



TIGHT LINES

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Volume 21 Issue 8

Cumberland Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited

Sept. 2016

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

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39
Members and
Guests Attended
the July Meeting

Thinking Like a Watershed

By Dave Weaver

When you're traveling around the Cumberland Valley, do you ever wonder where you are? Well, sure, you've got GPS, or an old school map. Maybe you just know the area by heart. Well, as lovers of trout streams, we may also care to know where we are with respect to watersheds. Other folks may think in terms of townships or counties or school districts. We think in terms of trout streams. As the popular current commercial goes, "it's what we do." Oftentimes, when I'm driving up or down I81 or RT 174, I'm wondering what is the nearest stream? Where does it flow? It's easy to know if you're in the Breeches or Conodoguinet watershed, but what about being more specific? Everywhere you look out your car window, there are tiny creeks and drainage areas. Where do they go? Am I in the Mountain Creek watershed, or perhaps Old Town Run. Where I live in Adams County, we even have something of a big river divide in that about half the county flows into the Potomac and the other half the Susquehanna. The Cumberland Valley isn't quite so stark a demarcation, but it's fascinating to think about. At any given time, where are you with respect to first to third order streams and where do they flow? This is the first step toward a greater consciousness about storm water runoff, riparian zone impact, and potential point source pollution. It's also a natural way, for those of us who love streams, to consider the landscape around us. The stream I just drove over flows into this stream, and this stream into that stream....Call it "thinking like a watershed."

Membership Meeting:
Wednesday, Sept. 21st at 7PM
Monroe Township Fire Hall, Boiling Springs

Dusty Wissmath will present his program on Fly Fishing the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. There are details on fishing most of the major Yellowstone Area rivers-flies, times, and other information. This is a good introduction for anglers who are considering a trip west. Hopefully there will be an update on the recent disastrous recreational closure of the Yellowstone River watershed downstream of the park and speculation on what the future holds for the storied river.

Tom Baltz

Quick Bites and Short Strikes

Dave Weaver - Editor



Calendar of Events

2016

Sep 10th
Last Supper
Vince's Meadow
Carlisle

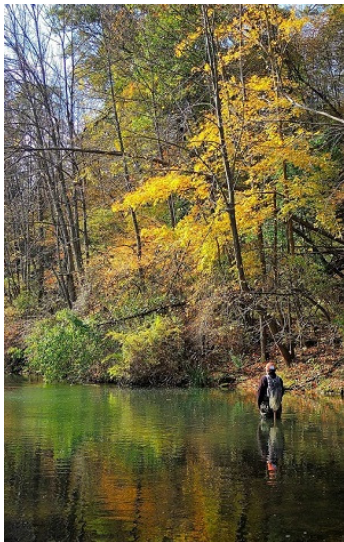
Sep 10th,
PATU Meeting
State College

Sep 21st
Chapter Meeting
Monroe Tsp. Fire Hall
Boiling Springs

Sep 22nd
Chapter Breakfast
Mama Spriggs Restaurant
Carlisle

Oct 29th
Chapter Trip
Spring Creek

Oct (Date TBD)
Chapter Trip
Little Juniata



Spring Creek. Photo Courtesy:
N. Sunday

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

~ CVTU has placed signs at our property at Trego's Meadow on upper Letort.
Dave W.

~ CVTU's website is undergoing some updates. Stay tuned.
Dave W.

~ The acquisition of the watercress farm property that is being led by the Central Pennsylvania Conservancy ran into a snag with respect to a grant that had been expected. This process is still playing out and the Conservancy expects to keep the process on track.

Dave W.

~ Chapter meetings will continue to be at the Monroe Township Fire Hall until further notice.

Dave W.

~ On September 5th, Allenberry will be closed for construction. Anglers can still fish that section, but will need to walk down from The Run parking lot. Please keep to the stream and avoid the meadow and pavilion area for now.

Dave W.

~ For more information on how to obtain your youth clearances and when you need them, please feel free to check the PA TU Council website. If any member has questions or wants to verify whether he or she has the required clearance, I can be reached at (571) -643-8101 or via email at jebbetar25@gmail.com.

Jeb Betar

~ Elections for your chapter board of directors are coming up during our membership meeting on Sept 21st. Nominations may be offered at the beginning of the meeting on the 21st. If you would like more information about being a board member, please call Tom Miller (717) 258-8265 or John Leonard (717) 512-4620.

Dave W.

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. **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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Boy, what a summer! I sure hope everybody was able to beat the heat as we endured some of the doggiest dog days that I can recently recall. It's been a tough one

at times finding adequately cold water to fish for those trouts, but we're awfully lucky to have some of the Pennsylvania's finest and most consistently cold flowing streams to take advantage of. I think we're all certainly blessed to be able to call the streams of the Cumberland Valley our home waters.

It was great to see the excellent turnout at this year's annual summer picnic! Our picnic is always a good time to catch up and relax as the summer winds down and we couldn't put it together without your help, this year especially with the change in venue to Letort Park. I can't thank John Leonard and Tom Baltz enough for all that they've done for this year's picnic, along with special thanks to Lori and Neil Sunday for tackling the always popular and growing "Bring Your Old Stuff Bucket Raffle." Of course thanks also go out to all those who contributed to the raffle, there were lots of great items on the tables this year. I'd also like to send a note of thanks out to Dusty and Jake from TCO for helping run the chapter casting contest, always a fun challenge.

It's also been a tradition at the picnic to recognize members of our chapter who have gone above and beyond in their efforts and this year Jeb Betar was honored with a President's Pin for all that he's done for the chapter. Jeb is our sitting treasurer and has done a remarkable job over the past few years of keeping our finances on track along with always stepping up to represent the chapter at our public outreach events. Jeb is also somehow always available to help gillie at our camps and weekend events no matter the group we're working with. I don't know how he does it. Thank you Jeb.

Even though the fishing may have slowed down a bit with the summer heat, Don Albright and his F.I.T.S. crew have been awfully busy these past months. We were able to complete a long awaited project on the Yellow Breeches in the vicinity of the Craighead House this past month. With Gleim Environmental providing the heavy machinery and operators, Don and his crew installed multiple structures to help stabilize a stretch of severely eroding bank as well as prevent future degradation and the associated sediment loads that would end up in the stream. The structures look great and I'm really looking forward to fishing that stretch once things settle out a bit this fall, nice work everybody!

Moving forward, our annual elections for the Board of Directors will be held at the September meeting and we'll be taking nominations from the floor if you're interested. Clark Hall, Tom Baltz and John Leonard make up our nominating committee this year, so if you're interested now or maybe thinking about it in the future, please reach out to us and we'll be happy to answer any questions you might have. Otherwise, please keep your eyes out for any stream issues or concerns you might run across while out and about and let us know about them. We're now entering into our planning phase for 2017, so if you have an idea for a potential project or know of something that might need immediate attention, please don't hesitate to let us know as we begin to fill in the blanks. As always, please give me a call at 717-258-8265 or drop me a note at tomimcmillar@comcast.net if you have any concerns or questions. Thank you, and I hope to see you out on the water.

Tight Lines,
Tom

Cold Water/Hot Topics By David Stone

Susquehanna Update: Pa's Department of Environmental Protection once again has declined to list the Susquehanna River as impaired. DEP continues to acknowledge the river's health problem but by not recommending that the river be listed as "impaired", no cleanup timetable is imposed and no federal dollars will likely be designated to assist in any cleanup. John Arway, the Executive Director of the Fish and Boat Commission, is disappointed in the decision but continues to push for the impairment designation. See link to DEP press release for details:

<http://www.ahs.dep.pa.gov/NewsRoomPublic/articleviewer.aspx?id=21020&typeid=1>

Fish and Boat Commission Wild Trout Designations and Water Re-designation: The comment period is open with regard to removal of the designation of Laurel Lake as "stocked trout water open to year-round fishing." See change and comment opportunity here: <http://fishandboat.com/reg398.htm> Also, the Commission is considering additions to Class A Wild Trout Waters which includes a stream in Perry County. See the same link as above.

Election Do's and Don'ts: With the upcoming presidential election, we remind CVTU members that TU enjoys a tax-free status under IRS rules and as such we as an organization may not participate in any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. While we recognize and, in fact, encourage CVTU members to participate in the election and campaign process, please do so individually and refrain from giving the appearance that CVTU in some way endorses or opposes any particular candidate.

Spring Creek Trip By Neil Sunday

Join CVTU on October 29 for a little crisp, fall fishing at Spring Creek. We'll depart the Harrisburg Area around 7:00am on Saturday, and fish from 9:30 until 4:00 or so before returning home. Complimentary lunch and drinks will be provided by Neil & Lori Sunday.

Please RSVP to Neil at: neilsunday@gmail.com

Ed Shenk Wins Award By PA Fish and Boat Commission

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) presented legendary fly tyer, fly fisher and author Ed Shenk, of Carlisle, PA, with its Pennsylvania Angler and Boater Confluence Award at its July 2016 Quarterly Commission meeting in Harrisburg.

Shenk, long associated with the Letort Spring Run, has written 62 articles for publications such as the *Pennsylvania Angler and Boater*, *Sports Afield*, *Field and Stream*, *Fly Fisher*, *Fly Fisherman*, *Fly Fishing Heritage*, *Fly rod and Reel*, *American Angler*, *Fly Tyer* and the *Mid-Atlantic Fly Fishing Guide*. He also authored the book, *Fly Rod Trouting* in 1989 as well as a VHS video in 2000 and released as a DVD in 2013 titled, "Ed Shenk, Master of the Letort." He also has made many personal fly fishing instructional appearances including at the Fly Fishing Shows. Shenk has been inducted into both the Catskill International Fly Fishing Hall of Fame and the Pennsylvania Fly Fishing Museum Hall of Fame. He also served as the first President of the Cumberland Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited sharing the position with well known angling author the late Jim Bashline.

Shenk was nominated for the award by PFBC District 4 Commissioner and professional outdoor writer Lenny Lichvar, who also generated the concept for the award several years ago. Previous winners of the award include fly fishing author Charlie Meck, who was also nominated by Lichvar, and long time Pennsylvania outdoor writers Bob and Linda Steiner.



Shenk with Lichvar. Photo Courtesy: PFBC

The 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 10th at 5:00 PM in Vince's Meadow and it is open to everyone – 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 \$5 per person... additional donations are graciously accepted. Neil and Lori Sunday will be hosting this year's event which happens to fall on the same day as the PATU Chapter meeting in State College. This year's main course will be chicken parmesan – either in a roll or on a plate – along with salads, dessert, and beverages.

If you plan on attending, send an e-mail to Neil and Lori - neilsunday@gmail.com and let them know you're coming.

Another tradition of the evening is the traveling rod. Last year's rod winner, Tom Miller, will be at the state meeting so he'll have to tell the rod's story at a membership meeting. One person will be chosen at random to have the rod until the 2017 Last Supper. The tradition continues, be a part of it!

Chapter Activities for 2017

By Biff Healy

It's time to start thinking about all the great activities you would like to enjoy again, or new challenges that get your casting arm twitching. We had a great year in 2016 with several new venues, and the old standby's still made getting the waders on a worthy labor. The plethora of trips has one caveat: We need to have leaders! This doesn't mean that you have to be the guide. Just coordinate a date, place, and cost, how many people can be accommodated, and don't be afraid to ask for help.

Please email Biff Healy or Dave Stone with your favorites, new ideas, and if you would be willing to lead. "It ain't hard," and can actually be fun. We would like to have a solid list of activities before the November meeting, so that you have the menu to select from as soon as

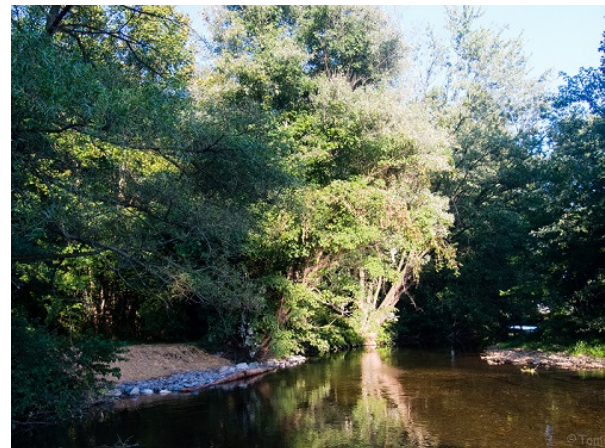
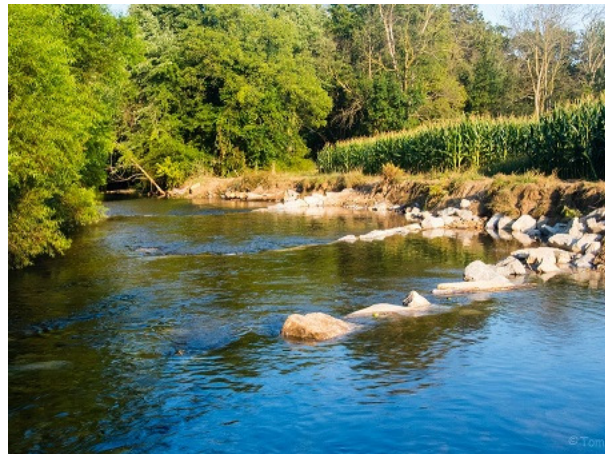
possible.

Biff: biffer1966@hotmail.com; Dave: dstone@stonelaw.net

Cramer Project

By Dave Weaver

In late August, your chapter completed the Yellow Breeches work project on the Cramer property in South Middleton Township. This stream section is located at 330 Old York Road (RT 174) near the intersection with Zion Road. As usual, kudos are due to Don Albright and the FITS crew. Gleim Environmental did the heavy machinery work. The stream project included mud sills and wing walls. These structures improve fish habitat while reducing erosion and sedimentation.



Photos courtesy: Tom Miller



Susquehanna Impairment

By Dave Weaver

The following comes courtesy of Dick Martin of the Forest Coalition:

The River needs your help. The past five DEP Secretaries have said "we will follow science for this decision." Sadly, science usually takes a back seat when lobbyists and politicians get involved. Based on solid evidence, scientists have identified the causes of the drastic decline in smallmouth bass on the Susquehanna River as most likely EDC's (Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals) and herbicides - along with other stressors. The use of herbicides, such as Roundup, have increased 250X in the past 40 years. The World Health Organization found that this herbicide is probably carcinogenic to humans and it is banned in a number of countries, but not the USA. Comment now to DEP.

The PFBC's John Arway has explained the details at http://www.fish.state.pa.us/images/people/exec_dir/straight_talk/2016_09_10_smb.pdf Please read that, then send your comments to ecomments@pa.gov

or by USPS to :

DEP Office of Policy RCSOB
P.O. BOX 2063 Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063
Comment deadline is Sept. 12th.

Picnic Recap

By Dave Weaver

A great time was had at our annual chapter picnic, which was held recently at Letort Park in Carlisle. A pig was roasted, raffle prizes were offered, and a casting competition was organized. In other words, a great time was had. Don't forget our upcoming Last Supper this month. Kudos to Jeb Betar for his much deserved recognition, which was extended by President Miller. I even took some time to walk the creek a bit and was impressed with the number of trout I saw. This included some stockies, but mostly wild fish.



Picnic Photos Courtesy: D. Weaver

Fly of the Month JAA - "Just Another Ant"

By Tom Miller

When summertime rolls around and our reliable spring hatches have run their course, it's terrestrial season! And terrestrial season continues into the fall. My go-to terrestrial pattern year in and year out has always been a simple black ant. I've had some of the most amazing takes and rises to just plain good old black ants. I'm sure they must taste like Bon Bons to those trouts. I like to fish bigger ants unless working a particular sipper, so you'll mostly find #12s and 14s in my boxes. This is one of the variations. As pictured, it's tied with an orange wing, mostly for you and me, and not the fish. You can also tie it with a natural CDC puff for a more traditional "flying ant" look (or skip the wing, and squint more while fishing). I like the curved hook for the profile it presents in the film. It's also different and maybe something a bit quirky that that particular fish hasn't seen yet.

Tying this "JAA" is simple enough: work the proportions and start with a dubbed ball at the end of the bend of the hook, then just a thin waist of thread before tying in a single CDC puff for the wing at about the mid-point of the hook. I usually shoot for five wraps of hackle in front of the wing and then finish with another ball of dubbing at the head. Whip it and you're done. Good luck!

HOOK: Dai-Riki #135 Scud Hook
THREAD: Black
DUBBING: Black Muskrat
WING: "Sulphur Orange" CDC Puff
HACKLE: Black

