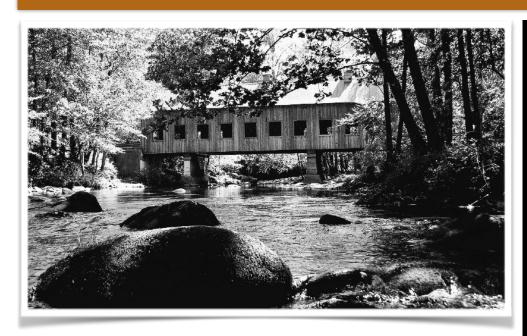
HTTP://LRCTU.ORG THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2017

# **Trout Unlimited**

## Little River Chapter



### **President's Corner**

What a great fall camping trip! The fish were biting. The fall colors were beginning to show. Saturday's dinner was phenomenal. The comradery was great. It rained on Sunday morning very early but it wasn't raining when we packed up. Several members of the Smoky Mountain Chapter came camping this year. There will be at least two more trips scheduled for next year so watch for the dates and plan to come camping.

The next LRCTU meeting will be October 26 at Calhouns. Social hour is from 6 to 7 pm. Business meeting starts at 7pm.

Because of the end of year holidays, our last meeting of the year will be on December 7 which is out of sync but is necessary. In addition to a guest speaker, we will also hold a silent or regular auction of any items you might wish to donate to the club general fund for fund raising. It doesn't need to be fishing related, could be something you just want to pass on. Start thinking about what you might want to donate.



## NEXT MEETING

Thursday

September 28th

#### Calhoun's

Maryville

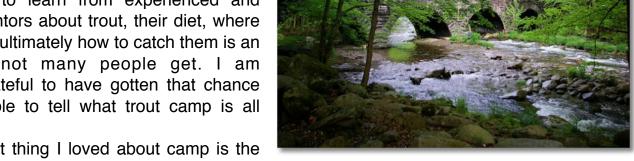
Steve Thompson will be our speaker. Steve is the president of the local Project Healing Waters chapter and will be stopping by to give us all a recap of their year, and to also let us know what's coming up for them as an organization. This could be an opportunity to get involved and find out about volunteer opportunities.

## **Trout Camp**

an essav by Will Davis

Congratulations to Will for earning Honorable Mention in the TU Essay Contest

Trout Camp is a once in a lifetime experience. The chance to learn from experienced and educated mentors about trout, their diet, where they live, and ultimately how to catch them is an opportunity not many people get. I am extremely grateful to have gotten that chance and to be able to tell what trout camp is all about.



The first thing I loved about camp is the mentors. The individuals who help and teach us

know what they're talking about and also how to present the information well enough so that a bunch of teenage hoodlums will understand. I also think the mentors were extremely helpful and patient with the campers. One example was my mentor during the Norton Creek activity. His name was Buzz Buffington and he was very patient and helpful during my first casts

(which were not coordinated in the slightest) and first hookups. He showed me the best spots to cast and ways to work around the creek effectively. His instruction helped me to be more confident with my newfound knowledge on the water.

The activities. The things campers experience at camp is a big part of it. We get a very well planned array of things to do that help us become better fly fisherman. From the casting instruction to fly tying we are taught how to do everything we need to fly fish. I also appreciated the first activities that I took part in. The water bucket and board bridge activities not only created teamwork and trust, they also provided a good environment to get to know each other.

The fishing. Fishing at Trout Camp is some of the best fishing I've experienced. Not only do we get seasoned and experienced mentors, we also get to fish in one of the most beautiful places on Earth, the Great Smoky Mountains. The Smokies is one the best places for trout fishing, also its one of the few places on Earth where Brook Trout are still doing very well. Getting the opportunity to fly fish in the Smokies is not hard to come by, but being able to do so with great people that know what they are doing and can teach you of lot of what they know is. Another thing that is very special is the chance to catch the trout species native to Appalachia, Brook Trout. Brook Trout may not be large but they fight hard and are

in my opinion the prettiest fish to catch. Many spots in the park have lost population of Brook Trout and it's very special to see, that despite their struggles they are in fact there.

There were many things I loved about Trout Camp but one of my favorites was the time spent together. During the parts of the week we had extra time I would go up to the Spruce Fir Room and tie with a few of my closer friends. Most of the time I was up there Jim would be up there too. He is a very knowledgeable person and showed us many cool things like boxes and boxes of old flies that he had acquired. Another example of the great mentors at camp was Steve. Steve was extremely helpful and had much to offer and learn from. He knows much about the insects that trout feed on to how to read water; in just a few minutes I was I already learning a lot from him.

Trout Camp was an experience I was extremely blessed to have and I loved every second of it: from fishing to tying flies, to playing football with a bunch of rowdy boys. I



learned a lot and benefited from camp in many ways; one of them being confidence on the water. I remember about a month before camp I went up to Tremont to fish and I honestly had no idea what to do. My first instinct was to find the biggest pool and just cast randomly in it. I never got any bites and did not really enjoy my time fishing. Camp changed all of that. I now am confident and much more knowledgeable on the water. Trout Camp is something I will never forget.

## TIE 'N LIE: RED BUTT PEACOCK SOFT HACKLE

Tie and Lie will be on October 23 at The Casual Pint in Maryville from 6 till 8pm. This month we will be tying the Red Butt Peacock Soft Hackle. It is an interesting looking fly and has a lot of tying techniques

Hook: Size 10-16 nymph, down eye, 2x heavy

Bead: Weighted gold bead

Thread: Black 6/0

Tag: Red floss, wrapped

Rib: Small gold wire

Body: Peacock herl twisted on thread

Hackle: Hungarian partridge



## Trout in the Classroom by Joyce Frey



All the schools have hatched alevins, and in some cases fry ready to start learning to eat, LOTS of them. We learned the day after picking up eggs from the hatchery that we received a lot more eggs than normal. Each of the schools received approximately 1,000 eggs instead of 200. We'll be watching water chemistry very closely this season because the tanks aren't really big enough for this many fish. We may have to cull some of the fry before December in order to save the rest for release.

Five schools have already scheduled their release dates for the beginning of December. No one has decided to hold their fish over for a spring release.



# 2018 SOUTHERN TROUT LEGENDS OF THE FLY HALL OF FAME

Our own Walter Babb and Eddie George are Inductee Candidates for the 2018 Southern Trout Legends of the Hall of Fame.

The Southern Trout "Legends of the Fly" Hall of Fame was first to recognize and commemorate southern trout anglers' historical contributions to fly fishing. On February 3rd at The Fly Fishing Show in Atlanta, Georgia, a ceremony will be held to induct six new members into the "Legends of the Fly" Hall of Fame.



Visit <u>southerntrout.com</u>, Hall of Fame to see all Inductee Candidates. To Vote for Walter, or the candidate of your choice, send an email to don@southerntrout.com.

Get your votes in as THE NOMINATION PERIOD TIME ENDS OCTOBER 30TH.

## **LRCTU MEETING MINUTES**

Date and Time: September 28, 2017

Location: Calhoun's Maryville

Meeting Type: Chapter Meeting

Presiding officer: Ernie Frey, president

Attendees: General Membership

Agenda:: Membership Health, Visitors / New Members, Newsletter

- send articles, Highlights to Jake Comstock at <a href="mailto:lrctu.newsletter@gmail.com">lrctu.newsletter@gmail.com</a>, Fishing stories too.

Club president Ernie Frey opened the meeting with a review of the agenda and reminded all of us of the volunteer opportunities that are available for club members. They are all listed on the Little River TU web site <a href="www.lrctu.org">www.lrctu.org</a>

Pat Jenkins of Townsend Tennessee could not attend the meeting but sent an update on his issue related to excessive tubing and rafting on the Little River, specifically from the Y to the Phillips 66 Gas Station. Here is his update.

The City of Townsend has scheduled a workshop on Monday Oct 16 at 6:30pm. The subject will be rules and regulations that could be used to promote fair use of the Little River by groups other than just tubers. The Blount county Mayor and two county Commissioners have agreed to attend the workshop. The workshop is open

to everyone. It would be helpful to have a couple of fishermen who frequently try to fish the Little River to provide input.

If you would like additional information please contact Pat at patrickajenkins@gmail.com

Trout the Classroom. The TIC tanks now have eggs. They were delivered on September 20th. More information will be coming as the eggs hatch and the students begin to care for them. If you would like more information or to become involved in this fantastic program please contact Joyce Frey at <a href="mailto:jmfrey@comcast.net">jmfrey@comcast.net</a>.

Upcoming Trips: The fall trip will be to Cataloochee on October 6, 7 and 8. at Group Site 1

Tie and Lie will be held on October 23rd at The Casual Pint in Maryville. Fly Tyers Weekend will be held on Saturday November 4th and Sunday 5th at Little River Outfitters in Townsend. More than 40 of the southeast's best fly tyers will be on hand demonstrating everything from tiny midges to large saltwater patterns. This is going to be our premier event of the year. For more information see the link on the Little River Outfitters web site.

**Tonights Program: Walter Babb.** Walter has been fishing the Southern Appalachian mountains for more than 60 years. His talk tonight focused on nymphing and wet fly fishing in the GSMNP and surrounding areas.

Walter began his fishing journey fishing with his father on the Tellico River. He fished mostly with nymphs and made his own tippet rig using 6 pound and 4 pound fishing line and tying a blood knot for the droppers.

Here are some of Walters key comments during his presentation.

- ¥ One of the best nymph he ever used was the George Nymph created by Eddie George
- ¥ Currently he likes the Bead head Pheasant Tail nymph, the 20 Incher, the Green Drake nymph and the Gold Ribbed Hares Ear.
- ¥ He also likes the Copper John size 12
- ¥ Walter fished the Spec Wet fly quite a bit in combo with other flies
  - ¥ There is a great document on the Spec Fly and how to tie it at the RandR Fly Fishing web site. See below
  - **http://randrflyfishing.com/2013/05/05/fly-of-the-month-speck-wet-fly/**
- ¥ One of his favorite trout fishing books is Taking Larger Trout by Larry Koller

- f Y He thinks that George Harvey was the best fly fisherman .. ever !!
  - ¥ George passed away in 2008 at the age of 96.
- ¥Walters favorite dry fly is the Adams
- ¥ Fish are not leader shy fish are drag shy
- ¥ Fly selection is the least of your problems. Casting accuracy and drift control are critical. Practice, practice, practice.

We were able to video tape Walters presentation and hopefully it will be available for viewing on our website.