

Little River Chapter Newsletter

Editor
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Next Meeting

The next meeting is on the fourth Thursday August the 24th, 7:00 P.M. at Monte Vista Baptist Church at 1735 Old Niles Ferry Rd in Maryville. The church has an entrance on the opposite side of Hwy 129 between the Red light and the Co-op Gas station.

Program

Our two speakers are both fly fishermen and love the sport as well as working with wood. One will bring his drift boat and the other his strip canoe.

Andrew Sonner deals with storm water for the City of Alcoa for his day job. He will have a presentation showing the process he used to build his drift boat.

Chase Vandervelde teaches at Maryville High during the day and became interested in building canoes at MHS where canoes are built in a class. With the help of a good friend he built his first canoe at home and is in the process of getting ready to build some more that will be for sale.

This should be a very interesting meeting - be sure to be there.

Stream Work

September 9 Large Stream Sample - Little River (Metcalf Bottoms) This the only Saturday Stream Sample

September 16-17 Bi-Monthly Acid Deposition Sample

September 20-21 Large Stream Sample - Straight Fork

November 18-19 Bi-Monthly Acid Deposition Sample

Fishing Picks

By Ian Rutter: Mid August is probably the toughest month of the season to catch trout outside of January and February's cold grip. Warm temperatures find the fish laying low to avoid exhaustion and relatively low water levels make them skittish. Add minimal hatch activity to the equation and things start to look grim. But cheer up! It's not as bad as it sounds.

The mountains have continued to receive good rainfall amounts through the summer. The rumble of thunder over the high ridges is common in the afternoons and has kept the streams fresh. Perhaps the best advice is to move up in elevation. The runs that fished best back in April will be among the toughest in August. Try to fish streams that are at least 2500 in elevation if not higher. Water temperatures are cooler here than they are lower in the stream. The high gradient often found in the higher streams also means more current. Even when water levels drop, there is still plenty of current to find feeding fish.

Streams that will fish best during the dog days of summer will be the West Prong of the Little Pigeon, Middle Prong of the Little Pigeon, Porters Creek, Roaring Fork, and Bradley Fork. You might also consider a hike into some backcountry streams. Start early while its cool and you'll be in the water and at elevation where it's cool by the time things warm up. Consider upper Deep Creek via Newfound Gap Road trailhead, Big Creek at Walnut Bottoms, or Fish Camp Prong above Elkmont.

Tailwater fishing has gotten pretty tough recently for several reasons. The first is that TVA has begun to draw reservoirs down earlier than ►

usual this year. This has resulted in high flows on the Clinch, even too high for good float conditions. However, recreational schedules on weekends provide good flows for wading or floating. The South Holston has had a good number of Sulphurs. Flows are best for wading in the morning, then move to a level sought by those with drift boats in the afternoons. The Watauga also has had flows to suit almost any anglers.

Troutfest Check Presentation

On August 9 we were able to bring all the principal parties together to hand over a twelve thousand dollar check to the GSMNP. This money raised from this year Troutfest will be use for the upcoming work on Lynn Camp Prong. Park fisheries will be working to restore 8 miles of the stream for Southern Appalachian brook trout. This will be a large project and will need a lot of manpower and money from our Chapter for its completion.



Steve Moore, Steve Best, Gary Verholek, Bill Bolinger, Joe Hatton, Jeff Hall, Tom Eustis, Matt Kulp

I'd like to thank everyone for their help.
Joe Hatton

September fishing in the Yellowstone area.

Tips from Rick Blackburn

The weather usually hot and is dry with cool to cold nights and the odd snow storm is still possible. The water is low to very low but clear. The crowds are less than midsummer, but don't expect solitude. By September most of the small streams that I like to fish in July and August are already getting too cold to fish well. Some

streams and spots that I like in September are Raynold's Pass and the \$3 Bridge area on the Madison. At times the fish will hit something all day long here. The trick is to find out what the fish want in a particular stretch of water and when they want it.

By September a lot of the bigger (16 to 20 inch) fish have moved out of the middle of the river back closer to the bank and more shallow water. My first choice when fishing this type water is to use some type of size 14 attractor pattern attached to a long piece of 4x. Make long (30 to 40 foot) casts. You can rarely sneak up on the bigger fish at this time of year in the low, clear water. If this isn't working I try two size 16 two-tone caddis fished slack-line downstream. Third choice is some type of hopper pattern about size 12 with or without a small nymph dropper tied off the hook bend. Medium sized (6-8) muddlers also work well late in September.

Wet fly fishing can still be very good in September on the Madison. I like the section of water between South Madison campground and about two miles below McAtee bridge. Fish two size 14 fur bodied soft hackles quartering downstream from about 8 p.m. until dark. I've caught some of my best fish on this river fishing this way from May through September.

The Gallatin between Gallatin Gateway and Taylors Fork has very good early morning streamer fishing for browns up toward 18-20 inches in late September, and the Lower Madison up in Bear trap canyon can produce some monster browns in late September and October

Here are two of my own patterns that work for me--

A: Blackburn two-tone caddis

hook: 14 and 16 dry

thread: brown 6/0 or 8/0

body: dubbed beaver

hackle: two turns of brown-clipped top and bottom

underwing: gray dun poly

overwing: tan poly

*round the end of the wing with your scissors

B: Blackburn palmered coachman ►

hook: 10-2x to 16-2x
 thread: 6/0 brown
 tail: deer hair
 body: two or three peacock herls
 hackle: brown -tied in at head--tied thick for front 1/3 and palmered for rear 2/3.
 wing: two overlapping pieces of white ploy tied in at front making a single wing.

Good luck if you all come out this way in September. I'll be hunting grouse and huns by then. Rick B.

Ovris Store News

Kris Maurer has asked me to pass along good news to our Chapter.

15% OFF all regular priced items for all local TU members, have your TU membership card ready if asked.

They are also looking for someone with fishing knowledge to work part time. Give them a call at 865-774-4162 or pick up an application at the store.

Plus. Kris also has a Mad River 14TT Canoe for sale. If interested you can contact him at canoeflyguy@yahoo.com.

To the Members of Trout Unlimited

I would like to tell you how much I appreciate each and every one of you! This Chapter has been a constant inspiration to me via the tremendous amount of work and on going volunteering! The level of volunteering you demonstrate is beyond any I have witnessed.

Please accept my gratitude for allowing us (at the last hour) to have an item in the TroutFest Auction to benefit CFR/TN. As most of you know we were able to raise \$1000.00 during the auction. What you may not know are from the buckets passed around after the banquet, we raised an additional \$400.00! Fantastic!

As most of you know there was a CFR/TN booth at TroutFest. Many of you came by to learn more about CFR (Casting For Recovery), some of you to share your own story of friends and

family members touched by cancer. Others came to volunteer with offers to help in anyway needed...your time, additional monetary donations, help as a staff person for the retreat, possible sponsorship, media assistance, and to offer your sincere concerns and care for what we are doing. I look forward to working with each of you that so graciously volunteered to help make this CFR Retreat March of 2007 a possibility in Tennessee.

I also want to mention the two couples from Ohio and the two couples from Indiana that drove all the way to Townsend to assist and setup the first CFR/TN booth to help get us started. They have been a wealth of knowledge and have offered to help in any way they can. Thank you all!

Sincerely,
 Mary K. Jenkins

PS Total dollar donations from TroutFest for CFR/TN \$2043.00.

My Thanks to all of you for your help!

Fly of the month

Cone Head Woolly Bugger

Sizes: 02 thru 12

Colors: Olive, Black

Hook: 4X long streamer

Thread: Black 6/0

Tail: Black or olive marabou and pearl Krystal Flash

Body: Black or olive Vernille

Ribbing: Dark monofimament thread

Hackle: Black, palmered



The Little River Chapter of Trout Unlimited is a nonprofit volunteer organization that is committed to Protecting & Restoring Cold Water Resources and Watersheds in and around the Great Smoky Mountains National Park

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