

Next Meeting

When: December 4, 2008 at 7:00pm

Where: Monte Vista Baptist Church in Maryville

Program: Given that no meeting occurs in November (due to the Thanksgiving holiday weekend), the remaining meeting for the year falls on Thursday December 4th.

Orvis-Sevierville fly fishing manager Kris Maurer will give a presentation on one of his many recent fishing trips. Kris's presentation are always interesting and informative. Please join us for this presentation and our yearly elections!

The nominating committee (Rufus King, Tom Eustis, and Jeff Hall) has completed its recommendations to fill the Chapter's open positions for officers and Board of Directors for 2009. The actual vote for acceptance of these individuals will occur at the upcoming election meeting on December 4th. Please plan to attend this important meeting that will directly impact the future of the Chapter. The list of openings and recommended individuals follows.

Officers

- ⌞ President: Rufus King
- ⌞ Vice President: Steve Head
- ⌞ Secretary: Chad McFall

Board of Directors (3 year term unless noted)

- ⌞ Kris Maurer
- ⌞ Paula Begley
- ⌞ John Janulis
- ⌞ Ken Henderson
- ⌞ Mark Sebby (1 year term)
- ⌞ John Skinner (2 year term)

Best Regards,

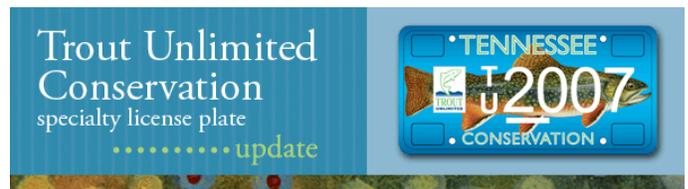
Jeff Hall

President

From The Editor

Due to the timing of this newsletter, we were unable to remind everyone about the Little River Clean Up in Townsend last weekend or the Acid Deposition that occurred on the same weekend. Hopefully everyone got the e-mails and was able to participate.

This is the last newsletter of the year. I hope we did a good job with it this year. Please consider submitting an article or suggesting a topic next year. Currently we have some great contributors who provide some really interesting perspectives of our sport. Jeff Hall and Joe Hatton do a great job keeping us up-to-date on chapter activities. Byron Begley and Kris Maurer have provided many interesting stories of trout fishing in East Tennessee and beyond. Thanks, guys, for the help this year! However, if more people contribute the newsletter can grow and be more interesting for everyone. See you all at the December meeting and Happy Holidays to everyone. 



TU Plate Goal Achieved ...

We've Presold 1,000 + Plates!

November 14, 2008 – over the past few days, our database has confirmed that Trout Unlimited has reached its goal of 1,000 presold plates. Many thanks to those individuals and businesses who have worked incessantly over the past 15 months to bring the TU plate into existence. We applaud your support.

Volunteer Spotlight by Jeff Hall

With this article, I want to shine the volunteer spotlight on Tom Eustis. Tom did yeoman's work in making the Townsend cleanup happen on November 15th. He did everything from writing the grant letter to the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) that resulted in receiving funding for the event, to mapping out the cleanup areas with the Townsend police chief. Along the way he coordinated with other groups and agencies (such as the Little River Watershed Association and Keep Blount Beautiful), and received donated gloves, trash bags, and road guard vests for cleanup use. He even got a liability waiver form available to protect the Chapter in case of any mishaps.

In short, Tom did a lot of hard work to make the event a success. Tom's work on the cleanup comes towards the end of his service as Secretary to the Chapter. He steps down after this year. Tom also stands as a past president, so his service to the Chapter has been both important and admirable. One last note. Tom plays an integral role in coordinating the Gatlinburg Pi Beta Phi eighth grade field trip each spring.

I view that as tremendously successful outreach effort that gets youngsters aware of the streams in the Smokies, fly fishing, and conservation. That's a nice outing, and Tom does great coordination work on the Chapter's behalf.

Thanks, Tom, for all of your hard work and support.

President's Corner

I want to add a short note thanking all members for your help and support during my two years as president of the Chapter. It was an honor to serve. I think we do a lot of good conservation based work as an organization, and we do so in an overriding atmosphere of cooperation and friendship. As outgoing president, I appreciate both the work accomplished and the traits embodied by the Chapter.

For those of you not so involved in Chapter activities, I encourage you to take the plunge and get involved. All organizations need good help from good people, so please consider taking an active role. Remember, the Chapter's mission is to conserve, protect, and restore the coldwater resources and watersheds in and around the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. I view that as a noble mission. I think you'll find your volunteer activity toward achieving that mission personally rewarding as well.

The Chapter will no doubt achieve more accomplishments in 2009 under the capable guidance of incoming president Rufus King. With big plans for Troutfest, the ongoing Lynn Camp Prong brook trout restoration project, water samplings, and a myriad of other activities next year, the Chapter's leadership needs your help. So please support Rufus and the Chapter in a busy 2009.

Thanks Again,

Jeff Hall

Outgoing President

On-Stream Report by Kris Maurer

As winter swiftly approaches, fishing in Smoky Mountain National Park will begin to decline. Although the cold temperatures will make park fishing more difficult there is still great fishing to be had on our local tailwaters. These tailwaters maintain a consistent water temperature which allows the fish to feed actively and provide great fishing opportunities all winter long. On a recent trip to the Caney Fork, Doug and I ran into Gary Verholek and had a great day of fishing. The following is an account of that day written by Gary.

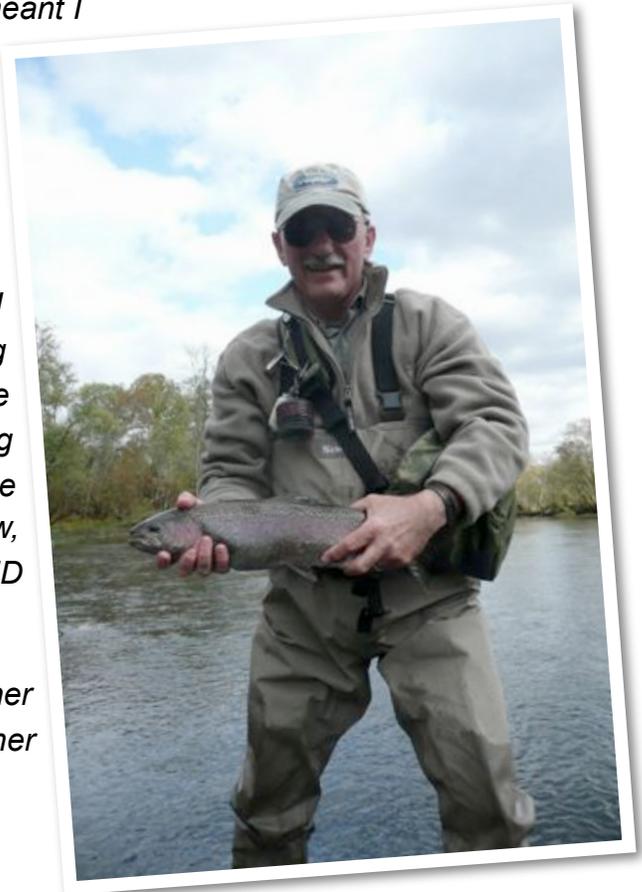
My Birthday on the Caney Fork River ~ Gary Verholek

Yesterday, Monday, was an extraordinary day. On Sunday evening, I decided that I would NOT spend my birthday in the office. I was going fishing! At the very least I was going to go somewhere outdoors and enjoy the day.

I had heard from a friend that the Caney Fork River, a tailwater just east of Nashville, was fishing well. I had never been there, but I decided this was a good time to go exploring. I planned to wade and fish until I was to return in time to meet Donna & Heather for dinner around 6pm. Now, the Caney Fork is 115 miles from here, as in a two-hour drive! Plus, the Corp of Engineers was generating until 10am CST, or 11am my time. That meant I would have from 11am to 3pm to fish, which is four hours of fishing for four hours of driving. That's not normally the kind of return I like on my investment of time, but I had cabin fever and the destination was new water.

I drove to Center Hill Dam, arriving about 10:30am. I proceeded to explore the roads for potential fishing locations, waiting for the generation to stop. At one point, I called a friend to ask about the best fishing locations, but he didn't answer. I pulled into the Buffalo Landing launch site and, what do you know, there he was, with another of my fishing buddies AND a drift boat! AND, they asked me to joint them!!!

Fearing for my life, I called Donna to renege on dinner (she didn't answer). I then called Heather and told her of my opportunity.



On-Stream Report (continued)

My sweet daughter understood entirely, and offered to act as intermediary with Donna. Off I went a-fishing. What a birthday celebration it was to be. Check this out!

And if that's not enough, there's more...

We were to drift for six miles, but only made the first riffle. We got out and began catching fish immediately. I managed a slam – Rainbow,



Brookie & Brown, and I think the other two did, as well. The smallest fish was 12" and the largest was over 24". I couldn't guess at the actual count, but it was ridiculously high. We drug and rowed the boat back up stream to the put-in.

It was one awesome day on the water. I couldn't have asked for a better birthday present. I think I'll make that a birthday ritual – fishing, that is.



On-Stream Report (continued)

Florida Surprises

While making my way to Key Largo to open a new Orvis Store I made a little pit stop in Miami. I was given the opportunity to fish in an unlikely location for some unlikely fish by Jason Siler, the manager of the Orvis Store in Destin. The location? An alligator infested Florida canal, ok, maybe more like a huge drainage ditch behind Bloomingdales. Hmmm... I thought fish don't live in ugly places? The fish? Cichla Monoculus. For those of you that don't speak fluent Latin that's the peacock bass (I had to look it up on Google), a native of the Amazon. After getting the lay of the land and finding some underwater structure in the form of sunken shopping carts, the fishing was on. It was slow going at first, but once we found them they would swarm a streamer and we caught multiple from one location. The fishing came to an abrupt stop when we were escorted off the property by a "mall security officer" in a golf cart. I guess the security officer was mad that we found his secret fishing spot!

Unfortunately I did not have the time to fish much, but we did do some exploring through the Keys. On Sunday we left Key Largo (northern-most island) for Key West (Southern-most island) and made a couple of stops on the way. One must-stop place was Robbie's of Islamorada for some Tarpon feeding. Yes, Tarpon feeding. It was like the Calhoun's of the Keys, but instead of Carp sucking bread balls from the surface of the water, the Tarpon would leap out of the water to inhale bait fish and the hands that were holding them. Even though I did not have a rod in my hand, it was very cool and has given me an extreme Tarpon itch. Just seeing these behemoths up close was amazing. They have a face that only a mother can love. Key West was a great town, with a Charleston/Savannah/New Orleans feel to it. As this was my first time to the Keys and I did not have much time to explore I will definitely be returning to check it out further. Unfortunately I did not have the time to fish much, but we did do some exploring through the Keys. On Sunday we left Key Largo (northern-most island) for Key West (Southern-most island) and made a couple of stops on the way. One must-stop place was Robbie's of Islamorada for some Tarpon feeding. Yes, Tarpon feeding. It was like the Calhoun's of the Keys, but instead of Carp sucking bread balls from the surface of the water, the Tarpon would leap out of the water to inhale bait fish and the hands that were holding them. Even though I did not have a rod in my hand, it was very cool and has given me an extreme Tarpon itch. Just seeing these behemoths up close was amazing. They have a face that only a mother can love. Key West was a great town, with a Charleston/Savannah/New Orleans feel to it. As this was my first time to the Keys and I did not have much time to explore I will definitely be returning to check it out further.

Orvis Store News

We are continuing to do the Anglers Club and Fly of the Month. November's fly is the Lighting Bug and in December we will be tying the Green Goblin, both of which are great winter tailwater flies. The tying demonstrations take place on the third Saturday of every month from 10:30am to 12:30pm. If you have any questions please give us a call at (865) 774-4162.

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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Vice President – Rufus King

Secretary – Tom Eustis

Treasurer – Roy Roberts

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Resource Director – Charlie Chmielewski

Web Page Editor – Roy Hawk

Board Members

Dan Holloway

John Olsen

Joe Teffeteller

Tim Doyle

Dudley Shumate

Steve Head

Jack Gregory

Dan Calhoun

Chad McFall

Mike McKinsey



Thanks to all of you who worked on Troutfest. Great Job!

And thanks for attending, supporting and donating to Troutfest. Together we have made a difference that we can all be proud of forever.

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Stop by or call about our monthly fishing seminars, schools and tying classes