



TIGHT LINES

www.pacvtu.org



Volume 20 Issue 1

Cumberland Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited

January 2015

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

Trout in the Classroom Expands Program

By C. "Biff" Healy, CVTU TIC Coordinator

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With the start of the Trout in the Classroom (TIC) program at the Yellow Breeches Education Center at the Frankford School at Newville, the Cumberland Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited now has seven schools reaching out to a generation of our youth about the importance of cold water habitat. Ms. Jen Tynan is the teacher in charge of the program and the students are into the program with relish, especially with the arrival of the eggs and the ensuing development into alevins. They had all seen the TU video *The Way of the Trout* and visited the hatchery at Huntsdale prior to the arrival of the eggs. A fly tying demonstration is planned for later in the school year as a way to lighten up some dreary winter days. *The Way of the Trout* was also shown to 92 students in Mrs. Amy Steffee's classes at Wilson Middle School on October 21st. The video was accompanied by a 15 minute talk about the importance of water quality to the three species of trout that inhabit local streams.

Mechanicsburg High School is also entertaining the idea of starting the TIC program there at the 9-11th grade level. Mr. Ben Shea was most enthusiastic about bringing TIC on board, especially with the financial support of CVTU in acquiring the necessary equipment. Approval is expected with the goal of starting in the 2015. The schools currently enrolled in TIC by CVTU are: Carlisle HS in Carlisle, Cedar Cliff HS in Camp Hill, New Cumberland MS in New Cumberland, Northern York MS in Dillsburg, Trinity HS in Camp Hill, Wilson MS in Carlisle, and Yellow Breeches Education Center in Newville. When Mechanicsburg HS comes on board, we will be reaching out to eight schools in our area of influence. We would like to see the program restart at Cumberland Valley MS and HS. Then we should reach out to Boiling Springs HS and Big Spring Schools. The need for our youth to learn and appreciate the importance of good water quality for not only the trout but the fisherman has never been greater.

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

**47
Members and
Guests Attended
the Nov. Member's
Meeting**

Our January meeting speaker will be Area Fisheries Manager, Kris Kuhn of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, who will update the status of the fishery on Big Spring. Kris may also offer insights into other PFBC goings on, prior to the upcoming meetings of the Commissioners. We'll also have as our guest Orvis Regional Business Manager Doug Bear who will be there to present several of Orvis' hottest new products for 2015. Hope to see you there.
Tom Baltz

Quick Bites and Short Strikes

Dave Weaver - Editor

Calendar of Events

2015

- January 15th
Deadline for Limestoner
Donations
- January 21st
Member's Meeting
Allenberry,
Meadow Lodge
Boiling Springs
- January 22nd
Chapter Breakfast
Kimberly's Café, Carlisle
- January 22nd
Fly Tying Classes Begin
Boiling Springs HS,
Boiling Springs
- March 20th
Limestoner Banquet
Park Inn, Mechanicsburg
- March 27-28th
PA Fly Fishing Museum
Open House, Allenberry
Boiling Springs
- April 4th
Opening Day Trout Season
- April 11th
Chapter Fishing Trip,
Clarks/Stoney Creeks
- May 1-3rd
Chapter Trip,
Little Juniata
- June 16th
Street to Streams,
Allenberry
- June 20th
Heritage Day/Fly Casting
Competition, Allenberry
- June 21-26th
Rivers Conservation and
Youth Camp, Allenberry
Boiling Springs
- 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. For those who do not have email, hard copies of *Tight Lines* may be picked up at Yellow Breeches Outfitters around the 1st week of each month, except for the months of August and December. *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.
Thanks, Dave W.

~ Don't forget, as we move into the colder months of the year, that the chapter conducts monthly breakfast gatherings in Carlisle. You're welcome to join. These used to be known as a gathering of senior citizens but, truthfully, any chapter member is welcome. Dave W.

~ Winter CVTU Board meetings will be at the Holly Inn as we have been in past years. Board members should check in several days ahead of time. The memorial plaques at Vince's Meadow will be repaired and replaced. 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. Thanks, Clark

CVTU Membership is 585!

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.

Tight Lines



President's Message

From the President, Justin Pittman

Cumberland Valley Chapter Officers and Directors (term)

President

Justin Pittman, (14)

flyfishing80@gmail.com
243-7642

Vice President

John Leonard, (14)

johnleonard222@gmail.com
697-6188

Secretary

Ken Palmer, (15)

kpalmer2@embarqmail.com
249-8819

Treasurer

Jeb Betar (16)

jebbetar25@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Dave Weaver

338-1952

dweavflyart@yahoo.com

Webmaster

Bill Strockbine, (15)

bstrockbine@verizon.net
766-0154

Directors

Tom Miller (16)

tomimcmillar@comcast.net

Neil Sunday (16)

neilsunday@aol.com

Don Albright, (14)

dalbr3447@aol.com

776-5047

Tom Baltz, (14)

tbaltz328@comcast.net

486-7438

Clark Hall, (14)

chall2636@verizon.net

697-4549

Chet Hagenbarth, (15)

kcjk@embarqmail.com

218-0283

Matt Perry, (15)

matt1perry1@gmail.com

508-783-5285

David Stone

dstone@stonelaw.net

774-7435

Biff Healy, (16)

biffer1966@hotmail.com

254-7386

It is hard to believe that yet another year has passed - 2014 was another great year for the Cumberland Valley Trout Unlimited chapter. With all of our accomplishments, we now have to start thinking about 2015 and how we can continue to improve as a chapter. The first three months of 2015 are busy, as they are every year, and are very important for us. Our biggest fundraiser occurs on March 20, 2015. The Limestoner is our largest fundraiser of the year and provides the funding for almost everything we do as a Chapter. We have a lot of great things planned for this year, so it is very important that we make the banquet as successful as possible. If you are unable to attend the Limestoner Banquet, please consider buying the raffle tickets and sending them back. As stated above, the Limestoner supports everything that our local chapter does; all of the stream access and conservation work, our monthly meetings, and many of our fishing camps throughout the year.

As chapter president, four years ago I set some personal goals for myself, and the chapter and I want to continue to focus on those goals. One of those goals was to continue to improve on the attendance at our monthly meetings and also to continue to get new faces to our projects and other events. I feel these are still very important goals and I feel our chapter has done a great job with both of them. It is my hope that we can continue to focus on bringing new faces and ideas to our chapter and our board.

I would also like to address some of the work that our committees and board have already begun. Our Stream Access and Conservation Committee, headed by Don Albright, is a very busy committee. We submitted a grant through Trout Unlimited National to complete another project on the Yellow Breeches downstream of Route 34. We have also been involved with a proposed project on Trindle Springs with DEP and the Fish and Boat Commission. There are many Fish and Boat Commission policy changes that will be on the agenda in Harrisburg at the agency's January meeting. Myself, and others from CVTU, will be present to address some of our concerns. If you have any questions about the Fish and Boat's upcoming meeting, please feel free to contact me. As always the activities committee, headed by Biff Healey and David Stone, have a very busy year planned for us. We are providing gillies for Reel Recovery, the Youth Conservation Camp, Project Healing Waters, and the Street to Streams program. Biff and David have also been working very hard to determine what chapter fishing trips the chapter will be taking part in this year. I cannot thank the current board enough for their continued hard work and dedication to the chapter. I would also like to thank all of the members who continue to give back to our chapter in many different ways.

Lastly, I understand that we are all busy and have a lot going on. However, we have all joined Trout Unlimited because we have an interest in preserving our cold-water resources for our children, our grandchildren, and ourselves. As stated before if you identify areas that you feel our Chapter could improve or just would like more information about what we are doing please don't hesitate to give me a call or send me an e-mail. I hope all of you had a great holiday season and I look forward to seeing you in 2015. As always, if you have any comments or concerns, feel free to call 717-360-8823 or email flyfishing80@gmail.com.

Tight Lines!

Justin

CASTING ABOUT

Jim Rainey

BACK TO BASICS: 19TH Century American angling author George Washington Bethune was writing about flies and fly tiers when he commented that vituperative debates between the proponents of *exact imitations* versus *suggestive patterns* were “mad with too much learning.” But Bethune easily could have been describing arguments between casting junkies. I once heard a group of certified casting instructors debate for hours the differences between “stopping the stroke” and “**crisply** stopping the stroke.” As we approach a new fishing season, perhaps we would do well to go back and review the basics.

What is fly casting? It is a process of storing energy in the rod by bending it against the inertia and weight of the fly line, and then allowing the rod to transfer that “loaded” energy to the line and leader by crisply stopping the rod and permitting it to straighten, thereby creating an energized loop that rolls the line and leader toward the target.

What immutable principles must the caster satisfy in order to allow this process to work properly?

~We must maintain constant line tension on the rod tip. A slack line at any point in the casting stroke will eliminate that constant tension.

~Accelerate your casting stroke to a sudden stop. Acceleration is not speed; rather, it is the rate at which the velocity of a moving object increases over time and distance.

~Think slow to fast. Then stop! Don't decelerate; don't slow down. Stand on your brakes!

~The longer the stroke, the easier the cast. It's all a function of leverage. Longer strokes allow you more time and distance to accelerate to a faster velocity before stopping. Longer strokes are easier on the body. Let the rod work for you.

~Tip travel will determine where your line will go. Downward, upward, right, left, straight, or curved. Fly lines will follow the path the rod tip was traveling before you execute your stop.

If you satisfy all these principles, you are well on the way to executing effective and efficient casts. But there are certain essential moves in the cast that will determine how efficiently and effectively.

cast; weight of rod and line; rod composition and action; type of cast.

~Pause at end of forward and backward strokes: to allow your line to completely roll out.

Casting stroke increases as amount of line past your rod tip increases: long cast-long stroke, short cast-short stroke.

~Tip path: 180 degree path in the horizontal plane, neither convex nor concave; straight path to target in the vertical plane (unless throwing a curved cast).

~Eliminate or minimize slack.

Join me at 6:00 PM prior to our January meeting to view a casting DVD.

LIMESTONER 2015

Call for Auction and Raffle Items

By Jim Rainey

As members know, the Limestoner Banquet (March 20, 2015) is CVTU's most important fundraising event. We simply would not have the funds to complete our important conservation and education projects without the donations we raise

at the Limestoner. Having a good selection of donated raffle and auction items is key to our fundraising success. We need members' help in making personal donations and in soliciting donations in the following categories: trips, equipment, artwork, flies, restaurant and entertainment gift certificates, jewelry, and craft items. All donations are welcome. In order for us to do a better job in marketing our Limestoner 2015 Raffle and Auction items, it is critical that we know **no later than January 15, 2015**, those items that you are able to solicit from other donors or donate yourselves. We don't actually need the items until closer to the banquet, but we do need to know by January 15 what we'll have to auction and raffle off. Please call me or email at 249-5398 or 2rainey@comcast.net and let me know what you are able to obtain. Thanks for your support. Jim.

Cabin Fever Breakfast at Kim's Cafe

By Ken Palmer

Last month we began to hold our Breakfast get together for anyone who is interested. We meet on the **THIRD THURSDAY** of each month. That is the Thursday after the membership meeting on Wednesday. We will not meet in December. We meet at Kimberly's Cafe on West High Street in Carlisle. Kim's is just across the street from Dickinson College. Meeting time is 8:00am. This used to be the Senior Breakfast but since many of

us are you know, Seniors, anyone is welcome to help us visit with each other. We will stop Meeting in May or June as this is the time that most of us will be called upon to gillie and volunteer for our chapter projects and there will be some fishing of course. See you there. Look for this on the CVTU calendar

Fly of the Month **Al's Rat** **By Ken Okorn**

Of the many midge patterns available, Al's Rat is one of the easiest to tie. It was originated by the late Al Miller, a fly tier and fly fisherman who was well known on the Little Lehigh Creek. (There is a monument to Al near the Little Lehigh Fly Shop, similar to the ones in Vince's Meadow.) I had the opportunity to discuss this fly with him some years ago. I fished the original Al's Rat successfully for many years, but that didn't keep me from experimenting with many variations of the above recipe. I changed thread type, thread color, added beads, ribbed the body, tried curved shank hooks, etc. None of these worked as well as the original. When I mentioned this, he said that the fly is so simple that everyone thinks that they can improve on it. To his knowledge, no one has come up with a better version. He emphasized that the brown monocord and muskrat belly fur were essential to the success of the fly. The monocord has a shiny appearance and does not change color when wet. Fur from aquatic animals like muskrats appears different when wet, compared to fur from critters that don't make a habit of swimming. I have fished this fly successfully on many stream where midges are on the menu. That includes our Cumberland Valley streams, other Pennsylvania limestoners, the South Holston River in Tennessee, the Davidson River in western North Carolina, and several Wyoming rivers. I have fished it deep dropped off a weighted nymph, on a dry-dropper rig, and in the surface film with a greased tippet. All of these methods work under the right conditions.

Hook: Any #18 – #24 straight shank hook

Thread: Brown Monocord

Collar: Muskrat belly fur

Head: Tying thread

~Start the thread behind the hook eye and wrap back to the bend.

~Wrap the thread forward, building a slight taper towards the front.

~Dub a small amount of muskrat fur on to the

~Finish the head.

thread and wrap the collar, leaving room behind the hook eye for the head.



Federation of Fly Fishers' Event **By Jim Rainey**

Bob Abraham Casting Club of the International Federation of Fly Fishers will hold their Sixth Annual Fly Caster's Rendezvous from 9:00 AM To 4:30 PM, 28 March 2015 at River-Bottom Park in Williamsport, Maryland. This event will include: Beginners Learn to fly cast - equipment provided, experienced casters improve your fly casting as well as spey casting instruction. There will also be lessons on fishing from a Kayak with on-water instruction from an American Canoe Association Certified Instructor. Pre-registration required. Contact rstouf@mail.com. Dress for the weather - outdoors, rain or shine. Lunch Available.

Conococheague Update **By Dave Swope, ACTU**

I am writing to inform you on completion of the Conococheague Creek Trout Habitat Enhancement as part of the South Mountain Mini-Grant program which has been approved for the final payment in the next few weeks. We have since also completed the "Back the Brookie Grant" from State TU. All partners should be pleased with our stream restoration efforts and the planting of the trees and shrubs necessary for completion of the development of the South Mountain landscape. The large limestone shot-rock will be moved to its final designation soon. After the selected streamside location, the signage will be installed to complete the final portion of Phase 2. Again, thank you for your financial and volunteer support with a conservation focus of the restoration of this precious portion of stream for the future of native brook trout in Adams County. May our volunteer efforts cross pass again in the near future.

Winter Fly Tying Classes By Alan Stansbury

CVTU will again offer winter Fly Tying Classes. We will be conducting both beginner and intermediate/advanced sessions simultaneously. Beginners will learn to tie 8 flies that will progressively build the skills needed to learn fly tying and will also then be armed with effective flies for the upcoming trout season. Intermediate/advanced tiers will participate in a separate workshop setting where CVTU and other guest tiers will demonstrate some of their favorite patterns and techniques.

The course will be offered in conjunction with the South Middleton Township Parks & Recreation Department and will be held at the Boiling Springs High School. The program will begin on Thursday, January 22, 2015, and will meet on Thursday evenings from 7-9 PM for 8 sessions, with the last session on March 12.

Each class will be limited to 20 students, advanced registration will be required, and a nominal fee will be charged for the course. The fee is \$11 for South Middleton Township residents and \$14 for non-residents if you register prior to January 9th, 2015. After January 8th, the cost increases to \$21 and \$24 respectively. In addition, for beginning tiers, a fly tying material and hook kit and instructional materials will be provided for the 8 patterns that will be taught.

A list of patterns and required materials will be provided in advance for intermediate/advanced tiers that will identify patterns to be demonstrated and any materials that will be supplied. Tiers enrolled in these sessions will be responsible for obtaining any special materials that are not provided.

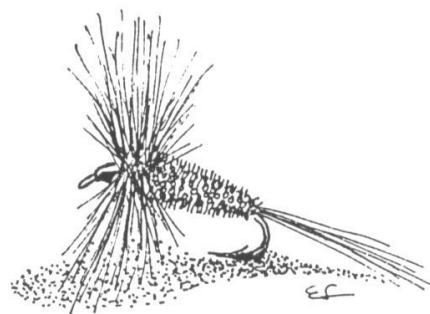
All individuals and families are welcome, and registration will begin the week of December 21st. Registration can be completed on-line through the "Parks and Recreation Online Program Registration" link via: <http://www.smiddleton.com> or by calling 717-258-4441.

This is an outstanding opportunity for a beginning fly tier to learn under the direction of experienced tiers and for experienced tiers to further improve their skills with the added benefit of curing some winter cabin fever and stocking their fly boxes for the upcoming season!

For further information, email Alan Stansbury at alandebe@embarqmail.com or call 245-9117.

The 2015 Limestone—Mark Your Calendar! By Matt Perry

CVTU's annual conservation and awards banquet, *The Limestone*, is fast approaching. This year's event will be very special indeed, as we will be honoring a very important gentleman – ED SHENK - who has devoted his life to preserving and protecting the precious limestone trout waters of the Cumberland Valley and to advancing the sport of fly fishing. In addition to being one of the most prominent fly anglers and inventive fly tiers the Cumberland Valley has produced, Ed is a co-founder of CVTU and was awarded the Charles K. Fox "Rising Trout" award in 1994 for his efforts to preserve and protect our trout waters. Ed received the singular honor of being inducted into the Catskill Fly Fishing Center & Museum Hall of Fame, recognizing him as a fly fisher and fly tier of national stature. Please come and join us in honoring Ed and thanking him for a lifetime spent promoting and protecting the unique waters of the Cumberland Valley. **Mark your calendars and make sure you are able to join us Friday, March 20th at the Park Inn in Mechanicsburg.** Look for registration information soon on the CVTU website and Facebook page. Also, if you are interested in joining the Limestone committee or donating to The Limestone we could always use the help. This 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. 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 2015 Limestone!



TIGHT LINES

A Monthly Publication

Cumberland Valley TU

P.O. Box 520

Carlisle, Pa. 17013

www.pacvtu.org

Tight Lines



"Yikes! Looks like we've stumbled into bare country!"

Jan 2015