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### **“THE ANTIDOTE TO EXHAUSTION ISN’T REST. IT’S FISHING”**

Trout Camp is over; recovery/decompression always goes along with the feeling of satisfaction after an intense week with 14 energetic teenagers. Part of the satisfaction is working with a group of volunteers committed to making Trout Camp a memorable experience for the campers. I went back over my activities list to get a better estimate of the number of volunteer positions in Trout Camp. My previous estimates were conservative; well over 50 and as many as 85 individual positions (depending on how I count true needs) need to be filled. These range from an hour or so demonstrating knot tying to spending most if not the entire week with campers including either as chaperones or overnight counselors. While all positions are important the latter group is critical to camp success, particularly the overnight counselors. The picture below shows this group of folks whose commitment in terms of time and input is special to me and the campers. You may recognize a couple of former campers who were outstanding as ‘Junior Counselors’. Trout Camp needs people like these to step up and commit to the program; we are always looking for ‘new blood’ and would welcome you as a volunteer.

In line with the Fishing Thought of the Month, I had a fortuitous meeting when going to one of my favorite Park spots to help my post camp slump with some fishing. I met a fellow at the trailhead who turned out to be a TU member from Wisconsin. Got to chatting and he was looking to fish the stretch but really didn't know where to go. So, I invited him to take a hike with me to a less frequented spot to get away from the casual fisherman. A great day; beautiful weather, a few fish caught with other strikes (he caught 2 to my 1, so I was relieved!—never feel good about taking someone to a special place and either we strike out or I out-catch them!). Although tired physically at the end of the day (5 miles plus of hiking and rock hopping), emotionally in a much better state! Thanks Ben!

Another group that has started up again was our Tie and Lie which meets at the Casual Pint in Maryville the last Monday of each month. This past month we all just brought materials to tie a fly of our choice and enjoyed the camaraderie. We have been able to get into the back room again so the external noise is reduced (means the lying over the flies might get a little louder). Come join us at **6pm, this month on Monday the 26th** for some tyin' and lyin'! Will Davis will be teaching the Lite Peacock Perdigon and the soft hackle Walt's Worm.

Tight Lines!

Steve Y



### **GIRLS AT TROUT CAMP by Kim Pouncey**

Trout Camp is not just about the fishing, snorkeling, learning conservation and why it is important; it's about growth.

Most young people have it hard enough making it through their early and mid teens but many of the young people at Trout Camp have added challenges. Trout Camp is a way for them to escape everything that makes life difficult, be themselves, make friends and build

self confidence. The transformation is amazing to see.

This year there were 3 girls in attendance. As Co-President of Chilhowee Club I was proud we were able to sponsor one, and as close friend of Ann Strange I was proud to know she personally sponsored another. Being a member of Little River Chapter Trout Unlimited, I was honored to be able to fish with all 3 girls on the 2 days I was present. Not sure I've had that much fun volunteering before!

All 3 girls were something to behold.

There was Onia who was big, bold, outgoing, and completely sure of herself. She now wants to start a Fly Fishing Club at school. She has her financial plan started so she can get a car when she's 16 then have it together when she turns 18 and graduates high school.

Ruth was extremely shy but when you got her to come out, her whole face lit up and her big dimples made an entrance. She is an amazing artist that uses multiple mediums but looking at her work, her watercolor is spectacular. I hope to get her to participate in the Chilhowee Club Arts and Crafts show in October.

Kendall was a little of both, trying to figure out who she is and just how to proceed. All girls caught fish but Kendall's goal was to catch the all illusive Brook Trout. Late on the last day, that is exactly what she did. Not sure anyone could have been more proud of their accomplishments.

Friday was great fun with all 3 girls in the backseat giggling, talking about life's plans, how to deal with boys, all the things that make teenagers teenagers. Friday was also the day I was introduced to some amazing women while also spending some time with my favorite Smoky Mountain guide, Charity Rutter. Her expertise most definitely made Friday a much more successful fishing day for all 3 girls.

Although I was not present, I heard that the awards given on Saturday were amazing. This was done after the parents had arrived to pick them up so stories were told and proud smiles were shared by everyone.

Trout Camp can always use chaperones and guides. I am here to say, this is an experience that shouldn't be missed. This is a week that can change the trajectory of a young person's life. Get out there. Make a difference in the world while having a blast doing it!



**July Meeting**





July Picnic at River John's is coming up; remember it is Thursday night the 22nd of July starting at 5pm. Dinner will be around 6pm. First time in 18 months we get to see each other face to face; I hope you can make it. Please let us know if you are planning to attend so we can get a head count for the Burgers, Hotdogs, and fixin's that the chapter will be supplying. Just send me a note at [lrctu.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:lrctu.newsletter@gmail.com). Otherwise, bring yourself, a guest, the kids, a chair, a dish to share, and a rod if you wish (smallmouth country!) and let's celebrate a return to a version of 'normalcy'.

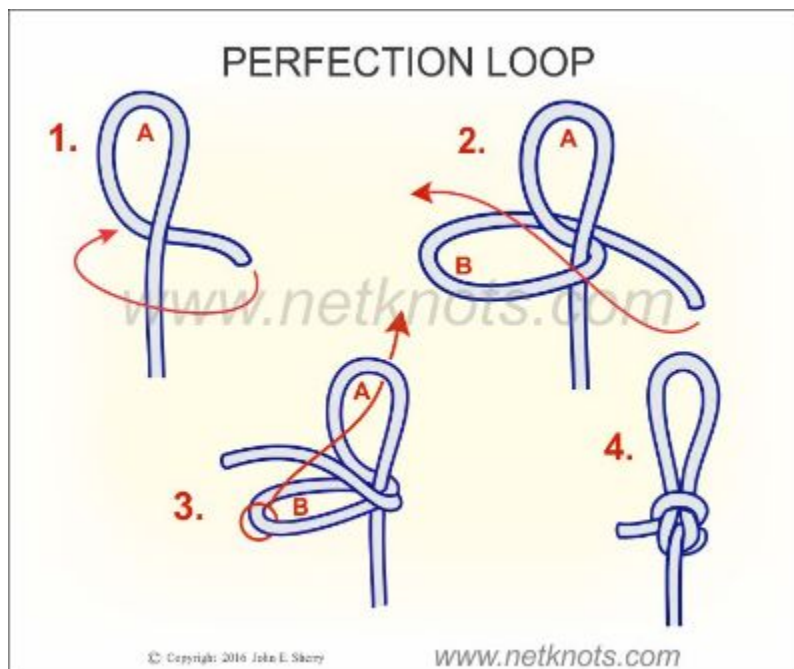
### **Bugs and Flies**

It's Green Weenie season! This fly supposedly mimics the green inch worm, but I've caught fish on it all over the country, where that little worm doesn't even exist. Fish it as a dropper, under an indicator or straight lining, its effective in all three modes. There are several different variations of this fly out on YouTube, but here's one that uses lead as weight instead of bead head. I prefer the bead head, but try it both ways!



### Knots - How to tie the Perfection Loop Knot

Strong and effective, the Perfection Loop is a favorite for tying a loop at the butt end of the leader. Besides being strong and reliable, it can be crafted to make a very small loop if desired.



**Other News from Kim Pouncey**



Please join us Thursday, August 5 for our first fundraiser of 2021!

Michael “Crawdaddy” Crawley and 3 other band members will entertain us with Blues and a little rock . Michael, a Knoxville favorite, is a master harmonica player and in his long career has opened for many big name blues performers. The music is fun, upbeat, entertaining, but still allows for conversation.

The event will be upstairs at Blue Tick Tavern (formerly Barley’s) in downtown Maryville.

Tickets are open to the public and can be purchased online through this [EventBrite link](#).

Dinner and music ticket ~ \$35.00 per person

Social hour starts at 6:00 PM. The buffet will be served from 6:30 until 7:30.

Music begins at 7:00.

Cash Bar ~ tickets include non-alcoholic beverages

Music only ticket ~ \$25.00 per person

Doors open at 7:30 for music and seating for these tickets cannot be guaranteed.

Get your tickets while you can! We are hoping for a sold out event!

Questions? Contact Kim Pouncey at [kpouncey@topshelfedu.com](mailto:kpouncey@topshelfedu.com).



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