



## FFV State Officers

**President:** Ryan Bomar

[southernboy4u@aol.com](mailto:southernboy4u@aol.com)

**Vice Presidents:**

- Tony Adams: [antonadams@comcast.net](mailto:antonadams@comcast.net)
- Bill Duncan: [wduncan311@yahoo.com](mailto:wduncan311@yahoo.com)
- Erica Goode: [Ericagoode10@gmail.com](mailto:Ericagoode10@gmail.com)
- Bill Tanger: [billtanger@verizon.net](mailto:billtanger@verizon.net)

**Secretary:** Ginnie Peck

[dickels.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:dickels.treasurer@gmail.com)

**State Treasurer:** Thomas Baker

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**Membership Chair:** Scott McEwen

[ffvbusiness@gmail.com](mailto:ffvbusiness@gmail.com)

**Co-Membership Chair:** Ginnie Peck

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**Newsletter Editor:** Vera Houghton

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**Webmaster:** Traci Martin

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**Conservation Chair:** Bill Tanger

[billtanger@verizon.net](mailto:billtanger@verizon.net)

**Annual Dues:** Due January each year

- \$20.00 per Individual or per Family (spouse & children 0-18)
- Individual chapters may have additional annual dues.
- Contact your CHAPTER Treasurer to pay dues
- Please, DO NOT send dues to Membership Chair or State Treasurer

**Chapter Treasurers:**

**George Dickel Chapter:** Ginnie Peck

[dickels.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:dickels.treasurer@gmail.com)

**Randy Carter Chapter:** Ed Galloway

[ewgalloway@verizon.net](mailto:ewgalloway@verizon.net)

**Roanoke Valley Chapter:** Bill Tanger

[billtanger@verizon.net](mailto:billtanger@verizon.net)

**Scotts Creek Chapter:** Katherine Waller

[kswaller@hotmail.com](mailto:kswaller@hotmail.com)

**Steve Keller Chapter:** Larry Born

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\*\* No Internet Access & need to contact your Chapter Treasurer to pay dues: Please call Ginnie Peck @ 434-962-3224 \*\*

# Fishing Pole Pack & Paddle Fall 2017

Greetings Everyone,

As our Event Calendar winds down for the year and fall moves in we're finally starting to see some long overdue rain. I can honestly say this has been one of the driest years I can remember (despite it dropping buckets of rain on us over the Memorial & Labor Day camp-outs). The water tables are drastically down but I'm still hopeful for a wet winter season filled with great floats. Keep an eye out for floats posted on our Facebook pages and a few new additions on next year's Event Calendar.

Membership has been a big topic of conversation recently and it's no secret that our numbers have been dropping in the last 5-10 years. It's time we made recruiting new members and even maintaining current membership a bigger priority. With that in mind I'm asking that everyone spread word about the FFV with friends and family who might be interested. I was invited on a club float six years ago by my best friend Patty O and it has undoubtedly changed my life for the better. Six years later I'm President of the Float Fishermen and in that time I've brought several new members into the club who have in turn brought even more members. Introducing just one new person can make a big impact.

Something else I would like for you all to consider is volunteering for positions within the club. Most of our officers and cabinet members have held these jobs for 3-5 years or longer and we can't expect them to do so indefinitely. Anyone with interest in volunteering can contact me directly. Thanks in Advance.

Lastly I would like to remind everyone that the Winter Meeting is coming up Saturday December 2nd at 11am. The meeting will take place at the Slate River Property, directions can be found at [floatfishermen.org](http://floatfishermen.org) under "Event Sites". I hope to see a large turnout and we may even get a chance to float the Slate River afterwards.

See you downstream.

-Ryan Bomar



*Courtesy of the  
Bay Journal*

## Key to stream restoration success: location, location, location

Study finds after channel makeovers, aquatic insect populations improved more noticeably in isolated headwaters than in downstream reaches



*What we have done is offered another component, or another thing to consider when restoring streams,' said Chris Swan, professor at University of Maryland Baltimore County. Here, he stands beside Stony Run, a restored stream stretch in Northern Baltimore. (Timothy B. Wheeler)*

With millions of dollars being poured into urban and suburban stream restoration projects across the Chesapeake Bay watershed, a recent study suggests location matters when trying to assess how effective those efforts have been.

After surveying 13 Baltimore highly degraded suburban streams that had undergone makeovers, a pair of researchers found that aquatic insect populations were larger and more diverse in isolated headwaters than in larger downstream reaches.

If biodiversity is important, (gains are) more apparent in smaller streams. And smaller streams, I would think, are going to be much cheaper to restore," said [Christopher Swan](#), the study's lead author and professor of geography and environmental sciences at the [University of Maryland Baltimore County](#).

Swan and co-author Bryan Brown, associate professor of biological sciences at [Virginia Tech](#), published their findings in the September issue of [Ecological Applications](#), the journal of the Ecological Society of America. Swan is affiliated with UMBC's [Center for Urban Environmental Research and Education](#).

The streams they checked in Baltimore County had undergone typical restoration work, including stabilization of eroding banks, manipulation of their stream beds and extensive tree planting. They sampled them quarterly for a year, along with 13 nearby streams for comparison.

Their conclusion: restored headwaters had 15 to 37 percent more populations of aquatic insects than neighboring unrestored streams. But in larger downstream reaches, they saw almost no difference in species richness between restored and unrestored streams.

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## *Courtesy of the Bay Journal*

In an interview, Swan cautioned that the lack of noticeable improvement in aquatic insects in the larger streams does not necessarily mean the projects were a failure. In those larger downstream reaches, insect populations are heavily influenced by adjacent areas from which insects and fish can move back and forth. In isolated headwaters, by contrast, local water quality conditions appear to have a significant effect on the number and diversity of aquatic insects.

“If you’re on a more well-connected part of a river network,” he said, “the movement of animals in streams could overwhelm any effect that restoration might produce.”

And while restored headwaters saw an increase in aquatic life, it wasn’t enough to transform their ecological health, the researchers found. The insect populations seen in all the restored streams were generally low, meaning they were all “heavily impaired” regardless of location. Even an extensive restoration of an urban stream, it seems, can’t make up for all the pavement and runoff in its watershed.

Streams often get restored for other reasons, of course, Swan noted. In the Bay watershed, many projects are primarily aimed at reducing the amounts of sediment and nutrient pollution getting washed down into the Chesapeake. But even those projects typically identify improved biodiversity as an additional goal.

“What we have done is offered another component, or another thing to consider when restoring streams,” Swan said. “If biodiversity is an endpoint, position within a river network does seem to matter.”

To demonstrate the study’s findings, Swan took a reporter to see a restored stretch of Stony Run, a tributary of the Jones Falls that wends its way through North Baltimore. We encountered hikers using a streamside trail as we worked our way down to the water.

“It looks great,” he said, “But you see exactly what they did: They armored the banks to keep it from eroding, and provided step pools.” Though the water was clear, with aquatic insects skating across its surface, he noted, there was “very little riffle habitat” in the stream bed for fish and bottom-dwelling insects. “But it looks good ... they built a trail for people, how could you not like it?”

Even so, with streams like this, he added, “If you take a look at the number of species we saw, on average, it wasn’t a lot. And when we saw improvement, percentage wise it was significant, but a high percent of a low number is still a low number.”

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## Courtesy of William Tanger

### Women stranded overnight on Muskegon River while tubing

[Holly Fournier](#), The Detroit News Published 10:13 a.m. ET July 14, 2016

Three women were stranded overnight on the banks of the Muskegon River earlier this week after a first-time tubing trip turned into a 20-plus hour ordeal, according to the Muskegon Township Fire Department.

The women, all in their 20s and from Muskegon and Muskegon Heights, set out alone at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Deputy Fire Chief Bob Grabinski said. They were rescued by fire officials around 12:30 p.m. Wednesday.

“They went and bought some tubes and they went to the Maple Island Bridge, which is one of the access points to the river, a popular spot,” Grabinski said Thursday. “They were misinformed: Somebody said (the river) makes a big loop and they’d come right back to their car.”

Grabinski said the women did not know the individual who offered the faulty advice, and no one has come forward to claim credit. The women were unfamiliar with the river and had never gone tubing.

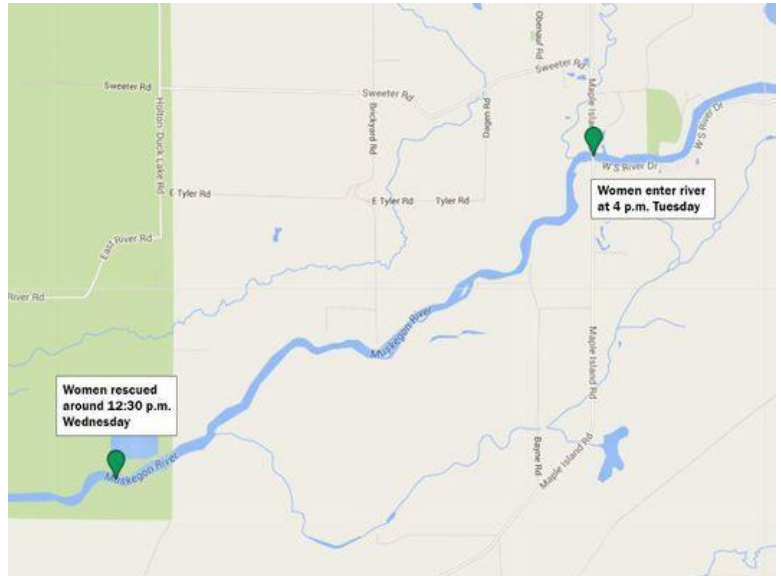
“They thought it was great,” Grabinski said of the alleged circular river. “They believed it.” The group set out on what was expected to be a quick and easy trip.

“Right about dark they realized that that was not the case and so they got off the river onto the bank, screaming for help,” Grabinski said. “It was an isolated area. Unless somebody else is coming down the river, nobody’s going to hear them.

“I can only imagine how frightened they were,” Grabinski continued. “They had no food, no shelter, and they were in swimsuits.”

They also had no cellphones, Grabinski said. They were rescued by chance more than 20 hours later, about 3 miles downriver from where they launched their tubes. “Luckily, just before noon (Wednesday) a drift fisherman heard them,” he said. “He had a phone and called 911.”

First responders launched from the Holton-Duck Lake Road ramp about a quarter-mile upriver from the women’s makeshift campsite, Grabinski said. They arrived around 12:30 p.m. Wednesday.



*A map of a portion of the Muskegon River (Photo: Fournier, Holly)*

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## *Courtesy of William Tanger*

“They were ecstatic that we found them and they were in pretty good spirits,” Grabinski said. “They have several scratches (from trying) to walk through some prickly-type bushes, and lots of bug bites.”

First responders took the women back to their vehicle, Grabinski said. It was determined that their body temperatures were slightly lower than normal and the women were advised to get checked out at a hospital.

They declined transportation by ambulance and officials did not know if they followed up for medical treatment.

Their tubing days are over, according to Grabinski. “They did say that,” he said. “They said, ‘I will never do this again.’”

For those planning on braving Area Rivers this summer, Grabinski offered several pieces of advice to avoid any impromptu overnight campouts.

“I’d really like for people to go with someone who is familiar with the water and where they’re going so they don’t get into this type of situation,” he said. “Bring some food, bring a hat.”

Grabinski also suggested tubers bring cellphones in case of an emergency. Wrap them in plastic bags or purchase an affordable waterproof bag, he said.

“You never know if something’s going to happen,” Grabinski said.

It also is important to bring along more than a few simple snacks. The stranded women had some food at the beginning of their trip, but it was long gone by the time they landed on the bank Tuesday night.

“Although it doesn’t look like a very long distance, you’re traveling slow and you’re going around curves and bends,” he said. “So it’s going to take you longer than you’d really anticipate if you’ve never done this before.”

Perhaps most importantly, Grabinski urged adventurers to give details of their plans to friends or family back home.

“(The stranded women) didn’t let anyone know what they were doing,” he said. “There were no reports of people missing that night.”



# Labor Day Meeting Minutes

## 2017 Labor Day Meeting Minutes Sunday 9/4/17

By: Ginnie Peck / FFV Secretary  
Location: Solitude

Meeting called to order by Ryan Bomar.  
Thank You to the property owners for the  
use of the site

Secretary: Ginnie Peck

**Ginnie Peck made a motion to accept the minutes as posted in the previous newsletter.**

Minutes were taken by Bill Duncan. Thank  
You to Bill!

Tony Adams seconded the motion  
**Motion was carried**

Treasurer Report: Thomas Baker

We are spending more \$\$ than we are  
taking in. as a club we need to make some  
changes in expenditures.

Current Balance: \$9715.15

Total Income through 8/30/17: \$2600.00

Total Expenses through 7/31/17: \$1552.37

Pending Expenses: Labor Day weekend  
Band \$500.00

Porta Johns: ?

Use of property: \$75.00

Newsletter expenditures: ?

Other: ?

**Rick Mattox made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report.**

Tony Adams seconded the motion  
**Motion was carried**

Webmaster: Traci Martin unable to attend.

Newsletters need to be posted on the Web  
Page

Newsletter Editor to have Webmaster post  
Newsletter after Final Draft completed.

Newsletter to go out AFTER it has been  
posted on the web page.

Tony Adams: *We need a better way to  
communicate with prospective new  
members coming from the web page.*

Ginnie Peck: *Currently prospective members  
are directed to the chapter treasurers, if  
possible. I recommend we go back to the  
days of old and have prospective members  
directed to the President of FFV. The  
President can then make an appropriate  
hand off to chapters.*

Discussion resulted in the change being  
made. Ginnie to notify Traci Martin.

*Since the meeting it was decided that Tony  
Adams would be the contact person for all  
Web based prospective members. Ryan  
Bomar does not have internet access  
outside of work. This was not part of the  
meeting. Ginnie communicated this change  
to Traci Martin.*

Membership Chair: Scott McEwen reported  
143 current 2017 FFV members.

Newsletter Editor: Taylor Adams unable to  
attend.

He will be stepping down as Newsletter  
Editor after the Fall Edition.

**A NEW Newsletter Editor has been found!  
Introducing Vera Houghton as our new  
Newsletter Editor. Vera is the newest  
member to the Scott's Creek Chapter and  
we are very happy to welcome her to the  
position!**

Conservation Chair: Bill Tanger

Several articles passed around for the group  
to read through.

Chesapeake Bay Journal & Shorelines  
(Chesapeake Conservancy) are two great  
journals available to the public.



# Labor Day Meeting Minutes

**Maury River:** Jordon Pt. Dam was voted to have dam removed. This should take place in a couple of years.

**Potomac River:** this issue should work itself out on its own.

**Pigg River Dam:** When this dam was removed the debris moved down river. Continued debris is still moving down river.

**Pigg River Restoration:** Is slowly coming back to life. This will take 4-5 more years.

**Cushaw Project:** STILL in progress.

Lock 14 - upstream from the "Iron Man" takeout is the proposed take out point.

CSX will consider a tunnel going under the tracks. This will likely be a box culvert; which will also carry stream run off under the proposed walk way.

The project continues to move forward.

There is \$200 K in the bank.

Potential cost: Up to &1 million.

**Roanoke - Rutrough River:** Phase 1 is complete / Phase 2 is underway.

**New River:** Price Park - new foot trails and foot bridges underway. The project is progressing well.

**Roanoke River Blue Way:** All of Botetourt County and a portion of Rockbridge County now completed. New access points are underway.

Conservation Continued:

**Tinker Creek:** Significant fish Kill from a tank leaking weed killers on a piece of commercial property. The leak killed > 40,000 fish.

There are no regulations requiring a berm around chemical tanks.

This is a growing issue in the state of Virginia.

Foundation Report: Bill Tanger Big Otter Creek has a piece of property that is a perfect access point. The owner has not paid taxes in 3 years. The property has been turned over to a collection agency. It will be auctioned off if the property owner can't be located. ***The Foundation should explore the possibility of purchase.***

**Foundation Chair needed. Bill would like to find a member of FFV to run the Foundation and take over the Randy carter Award.**

Old Business:

Membership List: It was suggested that a separate list be made for those members receiving the Newsletter via US Mail. This will make it easier for the Newsletter Editor to send out the Snail mail Newsletters.

FFV Brochure: We are in need of more brochures.

The artwork from the last brochure has been lost.

Bill has been trying to piece it together and recreate it.

Please send any information or suggestions/recommendations to Bill.

Don 'Riverdaddy' Sims created the last brochure.



# Labor Day Meeting Minutes

DUES Increase - discussion about increasing dues has been brought up again, due to our decreased membership. The discussion has been tabled until after the next Financial Committee Meeting and will be presented at the Winter Meeting. Bill Tanger to arrange F.C. Meeting.

## New Business:

Coleman Scholarship Fund is in the setup phase. Herb Coleman is working with an attorney to iron out specifics. More to follow. Safety Story presented by Bill Tanger about women stranded overnight on the Muskegon river while tubing. The women had never been tubing before. They bought tubes and put on the river, believing they would float right back to the place they put onto the river. They were not prepared for an overnight stay on the river. No gear, no food, no water, no ride, no KNOW HOW. Always communicate plans with friends & family.

Always prepare for new adventures - knowledge is your friend.

Plan for weather & potential weather  
Appropriate gear!!

Finance Committee: Will report at Winter Meeting

Adjourn Meeting: **Ginnie Peck made a motion to adjourn the meeting.**

Tony Adams seconded the motion  
**Motion Carried**



## Announcements

**FFV Treasurer needed ASAP!**

**Foundation Chair needed. Bill Tanger has been at the helm for a VERY long time. Thank You, Bill!**

**Newsletter Editor: We have a winner & 2 NEW members as a bonus!! Vera and George will be introduced at the Winter Meeting.**

**2018 DUES are due by January 1, 2018. Please contact your Chapter Treasurer. If you do not know who your treasurer is please e-mail the Membership Chair - Scott McEwen for assistance.**

[ffvbusiness@gmail.com](mailto:ffvbusiness@gmail.com)

**No E-mail: Call Ginnie Peck Co-Membership Chair @ 434-962-3224.**





## *2017 FFV Events*

All Events & Event Sites w/directions & Maps can be found on the Web Page:  
<http://www.floatfishermen.org/events.html>

1. FFV Winter Meeting @ Slate River Property: Saturday  
December 2, 2017
2. Fruit Cake Float: January 1, 2018 / Contact: Konrad Zeller:  
kzeller@rivanna.org

### **Directions to Slate River Property**

**Physical Address: 10330 Bridgeport Road / Arvon, VA 23004**

**Directions w/Maps from Web Page: <http://www.floatfishermen.org/page.html>**

**From Richmond:** Take Route 6 River Road West (from downtown that's 64 West to the Oilville exit South on 617 Oilville Road, right on 250 West Broad Street Road, Left on 632 Fairgrounds Road, right on Route 6, go West), follow to Fork Union, stay straight on Route 15 James Madison Hwy, cross the James, after roughly 1.5 mi. take a right on Route 652 and cross the Slate River. Driveway will be first left.

**From Charlottesville:** Take Route 20 South through Scottsville and across the James River. Turn Left onto Route 652 (Bridgeport Road). Follow approximately 9 miles and turn right into field. If you cross the Slate river, you have gone a half mile too far.

**From Lynchburg:** Take Route 60 East to Route 15 (James Madison Highway)North. Turn left on Route 652 (Bridgeport road) at Arvon. Route 652 and cross the Slate River. Driveway will be first left.

# *Editor's Note*

The opinions expressed in FPP&P are those of the author's and not necessarily those of FFV or its members. The editor is responsible for editing the content of the newsletter and its construction. Members are responsible for providing content. Please send submissions to the editor via email attachment. The following formats are preferred: Word, RFT, and/or JPEG. The newsletter goes out quarterly: Feb 1, May 1, August 1, Nov 1. **All Submissions MUST be received by the 15th of the preceding month.**

**If you receive this newsletter via US Mail, we do not have a current email address for you. Contact your local treasurer or the Membership Chair to update your information.**

FFV Membership Chair  
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Shipman, VA 22971