

Little River Chapter Newsletter

Editor
Joe Hatton



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www.lrctu.org

Next Meeting

The next meeting is on the First Thursday in December, the 7th, 7:00 P.M. at Monte Vista Baptist Church at 1735 Old Niles Ferry Rd in Maryville. The church has an entrance on the opposite side of Hwy 129 between the red light and the Co-op Gas station.

Program

Orvis's Sevierville Store Fishing Manager, Kris Maurer, will be showing us all the new and exciting fishing gear to put on our Christmas list this year.

Chapter Election

It is time to elect new officers for our chapter. We will be electing a new Chapter President, Vice President and three new Board Members. Up for election is Jeff Hall for President, Rufus King for Vice President and John Olsen, Dan Calhoun and Jack Gregory for Board Members. All of them will make excellent officers so please come to this months meeting and show them your support.

Stream Work

February Acid Deposition training session. Make sure to plan to come to the February Acid Deposition training meeting and sign up to help out on one of our Chapter's most important projects. Thanks to all the members who helped out on Chapter projects this year.

Fishing Report

Not a whole lot of personal fishing to report, but this is one of those times when fishing conditions can change quite dramatically from one day to the next. We had a fair amount of rain yesterday and the river is rolling here in Townsend. Dry fly fishing seems to have still been OK this past week, but solid knowledge of which runs hold the most rising fish would have helped anyone's success. The weather forecast for the coming week includes a chance of snow, which means it will snow on the crest of the Smokies. Fishing will surely be slow in the mountains for the next few days, but day time temps are supposed to rebound by Thanksgiving. Tailwater action should be excellent as long as conditions are appropriate. I'm thinking South Holston BWO's right now, but Tuckaseegee streamer fishing will certainly be good. The Clinch and Holston could be good as well if the turbines take a break, which may or may not happen.

We're right around that time of year when fishing in the weir pool can be really good on the Clinch. It's almost like pond fishing except there's excruciatingly slow current. The usual drill is to tie a midge pupa about 30" beneath an indicator. About ten minutes later you'll get a little bored and your eye will wonder to other anglers, birds fly over, the muskrat noodling along the riverbank, and then eventually back to your strike indicator. You won't be able to find it,

squinting through the glare, so you'll go to pick up your line when you feel the line come tight only briefly since you missed the strike. The biggest problem with all of this is that every missed strike could have been a 20" fish. In past years 16-18" have been standard, although you're never exactly reeling fish in as fast you cast the fly out on the water.

Ian Rutter

The Drake, 2006 Video Competition

If you don't do anything I have suggested in this newsletter you need to check out the movies in the Drake magazine five minute film contest. All the films are five minutes long and they are either fresh or saltwater fishing. Some films look like they were made by a professional film company while others look like they were made by a few buddies. So far there are ten films. The one film that stands out for me is "Angling Addiction" which won the Best of Story award.



RA Beattie does a great job bringing out what is meant by living the dream. Watching this reminds me of several members in our chapter and the life style that we all wish we could live. Make sure you watch the film to find out what the dubbing machine is. You will be surprised to find out that you probably have one in your house already. Try to take time to watch all the films, besides it is starting to get cold outside and it's a great way to spend the afternoon. Go to the Newsletters website for links to the Drake Magazine website and the five minute film contest.

Episode Two: Secrets of the Smokies with Steve Moore

Zach Matthews website Itinerant Angler has been bookmarked on my computer for a long time now. Zach and his wife Lauren moved to Atlanta, Ga after he completed his degree from UT. Zach is currently practicing law and Lauren is a Ph.D. candidate at Emory University. Zach recently did an interview with Steve Moore for a magazine article and a Podcast that is posted on his website. Zach and Steve talk about the recent brook trout streams opening in the GSMNP and the Brook Trout work that went into making it happen. Steve also discusses the upcoming Lynn Camp prong project that is starting this year. They then talk some about large Brook Trout that he found in a recently restored stream and Steve also talked about the large Browns that can be found though out the park. So check out Zach's website, click media and then drop down to Podcast. On the Podcast page scroll down the page until you come to Steve's podcast.

Twenty Years

Some times in life you come a across a mile stone by accident. I was in Barnes & Noble and I came a cross the book TROUT BUM: 20th anniversary edition by John Gierach. When I was first starting fly fishing Trout Bum had just hit the book stores and it was the first fly fishing book I purchased. I have spent many enjoyable hours reading it. At the time I was having a hard time catching fish myself and it was nice reading about someone catching fish. I purchased his next book View from Rat lake and then Fly Fishing Small Streams which is still my favorite. (I am not sure it is the book as much as it is my love for fishing small trout streams). "John Gierach has been call the voice of his generation, and Trout Bum, is often referred to as the fly fishers bible."



There is a great article about John Gierach on the www.midcurrent.com website written by Tom Bie the publisher and editor of The Drake. He talks about John's life and how he started writing about Fly fishing. There was something I found out that I did not know John's first book is actually a collection of poetry not Fly Fishing the High Country. There will be a link on the Newsletter webpage.
Joe

Dear members

It has been an honor to serve as President of our chapter for the past year. I regret that I will not be serving next year. However I feel very confident in our future leadership and members to keep our chapter on top.

This has been a busy year for us with lots of accomplishments. We were able to produce another successful TROUTFEST with the proceeds of \$12,000 going to the park fisheries department to use for brook trout restoration. One of the goals I have held on to has been in the area of youth education. Youth are the future of our sport and the guardians of our wild places. We must guide them to keep them from disinformation. The field trip we sponsored with Carpenter's Middle School was a satisfying step in that direction. I want to thank Steve Moore and his staff for arranging a unique program with his fisheries department, TWRA, UT, and the GSMNP insect biologists.

I want to thank our members who are so eager to volunteer time and resources for our projects. Whether it's hiking for acid

deposition samples or working the hotdog stand at Bass Pro, you are there. A special thanks goes to Ian and Charity Rutter for their experience and knowledge as they are rotating off the board.

Thanks for making this a special for me.

Steve Best

Fly of the month

Parachute Midge Cluster (orange)

Hook: Any short shank dry

Thread: Color to blend with hackle

Wing post: Antron, Glo Bug yarn, or most any similar dubbing. Firmly tie a clump of dubbing to the top center of the hook with strong thread. Tie the clump in at the center so that both ends/sides can be pulled up. Tightly post the body with three of four wraps of thread.

Hackle: To suit, Tie in with three wraps parachute style.

Note: This is a simple, very quick tie. Colors and combinations can be changed to suit the tier. The body can be a natural gray or black or one of the hi-vis colors. The fish don't seem to have a great preference. It would probably also represent a small beetle if needed.

Finish off the fly by pulling the excess dubbing up and cutting parallel to the hook much as if you were cutting off for a Glo Bug pattern. Flatten the body with your thumb and add a drop of head cement to the bottom if desired.



The Little River Chapter of Trout Unlimited is a nonprofit volunteer organization that is committed to Protecting & Restoring Cold Water Resources and Watersheds in and around the Great Smoky Mountains National Park

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