



February 2004

# *The Conservationist*

Potomac-Patuxent Chapter

www.pptu.org

Wednesday, February 18

## Return of The King

**A** quick glance at the title and you would think that we're planning to show the third installment of Tolkien's brilliant *Lord Of The Rings*. But while our meetings are sometimes drag on, 3 ½ hours for the film's running time – that would be a record yet!

No, the "King" we're referring to is not Aragorn but award-winning fly fisher, outdoor writer, and photographer King Montgomery, who will be presenting a slide show and discussion, *Fly Fishing the Mid-Atlantic Region and Beyond*, at our February meeting.

King is a contributing editor for *Fly Fish America* magazine and also is a frequent contributor to *Virginia Wildlife*, *American Angler*, and *New Jersey Angler*. He has won major writing and photography awards from the Outdoor Writers Association of America and from other outdoor journalist organizations and is working on a book of his angling adventures scheduled for publication this year or in early 2005. He is a retired Army officer with a degree in fisheries biology and used to be a light tackle and fly fishing guide on the tidal Potomac.

So come listen and learn from King. He may even tell you whether hobbits make good fly fishermen!



And you thought he meant Elvis!

## Intercounty Connector Is Back

**Y**et another Intercounty Connector (ICC) study is being conducted. The ICC is a proposed 6-lane highway intended to link I-270 near Gaithersburg with I-95/US 1 near Laurel. It would thus cut through the communities and natural resources of central and eastern Montgomery County and northwestern Prince George's County. This is important to you because residents throughout Maryland stand to suffer the consequences.

The Intercounty Connector (ICC) was a bad idea when it was first proposed more than 50 years ago, and it is an even worse idea today. Consider that:

- 1) The ICC would actually increase traffic (vehicle miles traveled) on local roads,
- 2) The ICC would not reduce traffic congestion on the Beltway, I-95 or I-270 enough to be noticed,
- 3) Only 5% of users would travel from one end of the ICC to the other.

These facts are taken from the state's own 1997 Draft Environmental Impact Statement and the 2001 Montgomery County Council study called the "Montgomery County Transportation Policy Report."

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### Meetings

**Time and Day:** 7:00 PM, Third Wednesday except December, June, July, and August

**Place:** Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center, 1000 Forest Glen Road, Silver Spring, Maryland

**Directions:** From Capitol Beltway: North on Georgia Avenue (Rte. 97). First right onto Forest Glen Road. Pass Holy Cross Hospital and go across Sligo Creek Parkway. The Center is on the right.

## The Conservationist

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<b>Paint Branch:</b>	David Dunmire	301-989-0331
<b>Patuxent:</b>	Jay Sheppard	301-725-5559

## President's Column

**W**hen I began writing last month's column it had been snowing throughout the night and that brought a flood of memories. Last night the first big freeze of the New Year hit us. Temperatures in the teens, a good breeze further lowering the wind chill and promises of more to come—does it get any better than this? Hmmnn...

We had a Board of Director's meeting the other night and learned that **Jim Greene** delayed the deliveries of the trout eggs over the holidays, to our TIC schools, so that the kids could witness the actual birth of the fry. They are now rapidly growing—up to an inch per month—and before long will find their way into a local stream. The kids are excited, the teachers are excited and we are excited.

The Board took an important decision to form an ad hoc committee to review the chapter's conservation activities and develop recommendations for new or expanded initiatives to support the Chapter's cold water fisheries objectives. I spoke of this pending review at a recent general membership meeting and will report progress at future monthly meetings. We can expect to have a report by June of this year from the ad hoc committee. **Jim Keil**, a Past President of PPTU, will serve as an advisor to this committee and current stream chairs will serve as consultants to the committee as it considers alternative initiatives and develop its' recommendations.

**Bob Serrano** brought this year's tickets for the April fundraiser to the Board meeting and distributed them to the members. We'll have tickets for sale at each month's membership meeting. Check out Bob's description of the April fund raiser and prizes elsewhere in this issue. This annual event has been extremely important to the Chapter's programs and initiatives in the past and will be even more so in coming months. As we witness current state and local fiscal problems play out in the coming years we may be forced to pick up a greater financial responsibility in order to continue some of our programs. We'll also have to seek external sponsorship of some of our projects, such as TIC, in order to sustain the expected growth.

The Inter County Connector (ICC) project was put on a fast track by our Governor with the endorsement of the Montgomery County Executive. As we

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Contributions in the form of articles, letters, fishing news, tying tips, book reviews, and even poetry about trout fishing should be sent to the Editor as plain MS-DOS (ASCII) text or Microsoft Word attachments to e-mail messages containing brief descriptions of the attachments. Attachments received without a description will be deleted without opening.

The deadline for submissions is the twelfth (12th) day of the month prior to the month of publication.

**EDITOR: John Colburn**  
(Phone: 202-545-8776)  
(johnwcolburn@juno.com)

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## President's Column

*(Continued from page 2)*

observe and try to monitor the review process it is frustrating to witness the obvious attempts to appear to be properly and honestly following the prescribed process while obfuscating environmental issues so as to control the outcome. We'll keep everyone informed as best we can. The Chapter will be getting more actively involved in order to protect the Paint Branch and its watershed. Look for opportunities in the future to participate in the ICC process, such as writing a letter, helping to pass out fliers, or voting. **David Dunmire** continues to lead this important conservation work, and he needs additional help from PPTU members.

This is the time of the year when we begin to schedule our trout stocking activities. **Jay Sheppard** has been working with our new contact in DNR for the last month to work out important details. At the time I'm writing this there is an issue about the State purchasing the low cost offer from competing hatcheries, which unfortunately for us would provide an inferior strain of trout for the Patuxent River. In the past these trout have survived only a few months on that river. We're trying to get a more robust strain purchased, but don't know if we can be successful. By the time you read this article you may have seen the outcome on our chapter listserve.

Please take a look at our new web site. **John Parchen** has transferred our pages to a new and more capable host. There are updated sections which include new images from recent outing and mentoring sessions.

*Lou Boezi*

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## Intercounty Connector Is Back

*(Continued from page 1)*

Furthermore, Maryland cannot afford an ICC. This project will cost over \$3 billion dollars when finance costs are included. That means over \$60 million a year would be drained from the state's transportation budget for 30 years. This will leave virtually no money for any other state transportation project. Do you want your children's taxes to be paying for the ICC?

Even further, building a six-lane highway through sensitive natural resources would result in unavoidable and significant environmental damage. This includes natural trout waters (Use III) in the Paint Branch and in upper Rock Creek, as well as

the put-and-take fishery in the Northwest Branch. Trout Unlimited has a longstanding history of opposing the ICC because of its impacts on trout resources. In December Chuck Woods, who originally discovered the wild trout in the Paint Branch 30 years ago, and I met with TU President Charles Gauvin and staff to discuss ways to fight the ICC. Gauvin stated "This type of conservation activity is exactly what the local chapters are all about."

We left with a long list of ICC-fighting ideas. We hope to mount a joint campaign utilizing resources from local, state-level (the Mid-Atlantic Council), and national TU organizations. We are just beginning to explore the possibilities. We need for members of PPTU to get involved and to help make these ICC-fighting ideas a reality. We all value the natural environment and its pleasures. It is time to give something back. Call me at 301-576-2363 or e-mail me at [ddunmire@eopb.org](mailto:ddunmire@eopb.org) to volunteer.

*David Dunmire  
Paint Branch Chair*

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## February 28 - 29 Bass Pro Shop Spring Fishing Weekend

**T**he third annual fly fishing weekend at Bass Pro Outdoor World at Arundel Mills Mall, Hanover, MD, will be held February 28 and 29 from 10 AM to 4 PM each day.

A casting pool will be set up inside this mammoth store found just off MD Hwy 100 and the Baltimore-Washington Parkway (MD Hwy 295).

There will be a number of local fly fishing gurus on hand to answer your questions on fish or saltwater fly fishing. A talk on "Getting Started" on fly fishing is offered several times each day.

Our chapter with the help from other local TU chapters will be manning an information and membership table, as well as giving fly tying demonstrations each day.

Bring a friend and come visit us at the Bass Pro Outdoor World. For directions call 410-689-2500.



**Wednesday, April 21, 2004**

## **Annual Raffle and Silent Auction**

**T**he PPTU Annual Raffle and Silent Auction will be held at the regular April 21 meeting from 7 to 9 PM. Refreshments will be available.

The proceeds from the raffle and auction support our educational and conservation programs.

### **The raffle prizes are:**

**First Prize**—Two days of guided trout fishing for two persons on some of the famous trout streams of north-central Pennsylvania and two nights lodging in superb comfort at a private lodge. For a preview visit the Keystone Anglers web site at: [www.keystoneanglers.com](http://www.keystoneanglers.com). Professional guides from Keystone Anglers will lead you on the streams. A \$700 value.

**Second Prize**—A Canon PowerShot Model A70 digital camera with 3.2 mega pixels, 3X optical zoom, f2.8 lens, frame/movie mode, and continuous shooting at 2.2 feet per second. A \$300 value.

**Third Prize**—One day of wade fishing with guide Stacey Crossland-Smith. Fish on nearby streams for your choice of trout or bass. A \$200 value.

**Fourth Prize**—An Orvis Fly Fishing Outfit consisting of TLS864, 8'-6", 4weight, 2 piece graphite fly rod; a Battenkill Bar Stock Reel and WF-4-F fly line. A \$500 value.

**Raffle tickets are just \$10 each.** Tickets for the Raffle may be purchased at PPTU meetings on March 17 and April 24, or by sending payment by personal check made out to PPTU and mailed to Bob Serrano, 8419 Greenbelt Road, T2, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

You need not present on April 21 to win any of the raffle prizes. You will need to be present on April 21 to win any silent auction or barrel raffle prizes.

### **Silent Auction and Barrel Raffle Prizes:**

There will be a silent auction of more than 50 fishing and non-fishing items.

The barrel raffle will include over thirty prizes of highly desirable fly fishing equipment, books, assortments of flies, and a tying vise. Barrel raffle ticket prices are \$5 for 1 ticket, \$10 for 3 tickets, \$20 for 10 tickets, and \$40 for 30 tickets. These tickets will be sold only at the PPTU meeting on April 21, 2004.

**Payment terms:** All payments are to be by cash or personal check made payable to PPTU. No credit cards will be accepted.

For more information visit our web site: [www.pptu.org](http://www.pptu.org).

### **Library Fines to go into Effect**

**T**he video library is an asset that is to be enjoyed by all members. When you borrow a video and don't return it at the next monthly meeting you are depriving one of your fellow chapter members the enjoyment of watching it.

The new policy for late returns is that the member will pay \$5 for all videos not returned at the monthly meeting when the video was due.

***All videos are always due back at the next monthly meeting.***

For the February 2004 meeting, this policy will be announced; however no fines will be assessed until the March 2004 meeting. Please use this grace period to search your shelves, find those videos and return them as soon as possible.

If you can't make the monthly meeting and want to mail the video to me, please address it to:

Jack Dawson  
13420 Daventry Way Apt G  
Germantown, MD 20874.

### **PPTU Mentor Program**

#### **Beginners and Beyond**

**A**vailable to members of PPTU current with their dues, Ken Bowyer or Paul Prevost will conduct one on one stream side fly fishing instruction. Interested members must show commitment by having waders or hipsters, a rod and reel outfit, and leader. Discussions will include equipment, knots, casting, flies, dry fly and nymphing techniques, entomology, reading water, conservation, etc. at nearby streams. Instruction will be tailored to individual needs.

Contact Ken at 301-627-7154 or e-mail [kenbowyer@comcast.net](mailto:kenbowyer@comcast.net) or Paul at 202-244-0168 or e-mail [pprevost@hotmail.com](mailto:pprevost@hotmail.com)

### **Chapter Outing**

**T**he March outing will be to south central Pennsylvania. If you are interested in this outing, please see me at the February 18th Chapter meeting.  
*Joshua Forster, Outings Chair*

## **The Early Bird Catches the Worm! 2004 Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp**

**T**he Pennsylvania Council of TU will be sponsoring its nationally acclaimed *Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp* June 20 – 25, 2004. This annual event will be held at the Allenberry Resort on the Yellow Breeches Creek at Boiling Springs, PA.

The award-winning program, created in 1995, gives students the opportunity to learn about the importance of coldwater conservation, develop leadership skills in conservation, and enhance their angling skills by wetting their lines in the chilly waters of the famous Yellow Breeches.

Thirty-two students, ranging in age from 14 to 17, are selected each year from a wide and diverse pool of co-ed applicants in a process that requires promising anglers to complete an application form and write an essay about why they wish to attend the camp.

Camp participants attend college level classes to learn about such topics as the Principles of Ecology, Hydrology, Trout Behavior, and the Politics of Conservation. Structured classes in fly tying and fly casting provide balance to the textbook classes.

The camp faculty is drawn from leading experts in a wide variety of fields. Through this educational experience, it is hoped that students participating in the program become active stewards of their watershed communities for today—and for many years to come.

For more information about the *Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp*, visit [www.riverscamp.com](http://www.riverscamp.com).

Applications must be received by the camp selection committee by March 15, 2004. For more information, contact Mike Klimkos, member of the Cumberland Valley TU, at 717-243-3056 or [klimkos@epix.net](mailto:klimkos@epix.net).

PPTU will again offer a scholarship that pays the \$275 tuition for a youth from our area who is accepted into the camp. To be eligible for the PPTU scholarship, applicants must send a copy of their application to Louis J. Boezi, President, PPTU, P.O. Box 2865, Wheaton, MD, 20915.

Decisions on acceptance into the camp will be made by the camp's selection committee. Decisions on awards of a PPTU scholarship will be made by PPTU's Board of Directors after applicants are notified of their acceptance into the camp.

## **Patuxent Report**

**W**e will be float stocking brown trout in the next several weeks in the upper Patuxent Special Area and the Middle Patuxent. If you have chest waders and can help on a week day, please get in touch with me ASAP ([jmsheppar@aol.com](mailto:jmsheppar@aol.com)). There will be a clip board at the monthly meeting on February 21.

This is a great way to see a large section of the stream, since we walk 1½ to 3 miles of several sections. Float stocking spreads out the trout at the start, and from there they will move up or down the river over the next several months. Floating the trout reduces competition and means that there should be a few trout every few dozen yards to start the season. The past 15 months have been very wet, and we therefore expect great flows this summer. Many rainbows were stocked last October, and more will be planted in the next month or so, too.

Don't forget to carry your card with the 800-phone numbers for the DNR Police and the Park dispatchers. If you see anything that appears illegal or other emergencies, please call them immediately with as much information as possible (location, license plate, description of individuals and vehicle, etc.).

If you have lost the card, please get one or more ASAP at the next chapter meeting or at your local shop.

The 24-hour numbers are as follows: MD Parks & Forests: 1-800-825-PARK (-7275) for reporting problems on State lands and for DNR Catch-a-Poacher Program: 1-800-635-6124 for issues off State park or forest lands.

If you have a cell phone, please carry it in a Zip-lock bag while on the stream—you never know when it may be useful.

*Jay Sheppard*

### **Address Changed? Missing an Issue?**

.If you have moved or see any error in your label on this newsletter, please advise both the national TU office and this chapter with separate notices. Our mailing list is maintained apart from the national list; we do eventually get the notice of address change from national TU, but it is often a few months before it affects your newsletter and other mailings. Please help us help you. Thank you.

This past fall we had several reports of members not receiving their newsletters. First, make sure we have your correct address, including 9-digit ZIP, and that your dues are paid up. If you are missing a back issue, please contact us for a copy. For future reference, we try to mail the newsletters about 2 weeks before the next meeting.

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## Tackle & Tactic Tips

**M**any fishers now carry stream thermometers. These are very useful at all times of the year. Subtle changes in the water temperature over the course of the day and week can have a major effect on the behavior of the trout. Up to about 70° or so, any increase in temperature increases their metabolism and therefore the need for food. Conversely, a small decrease can quickly depress their urge to feed. Changes in the low 40s and 30s are much more important to this behavioral change than temps up in the 50s.

The problems I have seen in talking with many fishers over the years are that they do not understand that their thermometer may not be as accurate as they think. There is a very simple check to verify one of the most important temperatures on the planet: the freezing point of water or 32° F. Take a large Styrofoam cup or other insulated vessel. Fill it completely with crushed ice and add just enough cold water to fill the spaces. At this point, the temperature of the mixture is as close to 32° as you will need to have.

Leave your thermometer in it for a couple of minutes and then check it for at least several readings spaced a minute or two apart. The last two readings must be the same. Note the difference, if any, from 32° for future reference. The only problem is that this reading error is not likely to be consistent in the other readings in the summer. Finding an accurate thermometer to test your stream device against in the range of 60-70° is very difficult.

I have found that some of the better digital thermometers for outdoor use are generally within a degree or less of the true reading. If you have such a device, its sensor must be submersible, as, again, the only way to really verify two or more thermometers at the same time is in a water bath out of the sun and in an insulated container.

As a final note, I have a length of old fly line that attaches the stream thermometer to my vest. The length is such that I can deploy the thermometer and let it dangle in the stream just below my knee level so that I will not step on it. Again, I always take two readings that remain constant. You cannot drop your thermometer into a stream, yank it out a minute later and expect to have the first reading to be really accurate. The excess fly line is wound around the thermometer while being carried in the vest. Go forth, fish, and know how cool you really are!

*Jay Sheppard*

## Chapter Assessments

**E**very so often we need to explain to our members why we have "assessments" of \$15 per year. Many years ago, we had a print shop owner as our editor who did the newsletter at no cost to us. Our annual costs for these and other expenses were very small. Then, we lost our printer/editor.

The great variations in both delivery times and reliability caused us to shift from using bulk mail (Third Class) to First Class mail. We also increased the size of the CONSERVATIONIST to some six or even ten pages. All these greatly increased our costs.

We also have been providing extra copies to nearby tackle shops, state fisheries offices, and the media, all of which now amount to about 250 copies per mailing. We also provide new members a packet of the past year's newsletters and other information. The other main costs to the chapter are the rental fees for the rooms at the Senior Center.

Your dues to National TU are not returned in any meaningful amount to the chapter after the first year. We do receive a rebate for each new member we sign up of \$15, and \$.50 per member each year from the national organization, but that is all.

The chapter has no other sources of income to defray these administrative costs, and those mentioned amounts do not go very far after the first year of membership. Commercial advertising is not practical, as the few shops and others could not support much of the more than \$4,000 annual administrative costs of the chapter. These local shops do contribute to our raffles and other fund-raising events.

What we have had to do is simply ask each member to pay a share of these **administrative** costs. We strongly believe that any monies we receive as donations, such as at raffles and other similar sources, should go **only** towards the resource. We have made significant contributions to other major fishery projects all over the country. Locally, we have purchased trout, float boxes, signs and boards, and instream materials using the donations and contributions.

In summary, the Board members do feel that if you want it, you have to pay for it. Donations go to helping the resource, not to help any individual cover his newsletter postage and printing. Only

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## Chapter Assessment

(Continued from page 6)

two-thirds or three-quarters of our PPTU chapter members pay the assessment. As a reminder, full time high school and college students are waived the annual assessment. Just send us your expected graduation date. (See back cover for other details on the assessment.)



### TU Renewals

## No Longer Paid Through Chapter

**N**ational TU no longer gives the chapter a rebate of \$5 for each renewal processed. We appreciate the support of everyone who did renew in the past through the chapter, as it did provide a good deal of added income.

In the future, please just mail your renewal directly back to TU. Make sure your renewals are addressed to their new members' service center: PO Box 910, Oxon Hill, MD 20750.

As a side note, several members complained about not having their checks returned by TU for their renewals. If after a month or so you have not received your new membership card from national TU, consider your check lost in the mail. If you later discover that they have cashed both checks, they are quite willing to either add a year or refund the amount.

In another recent change, when you renew, you will be reassigned to the TU chapter that that ZIP code is ascribed. This may not always be PPTU. This is a real problem that we are trying to address and hope to have straightened out in the near future.

Please take note that you can be 'permanently' assigned to any chapter by calling their service center: 1-800-834-2419. You will need to have your member number when you make this call (label on TROUT or your card). This has caused some consternation with many of our older members, so be aware that this may happen to you, especially if you live in the 'border areas' to the south and west of Silver Spring or north of Columbia.

There are now five TU chapters in the immediate Washington metro area, including a new one being split from the Northern Virginia Chapter that will be meeting in the Alexandria area shortly.

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## The Last Word

### A Powerhouse at Your Fingertips

(Continued from page 8)

If you're a fly fisher, an excellent source of information is the Federation of Fly Fishers web site, [www.fedflyfishers.org](http://www.fedflyfishers.org). It's all about fly fishing, not just for trout, but for all fish in all waters. A list of FFF affiliated clubs can be a source of information about fishing during your travels. There are even some neat fishing graphics that you might find useful. You don't have to be an FFF member to access most of the site, but you should be. Ask me about it.

A web site that I find very helpful is Fly Anglers On Line, [www.flyanglersonline.com](http://www.flyanglersonline.com). It's run by a married couple in Washington state and contains close to a jillion items about fly fishing, fly tying, stillwaters, panfish, rod building, and much, much more. LadyFisher and Castwell are pretty opinionated, but they encourage and respect the readers' opinions and will publish them on the site. New information is posted every Monday morning—early because I browse it fairly early and we're four hours ahead of PST. There's a great section on tying cheap Atlantic salmon and steelhead flies.

Another web site I find useful is Paul Arden's [www.sexyloops.com](http://www.sexyloops.com). Paul's a British guide who guides in the UK and Australia, but only in the summer (UK winter is Australian summer). The site is slightly risqué at times, but a long way from pornographic. There is a slight problem with the translation, despite the common language. The Brits don't use our version of English, but you'll be able to learn a lot about fishing in the land of Isaak Walton, Charles Cotton, Frederick Halford, and G.E.M. Skues—knowledge that can be very useful here in the colonies.

Those web sites should get you started. If you find others—and they're out there, let me know and I'll pass them on in *The Conservationist*.

Remember, ignorance can be cured, but stupidity is refusing to take the cure. John Colburn



# The **Conservationist**

The Potomac-Patuxent Chapter of Trout Unlimited

## Membership

THE POTOMAC-PATUXENT CHAPTER of Trout Unlimited has two membership categories: **Regular or Family** (\$15/year assessment) or **Student** (free). The Chapter operates on a September-to-September basis. The assessment is totally separate from Trout Unlimited dues. Send correspondence, change of address, or assessment payable to POTOMAC-PATUXENT TROUT UNLIMITED, PO Box 2865, Wheaton, MD 20915.

Chapter and national TU expiration dates are indicated in the mailing label as PP-0903 or NTU-0903.

First time visitors receive two free issues of this publication.

## MEMBER'S ASSESSMENT NOW PAYABLE

The annual assessment is now payable. Check your label; if the "PP-" date is "0903" (or there is NO "PP-" and date), you can send your \$15 now, and you will not have to worry about paying at the September meeting. Some members paid twice this year, so they already show "PP-0904." Make checks payable to "POTOMAC-PATUXENT CHAPTER—TU" and mail to our chapter mail box. The assessment covers only the newsletter and related administrative expenses; all donations above expenses at raffles, etc., go to the resource and not to support our members with free newsletters, maps, etc. **Final mailing** for those having "PP-0903" on their label will be this next November issue. **There will be NO separate mailings to remind members of this obligation. Please take note and action today! You will not want to miss our January issue and later issues and their announcements. Thank you.**

## The Last Word

### A Powerhouse at Your Fingertips

**I**t's often said that knowledge is power, and if you have access to the Internet, you have a powerhouse at your finger tips. I'm not going to try to tell about all the knowledge that's out there in the Cyber world, but I will get you pointed toward some web sites that might help you become a more knowledgeable and competent fly fisher.

First off, there the PPTU web site, [www.pptu.org](http://www.pptu.org). It contains a lot more than just announcements of the meetings. There's a lot of other information and links to other TU related web sites, but probably the most interesting thing is the PPTU Listserver, a place where members can exchange views about subjects related to trout, fishing, tackle, places to fish, fish caught (and released?), and much more. It's a place where PPTU members help each other. Check it out.

Then there's the Trout Unlimited web site, [www.tu.org](http://www.tu.org). You can learn much more than you probably want, but a little digging around will probably result in new knowledge about TU and its objectives. One part I've found handy is the list of TU chapters which gives names, addresses and phone numbers of chapter presidents and links to the chapters' web sites and newsletters. If you plan any traveling this summer, check out fishing conditions by contacting the TU chapters on your route.

*(Continued on page 7)*



Return Address:

**Potomac-Patuxent Chapter TU**  
**P.O. Box 2865**  
**Wheaton, MD 20915**

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

## It's Show Time

**Here are three local shows coming up:**

Feb. 15—Rapidan TU/FFF, Middleburg, VA  
[www.rapidantu.org](http://www.rapidantu.org)

Mar. 20—National Capitol TU, Bethesda, MD  
[www.ncc-tu.org](http://www.ncc-tu.org)

Mar. 27—Falmouth Flats Fly Fishers;  
Fredericksburg, VA [www.ffflyfishers.org](http://www.ffflyfishers.org)

**Check web sites for times and places**