



TIGHT LINES

www.pacvtu.org



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Cumberland Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited

Feb. 2017

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

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Mountain Creek is Healthy

By Dave Weaver

Your humble newsletter editor has been on a macro seining kick lately and the photo below shows the result of a single "kick" in a riffle on Mountain Creek in Mount Holly Springs last month. Although the dead of winter, the number of nymphs that showed up was impressive with several varieties of caddis and mayfly nymphs. Caddis were nearly twice as prevalent as mayflies. In particular, the number of large stoneflies was noteworthy. I even got a dragonfly nymph and a large hellgrammite, (not visible in the photo). The presence of these insects is indicative of good water quality. It might be time to hit one of our beloved local streams for some winter nymph fishing!



**Membership Meeting:
Wednesday, Feb. 15th at 7PM
Monroe Township Fire Hall, Boiling Springs**

**41
Members and
Guests
Attended the
Jan. Meeting**

Our speaker for the February meeting is Henry Ramsay. His presentation is titled "Eastern Pennsylvania Hatches and Streams" which discusses the top insect hatches found in Pennsylvania, shows macro images of each of their lifecycle stages, streams that have good hatches of them, and fly patterns that he recommends to match them. The impact of water quality on insect populations is part of the presentation.

Hope to see you there.

Tom Miller

Quick Bites and Short Strikes

Dave Weaver - Editor

Calendar of Events

2017

Feb 8th
CVTU Board Meeting
Comfort Inn at Shady Lane
Carlisle

Feb 15th
Chapter Meeting
Monroe Tsp. Fire Hall
Boiling Springs

Feb 16th
Chapter Breakfast
Momma Spriggs Restaurant
Carlisle

Mar 17th
Limestoner Banquet
Park Inn, Carlisle

Mar 25th
YBAC Outdoor Show
Monroe Tsp. Fire Hall

Apr 7-8th
PFFMA Open House
Shady Lane
Carlisle

Apr 15th
Fishing Trip
Clarks Creek

May 7-12th
Fishing Trip
South Holston

May 20th
Fishing Trip
Yellow Creek

May 30-Jun 2nd
Fishing Trip
Pine Creek

Jun 3rd
Fishing Trip
E. Licking Creek

Jun 13-14th
Reel Recovery
Allenberry

Jun 17th
PFFMA Heritage Day
Shady Lane
Carlisle

Jun 18-23rd
Youth Camp
Messiah College
Grantham

Jun 27-28th
Street to Streams

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.

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

~ The Fly of the Month column has been changed to Tier's Corner. Please feel free to continue to submit flies and their tying instructions. But future issues of *Tight Lines* may not always have a fly tying column.

Dave W.

~ This year, the PA Fly Fishing Museum Association will hold its events at their new location at Shady Lane. The address is 101 Shady Lane. Shady Lane is near the Hoss's on Rt.11.

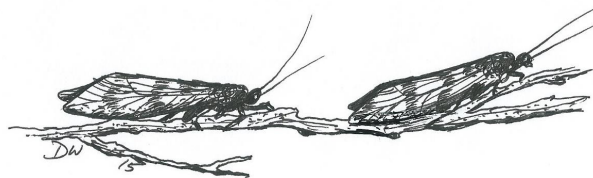
Dave W.

~ There are ten upcoming bridge repair projects in Cumberland County that are proposed for this year. Your chapter will be keeping a general eye on them.

Dave W.

~ If you are parking to access the upper special regulation section of Yellow Breeches, do not park along the railroad right of way. It is better to park over at The Run parking lot.

Dave W.



CVTU Membership is Currently 569!

CVTU receives a \$15 rebate from the **special \$17.50 first-year membership dues** when the chapter code 052 is marked on the application. **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 **John Zazworsky**, Membership Chairman.

President's Message

From the President, Tom Miller

Cumberland Valley Chapter Officers and Directors (term)

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Greetings everybody, I hope this month's issue of Tight Lines finds you well! I Also hope that with the mild winter we've had so far, that the cabin fever hasn't set in too hard and you've been able to get out and about when you can. We've been awfully busy behind the scenes as we tackle numerous upcoming projects and events for 2017.

If you haven't already marked your calendar for March 17th, or returned your invitation and 50/50 raffle tickets for our Annual Limestoner Fundraising and Awards banquet, I urge you to do so. The Limestoner Committee has been working tirelessly to put together another great banquet this year and it will again be an honor for me to present our annual Order of the Quill, The Rising Trout and Limestoner Awards to some very deserving individuals. The Limestoner Banquet is of course our major fundraiser for the year that enables us to continue to build upon our previous conservation efforts and successes. Without your generosity, our ability to do so into the future could be limited. We've got another incredible line up of items this year for you to bid on, ranging from unique items for around the home and some great gift ideas, to incredible fishing gear and artwork along with a very nice selection of opportunities to get out on the water. Whether it's a day out with one of our more experienced members who have generously offered to share their favorite waters, knowledge and techniques to some amazing fully guided trips both near and far, I'm sure you'll find something to your liking! So, if you haven't already, please send in your reservation for what is sure to be another great night of fun and camaraderie as we kick off another successful year with CVTU.

Looking into 2017, we've got a full calendar of stream work scheduled, beginning with the FITS Crew Second Saturday efforts which are most often focused on the stewardship of the Letort and our properties along this amazing water. We will also be focusing on the recent push to be more involved in "Citizen Science" this year. I'm sure we're all aware of the current political environment, and unfortunately this could have a seriously negative effect on our conservation mission. There are concerns about the future availability of government funded grant monies, as well as the regulatory efforts of those government organizations that we've often relied upon in the past.

Which is where we come in. I've often said that you, our members, are our eyes and ears on the water. And that's become even more apparent now. We are the front line of protection for the waters that we all cherish. Some of the challenges we face in 2017 will be the numerous bridge replacement projects that will be undertaken in the Cumberland Valley, affecting both the Letort and the Yellow Breeches along with many of her smaller tributaries. There's also a major gas pipeline in the works, Sunoco's Mariner East II that's slated to be installed in the near future. This pipeline will impact many native brookie waters up in the Tuscarora State Forest as well as the lower Letort and the lower end of the Breeches. We'll be making an effort to keep an eye on all of these impacts to our streams and it's important that if, for example, we see inadequate or breached erosion controls, or if we suspect corners are being cut or witness just a general disregard for our streams that we speak up sooner than later. I fear that we're in for some trying times when it comes to the protection and conservation of our most essential resources and it's up to us as the grassroots, first hand witnesses and citizens, that we do everything that we can for our cold water resources.

Cont. on Next Page

So, if you'd like to help out with these efforts, we'd sure like to see you at our next member's meeting on Feb 15th where we'll have more details and can also get you signed up to lend a hand! Or if you'd like to be even more directly involved in the chapter's efforts, we currently have an opening on the Chapter's Board of Directors that we're looking to fill. Please reach out to myself or any other board member if any of this interests you and we hope to see you in a couple weeks at our next meeting at the Monroe Township Firehall. As always, please drop me a line with any questions or concerns, 717-258-8265 or tomimcmillar@yahoo.com.

Tight Lines, *Tom*

Winter Fly Tying Class By Chris Yasher

Want to learn the art of fly tying? Cumberland Valley Trout Unlimited (CVTU) will be conducting beginner and experienced/advanced sessions for eight weeks at the Boiling Springs High School. Students in the beginner course will learn to tie 6-8 flies while also gaining crucial skills, knowledge, and techniques necessary for the upcoming fly-fishing season. For students in the beginner course, fly tying material, a hook kit, and instructional material will be provided. A list of patterns and required materials will be provided in advance for the intermediate/advanced tiers that will identify patterns tied throughout the course. While there is often extra material for use at each class, advanced tiers are responsible for their own kit (i.e. vise, hooks, and material) and are encouraged to tie alongside the guest instructor. HD video of the respective week's pattern will be available for viewing on the CVTU Facebook page.

This is a wonderful family atmosphere filled with snacks, laughter, and tradition, and provides an outstanding opportunity for all to learn under the direction of some of the region's most experienced, respected, and accomplished fly-tiers.

Ages: 16 years and older. Under 16 are encouraged and welcome; however, must be accompanied by a registered adult.

#2017 - Beginner Tyers
#2017 - Experienced Tiers
Tuesdays, January 10 – February 28
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Boiling Springs High School Room 110

Instructor: Cumberland Valley Trout Unlimited
Fee: \$15/RES, \$21/NR, early bird
\$25/RES, \$31/NR, after 1/3



2017 Limestoner Banquet By Matt Perry

Just wanted to remind everyone to make sure and mark your calendar for the upcoming 2017 Limestoner Banquet. The Limestoner will be held on **Friday, March 17th, 2017**. We will be gathering again in the grand ballroom at the Park Inn, located at 5401 Carlisle Pike, Mechanicsburg, PA. Everyone who has attended the Limestoner for the last three years has given the Park Inn rave reviews. So, if you haven't come to the Limestoner for a few years... come back and see what you've been missing! As always, we will have great food, bucket raffles, a silent auction, a 50/50 raffle and an exciting live auction.

Also, if you are interested in joining the Limestoner committee, we could really use your help. The Limestoner Banquet is CVTU's biggest event of the year and our main source of funding for all of the great events and projects that CVTU puts together on an annual basis. If you think you could lend some of your time (anything helps), please feel free to contact me. My contact information is available on the website or in Tight Lines under, Board of Directors. I look forward to seeing all of you in March for the 2017 Limestoner!



Breeches Snowstorm, Photo Courtesy: D. Weaver

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 18-23, 2017, at Messiah College in Grantham. The camp is for boys and girls aged 14 to 17. The early application period is now open through March 31, 2017.

For more information, or to apply, visit: www.riverscamp.com. We are looking for gillies for the 10 fishing sessions for the camp. Evening fishing begins at 6PM and ends at dark. Morning sessions begin at 5:30 AM and end at 8:00 AM. 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. To sign-up for any or all fishing sessions, contact Biff Healy at 254-7386 or email at biffer1966@hotmail.com.

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. Signup sheets for flies will be available at membership meetings, or contact Clark Hall at 697-4549 or email chall2636@verizon.net.

For directions to where we will be at Messiah College, go [here](#) or contact Biff or Clark.

Messiah College Directions By Clark Hall

Set-up, registration, class room, fly tying, graduation in the Jordan Science Center

A: GPS: 40.1579 -76.9853 345
College Avenue, Grantham, PA 17027

From western PA:

Take the PA Turnpike east to the Gettysburg exit (236). Take US 15 south to the Lisburn Road exit (2.7 mi). Go east on Lisburn Road to Grantham Road (0.6 mi). Turn right on Grantham Road to College Avenue (1/4 mi). Turn left on College Avenue to the stop sign (and Oakes Museum sign) at the Jordan

Science Center (1/4 mi). Turn right into the parking lot. Enter the Jordan Science Center at the back right of the parking lot.

From eastern PA:

Take the PA Turnpike west to the Gettysburg exit (236). Take US 15 south and continue as above.

Fishing sessions, habitat work, in-stream activities

A: GPS: 40.1579 -76.9853

Creekside Drive, Grantham, PA 17027

From western PA:

Take the PA Turnpike east to the Gettysburg exit (236). Take US 15 south to the Lisburn Road exit (2.7 mi). Go east on Lisburn Road to Mill Road at the 4-way stop sign (0.25 mi). Turn right. Go straight at the next stop sign (do not turn at the little blue Messiah College sign). At (0.56 mi) road bears left and becomes College Ave. Cross the railroad tracks, bear right at the "Y" onto Creekside Drive and go to the covered bridge (0.25 mi). Turn right across the bridge and park at the athletic fields.

From eastern PA:

Take the PA Turnpike west to the Gettysburg exit (236). Take US 15 south and continue as above.

Upcoming Projects By Dave Weaver

As it stands now, your chapter is considering four to six projects that are fundable for 2017. Possible locations for these potential projects include South Middleton Park (we did a project there several years ago), behind the swimming pool in Boiling Springs, Messiah College, and below the bridge at Williams Grove. If you have some ideas for other spots on the Breeches, they would be welcome.

For Letort, we will also be working on the parking area at Bonnybrook as the chapter owns this property and some reclamation work is needed. We will also be starting a long term redd count process for upper Letort as well as reclamation work on the spawning beds at Fox's Meadow. Your chapter will also be partnering more closely with ALARM to do more water quality sampling and monitoring.

Perry County gets overlooked sometimes, but this year we will be keeping an eye on some

proposed pipelines, in particular ones in the vicinity of Laurel and Schaeffer Runs.

Fly Tier's Corner **Turkey Biot Nymph** By Jerry Kerstetter

Nymphs are constantly present in the water column. Because of their availability trout are feeding on them. Sometimes it is easy to see trout taking them. Trout may be moving to the right, left or up and down. This trout behavior is commonly referred to as nymphing. Choosing the right nymph is always the big question. The size, color and profile of your nymph is very important. Several years ago I started using turkey biots for my nymphs. Turkey biots are readily available in fly shops. A turkey biot is about twice as long as a goose biot. The turkey biot is wrapped around the hook shank to represent the abdomen of a nymph. Coating it with nail polish will add certain sheen, maybe even a reflective quality. I always use a fur spinning loop on my nymphs as it is may add movement and is durable. Mixing in some antron with this fur may add a sparkle. A bicolor nymph is a possibility using a felt tip pen. After the biot is wrapped use the felt tip to color the top of the abdomen. After the felt tip application dries then coat it with the nail polish. A soft hackle can be added between the thorax and hook eye. I tie these nymphs in various sizes and colors. Let me know if you have tried this fly.

Hook: Any nymph hook sizes #14--#20

Thread: 8/0 matching fly color

Tail: Pheasant tail, fur, hackle fibers

Rib: Copper wire, red and blue adds something to it

Abdomen: Turkey biot coated with hard as nails fingernail polish

Thorax: Fur spinning loop application

Wing pad: Duck tape or other material

Collar: Optional soft hackle

Tying Steps

1. Start thread and wrap to bend of hook.
2. Tie in tail wrapping to thorax and return to bend, cut off excess tailing.
3. Tie in wire wrapping thread to thorax and return to bend.
4. Tie in turkey biot by the pointed end on far side of hook shank and

wrap thread to thorax.

5. Use hackle pliers to wrap biot around the hook shank to the thorax area.

6. For bicolor nymphs use felt tip on top of the abdomen area. After it dries coat it with the nail polish.

7. Wrap the copper wire as a rib to the thorax, cut off wire.

8. Tie on the wing pad of choice

9. Make a spinning loop and wind it forward leaving space for the soft hackle, cut off excess loop.

10. Pull down the wing pad and tie off, cut off excess wing pad.

11. Tie in soft hackle, make two wraps, tie off, cut excess, half hitch or whip finish.

