



**STREAMS OF THOUGHT - NOTES FROM THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT**

**"That Was Gross!... But So Much Fun!"**—A Trout in the Classroom Student after returning a trout to the wild after the 'fish in the water' demonstration by GSMNP Fisheries Technician Caleb Samuelson.

It was fun—and not gross!—for those LRCTU Members who participated in one or more of the Trout in the Classroom fish release programs this month. For those who haven't been involved a complete program includes not only releasing the fish they have carefully nurtured through the semester in their classroom, but a presentation on bugs ("real fish food"), water quality, and some fish that populate a stream, presented by staff from the GSMNP or TVA or TWRA; sometimes we even teach a little fly-casting using practicasors! We presented the program to more than 500 students this spring and joined TU chapters from as many as 35 states passing on the message of conservation to some 100,000 students across the nation. I am proud of our TIC program, and am grateful for Jim Jeswald and Joyce Frey who have developed this program to its current high level. It just needs you to volunteer to help and be rewarded by these enthusiastic students who have been exposed to our conservation message as well as the positive influence that our TU members have exerted through this program. Think about it—Join us!

**CHAPTER MEETINGS, FOOD SERVICE, AND ... US**

Our return to live chapter meetings has been very successful; more members have attended each meeting this year than I predicted (we have averaged somewhere around 45-50 members per meeting). This is great but has a down side—we have put a significant strain on the Blue Tick Tavern waitstaff. Because we (me) can't predict accurately attendance we can't make an accurate assessment for waitstaff needs. Furthermore, the Blue Tick is still operating short staffed. This combination has led to difficulties with food orders getting to our members in a timely manner which has led to frustrations on both our members and the waitstaff's part. We have worked with the Blue Tick Management for a solution and have reached what I would view as a compromise. We will be ordering a number of pizzas based on my estimate of attendance; they will have water and tea available. If you want something further to drink, you need to attend the bar. This does create one problem; payment for the pizza. We have to rely on members to chip in some dollars to offset the cost of the pizza; the chapter can't afford to continually pay for the pizzas (as those who have attended and done so, each member pays his/her own bar tab). Another consideration is that we have guaranteed a \$400 minimum (including bar tabs) and \$50 tip minimum for each meeting.

I believe the meal, no matter how simple (or minimalist), is an important part of our meeting. It provides time for socialization, meeting new members, and renewing relationships with other members. Also, because we pay no user fee for the room, income from the food service becomes our payment for the facility use. We need your help with offsetting the costs. If you have something to eat we are asking for you to contribute \$10. I know some of you are saying that is an expensive piece of pizza! True perhaps but maybe a small price to pay for a place to renew friendships and learn about some aspect of TU Life.

Please consider this as you attend a meeting. Thanks.  
Steve Y

**MEETING - THURSDAY, MAY 26 @ BLUETICK TAVERN**

**Social hour starts at 6:00, Meeting starts at 7:00, Program follows**

**Bill Clabough with the Foothills Land Conservancy**

Bill Clabough has spent his entire life in Blount County. A graduate of the Blount County School system and UT Knoxville, Bill spent 30 plus years in the retail grocery business in Blount County. In 2004 he was elected to the Tennessee General Assembly, serving 4 years in the Tennessee House and 6 years in the Tennessee Senate. He joined Foothills Land Conservancy in the spring of 2006 as the Executive Director with the charge to take the organization to the next level. Bill has put together a strong team that is moving Foothills Land Conservancy forward on land protection partnerships, land stewardship and community outreach. He has been involved in all project areas of Foothills. Through the course of overseeing the completion of many successful programs, Bill is always reminded that land protection is our business and our only business!

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- June - No meeting
- July - Little River Chapter picnic at River John's
- August - No meeting

**GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAIN FISHERIES VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

Contact Richard Barnes (TN side of the Park) at [canceler1@gmail.com](mailto:canceler1@gmail.com) or Mike Kesselring (NC side of the Park) at [mikessel59@gmail.com](mailto:mikessel59@gmail.com) for more information.

- May 21-22 - Bi-monthly acid deposition (NC and TN)
- June 21 - Rivercourse at Lake Logan on Big East Fork Pigeon River
- June 24 - Trout Camp electrofishing demo
- June 27-28 - Anthony Creek trout restoration evaluation

**TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM by Jim Jeswald**

The Spring Session of our Trout in The Classroom program is coming to an end. All but one school has released their trout into the Little River and had their field trip presentations.

In addition to the LRCTU volunteers who helped with our release programs, several agencies also helped with great programs on what lives in the Little River. We had presentations from National Park Fisheries, TWRA and TVA.

Feedback from the students and teachers was extremely positive. Many of the students indicated that this was the best field trip they had ever been on.

Tanks are now being cleaned and will be stored until the fall program begins in September.

A special thank you to all of you who help with our Spring Session. We could never have done it without you.

We are always in need of help. If you would like to volunteer for the fall TIC program, or would just like to learn more about Trout in the Classroom, please contact me at [jmjes711@gmail.com](mailto:jmjes711@gmail.com) or 724-612-2166.

**STREAM BARRIER SURVEYS AND AQUATIC ORGANISM PASSAGE STUDY**

Matt Kulp, Supervisory Fishery Biologist for Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GSMNP), has initiated an effort to study the effect of stream barriers on aquatic organism passage in GSMNP. In support of this initiative, four LRCTU members are being trained by Jeff Wright of Trout Unlimited in the methodology used to determine the significance of stream barriers such as bridges, culverts, and fords. In Fall 2022, these four LRCTU members will begin training individuals interested in leading a Stream Barrier Survey Team. Once Team Leads are trained, the program will expand to 10 four-member teams. Team members do not have to be Trout Unlimited members.

The goal is to complete the stream barrier surveys for the Tennessee side of GSMNP over a two-year period. Most stream surveys will be conducted during the cooler months when there is less vegetation along the waterways and fewer vehicles in the park. This is a great opportunity to become involved in one of the primary goals of LRCTU which is "protecting and restoring cold water resources and watersheds in and around the Great Smoky Mountains National Park."



**LITTLE RIVER CHAPTER BY-LAWS**

Ernie Frey has agreed to review the Chapter's by-laws and to present his findings to the Board for their approval. One of two Articles of the By-Laws will be presented in each month's newsletter for the Chapter Membership to review. If you wish to make any comments, please forward them to [lrcu.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:lrcu.newsletter@gmail.com).

**MEMBERS - PLEASE READ THIS ARTICLE IV AND ITS RELATION TO THE REST OF THE BY-LAWS.** This article has the biggest impact on how the Chapter is managed. The drafters of the original By-Laws intended to have the Chapter directed by the Board of Directors. Going back approximately 4 - 5 presidencies, the Chapter has been run by the President. There are advantages and disadvantages in each form of management. With a strong president, it makes it very difficult to fill that position. With a strong Board of Directors, a one-year presidency is very reasonable, the president just chairs the meetings, while the Board provides direction for the Chapter.

Before we can make any changes to Article IV, the Chapter needs to decide how it wants to be directed. This will be an agenda item on the upcoming May 26 meeting.

**Article IV - Election, Term, Vacancy**

**Section 1.** The President shall be elected by a vote of the membership at the annual meeting of the Chapter for a one-year term, and the President shall be eligible for only one (1) successive term.

**Section 2.** All other officers shall be elected by a vote of the membership at the Annual Meeting of the Chapter for a one-year term and said officers shall be eligible to serve for two (2) consecutive one-year terms.

**Section 3.** The term of office of all elected officers shall be one (1) year. All officers will serve until the next election.

**Section 4.** In the event of a vacancy in any office, the Board of Directors shall appoint an individual to serve until the next election.

**Section 5.** A majority vote of those members present and in good standing will be sufficient to elect all officers, and no member shall hold more than one (1) office at any time.

**Section 6.** The Nominating Committee shall nominate members for each elected office. Said nominations shall be made and sent to all members with the notice of the Annual Meeting. Nothing, however, will deny nominations from being made from the floor during the Annual Meeting.

**LRCTU EMBROIDERED LOGO SHIRT**

We will be taking orders at this Thursday's meeting. Prices will be available at the meeting. Hopefully, there will be samples, if not, photos will be available.

You can choose from the following:

1. Twill Long and Short Sleeve Men and Women S-4XL
2. Eddie Bauer Fishing Shirt Men XS-4XL
3. Heavy Weight Polo Shirt Men and Women XS-4XL
4. Fleece Zip Up Vest Men and Women XS-4XL

You can also provide your own shirt to be embroidered with the LRCTU logo.

**TIE AND LIE - due to the Memorial Holiday, there will not be a Tie and Lie meeting.**

**MEMBERS OUT THERE FISHING**

Elizabeth Johnson with her first trout - a 10 inch rainbow on the Doe River



**MISCELLANEOUS**

The Board of Directors has decided to allow advertisements for any conservation or fishing related entity in the newsletter. The advertisements will appear at the end of the newsletter. Cost is as follows:

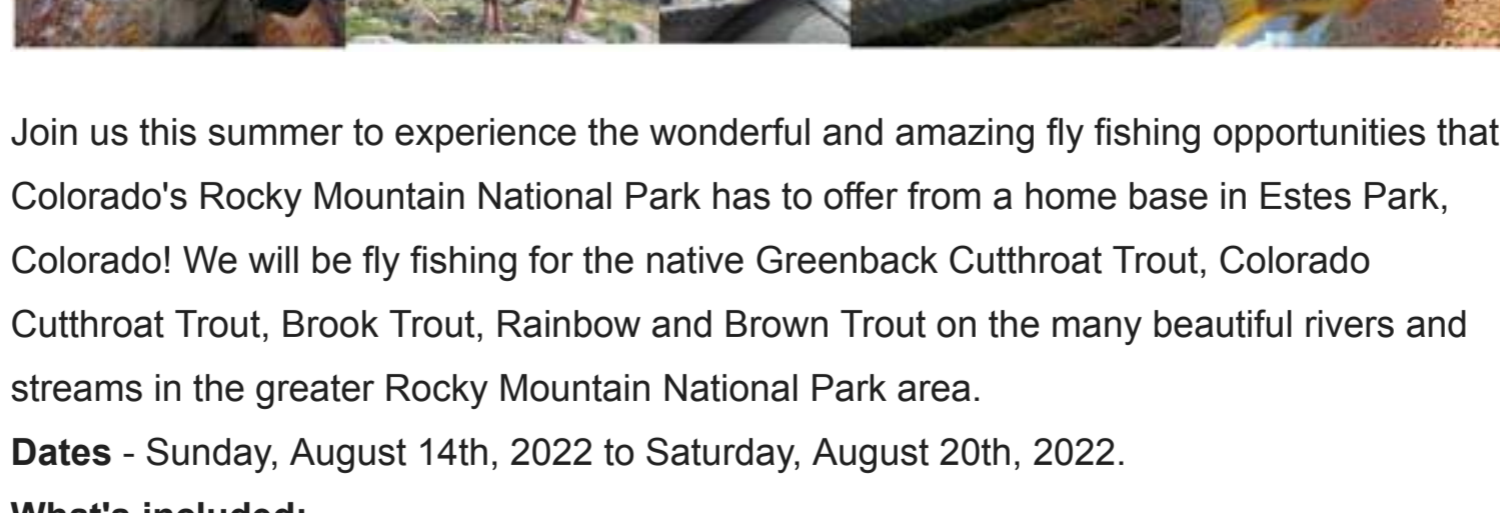
- Quarterly advertisement for \$150. Cannot exceed a quarter page and you can select the 4 months.
- Business card only. 1 time only for \$25
- Business card only. 12 months for \$275
- One time article not to exceed a quarter page for \$40
- LRCTU retains editorial rights for any advertisement

Contact [lrcu.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:lrcu.newsletter@gmail.com) for information.

**ADVERTISEMENTS**

**Richard Witt Fly Fishing** [www.RichardWittFlyFishing.com](http://www.RichardWittFlyFishing.com)  
828-216-4410  
Asheville, North Carolina

[Hosted Fly Fishing Trip to Estes Park, Colorado with Richard Witt Fly Fishing this summer!](#)



Join us this summer to experience the wonderful and amazing fly fishing opportunities that Colorado's Rocky Mountain National Park has to offer from a home base in Estes Park, Colorado! We will be fly fishing for the native Greenback Cutthroat Trout, Colorado Cutthroat Trout, Brook Trout, Rainbow and Brown Trout on the many beautiful rivers and streams in the greater Rocky Mountain National Park area.

**Dates** - Sunday, August 14th, 2022 to Saturday, August 20th, 2022.

**What's included:**

- Lodging - 6 nights in beautiful vacation rental home
- All meals prepared by a gourmet personal chef
- 2 full day guided fly fishing wade trips and 3 days of fishing with me (not a guided trip) or on your own
- Colorado 5 day fishing license

[Read more.....](#)

**We still have spots left for this trip so let us know soon if you would like to join us.**  
[Contact Us @ richardwittflyfishing.com](mailto:richardwittflyfishing.com)

