

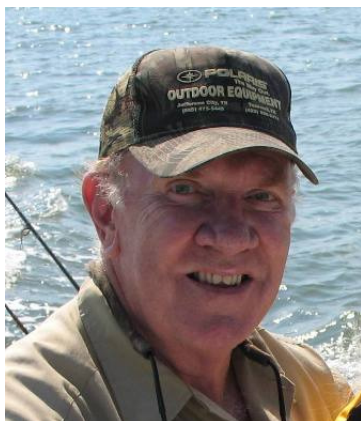
Next Meeting

When: 7:00 p.m. , Thursday, Feb. 23

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

Program: Update on Park Fisheries

Get the latest update on conditions and activities planned and ongoing in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Steve Moore (picture) and/or Matt Kulp, both biologists with the park's fisheries department, will update members on the effort to develop the brook trout only section of Middle Prong, acid rain deposition and other projects.



2012 At A Glance

The following are our chapter's scheduled events for the coming year. Please check your newsletter and our website to obtain current information and/or date and time updates.

February 23 Meeting – Update on GSMNP Fisheries – Park Personnel - Acid Deposition Mtng – Feb. 25

March 22 – Meeting – Outdoors Writer and Publisher Don Kirk – Acid Deposition March 17

April 14 - No Meeting – GSMNP Roadside Litter Pickup and Picnic– Fish the Park with a Buddy

May - No Meeting - Troutfest May 18-20 - Trout Camp, Tremont Institute – Acid Deposition May 19

June - No Meeting

July - No Meeting - Acid Deposition July 21

August 23 - Regular Meeting – Swap Meet – Program TBA

September 27 - Picnic at River John's– Bring your Best Bass Fly

October 25 – Meeting- Clayton Gist –Trout Camp program

November - No Meeting – Acid Deposition Nov. 17

December 6 - Regular Meeting - Election of officers

Little River Chapter of Trout Unlimited

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New Look for LRCTU Web Page

If you haven't had the chance yet, check out the newly designed web site www.lrctu.org It's the place to go to catch up on current chapter events and an excellent location to start when looking for information on the industry. Joe Hatton has taken over managing the site and has expanded its scope as well as made it easier to move around within the pages. Joe takes over from Roy Hawk, who faithfully maintained the site for us for many years. Thanks to Roy and to Joe for this service.

Trout Camp Nominations Needed

The deadline is nearing for nominations for this year's Great Smoky Mountain Aquatic Biology and Trout Fishing Adventure to be held again at the Tremont Institute June 18-23rd. This is to remind you that we need camp applications no later than March 1. To date we have six in hand and three more on the way (two from Cumberland and one from Clinch River. A minimum of eight and a maximum of 12 kids is needed. We were hoping for more applications and have only a couple of weeks to round up more. Beat the bushes and see if you can find some more kids.



Selections will be made and families notified by March 15. At that time, the chapter will provide guidance regarding tuition payment.

The camp is spearheaded by the TU Clinch River Chapter and was a great success last year in teaching campers aged 12 through 15 about awareness, appreciation and understanding of the importance of our nation's aquatic resources.

The kids will learn about stream ecology, brook trout restoration, stream physics and chemistry, fishing for trout and aquatic entomology. They will experience fly tying, fly fishing and snorkel-



ing in the Little River and Middle Prong; and they will also do some hiking and swimming.

For more information, go to the website that CRCTU has set up for the camp at <http://www.tntroutadventure.org/>

Volunteers are needed as well. The camp relies mostly on volunteers to be successful. Chaperones: Two Trout Unlimited members (Clayton Gist and Dick Geiger) will be on site with kids for the week. Chaperones have CPR and first aid training. We will need a female chaperone if girls attend.

Fly fishing and fly tying mentors: TU will need to provide six experienced mountain fly fishers for four trout fishing outings on four afternoons. Each mentor will instruct two kids. Four TU mentors will also be needed on four evenings to instruct two kids each in fly tying.

From the experience of a great fishing trip up Jakes Creek with campers last year, I can attest that this is a rewarding experience... and, on this occasion, a true miracle in that every camper caught at least one trout! Contact John Thurman, jthur727@bellsouth.net if you can help out.

Troutfest 2012 to Showcase Classic Fishing Film

Troutfest 2012 (May 18-20) is well underway with an army of behind-the-scenes volunteers already planning and working to make 2012 a Troutfest to remember. And speaking of remembrances, you and your friends don't want to miss the special 20th anniversary showing of *A River Runs Through It*, the movie that made us all feel like Daffy Duck throwing a wet noodle when it comes to fly casting. In addition, the guy who taught Brad Pitt to cast, and did some stand in for the movie himself, Jason Borger, will be our special guest for the weekend.

A free viewing of the film will happen Saturday night at the Townsend Elementary School. The Great Smoky Mountains Chapter TU has graciously volunteered to host the event for Troutfest.

In addition to Borger, perennial favorites Bob Clouser, Lefty Kreh and Zach Mathews will be there. If you or your friends haven't been to a casting demonstration by one of these, you're really missing out. In addition,

our own Charity Rutter of R&R Fly Fishing, will be holding casting clinics for ladies only.

There will be plenty



of good food, starting with the banquet on Friday night May 18th. Make sure to get your tickets early. Our banquet and auction have annually generated the lion's share of revenue derived from Troutfest, which is then turned over to the GSMNP. This year, make a special effort to attend. Also, donations for the auction are being solicited right now, so if you want to donate or know someone who has a prize auction item they will part with, call Rufus King (865.414.2566).

Bill Guinn, this year's Troutfest chairman, promises that this year's programming is

designed to include all genders and all ages. There will be a Kid's Casting Clinic on this year's schedule again.

We are also rolling out the second annual edition of Troutfest Journal. The magazine was a success last year

and Neil Smith is heading this up again for us. The magazine will be available at the banquet and at the main entrance.

You can check out the latest information on the website, www.troutfest.org – a great link to send to your friends who might be interested in coming!

And most importantly, please go ahead and sign up as a Troutfest volunteer. Ron Becker is coordinating volunteers and has created the web site we use to organize the hundreds of you(s) that it takes to run this event. Go to the Troutfest website and navigate to the "Volunteers" page. From there you can go directly to the site to sign up.

See letter on next page from Park Superintendent Dale Ditmunson to LRCTU president Rufus King regarding 2011 donation of proceeds from Troutfest.



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Great Smoky Mountains National Park
107 Park Headquarters Road
Gatlinburg, Tennessee 37738



N1619 (GRSM)

Dec 21, 2011

Mr. Rufus King
President, Little River Chapter of Trout Unlimited
3611 Morning Dew Drive
Friendsville, Tennessee 37737-3168

Dear Mr. King:

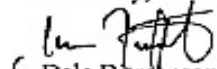
Thank you for your continued support of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park's (GRSM) brook trout restoration and fisheries management programs. Your 2011 donation of \$26,000 from Troutfest is deeply appreciated. The 19 year partnership between Little River Chapter of Trout Unlimited and our fisheries staff is unparalleled in the National Park Service.

During this time, your donations of funds and volunteer labor for brook trout restoration have enabled our staff to successfully restore approximately 10.5 miles of historic range for brook trout. Currently, we are in the process of completing the Lynn Camp Prong Project, the largest brook trout project ever attempted in the GRSM. The volunteer time put forth by members of your chapter, members from Trout Unlimited and many other chapters is to be commended. We could not have accomplished this work without your support.

Beyond the restoration efforts, your donated funds and volunteer time have enabled our staff to continue monitoring critical brook trout populations, clean trash from the Little River roadside annually and hire student interns to assist with this work. Members of your chapter also assist our staff with the collection of bi-monthly water samples.

Again, thank you for the \$26,000 donation to Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Thanks to you and the Little River Chapter for all you do to support our fisheries and aquatics program.

Sincerely,


Dale Dittman
Superintendent

TAKE PRIDE
IN AMERICA 

LRCTU Recognized Hartzog Award Winner

The National Park Service each year recognizes regionally and nationally those individuals and groups for their efforts in assisting various national parks. For 2011, the Little River Chapter of Trout Unlimited was the Park Service's Region 3 recipient of this honor.

Among the projects listed in LRCTU's nomination were: Assisting with restoration of 24.5 miles of stream for native brook trout, which equates to 15% of the current range occupied by this native trout in Great Smoky Mountains National Park; water quality monitoring; large stream monitoring; stream bank stabilization; and annual



litter pickup of between 14 and 16 tons of litter over 16 years.

LRCTU was also recognized for funding efforts including: equipment purchases, student conservation resource assistants, chapter student intern programs and more than 6,430 volunteer hours.

In addition, the nomination commended our chapter for donations received from its annual Troutfest which over the years has contributed more than \$170,000 directly to the Park and annually contributes between 1,500 and 2,500 man hours in organizing and putting on this event.



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Make Plans To Attend This Year's Trout-fest In Townsend May 18- 20
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Sun. 10:00am to 6:00pm

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

Free fly tying demos starting
Sat. Feb. Saturday 12. Free Fly
Fishing 101 classes beginning in
April. See store web site for times
and more info

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



LRCTU 2012 Officers & Board Members

President: Rufus King

Vice President: Bill Bolinger

Sec./Treas: Shelia Bolinger

Board Members: Josh Pfeiffer, Stan Smart, Mike McKinsey, Pete Yeomans, Caleb Abramson, Joe McGroom, Ethan McGroom, Jim Meador, Will Swann, Wayne Everbach

Newsletter Editor: Dave Ezell

Resource Director: Charlie Chmielewski

Troutfest Chairman: Bill Guinn

Special thanks to retiring officers/board members Kris Mauer, John Janulis, Ken Henderson, Mark Selby, Roy Hawk and Chad McFall for their service!
