



TIGHT LINES

www.pacvtu.org



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Cumberland Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited

April 2016

+++++++ Recipient of the 2011 Trout Unlimited "Gold Trout" National Conservation Award +++++++

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Upgrade Letort and Big Spring

By David Stone

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has proposed rulemaking to the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) to upgrade to High Quality (HQ) status a section of Letort Spring Run (from the Railroad Bridge at Letort Park to the Post Road Bridge) and a section of Big Spring Creek (from T333 to Nealy Road). These are two of 50 stream upgrades in the Commonwealth. These sections had been previously designated as Class A by the Fish & Boat Commission but DEP had not elevated their water quality status. The elevation to HQ status creates further protections against water quality degradation by pollution and effluent discharge. Importantly, development projects in HQ watersheds must comply with more stringent permitting requirements that require a significantly greater buffer zone.

A listing of all the streams affected can be found here:

<http://www.pabulletin.com/secure/data/vol46/46-11/411.html>

PATU and CVTU are encouraging their members to submit a letter of support for the upgrade to these streams as well as all the streams on the list as follows:

(1) Submitting comments to the Board online, by accessing [eComment](#) at EQB comments.

(2) Emailing comments to at RegComments@pa.gov (the subject heading of the proposed rulemaking "Proposed Rulemaking: Water Quality Standards; Class A Stream Re-designations" and a return name and address must be included in each transmission).

(3) Writing to the Environmental Quality Board, PO Box 8477, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8477.

All comments must be submitted prior to April 18, 2016.

**Membership Meeting:
Wednesday, 20 April at 7PM
Allenberry, Meadow Lodge, Boiling Springs**

**57
Members and
Guests Attended
the Mar. Meeting**

Don Baylor will be our guest for the April CVTU membership meeting. Don will present his program HATCHES-NEW ANGLES which emphasizes some relatively new information on well-known hatches as well as information on hatches not well documented in fly fishing literature. The program discusses variations in insect life cycles, concentrated vs. extended hatch periods, important caddis and stonefly hatches, little known though occasionally important mayfly hatches, and some lesser known facts.

Tom Baltz

Quick Bites and Short Strikes

Dave Weaver - Editor

Calendar of Events

2016

- April 8-9th
PA FF Museum
Open House
Allenberry
- April 16th
Chapter Trip
Clark's Creek
- April 18th
Comment Deadline for
HQ Update for Letort &
Big Spring
- April 20th
Member's Meeting
Allenberry
- April 21st
Chapter Breakfast,
Mama Spriggs Restaurant
Carlisle
- May 4-6th
Chapter Trip
South Holston, TN
- May 31- June 3rd
Chapter Trip
Pine Creek
- June 4th
Chapter Trip
E. Licking Creek
- June 18th
PA FF Museum
Heritage Day/Casting
Competition
Allenberry
- June 19-24th
Rivers Youth Camp
Allenberry
- June 28-29th
Street to Streams
Allenberry
- July 11-14th
Chapter Trip
Beaverkill, NY
- Aug 19th
Chapter Picnic
Allenberry
- Oct 28-30th
Chapter Trip
Spring Creek
- Oct (Date TBD)
Chapter Trip
Little Juniata

Submission of articles and suggestions for this newsletter are encouraged and may be sent to dweavflyart@yahoo.com, or you can call me at **338-1952**. The deadline for the next issue is the 22nd of each month. The primary distribution of *Tight Lines* is currently via Mail Chimp email system. *Tight Lines* will be mailed by request only.

~ The chapter breakfast has moved to a new location: Mama Spriggs Restaurant in Carlisle.
Dave W.

~ Going forward, on the second Saturday of each month, there will be a stream work project organized by the FITS team. This may involve tree planting, stream clean up, or project construction. Keep an eye on your chapter website for details.
Dave W.

~ On April 19th TU President Chris Wood will be visiting Adams County to check out the Birch Run restoration project that CVTU recently completed in conjunction with Adams County TU. CVTU members are invited to attend Mr. Wood's talk at the ACTU chapter meeting that evening. This will be 7pm in Gettysburg at the Agricultural Building on Bus. RT 15 Old Harrisburg Rd (across the street from the HACC Campus).
Dave W.

~ If you move, change your phone number, or e-mail address, notify us by emailing CVTU at: cvtu052@gmail.com I can change your info at TU National for you. TU also has a "Do Not E-Mail" option for members who do not want to receive TU reminders and solicitations via e-mail...they'll still get it through USPS. You will have to call TU's membership services to make that change.
John Leonard

CVTU Membership is 583!

CVTU receives a \$15 rebate from the **special \$17.50 first-year membership dues** when the chapter code 052 is marked on the application. Applications are available at Yellow Breeches Outfitters. **New Members** may also join online at www.tu.org/intro. Be sure to select chapter 052, Cumberland Valley. You may renew your membership by mail or on the web at www.tu.org. You may also renew, or change your membership information by calling **TU Customer Service** at **1-800-834-2419**. For more information, contact **Justin Pittman**, Membership Chairman.



CVTU Winter Fly Tying Class. Photo Courtesy Biff Healy



Tight Lines

President's Message

From the President, Tom Miller

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Spring has sprung! I think we can all say that winter is now in the rearview mirror as we head on into April and see warmer days of spring hatches and hungry rising trouts on the horizon. March was a busy transitional month for the chapter as we shift from planning for our yearly events and get into the busy season of doing.

But first I'd like to thank everybody who came out for our annual Limestoner Awards and Fundraising Banquet. Once again this year's event was a huge success, easily surpassing our fundraising goals and I've gotten nothing but positive feedback from those who attended. Many thanks to Matt Perry and the Limestoner crew for putting together another great banquet.

As a new president, this has been an intense six months of many 'firsts' for me and it was an honor to be able to recognize a handful of special individuals who have done so much to ensure our chapter's continued success. It's truly a privilege to present our annual awards and we're blessed to have so many committed folks in our chapter. This year Chet Hagenbarth was the recipient of the Order of Quill. Chet is always willing to lend a hand and his energy is infectious, whether it's working in the stream, chasing down leads for potential projects or just getting out for a bit of fishin', Chet is a true embodiment of the spirit of the Order of the Quill. We also honored Don Albright with the Limestoner Award, recognizing his years of work on the board and as head of our Conservation Committee. Don works tirelessly both behind the scenes and out on the water as lead for our Feet-In-The Stream crew and has been involved with so many projects over the years. And we also presented Don Holbrooke with the Charles K. Fox Rising Trout Award for his years of dedication to our conservation and flyfishing community here in the Cumberland Valley. Thank you all.

As we look ahead to the warmer seasons I can see that we've got a pretty full calendar of events. Our Activities Committee has put together a full slate of chapter outings throughout the months of April, May and June. First on tap is a trip over to Clarks Creek on April 16, followed by trips to the South Holston, then up to Pine Creek and the always popular trip up to East Licking Creek in early June. Along with those fishing events, our always busy month of June is fast approaching with a Reel to Recovery event, then the Rivers Conservation & Youth Camp which is followed by Streets to Streams along with our booth and casting competition that will be held at the Pennsylvania Flyfishing Museum's Heritage Day. We're also working to establish a regularly scheduled monthly weekend workday with the FITS crew if getting dirty along the stream is your thing. These workdays will mainly focus on the Letort as we continue to maintain the stream channel along with stewardship of our properties. So if you're looking for a way to get more involved with the chapter and would like to lend a hand, these are all great opportunities to help out, get involved and get to know other members of the chapter. Further details on all of these activities and more are here in the newsletter, or feel free to get in touch and I can always help you out.

And with opening day of trout season upon us, good luck and tight lines to everybody who is heading out. The local streams look to be in great shape from what I've been seeing, although it might be a little chilly when the buzzer rings at eight a.m. on Saturday. I hope everybody stays safe and dry! Also safe travels if you're heading elsewhere for the statewide opener on the 16th. I expect there'll be plenty of fish tales at our meeting on April 20, and if you see anything of concern while you're out and about, please let us know. Looking forward to seeing everybody back at the Allenberry!

Tight Lines,
Tom

Youth Background Clearances By Jeb Betar

Many of CVTU's youth programs and activities will be ramping up in the next several months. **This is a reminder that any CVTU member must obtain a PA Child Abuse History Certification from the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services before he or she can volunteer their time to support CVTU's Youth Programs.** A copy of the certification must be provided to me, as I maintain CVTU's list of cleared volunteers. The process for volunteers who have lived in Pennsylvania for at least 10 years is twofold: obtain a PA State Police criminal history check, and request a Child Abuse Certification from the PA Department of Human Services. This process is free, however if a volunteer has not resided in Pennsylvania for at least 10 years, the volunteer will have to submit to FBI fingerprinting as a third step in the process and there may be a fee associated with the FBI action. I have the latest information, web sites, and procedures and can assist any member who would like to volunteer and needs the certification. If any member has questions or wants to verify whether he or she has the required clearance, I can be reached at (571) -643-8101 or via email at jebbetar25@gmail.com.

Chapter Fishing Trips By Dave Weaver

As has become traditional, CVTU members get together to go trout fishing and 2016 will see many opportunities for you to join us at a variety of great rivers and streams. Why not tag along this year? It's a great way to learn some of our well known streams and the company can't be beat!

Usually, the event is headed up by a board member or chapter regular and you will contact them to make arrangements or for more info. The dates and locations can be seen on the events calendar on page 2. Keep an eye on the calendar on the website as well for updated information as sometimes this changes as the dates get closer. For the trips to Clarks Creek and Spring Creek, the person of contact (POC) is Neil Sunday. The POC for the Beaverkill will be Alan Howe. South Holston will be David Stone; Pine Creek, Little Juniata, and East Licking Creek, POC will be Ken Okorn. Stay tuned for more info.

Here's an update on the fishing trips from David Stone:

Join hosts Neil and Lori Sunday for a fun morning on Clarks Creek on April 16. Light lunch provided. Meet at 7am at the Squeaky Wheel Diner in Enola. Email Neil at neilsunday@gmail.com to reserve a spot or for more details.

The Chapter SOHO trip, May 2-7, still has 3 openings. This is a great inexpensive trip to the South Holston River tailwater in near Bristol, Tennessee. We have a cabin with private river access. We hope for nonstop sulphur and olive action. Email or call David Stone at dstone@stonelaw.net or 608-4047 for more info.



South Holston River. Photo Courtesy David Stone

Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp By Clark Hall

CVTU will be holding the 22nd annual Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp on June 19-24, 2016, at the Allenberry Resort in Boiling Springs. The camp is for boys and girls aged 14 to 17. The early application period is now open through March 31, 2016. For a camp brochure, more information, or an application, see: www.riverscamp.com.

We are in need of gillies during the 10 fishing sessions for the Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp. Evening fishing begins at 6PM and ends at 9PM. Morning sessions begin at 5AM and end at 7AM. Volunteer gillies wear their own vest and carry their own favorite flies to insure they have everything to make the session a

Youth Camp Cont.

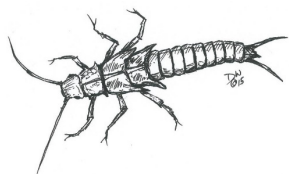
successful one for the student. We do ask that gillies NOT carry a rod.

Working with these young people is a rewarding and memorable time. We hope you will join us as often as your schedule permits. We are also looking for donations of flies for the campers. We are requesting that donors tie 3 dozen of whatever pattern they sign-up for. Sign-up sheets for gillies and flies will be available at membership meetings, or contact Clark Hall at 697-4549 or email chall2636@verizon.net. Thanks, Clark

Letort Scholarship Fund By Alan Howe

The Letort Scholarship Program (LSP) provides a new opportunity for area high school seniors to earn money for college expenses. The LSP is open to seniors from Cumberland Valley, Carlisle and Boiling Springs high schools. Each has students who live in the Letort watershed. Students must submit an essay and then present a poster at a public event at Dickinson College on April 28th. At least two \$500 scholarships will be offered in the categories of science and citizenship. The latter includes studies in economic, political, social, education and other areas. All essays and posters will address the “challenges and hopes for the Letort.” Students at these high schools should see their guidance counselors for more information.

The LSP is supported by non-profit sponsors—currently, Cumberland Valley Trout Unlimited, Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Central Pennsylvania Conservancy and ALLARM (Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring) at Dickinson College—and by individual and commercial contributions. Those wanting to provide a donation to the scholarship fund should write to Alan Howe, CVTU Information and Education Chair, at alan_howe@comcast.net for further information. Donations will allow the LSP to increase the number and value of scholarships offered.



Kudos to Albright and Holbrook By Dave Weaver

At the Limestone banquet your chapter awarded, in accordance with tradition, the Limestone and Charles Fox Rising Trout awards. This year, the recipients were chapter members Don Albright and Don Holbrook.

The Limestone award went to Don Albright. Don has worked tirelessly to coordinate your chapter's stream work and improvement projects over the last few years. This is a demanding task and requires many hours of planning and coordination with the Fish and Boat Commission, the Department of Environmental Protection, as well as other organizations and T.U. chapters. Trindle, Letort, Big Spring, Birch Run, Breeches—you name it and there is probably a work project that Don Albright pulled together. To hear Don's gracious acceptance speech, check out your chapter website.

The Charles Fox award this year went to Don Holbrooke. Don needs no introduction to Pennsylvania anglers as he has long advocated, often with his friend Ed Koch, for fishing with the little stuff. Don's books and lectures on midge fishing have helped many of us think about how to use these tiny flies effectively. During his acceptance speech, Don rightly reminded us that the award's namesake, Charlie Fox, should be remembered as well. In particular, Don urged us to read, or re-read, Fox's book *Rising Trout*.

So kudos to Don Albright and Don Holbrook for their much deserved awards and recognition.



Photos Courtesy Bill Strockbine

Fly of the Month Modified San Juan Worm By Dave Weaver

Many fly fishermen regard the venerable San Juan Worm (SJW) as really nothing more than an attractor fly that appeals only to dim-witted stockies. This is an unfortunate and inaccurate view. During my seining efforts on Letort and other Cumberland Valley streams I've noted the prevalence of aquatic worms. Wild trout and stocked trout target these worms as well as earthworms that find their way into the water during the common high water events during early spring. The naturals are usually in the light reddish rust to pink or brownish color tones. My preference for SJWs is light pink or flesh color. In darker or deeper water, I'll use a brighter pink or red.

In my view, the main problem with the conventional SJW is the manner in which it is tied involving a hook in the middle of a length of chenille. Too often, the forward part of the chenille simply gets bent back into a "V" shape after a few casts. I prefer a modified SJW utilizing a curved shank hook. In this case, the SJW is tied on a "swimming nymph" style curved hook, although any curved style will work (or you can bend a long shank). The reason for the curved shank is to provide a nice, natural curve to the worm's body and allow you to avoid the extended length of chenille in front of the eye. More importantly, the curved shank enables you to tie the fly so that it drifts hook upward. Since SJWs often work best in the heavy flows of early springtime, you want this fly right on the bottom and if it drifts hook upward, you'll get fewer snags. The curved shank will enable this if you tie in some weight right at the bend. This weight at the bend functions as a lever that swings the fly into a hook upward position. To do this with the SJW shown below, you will want to put some lead wire at the bend, wrapped over the chenille.

The first step to tying this fly is to wrap a base of thread the length of the shank. Next, palmer some thin thread (I like clear mono) through the chenille up to the eye and finish the head. I find a couple tiny drops of Superglue really help position the chenille on the shank. The next step is to tie about a dozen turns of thin lead wire over the chenille right at the deepest part of the hook bend. Finally, wrap a contrasting color thread, such as deep pink or red, over the lead wraps to seal them down and provide a nice looking collar on the worm. Having a bright collar looks natural and the brighter color perhaps helps trigger strikes much like hot spots on nymphs are

thought to do. I really like this modified SJW and find it gets trout year round. In particular, this fly fished as a dropper with a stonefly nymph combine to be my go-to set up for nymphing in the early spring months.

HOOK: Any curved shank hook that matches the size of the worm.

BODY: White or pink thread underneath pink chenille, secured with turns of clear thread.

COLLAR: A dozen turns of lead wire covered with red thread. Coat heavily with cement.



Fly Casting Competition By Tom Miller

The Cumberland Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited will be hosting the Second Annual Mid Atlantic Fly Casting Contest on June 18th, 2016 at the Allenberry Resort in Boiling Springs, PA. The 5-weight fly casting competition is open to all with categories for men, women and youth with adults being split into either Angler or Expert divisions. Competitors will be challenged by both accuracy and distance tasks with winners determined by the highest combined score. Prizes and awards for the contest are sponsored by Temple Fork Outfitters, producers of some of the finest fishing rods available. The entrance fee is \$25 for pre-registration, postmarked by June 11, 2016, or you can sign up the day of the event for \$30, youth compete for free! Complete rules and registration forms are available on CVTU's website: www.pacvtu.org

The competition will be hosted by the Pennsylvania Fly Fishing Museum in conjunction with their 14th Annual Heritage Day Celebration. The Heritage Day event is a full day of celebrating our fly fishing heritage in the State of Pennsylvania with over 60 vendors and exhibitors, hands on demonstrations, special seminars, instruction, raffles, auctions and the always popular Fish Swim Race on the Yellow Breeches for a chance to win \$500! More information on Heritage Day is available on the Museum website: www.paflyfishing.org