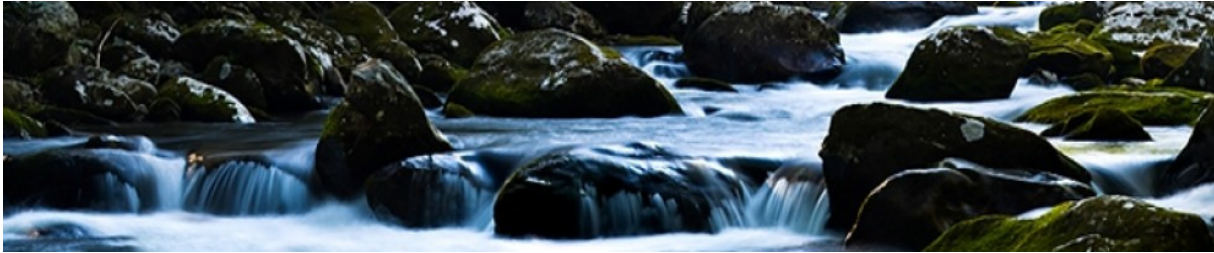


# Little River Chapter of Trout Unlimited

March 2014 Newsletter



## President's Corner

Mike Bryant ([mjbryant1954@hotmail.com](mailto:mjbryant1954@hotmail.com))

Well, I'm going a little crazy with this long winter like everyone else. But like all other optimistic men and women who fish, we know that when spring does come for good the fishing should be fantastic. Warmer weather and water bring happy bugs leading to happy fish.

Jan and I continue to travel quite a bit, so this will be a rather short President's Corner. But that doesn't mean activities are slow for the Chapter. This spring is going to be a very busy time for us.

Planning continues for the 2014 Troutfest Banquet and Auction. Don't forget to buy your tickets to support your Chapter and the Park. We need your support. Consider volunteering to help organize and implement Troutfest, solicit donations (and possibly make a donation), help spread the word and bring a family member and / or friend.

March will bring our first Chapter trip to Cataloochee. April brings our 2014 Troutfest Banquet and Auction. May brings our annual Little River Clean-up. The Acid Deposition teams are organized and will be out in force this spring as well. On top of all that, we have started the initial planning for multiple Trout-In-the-Classroom programs in our Chapter. And we are in the initial thoughts for a Smoky Mountain Fly Fishing 101 Program.

Need more? Check out the article on upcoming events in our region.

And don't forget to buy your Troutfest tickets ([troutfest.org](http://troutfest.org)), and bring a family member and / or friend!

Thanks,  
Mike



## March Meeting Features Fishing East Tennessee Outside The Park

The wild trout fisheries available in Great Smoky Mountains National Park are widely known as some of the best available in the eastern U.S. However, east Tennessee offers some other outstanding (and often overlooked) trout fishing opportunities in streams, tailwater rivers, and reservoirs. Jim will provide an overview of some of these “other” trout fisheries, as well as a summary of TWRA’s current brook trout conservation efforts.

Jim has B.S. (1984) and M.S. (1986) degrees from UT Knoxville and did his graduate work on brook and rainbow trout in Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GSMNP). He was the Research Associate for the TWRA-sponsored Wild Trout Project at UT Knoxville during the 1990s and came to TWRA in 1998 to continue that work.

Jim is currently responsible for managing Region IV’s wild trout streams and trout tailwaters. He represents TWRA on the Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society’s Trout technical committee and on the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture. He cooperates closely with coldwater fisheries managers from the National Park Service (Great Smoky Mountains National Park) and the U.S. Forest Service (Cherokee National Forest), and also routinely communicates with stakeholder groups (e.g. Trout Unlimited).

Our Meeting on Thursday, March 27, 2014, will be at the Monte Vista Baptist Church in the Fellowship Hall. Address: 1735 Old Niles Ferry Rd, Maryville, TN 37803-5505

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## Troutfest NEWS

### 2014 Banquet & Auction

**Have you purchased your tickets for the Little River Trout Unlimited Chapter 2014 Troutfest Banquet and Benefit Auction yet?** Everyone is welcome to this casual event and tickets are now on sale. We encourage everyone to purchase yours as soon as possible so that we can plan and prepare for the number of attendees. Ticket purchase information can be found at [www.Troutfest.org](http://www.Troutfest.org). In addition tickets may be picked up in person at Little River Outfitters.

**Friday, April 25  
6:00 pm**

Banquet preparations continue and we are looking forward to a large turnout at the event to help us achieve our goals for raising funds to support the Great Smoky Mountains National Park Fisheries Department, Friends of the Smokies Fisheries Scholarship Fund and other youth educational conservation projects.

Our Chapter has an outstanding history of support for the Park and we have been able to fund programs that have become models of success on the regional and national levels. It is our goal to continue our backing of these programs and grow our outreach, education, and Chapter activity programs. The Banquet, which is being held at the Airport Hilton, will be our primary funding opportunity and is critical to the achievement of our objectives. The delicious dinner buffet menu this year will feature pork tenderloin, marinated chicken, a variety of side dishes, and beer and wine will be available.



The list of Troutfest Benefit Auction items continues to grow and we will have some fantastic items up for bid during both the live and silent auctions. There will be items available at a variety of price points, and of course the highlight of the night will be some very special items that will allow attendees the opportunity to purchase one of a kind items that have been donated by our generous supporters.

Some of the items committed so far include custom bamboo rods, hand tied fly collections, wood carvings, original art and prints, Guide trips, lodging and restaurant gift certificates, fishing and fly tying gear, crafts and gifts, area attractions tickets, and much more.

Troutfest 2014 is a night you won't want to miss, so get your tickets now and enjoy the fun, fellowship, food, and the opportunity to support the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Looking forward to seeing you April 25,  
The Troutfest 2014 Committee

## Cataloochee Valley Fishing Trip

Little River Chapter has a fishing trip planned for **March 21 and 22** to the Cataloochee Valley campground. We are booked into the Group camp site 1. Check-in is after 1:00 pm on Friday March 21 and we must be out of the site by 11:00 Sunday morning March 23. This is a tent camping area only and the group is limited to 25 people. There is parking for 5 vehicles so try to share a ride if possible.

The long range forecast is for 30 to 50 degrees and as of March 1, it shows clear skies.



Each person is responsible for their own meals. It has not been decided whether there will be a group meal. We may be able to put together a breakfast or a dinner meal, but as of this writing that has not been decided.

If you plan on going on the trip but have not camped in the Park before, you should visit the Smoky Mountain National Park web site and familiarize yourself with the camping rules.

For those people that wish to go on the trip, please contact **Ernie Frey at [ernest.frey@comcast.net](mailto:ernest.frey@comcast.net) or 403-2832 by Wednesday, March 19.**

## Upcoming Events

### **Fly Fishing Film Tour - March 14, 2014**

The 2014 Fly Fishing Film Tour is headed to Knoxville, hosted by 3 Rivers Angler. The showing will be on Friday, March 14 (7:00 pm) at the Relix Variety Theatre (1208 N. Central St., Knoxville). All proceeds will benefit Legacy Parks Foundation. Tickets are \$12 and available locally in advance at the 3 Rivers Angler or online at [3riversangler.com](http://3riversangler.com). Call 865-200-5271 or e-mail [info@3riversangler.com](mailto:info@3riversangler.com) for more information.

### **Over Mountain Chapter Fundraiser – April 12, 2014**

OMTU is cosponsoring with Thirsty Orange (Asheville) a Craft Brew Event on April 12, 2014 in Johnson City. The event will be located in the courtyard of the Millennium Centre, located directly across the street from the East Tennessee State University Mini-Dome. One hundred craft beers will be available for sampling along with a number of other events. Tickets are \$35 each and are also available on-line. For more information, go to [www.thirstyorange.com](http://www.thirstyorange.com).

## **Little River Clean-Up - May 3**

Plan to be a part of our annual Little River Clean-up on Saturday, May 3. This is an important part of our mission to preserve and protect watersheds in the Park. All are invited. More details will be available next month, but mark your calendars for this important event.

## **Southeastern Fly Fishing Festival – May16 & 17**

This Festival is sponsored by the Southeast Council of FFF. It will be held again at the Ramsey Center at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, North Carolina. The Festival promises to be a great time and a great opportunity to learn as well. Admission is \$5 and \$10 per day for individuals and families, respectively. Scouts in uniform and disabled veterans are admitted for free. There will be over 40 vendors / exhibitors and 40 fly tiers at the event. There is a full schedule of mostly free presentations and demonstrations. More information will be posted at [www.southeastfff.org](http://www.southeastfff.org). Our Chapter will once again have a booth to raise funds for future brook trout restoration in the GSMNP. This will be a shared fundraiser with the Southeastern Council of the FFF. Last year \$1500 was donated to the Park!

## **Schedule For Upcoming Park Volunteer Opportunities**

The following list is designed to make individuals and volunteer groups, who would like to assist fisheries activities in the Park, aware of upcoming project dates and meeting locations. The list below contains the date, activity, number of people needed and the organizations involved. If you need further information, please contact Matt Kulp (865-426-1254) [Matt\\_Kulp@nps.gov](mailto:Matt_Kulp@nps.gov)

**March 15-16**  
8 – 10

Bi-Monthly Acid Deposition Sample  
TU, NPS, UT

**March 20**  
Public Welcome

GRSM Science Colloquium  
NPS  
- Park Vista Hotel, Gatlinburg, TN - 9am to 4pm

**May 3**  
All Volunteers

TN Little River Clean-Up Day  
NPS, TU, Others  
- meet at Metcalf Bottoms picnic area (9:00AM)

**May 6**  
2 – 4

Brook Trout Collection and Transplant into Lynn Camp Prong  
NPS, TU, TWRA, Others  
- meet at Park headquarters (8:30AM)

<b>May 10</b> All Volunteers	TN Little River Clean-Up Day (RAINDATE) NPS, TU, Others - meet at Metcalf Bottoms picnic area (9:00AM)
<b>May 17-18</b> 8 – 10	Bi-Monthly Acid Deposition Sample TU, NPS, UT
<b>May 28-29</b> 2 – 4	Brook Trout Collection and Transplant into Lynn Camp Prong NPS, TU, TWRA, Others - meet at Park headquarters (8:30AM)
<b>June 17</b> FYI	River Course Kids Trout Camp, NC TU, NPS - volunteers will help with classes and electrofishing demo
<b>June 19</b> 2 - 3	Little River Kids Trout Camp, TN TU, NPS - volunteers will help with classes and electrofishing demo
<b>June 23-26</b> 4 - 6 per day	Lynn Camp Prong Evaluation TU, NPS - Meet at end of Tremont Road at 8:30am each day
<b>July 14-17</b> 2 – 3	Goshen Prong Brook Trout Genetics Collections (VERY strenuous) NPS, TU Collect brook trout fin clips from remote areas of upper Goshen Prong
<b>July 19-20</b> 8 – 10	Bi-Monthly Acid Deposition Sample (NEW ROUTES BEGIN) TU, NPS, UT
<b>July 21</b> 5 – 7	Large Stream IBI Sample (EP Little River) NPS, TDEC, TVA, TU - Sample EP Little River just upstream of Wye with new technique
<b>July 28</b> 5 – 7	Large Stream IBI Sample (Abrams Creek) NPS, TDEC, TVA, TU - Sample at Abrams Creek ranger downstream of campground (near Happy Valley)
<b>July 30</b> 5 – 7	Large Stream IBI Sample (MP Little Pigeon River) NPS, TDEC, TVA, TU - Sample MP Little Pigeon River just upstream of Park boundary
<b>August 19</b> 5 – 7	Large Stream Sample - Middle Prong Little River NPS, TU - park at end of road at Middle Prong trailhead & walk down road to site
2 – 3	Bunches & Flat Creek Evaluation NPS, TU
<b>September 3 – 4</b>	- High elevation brook trout electrofishing (requires one night camping)

**September 8-18**

2 - 3 per day

Brook Trout Spawning Study - Penn State Graduate Project  
NPS, TU, PSU  
- Collect male and female brook trout gametes for crossing study

**September 20-21**

8 – 10

Bi-Monthly Acid Deposition Sample (NEW ROUTES)  
TU, NPS, UT

**November 15-16**

8 – 10

Bi-Monthly Acid Deposition Sample (NEW ROUTES)  
TU, NPS, UT

\* Cooperators (TU) - Trout Unlimited, (TWRA) - Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, (NPS) - National Park Service, (NCWRC) - North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, (UT) - The University of Tennessee, (PSU) - Penn State University, TDEC - TN Dept of Environment & Conservation, (TVA) - TN Valley Authority

# - Contact Charlie Chmielewski for team leader info and contact info - Charlie Chmielewski (cell) 865-661-7325 charlieflyfish@gmail.com

**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](http://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](mailto:ezop@charter.net)**

**Also, keep up with current events and find valuable information sources at our website [www.lrctu.org](http://www.lrctu.org)**