

# THE SINGING REEL

## Robert Thomas Essential Central VA Flies

Thursday May 21, 2015    Salisbury Country Club  
Cocktails: 6:00PM                      Dinner: 7:00PM

We are very lucky to have some extremely creative and talented fly tyers in Virginia. This program will focus on their patterns that were developed for and are essential for fishing the waters of our beautiful state as well as the rest of the world. From the top of the water column to the streambed below, these flies produce. Included in the program will be some angling history and some useful tips and techniques to maximize the flies effectiveness. Audience participation is welcomed. We will be having a special door prize of a box of these flies for one lucky attendee.

Afternoon Sessions  
Casting Rodeo 3-5pm

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Flyfishing Iceland    Mark Sargent  
5-6PM

NEXT MEETING: July 16 2015 Matt Miles

WWW.FLYFISHERSOFVA.ORG

VOL XXXIII No 3 May 2015

## Letter from the President

Thank you to the club and board for the excellent attendance at our March dinner meeting. I enjoyed seeing many friends and friends I have yet to make. The next dinner meeting is on Thursday May 21. There is going to be a casting rodeo sponsored by Greentop from 3-5 PM, a talk by Mark Sargent on Iceland from 5-6 PM, and the keynote speaker for the evening will be our own Robert Thomas. He will be speaking about the essential flies you need for fishing in central Virginia. Don't miss this opportunity to learn about something close to home, and from a very seasoned flyfisherman.

At this time of the year many of us are getting into the spring fishing full swing as much as Mother Nature allows. There are opportunities for shad, stripers, perch, sunfish, bass, and trout within the state. We are blessed with living in an area which can give wonderful and different fishing opportunities depending on which way we turn on I-64. There are several club outings coming up in the near future, and they are listed later in the Singing Reel. If you have not taken advantage of a club outing in the past then make it a point to do so this year. They are great opportunities to build new friendships and learn from other club members.

Member support through meeting attendance, buying raffle tickets, and bidding on silent auctions generates the funds necessary for our conservation and education projects. This year funds were approved for Brotherhood of the Jungle Cock, Casting for Recovery, CCA, Colonial Heights Middle School Fishing Club, Shenandoah River Keeper, Sturgeon Restoration, Reel Recovery, and Trout in the Classroom. Thank you for your generous donations to the raffles and the participation that makes it possible.

Another form of member support that is greatly needed is time. We support initiatives such as Project Healing Waters and they are in need of our time and our expertise. Steve Lewis has taken over the project at McGuire's and will send updates about upcoming events. May 20<sup>th</sup> will start the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday monthly trips to Salisbury Country Club, and fishing will be from 5-7 PM. If you can, please call or email Steve to volunteer to help on one or more of these evenings. If fishing is not your thing..... and you like to wrap feathers around a hook then Steve could also use your help. There will be tying and casting clinics on Wednesday afternoons. The work done with Project Healing Waters is very important and it needs the support of many people to make it successful.

We look forward to seeing you at the next dinner meeting , PHW event, or club trip.

Tight Loops,  
Jay Armstrong

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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](mailto:rtphotography@comcast.net) or they may be mailed to: Editor, “The Singing Reel,” P.O. Box 9311, Richmond, VA 23227.

# Upcoming Trips

**May 31 Graves Mtn Trout H.W. Leathers**

**June: Canada Robert Thomas**

**June: Southwest VA Dan Genest**

**June 13: Saltwater Kayak Dan Genest**

**\*\*Trip details will be emailed as they become available. We are always looking for new trips and new trip leaders. Please contact VP of Fishing Dale Clark—(804) 768-8048/ (804) 874-8051; fungoboy@verizon.net— to volunteer your services and/or make your needs known. The more you participate the more you will benefit from your membership.**

## **May Special Afternoon Sessions**

# **Casting Rodeo**

**Green Top Sporting Goods will again host our annual Spring Casting Rodeo. Gabe and Tyler will be bringing an assortment of rods for you to try out. And feel free to bring your own favorite rod. Casting instruction for all skill levels will be available. Come learn a few new techniques or just get the kinks out. 3-5pm at The Salisbury Club.**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**Mark Sargent will be presenting a program on the wonderful fishing opportunities in Iceland. 5-6pm at The Salisbury Club.**

**FFV Native Brook Trout Trip to Madison County / Shenandoah National Park**

**Trip Date: Sunday, May 31**

**Meet: Graves Mountain Lodge, Syria, VA at 9:00 AM for breakfast (\$10.50 plus tax, plus tip – bring cash). For more information on Graves Mountain Lodge, and directions, you can go to**

**[www.gravesmountain.com](http://www.gravesmountain.com).**

**Cost: There is no cost to attend (besides the price of breakfast).**

**Most of the time, most of the group heads to the nearby Rapidan River after breakfast, but the Rose River, White Oak Canyon Run and other native trout streams are also available to those who would like to try a different stream. Please bring your own lunch and drinks. Those who head to the Rapidan usually meet for lunch beside the stream, but this is your trip and there is no set agenda or schedule. Fish as long as you want and head home when you're ready.**

**Bring some basic dry flies (Adams, Royal Wulff, Mr. Rapidan, etc.) and basic nymphs (Prince, Hare's Ear, Pheasant Tails, CKs, etc.) in sizes 12 – 18. You can get more creative on your own and/or check with your local fly shops for additional intel, if you'd like.**

**The road into the Rapidan can be pretty rough, so a 4 wheel drive vehicle or at least one with good clearance is a good idea. The streams are relatively small, and the fishing requires climbing around and over brush, fallen trees, boulders, etc. The temperature in the mountains can be warm or chilly in late-May, so please check the weather and plan for it to be 10 degrees colder than the Richmond forecast.**

**High water, extreme weather, horrible road conditions into the Rapidan, etc. will lead to postponement (hopefully not cancellation) of this trip.**

**There is no limit on the number of FFV members who can go on this trip. We need to give Graves Mountain Lodge an accurate head count for breakfast, so if you do sign up to attend, please let me know if your plans change and you cannot go on the trip. Thanks!**

**H.W. Leathers**

**H: 360 – 1577**

**C: 677 – 4549**

**[Hwlxuma4@aol.com](mailto:Hwlxuma4@aol.com)**

# Special Raffle

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

## Float Fishing Trip

Hosted by Matt Miles

**\*\*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**

# HIGH STICK



**Jim Heafner**  
Escatawba Brown                      South River Brown



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**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](mailto:rtphotography@comcast.net)**

# Redfish Beaufort, SC



**Art Girard & Bill Walker**



# Cascades

Tony Sakowski & Grayson Harding



**“A few photos of one of Grayson Harding's fish (rod, fish, and his bone inlayed net he made), as well as my best Rainbow, that seemed to find every inch of the pool to run; I learned why we have the "Singing Reel" as the name of our newsletter. Matt Thomas did a great job guiding us on the Cascade Stream, the trip he donated to the club for our annual banquet. Suggest more members of the club go up and visit Matt and thank him for his support of our club”. Tony**





# Tomahawk Farm

## “The Four Amigos”



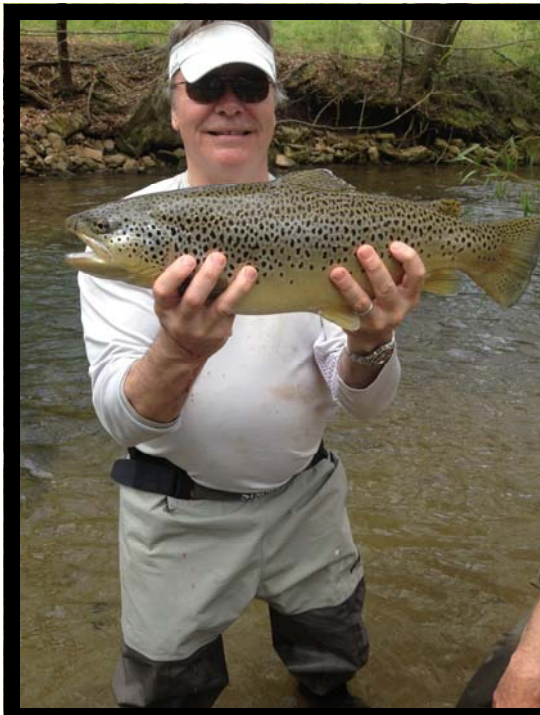
# Coyhaique River

## Mac Myers & David Skove





**Robert Staples Klawock River Alaska**



**Steve Love  
Georgia Trout**



# Mossy Creek Outings



## **Agua Boa Amazon River Brazil**

### **Tim Kinkead**

**I was fortunate to share a fly fishing adventure in the Amazon with Harry Robertson and his outfit, Hanover Fly Fishers, in January. Our destination was the Agua Boa Lodge, which is a two hour flight north of the incongruous jungle city of Manaus, Brazil.**



**This lodge caters to fly fishers only and, because of this focus, is ideally suited to the task. Their guides are locals, all of whom I met grew up in the area and were extremely hard working and knowledgeable. I was impressed with their keen vision for the peacock bass and other aquatics nearby, alerting us where to cast. After working with the guides for a week the words “cast farther”, “more right”, “no, more left” and , the constant , “strip fast” and “strip faster” , rang in my ears!**

**The lodge provided good boats built in Brazil. These were shallow draft jon boats long enough for two casters and a platform on the rear for the guide. Note: “long enough” is relative, I should say. I must have been smacked in the back at least 6 times by my partner’s heavy, painful flies when he was casting from the middle of the boat. I am all for barbless hooks now!**

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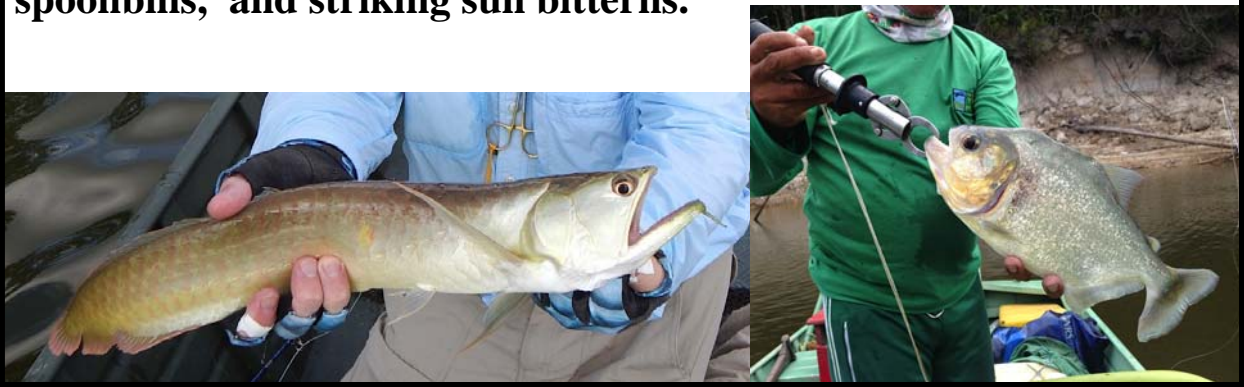
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Sleeping quarters were plush, two –person cabins and a comfortable main lodge was our gathering spot for meals and end of day fishing tales. The whole outfit was remarkable given how remote we were.



We were lucky with the weather, as a regular light breeze kept the humidity at reasonable levels. Daytime highs are typically in the high 80's to mid 90's. The jungle at Agua Boa is different from areas such as Costa Rica and Nicaragua, with tree heights topping out at about 25 to 30 feet instead of 100 to 130 feet further north. The waters teemed with fish of all kinds – tons of baitfish, varieties of catfish, several types of peacock bass, arawana, jacunda, piranha, and, careful, sting rays. Caiman were all over the place, pretty unperturbed with us. We enjoyed watching a wide variety of birds in the sky, along the shore and in the water. These included lots of ospreys, skimmers, green ibis, blue and yellow macaws, roseate spoonbills, and striking sun bitterns.

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**Eight or nine weight rods were appropriate. Top water flies work well on the Agua Boa some weeks; however, this year the guides promoted sub surface batfish patterns on sink tip line. Rio Tropical Outbound Short lines worked extremely well.**



**Feel free to contact me if you would like more information –**

**Tim Kinkead**  
[trek57@gmail.com](mailto:trek57@gmail.com).



If you can help out in any way please contact:  
**Steve Lewis**  
**(804) 262-3788** [cl1231@verizon.net](mailto:cl1231@verizon.net)

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

## **2015 Meeting Dates**

**May 21**

**July 16**

**September 17**

**November 19**

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# CHMS Fly Fishing Club



**Colonial Heights  
Middle School**  
Colonial Heights, Virginia

The CHMS Fly Fishing Club has a field trip planned for Monday, June 1 at the Petersburg Country Club. We will be taking about 12 students fishing on the golf course pond for bass and bream. Volunteers are needed to serve as guides from 4:00 to 7:00. Please contact Rick Ridpath at [richard\\_ridpath@colonialhts.net](mailto:richard_ridpath@colonialhts.net) if you are interested.

## CHMS Fly Fishing Club Needs Your Help -

The school fly fishing club will hold its end of the year raffle on May 29. We are looking for donations of fly fishing gear to include as prizes in the raffle. We are also looking for donations of Popping Bugs and other bream and bass flies to load into fly boxes that have already been donated for the raffle. Please bring any donations to the May dinner meeting and look for Rick Ridpath or Chuck Davis.

# CHMS Fly Fishing Club Field Trip



# Menu for May Meeting

Salad

## Carved Prime Rib

## Shrimp Pasta in Lobster Sauce

Parsley Baked Potatoes

Fresh Green Beans

Rolls

Dessert



**RESERVATION - FFV DINNER MEETING**  
Thursday May 21, 2015

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 May 19, 2015** 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

#### FFV OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR 2015

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

#### FFV PAST PRESIDENTS

Steve Lewis—2013, 2014  
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.