

# Trout Unlimited

## Little River Chapter



*Dark hollow fishing is around the corner!!*

### President's Corner

Hope everyone is having a good mid-winter. So far for me fly tying, thinking about spring fly fishing trips and getting the new batch of TIC eggs to the schools have been keeping me busy.

Joyce and I attended the Fly Fishing Show in Atlanta the first of February. I highly recommend it if you can attend. The lecture series was excellent. Several of the chapter's fly fishing friends were inducted into the Southern Trout hall of fame.

The TU Southeast Regional Conference will be held at the Canaan Valley Resort in Davis, West Virginia on May 18-20. The Tennessee Council of TU has made \$200.00 available to each chapter for expense money for the conference. Anyone wishing to use this expense money for the conference, please send me an e-mail and you will be entered into a drawing for the money.



### NEXT MEETING

Tuesday

February 27th

**Barley's**  
Maryville



Speaker:

**Matt Culp**

GSMNP Biologist

The chapter lost a valued member this month, Tom Eustis. I had the pleasure of working with Tom on the TIC program. He was a great help with the kids and was always willing to help when he could.

The meeting this month will be **Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>** at Barley's in Maryville. The social hour starts at 6:00 and the meeting will start at 7:00. Matt Culp will be the speaker discussing the state of the park.

## Trout in the Classroom

by Joyce Frey

Rainbow trout eggs were delivered to the schools the beginning of February. According to the new Buffalo Spring Hatchery Manager, these eggs, sent from Montana, are from the Shasta strain of rainbows. The hatchery is going to be receiving 6 different strains of rainbows this year in an attempt to diversify the trout being stocked. He had never used these before and wasn't sure of their hatch rate. So far, it looks to be good as the eggs were already starting to hatch when we delivered them to the schools. You can see in the picture, where some of them are already hatched. The kids were really excited to see this and understand that this was something they would never see in nature.



As usual, most of the tanks were moved to different classrooms for the spring season. Tates' School and St. Johns Newman are 4<sup>th</sup> graders, Clayton Bradley Academy is 2<sup>nd</sup> graders, Lonsdale Elementary is 5<sup>th</sup> graders, John Sevier Elementary is still 1<sup>st</sup> graders, but a different teacher. Episcopal School is still in the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade science room. The Townsend Elementary tank is also still in the science room and is doing well with their fish from the spring season. They are getting big and Ms. Ross plans on culling some of them shortly so they have a better survival rate. They've named the biggest one Bob who isn't afraid of eating some of the smaller ones.

## TIE 'N LIE: TYING LEADERS

Tie and Lie will be on February 26 at The Casual Pint in Maryville starting at 6:00 pm. This one will be a little different. We will be tying leaders and talking about the various types of leaders. Please come and visit and maybe learn some new knots.

## Trout Camp

Tip off your favorite middle schoolers that applications are open for this year's Great Smoky Mountains Trout Adventure Camp, set for June 18-23 at the Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont.

As for you, please consider volunteering to help staff the camp!

Trout camp, sponsored by the Tennessee Council of Trout Unlimited, uses the sport of fly fishing to teach girls and boys 12 to 15 years old the importance of conserving, protecting and restoring our aquatic resources. The 14 campers study aquatic invertebrates and stream hydrology, learn fly casting and fly tying, fly fish mountain streams, snorkel in Little River and participate in a survey of native fish with Great Smoky Mountains National Park fisheries personnel.

Money from the TU Conservation License Plate grant program helps fund the camp, keeping tuition down—cost to campers is \$530, and for those whose families can't afford the tuition, local TU chapters often provide scholarships.

TU members fill more than 50 volunteer jobs on the camp staff. Other staffers come from the fisheries staff of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and from Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency.

We need you! The most important positions to be filled right now are those of camp counselors—the three TU members (two men, one woman) who spend nights with our campers in the large tents that are the youngsters' home away from home. We also need experienced mountain anglers to serve as river guides, and after-camp mentors—members of local TU chapters who can take youngsters out fishing after camp is over.

For more information about trout camp—including pictures from previous camps and a schedule of 2018 activities—[click here to visit the camp website](#), or contact Steve Young at [steve\\_y@earthlink.net](mailto:steve_y@earthlink.net) or (832) 256-3228.

Hope to hear from you soon,  
Steve Young  
Camp Director





# Keeping It Organized!!

## Meeting Notes

Club president Ernie Frey opened the meeting reminding us of some upcoming volunteer opportunities.

- ¥ Water Sampling Meeting on Saturday, February 24, 2018
- ¥ Come to the meeting at Great Smoky Mountains National Park Twin Creeks Science Center to learn more about the Acid Deposition Sampling Program that began in 1993 to see how you can help in 2018!!
- ¥ Little River Cleanup, March 24th. More details to follow

### **All Park Service Fisheries Volunteers Must Submit Signed Agreements**

The National Park Service at Great Smoky Mountains National Park is asking every volunteer to sign an individual Volunteer in Parks Agreement and a Position Description from December 2017 forward, unless the individual already has an agreement in place. The past practice of group agreements with TU is no longer being used.

### **Trout in the Classroom**

The 2018 season Trout in the Classroom is underway. Tanks are up and running with eggs expected the first week of February.

A summary of 2017 shows that we had 11 tanks in classroom from K thru 8 grade with one tank at Little River Outfitters. There were over 770 students who participated in the May release days and they released over 1000 trout.

If you would like to learn more about the TIC program please contact Joyce Frey at [jmfrey@comcast.net](mailto:jmfrey@comcast.net)

### **Guest Speaker:**

Dennis Baxter was the speaker at our January meeting. Dennis is the past president of the Clinch Chapter and is a biologist for TVA. He gave us an assessment of six Tennessee tailwaters. The presentation focused on a project entitled "Aquatic Community Assessment in Six TVA Tailwaters".

The objective of this project was to provide current and long term aquatic data to support TVA power production operations and its stewardship. Sampling methods focused on spring river conditions under minimum flow using nets and hess sampling.

For those of us who fish the Clinch River and the South Holston, Dennis gave detailed information on the density of micro-invertebrates that inhabit those waters. In a nut shell fish midges. Scuds and Sow bugs run a close second.

A complete copy of Dennis's presentation with detailed information on the population of micro-invertebrates will be added to the Little River TU website in the near future.