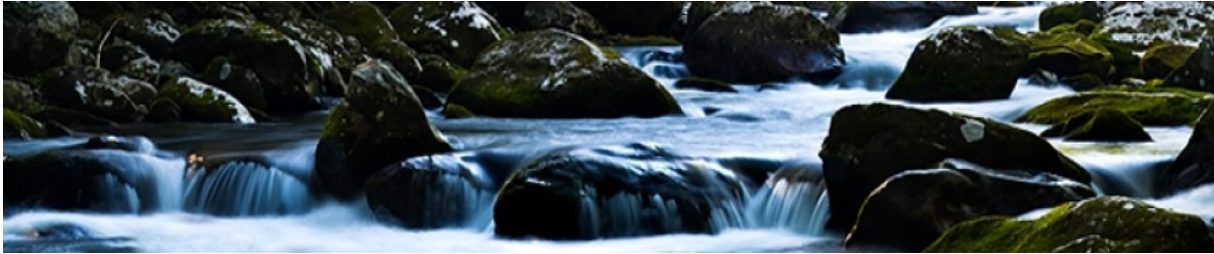


Little River Chapter of Trout Unlimited

July 2015 Newsletter



President's Corner

Mike Bryant (mjbryant1954@hotmail.com)

The month of June proved to be a very busy month that included volunteering at Trout Camp, grandkids staying with us for ten days followed by an eight day fishing trip to Colorado. We had a great time with the grandkids including picnics in the Park, playing in creeks, swimming and of course some fishing. It was a great opportunity to introduce fly fishing and fly tying to our eight year grandson. I coordinated the evening fly tying classes at Trout Camp, so my grandson tagged along for most of the nights. He had the opportunity to watch and interact with the big kids.

We had already started his journey on fly tying, and he cast his first line into a Park stream this year. But his exposure to Trout Camp elevated his interest in the fly fishing. It was a great reminder on how small actions on our part can have such a big influence on the next generation, especially when comes to exposing them to the great outdoors.



This year's Trout Camp was another great success. Great job by John Thurman, Steve Thompson and the entire volunteer staff!

After Trout Camp, John Reinhardt and I went to central Colorado for eight days of fly fishing. Our timing was off a bit given high flows still existed in most of the major streams due to snow melt runoff.

The rivers were dropping, but were definitely high. So we made the most of it and started searching for higher elevation streams. We found a couple of gems. We caught

browns, rainbows and brookies, but oddly no cutthroats were brought to hand. Multiple days we had the opportunity to cast to rising fish, including some 16" rainbows that were poking their noses above the surface to suck down hatching Pale Morning Duns. We were early for the caddis hatch so John didn't get to use his 48 Elk Hair Caddis flies he brought or any of my two dozen CDC & Elk patterns. But I did tie a great little nymph pattern that fooled a lot of 12" wild brown trout. Good fishing in a beautiful part of the country!

Typical of summer, fishing is a bit tougher in the Park right now. Nymphs down deep and the ever popular Green Weenie are still working.

Have a safe and great summer!

-Mike

July Program – Thursday, July 23

July Chapter Meeting

As in the past, our July Chapter Meeting (Thursday, July 23) will be held outside at River Johns Outfitters (<http://www.riverjohns.com/map.htm>). Just outside of Mayville, River John's is located on a beautiful stretch of the Little River. Dinner is free! The July meeting will be a joint chapter meeting with the Great Smoky Mountain Chapter. You can fish along the shoreline before and after dinner. Last year I hooked but lost a rather large smallie on a hellgrammite pattern. So bring your gear and an appetite. Dinner will be served around 6:00pm

Annual Clinch River Cleanup

Love to fish the Clinch? Want to help keep it beautiful? The third annual Big Clinch River Cleanup will be Saturday, July 25 and the first 125 volunteers to register can enjoy a big free breakfast at Museum of Appalachia, 2819 Andersonville Highway in Norris. More information can be found at <http://crctu.org>.

Smokemont Trip

The annual fishing trip at Smokemont is set for September 25 – 27. This is a great trip, complete with excellent fishing, even better food and great fellowship. More details to follow in the next couple of months, but mark your calendar for this awesome trip right in our own backyard.

Trout in the Classroom Volunteers

After a very successful first year with Trout in the Classroom (TIC), we plan to expand TIC into multiple new schools. TIC requires fundraising efforts to purchase the equipment, a willing and energetic school and helpful TIC volunteers. We have the funds (raised from this year's Troutfest) and several new schools anxious to participate. The one missing element is your support. We are looking for volunteers who are willing to work with a teacher in setup and maintenance of the aquarium system. The time burden is light and we now have a group of mentors to help train and guide you. So if you want to help expose our kids to the outdoors, trout and conservation, please consider joining our team! You can contact Mike Bryant at mjbryant1954@hotmail.com, phone me at 513-697-9576.

– Mike Bryant

Rocky Mountain High (water)

If all went well by the time you are reading this, Mike Bryant the president of the Little River TU and I are just getting back from 8 days of fishing Colorado in the surrounding areas around Vail. Even though I have been skiing this area for years I had never made



a summer trip to fish so this was an exciting time for me. I reached out to the local TU chapter in Eagle Valley for tips and of course the area fly shops, and just like here in Tennessee everyone could not have been more helpful.

We watched the snowmelt runoff like we were working for the Weather Channel, and despite everyone's assurance our timing was right, we caught the tail end of the big runoff the last week of June. So we consulted with the fly shops out there and even called Dan Munger at Little River Outfitters here at home due to his living and working in that area for a time.

Not to fear, we spent days roaming the high alpine country finding streams primarily between 8,000 feet and 9,300 ft. Anything below that put you in the valley and in a torrent of river water racing down to Denver and other towns, anything above 9,500 ft still had snow on trails and creeks were not accessible.

Every day we woke around 6AM, grabbed breakfast, made lunch, packed the cooler and hit the road. The best way to describe the trek was if you took a compass put the point on Vail and then drew a 100 mile circle that was our week. We hit 2 sometimes 3 different streams a day and only repeated a couple because either of the fish or just the stunning beauty of the stream. During the week there were times where we saw no humans for hours, sometimes all day, The week was filled with 10-12 hour fishing days getting back at dark for a Colorado craft beer and beef at local restaurants. Truly a bucket list trip and I hope everyone this summer or in the future can find their dream adventure.

-John Reinhardt

Park Fisheries Sampling in July 2015

The National Park Service has five large stream samples planned for July. These samples will be done using the Index of Biotic Integrity (IBI) sampling method. The IBI method allows the sampling of large streams to be done with reduced manpower compared to the Three Pass Method used in the past and on Lynn Camp Prong this year.

Thanks to the very good response from volunteers and the reduced need for manpower, we already have enough volunteers signed up to help except for one sample as noted below.

The listing of samples is as follows:

- July 15 Middle Prong of Little Pigeon River – can use one or two more to help
- July 16 Big Creek
- July 20 Cataloochee
- July 27 East Prong of Little River
- July 279 Deep Creek – being supported by North Carolina TU

Messages will be sent to the volunteers for each event with contact information, meeting logistics, and things to bring. If you have questions or want more information or want to sign up to help, please contact me.

Charlie Chmielewski
865-661-7325
charlieflyfish@gmail.com

LRCTU Flyfisher Profile

Name: Steve Young

Nickname: Steve

City / County Residence: Dandridge, Jefferson, TN

General Family Info: Married 42+ years to Gretta Hauth Young 2 sons. Oldest is a Lieutenant Colonel in the US Army Medical Corp. Youngest is a PhD Engineer at Livermore labs in Livermore, CA (And my earliest fishing buddy!)

Years Fly Fishing: Off and on since childhood. Fairly serious the last few years of living in Houston, TX and serious since moving here.

Years Fly Tying / Rod Building / etc: Starting studying leader design and then tying my own after moving here. Just getting into fly tying.

History of Fly Fishing: Father started me, then just read books, watched videos, and fished! Early fly fishing was with poppers for bass and bluegill. Really went to next level when I realized my parents lived near the Spring River in Arkansas (a blue ribbon trout stream) and started to fish that—the last 2 years of their time there! (Too late smart!). Started fly fishing Gulf Coast marine waters, mostly the bays near Corpus Christi and Galveston, Texas using a kayak. Spent most of my fishing time in GSMNP since moving here but have started branching out to the Clinch, Douglas Lake, and looking toward the French Broad River.

Fly Fish Educational Activities: Have helped with the fishing day at the TU Tremont Trout Camp, Healing Waters and Kids fish day on the Clinch, help teach basic fly fishing at Orvis, Sevierville.

Favorite Places to Fly Fish:

- *Locally:* Love GSMNP, particularly upper reaches of Greenbrier area in GSMNP
- *Outside The Local Area:* No specific area but like fishing marine coastal bay areas, never know what you are going to latch onto!

Favorite Fly to Tie: Too early to call real favorite, but like Pat's Nymph (from Ian R)—mostly because it is fairly easy to tie and I have caught fish with it!

Best Fly Fishing / Tying Story: Really enjoyed Kids fish day particularly helping granddaughter of one of our LRCTU members catch a pretty nice trout; we had to work at it



a bit but she stuck with it and was able to reel it in on her own—a great thrill for her (and me). Also distinctly remember catching my first brookie in Deep Creek many years ago; had no real idea what I was doing but flipped a black wooly bugger under a tree and snagged a pretty good sized, deep blue colored fish—haven't quite duplicated that since.

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