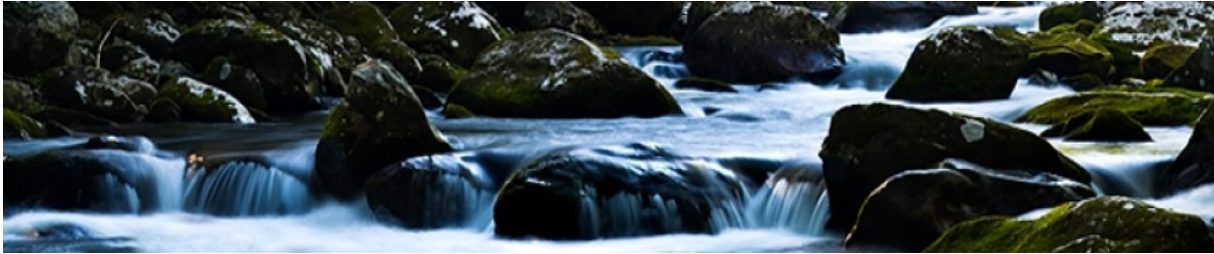


Little River Chapter of Trout Unlimited

June 2015 Newsletter



President's Corner

Mike Bryant (mjbryant1954@hotmail.com)

After a very busy spring that included Troutfest, four local schools celebrating the release of trout as a part of Trout in the Classroom, and our annual Little River cleanup, the summer promises a slowdown in Chapter activities. The month of June will bring another Trout Camp at the Tremont Institute. July will include a joint outdoor meeting with the Little River and Great Smoky Mountain Chapters at River John's.

Fishing in the GSMNP has been good for the most part this spring / early summer, despite the recent dry spell in east Tennessee. Fishing buddies from Ohio came down for a weekend to fish the Horseshoe at Abrams Creek and Lynn Camp Prong. Honestly, I was a bit disappointed in Abrams this year. The stream seemed to fish small, meaning the biggest fish we caught was probably ten inches. Last year, Ken Wade and I caught countless numbers of rainbows, with the largest probably in the 14-15" range. The weather cooperated except for the fifteen minute rain shower (of course I forgot my rain jacket). But we had a great time including a memorable bushwhacking experience! The following day we fished Lynn Camp Prong. Again, we caught countless numbers of brookies, including multiple 8-9" fish brought to hand. After a tough day of wading on Abrams followed by another full day chasing brookies on Lynn Camp, I was ready for a day of rest. I can definitely tell I'm not in my 30's anymore.

The grandkids will be staying with us for ten days in June. We have a lot of activities planned including trips into the Park to fish and play in the streams. I will be introducing my eight year old grandson to flyfishing as well. I can't wait! Once the grandkids are back at home, John and I will be heading to Colorado for a week of fishing. Our experiences in Colorado are very limited, so this should be a great opportunity for both of us. Ok, so maybe things will slow down for me this fall ☺.

June Program – Thursday, June 25

We all have a list of places we want to see, explore and fish in our lifetime. Last fall, Jan and I had such an opportunity to spend a month in Alaska. New Zealand is also on our short list. Beautiful countryside, friendly folks and the opportunity to fish for large trout certainly places New Zealand as a great place to go in your lifetime. Rufus King recently had such an opportunity to spend a month there last year. This is your opportunity to experience this magical place. We will again meet at Calhoun's in Maryville. The meeting will start at 7:00 pm, is open to everyone (even if you are not a member) and there's no obligation to buy dinner there.

Have a safe summer.

Mike

Mark Your Calendars

There are several events coming up this summer and fall that you don't want to miss:

July Chapter Meeting – Thursday, July 23

Our annual outdoor meeting will again take place at River John's. This year, we will hold a joint chapter meeting with Great Smoky Mountain and Little River Chapters. Dinner is free! There are some excellent spots to fish at River John's or you can make a day of it by kayaking / fishing your way down the river.

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.

Bucket List: Fly Fishing New Zealand

Presented by Rufus King

Join us on the evening of Thursday, June 25, 2015 for a very special presentation by one of our members, Rufus King, as he transports us to New Zealand and the many fly-fishing opportunities.

Rufus retired from the banking industry as the Chief Credit Officer of First American National Bank in Nashville when the bank was merged with what is now Regions Bank. Since then he has been engaged in part time consulting which he enjoys. Rufus started fly fishing at the time of his retirement joining the umberland Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

When he relocated to East Tennessee and built a retirement home near Friendsville. Rufus transferred his membership to the Little River Chapter and became involved serving as President of the chapter for several years. Rufus enjoys fly-fishing in cold water and warm water with an occasional salt-water trip, hard to beat East Tennessee. He ties his own flies and learned how to make bamboo fly rods from Stan Smart.

At the encouragement of his wife Beccie, even though she could not make the trip due to health issue concerns, Rufus spent the month of November 2014 in New Zealand sight seeing and fly-fishing. Rufus' presentation will include an overview of his trip, and highlight four fishing experiences in the South Island: the Mataura River, the Manihirikea River, Spring Creek and the Wangapeka River.

We will be meeting at Calhoun's Restaurant in Maryville at 6PM for dinner with a short business meeting at 7PM. Rufus' presentation will follow.

Hope to see you at Calhoun's.
Chuck James
LRCTU Program Chair

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