



TIGHT LINES

www.pacvtu.org



Volume 20 Issue 9

Cumberland Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited

October 2015

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

Meet Your New Board Members

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Alan Howe: A 24-year enlisted tour in the Air Force, including two decades of overseas experience, allowed me to fish in Japan, Italy, South Korea and Germany. I came to Carlisle to be near the Letort, which I first read about as a fifteen-year-old proud owner of Vince Marinaro's *In the Ring of the Rise*. At about the same time I joined the CVTU board, I'm also getting involved in PATU South-Central and the Cumberland County representative on the Letort Regional Authority. I volunteer with the Carlisle Area School District/Audubon Society environmental program on the Letort for second- and fifth-grade students.

Gary Leone: I grew up in Cambria County trout fishing near home as well as the north central counties of PA. I first started visiting the Cumberland Valley to fish while in college at IUP and always wished to settle here. My employment has taken me to upstate New York where I fished the Adirondacks, Catskills, and Vermont. The last ten years I lived in Michigan and spent many hours on the Holy Waters of the Ausable River where Trout Unlimited was founded. In December my wife Zoe and I had the opportunity to move to the Cumberland Valley. I've always had an appreciation for conservation and respect for those who protect our resources. I look forward to helping out and doing my part to preserve the wonderful trout fisheries we are fortunate to have.

Matt Perry (Returning Board Member): I'm originally from Boston, MA where I grew up fly fishing for Striped Bass and bluefish along the coast of Plymouth and Cape Cod. In 2010 my family and I relocated to the Cumberland Valley, where we currently reside in Monroe Township. I hold a degree in Natural Resource Management from Paul Smiths College and worked in Environmental Testing for ten years before becoming a stay at home dad / trout bum. A lifelong member of TU, I quickly became involved with CVTU, and in 2012

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**42
Members and
Guests Attended
the Sept. Meeting**

**Membership Meeting: Wednesday, Oct 21st
Allenberry Meadow Lodge at 7pm.**

Our October meeting will be another by Ken Okorn on trout fishing in Wyoming and South Dakota. His recent trip included several streams that provided interesting and unusual fishing conditions. These streams were not in his previous programs on trout fishing in that region.
Tom Baltz

Quick Bites and Short Strikes

Dave Weaver - Editor

Calendar of Events

2015

- Oct 3rd
PA Council of TU
Annual Meeting,
Petersburg, PA
- Oct 11th
Letort Fund Raiser
Banquet,
Pine Grove Furnace SP
- Oct 17th
Chapter Fishing Trip
Spring Creek
Centre County
- Oct 21st
Member's Meeting
Allenberry,
Boiling Springs
- Oct 22nd
Chapter Breakfast,
Kimberly's Café
Carlisle
- Nov 14th
PA Fly Fishing Museum
Banquet,
Allenberry
- Nov 18th
Member's Meeting
Allenberry

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 January-March member's meetings will be held at the Monroe Township Fire Hall.
Dave W.

~ The November member's meeting will include our traditional annual brainstorming session where we discuss our chapter's goals and priorities. A Temple Fork rod will also be raffled and dessert served.
Dave W.

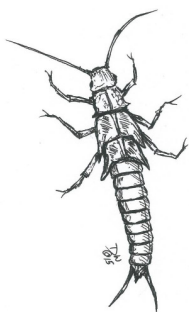
~ The chapter breakfasts will continue every month after the regular meetings.
Dave W.

~ As is traditional, there will be no issue of *Tight Lines* in December.
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.

~ The 2015 Last Supper was cancelled due to weather. The tradition of handing off the Traveling Rod and its journal was conducted via raffle at the September membership meeting. After traveling with Alan Howe over the last year, the rod will spend the next year with Tom Miller. Now that's one lucky fly rod to spend last year and this year with these fellas.
Dave W.

~ Big Spring Creek is now listed by the PFBC as Class A for its entire length to the mouth after the recent survey of the lower section revealed wild brown trout. Be aware that much of the lower section currently remains off limits to public access due to posting.
Dave W.



CVTU Membership is 581!

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, Tom Miller

Cumberland Valley Chapter Officers and Directors (term)

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First, allow me take up a bit of space here to introduce myself to the Chapter as a whole, especially those I that haven't gotten to know yet during my time serving on the Chapter's Board. I'm Tom Miller and I moved here to the Cumberland Valley in the early-mid nineties. I grew up down in southern York County and some of my first memories of the Cumberland Valley were those few times I'd crossed the Yellow Breeches on the way to Carlisle as a youngster. And every time I'd cross that creek I remember thinking, 'now that's a trout stream!' (Not that there isn't decent water down in York County where I cut my teeth, but the Breeches just seemed to speak to me.)

Well I finally got to fish this wonderful stream I'd only seen in passing after I'd moved here and even somehow caught my first trout on a dry fly right there below the Rt74 bridge that first summer. #14 Elk Hair Caddis did the trick and it seems like it was just yesterday. And ever since that fateful day I've been exploring and learning about these amazing waters that flow through the Cumberland Valley. We are all lucky to call this place home as we have a true bounty of amazing trout streams here; from the well known Breeches, to our blue ribbon limestoners and on up into the mountains where it seems every little cold trickle holds a hearty population of our native brookies. We have a lot to be thankful for. Having been a member of CVTU over these last twenty years I've witnessed the hard work that's been done to protect these streams and improve them for the next generation.

So I'd like to say Thank You, first to the chapter and everyone that's preceded me in this position, with special thanks going to our outgoing President Justin Pittman. I don't think enough can be said about the good work Justin has done on behalf of the chapter during his time as President. He's left me with some awfully big shoes to fill! And I'd also like to thank our outgoing board members for their service to the chapter; Ken, Bill & Chet are real assets to CVTU and I look forward to continuing to work with them. Of course, with those departing Board Members we have some new faces filling their spots and I'd like to welcome Mary, John, Alan and Gary to the Board and also thank them for offering their time and knowledge as we all continue to 'fight the good fight' and protect these irreplaceable cold water resources.

Speaking of our local streams, I had the pleasure to once again work with Don and his F.I.T.S. crew raking the spawning beds of the Letort. This work is our final in stream project for 2015 as we now need to let the trouts do their thing this Autumn and we ask that the trout are shown some respect at this time of year to ensure a successful spawn on all our local waters. So please don't target the spawning fish if you're out on the water and especially watch your step if you choose to wade, keep an eye out for those redds.

Looking ahead to the remainder of 2015, there's a Fundraising Banquet being hosted by the Central Pennsylvania Conservancy on Oct 11 at the Iron Master's Mansion to raise funds for the acquisition of the 'Cress Ponds' property on the headwaters of the Letort. Our Chapter's own Dave Weaver will be presenting what's sure to be a very interesting program on the history of the Letort, more information on this event was in last month's issue of Tight Lines. And following the banquet we have one last chapter fishing trip the weekend of Oct 17-18. Neil Sunday is putting together what's sure to be another fun trip up to State College to fish Spring Creek, Neil's contact info can be found over there on the sidebar to sign up for the outing.

In closing, I'd like to say that if you ever have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to drop me a line either via email, tomimcmillar@comcast.net or I can be reached at 717-258-8265.

Tight Lines!

Tom

joined the Board of Directors. I'm now entering my second term. I also serve currently as the Chairman of the Limestone Committee and as Secretary for the Board.

Mary Shughart: I'm presently employed as the Chief Financial Officer of Fry Communications in Mechanicsburg. I've worked for this significant printing firm for over 30 years with a BS degree from Penn State University. My interest in fishing started with my mother but my interest in fly fishing was piqued by my late husband and I now enjoy my free time fly fishing local streams and participating in community events.

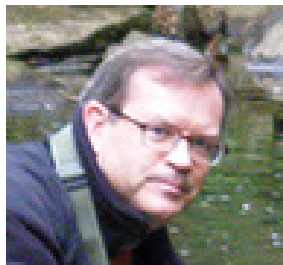
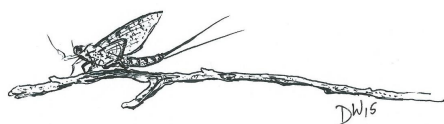
John Zazworsky: I grew up in Wormleysburg and learned the basics of fly fishing and fly tying as a teenager. I wasn't great at either, but it started a life-long interest in the sport and I've tried my hand at it wherever I've lived. After graduating from Cedar Cliff High School, I attended the Air Force Academy and then began a 30-year adventure as an Air Force officer and cargo pilot with 14 assignments in the US, Central America, and Europe, combat experience in Panama, Somalia, the Balkans, Afghanistan and Iraq, and journeys to all 7 continents. I retired from the USAF in 2013 and returned to the area to be near family. I'm currently working as the simulator training facility site manager and a C-17 pilot instructor at the Air National Guard Base in Martinsburg, West Virginia. In this chapter of my life, I intend to volunteer my time for the efforts of TU and also as a pilot of compassion flights.



Mary Shughart



John Zazworsky



Alan Howe



Gary Leone



Matt Perry



Letort Fundraiser By Ken Okorn

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.

Fly of the Month White Fly Emerger/Cripple By Bob Thompson

This is an easy and quick tie that has proven quite effective as the hatch starts to come on. Some Frog Fanny or similar style of floatant on the wing keeps it on the surface.

Materials:

HOOK: #14 Dry Fly Hook

THREAD: White or tan

WING: White Antron or white calf tail

SHUCK: Tan Antron

THORAX: Brown dubbing

Instructions:

Crimp the hook barb. Thread wrap the anterior 1/3 of the hook. Tie in the white Antron wing about the length of the hook shank so that it extends forward over the hook eye. Wrap the thread to the hook bend and tie in the shuck, keeping it rather sparse. Dub a tapered abdomen stopping just at the wing. Dub in the tan thorax and whip finish. You're done – hope it works as well for you as it has for me.



Updates on Trindle and Letort By Dave Weaver

Trindle and Letort remain front and center for your chapter these days. The main effort for Letort is the upcoming fundraiser this month (see Ken Okorn's article on the previous page) which will, hopefully, result in the eventual acquisition of the cress farm section and further protections for this sensitive area. Of course, the spawning season for the creek's wild browns is right around the corner and your chapter's FITS gang recently raked the gravel beds at Bonneybrook in anticipation of the upcoming spawning season. I can attest that white suckers also use this gravel. It is not uncommon to see large pods of spawning suckers in this area in the springtime as well. Last month weeds were also trimmed and removed just below this area where sinkholes have occurred.

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. 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 overhead cover, and strengthened the protections against sedimentation and erosion.



"Tregos Meadow" Photo Courtesy: D. Weaver

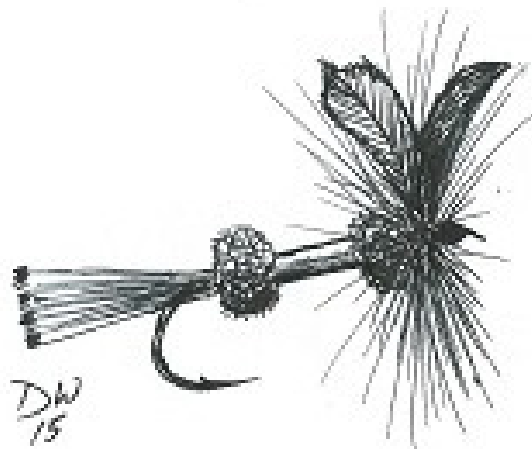
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