

Moving Forward

Presidents Comments

Website-Roy Hawk does a terrific job with designing and keeping our website current. Please use the website to stay current with activities and information of interest about our chapter and TroutFest activities. You can go directly through the following address www.lrctu.org or google the Little River Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

Officers and Directors- A special thanks to the outgoing officers and directors- Steve Head, Dudley Shumate, Mike Mckensey and John Skinner. We appreciate their contribution and dedication to the chapter's mission. We welcome Will Swann, Ethan McGroom, and Jim Meador as our new directors and look forward to their leadership.

We welcome Bill Bollinger as Vice President and look forward to a successful 2011.

We appreciate and thank Chad McFall in his continuing role as Secretary and Treasurer, Dave Ezell as the Newsletter editor, and Charlie Chmielewski as Resource Director. It should be noted the chapter made Charlie an honorary member in recognition for his dedication and commitment to the many ways he has contributed to the LRCTU.

Thanks to Stan Smartt who headed up the nomination process.

Awards-The Wild Trout Symposium recognized both the LRCTU and Steve Moore. The prestigious Aldo Starker Leopold Wild Trout Medal in the professional category went to Steve Moore. The LRCTU was awarded the TU-FF Wild Trout Stewardship award, the first ever for a TU chapter. We should take great pride in the recognition of the teamwork and

the significant accomplishments achieved through the partnership of our chapter with the Great Smokies National Park's Fisheries Department.

Trout Unlimited also awarded the Trout Conservation Professional of the year to Steve Moore.

Congratulations to all who have consistently supported the chapter's activities and to Steve and the staff at the Park for their outstanding accomplishments and stewardship of the resources entrusted to them.

TroutFest-We enjoyed another great event in 2010, along with an Embrace a Stream grant, which allowed the chapter to make a contribution of \$45,000 to support the programs of the Fisheries Department. \$33,000 was a direct contribution and \$12,000 was contributed to Fisheries Scholarship Fund. A special thanks to all who were involved. The 2011 program will continue to be our primary fund raising event.

2011-The chapter continues to have a variety of ways in which members stay involved and contribute to the chapter's mission-TroutFest, acid deposition studies, fish shocking studies, Little River cleanup, brook trout restoration, supporting various youth activities and other volunteer opportunities. In light of all of the many ways our members are involved, the board decided to reduce the number of program meetings in 2011. **The chapter will not have program meetings in Jan., June and July.** Please mark you calendars accordingly. You can see the tentative calendar of events on the website.

Thanks for your continued support of the Little River Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

-Rufus King

Fishing Conditions in the Smokies; We Go Fishing Anyway

By Ian & Charity Rutter

A few days ago the week seemed to be ripe with possibility. The snow was melting fast and a warm rain was on the way. Even better there were a number of sunny days in the forecast with temperatures in the 40's and 50's. Looks good on paper but it didn't really work out that way.

The warm rain and melting snow brought streams up to well beyond fishable for a couple of days and marginally so for several days thereafter. Today will be the first day that mountain streams will be a pretty good level, but do I need to say what's on the way, or can you see it coming...

We've got some more rain or snow on the way, probably snow in the mountains and a sure 'nuff snow on the way next week. Whatcha' gonna do? Fish when you can.

Fishing hasn't exactly been on fire, but we're picking up a few fish on nymphs fished deep in the slowest water we can find. Water temperatures have yet to rebound into the low 40's and it doesn't look like they will any time soon.

There have been some decent tailwater opportunities if you keep your eyes peeled. There was a superb schedule on the Clinch over the weekends The Watauga has been the best for a place with a sure fire schedule, but the South Holston seems to be a better choice most of the time. You have to watch the schedule to be sure you show up when the water's right, but that's been pretty frequent and there have been enough bugs to keep the fish rising.

Ian & Charity Rutter are proprietors of R&R Fly Fishing in Townsend, TN. A wealth of information on local and distant fishing can be found at their web site: www.randrflyfishing.com

Acquatic Biology & Fishing Adventure Camp

Tennessee Council of Trout Unlimited is moving forward with its plans to hold a week long Acquatic Biology & Fishing Adventure Camp at Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Treemont June 20-25. The camp is geared to middle school girls and boys and Tennessee TU chapters are expected to provide 12 participants for the camp.

Summer Adventure is designed to give kids an awareness, appreciation and understanding of the importance of our nation's aquatic resources with an emphasis on conservation, protection and restoration of coldwater ecosystems. Participants will learn about stream ecology, brook trout restoration, stream physics and chemistry, fishing etiquette and aquatic entomology. They will experience fly tying and fly fishing along with hiking and swimming.

Tuition for the camp is \$465/person. Insurance coverage is supplied by GSMIT. Scholarship money is available through some local TU chapters. Trout Unlimited will provide, as a gift to each participant, chest waders and boots, fly rod, reel, fly line and T-shirt.

For more information go to www.crctu.com (Clinch River Chapter TU) or access the site from a link on our web site, www.lrctu.com. You will find an application there as well. Selections will be made by March 15. Early registration is encouraged.

Applications should be mailed to John Thurman, P.O. Box 546, Norris, TN 37828.

All applicants will be notified of their selection status no later than March 20, 2011.

TroutFest on FaceBook

Joe Rentz, who is working on the marketing committee for TroutFest 2011, has established a FaceBook page for the event. This is a great way to get the word out on our premier event using social media. Now we need to get "friends." If you're a FaceBook member then go on line and search "Troutfest" (the actual name of the page is "Troutfest - Great Smoky Mountains Fly Fishing Exposition"). Select the page and after it appears, you can "like" the page and/or "share" the page with other friends on FaceBook.

Joe is the main Administrator of the page and Michael Turbyville is backup. Joe encourages anyone who has questions, comments or suggestions to please contact him. He can be reached at 865.659.2721 or DrJoe777@aol.com.

New Meeting Schedule for 2011

A new meeting schedule with fewer meetings has been planned for 2011. Due to the multitude of activities in which our members and officers are involved, the number of monthly meetings has been reduced to six. Those meetings as well as other related activities are:

- January 15 - Acid Deposition
- February 24 - Regular Monthly Meeting**
- March 20 - (Tentative) Acid Deposition
- March 24 - Regular Monthly Meeting**
- April (?) - Little River Cleanup, PicNic and Buddy Fishing
- May 15 - (Tentative) Acid Deposition
- May 13-15 TroutFest
- June 20-25 Trout Camp (Tremont)
- July 17 - (Tentative) Acid Deposition
- August 25 - Regular Monthly Meeting**
- September 18 - (Tentative) Acid Deposition
- September 22 - Regular Monthly Meeting**
(River Johns)
- October 27 - Regular Monthly Meeting** (Fly Tiers)
- November 20 - (Tentative) Acid Deposition
- December 8 - Regular Monthly Meeting**
(New officers)

Don't Get Left Out!

Make sure you get your LRCTU Newsletter in 2011

In an effort to reduce our environmental footprint, LRCTU has been distributing its newsletter by e-mail rather than going postal. If you received this newsletter by mail, but not by e-mail, then you do not have a correct e-mail address on file with your Trout Unlimited subscription.

There are two ways to remedy this. Either make sure that your e-mail address is included and updated with your TU membership info (we download an updated mailing list each month from TU) OR send me your e-mail address (to ezop@charter.net) and it will be included in a separate e-mail list.

We'll make a few copies of the newsletter available by mail. We'd like to limit these, of course, but if you're not on line, then notify me at 865-984-1508 and be added to this list.

Dave Ezell, Editor

Acid Deposition Kickoff

A breakfast meeting has been scheduled for volunteers, University of Tennessee researchers and the Park Service for **Saturday February 26 at 9:00 AM at Park Headquarters**. This is the 2011 kick off meeting for the Acid Deposition Sampling Program begun with TU support in 1993. The meeting should be finished before noon and cover the following: 1) How have TVA emission improvements translated into what we see in the streams; 2) How do current trends bode for brook trout range loss now and in the future; 3) Changes to protocols and logistics of sampling; and 4) Develop a volunteer list and schedule for the next year of samples.

If you plan to attend the meeting or even if you cannot attend but want to volunteer, please send me a message or call me. This will help me set up the volunteer list and provide enough food for all the attendees.

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make the 2010 sampling a success, Charlie Chmielewski cell 865-661-7325

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



Thanks to all of you who worked on Troutfest. Great Job!

And thanks for attending, supporting and donating to Troutfest. Together we have made a difference that we can all be proud of forever.

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

Free casting lessons Saturday mornings from 9am to 10am.
Starting in March
Winter Sales Days Ongoing

LRCTU 2011 Officers

President: Rufus King 995-1146
V. President: Bill Bolinger 984-6129
Secretary/Treasurer Chad McFall
607-8991

Board Members: Kris Maurer (274-8695), John Janulis, Ken Henderson (310-4959), Mark Seby (712-797), Caleb Abramson, Joe McGroom (310-7299), Wayne Everbach (984-1141), Will Swann (740-7175), Ethan McGroom (207-1846), Jim Meador (691-5651)

Website Editor: Roy Hawk (690-4795), Newsletter Editor: Dave Ezell (567-1479), Resource Director: Charlie Chmielewski (661-7325)