



TIGHT LINES

www.pacvtu.org



Volume 20 Issue 5

Cumberland Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited

May 2015

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

Prime Fishing Time!

By Dave Weaver

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Photo Courtesy D. Weaver, April 2015

Hopefully you have been able to get out on the water lately as conditions have been pretty good, although fishing reports have been mixed. We had some cold, skinny streams last month but a recent shot of rain has brought levels up nicely. Many of the local Approved Trout Waters have seen an in-season stocking and insect hatches, starting to appear, can often reveal the strong numbers of wild trout in many of our stocked streams, like Yellow Breeches.

The month of May also kicks off the busy season for your chapter with many of our regular upcoming events over the next three months, but also a lot of chapter fishing trips as well. For a recap of the recent trip to West Virginia, see the fishing report on page five. Upcoming trips are on the calendar of events on page two. If you've never joined up for a chapter fishing trip, what is holding you back? It's a lot of fun and now is prime time. In the meantime, don't forget chapter meetings and projects. Get out fishing, but stay focused on the many upcoming events hosted by your chapter.

**Membership Meeting: Wednesday, May 20th
Allenberry Meadow Lodge at 7pm.**

**55
Members and
Guests Attended
the April
Member's Meeting**

Bob Bachman, former member of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, will be our guest for the May membership meeting. Bob will discuss the importance of fly fishing in restoring and enhancing wild trout in PA. He will no doubt touch on some of the recent issues debated by the PF&BC that could directly affect both stocked and wild trout fisheries in PA. A speaker not to be missed!

Best, Tom

Quick Bites and Short Strikes

Dave Weaver - Editor

Calendar of Events

2015

- May 20th
Member's Meeting
Allenberry Meadow
Lodge, Boiling
Springs
- May 4-8th
Chapter Trip
South Holston, TN
- June 5-7th
Angler's Club Visit
- June 6th
Chapter Fishing Trip
East Licking Creek
- June 9-10th
Reel Recovery
Allenberry
- June 13th
Perry County Youth Field
Day, Duncannon
Sportsmen's Club
- June 20th
Heritage Day/Fly Casting
Competition, Allenberry
- June 21-26th
Rivers Conservation and
Youth Camp, Allenberry
- June 30- 1 July
Street to Streams
Allenberry
- Aug 21st
Chapter Picnic
Allenberry
- Sep 5th
Last Supper
Vince's Meadow

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.

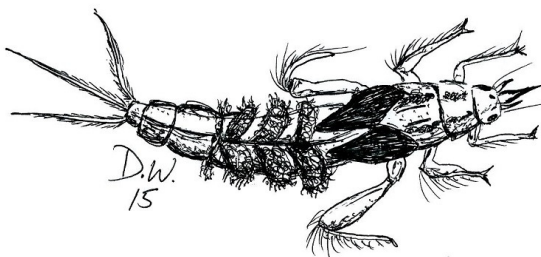
~ The primary distribution of *Tight Lines* is currently via Mail Chimp email system. In the meantime, I'd encourage you to keep your info with TU National up-to-date. If needed, you can go to www.tu.org, click on "Member Login," and check your profile. If you have trouble logging in, or need help editing your profile, please call 1-800-834-2419. *Tight Lines* will be mailed by request only.

~ Fly of the Month: I'm in need of flies for this popular column. Email (to me) a jpg image of the fly and a separate word.doc with info on the fly, materials, and some tips on fishing the fly or tying it.
Dave W.

~ CVTU will be holding the 21st annual Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp on June 21-26, 2015, 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, 2015. 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. Sign-up sheets will be available at membership meetings, or contact **Clark Hall** at 697-4549 or email chall2636@verizon.net. Clark Hall

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, Justin Pittman

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Greetings everyone and Happy Spring! I hope everyone has been getting out to their favorite fishing hole(s) since Opening Day. April was a good month and it appears that some of the hatches are starting off a little behind this year due to the colder weather later into spring. Our Chapter spent most of April finalizing a few of the upcoming projects that will be completed on the Yellow Breeches and also went over the outcomes of the Limestoner Banquet. I would like to personally thank everyone ahead of time who volunteers or helps in any way with the many upcoming projects and events in June.

May is always a very busy month for us. We will be planning for the many events that we have scheduled for the month of June. We start out the month with a member's fishing trip that will be held on June 6, 2015. The second week we will be hosting Reel Recovery at the Allenberry Playhouse on June 9th and 10th, 2015. This is a great event and we are currently in need of ghillies for this event. The third week begins the Rivers Conservation and Youth Camp starting on June 21, 2015 at the Allenberry and ends on June 26, 2015. Lastly, we finish out the month with the Cumberland County Street to Streams program on June 29th and 30th, 2015 from 12:00 -6:00. If you are interested in helping with any of the above events please give me a call or send me an email.

It has been really good seeing a lot of new faces at the members' meetings on the third Wednesday of each month. We've had some great presenters so far this year and a lot of good presenters are still to come. Remember, we are at the Allenberry Resort Inn and Playhouse for our membership meetings again, so please come out and join us and check out the Fly Fishing Museum displays while you are there as well.

If you are getting tired of seeing the same people at your favorite fishing hole lately, this is just a reminder not to forget about the upcoming CVTU fishing trips. They are a lot of fun and will also give you an opportunity to meet members or get to know some of the members better. You can get details about the trips and all upcoming events on our webpage. Biff Healy and David Stone will be happy to fill you in on all of the details for the trips if you are interested. Don't forget to check our calendar of events on the website so you can see all the events that we are holding and also events that are being held around the area.

I look forward to seeing everyone over the next few weeks at the meetings, on the water, or during one of our projects. I hope everyone is able to get some fishing in and enjoys their time with family. Lastly, as always, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to give me a call or e-mail me at flyfishing80@gmail.com

Tight Lines!

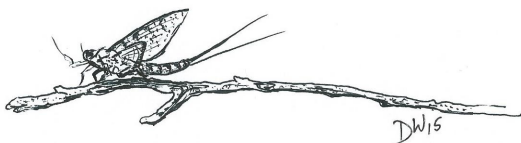
Justin

Casting & Tying Competition By Tom Miller

The Cumberland Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited will be hosting its Annual Mid Atlantic Fly Casting & Fly Tying Championships on June 20th, 2015 at Allenberry Resort in Boiling Springs, PA. The Pennsylvania Fly Fishing Museum will host the competitions in conjunction with its 13th Annual Heritage Day Celebration. The Heritage Day event is a full day of celebrating the 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

The fly tying competition is open to all with categories for Men, Women and Youth along with an Open Division. Competitors are asked to submit sample flies with their entry and will be judged by the flies they tie on the day of the contest. Full details and contest rules will be available on CVTU's website at www.pacvtu.org. There is no fee to enter any of the amateur classes while the Open Division entry fee is \$25. Open Division entrants will be competing for cash prizes while the winning juniors, amateur women and men will be awarded with merchandise prizes and plaques.

Along with the fly tying contest, CVTU in association with the Chesapeake Council of the International Federation of Fly Fishers, will also host a 5-weight fly casting competition. This contest is also open to all with categories for men, women and youth along with an Open Division for more experienced guides, instructors and professionals. Competitors will be challenged by both accuracy and distance tasks with winners determined by the highest combined score. All winning competitors will receive plaques along with merchandise prizes. The entrance fee is \$25 for pre-registration, postmarked by June 12, 2015, or you can sign up the day of the event for \$30. Complete rules and registration forms will also be available on CVTU's website: www.pacvtu.org.



Bucket Raffle at Membership Meetings By Ken Palmer

After our April meeting we will be in need of some items to serve as donations for bucket raffles at our regular membership meetings. As you travel around and shop and look through your tackle and tying materials, try to remember CVTU. We are trying to offer 6 QUALITY items at each meeting to increase the proceeds of the bucket raffles. These raffles help to offset the speaker costs and refreshments etc. We will continue to purchase items out of the proceeds but donations are obviously accepted. An extra box of hooks or a package or spool of leader is a great item. Maybe a dozen flies. Thanks for your support and just bring your items to the meeting and give them to me or give me a call and I'll arrange to meet with you to get the item if you cannot attend the meeting.

Clearances for CVTU Youth Volunteers By John Leonard

If you were not at April's membership meeting and you volunteer at CVTU's youth activities, THIS IS IMPORTANT. Last year our legislature passed the Child Protection Act. This new law means that after July 1, 2015, youth volunteers for CVTU will be required to have current PA State Police Criminal Record Check and PA Child Abuse History Clearance records on file with CVTU's Treasurer. They need to be renewed every three years and you will be notified by our Treasurer when it's time to renew. If you do not have these clearances after 7/1/15, you will NOT be allowed to participate at the youth activity.

Getting the clearances is not difficult. Your Board wants to make it as easy as possible for you to get your clearances with **no cost to you.** The first step is getting the PA State Police Criminal Record Check. Rather than mailing in this form, go online to <https://epatch.state.pa.us>. Click on "Submit a New Record Check" and follow the instructions. You will need a credit card for the \$10.00 charge to get your record. **Get an electronic receipt for the charge.** After several days, your record will be e-mailed back to you. Save the e-mail and print copies for your file. **A copy of the State Police Criminal Record Check must be sent in with your PA Child Abuse History Clearance application.** Make copies of the report and keep the original at home.

The Child Abuse History Clearance can be filled out online by going to http://www.dhs.state.pa.us/cs/groups/webcontent/documents/form/s_001762.pdf.

Complete the Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance form, print it, and bring it to May or June's membership meeting along with the PA State Police Criminal Record Check and your electronic receipt you received by e-mail. Board members will be at May and June's membership meeting at 6:00 PM to help you complete your forms, if needed, and to reimburse you for your State Police report. They will take your completed Child Abuse History form and your State Police record, add a \$10 money order we have purchased, and mail the two forms in for you. In 2-3 weeks, the Child Abuse record will be mailed back to you. Keep the original and make a copy. Give a copy of BOTH your State Police record and Child Abuse record to Jeb Betar, our Treasurer, at the next membership meeting.

We appreciate your understanding regarding this new law and the changes we are required to make with our youth volunteers at CVTU. Most importantly, we appreciate those that help at our youth activities...helping to introduce future Trout Unlimited members to cold-water conservation and to the sport of fly fishing.

If you have any questions regarding youth clearances, please call John Leonard (717-512-4620) or e-mail (johnleonard222@gmail.com).

Delayed Harvest Proposal Dropped

By Dave Weaver

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission recently dropped their proposal to change the rules in DHALO areas. This proposal would have allowed use of bait and earlier harvest. Evidently, comments were heavily opposed to the suggested changes so the agency dropped the proposal.

Fishing Report

By Biff Healy

Three CVTU Chapter members and a TU'er from Pittsburgh made the trip to Holly River State Park, Hacker Valley, WV on April 17 to 20th, with the goal of pursuing trout. The weather was acceptable, most of the time. The accommodations good, and the company terrific. The fishing was better for the "youngsters" who were agile enough to get down (and back up!) the steep hills along the creeks. The rest enjoyed the casting practice, albeit in a beautiful setting. Some excellent libations

helped relieve the stress of the fishless times, as did the plentiful, well prepared food. Generally a great chapter outing.



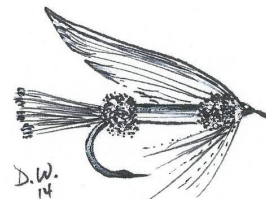
Photo Courtesy B. Healy

Trout in the Classroom Update

By Biff Healy

On Monday and Tuesday April 27,28, the Yellow Breeches Education Center at Frankford Celebrated the culmination of a years work raising Brook Trout from egg to fingerling , with the release of over 200 healthy Brookies in the Big Spring Creek. The teacher in charge, Jennifer Tynan said that it was a bittersweet moment for all as they had become attached to seeing their charges on a daily basis. The trout were on the average over three inches and were showing the brook trout's colors with the white on the leading edge of the fins being very evident. They are now working on hatching some "hackle quality" chicks from eggs.

The release of the trout was followed by some casting lessons at a local pond with knot tying lessons before the boys attacked the local population of sunfish with flies from the TIC coordinator, and rods from the CVTU chapter. Several sunnies fell to the efforts of the novices, enough to keep all occupied for several hours. Thanks to Chet Hagenbarth for his help at this outing. Y.B.E.C. is a first year participant in Trout in the Classroom



Fly of the Month Damselfly By Alan Howe

My first several trips to the "ditch" on Big Spring Creek ended as they probably should have--fishless. I had been told this stretch was difficult, so I held true to the standard practice of small flies on long, slender leaders with high hopes. Nothing doing. The only hit I had in those visits was on an unattended soft hackle dangling at the end of line while I chatted with a fellow angler. Of course, I missed that. Eventually, I found a rather different solution.

I sample benthic macroinvertebrates for Arlington County in northern Virginia. A recent change in sampling protocol turned up previously unseen hordes of damselfly larvae. We went from none to scores. Each sample included specimens in colors of dark amber, dark olive, brown, gray, and black. Sizes ranged from 1/4 of an inch to 1 1/2 inches in some quarters to 3/4 to 2 inches in later samples. The thing was, I did not see nearly as many adult damsels as my sampling would lead me to expect. I see an occasional adult damselfly at the ditch. Maybe there are hordes there, too, I wondered.

Having handled these bugs up close, it did not take long to devise a pattern to test. I selected the largest hook size I wanted to cast on a four weight and got busy. In three successive trips to the ditch spaced two weeks apart, I caught my first fish--a seven-inch brookie--and my second--a seventeen-inch rainbow--on my first visit, two more brookies on the second, and caught one brookie and lost another on the third. I call that success.

Damselflies are often mistaken for minnows. They are vigorous swimmers. A down and across cast, taking up and then giving slack allows the fly to swim and drift alternately. The trout approve.

Hook: Mustad 3906B #6 (this is a 2x-long, heavy hook)

Tail: Olive ostrich herl (I double this over so the tails stay spread, tying in two loops to represent the three tails of the natural.)

Body: Olive embroidery thread (This darkens some when wet. I separate out two batches of two strands each. I take the first off the back of the hook at mid shank and twist it into a rope, grabbing with hackle pliers so it does not untwist. Then I wrap forward almost to the eye. I do the same with the second pair of strands coming from the tails all the way forward. You can see that they imitates fairly well the segmented body of the natural.)

Wing case: Pheasant tail fibers (I take the thread back over the body to tie these and the hackle in.)

Hackle: Olive India Hen (I cut the fibers off one side, so the legs are not too dense. I found stripping them off weakens the stem. Then I cut the hackle off the top, again so there are not too many fibers. The natural has only six legs, after all). Bring the pheasant tail fibers forward, tie them down, and whip finish and cement.

I do not weight this fly or any of my nymphs. It gets down where it needs to be if you let it. Again, the naturals can be found in different colors and sizes simultaneously, so choose a size and color that appeals to you and then see if the trout approve. Feel free to complain to me if they don't!



Conococheague Dedication By Dave Weaver

A very nice ceremony was recently had to dedicate the Conococheague restoration project in Adams County during which a nice plaque was placed. On the left is State Senator Rich Alloway with PFBC Commissioner Warren Elliot.



Photo Courtesy Dave Swope

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A Monthly Publication

Cumberland Valley TU
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