

Little River Chapter of Trout Unlimited

February, 2016 Newsletter



Monthly Meeting

**Thursday, Feb. 25
at Calhoun's
Maryville**

President's Corner

Mike Bryant (mjbryant1954@hotmail.com)

Recently I had the opportunity to attend fly tying classes with Kelly Galloup and Mike Schmidt, two very talented designers of flies. I love tying flies and have attended many tying classes with great local, regional and nationally known tyers. The tying classes with Mike and Kelly focused on streamer patterns. These flies were not your average Woolly Bugger. All but one of the patterns were articulated flies. Both Mike and Kelly shared their thoughts on effective fly designs and how they expected their designs to work in order to trigger a strike. Most of you have heard of Kelly, the author of books and DVD's and the owner of Slide Inn on the Madison River, Montana. Mike has been tying since his teenage years and is the owner of Angler's Choice Flies (www.anglerschoicflies.com).



One of Mike's patterns tied during the class.

I find fly tying is a lot like fly fishing. It's a great way to escape the current worries and distractions of life. There's always something to learn and I have found that I really enjoy teaching others what I've learned. And it's a great way to meet folks who are just as passionate about our sport and conservation.

In another event, I entered the Ironman Fly Tying Contest sponsored by the Great Smoky Mountain TU Chapter in January. What a great time! The tyers were challenged to create a fly with materials placed in front of them (no advanced knowledge or prep time). During one of the tying sessions we were blindfolded. I managed to win a sweet 10ft., 3 wt. fly rod donated by Syndicate Fly Fishing (<http://syndicateff.com>), a company headquartered here in Knoxville. It's a great looking rod and I can't wait to fish with it this spring.

Many thanks to all the sponsors. And a special thanks to John Reinhardt for creating and organizing a cool event. Last month, Matt Kulp provided another great program on the State of the Park and outlined upcoming efforts including some new restoration efforts. The need for our continued support through our time, talents and dollars continues to be as strong as ever. Check out Charlie's article on volunteer efforts.



Kelly Galloup's Sex Dungeon

We've added our eighth school to our Trout in the Classroom program. We have big plans and ideas for TIC, but we can't hope to continue growing without our volunteers. Without exception, every one of our volunteers

talks about how helping with TIC and interacting with the kids has been a great experience. So we need your help. Check out Joyce Frey's article below.

Well, time to get back to my tying bench and work on those articulate streamers. I hope you can make it to the February meeting. Be safe!

-Mike



ROUT IN THE CLASSROOM

By Joyce Frey

The eggs are here! That's what we heard the last week of January from our very excited students in the TIC program. Our second spring session of raising rainbow trout has started with the addition of a new school. There are currently 8 schools participating:



School	Grade	TU Coordinator
Clayton Bradley Academy	2 nd grade	Ernie Frey
Townsend Elementary	3, 4, 5 th grade science	Charity Rutter
Lenior City Middle		Charlie Chmielewski
Alcoa Middle	8 th grade science	Bill Bolinger
Porter Elementary	4 th grade	Jama & Tim Hurst
Episcopal of Knoxville	6, 7 th grade science	Steve Darnell
John Sevier	1 st grade	Steve Young
Little River Montessori	Pre through 4 th grade	Paul Davenport

Our TIC program is offering all of these students a chance to raise rainbow trout from eggs to fingerlings in their classrooms then release them into Little River. By caring for the fish, we hope the students develop a personal bond and sense of conservation ethics that are at the core of TU's mission.

The teachers work the tank and fish into their classroom curriculum focusing on caring, growth, understanding life cycles, water chemistry, the nitrogen cycle, natural resource management and watershed geology and ecology.



All of the Coordinators should be commended for their help with this program. That being said, we need more volunteers to help these coordinators out. We would like to have at least two coordinators for each school. Let either Mike Bryant or me know which school you'd like to help with.

By the time you read this, we should have 8 tanks full of alevins. More next month...

TROUT ADVENTURE CAMP 2016



APPLICATIONS OPEN, VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you know a young person between the ages of 12-15 years by June 20th of this year who loves the outdoors and fishing? If so please think about encouraging them to apply to attend the Tennessee Council TU Trout Adventure camp at the Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Camp begins on Monday, June 20th, in the early afternoon and concludes around noon on Saturday, 25th.



In between the campers will be instruction in fly fishing, techniques for fishing mountain streams, hands-on fly tying, stream ecology including observing ecology of GSMNP streams by snorkeling in the Little River, Leave No Trace, and 2 full days of fishing, one on private waters at Norton Creek, and the other on a mountain stream in the National Park. The camp can accommodate up to 14 campers and at least 2 must be girls and they do not have to reside in Tennessee; applications and more information can be obtained at <http://tntroutadventure.org>.

Each TU Chapter in Tennessee is guaranteed one camper slot; chapters have until March 20th to designate their camper. Any open slots after that will be allotted to remaining applicants until the camp roster is full.

If you have a suggestion for a camper that you would like the Little River Chapter to consider sponsoring, please contact Mike Bryant (513-697-9576 mjbryant1954@hotmail.com) or Steve Young (832-256-3228 steve_y@earthlink.net) with their information.

You are also needed. The camp is staffed by volunteers for TU chapters across the state (Tremont Institute is staffed by GSMNP personnel). There is a particular need to for experienced mountain stream fishers to act as guides for the campers at Norton Creek and in the Park; if you do the math, that is up to 28 different people providing the campers with a quality fishing experience that they cherish and share when they return home. Women are particularly needed—we want to pair girls with knowledgeable women fishers; last year we had 3 girls and there is no reason not to expect that many or more this year. If you are interested in helping contact Mike or Steve or directly to the camp coordinator, John Thurman at 865-494-7771 or jthur727@bellsouth.net.



Tie & Lie: Monday MARCH 14 March Tie and Lie will be on Monday the 14th at The Casual Pint from 6 till 8 pm. We will be tying The Quill Gordon for the spring season.

It is time to work on 2016 fly box so come tie with us.

-Ernie Frey



In my opinion the most difficult part of fly tying is holding their feet still!

February Chapter Meeting Highlights Little River Watershed Association

Our February 25th chapter meeting will feature Lauren Parker from the Little River Watershed Association. "The Little River Watershed Association is a non-profit devoted to protecting and preserving the Little River. Our presentation will cover a wide variety of topics on the importance of the Little River as a recreational and ecological resource. We will talk about the geological history of the river as well as current impairments and threats to the health of the river. The Little River provides critical habitat for species of special concern and is home to over 50 species of fish (four listed federally). The upper reach supports one of east Tennessee's better warm water sport fisheries and has been the site of one of the longest running annual IBI (Index of Biotic Integrity), where experts capture and analyze the species composition of the river to determine the quality of the habitat."

The meeting will be held at Calhoun's Maryville, in the same complex as Target. Social hour starts at 6:00 p.m. with the business/program beginning at 7:00 p.m. You do not have to eat dinner to attend.

Member Profile

(In an effort to help us get to know each other better, we will occasionally include Member Profiles in our newsletters and on the website. This month, we're profiling Dan Munger a LRCTU board member, whose efforts on programs and managing LRCTU's Facebook page have greatly benefitted the chapter. Dan has also been a fixture at Little River Outfitters in Townsend where he helped outfit many an angler.)

Name: Daniel Munger

City / County Residence: Maryville, TN

General Family Info: I have a big family and I'm very close with them. My Mom and Stepdad live here in East Tennessee, as well as my younger brother. My older brother and younger sister live in Alabama, where we spent our early years. I am an uncle to two beautiful little girls, and they will be old enough to hold a fishing rod in no time!

Years Fly Fishing: I grew up right next to a lake, so fishing was a big part of my very early years. I first held a fly rod when I was around 15. I started "getting serious" with it 4 or 5 years later. I am now 29, so it's been nearly 15 years since I first picked up a fly rod.

Years Fly Tying / Rod Building /

etc: I have been tying flies for about 5 years, and started learning to make bamboo fly rods about 4 years ago. With the help of my teacher, Stan Smartt, I have hand planed a few bamboo rods.

History of Fly Fishing: Bass fishing was my passion while growing up in Alabama. During and after college, I lived in Colorado for 4 seasons and was fortunate enough to have a trout stream in my front yard. I moved to East Tennessee in 2011 and think that this is the best place in the country to live as a fly fisherman, simply because of the huge variety of species and different water types.

Mentors: I have to start off with my Grandpa. Though he doesn't fly fish much, he took me fishing regularly at a very early age, and did everything he could to get me excited about fishing (and it worked!). My older brother and I started messing around with fly rods at the same time, and him and I have some great memories of trying to figure things out. My step dad is a heck of a fisherman and I have learned a lot about bass fishing



from him. The list goes on and on, but the best mentors have taught me that the most rewarding thing you can do with your fishing knowledge is to share it with others.

Key Memories: I have so many great memories from some incredible places, but I think my favorite memory is from an unforgettable trip to Argentina with my younger brother. I was able to catch two Golden Dorados, which are one of the most sought after fish in the world. These fish are incredible predators that are only found in 3 river systems in the world, they viciously attack a fly, and they fight like Bulldogs and jump like tarpon.

Fly Fish Educational Activities: I currently manage the fly fishing school at Little River Outfitters, and I love introducing new students into the sport. I also really enjoy helping an experienced angler fine tune his cast, as bad casting habits can be hard to break without a little help from an instructor.

Favorite Places to Fly Fish:

- Locally: Wherever the Strippers are!!
- Outside The Local Area: I had an unforgettable experience in British Columbia in 2015. I think that has become my favorite place to fish for trout.

Favorite Fly to Tie: Blane Chocklett's "T-Bone" musky fly

Best Fly Fishing / Tying Story: Fly fishermen are always telling stories about encounters with wild and scary animals. I have to say that I was once chased out of a stream in the Smokies by 3 very angry otters. These guys weren't content with me stepping out of their way--they were out for blood. They all surrounded me, dipping and diving and barking, and actually showing me their teeth. I promptly retreated on top of a big rock, and one of otters started trying to climb up on the rock with me. Killer otters doesn't exactly sound as tough as a wild Grizzly Bear attack, but it was one of the craziest things I've ever seen on a trout stream.

Volunteer Update

Charlie Chmielewski notes that the GSMNP volunteer schedule has been posted on our web site: www.lrctu.org If you want to sign up to help for any work event or have questions about the work, contact Charlie at charlieflyfish@gmail.com or 865-661-7325. Charlie sends out a call to volunteers as each work activity approaches. Then he generates a schedule of volunteers for specific work days. He's open to placing you on the volunteer list for an activity now or when he sends out his call.

Save These Dates!

Annual Little River Cleanup

Don't miss out on a fun time and the chance to help out the Park. Our annual Little River Cleanup is scheduled for **Saturday, April 30**. This is a great opportunity to give back by spending a couple of hours in the Park we love. And we provide lunch as well, a win-win situation! So mark your calendar for Saturday, April 30 starting at 9:00am. We'll provide more information as we get closer to the date.

TU Southeast Regional Meetings – May 20-22, Roanoke, Virginia

This year's southeast regional meetings will be held in Roanoke, Virginia. Come spend the weekend with fellow TU members listening to presentations and sharing ideas on conservation, youth education and angler science. It's a great opportunity to learn, participate in evening social events, network with other like-minded conservationists and explore nearby watersheds for some great fishing opportunities.

LRCTU Annual Spring Camping Trip

The Spring camping trip is set for Cataloochee valley at the group camp site 1 from April 8 at 1:00pm till April 10 at 12:00am. It is always fun with great fishing and tall stories around the campfire. Start planning to camp with us! More information will be in the next newsletter and on the Facebook page.

-Ernie Frey

The Little River Chapter Trout Unlimited Newsletter is produced for current members. Please ensure that you have a viable email address on file with your membership information at Trout Unlimited. You can add an email address or update your current email at www.tu.org or call 1-800-834-2419.

Note: Anyone with news, such as an event or account of a fishing trip, etc., please send it along to newsletter editor, Dave Ezell ezop@charter.net

Also, keep up with current events and find valuable information sources at our website www.lrctu.org