

Little River Chapter

Newsletter

Nov 2001

Editor Joe Hatton



Next Meeting

The next meeting is on the **Fifth** Thursday November 29 at 7:00 pm. We are meeting 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 Bi-Lo and the Co-op Gas station

Program

Steve Dean

A Nationally recognized Fly Tyer . He was a long time member of the Smokey Mountain Chapter. He is a fly tying instructor and he teaches the fly tying classes at the Creel. He also is involved in the Federation of Fly Fishers fly tying program. He will be doing a Fly tying demo and presentation.

Note from the Editor

I would like to thank everybody that helped with the Newsletter this year. All the great writers in our chapter make my job easy. A special thanks to Ian Rutter who comes though every month with his Fishing Picks article and gives us all the latest in fishing info. The chapter has went though some changes in the last few months and I'm glad so many members stepped up to take leadership positions in our Chapter. It gives true meaning to what a volunteer organization is. Again thanks to everybody for your hard work. Joe

Fishing Picks

By: Ian Rutter

Late season fly fishing is often overlooked. Fishing at this time of year is only second to spring fishing. Hatches of blue wing olives and cinnamon caddis can be great, leading to some very productive dry fly fishing. Add to this that spawned out brown trout are feeding aggressively to put on some lost weight and you have the formula for a great day on the stream.

Little River, Middle Prong, and Abrams Creek have all been fishing extremely well. Dry fly action has been starting around 11 AM and continuing through the afternoon. Parachute patterns and elk caddis in #16-18 are most effective. As it gets later you will do better to focus your efforts on sunny pools and runs that will be a little bit warmer. Also, as the season progresses fishing will usually be a bit slower in the higher elevations since water temperatures will be less than lower elevation streams. Don't neglect nymph fishing. Pheasant tails, hares ears, and prince nymphs are all effective patterns fished alone or as a dropper. Since the best fishing doesn't start until later in the day, you may take the opportunity to try a new stream or visit a place you haven't been to in a while. You'll be driving during the slow fishing. Deep Creek in Bryson City is a terrific fall stream. lead the way. (Continued on page two)

Fishing Pick (continued from page one) Summer tubing crowds are long gone and access to the stream is excellent through the campground and along the Deep Creek trail. Cataloochee Creek is another North Carolina stream that a lot us Tennesseans neglect, even though our license is valid there. Crowds are nonexistent and the setting is incredible. In fact, elk are now roaming the pastures in the valley. Be sure to take I-40 to the Maggie Valley - Waynesville exit. It is about thirty minutes from the exit and signs lead the way. There is a minimum of gravel road this route. If you take the Waterville exit and take the road from Big Creek Campground you will be in for a 26 mile washboard. If you are looking for the elk, they seem to frequent the area around Rough Fork and the Caldwell home late in the afternoon. Have a great time wherever you end up and good fishing!

Council Report

By: Jim Parks

The Tennessee Council of Trout Unlimited held a meeting on Saturday, November 3 at the Radisson Hotel in Knoxville. Steve Frye, president of the council, led the meeting. Some of the chapters present discussed prominent issues currently facing them. The Overland Chapter located in Kingsport, discussed the status of the Watauga River after the North American Corporation (NAC) fire on February 25, 2000. Although the CEO of NAC vowed to replace the fish killed as a result of the runoff of approximately 520,000 pounds of chemicals, to date no funds have been paid by the NAC. The TWRA wants to wait five years to determine the river's ability to recover. However, the Overland Chapter is concerned that a statute of limitations may expire or the NAC may file bankruptcy prior to any action being made against the corporation. It is be-

lieved that the NAC had received payment from its insurance policy for their losses, but no funds have been allocated to the river's recovery. The chapter reported that in less than two years, the river has made a remarkable recovery, but is not the quality of fishery that existed prior to the chemical spill. A act paper will be sent to the chapters soon and the TN Council will suggest coordinated actions the all TN and NC CTU Chapters can take to get some action happening.

Mr. Frye stated that the TWRA is concerned about the underutilization of the delayed harvest programs set up on Tellico River and Paint Creek. Paint Creek lacks adequate access due to its main road being washed out in the flood this past spring. It is understood that the bridges washed out in the flood will be replaced.

The Clinch River Chapter discussed the meetings currently being held by the TWRA concerning the regulations on the Clinch River. There is still much debate between various groups over what creel limits and size regulations should be enacted on the river. The Clinch River Chapter is recommending that any regulatory changes adopted during the meetings be provisionary only. The effects of the regulations on the river should be monitored and followed to determine their level of success or failure.

Tim Paige from the Elk/Duck Trout Unlimited Chapter discussed habitat enhancements proposed for the Tim's Ford tailwater. These enhancements include stream bank stabilization of the Elk River and Murell Creek. Additional improvements include the placement of a weir dam and the installation of two boulder fields below the Tim's Ford Dam to improve the level of dissolved oxygen in the water flowing out of the reservoir.

2001 VIP BANQUET

All **NPS Volunteers-in-Parks** are invited to attend the Parkwide appreciation banquet, which will be held at the North District Maintenance Area (behind Park HQ). Come join us for a complimentary BBQ dinner followed by VIP recognitions and fellowship ... thanks to all who support the Park VIP program from the GSM Natural History Assn.

very informal "banquet"

****RSVP name/no. to 865/436-1265 by December 4.****

NOTE: Due to heightened NPS security, we will park in the large lot outside the area and enter via the small gate at left end. Access will be limited to banquet location and adjacent restrooms only -- the area will be well marked, however.

We hope to see you there!

Babette Collavo, VIP Coordinator

FLY FISHING GETAWAY

SPECIAL TU OFFER

Come to the mountains of Townsend, Tennessee and relax in a cozy cabin on Little River, just one half mile from the National Park entrance.

This smoke free cabin has a covered deck overlooking Little River and a fully equipped kitchen with handicap accessible bath. It sleeps four in twin size beds.

Enjoy a three day weekend or four day midweek stay. Your choice for the low off season rate of

\$145 +tax for up to four guests. Rates for a full week just \$245 + tax

Host - Maurice Ferguson

Phone 865-448-9955

Email - mikeferg@vei.net

Sponsor

The Holiday season is quickly coming up on us, we need to remember our Newsletter sponsor during this Christmases season. If it wasn't for these generous contributions, the newsletters could not be mailed or published. So do like I do and make up your list and send you love ones to see Scott Roger at the Creel or Byron and Paula Begley at Little River Outfitter, for all your Fly fishing needs.

P.S. Remember the economy we need to help out is our local one!

Thanks Joe

Remember there is no December meeting . So have a great Holiday season.

Fly of the month

Midge

Hook: 901BM or 101, sizes 18—21.

Thread: color to match body

Tail: Hackie fibers, color to match body

Body: Dubbing, color our choice, butt black, gray, olive or cream or most popular

Hackle: Color to match body or use Adams mix.

Comments: Old-time small fly midge pattern. Used more for small mayflies than anything else. These do not have wing and are easy to tie.





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