

Editor: Dave Ezell (ezop@charter.net)

Next Meeting:

Where: Monte Vista Baptist Church
1735 Old Niles Ferry Rd
Maryville, TN 37803-5505
(enter the bldg. from the parking lot)

When: 7:00 p.m., Thurs., August 28

Program: Fly tying demonstrations from notable locals including:

Dean Campbell
Dave Carson
Buzz Buffington
Lee Whitehead
Tim Doyle

(A special thanks to Sara Weeks for recruiting this distinguished group)

NOTE: There will be a board meeting starting at 6:00 p.m.—prior to the regular meeting.

President's Notes:

As a chapter, we should be proud of one of our more youthful members, Lee Whitehead. Last year LRCTU sponsored Lee for the TU North Carolina camp Rivercourse, which really helped, solidify his interest in fly-fishing.

He became a member of our chapter and is one of our featured tyers at our upcoming August 27 meeting. He has further distinguished himself by being selected as one of only 12 participants nationwide to go to the Federation of Fly Fishers annual youth program this past June. Our chapter, along with others, also helped defray his travel and related expenses so he could participate. In addition, Lee worked to save money for the trip.

He is a great kid. His mother, Karen Easter, is very supportive and insures he gets to our chapter meetings and activities including TroutFest. She is obviously a proud mother

and deserves to be. Also a special thanks to Mike Davis who is Lee's mentor and has helped along the way.

We appreciate our own Charlie Downs bringing Lee's talents and needs to our attention. Lee is a great example of what can be done with modest financial support at the right time for the right things. We as a chapter need to do more to encourage and sustain youth to become involved with fly fishing and cold-water preservation and restoration. Hopefully, this and other similar efforts will be a good example of future dividends from broadening the scope of our chapter's activities to support such endeavors.

-Rufus King

Cataloochie Catch

By Ian Rutter

Charity and I noticed some blank days on the guide calendar and decided we needed to take advantage of the break. Even those of us who live in the Smoky Mountains like to take a few days to get away and do nothing more than camp and fly fish.

After a quick scan of a map of the Smokies we decided to head for the Cataloochee Valley. We haven't fished there this season and it's always fun to see the elk. We remembered the mild temperatures and brook trout after we arrived in the valley.

(cont'd on Pg.2)



Those of you who have followed our fishing report will remember all the great weather we've been talking about. Our time at Cataloochee was no different. We wore light fleece jackets in the morning as temperatures dipped into the mid 50's. Afternoons were pleasant and close to 80. Water levels were absolutely perfect and water temperatures were anywhere from 60 to 62. Absolutely amazing for August!

The streams fished best with dry flies. I caught a few fish on beadhead nymphs, but felt like I did at least as good if not better on dries. Terrestrial patterns like the Elkmont Ant did pretty good, but in the end it was pretty tough to beat a good old

Parachute Adams.

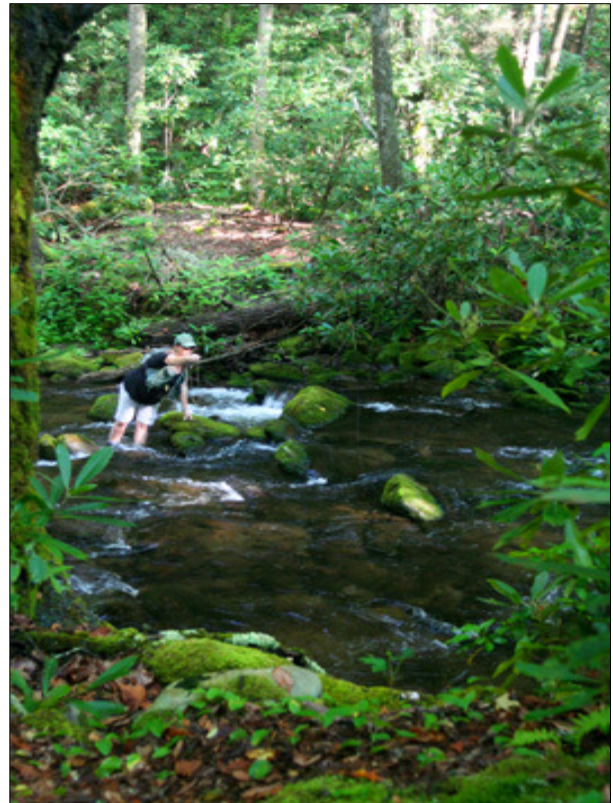
Specks (brook trout for those of you outside the Smokies) have made an impressive comeback in Cataloochee Valley. We've heard about fly fishers

picking up some specks in the main stem of Cataloochee Creek over the past few years. We've been catching them in Palmer and Little Cataloochee, but that's where we've spent the bulk of our time the past few years when we made the trip.

We actually caught more specks than anything else this trip and that includes a good deal of time spent on the main stem of Cataloochee Creek. If you haven't been there, the stream is roughly equal in size to Deep Creek, Tremont, and Hazel Creek. In other words, this is a big stream for specks to be the main catch.

Rough Fork was nothing short of superb when it came to brookies. Charity had a real chunky one on that flipped off the hook just as I was focusing the camera. We both figured it was about 9" long. We caught specks as low as the group camp site which is pretty low in the valley.

Brown trout have traditionally been the main reason we've fished Cataloochee Creek. Long pools in the valley directly adjacent to meadows



have always made for some superb terrestrial fishing. Browns are as abundant in Cataloochee Creek as other streams, but now we'd have to rate the creek as a top roadside destination to catch a Smoky Mountain grand slam. As always, the brown trout will be the toughest third to land. I missed a real nice brown on an Elkmont Ant. It wasn't a beast, but no less than a foot long. We didn't land many browns on this trip compared to specks and rainbows, but we hooked enough browns to keep it interesting.

If you can swing a free day you should head on over to Cataloochee. It's always a beautiful place to visit and you'll probably see more elk than fly fishers.

Ian & Charity Rutter operate R&R Fly Fishing (www.randrflyfishing.com) Thanks to the both of them for sharing this trip.—Ed

A Day to Remember

By: Chris Maurer

A day that we could do no wrong. It is not very often that you have a day where everything comes together perfectly. The type of day that the fish cooperate and every fly that you pick seems to be the ticket. When those days happen you need to take advantage and really enjoy them. The only thing that makes it better is being able to enjoy it with friends.

I t had been a few weeks since I had floated the Clinch. The rain and high water and possibly a need for increased electricity had TVA running almost constantly. The flows were back to being conducive to floating and it just so happened that Doug and myself had the day off, so it seemed like a good idea to float. Coincidentally I had a new associate, John, start at the store, so we invited him along as well.

We got on the water around 9:00am and as soon as we got pushed off we started catching fish on dry dropper rigs. We stuck fish consistently all the way to first set of riffles. So consistently that Doug had landed 20 fish by the time we had got to the first set of riffles and was reluctant to hand the rod over to me so I could get off the oars. John managed to land a good amount as well, but was still getting some of the cob webs knocked off his cast.

Doug and I continued to switch off about every dozen fish, which on this day didn't take very long. Since John was the newbie he got the front of the boat pass. All first timers get the front the first time, and if they fair well, they'll get to row from then on.

Around noon we stopped for lunch, Doug got out to do a little wade fishing. I should say wet wading and for those of you that have fished the Clinch that is a cold proposition. While I was eating my sandwich I think I must have seen him land at least 8 fish! I'm no slow eater either.

Just as soon as we had pushed off John hooked up with a huge fish. All I saw was a gigantic brown tail flash as

John set the hook. I thought this was the brown of a lifetime, but as it streaked by the boat I saw it's big scales. It was a very nice carp. Although John had my 8'4" 3wt Helios! in his hands with 6X tippet. I honestly thought there was no way we would land it, but I did my best to keep close to it with the boat as John played it perfectly. After a good fight we brought the bruiser to the net. Nothing better



than a carp on a Midge with 6X tippet and a 3wt!

The threat of thunderstorms cut the trip short, but honestly at this point we had caught more fish than should be allowed, so we reeled in our rods and headed for the take out. We had been lucky enough all day and did not want to tempt our luck any longer. This had been one incredible day that will be remembered for a while.

Tips from the Trip: The rig of choice was dry dropper with and Adams size 14 dry fly and midge dropper. I don't know if the dropper really mattered as the fish really wanted to eat that day. We used a red midge or the new Hickey's Auto Emerger in Sulphur/PMD, both flies were size 16 to 18. Long leaders of 12ft and 6X fluorocarbon was a must.

- When he's not "field testing", Chris can be found at the Orvis Store in Pigeon Forge. Thanks for the report and great account of the Clinch trip.—Ed

Volunteers Needed

Bunches and Flat Creek Sampling August 26 and 27 The Park Service needs 3 - 4 volunteers each day to sample Bunches and Flat Creeks on Wednesday August 26 and on Thursday August 27. Response has been good but there are still a few vacant slots.

Both streams are accessed via the Flat Creek Falls trail and are moderate hikes. Since the Park Service personnel will not be camping for this work, we will probably arrange to meet at Park Headquarters each day and travel to the trail site in Park Service vehicles. Flat Creek is about a 1.5 mile hike, with some uphill, and Bunches is a shorter hike but includes some creek walking to get to the sites.

Lynn Camp Brook Trout Restoration Capture of brook trout from other locations, such as Bunches and Flat Creeks and transport of them to Lynn Camp Prong will take place in late September and early October. The schedules are not finalized, but **3 - 5 helpers a day will be needed for at least 4 days**. The week of October 5 - 9 is likely and some work may take place the week before.

CONTACT: Charlie Chmielewski (865-661-7325) or e-mail (charlieflyfish@gamil.com or cchm@charter.net)

The Little River Chapter of Trout Unlimited is a Non-Profit Volunteer Organization that is Committed to Protecting and Restoring Cold Water Resources and Watersheds in and Around the Great Smoky Mountains National Park



**Thanks to all of you who
worked on Troutfest.
Great Job!**

And thanks for attending, supporting and donating to Troutfest. Together we have made a difference that we can all be proud of forever.

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Stop by or call about our monthly
fishing seminars, schools and tying classes

Free casting lessons Saturday
mornings from 9am to 10am.
Fall Orvis Days this year will be
October 1st through the 12th.

Call For Help:

Member Jerry Warrington, needs another eye surgery, and is listing a few more items for sale to raise the necessary funds. If you recall, late last fall, I circulated a list of sale items that raised over \$1,300 toward Jerry's cataract surgery. While the initial surgery was successful, he experienced mote problems and now, needs additional surgery that will cost about \$700.

Jerry is offering another 20 treasured items for sale. At stake is his eyesight. Because of the need for prompt treatment, the sale is urgent. Please contact me, Gary Verholek at (gverholek@gmail.com) or Jerry at (jwarrington@core.com).