



TIGHT LINES

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Cumberland Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited

May 2016

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

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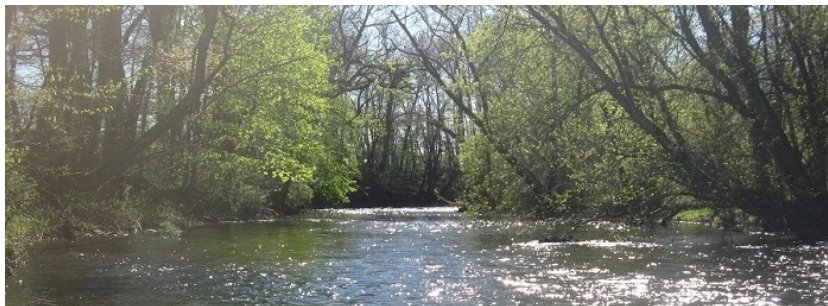
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That Springtime Sparkle

By Dave Weaver

With trout season underway, lengthening days, and the Cumberland Valley starting to green up, our beloved streams have that full flow and feel that I like to think of as "springtime sparkle." In fact, if you look carefully, many streams like Breeches, Mountain Creek and others with current, the water really does seem to have a sparkling, luminous effect not seen at other times of the year. It's a wondrous time: hatches will be full swing by the time you read this and trout seem easy to catch. Anglers of all ages were out today, a beautiful Saturday near the end of April. I've spent a lot of time on Breeches this spring and am pleased with the good numbers of wild trout I'm catching, despite the heavy angling pressure on the stockies. Anyway, for those of us who love trout streams, this is simply *our time* of the year. Here's wishing you all the time on the water you can muster this month.



Yellow Breeches, Photo Courtesy Dave Weaver

**Membership Meeting:
Wednesday, May 18th at 7PM
Allenberry, Boiling Springs**

**44
Members and
Guests
Attended the
April Meeting**

Our guest speaker for May is Joe Bruce. Joe has been a major presence in the Chesapeake Bay area fishing community for many years. He operated a fishing shop, The Fisherman's Edge and has been on staff at Tochterman's near Baltimore, one of the oldest fishing tackle shops anywhere. Joe's presentation will focus on the diverse fishing opportunities to be had around the Bay, including fishing for stripers, fresh and saltwater panfish, smallmouth and largemouth bass, and snakeheads, with both fly and conventional tackle. Join us for a rare opportunity to enjoy a speaker that few of us have had the chance to see. Tom Baltz

Calendar of Events

2016

May 4-6th
Chapter Trip
South Holston, TN

May 7th
Cedar Run Cleanup
Per FITS

May 18th
Member's Meeting
Allenberry
Boiling Springs

May 19th
Chapter Breakfast
Mama Spriggs Restaurant
Carlise

May 31– June 3rd
Chapter Trip
Pine Creek

June 4th
Chapter Trip
E. Licking Creek

June 7-8th
Reel Recovery
Allenberry

June 11th
Letort Cleanup
Per FITS

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

Quick Bites and Short Strikes

Dave Weaver - Editor

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.

~ 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.

~ For more information on how to obtain your youth clearances and when you need them, please see page 4 and feel free to check the PA TU Council website.

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.



Penns Creek Brown, Photo Courtesy Tom Miller



President's Message

From the President, Tom Miller

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My goodness, has anybody else been getting out on the water lately? I sure hope so! I sort of feel like a broken record lately, but if you haven't been out enjoying this spring time weather and stream conditions, you really need to shift your priorities as we hit primetime on our local trout streams. The hatches seem to be a bit ahead of schedule this year, so make sure your boxes are stocked ahead of time. Nothing like being on the stream and not having that one pattern you could really use, I've already seen reports of sulphurs hatching up on Penn's Creek!

We're rapidly approaching what is probably our busiest time of the year when it comes to chapter activities. Between our chapter outings to so many wonderful waters are many events that are happening in June with Reel to Recovery kicking it all off on the 7th & 8th; then we're hosting the Mid-Atlantic 5wt Casting Championships in conjunction with Heritage Day on the 18th, followed by the Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp from the 19th thru 24th and then Streets to Streams wraps up the month on June 28 & 29. We have so many opportunities for you to get involved and lend a hand. So if you're new to the chapter or maybe have a spare afternoon to help gillie or even man our booth and help introduce us to more new faces for an hour or so on a Saturday, we'd sure appreciate your help. Most all of these events are outlined throughout this issue of Tightlines and they all offer a great opportunity to get more involved with the chapter.

Of course there's also our FITS crew lead by Don Albright if getting dirty along the stream is more your thing. We've already had some great sessions with our newly instituted 'Second Saturday' efforts and many thanks to the awesome crew we had come out in April to help repair the blown down fence at Vince's Meadow along with a general tidying up of the property. In May we'll be coordinating with the Field & Stream Store in Camp Hill on May 7th as they work to clean up their local branch of Cedar Run. Then on June 11th we'll be working to clean up a winter's worth of litter out of the Letort where it flows through Biddle Mission Park here in Carlisle and after we break for lunch we'll be setting up the casting course for a practice session before the big event the following weekend. So if you'd like a chance to tune up your cast without those pesky trouts distracting you, I'd highly recommend coming out. You can get in touch with either Don or myself if you'd like to join in on the fun.

Hope to see you out and about as the season hits full swing, whether on the water trying to fool those peculiar trouts or helping out and participating in one of our many scheduled activities. As always, if you have any questions or concerns or see something along the stream you'd like us to be aware of, don't hesitate to reach out to either me or any other board member, you can find all of our contact information there to left on the sidebar.



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.

Advocacy Column

By David Stone

Welcome to this month's Advocacy column where we hope to highlight recent laws, events, and issues that may be of interest or may need action by you cold water activists.

CLARKS CREEK PRESERVATION: A matter of local interest is the proposal by Capital Region Water to grant a conservation easement for more than 8200 acres in the DeHart Reservoir Watershed. If approved, the Nature Conservancy would hold a conservation easement covering the entire valley extending from the reservoir outfall to a point beyond the source of Clark Creek. The easement will severely limit development, construction, mining, road building, etc. Unfortunately, the comment period has passed but any Clark Creek fisherman should have only good things to say about this proposal. More info on this is at <http://capitalregionwater.com/dehartproposal/#sthash.yVi29het.6hQ1oG8G.dpbs>.

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 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

TIC Update

By Biff Healy

The Trout in the Classroom program this year has expanded to twelve schools. East Pennsboro had an excellent year as did all our school partners, although success can be relative. The photo is of the unit at East Pennsboro Middle School. Their release is Monday April 23



Photo Courtesy Biff Healy

Chapter Fishing Trips

By Ken Okorn and Gene Giza

Pine Creek:

A CVTU trip is planned for the Catch and Release section of Pine Creek from Tuesday, May 31st to Friday, June 3rd. Lodging will be on your own, as there is no place in the area that can accommodate a large group. Some of our members stay at rental properties in Slate Run. Others stay at the Hotel Manor in Slate Run. There are other options that are not quite so convenient to the special regulation area fishing, including the Black Forest Inn, Cedar Run Hotel, Waterville Hotel, and several campgrounds. This trip has been an annual event for a many years. A number of couples have attended, and non fishing spouses get together for hiking, shopping, cards, etc. No need to sign up, just show up at noon on May 31 for lunch at the Hotel Manor.

East Licking Creek:

The annual CVTU day trip to East Licking Creek will be on Saturday, June 4th. This has been an annual event for many years, and about two dozen members and guests have attended recent trips. Our base of operations is the Karl Guss picnic area on the state forest land. The DHALO section starts just upstream from the picnic area and extends upstream for four miles. Participants have found that fishing is as good in the rest of the stream. There are native brook trout and wild browns, as well as stocked brooks, browns and rainbows. Dry fly fishing is usually excellent, although one unnamed nymph fisherman usually catches more fish than the rest of the group combined. Lunch will consist of hot dogs, sauerkraut, rolls, potato and macaroni salads and baked beans. Bottled water will also be provided. The cost will be \$5 per person. For those who are interested, most of the group will meet at the Middlesex Diner on Rt 11 for breakfast and arranging car pools. We will **leave from the diner at 7 AM**, so be there early if you plan to have breakfast. Others go directly to the stream. Contact Ken Okorn at ken.okorn@verizon.net, or by phone at 697-2451 if you plan to attend. A sign up sheet will be also be circulated at the May membership meeting.

Penns Creek and Pine Creek offer the very best variety of hatches in Pennsylvania. Penns Creek is currently offering Little Blue-Winged Olives, Tan Caddis, remaining Grannoms and Hendricksons, March Browns, Red Quill, Gray Fox and Early and Little Stoneflies. Pine Creek, when we will be there, offers March Browns, Gray fox, Tan Caddis, Little and size 16 Olives, Stoneflies, Brown Drakes and Green

Drakes. I just returned from Penns Creek and the water level was historically low. Hopefully the water level will be low when we reach Pine Creek at Slate Run. The hatches on Penns were INCREDIBLE!!

Clarks Creek Recap

By Neil Sunday

On April 16 we had a dozen CVTU members attend our Chapter Trip to Clarks Creek. We found fish rising when we hit the water, and soon they were eating our small, gray midge or hot spot pheasant tail offerings. We provided stream-side hamburgers and hotdogs to round out the morning. Overall a beautiful day to spend in the dense woods of Dauphin County.



Photos Courtesy Neil Sunday

From the Archives

By Dave Weaver

Your chapter has a long tradition of appreciating traditions. Among these are the Last Supper and chapter picnics, which have long been scheduled for the end of summer, as this used to coincide with the end of the trout fishing season across Pennsylvania. The image below shows famed CVTU member and Cumberland Valley angler, Ross Trimmer, trying his hand at hooking a final trout on Letort at the end of summer in 1976. Time flies—forty years ago this summer.

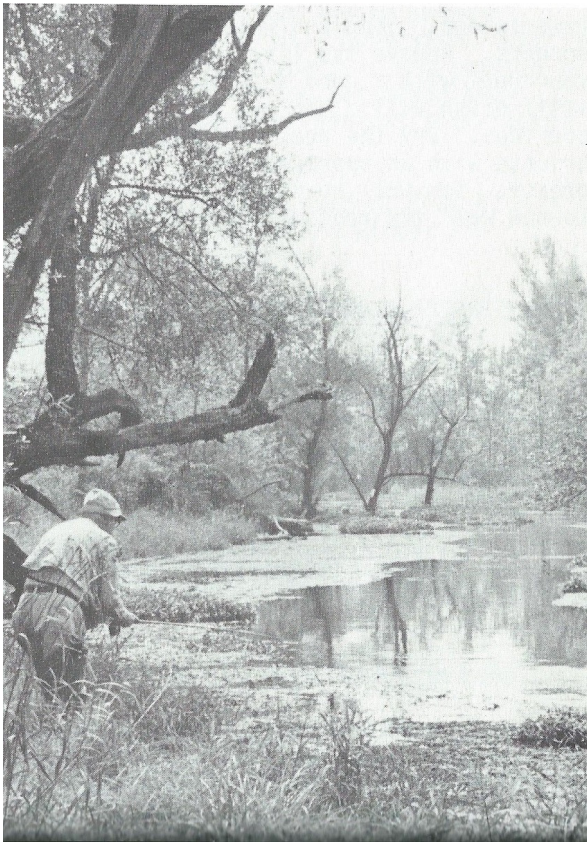


Photo Courtesy: CVTU Archives, "Limestoner"
Newsletter, Dec. 1976, Box 4, Binder #2



Fly of the Month Fire Tiger Streamer

By Dave Weaver

In recent years among the coolest new fly tying materials to emerge are dyed rabbit strips with barred coloration. We have long utilized rabbit strips for matuka style streamers, but the barred and multi colored strips now available are just downright fun to work with and produce effective color combinations. Many conventional anglers have long known how effective "fire tiger" pattern lures can be: that is, baits that contain a mix of chartreuse, orange, and black stripes. With the new barred rabbit strips, we fly tiers can emulate this deadly color combination. Fire tiger is particularly well known as a color combination to use when water is stained or visibility is otherwise low. In this case, the fly I've tied utilizes a dumbbell weight clouser style (I tie almost all my streamer patterns to swim hook upward nowadays). Since palmering thread through the strip when tied this way (ie. hook upward) is awkward and tends to mess up the barred coloration, I usually just use a dab of Shoe Goo or epoxy to fix the strip to the body of the fly. So next time you find yourself facing high dirty water and need to trigger trout – or bass for that matter – to hit a streamer, try a fire tiger streamer with barred rabbit strips. They're almost as much fun to look at as they are effective at getting bit!

HOOK: Streamer hook of appropriate size and matched to the strip.

BODY: Chartreuse chenille.

WING: Barred rabbit strip tied on underside of shank so hook rides upward through the strip. Secure with glue.

HACKLE: Black or chartreuse.

EYES: Dumbbell weight, matched to fly size.

