



TIGHT LINES

www.pacvtu.org



Volume 20 Issue 8

Cumberland Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited

September 2015

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

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The watercress farm on the Letort headwaters and an adjoining lot are for sale at a price of approximately \$306,000. The Central Pennsylvania Conservancy has obtained a two year purchase option on 30 acres, which includes the farm itself, and one large adjoining lot that will provide a buffer against development. The Conservancy is now attempting to raise the funds to purchase the property. While much of the amount is expected to come from grants, at least \$65,000 must be raised for matching funds and other costs associated with the acquisition.

Successful acquisition of this property is critical to CVTU, as much of what we do is centered around the Letort and its role in fly fishing history. The Conservancy's intention is to restore the stream and wetlands to a more natural state and manage the property for public use and education. In doing so, the Conservancy will work with a number of partners involved in conservation and outdoor recreation, including CVTU. This branch of the Letort is significant to CVTU in that it provides about 20% of the Letort's flow, and presently provides a limited amount of spawning habitat for trout. The restoration will enhance both trout spawning and our fishing.

The first fundraiser is scheduled for Sunday, October 11 from 4 PM until 7:30 PM at the Ironmaster's Mansion at Pine Grove Furnace State Park. It will include a banquet dinner, band, and a silent auction featuring items related to outdoor activities. Speakers include CVTU's own Dave Weaver, Gettysburg artist and local historian, and Anna Yelk, Executive Director of the Conservancy. Further information and the registration form are available on the Conservancy's web site at: www.Central Pa Conservancy.org.



Photo Courtesy: D. Weaver

**84
Members and
Guests Attended
the August Picnic**

**Membership Meeting: Wednesday, Sept. 16th
Allenberry Meadow Lodge at 7pm.**

At our September membership meeting Mr. Bill Anderson, President of the Little Juniata River Association, will present a talk about the Little J and some of the work the Association has been doing to document brown trout movements within the system. No doubt, Bill will also touch on various facets of fishing the Little J and some of the flies he has developed for that purpose.

Best, Tom Baltz

Quick Bites and Short Strikes

Dave Weaver - Editor

Calendar of Events

2015

- Sep 12th
Last Supper,
Vince's Meadow
- Sep 16th.
Membership Meeting,
Allenberry
- Sep 16th-21st
TU National Meeting,
Scranton, PA
- Sep 17th
Chapter Breakfast,
Kimberly's Café
Carlisle
- Oct 3rd
PA Council of TU
Annual Meeting,
Petersburg, PA
- Oct 11th
Letort Fund Raiser
Banquet,
Pine Grove Furnace SP

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 breakfasts will continue every month after the regular meetings.
Dave W

~ Keep in mind that we remain in need of bucket raffle items for regular member's meeting. If you have questions, please contact Ken Palmer.
Dave W

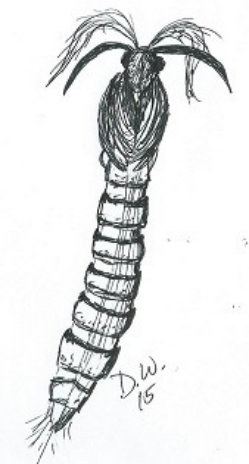
~ Background checks for TU volunteers working with youth are currently undergoing some changes. At the time of this writing, background checks are now free and are good for five years.
Dave W

~ Stan Golub, Executive Director of Reel Recovery, recently wrote to Jeb Betar of CVTU:

Dear Mr Betar,

On behalf of all of us at Reel Recovery, I want to thank you and TU – Cumberland Valley Chapter for your generous donation of \$500 received August 17th in support of our Pennsylvania Retreat (Boiling Springs) Program. Your donation and continued support is very meaningful to us as we bring our healing Retreats to Pennsylvania men living with cancer.

"Thank you for helping me see that there's light at the end of this tunnel. I will never forget these few days." – Retreat Participant



CVTU Membership is 587!

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 **Clark Hall**, Membership Chairman.



President's Message

From the President, Justin Pittman

Cumberland Valley Chapter Officers and Directors (term)

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We are now entering September and some of our chapter activities will start to slow down a little. We have had a wonderful year so far and a record turnout for our picnic in August. I can't thank Tom Baltz and John Leonard enough for making this such a great event. During our picnic I recognized two persons, Dave Weaver and Bill Strockbine, from our membership for their continued work and dedication to our Chapter. Dave is a former board member and is the current editor of Tightlines. Dave has also been very devoted to CVTU year after year with his donations of paintings for fundraisers. Bill Strockbine, the other member to receive a President's Pin, has also been very committed to the success of our Chapter by keeping the website up to date and by running all of the AV equipment for our Chapter events. Another person that I would like to thank is Ken Palmer. Ken is stepping down from the board this year after many years and he will be greatly missed. Nevertheless, as members step down, I also look forward to the new members that have agree to run for the board. I look forward to the new ideas and energy that you will bring and I thank you ahead of time for all the hard work that you will put into our chapter.

As many of you already know, this is my last month as President of CVTU and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has made it such a wonderful experience. I have been so lucky to work with and learn from some of the smartest, kindest, and most good hearted people that you could ever meet. I plan to remain on the board and help wherever needed. In particular, I really need to extend a special thanks to John Leonard, he has truly supported and mentored me throughout this entire processes, and I cannot thank him enough. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to give me a call at 717-360-8823 or email: flyfishing80@gmail.com

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Tight Lines!
Justin

Picnic Recap **By Tom Baltz**

On August 21 CVTU held its annual Family Picnic and there was a record attendance of well over eighty people! A HUGE thank you to everyone who took the trouble to RSVP and attend the affair! The Chapter Casting Competition took place in the field, another well run event courtesy of Art Rorex and Walt Paskey. President Justin Pittman won the Distance category while Tom Miller took the Accuracy event again. Congrats to each of them! As always, Allenberry put out quite a spread of food and I didn't see too many leftovers. Music and sound was controlled by Bill Strockbine in his usual perfect manner. Thanks Bill! There were plenty of items contributed to the Old Stuff Raffle, including some very unique ones. You never know what will show up! Thanks to everyone who brought something along. This raffle helps defray picnic expenses beyond what CVTU charges for the event. Big thanks are also due to John and Betti Leonard who handled registration and to Justin for taking care of awards for the casting events and for MC'ing. Also congrats to Bill Strockbine and Dave Weaver for well deserved President's Pins! I have likely forgotten others who contributed so my apologies; your efforts are no less appreciated.



CVTU casting competition.

Photo courtesy: D. Weaver

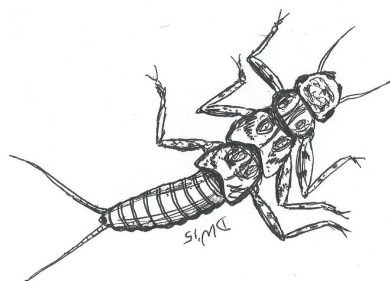
Letort Gets a Haircut **By Dave Weaver**

Your chapter has been conducting routine, annual work on upper Letort including weed trimming and clearing brush and brambles around Vince's Meadow. The weed trimming is necessary to clear fast growing invasive plants that clog the channel causing the flow to go over into meadows and possibly exacerbate the sinkhole problem. Weeds are cut with a pull razor and then literally raked from the channel. Many thanks to Don Albright for coordinating these events, but especially to those chapter members who took time off from fishing

and other priorities to do this difficult work.



CVTU volunteers working in Letort.
Photo Courtesy: D. Albright



Trindle Spring Run Project **By Dave Weaver**

CVTU has continued to monitor the situation with Trindle Spring Run since a chemical spill damaged some of the aquatic vegetation. In the ensuing months, the company responsible has been fined a substantial amount of money and your chapter functioned as the pass-through organization for this funding which was used to implement stream channel and habitat improvement for this small stream. Many Trindle regulars feel that the lower stream would hold more wild trout with better habitat. On August 17th the project started and is now near completion. Several mud sill style stabilization projects were built in to eroded banks and cover was enhanced through the integration of natural chunks or sections of woody debris into the structures. These projects have narrowed the stream channel, created over-head cover, and strengthened the protections against sedimentation and erosion.



Trindle Project

Photo Courtesy: D. Albright

Last Supper **By John Leonard**

The Last Supper is a CVTU tradition that goes back to the days of Vince Marinaro and Charlie Fox...back when trout season ended after Labor Day. The devotees of the Letort would get together to have a bite and swap stories of the fish they caught and of the bigger ones that got away. The tradition continues this year on September 12th at 5:00 PM in Vince's Meadow and it is open to all – rain or shine. If you don't know where Vince's Meadow is, go to Google Maps and search for "Vince's Meadow – CVTU"...we're on the map! Bring a chair as seating is limited. The cost is \$10 per person...additional donations are graciously accepted. The menu is being "upscaled" this year. We're serving six grilled jumbo shrimp per person and boneless chicken breasts with delicious accompaniments and cold beverages. **If you plan on attending, send an e-mail to cvtu052@gmail.com and let us know you're coming.** Another tradition of the evening is the traveling rod. We'll get to hear from Alan Howe, last year's rod winner, as to where the rod has been and how many fish he landed with it. One person will be chosen at random to have the rod until the 2016 Last Supper...the tradition will continue...be part of it!

Fly of the Month **Zebra Soft Hackle** **By Clark Hall**

The Zebra Soft Hackle (SH) combines the effectiveness of the Zebra Midge with the motion provided by a soft hackle collar. This pattern has been very successful for me both locally and everywhere I have traveled. It is great as a dropper behind an attractor fly, or fished unweighted just

under the surface. It is particularly effective in limestone streams and tailwaters.

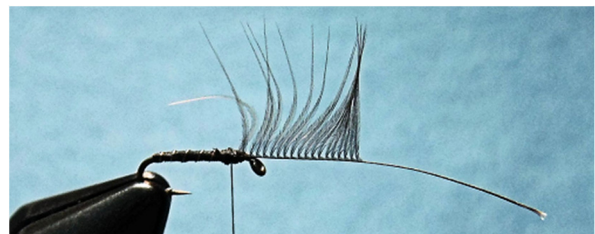


Materials

Hook: Daiichi 1100, size 20
Thread: Uni 8/0, black
Rib: silver wire, XS
Hackle: hen
Thorax: super-fine, black

Tying Instructions

1. Start the thread just behind the eye and wrap back to the bend in touching turns.
2. Tie in the wire and wrap the thread forward in touching turns to 1 ½ eye widths behind the eye.
3. Counter-wrap the wire to the thread, tie off, and cut the excess.
4. Prepare the hackle by stripping all of the fibers from 1/3 of the butt end, and strip the fibers from one side of the middle 1/3. Tie in at the "X" (see photos). Trim excess.



5. Dub a ball shaped thorax over the hackle tie-in area.
6. Wrap the hackle, tie off, and trim excess.
7. Wrap a small head and whip finish.

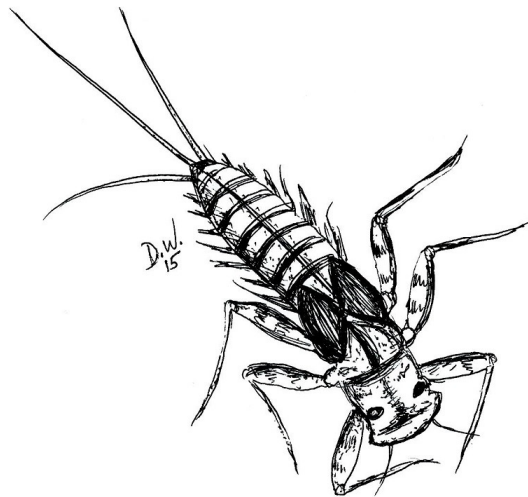
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