

Little River Chapter Newsletter

Chapter President / Editor
Joe Hatton



Jan 2005
www.lrcu.org

Next Meeting

The next meeting is on the Fourth Thursday Jan the 27, 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

Annual Swap Meet so bring all your extra gear to sell or trade. Matt Kulp from the GSMNP Fishers will be presenting the history of fishing regulations in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Stream work

January 15-16th: Bi-Monthly Acid Deposition Hikes

March 19-20th: Bi-Monthly Acid Deposition Hikes

The Spring Training Session is tentatively planned for February 26 at 9:00am at the Park HQ conference room. This will help us with assigning leader and volunteers to various weekends.

Troutfest 2005

Kick off meeting will be held at the Maryville Main Library Jan 20th at 7:00 p.m.

Fishing Picks

By: Ian Rutter

Hope you managed to get out during the spring like weather we had after New Year's. That kind of weather isn't likely to hold up for long. Unfortunately, there were only limited opportunities for fishing. Norris Dam has had a steady run of generation but lake levels are starting to recede to the point where things might let up. Keep your eye on the schedule because the Clinch usually fishes well at this time of year. Miller's Island up to the dam are the best places to find big fish. Even if the water is running you might want to walk up Clear Creek and see the spawners. While it's closed to fishing it's always impressive to see such large fish in small water.

Things have been about the same on the South Holston and Watauga. There have been a few days with fishable schedules, but look for things to open up soon. The Watauga usually has better schedules for wading but hatches are better on the South Holston. The nastiest weather days always produce superb hatches of blue wing olives. I've spent plenty of cold, wet, and even snowy days catching fish on dries here in the winter. Water has remained high on the Hiwassee and promises to be for a while longer.

Fishing Picks [continued from page one]

However, there are some days when the Holston below Cherokee dam has workable schedules. These days will probably become more frequent in the weeks to come.

The mountain streams have been the best bet. Water levels have been up and down with the rain but fishing has been decent for the dedicated angler. While there has been some surface activity, the best action has been on nymphs. Copper Johns, Tellico Nymphs, Prince Nymphs, Hare's Ears, and Pheasant Tails are all good choices. Little River and Middle Prong have been spotty but Abrams Creek seems to be fishing the best of all the Smoky Mountain streams right now. Tellico River and North River are also good at this time of year. If you're not up to braving the weather this is the best time to get those fly boxes filled.

A Voice From the Past - your past President - Tom Eustis

I had a call from Steve Moore today and one of the first things he mentioned was that the Fisheries Department has a 2005 budget of 0, like zero. I knew things were tight, but we now have all the more reason to make the 2005 Townsend Trout Fest the absolute best we make it.

Think about it. What if we could increase the amount of the check from the 4 digits we gave in last year to 5 digits or OVER \$10,000 in 2005. What a target to shoot for - that be like a 30" brown! But with the members we have in the Little River Chapter this can be done. This Chapter is known not for talking about

things but for getting things done.

I know that just about everyone has helped out with acid deposition or sampling or a clean-up or all of those. To me part of the fun of volunteering is a chance to get out on the stream and in the woods.

But at this point in time and in the history of our chapter it may just as, or even more, important to put in some volunteer time to raising some money. Time spend working on one or more of the hundred little details of the Trout FEST. Hatton and your officers and directors need you to call and ask what can I do. Hey, mailing letters or making telephones calls ain't near as much fun as getting on the water but that is what is needed right now. So call Joe Hatton and sign up to make 2nd Annual Townsend Trout Fest the best it can be.

Trail Hike and Fish Camp

www.campwesleywoods.com

(865) 448-2246

While looking at summer camp brochures for my daughter I came across this camp that if you have a family member that will be in the 6th or 7th grade next year might like, take a look at this camp. The Camp is located in Townsend and is a Christian camp sponsor by local United Methodist Churches, the following is from their brochure.

"Ever want to spend more time in God's grand creation? Learning to trail hike and **fly fish** are two great ways to spend time outside, learn more about God's creation and more about yourself. This camp is a basic introduction to both activities mixed with traditional camp fun.

Trail Hike and Fish Camp [continued from page two] Campers will have the opportunity to day hike in the Smokies and backpack to their campsite at Camp Wesley Woods. They will also receive basic introduction to **fly fishing** including some time in the river. (Backpacks and fly fishing material provided or campers may bring their own.) We will combine these outdoor hiking and **fishing basics** with the basics of devotions, Bible study, and fellowship to make this a learning and growth experience to last a lifetime. Camper Group Activities List: Blueberry Trail hike, snorkeling, canoeing and kayaking on the lagoon, challenge course, stream ecology, river swimming at Wesley Landing, archery, rock climbing and rappelling at camp, ropes course II, giant's ladder climbing element, climbing wall, climbing tower, swimming at the pool, crafts, frisbee golf, making ice cream, orienteering, mud sliding, the Wesley Woods Carnival, night hiking, camping out, picnicking, and cookouts. Off site activities include tubing on Little River. 13001 July 10-15"

Troutfest 2005

Troutfest is going to be held on June 4,5,and 6. It is not as far away as you might think. It is time to start making plans and contacting Sponsors , arts and crafts vendors and food vendors. Every Chapter member can help, you can contact your Employer or a Company or Business that you have a contacts with and ask them to be a sponsor. Help collect Auction items, sale tickets or work at the Festival. We have three coordinators positions still open. Banquet auction item coordinator. Banquet ticket

sales coordinator. and we need a Festival kids programs coordinator. All the coordinator will need help, they are going to be asking for volunteers to help with there area they are responsible for. Please help us make Troutfest 2005 more successful then last year and help us raise money for our Chapter and our Brook trout conservation project in the park .

Fly of the Month

Yuk Bug Nymph

This a killer fly when surging big trout in the Park here and out west. always keep a few in your fly box.

Sizes: 4, 6, 8, 10

Hook Type: 3 X long nymph/streamer

Thread: Brown 6/0

Ribbing: Black chenille

Wing: Grizzly hackle, palmered through body

Legs: Three white rubber legs sticking out each side, distributed evenly through body.





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