

# Little River Chapter Newsletter

Chapter President / Editor  
Joe Hatton

JUNE 2004  
[www.lrcctu.org](http://www.lrcctu.org)

## Next Meeting

Its time for some R&R. We are moving the location & time of this month's meeting to 6:00 P.M. on June 24th to River John's Island, 4134 Cave Mill Road, just off Wildwood Road as you cross the Little River. At this months meeting we will have hamburgers and hot-dogs, so bring your appetite! Also pack your fly rod for some casting lessons! Can coke products will be provided. Member are to bring their own extra refreshment. Also, bring a lawn chair or something to sit on.

The casting demonstration and casting clinic starts at 6 P.M. so don't be late..

## Stream work

**June 14-17th:** Sams Creek Evaluation  
Re-Sample Monitoring Sites & Evaluate

**July 17-18th:** Bi-Monthly Acid Deposition  
Hikes

**Great Job!!!**



**More on page 3**

## June Fishing Picks

By: Ian Rutter

June is the month that most of us begin to leave the waders at home and only wade in our felt boots when we head for the mountain streams. Water temperatures are usually in the low 60's and air temperatures are in the 80's. Whether you choose to wear shorts or pants, be sure that they are nylon or a poly blend so they don't retain water. Cotton garments will stay wet all day, become heavy, and chafe your skin.

Leaving the waders at home makes it easier for some hike-in fishing since you don't have to tote waders or walk in them. Upper Little River above Elkmont is always a popular destination along with Abrams Creek for those wishing to walk away from the road. There are several other streams that you should keep in mind as well. Bradley Fork upstream of Smokemont Campground is always a good stream in the summer, sporting a mix of rainbows and browns plus a few stray brookies. Deep Creek is another stream that rewards anglers that walk a few miles. Walking in from the lower end you'll find plenty of browns as well as rainbows. Hiking into the upper reaches of the stream from Newfound Gap Road is best left to those with strong legs, but nice fish can be found even at these high elevations.[CONTINUED ON PAGE 2]

**Fishing Picks** [ FROM PAGE 1 ] Brookies are also relatively common this high on Deep Creek. The Tellico District of the Cherokee National Forest also has plenty of good walk in opportunities. The largest stream is Bald River. While there is some roadside access, most of the best water requires a hike. North and South Forks of Citico Creek are also excellent choices for fishermen in search of solitude and naive fish. Rainbows seldom grow large in these creeks, but rarely exhibit much selectivity towards a fly.

Tailwater fishing isn't quite what it was back in the spring, but continues to be good if you can make the most of opportunities. The Hiwassee has gone to a summer flow that favors boats over waders. However, arrive early and you can get some wading in. Also, pontoon rafts are great to float the river and wade a number of runs. The Clinch has upped generation recently to the point where floating isn't even much of an option. However, the Watauga still has excellent flows for wade fishermen. Again, a pontoon can expand the amount of water you can fish here. The South Holston is on fire right now with great sulphur hatches. However, this is almost exclusive for those with drift boats. Flows are too swift for personal pontoons. Keep an eye on schedules, though. Generators might not come on until 10 or 11 AM and that can keep you wading as late as 2 or 3 PM on the lowest sections of the river.

## *Bronze Bonefish on Cicada Poppers*

By M. Gary Verholek

No, I haven't popped a couple of rivets, and your eyes aren't deceiving you. I've been hunting (and catching) carp on a foam popper tied to look like a Cicada. It's a ripping good time, as in ripping line off the reel!

At the Trout Unlimited meeting the other night, a friend told me, in hushed tones

too low for other flyfishermen to hear, that the carp were clobbering black poppers. This was double blasphemy. Fishing for the lowly Carp while imitating the infamous Cicada. An outsider would think that no self-respecting trout fisherman would be going after Carp, at least not bragging about it. And everyone has been bad-mouthing the noisy Cicada. Not me; I'm a convert on both counts. I'm just wondering how much long the Cicada will be buzzing about.

Almost everyone has their favorite story about their noise and other startling encounters with Cicadas. Mother Nature has placed a different value on the critters - the fish and turtles seem to love them. As I watched Cicadas land on the lake, I notice that several different fish thought they made a fine, high-protein snack. Carp, catfish, bass and bluegill are all dining on any wayward visitor unlucky enough to land short. Even turtles were taking them.

Having taken Carp on black Woolly Buggers while fishing for bass, I knew that they were powerful fighters. Add to that the prospect of top-water action, and you have all the ingredients necessary for me to start flailing my arm, my rod arm that is.

I made my poppers from 6-7 glued sheets of black foam (Wal-Mart) cut with a 3/8ths plug cutter. I drove a bodkin needle through about 3/4 off-center. Using a #4 or #6 straight-eye hook, I added some yarn or chenille to the hook; tied on some Pheasant or hen back in light colors to imitate the translucent Cicada wings, and some cheap hackle for legs; put glue onto the yarn, and shoved the foam over the eye; aligned the foam and let it dry. I added some sparkle nail polish for effect and red nail polish for eyes (Big Lots specials). Whether the paint is necessary is questionable, but I like it. [CONTINUED ON PAGE 3]

## **Bronze Bonefish on Cicada Poppers** [ FROM PAGE 2]

I've been taking my fast-action, 6-wt Redington (TSF 906-4) in the canoe and prowling the cove behind my house on Ft. Loudon Lake. Concentrating on the shallows, under trees and along riprap, I use a very slow retrieve, trying to imitate a fallen Cicada. The wait is agonizing until the large, brown head rises up. When that otherwise lackadaisical Carp sucks in the popper and feels the hook, the water explodes. They hate the feel of steel, but what a thrill for me. A hook turns this placid cruiser into a bruiser – a Bronze Bonefish, making long, sizzling runs into the backing.

As a bonus, the Bluegills love the poppers, too. Don't shun the Bluegills; they seem to tell the Carp where dinner is being served. Use a very slow retrieve to imitate a moving Cicada, and watch closely. While Bluegill nip at the tail-feathers, Mr. Carp will rise slowly and slurp in the popper. That's quite a sight. Give him time to take it in; then set the hook and hold on. Tie up several poppers; they'll bust you off with their initial burst when they realize they're hooked.

If you haven't tried it yet, you'd better do it before the Cicadas are done with their mating ritual. Then it may be too late.

Gary

## **Great first Troutfest**

**We raised \$9620.70 from the Trout Festival and Banquet. We will be able to give \$7620.70 to the Park Fisheries Department to be used in part as matching grant funds for Brook trout restoration that is planned for next year. The rest of the money the Chapter will use as seed money for next year's festival and other projects.**

The stream that the Park Fisheries Department plans to restore next year is 1.6 miles of Indian Flats Prong. Once they confirm that no fish are in the stream, they plan to move Southern Appalachian brook trout from Lynn Camp Prong into the renovated section. After they have re-populated the stream, the Brook trout will be part of the source stock for the remainder of Lynn Camp Prong .

From a conversation I had with Charity Rutter last summer about our chapter having a trout festival, I would never have thought that our first Troutfest would be so successful. I always knew that the we had a hard working chapter, and if anybody ever asked I always would tell them, if you like to work our chapter is the place to be. But I was really amazed on how well everyone came together to make the festival a success. I could not have asked for a better team.

When we first started talking about the festival, I was hoping to break even on the festival and maybe with the Banquet. But we were able to raise money with the Festival and the Banquet. From all the comments I received from the vendors, they said we were doing well for our first festival. The main comment was that the festival was well organized. That says a lot for our Festival coordinators and everyone that chipped in to help. The Banquet committee did a really great job. They had everything setup well and the meal was excellent. Overall everything went pretty smooth. I thought for the limited space that we had, we could not have asked for a better job.

We could not have been more blessed with the weather. Hopefully next year weather will be the same. I have tried to thank everyone in person who helped with the festival and banquet, so please forgive me if I miss you. [CONTINUED ON PAGE 4]

## **TroutFest** [ FROM PAGE 3 ]

### **Festival coordinators**

Charity Rutter - arts and craft vendors  
Jim Eastman- food vendors  
John Skinner - educational tent  
Tom Eustis - musicians & storytellers  
Polly Taylor & Rufus King- coke booths  
Mary K & Pat Jenkins - casting contest

### **Team members**

Debra Lane, Jeff Hall, Gary Ramsey, Joe Bogle, Carol Bowles, Deborah Nye, Ian Rutter, Jim Smith, Mona George, David Hall, Bob Lupa, Robert Hughes, Kerstin Taylor, Albert Hill, Ken Kant, Heather Rutter, Sean McKay, Beccie King, John Janulis, Kerry Bryan, Jason Pauey, Paul Lord, Charles Hall, Kerry Bryan, Sergio Mendez, Jeff Lavender, Gary & Wanda Taylor

### **Banquet coordinators**

Jack Gregory & Joe Teffeteller - food committee  
Dudley Shoemaker & Maurice Ferguson - auction committee  
Mike Stiehl - tickets committee

### **Team members**

Ronnie & Terri Becker, Bill & Sheila Bolinger Steve & Linda Head, Donna Gregory, Debbie Teffeteller, Dustin Teffeteller, Selena Hamm, Terri McDonald, John Tillett, Paula Begley

Thanks to everyone who worked so hard on the Festival and Banquet. Without everyone coming to together to help the Festival and Banquet would not have been so successful. Troutfest will be a forum for the chapter to rise money for Park Fisheries, educate the public about the environmental threats to our trout habitat and build a good working relationship with our local communities for years to come.

Thanks for a great job!  
Joe Hatton

## **Fly of the month**

**Fire Beetle** (Ovriss pattern)

**Sizes:** 10, 14

**Colors:** Black, Olive, Red

**Hooks:** 2 X long dry

**Thread:** Black or Green 8/0

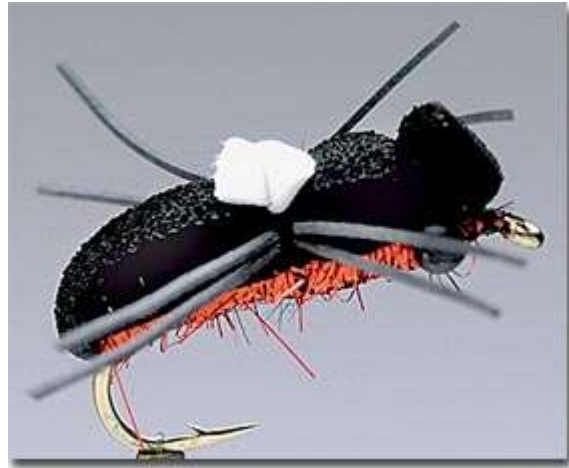
**Body:** Loop Dubbed Lite Brite dubbing

**Wing Wingcase:** Foam pulled over the back as a wingcase

**Legs:** Black or White Living Rubber or Sili Legs

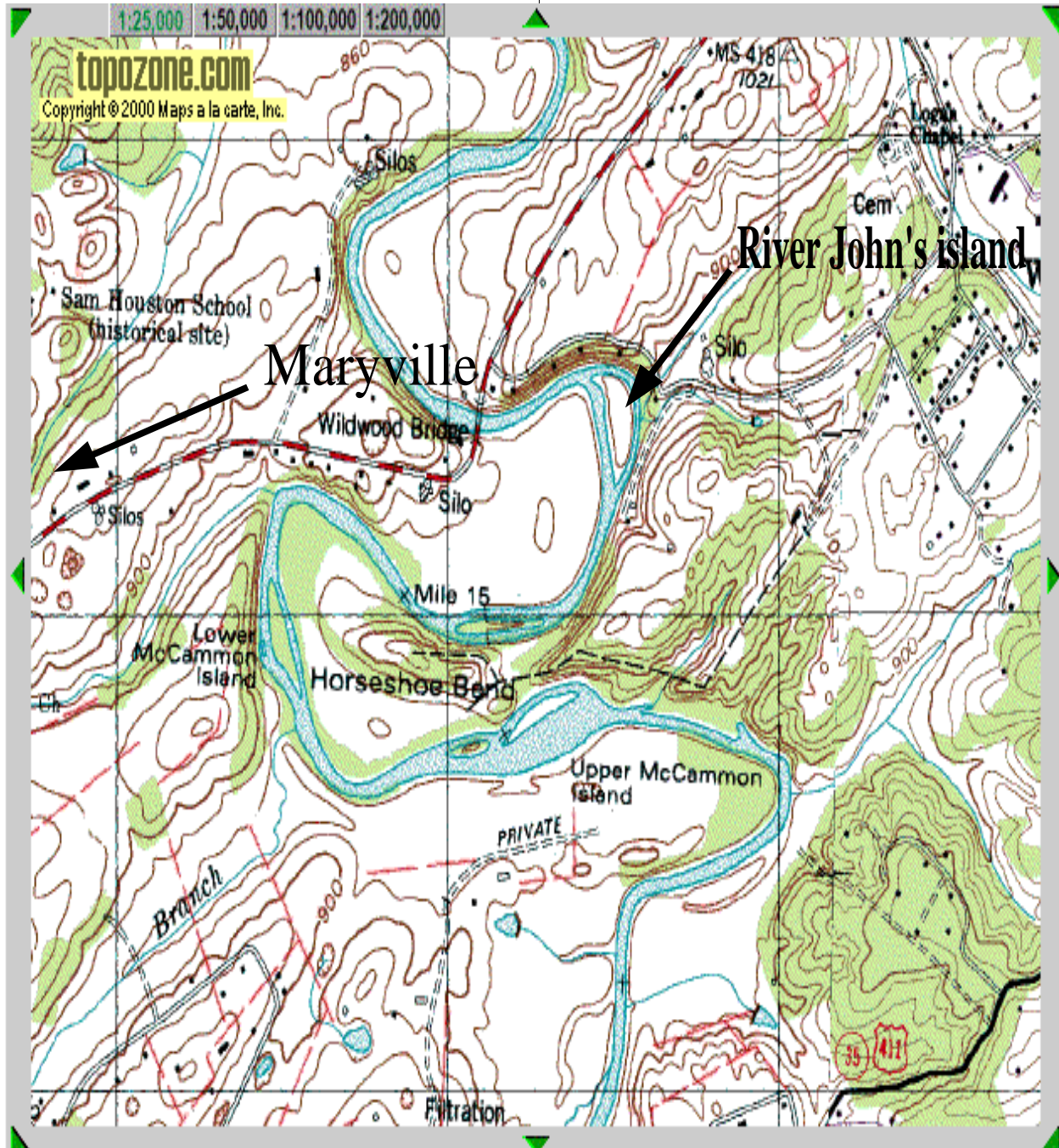
**Head Eyes:** Plastic Damsel Eyes

**Notes** For added visibility tie in a short piece of white foam atop the fly



## **Directions To River John's**

From Maryville you can turn left on Wildwood Road at the intersection of East Broadway and Lincoln Road go about 3 1/2 miles until you get to Wildwood bridge. After crossing Wildwood bridge take the first right on to Cave Mill Road which is almost immediately after the bridge. River John's is the 7th house on the right. There is a small cabin and then John's house is on the right in a sharp bend in the road. The street address is 4134 Cave Mill Rd. The inland is behind his house.





Joseph T Hatton  
4809 Ridgedale Rd  
Knoxville, TN 37921

**President** - Joe Hatton  
**Vice President** - Jim Parks  
**Secretary** - Tom Eustis  
**Treasurer** - Roy Hawk  
**Newsletter Editor** - Joe Hatton  
**Resource Director** - Roy Hawk  
**Web Page Editor** - Roy Hawk

**Broad Member**  
Steve Best  
Maurice Ferguson  
John Skinner  
Jeff Hall  
Howard Kingsberry  
Ian Rutter

Bryon Begley  
Mark Spangler  
Charity Rutter  
Debera Lane



**Store Hours:**

**Monday thru Thursday - 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

**Friday - 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.**

**Saturday - 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.**

**Sunday - 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

**106 Town Square Drive**

**P.O. Box 505**

**Townsend, Tennessee 37882**

**Phone: (865) 448-9459**

**Fax: (865) 448-3407**

**Email: [info@littleriveroutfitters.com](mailto:info@littleriveroutfitters.com)**



6907 Kingston Pike -- Knoxville, TN 37919

**588-6159**



*Serving East Tennessee for the past 20 years  
with products from these fine manufacturers:*

**Orvis**  
**Sage**  
**Winston**  
**Simms**  
**Abel**  
**Tibor**