

Next Meeting:

When: 7:00 p.m., Thursday, September 24
(4th Thursday of the month)

Where: River John's Island 4134 Cave Mill Rd., Maryville—located on the Little River, just northeast of Maryville on Cave Mill Rd.

Directions: Fm last Pellissippi Pkwy exit, go left on Hwy 33, right on Sam Houston, left on Wildwood, right on Cave Mill.

Program: Hamburgers, hot-dogs, chips and soft drinks will be served. Bring your own extra refreshment if desired. If you have never enjoyed our hospitality you won't want to miss this opportunity. Bring your rod and enjoy casting into the Little River at this scenic spot. Plan to join us during this time of relaxation and get to know us a little better!

"Weather is here, wish you were beautiful" —It's Time:

I'll remember that postcard greeting forever forward. It comes to mind with the arrival of "ideal" fishing conditions here in and around the Smokies. We've got a break for a few weeks between departure of family vacationers and arrival of the leaf watchers and the weather is cooperating. Cool mornings, warm afternoons, and good stream conditions should make anyone worth the weight of a BB split shot want to grab the waders and head to a favorite water hole. Remember, it's highly unlikely that you'll contract swine flu while knee deep in a mountain stream!

Daniel Drake, with Little River Outfitters, describes conditions and gives some recommendations from recent forays into the mountains:

"I did something this morning that I haven't done in

a long while. I got up early and hit Middle Prong of Little River just as the sun was rising. I just ran up the Middle Prong a short distance. If I had more time I would have gone to higher elevations. The water was great for this time of year. The air was cool enough this morning that I put my waders on. Early morning fishing is nice. There was no one on the river and nobody on the roads. Peaceful. Fishing started a bit slow fishing with a little dry. I caught a little baby rainbow. Moving up the stream I started to pick up a few more trout. They were hiding in the faster water. My Walter Babb 7' 4wt bamboo rod did as good as ever. I generally prefer a longer rod, but my bamboo rod is always fun to fish on small streams.

All in all I had a fun time and caught a good amount of trout for the limited time I had. "

"We have heard some good reports from people fishing around the Elkmont area. On Little River, the water from Metcalf Bottoms up to the Elkmont Campground has been doing well. If you prefer, park at the Little River Trailhead and head upstream a ways. The Middle Prong has been fishing well. Definitely go onto the gravel road, preferably upstream a mile or two. If you want a bit of adventure, give Sam's Creek a try. It isn't too far a walk and it will give you a nice backcountry experience.

Now could be a good time to fish Abrams Creek. It is a lull in the tourist traffic so the Cades Cove Loop Road won't be too crowded with cars."

LRCTU proceeds to be presented

Officials from the GSMNP and from our chapter will be present October 19th as we hand over proceeds in the amount of \$25,000 to the Park Service Fisheries Department in continuing support of improving fish habitats in the GSMNP. The Ceremony is scheduled for 4:00 p.m., Oct. 19 at the end of Tremont Road. Come if you can.

Thinking outside the Fly Box!

By Kris Maurer

Sometimes anglers get stuck inside the fly box. What do I mean by that? Well a lot of the guys I fish with, including myself, have different fly boxes for different waters or species. They have a fly box for tailwaters, mountain streams, smallmouth and even one for when they go out west. So what do you do when the tried and true is not working or you come upon a situation that you have not seen before? You have to think outside your normal fly box and try something new and maybe even unexpected.

Recently on the Caney Fork River in I found myself in this type of situation. The fishing had started out as expected. We were using the traditional zebra midges, scuds, and streamers. At lunch we pulled the boat over at the tail of an island and as we were eating lunch we noticed some risers along the bank. Fishing is more important than eating most of the time, so we put the sandwiches away and rowed over for a closer inspection. Once we got a little closer we saw a nice fifteen to sixteen inch brown trout sipping in the trash line that had now formed below the island. The fish was so "happy" he didn't even notice us.

We began to throw small Parachute Adams dry flies, but couldn't get a look. So I dove back into the fly box and went to the back. I always keep a few rows of odd ball patterns from my other boxes, just in case. The fly that caught my eye first was a size ten rubber leg Parachute Hopper from our last Montana trip. I tied it on keeping it hidden from the guys in the boat. My first cast was horrible and smacked the water, with the line all wadded up, so I started to pick it up and as I did the hopper skittered across the water and Wham! A HUGE! Brown came out of no where and literally tried to kill it! He was a good ten inches bigger than the one we'd been casting to. Ugh! I pulled it away from him; I thought I blew it, my only chance.

Was this a fluke or had we figured something out? So, we rested the fish and then I got back on point and this time threw a good cast up under the tree from where he had come from. Nothing, so I gave the fly and twitch and Bam! He nailed it; I got a good hook set this time. I now had my largest brown trout ever on a dry and I was on the Caney Fork! This is

awesome! I fought the fish for a few minutes and we got him close to the boat once before he said see you and gave some massive head shakes and the hook came loose. I didn't get him but I got to enjoy the good part just which is almost as good.

Okay, by this point we were all acting as if we were had just drank a million Mtn. Dews. We had to find some more fish like this. Was this the only spot or will they be down stream? We continued to float on down and yes; there were risers every forty or fifty feet. Was this really happening? Second fish was a big rainbow, third fish another nice brown and fourth fish another great rainbow. They all wanted the hopper! They wanted it to "plop" and they wanted it to "skitter". It was like fishing hoppers out west, but we were in middle Tennessee!



Steve Sylvis & Kris Maurer on the CF

We were fishing with Steve Sylvis from www.XtremeTrout.com, Steve also manages the fishing department at Game Fair Ltd. in Nashville. If you want to get a guide for the Caney, Steve is the guy to call. You can also read about our other fishing trips on my Stream Side Blog at www.FlyFishTennessee.com

Fall Orvis Days are going to be October 8th thru the 18th. I will be doing free beginner casting lessons both Saturday and Sunday both weekends as well as knot tying clinic and presentations on fishing both the South Holston and Caney Fork. Casting for Recovery will also be on site both Saturdays. Please give us a call for times and details.

Thanks to Kris for some great knowledge. When not on a body of water somewhere, Kris can be found managing the Orvis Store in Pigeon Forge, TN.

August LRCTU Meeting a Tiers' Delight

A wealth of fly tying talent was displayed and attracted a large audience of attentive members during the Aug 28th meeting at Monte Vista Baptist Church.

Thanks to all the Tiers and the time they took to provide instructions to the audience.



Dean
Campbell



Buzz Buffington



Lee Whitehead



Dave
Carson



Tim Doyle

Volunteers Needed

Lynn Camp Brook Trout Restoration- The Park Service needs 3 – 4 helpers a day for about 4 days. The week of October 5 – 8 is likely but may change if weather conditions interfere.

This will be all day work of helping with electro-shocking and/or transporting brook trout in backpacks from other locations, such as Bunches and Flat Creeks. This work was delayed this summer when rainbow trout were found in several locations in Lynn Camp Prong or tributaries. Those locations have been treated to remove the rainbows so re-stocking with brook trout can proceed.

Large Stream Sample of Little River— 10 – 12 helpers are needed on Friday, October 9 to assist in the electro-shocking sampling of Little River. Since the stream is so wide, the Park Service really needs a lot of help to net fish, carry the fish in buckets, and assist in sorting.

Contact Charlie Chmielewski (865-661-7325) or e-mail (charlieflyfish@gmail.com or cchm@charter.net)

The Little River Chapter of Trout Unlimited is a Non-Profit Volunteer Organization that is Committed to Protecting and Restoring Cold Water Resources and Watersheds in and Around the Great Smoky Mountains National Park



**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

Free casting lessons Saturday
mornings from 9am to 10am.
Fall Orvis Days this year will be
October 1st through the 12th.

LRCTU WEB PAGE

**Don't forget to
check out our
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for up-to-date in-
formation and
links to many use-
ful fishing informa-
tion sites.**