

# Little River Chapter Newsletter

Chapter President / Editor  
Joe Hatton



Feb 2005  
[www.lrctu.org](http://www.lrctu.org)

## Next Meeting

The next meeting is on the Fourth Thursday Feb. the 24, at 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 Bi-Lo and the Co-op Gas station.

## Program

Marshall Hall of Smoky Mountain Fly Fishing and Custom Rods. He will have a presentation on custom fly rod building and his guide service.

## Stream work

February 26: Acid Deposition Training Session - training at Park HQ, Gatlinburg (9:00AM)

March 19-20: Bi-Monthly Acid Deposition Sample

## Board Meeting

Thursday Feb. the 24, at 6:00 P.M. Before the regular meeting. The meeting subjects: Troutfest budget and update, welcome new Board members, meeting schedule for 2005 calendar year, an update on the Pi Beta Phi Elementary School in Gatlinburg project. All Board Members and Troutfest coordinators need to attend.

## Fishing Pick

By: Ian Rutter

Weather has been relatively mild for February and the mountain streams have had some good moments. Blue wing olives have been making afternoon appearances on the the larger streams in the Smokies. Both Little River and Abrams Creek have been good. Don't waste too much time eating lunch; fish are usually most active between 1:00 and 3:00. The usual nymph patterns will pick off a few fish late in the morning through the afternoon. You might try blindly fishing a dry fly, but you'll probably be more successful by casting your fly directly to a fish you see working on the surface. If you're one of those who just insists on fishing a dry fly, try a #12 or #14 that's pretty bushy. Stimulators, Wulffs, or parachutes are all good for drumming up some business. You'll do best by focusing your efforts on the sunny patches of water where some warmth gets both bugs and fish moving.

Tailwater action has been decent when you can find a generation schedule that matches yours. The South Holston is easily the best thing going right now.

[continued on page two]

[continued from page one] While there haven't been many days when the river has been wadeable all day, there have been plenty of afternoons with good water. Blue wing olives get the fish rising there so this is the best place for dry fly junkies in the winter. Try to hit this river when the weather is gray and cold for the best hatches. The Holston River below Cherokee Dam has also had a few good afternoons of fishing. No one has reported catching any fish of size, but a good number of hook ups seem to make up for that. The Clinch just keeps on pumping the water regardless of how hard I keep hoping otherwise. Looks like we might get some schedules on weekends, but I hate to jinx it.

If you have a have difficulty getting out on the water, don't worry. Tie flies when you can and save those sick days for the upcoming months. We're only about a month from some of the best fishing of the year. Hatches always begin by March in the Smokies and it won't be long before TVA starts holding back water to fill the reservoirs.

## We Need Your Help

Your input is needed . We have speakers booked thru the April meeting. I would like to get some insight on what topic, speaker or type of meeting members would find interesting. We are planing to have a couple of outdoor gathering at River Johns, one in June and the other in September or October. The rest of the year is still open though, so e-mail your ideas to me.

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Thanks  
Joe

## Winter Blahs

I don't know about you, but I have for some reason been looking even more forward to fishing this season then I have for the last couple of years. Nothing has really changed that much this year. I am still working a lot, Troutfest is keeping me busy, but I have been thinking that I need to start trying up some of my flies that I can not buy anywhere else. Maybe I will go down and fish Bald river above Holly Flats a few times this spring. It's 80 miles one way, but it is a stream you start out catching Brown and Rainbow at the campground then hike a couple miles upstream and fish for Brook trout for the rest of the day. Or I could camp over on the North River and fish for the Browns down low, and the next day drive up and fish for mainly Northern Brook trout up top. I could camp along the main road, then I could fish a small stream like Sycamore creek or Rough Ridge creek in



Tellico River

the morning then pickup a trout permit, fish the main river that afternoon and keep a few trout to grill over the fire at night. But I will probably spend more time on Bald River around Holly Flats, not because it is the best water with the biggest fish. [continued on page three]

[continued from page two] With me it is more personal. When I started fishing almost twenty years ago somehow I ended up fishing Bald River a lot. I fished Citico creek and the Little River mainly early on but the solitude of upper Bald River keep drawing me back. I could make my mistakes in private, which I did. Nobody leans to fly fish in one day, one weekend or in my case one year. It takes awhile to learn to cast, then it takes time to get the fly to make a proper float down stream. Then you have to learn to read the water and figure out where all the trout are. It was on the Bald River when I had my first good day of fishing. I thought that day I'd finely figured it out. I soon learned though that each day and each stream is different. But that is the best part about the life of a trout fisherman you can spend you whole life fishing and never get tired of trying to figure it out.

Joe

## Hatch Chart for February

### Tiny Winter Black Stone

Size: 18-22

Best fishing time: Middle of the day

Suggested patterns: Henryville Special, Griffith's Gnat, Black Stone Nymph

### Midge

Size: 18-22

Best fishing time: Middle of the day into the evening

Suggested patterns: Black or Gray Midge, Griffith's Gnat, Midge Pupa

### Early Black Stone

Size: 16-18

Best fishing time: Middle of the day

Suggested patterns: Henryville Special, Black Stone Nymph

### Small Dun Caddis

Size: 18

Best fishing time: Middle of the day

Suggested patterns: Henryville Special, Gray Caddis pupa

### Blue Wing Olive

Size: Dries 18 Nymphs 16-18

Best fishing time: Mid morning to early evening

Suggested patterns: BWO (dry, wet, emerger, para), Adams, Pheasant Tail Nymph

## Fly of the Month

### Henryville Special

**Sizes:** 12-18

**Hook:** Extra-fine dry fly

**Thread:** Olive 6/0 or 8/0

**Body:** Olive floss

**Ribbing:** Undersized grizzly hackle, palmered in an open spiral

**Wing:**

Underwing of wood duck flank fibers with overwing of gray mallard wing quill tied flat

**Hackle:** Brown





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