



# TIGHT LINES

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



Volume 23 Issue 3

Cumberland Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited

Mar. 2018

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

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## The Limestoner Fundraising Banquet By Chris Yasher

As you all know, we will be holding our annual fundraising event and evening of awards, the Limestoner Fundraising Banquet, at the Park Inn in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania on Friday, March 16 starting around 5:30 pm. The Limestoner is our largest event of the year and the primary source for generating funds for our chapter. The Fundraising Banquet is becoming more popular every year, so don't miss this great night of camaraderie and celebration as we honor those who have contributed so much, as well as provide for our continued success in future conservation efforts.

For those of you wishing to help with our preparations, Tom Baltz ([baltzte@aol.com](mailto:baltzte@aol.com)) is seeking items for the wonderful bucket raffle we have each year. Gary Leone ([gml Leone12@yahoo.com](mailto:gml Leone12@yahoo.com)) is seeking items for the auction (both silent and live). David Stone ([dstone@stonelaw.net](mailto:dstone@stonelaw.net)) is seeking advertisements for the brochure. We are all in need of help in spreading the word and inviting others to attend. In addition, we are in need of three people to help sell tickets throughout the first hour or so of the banquet. We need help in each of these areas, so please consider reaching out to Tom, Gary, David, or myself, and donating an item, advertisement, or time.

The Limestoner Fundraising Banquet is OUR event, and the revenue generated supports OUR projects, activities, and outreach efforts. Invite a friend, neighbor, colleague, or family member, and join us for our annual banquet, The Limestoner! We hope to see you there.

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

**55  
Members and  
Guests Attended  
the Feb.  
Membership  
Meeting**



Our March membership meeting speaker is George Daniel. George is a well known Pennsylvania trout angler and has written books about nymph and streamer fishing.  
Hope to see you there. Dave W.

# Quick Bites and Short Strikes

Dave Weaver - Editor

## Calendar of Events

2018

- Mar 14th  
CVTU Board Meeting  
Holly Inn  
Mount Holly Springs
- Mar 21st  
Members Meeting  
Monroe TSP Fire Hall  
Boiling Springs
- Mar 22nd  
Chapter Breakfast  
Momma Spriggs  
Restaurant  
Carlisle
- Mar 16th  
Limestoner Fundraising  
Banquet  
Park Inn  
Mechanicsburg
- Mar 24th  
Yellow Breeches Anglers  
Outdoor Show  
Monroe TSP Fire Hall
- Mar 31st  
Opening Day Trout  
Season
- Jun 2nd  
Chapter Fishing Trip  
East Licking Creek
- Jun 12-13th  
Reel Recovery
- Jun 17-22nd  
Rivers Youth Camp  
Messiah College
- Aug 17th  
Chapter Picnic  
CVTU Meadow



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

~ The 2018 Limestoner Fundraising Banquet is the principal fundraiser for the chapter each year. This year we hope to raise at least \$20,000 to help fund our many projects. In addition to attending and inviting a few of your friends, how about placing an advertisement for your company (or your neighbor's company) in the Banquet Booklet for \$40 to \$125? Or consider sponsoring a centerpiece for \$100. Contact me at 717-608-4047 ([dstone@stonelaw.net](mailto:dstone@stonelaw.net)) or any of the Emeritus Committee.

David Stone

~ Please strive to get donations for the Limestoner to Gary Leone by March 9th.

Dave W

~ The deadline to make reservations for the Limestoner is March 11th. Tickets can be purchased on our chapter web site.

John Leonard

~ CVTU is in the development process for a stream improvement project on Yellow Breeches (one of several). This project will go in at Boiling Springs near the old Whittlinger Dam site and will involve deflectors etc. This is the first phase of three restoration phases for this section.

Dave W

~ The gentlemen of the Anglers Club of New York will be visiting the Cumberland Valley from June 2nd to 3rd. CVTU volunteers act as guides (unpaid) to take these fellows fishing locally and show them some camaraderie during their visit. This club often makes generous donations to CVTU. I have guided some of these gentlemen during past visits and they're a fun time. If you can help out with this, please contact Tom Baltz.

Dave W.

## CVTU Membership is Currently 587!

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, Justin Pittman

## Cumberland Valley Chapter Officers and Directors (term)

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Well, February was a really good month for CVTU. Our Limestoner committee, headed by Chris Yasher, has been putting the final touches on the Limestoner banquet set for March 16, 2018 at the Park Inn in Mechanicsburg. I can't say enough about the great job that the committee has done: just a really great job this year. I'm hoping that we have a great turnout this year. If you have never before attended a Limestoner, please consider coming this year and participating in the event. It is a wonderful time and again our biggest fundraiser of the year. This is what allows us to do all the great things that our chapter does from year to year.

I would also like to take this time to thank everyone who has played a part in the many ongoing projects that we are working on currently. For everyone that has not been to a monthly membership meeting, CVTU has had some first-class speakers and I would like to thank Gary Leone for continuing to find new and informative speakers for our membership meetings. This is not an easy task. The board of CVTU has been working on organizing the upcoming fishing trips for 2018 and calendar of events. Our fishing trips are a great opportunity for members to interact and also meet new people. David Stone has done a great job putting together a variety of fishing trips to meet the many interests of our membership. Please take the time to look at our website for all the upcoming trips and activities.

We will be wrapping up another great year of the intro and advanced fly tying classes at the South Middletown School District and a special thanks to all the volunteers who make this possible year after year. The CVTU board has been planning the upcoming stream enhancement projects for the upcoming year. As stated before, if you identify any possible projects please get in contact with one of our board members with the details. Our traditional busy months as a chapter are right around the corner. May and June are going to get busy with youth camps and projects and everything else going on. As soon as things start warming up, many of us will be getting out on the water and this is a great opportunity to introduce someone new to the sport. Lastly, as always, if you have any question or concerns, please don't hesitate to give me a call or e-mail me at [flyfishing80@gmail.com](mailto:flyfishing80@gmail.com)

Tight Lines,

*Justin*

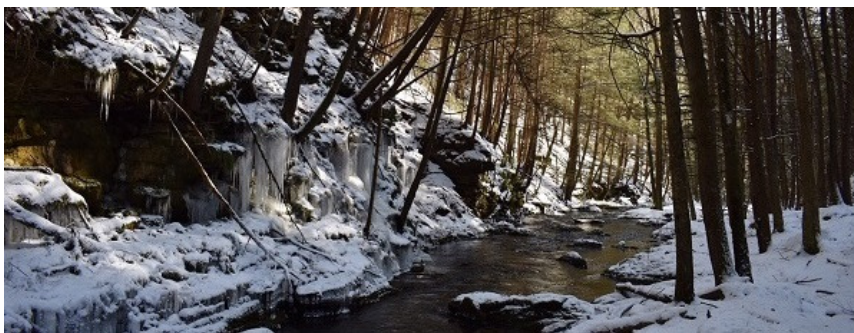


Photo Courtesy: G. Leone

## **The Limestoner Fundraising Banquet** **By Zoe Metro**

The Limestoner Fundraising Banquet committee has ambitious goals for attendance and participation. We need the chapter members' help to achieve them. Please plan on attending, and consider bringing along a friend, co-worker, or family member. If you've never been to the Limestoner, or it's been a while since you've attended, I can assure you it will be a good time. No special fishing knowledge or experience is required, just an appreciation for the local streams and the trout that call them home. There will be a 50-50, bucket raffle, silent & live auctions, a buffet style dinner, cash bar, and a room full of people to talk fishing with including local limestone legends. There will also be plenty of prizes/items that aren't fishing related, so non-anglers can have an enjoyable time as well.

## **Fish Population Updates** **by Dave Weaver**

According to the Area Fisheries Manager from the PA Fish and Boat Commission, John Frederick, the limestone streams of the Cumberland Valley have good populations of wild trout. In the Big Spring special regulation section, for example, the PFBC seeks to get to an overall objective of 90 kg/ha in biomass with 70% of this consisting of brook trout. In terms of population numbers brookies are, as of 2017, 83% of the trout population in Big Spring. While the numbers of brook trout in this section have fluctuated over the last few years since the habitat improvement projects were completed in 2010 and 2013, today the ratio of brook to rainbow trout in Big Spring continues its recent trend of improvement. The total brook trout biomass in the special regulation section of Big Spring is just over 41 kg/ha, which is well above Class A status.

In Letort, the Bonneybrook section turned up 69 kg/ha in 2017 (this is lower than most years). The lower Letort near the Turnpike came in at 171 kg/ha. Falling Springs, however, remains a concern and continues to see declining trout biomass in the very upper special regulation section, with a bit over 6 kg/ha for browns and a similar number for rainbows in 2017. One bright spot for upper Falling Springs was a good YOY class for rainbows in 2017.

## **Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp** **By Clark Hall**

The Cumberland Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited is holding the 24th annual Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp June 17-22, 2018. This year the camp will again be at Messiah College, Grantham, PA. The camp begins on a Sunday and ends the following Friday.

The highly structured curriculum is based on college level classes. Students are instructed in ecology, aquatic biology, geology, hydrogeology, erosion and sedimentation control, ichthyology, riparian corridor protection, watershed management, entomology, and much more. Students also participate in a hands-on stream habitat improvement project. But it's not all work. There are 10 fishing sessions and fly-tying instruction. Over 25 instructors, all experts in their field, teach the various classes.

Admission will be limited to 32 selected qualified students, ages 14 to 17. The applicants must have been born between June 22, 2000, and June 17, 2004. The 32 students will be selected through an application process where they must state why they want to attend camp.

The camp tuition is \$550 per student. All meals and accommodations are included for the residence camp. A student doesn't have to be an accomplished fly fisher or a budding aquatic biologist to attend. The student only needs to be highly motivated and willing to learn. The Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp was founded in 1995 through the efforts of the late Dr. John R. "Jack" Beck and the late Enoch S. "Inky" Moore, Jr., Pennsylvania Fish Commissioner. Their goal was to select teenagers each year who were the leaders in their class. The thought is that today's leaders in high school become the leader of tomorrow's communities. In a few short years, they will be the bankers, lawyers, realtors, municipal officials and the leaders in their communities. If the camp can implant a kernel of knowledge in today's students about the importance of clean water, when those students become the decision makers in their communities, it may have a positive impact on how water resources are used.

All applications for early acceptance must be received no later than March 31, 2018. Applying via our website is preferred. For more information, or to apply, visit the camp website at [www.riverscamp.com](http://www.riverscamp.com). Be sure to watch the 2017 camp video there. Questions may be submitted at the website or via email to [riverscamp@gmail.com](mailto:riverscamp@gmail.com). We are looking for donations of flies for the campers. We are requesting that donors tie 3 dozen of whatever pattern they sign-up for. Sign-up sheets for flies will be available at membership meetings, or email Clark Hall at [chall2636@verizon.net](mailto:chall2636@verizon.net) or call 717-697-4549.

### **Fly Tier's Corner** **Cress/Scud** **By Jerry Kerstetter**

Ed Shenk's cressbug fly pattern was a game changer for fly anglers as it can be fished year-round. Cressbugs are found in streams with a high calcium carbonate content. These limestone streams also have various aquatic vegetation such as elodea and watercress plants. The cressbugs are found in these plants, especially the elodea. When cressbugs are dislodged from these plants they are carried with the downstream drift. They do not float on the surface, nor do they sink at any appreciable rate and they do not swim. They are at the mercy of the stream current and thus become fish fodder.

The scud is a freshwater shrimp. They are in large numbers in limestone streams and they too reside in the vegetation. Unlike cressbugs, the scuds do swim. When scuds are dislodged they swim to the next available cover. So, fishing a scud with short stripping retrieves is effective in open water. They can also be cast into open channels and then pulled with the rod tip creating a swimming action.

I tied this fly having the appearance of a cressbug and added a short marabou tail. This marabou tail will then move as it is retrieved. Cast this fly and dead drift it as a cressbug, then start some retrieving motion to simulate a swimming scud. I refer to this fly as a "cress/scud."

Hook: mustad 3906 #14 - 18  
Body: Mixture of muskrat, olive rabbit and olive antron.  
Weight: small diameter lead.  
Thread: 8/0 olive.  
Tail & belly: Yellow marabou.

#### Tying Steps:

1. Wrap lead at front of hook shank behind hook eye and then cut off, lay lead on top of previous lead and tie down.
2. Place a small clump of marabou on top of hook shank creating a small tail just off of hook bend. Make 2 thread wraps just at the hook bend, leave remaining marabou.
3. Reverse hook with point up in vise, cut a small strip of olive thin skin and puncture a hole in it so there is a small section just past hook bend, insert hook point through this hole, push the thin skin away from you.
4. Make a spinning loop at hook bend and insert fur, wrap this fur loop forward to hook eye and half hitch.
5. Pick out fur on all side.
6. Cut fur flat on top and bottom.
7. Pull down marabou and tie down behind hook eye, the fly now has a light belly and tail.
8. Reverse hook in vice so point is up.
9. Move the thin skin over hook shank and tie down behind hook eye. Half hitch or whip finish, cut thread off.
10. Trim both sides of fur to resemble a football. The weighting technique in step one will make the fly sink with hook point up, so you may have fewer snags when fishing it.

