genest
Steve Gallas
Eric English
David Hall
Ken Eastwood**

**I want to thank each of the members for their kind donation.
Phil Johnson**







Menu for November 21, 2013

**Carved NY Strip
Fried Shrimp
Mashed Potatoes
Fresh Green Beans
Salad
Rolls
Ice Cream Bar**

**RESERVATION - FFV DINNER MEETING
THURSDAY November 21 2013**

Member's Name: _____ \$ 25.00

Guest Name: _____

Guest Name: _____

Total = \$ _____

Please make the following reservations for me for the Fly Fishers of Virginia Dinner Meeting at the **Salisbury Country Club**. We must receive your reservation and check by **Tuesday, November 19, 2013** to insure that you have a reservation.

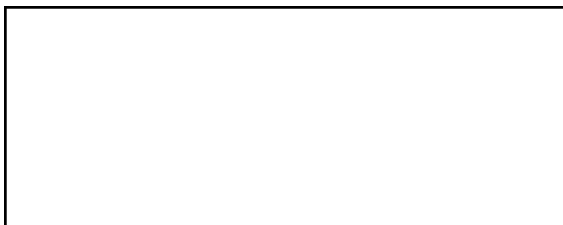
TELEPHONE RESERVATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!
Mail to Fly Fishers of Virginia, P.O. Box 29477, Richmond, Virginia 23242.

Check here if you need a Vegetarian Meal # _____



Fly Fishers of Virginia
P.O. Box 29477
Richmond, Virginia 23242

First Class



FFV OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR 2013

PRESIDENT: Steve Lewis
VP Fishing Activities: Dave McMahon
VP Conservation Activities: Jay Armstrong
VP Special Events and Education: Ray Ward
Secretary & VP Membership: Ed Landry
Treasurer: JoAnn Lindstrom-Clark
Director at Large: Phil Johnson
Director at Large: Tim Wildt
Director at Large: Larry Baron
Assistant VP Conservation: Steve Love
Assistant VP Education: Dale Clark
Assistant Director at Large: Tom Mlot
Assistant Director at Large: Brittan Quinn
Assistant Director at Large: Mike Hatfield
Assistant Director at Large: Russ Handy
Technical Director: Brian Trow
Technical Director: Colby Trow
Webmeister: Doug Walden
Director of Communications: Robert Thomas

FFV PAST PRESIDENTS

Ken Eastwood—2011, 2012
Robert Thomas—2009, 2010
Larry Cortright—2007, 2008
Dan Genest-- 2005, 2006
Richard Roadcap-- 2003, 2004
Doug Walden-- 2001, 2002
H.W. Leathers - 1999, 2000
Bill Pearsall - 1997, 1998
Carl R. Fischer - 1995, 1996
Sam Goodpasture - 1993, 1994
David E. Bagby, Jr. - 1991, 1992
Charles I. Ellis - 1989, 1990
Taylor Turner - 1987, 1988
George D. Crosby, Jr. - 1985, 1986
Nat T. R. Burgwyn - 1982, 1983, 1984

FFV FOUNDERS

Nat T. R. Burgwyn George D. Crosby, Jr.
Kenny A. Grandstaff, II Beverly R. Tucker, III

The Fly Fishers of Virginia (FFV)

was established in 1982 to promote the art of fly rod fishing; to foster good sportsmanship; and to promote conservation of the nation's natural resources.

During the year, six dinner meetings are occasions for informational programs pertaining to the many aspects of fly fishing and conservation activities. Programs are presented by international and local experts and celebrities in the fly fishing world, as well as knowledgeable FFV members.

Fishing trips are scheduled each year for cold water, warm water, and saltwater species.

Educational programs for members and the public, as well as seminars and workshops are scheduled periodically.

Fly tying classes are offered each winter: Beginning, Intermediate, or Advanced, depending on demand. Casting clinics are also available.

The club gives financial support to several conservation and fly fishing related organizations, including: James River Association; Wildlife Foundation of Virginia and special projects of the VDGIF; The Chesapeake Bay Foundation; Coastal Conservation Association, Project Healing Waters, and The Brotherhood of the Jungle Cock and the CHMS Fly Fishing Club.