

Little River Chapter Newsletter

Editor
Joe Hatton



Feb, 2006
www.lrcu.org

Next Meeting

The next meeting is on the fourth Thursday February 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 Bi-Lo and the Co-op Gas station.

Program

Zach Matthews, www.itinerantangler.com Will have a presentation on "10 steps on how to take the perfect stream side photo". Zach has had several magazine articles published, one of the most recent was Amazing Destinations 2006 "25 Big fish hot spots" in the Jan/Feb American Angler. Check out his website. I especially like the photos/resent work. It is like walking through a photo fishing journal. Great stuff.

Stream Work

March 18-19 Bi-Monthly Acid Deposition Sample

April 15 TN Little River Clean-Up Day
Meet at Metcalf Bottoms picnic area at 9:00AM. There will be a free lunch after the clean-up. There will also be "member fishing with member" fishing that afternoon. Also known as "drown a buddy" this is a time when new members are taken out and shown the park waters from a seasoned fisherman's point of view.

May 20 - 21 Bi-Monthly Acid Deposition Sample

Fishing Picks

By: Ian Rutter: I'm writing this as 3" melts from the deck of my home in the Smokies and the weather man is calling for more to fall tonight. While we're in the depths of winter take heart that some of the best fishing of the year will begin in just about one month. It's probably a good idea to get you fly boxes in order now, not the frantic night or morning before you head out for the first beautiful outing of the spring.

In spite of cold weather at the moment, chances are good that things will warm up to tolerable in short order. The tailwaters will be the best place to find a willing fish though. Melting snow on the mountain ridges will keep streams frigid for the first few days of mild weather. Only after the snow is gone will the water temperatures creep up. Prince Nymphs and Tellico Nymphs are late winter favorites. Beadhead Pheasant Tails, Hare's Ear's, and Copper Johns do pretty good as well. Stoneflies can be found hatching on the streams, but rarely entice rises. Look for rises if caddis or tiny Blue Wing Olive mayflies are on the water. I've had a few folks asking about brookies, but quite honestly, wait until about April before heading into the highest elevations to fish. The big streams like Little River, Middle Prong of Little River and Tellico River get more sunshine and warm up faster.

Most of the tailwaters have had good schedules to get out and do some wading. The

best of the tailwaters has been the South Holston with abundant olive hatches plus midges. The Watauga always gets overlooked this time of year because of its close proximity to the South Holston, but it also gets some decent hatches, plus nymph fishing is good too. You can latch into some good fish on the Clinch. Fish midge or sowbug patterns in deep runs about three feet under a strike indicator. This is often the best month of the year for hooking good fish in the first few miles downstream of Norris Dam. The Hiwassee has maintained a steady schedule of high flows, but a few anglers who have floated it report sporadic rise activity. Nymphs and streamers are where the money is though.

Be sure to check out our new book which will be delivering at the end of this month. It's titled [Rise Rings & Rhododendron: Fly Fishing the Streams and Tailwaters of Southern Appalachia](#). It's a book of fly fishing photos and stories from east Tennessee, western North Carolina, and north Georgia. You can view pages and excerpts on our website www.RandRFlyFishing.com

Bass Pro Shop

The Little River Chapter will be selling Hot Dogs, Brats and Cokes at the Spring Fishing Classic at the Bass Pro Shop, March 11th and 12th. There will be a sign up sheet at the next meeting if you would like to help.

Bamboo For Brookies 2006

A highlight of this year's TroutFest banquet will again be a drawing for a beautiful hand planed bamboo rod. This years "Bamboo For Brookies" rod, made by Little River Chapter members Charlie Downs and Doug Pape is a 6' 9", 2pc., 4 wt. rod with extra tip. The darkly flamed rod is the color of a nut brown ale, with clear wraps tipped in scarlet. The reel seat, donated again this year by Russ and Erica

Gooding at Golden Witch Technologies, features a figured walnut spacer. The nickel silver ferrules, winding check, and reel seat hardware are lightly blued. The distinctive grip is made with 1/8" cork rings and has red glue lines. The rod comes with an elegant hexagonal wooden rod tube made by chapter member Roy Hawk. Roy is a meticulous craftsman, and this fine rod tube reflects his attention to detail. Both the rod and tube are contained in a gorgeous glass topped case made by Doug Pape. Doug designed the case to be displayed either vertically or horizontally so it'll be easy to find a prominent place for it in your home. The rod, tube, and case, will be on display at Little River Outfitters from Feb. 24 till the day of the banquet. While you're at LRO be sure to thank Byron, Paula, and Daniel for once again contributing the components for the "Bamboo For Brookies" rod, and for their continuing support of the Little River Chapter and it's Brooktrout restoration project in the GSMNP. A \$25.00 "donation" will make you eligible to win this spectacular rod, tube, and display case package. Only 150 "donations" will be accepted this year. Don't be one of the brokenhearted people who waited till the last minute and were unable to participate in last years drawing! Make your donation early! "Donation" tickets are available at Little River Outfitters or call: Joe Hatton 865-558-8782 Charlie Downs h.859-278-0029 c.502-578-593-0078 or Roy Hawk 690-4795

Tellico River Clean-up Day

The Tellico River Area Clean-up Day will be on March 11, 2006. Enjoy the beauty of the Tellico area and take an hour or two to help with it's only clean-up of the year. Sign-up for participants will be at the Tellico Ranger District Office or at the Stateline Campground from 8:00 am until 9:30 am. Trash bags will be provided. It is recommended that participants bring gloves, and wear bright colors (for

safety). For further info contact the USFS Tellico District at 423-253-8400.

Hiwassee River Clean-up Day

The Hiwassee River Area Clean-up Day will be on March 18, 2006. See one of Tennessee's Scenic Rivers. Sign-up for participants will be at 9:00 am at the Gee Creek Campground. Trash bags will be provided. It is recommended that participants bring gloves, and wear bright colors (for safety). For further info contact the USFS Hiwassee /Ocoee District at 423-338-7049. Thanks, Steve Fry Trout Unlimited 423-622-1466.

Headwaters Project part II

Several Tennessee's headwaters have their origins in North Carolina. Starting with the **Watauga River** which begins as a pond next to Grandfather Mountain at the junction of Hwy 185 and Hwy 105. There is a delayed harvest section in the Shulls Mills area close to the Appalachian Angler fly shop. One notable stream is Boone fork which begins at Julian Price Memorial Park on the Blue Ridge Parkway. The **Nolickchucky River** which is good Smallmouth stream on the Tennessee turn into North Toe river in North Carolina. The headwater is Big Crabtree Creek which begins in Crabtree meadows along the Blue Ridge Parkway mile post 340 there is a Campground and at looks like it would be a place worth exploring. The **French Broad River** probably travels the farthest to get to Tennessee, it starts out as the North Fork of the French Broad and runs along Hwy 215 look like the most promising with the West Prong near Rosman N.C. Some notable feeder streams are the Davidson, North and South Mills streams. The **Pigeon Rivers** headwaters are the East Fork of the Pigeon River in the Shining Rock Wilderness near the Blue Ridge Parkway. A notable area to make sure you fish is the Graveyard ridge area along the Blue Ridge Parkway. The West Fork of the Pigeon

River follows Hwy 215 with a Delayed Harvest section above Sunburst. The **Little Tennessee river** begins in North Georgia at Black Rock Mountain State park near Mountain City and along Hwy 441. The **Hiwassee River** starts above Chatuge Lake along State Hwy 75 and is open all year downstream to Towns County Road 87. The **Ocoee River/Toccoa River Ga.** begins in Georgia above Blue Ridge Lake is open all year upstream to the the mouth of Stanley Creek. If you get a chance to fish one of these headwaters please write a article for the newsletter. Thanks, Joe

Fly of the the month

The Polar Fibre Streamer Pattern

<http://hipwader.com/2005/polar-fiber-streamer>

The Polar Fibre Streamer Pattern

Hook:Daichi #1710 size #8

Weight:Med, lead wire, 11 wraps

Thread:White 6/0

Under body:Flashabou dubbing

Belly:Red Polar Fibre over White Polar Fibre

Back/wing:Olive Icelandic Sheep over Off-white/tan Polar Fibre

Flash:Fire Fly skirt material

Cheeks/gills:Orange (spooled) antron

Eyes:7/32" self adhesive 3D eyes, black/gold

Head:5 minute epoxy

Optional:Dark Brown permanent marker for spots





LRCTU
P.O. Box 6440
Maryville, Tn 37802-6440

President - Steve Best
Vice President - Jeff Hall
Secretary - Tom Eustis
Treasurer - Roy Hawk
Newsletter Editor - Joe Hatton
Resource Director - Jim Parks
Web Page Editor - Roy Hawk

Board Members
Dan Holloway
Rufus King
Ken Jones
Joe Teffeteller
Tim Doyle
Ian Rutter

Steve Head
Charity Rutter
Ross Shaver



Store Hours:

Monday thru Thursday - 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Friday - 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Saturday - 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sunday - 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

106 Town Square Drive

P.O. Box 505

Townsend, Tennessee 37882

Phone: (865) 448-9459

Fax: (865) 448-3407

Email: info@littleriveroutfitters.com



6907 Kingston Pike -- Knoxville, TN 37919

588-6159



*Serving East Tennessee for the past 20 years
with products from these fine manufacturers:*

**Orvis
Sage
Winston
Simms
Abel
Tibor**