

# Trout Unlimited

## Little River Chapter



Next Meeting  
Thursday  
April 24th

*Barley's*  
**Maryville**



## The President's Thoughts

Just came back from the Chapter spring camping trip to Deep Creek campgrounds. We had a chance to fish both Deep Creek and Nolan Creek. I think all the campers caught fish.

Jon Ellis  
**Tellico Hatchery**

Larry Davis caught his first trout, a 13 inch Brown trout. As usual, the food was great and the campfire discussion was interesting. Pat Tully did a great job. The weather on Friday and Saturday was dry and warm. If we would have packed up 15 minutes earlier we would have left dry. And if you haven't experienced a Chapter camping trip, you really should plan to camp with us.

The Chapter's next meeting will be April 24 at Barley's in Maryville. The social starts at 6 pm and the meeting at 7 pm. Our speaker this month will be Jon Ellis from the Tellico Hatchery. He will be talking about the Citico and Tellico fisheries. He will also be talking about some of the possible changes at the hatchery. See you at the meeting!

## **Walter Babb's Reading List!**

Written by Steve Young

Back in the fall of 2017 Walter Babb spoke to our chapter in what I took as a series of valuable observations/ruminations on his experiences as a fly fisherman. Coming from a lifetime Smokies Fisherman and a recognized expert on the sport I accepted his comments as 'gospel'. Unfortunately I can't remember everything he said but one thing stuck with me; he passed on the fact that books on fly fishing played a key role in his education and development as a fly fisher. He remarked that he would fish, read some part of a book, and then go out and fish once more trying the techniques or employing some of the information he gleaned from his reading. While we often would prefer 'hands-on' instruction/learning, that experience is not always readily available (if I remember correctly that was Walter's experience). His comment was gratifying to me because I have found that this technique has become an integral part of my development as a fly fisher. Fishing with and talking fishing with other TU members and "long rodders" and learning with and from them is a special part of my fly fishing skills development. However I do enjoy going out on my own, making my own mistakes, coming back, reading some resource about what I was trying to do, and then going out the next time and attempting to apply that new knowledge.

All this is leading up to the fact that I happened to be next to Walter as the meeting broke up and he handed me a short bibliography of resources that had helped him along. They were written on a small piece of note paper which I stuffed in my pocket and then forgot about during the rush of the holidays. While

doing my version of spring cleaning I came across this list and thought I would pass in on to our membership.

### **Walter's List**

'The Art of Tying the Wet Fly and Fishing the Flymph'—James Leisenring and Pety Hidy

'Trout Tactics'—Joe Humphrey

'On the Trout Stream'—Joe Humphrey

'Trout'—Ray Bergman

'Flies'—J Edson Leonard

'The Practical Fly Fisherman'—A J McClane

'Taking Larger Trout'—Larry Koller

'The Sportsman's Notebook'—H G Tappley

I am sure many of us have our own personal written resources that we rely on. Perhaps you might be willing pass them on using the Chapter Newsletter as a medium. At the risk of being presumptuous by putting my list on the same page as Walter's, I would like to 'prime the pump'!

### **Steve's List**

'The Orvis Guide to Reading Trout Streams'—Tom Rosenbauer - Some may be put off because this is an 'Orvis Book' ! Also there are a lot of these types of books out there, and I have several. However I think this has the best illustrations and written most concisely.

'Drag-Free Drift'—Joseph Kissane and others - I tie most of my own leaders and that is the primary topic of this book. However there are sidebars on fly rod design (including the components of 'flex' and some formulas for you engineering guys!) among other things. Lot of detail here.





'Handbook of Hatches'—Dave Hughes – Hughes has written many books, articles, etc. on our passion—most go in to considerable detail. This one is no exception but is readily understandable and a useful go-to resource.



## Trout in the Classroom

by Joyce Frey

All of our schools are having a successful season raising the Shasta strain rainbows and are looking forward to the release activities.

Several volunteers have already signed up to help with the releases, but more volunteers are needed to help with the various programs arranged for the students. In addition to releasing the trout, a water quality testing station, an aquatic insect station, a practice casting session, and NPS, TWRA, TDEC or TVA will be providing a show and tell of shocked fish from the Little River. Check your calendars against the dates below and come out to help us. Several volunteers are needed on each date to help with shocking, finding bugs, casting instructions and releases. Expect to be at the location around 8:30. All events will be over by 11:30.

**April 30** – Townsend Elementary 4<sup>th</sup> graders will release at the new Little Arrow Campground which is right before the Park boundary.

**May 1** – John Sevier Elementary 1<sup>st</sup> graders will release at the Townsend KOA.

**May 2** – St. Johns Newman 4<sup>th</sup> graders will release at the Townsend KOA.

**May 8** – Porter Elementary 4<sup>th</sup> graders will release at the Townsend KOA but with then have all their other activities take place at the Metcalf Bottoms Pavilion in the Park.

**May 10** – Tate's School 4<sup>th</sup> graders will release at the Townsend KOA.

**May 15** – Lenior City Middle School 6<sup>th</sup> graders will release at the Townsend KOA.

## Tie & Lie

We will be meeting at The Casual Pint in Maryville at 6pm on April 23. The suggested fly for the night will be the Thunderhead. This is a Wolff style fly, a good spring fly and floats well in turbulent water.



**Fly Tied By Walter Babb**

### **Dry Fly**

#### **Thunderhead**

**Hook : Standard dry Fly hook,  
Size 10-16**

**Thread : Black 8/0**

**Wing : White Calf tail or body  
hair**

**Tail : Brown or mixed Brown and  
Grizzly hackle fibers**

**Body : Muskrat fur dubbing**

**hackle : Brown or mixed Brown  
and Grizzly hackles**

**Pattern Developed By  
Fred Hall  
Bryson City, NC**

**May 16** – Clayton Bradley Academy 2<sup>nd</sup> graders at the Townsend KOA.

**May 17** – Lonsdale Elementary 5<sup>th</sup> graders at the Townsend KOA.



## **Rich Eitel** **is the 2017 Eddy George Award Recipient**

Each year, the Eddy George Award honors a Chapter member for exceptional support of National Park Fisheries. As many of our members know, Eddy George was a founding member of the Great Smoky Mountains Chapter (the first TU chapter in the Knoxville area) and also a founding member of the Little River Chapter. He was a great fisherman and fly tyer with a strong commitment to protecting and preserving the rivers and streams where trout live.

We are happy to report the 2017 recipient is Rich Eitel. Rich

started helping in the Park with Acid Deposition sampling in 2015 assisting on the Upper Little River route. Rich quickly completed the training to allow him to drive a government vehicle. He then signed up to be a sample team leader in 2016 and remains the current leader for the Cosby route.

In 2016, Rich worked multiple days helping with the Lynn Camp Prong sampling and with the Anthony Creek Brook Trout Restoration project. In 2017, Rich continued as a very active volunteer helping make Anthony Creek Brook Trout Restoration successful while continuing as a sample team leader. He also helped with large stream sampling and Lynn Camp prong monitoring in 2017.



The award includes a custom built Sage Fly rod which this year Steve Darnell has generously volunteered to build. Thanks go to Steve for helping with this award.

Congratulations to Rich Eitel on his exceptional support and very well deserved Eddy George Award!

## Chapter Notes

*March 27th, 2018*

Ernie Frey opened the meeting, reviewed the agenda and reminded all of us to consider submitting an article for the monthly newsletter. He thanked Ian Rutter for his article, "It's The Time Spent, Not The Fish" that appeared in the March newsletter and suggested that we all take a few minutes to read it.

Ernie then covered additional items of interest;

The Trout Unlimited Southeast Conference will be held in Davis, WV from May 18th to May 20th.

Ernie presented Charlie Chmielewski with a custom made / engraved fly box for his years of outstanding service in many different roles within our TU Chapter. Charlie's most recent effort was in the extremely difficult job of Volunteer Coordinator.

Eddie George Award: Charlie Chmielewski presented the Eddie George award for 2017 to Rich Eitel. The award is for exceptional service focused on support of the GSMNP Park Services organization.



We all took a moment to honor and remember the passing of Lefty Kreh. He has made a tremendous contribution to the world of fly fishing and will be missed.

LRCTU Camping Trip: Pat Tully gave us an update on our first camping / fishing trip of the year. It will be on April 13th, 14th and 15th at Deep Creek in Bryson City.

The Little River Cleanup has been rescheduled to April 21st at 9:00am. We will meet at Metcalf Bottoms and should be done before noon. Lunch will be provided after the cleanup.

Tie & Lie will be on April 23rd at the Casual Pint in Maryville. We will meet at 6:00pm and be tying the Thunderhead fly.

Trout in the Classroom: Joyce Frey gave us an update on the Trout in the Classroom program. All tanks are doing well and the release schedule has been finalized. If you can help with the releases please contact Joyce at 865-518-1975 or email her at [jmfrey@comcast.net](mailto:jmfrey@comcast.net).

Here is the 2018 Spring Release Schedule:

May 1	John Sevier Elementary, 1st grade
May 2	St. John Newman, 4th grade
May 8	Porter Elementary, 4th grade
May 10th	Tate's School, 4th grade
May 15th	Lenoir City Middle School, 6th grade
May 16th	Clayton Bradley, 2nd grade
May 17th	Lonsdale Elementary, 5th grade
May 14th	Episcopal (will be releasing at Buffalo Springs)

Trout Camp: Steve Young gave us an update on this years Trout Camp. It will be held from June 18 to June 25. Steve could still use some help so if you are interested please contact Steve at [steve\\_y@earthlink.net](mailto:steve_y@earthlink.net) or .. 832-256-3228.

Submitted by Jim Jeswald