

Little River Chapter Newsletter

Editor
Joe Hatton



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www.lrctu.org

Next Meeting

The next meeting is on the fourth Thursday August, the 23th, 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 old Bi-Lo and the Co-op Gas station.

Program

Ian and Charity Rutter owner of R&R Fly Fishing Guide Service will present the presentation

The Variety of East Tennessee's Trout Waters: Mountain Streams, Tailwater Rivers & Lakes

East Tennessee has a wide variety of quality trout waters. Mountain trout streams, large tailwater rivers, and even cold water lakes are found in a relatively small geographic area. Fly fishers can hike in for small stream brook trout high in the Smokies, wade large streams, or float tailwaters and lakes for larger trout. This program touches on Tennessee's great variety of water and the best times to fish where, and techniques to be successful at catching trout on fly.

Stream work

August 21 - 23 Slickrock Creek Evaluation Coop. sampling project with TN and NC

September 15-16 # Bi-Monthly Acid Deposition Sample

Fishing Report

It's August and it is hot. Right now the streams in the Smokies are low and warm. Of course, that could change at any moment. July started out this way, then the rain came and the cool nights brought good fishing. We got over 8 inches of rain in Townsend during the month. Trout were taking dry flies and nymphs in all but the lowest elevation streams.

Last year August started out about like it is now with low water and warm temperatures. Then on the 11th we got rain and cooler temperatures. For the rest of the month the fishing was really good in the Smokies. We kept getting more rain and the water was cool. Let's hope that happens again.

Right now yellow dry flies seem to work best in the Smokies. Try a yellow Parachute Adams. It works. A Yellow Parachute Adams? I wonder if anyone has tried a yellow Thunderhead. How about a Yellow Royal Wulff. I bet yellow peacock herl would be hard to find. Of course Yellow Palmers, Yellow Stimulators or any Yellow Sally pattern is good this time of year. Don't forget Green Weenies, ants and beetles.

Until the weather improves I think I would wade out into a nice cool tailwater. Try the South Holston. A lot of my friends are fishing there. It has been great. The Holston is fishing well. I haven't heard anything about the Hiwassee lately but the fishing there

was good during the Spring and early Summer. Like I said before the Caney Fork has been super this year. A lot of folks I know are fishing on the Clinch and having a great time.

The Cumberland River below Wolf Creek Dam has offered some excellent angling this year despite the lake drawdown for dam repairs. I've heard the water way down stream has been warm but for miles below the dam it has been fine. I was worried about that fishery, and I still am. But the reports so far have been good.

I want to get away for a few days and catch some bluegill. I know this is a Trout Unlimited newsletter but catching bluegill on a fly makes me feel young again. I got online today and looked at the Tennessee State Parks website. I found the perfect place, Fall Creek Falls State Park. The state record bream was caught there, they seem to have had plenty of rain lately and I think that would be a perfect place to spend two or three days. If I go I'll tell you about it.

I also looked a Roan Mountain State Park. I don't hear much about the Doe River but it sounds like a new place to try. The website boasts excellent fishing for brook, brown and rainbow trout. By the way, the Tennessee State Parks website is one of the best. Check it out.

Fall will be here before we know it. The brown trout and brookies will spawn. Fishing in the Smokies will be good. The tube hatch will be over and we'll start tying flies for next year's use. Frankly, I'm looking forward to it.

Have a great August and thanks for supporting our chapter and the Park Fisheries folks. After all, that's why we became the Little River Chapter... from day one.

Byron Begley

Toccoa Tailwater

Recently I stopped at the Feather & Fly shop located at 2401 S. Broad Street in Chattanooga Tn. I was talking to the owner, Mike Stewart, about local fishing opportunities, thinking that he would start taking about the Elk river or the Hiwassee River. But I was surprised when he started telling me about fishing the Toccoa River and fishing in North Georgia. He said that he thought the Toccoa was the best tailwater in the South. Being from Knoxville and so close to the Clinch and down the road from the South Holston I thought this was a very big claim. But I kept it to myself and listened as he said that there was some Browns in the 20 inch range and some Rainbows up to 17inches. He also told me that North Georgia had over four thousand miles of Trout streams and most of his customers fished in North Georgia instead of Tennessee. I drove by the Blue Ridge dam a few years ago. The tailwater runs from Blue Ridge dam flowing thought the towns of McCaysville, Ga. and Copperhill, Tn. before flowing in to Ocoee No. 3 lake. It changes names from Toccoa River to Ocoee river at the Tennessee state line.

Like the Clinch the Toccoa has an access problem. There are three main access points, Tammen Park to TVA Blue Ridge Dam, Curtis Switch and Horseshoe Bend Park in McCaysville. You can also take a float trip, Unicoi Outfitters (phone 706-632-1880) in the town of Blue Ridge looks to be the place to go for the latest information. There are some motels in Blue Ridge and Ducktown if you are staying the night. Anglers can check the TVA release schedule for the next day by calling the 800-238-2264 after 4 p.m. Listen to the message, then press 4, 23 and # to get the release schedule for the following day. Or you can go online to the TVA website. The release schedule can change at any time, so always keep your eye on the water level. Just

like in North Carolina, Georgia DNR has maps by County of trout streams on their website. Remember that Toccoa is in Fannin County. I will put a link on the Newsletter web page. Georgia Non-resident fishing license is \$24.00 season or \$7.00 for 7 day, a Trout stamp is \$13.00. When I make my trip I hope to swing over and fish the Conasauga River on my way back. It has been on my list for a long time but I have never seemed to find the time to fish it.

Good fishing
Joe

Old Books

Being off work for last couple of months I have had time to search the web for fly fishing info. Besides coming across some pretty good videos on fishing england's trout streams, one of the best finds was some fly fishing books that have been published in PDF format. Several of the books were written in the 1800's and the rest were the early 20th century. All the books can be download for free. You will need a high speed connection and Adobe Reader. Even with high speed connection some of the downloads can take a while. See the newsletter web page for the link to the Internet Archive.

The Sister's on the Fly

Is a women's only group started by two sisters, Maurrie Sussman and Becky Clarke. They host adventure trips mostly in the Rocky Mountains but lately their membership has grown to include some southern women too, so they have added a southern trip. They have scheduled a get together in Pigeon Forge for Sept. 19 - 23. Tom Tipton's wife Marji is a member of the group and he is needing some T.U. volunteers to lend a hand to guide a few of the Sister's on a flyfishing excursion on Sat. the 22nd from 9 am till 3 pm. Most who have signed up are novice anglers and may

need to borrow a rod and reel. If you think you can help you can contact, Tom Tipton (phone 705-7231) or e-mail him at tgtipton@bellsouth.net.

Fly of the Month

“See It” Beetle

Hook: TMC 102Y

Thread: Black Ultra 70

Underbody/shellback: Black 2mm Foam

Body: Arizona Peacock Dubbing

Legs: Bug Legz

Indicator: Red Foam



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