



# TIGHT LINES

[www.pacvtu.org](http://www.pacvtu.org)



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Cumberland Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited

Oct. 2016

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

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## Letort Gets Prepped For the Spawn

By Dave Weaver

Several members of Don Albright's sturdy FITS crew met up on a rainy Saturday morning to rake the spawning beds on upper Letort. These gravel sections were constructed years ago by Charlie Fox to provide better spawning habitat in a stream with a mostly marl bottom and a lot of vegetation. In addition to wild brown trout, white suckers spawn here as well. The raking process clears sediment from the gravel. Some invasive weeds were pulled too.



Photo Courtesy: D. Weaver

**Membership Meeting:  
Wednesday, Oct 19th at 7PM  
Monroe Township Fire Hall, Boiling Springs**

Our speaker for the membership meeting on October 19th is environmentalist, fly fisherman, and author, Tom Gilmore. Tom retired four years ago as President and CEO of the Audubon Society of New Jersey. Over his career he received numerous awards and recognitions for his conservation and environmental works. The last 45 years, Tom has fished all over the world in both fresh water and salt water. Tom's love for trout fishing led to his fourth book *East Coast Trophy Tailwaters*. He recently finished his latest book, *A Flyfisher's Guide to Pennsylvania*, the first guide written about PA's streams in nearly 20 years. The book is very complete with detailed maps, GPS coordinates, etc. Tom's program is based on his research and travel around PA.

John Leonard

**47  
Members and Guests  
Attended the Sept  
Meeting**

# Quick Bites and Short Strikes

Dave Weaver - Editor



## Calendar of Events

2016

Oct 19th

Chapter Meeting  
Monroe Tsp. Fire Hall  
Boiling Springs

Oct 20th

Chapter Breakfast  
Mama Spriggs Restaurant  
Carlisle

Oct 29th

Chapter Trip  
Spring Creek

Nov 12th

PA FF Museum Banquet  
Comfort Suites  
Carlisle

FEDERATION OF  
FLY FISHERS



Submission of articles and suggestions for this newsletter are encouraged and may be sent to [dweavflyart@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto: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

~ Chapter elections for officers were undertaken during the September meeting. David Stone, Neil Sunday, Justin Pittman, Tom Miller, and Jeb Betar were elected to additional terms on the board.

Dave W.

~ Our new chapter website will be launching soon. In fact, by the time you see this newsletter, it may already be up. We're in particular need of nice photography to showcase. Contact Justin Pittman for submission, or for more information.

Dave W.

~ Winter fly tying classes will resume in the upcoming months per chapter tradition. Stay tuned for more information.

Dave W.

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

Dave W.

~ The new bridge at Zion Road over Yellow Breeches will be built upstream of the old iron bridge. Work will begin soon.

Dave W.

~ Last month, Allenberry was closed for construction. At this point, it appears that the work will not be completed until springtime. 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.

## 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](http://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](http://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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"It was a dark and stormy night..." FINALLY! I think I can actually for once, open a letter with that and be factually correct. Thank goodness. It's been a wet, damp, dreary, cool autumn day here while I sit down to write this. And I couldn't be happier about it! We've really needed this change in the weather for the sake of our wild trouts. It's been tough to watch as a bunch of our local streams have really taken a hit with this long, hot and dry end of summer that we've experienced. I don't think I'm the only one to express concern for the effects this year's weather might have on our local wild trout populations. Fingers crossed that we see a much needed rebound in our stream levels so there's yet another strong class of wild trout to inhabit these wonderful streams.

And speaking of success of young trouts, I'd like to congratulate Biff Healy for receiving the Jack Beck Award for Youth Outreach from the Pennsylvania State Council of TU. Biff does an amazing job with our TIC program, directly introducing well over a thousand students to cold water conservation. I'm also looking forward as the TIC brookies are being hatched and raised from eggs to fingerlings, it's quite the spectacle. Of course the same will be happening in our local streams as well, so just a quick reminder to be extra cautious in your wading this fall and winter as the trout begin to build their redds and do their thing. A bit of vigilance now can pay big dividends down the road.

As the trout mark their annual cycle, we also follow a similar schedule as we're now planning out our schedule for the next year. Judging by the success of a lot of last year's events, I think we can look forward to another great year for the Chapter. We've got one more great trip up to Spring Creek on calendar for October 29th and then we'll be gearing up for the Winter Fly tying Course, our Limestoner Banquet in March and then we'll be looking at some great spring fishing and chapter trips and a month June packed full of events. As you can see, we've got a lot on our platter and we could always use an extra hand to carry it to the table.

Helping out with any of our many activities and conservation efforts is a great way to meet and learn from some incredible people. Our chapter is an amazing wealth of knowledge and experience, and volunteering for this chapter is one of the most rewarding things I've done. I sure wish I could make it to the FITS crew fall raking of the Letort this year, getting muddy in the stream is something I've loved to do for as long as I can remember. I regret missing one of our Chapter's events as I always come away from our various activities, outings and meetings having learned something new. Whether it's something about conservation, some obscure fishing or tying technique, or maybe just poking around a local fishing hole while working with the FITS crew, I can pretty much say I always come home having learned something new.

We've got a great chapter to be involved with and if you haven't yet gotten your hands dirty or feet wet, so to speak, please don't hesitate to get involved. It's been a privilege to serve as Chapter President and I'm honored to serve again for another year. It's been a pleasure to work with our board as we continue our efforts to conserve our cold clean water. I'm lucky to have a great team around me and can't thank them enough for all that they do. As always, if you see something out on the water, especially after this multi day shot of rain, which seems to be the steady soaking we've needed, don't hesitate to send me a note, [tomimcmillar@yahoo.com](mailto:tomimcmillar@yahoo.com), or drop me a line, 717/258-8265.



Tight Lines,  
*Tom*



**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](mailto:neilsunday@gmail.com)

**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](mailto:biffer1966@hotmail.com); Dave: [dstone@stonelaw.net](mailto:dstone@stonelaw.net)

**Kudos to Biff Healy**  
By Dave Weaver

Biff Healy was the recent recipient of the Dr. Jack Beck Youth Outreach Award for his ongoing efforts to organize and promote Trout Unlimited's goals for Trout in the Classroom. Sometimes our general membership doesn't realize how much work board members put in behind the scenes for CVTU. Leaders like Biff make it happen. So kudos to Biff for his richly deserved award



**Last Supper Recap**  
By Dave Weaver

The Last Supper on September 10<sup>th</sup> served, as it has traditionally, to mark the end of the summer season for your chapter. In the past, this was more associated with the end of trout season. Nowadays we can think of it being more in line with the end of the stream project work season. A good time was had, although we must have set some type of record for Last Supper heat and humidity – it was oppressive! I enjoyed a nice walk down along the Letort where it felt as if I was standing next to an air conditioner. A drawing was held and Nancy Seacrest will be the proud "owner" of the travelling rod and its angler's log (see pics below) and John Zazworsky won a box of flies tied by Jerry Kerstedder. Special thanks to Neil and Lori Sunday for serving up such a fine meal and organizing the event.



Photos Courtesy: D. Weaver

## Cold Water/Hot Topics

By David Stone

**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.

The pending Senate Bill 1168 would amend state law to permit the Fish and Boat Commission to control its license fees. The state council and CVTU is in support of this. It wouldn't hurt to notify your legislator of your opinion as well.

## Fly Fishing Film Tour

By Russ Collins

Greetings Fellow Chapter Presidents, I had the pleasure to talk to a number of you at another good PA Council meeting last Saturday. At that meeting, I shared an event our chapter is sponsoring on October 16th this year. We have secured a showing of the Fly Fishing Film Tour (F3T) and would like to invite your members to join us for what should turn out to be a fun and enjoyable Sunday afternoon. I have attached a flyer on the event to share. You can view trailers at this link: <http://www.flyfilm tours.com/watch-trailers/>.

There are a number of ways you can get tickets, but the easiest is by clicking on this link: <http://flyfilm tour.ticketfly.com/event/1281943-2016-fly-fishing-film-tour-annville>. The Allen Theatre, in association with the Doc Fritchey Chapter of Trout Unlimited, is pleased to present The Fly Fishing Film Tour (F3T) in Annville, PA on Sunday, October 16, 2016. If you have ever dreamed of fly fishing in adventurous or exotic places, these films are for you! The Fly Fishing Film Tour has become the entertainment event of the year for America's diverse fly fishing community. In 2015, the Film Tour screened in

over 160 North American cities. To view a trailer, visit the F3T website at [www.flyfilm tour.com](http://www.flyfilm tour.com). Proceeds from ticket sales and a fishing gear raffle will help Doc Fritchey TU continue its valuable conservation work here in the mid-state. Additionally, all attendees will be entered into a drawing for a fabulous fishing trip. Allen Theatre owner Skip Hicks has donated his theater facilities for this event, enabling our chapter to bring this film to our area. The theater also offers a wide variety of sandwiches, desserts and drinks for your enjoyment, as well as BYOB. Doors open at noon with the F3T showing at 1:30.

Tickets are priced at \$15.00 and are available to you in one of 3 ways; payment by check to Doc Fritchey TU mailed no later than October 6<sup>th</sup> to 2319 Valley Road, Harrisburg, PA 17104, online by credit card at [www.theF3T.com](http://www.theF3T.com), or at the theater box office, 36 E. Main St. in Annville. For more information, contact Russ Collins at [rwarrencollins@gmail.com](mailto:rwarrencollins@gmail.com), or visit the chapter's website at [www.dftu.org](http://www.dftu.org). Seating is limited, so don't delay...order your tickets today! Thanks in advance for considering this request and I look forward to seeing you at the Allen Theatre on the 16th of October!



Join Doc Fritchey Chapter of Trout Unlimited for an exclusive Central Pennsylvania showing of the

**FLY FISHING FILM TOUR**

At the Allen Theatre, October 16, 2016, Show time @ 1:30 p.m., doors open 12 noon  
Located at 36 E Main St. RT 422, Annville, PA

Tickets for \$15 at the box office, thru the mail by calling Russ Collins, President  
(717) 580-3958 to leave a message or go to [www.theF3T.com](http://www.theF3T.com) for online tickets

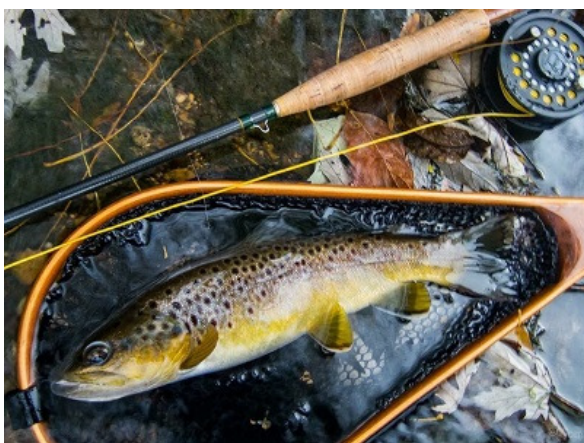


## PA Fly Fishing Museum Banquet By Jim Rainey

The Pennsylvania Fly Fishing Museum's 18th Annual Fundraising Banquet and Auction will be held Saturday, November 12, 2016 at the Comfort Suites Carlisle, 10 South Hanover Street, Carlisle, PA 17013. Check out the Museum's website at WWW.PAFLYFISHING.ORG.

## Fishing Report By Tom Miller

Letort has been her normal finicky self, though have been catching a fish or two right at dusk when they start rising, us usual. All the freestoners I've looked at recently have been low, low and even lower still. Drove up through Perry County the other weekend but didn't bother to rig up after seeing the lack of water in the couple streams I checked out. With the rain we're experiencing now at the end of the month, the picture should be significantly improved.



Brown Trout from Spring Creek. Photo Courtesy Neil Sunday

## Fly of the Month By Dave Weaver

Big rivers in October and November can provide an interesting grab bag of fish that might munch our flies and big weedless streamers are the way to go. Larger rivers such as the Delaware,

Potomac, Lehigh, or Allegheny have trout in their upper tailrace reaches, but gradually these rivers transition to warm water species downriver. With colder temps in autumn, large trout will sometimes migrate downriver into areas associated with bass. These are often large, wild brown trout. Smaller waters like Swatara, Conodoguinet, Penns, and Shermans Creek may see similar trends. The colder temps and shortening days can also put big river smallmouth bass in an aggressive mood. Big browns, big bass, even walleyes and muskies are on the prowl and they're not looking for a size 18 dry fly, they want a meal! Chubs, fallfish, shad, suckers, big sculpins, madtoms, and shiners are on the menu and these critters have had a season to grow and are large, typically several inches in length and often much larger. This is the time of year to throw big streamers with at least a six weight rod. Any large streamer can work, but I like articulated doubles using deer hair. Clip the hair in a large spun head that pushes water. Another thing to be aware of is leaves and weed break-up. In late September and October, many rivers see a break-up of grass beds and this results in a lot of junk in the water column. Combined with leaves later in the fall, you will want a fly tied weedless so as to pull through this stuff. The fly below is an example of such a fly I'd reach for on autumn rivers. Experiment and find a design that works for you – just keep the fly at least four inches long. Bigger is better.

**HOOKS:** Long shank, smaller in the rear, connect with #30 wire. Tie the materials so that the hooks ride upward.

**WING:** Rabbit strip in rear; flashabou in midsection; dyed grizzly and deer hair in forward section.

**BODY:** Flash chenille; head is clipped deer hair with light green yarn in front.

**WEED GUARD:** #50 mono tied in loop style.

