



TIGHT LINES

www.pacvtu.or



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Cumberland Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited

July/Aug. 2019

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

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**June
Membership
Meeting:
Cancelled Due to
Weather**

The Summer Transition

By Dave Weaver

The high summer months of July and August are a time of transition in your Trout Unlimited chapter. Springtime sees ramped up activities that reach their zenith in June with youth camps, fishing seminars, healing events, and similar worthy goals. Also in June our stream work project season begins. This year, like last year, has confronted us with some set backs due to weather (see the Wittlinger project update on p. 4) and some of these problems have persisted into this summer. However, with some abatement of rain over the last month, levels are down and, hopefully, we can move forward with some of them.

It's worth revisiting many of our old work projects to see how well the trout are adapting to them. The wing tip deflectors we built in The Run a few years ago are a good example. The trout really like them and they have greatly improved the flow and habitat. A few nights ago I was fishing the Phase 2 section on Big Spring which was completed several years ago and it too is looking good. The meadow grass is very high and the meadows are wet and tough to get through right now, but I was rewarded for my effort with a very nice wild brook trout over a foot in length. (Be careful if you plan on hitting any of the meadow sections of Big Spring and Letort this month, it is physically difficult.)

Of course, fishing is always a focus. Speaking for myself, I've had almost no dry fly or hatch action so far this year. Nevertheless, local streams still have a good flow and, notwithstanding the sudden arrival of summer heat this week, are in pretty good shape. There are still stocked trout in many areas where one would expect them to be gone by the end of June. If, like me, you enjoy a meal of fresh trout, now is the time to get some stockies from marginal water before they die off. And, as always, keep a close eye on water temps this month and give the wild trout a break if the water temps get too warm.

Have you considered volunteering to help CVTU with our many projects? We could use your help.

**Membership Meeting:
Wednesday, July 17th at 7PM
Appalachian Brewing Company, Carlisle
Pike, Mechanicsburg**

Our membership meeting speaker for July will be Dusty Wissmath with his presentation: "Fly Fishing the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem."

Hope to see you there.

Dave W.

Quick Bites and Short Strikes

Dave Weaver - Editor



Calendar of Events

2019

July 10th
CVTU Board Meeting
Holly Inn
Mount Holly Springs

Jul. 17th
Members Meeting
Appalachian Brewing Co.
Mechanicsburg

Jul. 18th
Chapter Breakfast
Carlisle

Aug. 17th
Annual Picnic
Carlisle Fish and Game

Sep. 8th
Last Supper
Vince's Meadow

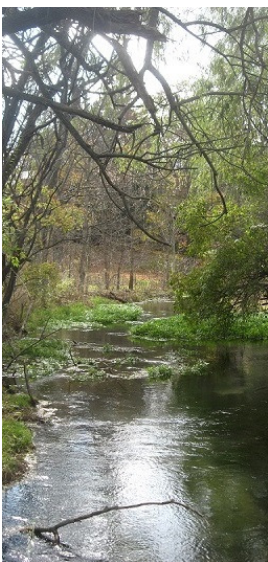


Photo Courtesy: D. Weaver

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.

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

~ If you're a senior citizen, you're entitled to a membership discount.

www.tu.org/senior



Big Spring Phase 2 Section, Summer 2019

Photo Courtesy: D. Weaver



CVTU Membership is Currently 615!

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, John Leonard

Cumberland Valley Chapter Officers and Directors (term)

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In this *Tight Lines*, Jim Rainey has written a nice personal article about the joy of volunteering - the friendships, and personal satisfaction, he's gotten from helping with many CVTU events over the years. He also says, "as I (Jim) and others "age out" of our volunteer years, CVTU needs a new cohort of volunteers to step up and succeed us." So true!

Last month, my president's letter was "Help" and I asked for help with our June events. Out of a membership of 600+ volunteers, we struggled to barely get 12 people each day to help with Reel Recovery and Street to Stream. We had our usual small cadre of retirees and fortunately, we also had four or five members that took personal time away from their jobs to help with these two events. Clark Hall and his staff of volunteers made Rivers Camp happen again...for the 25th year! They had a great group of young men and women this year. It was too bad that the weather washed out June's meeting on the banks of the Breeches. I know June is the month where we need volunteers the most. I want to thank all of you who worked to make CVTU's June events a huge success.

We will be electing five members to the Board of Directors in September. If you desire to be on the board as a volunteer leader, you should expect to be giving your time to work and to manage our many events, fundraisers, and membership meetings. You should attend all membership meetings, a monthly board meeting, and maybe on average, giving another hour or two per month...depending on what's going on. If you are interested in learning more about a board position, please call me (717-512-4620).

I feel that too often the members of CVTU think it's the board's responsibility to "do it all". Not true! We need help from our members. We're getting close to the point that if we can't get the help we need from some of our 600+ members, we will not have the event. It's that simple and it's true!

We're already starting to plan for the 2020 Limestoner fundraiser and we need some people to fill several key positions. Please let me know if you can give a few hours for the Limestoner. Also, the Park Inn is for sale and they cannot guarantee us service for the event, so we're looking for another place to have the Limestoner. I welcome your help and your thoughts – president@pacvtu.org.

It looks like the weekly monsoons have ended and we should be able to get into the Breeches to begin our 2018 scheduled restoration project and perhaps continue the work which was tentatively for this year. We'll know more for sure after a meeting in about two weeks.

I hope you will attend the family picnic...more information can be found in this issue of *Tight Lines*. Have an enjoyable summer! You're welcome to contact me at president@pacvtu.org or (717) 512-4620.



Tight Lines,

John

Wittlinger Preserve Project

By Don Albright

CVTU has been working on planning and preparing for the Wittlinger Preserve project since early 2017. This was about 8 months before it started raining at a highly accelerated rate. We had our funds procured to start Phase 1 of the project in August of 2018 along with access to the site procured. At this point in time the rainfall was at twice its normal rate but we were hopeful as the starting date approached. It had not rained much for about a week, the regular rhythm of the storms had slowed some, and the creek was starting to approach normal flow. Gleim Environmental hauled in stone and constructed a stone construction entrance to the site. The logs for the project were delivered and transported to the edge of the field and stacked for movement to the site.

The next day, the bulldozer was moved down over the bank first. It managed to go about 30 feet before becoming mired in the soft ground up over its tracks. The track hoe proceeded to follow the dozer down over the bank next to rescue the dozer. The operator demonstrated the power of his machine along with his operating skills and proceeded to work the bulldozer out of the muck that it was in. This was not done by digging around the dozer but by literally dragging it out by placing the bucket at strategic points in the machine and pulling it. That was the end of the project work for 2018 as the rains continued into winter.

Many are asking "When are we doing the Wittlinger Project?" The answer is "When we see all of the unnamed tributaries flowing through the farmer's fields, along with the vernal pools that have taken over acres of farmland throughout the valley disappear, and the rate of rainfall decreases. If this should occur soon, we will try to do the at least the first phase of the work at the earliest possible time. Possibly starting in late July with our window of opportunity lasting until the end of September.

The short version of the story is: nothing has changed. We are still in the same weather pattern as last year. We just finished May as I write this, and we had twice the normal rainfall for the month. The first day of June, Newville had another inch of rain. At the beginning of May, our annual total rainfall for the year was only ¼ inch below what it was last year at that

time. Keep your umbrella handy and hope for more sunny days.



Volunteering!

By Jim Rainey

I will be finishing my fifth, and final, term on the CVTU Board this September. During my tenure, and in addition to the many regular duties of a Director, I chaired the Limestoner Committee twice, the former Development Committee, and currently the Letort Long Range Study Group. As a Certified Fly Casting Instructor, I feel a special obligation to volunteer to teach casting during CVTU's many fly fishing education projects.

When not chairing the Limestoner, I still served on that committee, most often in organizing the Live and Silent Auctions and Special Raffles. This task involved soliciting donations of items (rods, reels, lines, nets, trips, artwork, jewelry, craft items, etc.), the auctioning and raffling of which provided much-needed funds to support CVTU's essential mission, coldwater conservation!

"Why do you volunteer so much?" my wife often asks. I ponder that same question. Truth be told, I enjoy it. And I get great personal satisfaction from helping others. I cherish the friendships I've formed with the other volunteers with whom I've worked. I enjoy helping others learn how to improve their casting. I enjoy raising funds that will contribute to the health of Cumberland Valley's coldwater resources and the trout who live in them. I enjoy helping to solve the decades-long problems plaguing America's legendary Letort Spring Run. Most of all, I love the opportunities and challenges of trying to catch those wary trout.

I'm sure that you as a member of CVTU enjoy those same opportunities and challenges. But as I and others "age out" of our volunteer years, CVTU needs a new cohort of volunteers to step up and succeed us. You see, unless you do, we can kiss goodbye the great Cumberland Valley trout fishing we have enjoyed ---thanks to all the great CVTU volunteers who have proceeded us. Be one of them!

Board of Directors Nominations

By John Leonard

We are asking for nominations of members wanting to be on CVTU's Board of Directors. The names of the nominees will be read at the family picnic (our August membership meeting) on August 17th and board elections will be held at the membership meeting on September 18th. CVTU Vice President, Mark Albano (mfalbano@gmail.com), is chairing the nomination committee. Please e-mail your nominations to Mark.

Board meetings are held on the second Wednesday of **every** month at the Holly Inn (for 2019...could change in the future). We encourage all interested to attend July's meeting at the Holly Inn on the 11th at 7:00 PM just so you can see what goes on and have an opportunity to participate in the meeting. If you plan on attending or if you would like more information as to the responsibilities of being a board member, please e-mail John Leonard (president@pacvtu.org).

You are encouraged to read what Jim Rainey wrote in this issue of Tight Lines regarding the personal satisfaction, friendships, etc. he has received as an active board member.



Family Picnic

By David Stone

Where: Carlisle Fish and Game Club.

When: 3:00 to 7:00 on Saturday, August 17.

Cost: \$20 per person, children 12 and under eat free.

The annual CVTU family picnic will be held at the Carlisle Fish and Game Club at 1420 West Trindle Road, Carlisle. Enjoy smoked brisket, smoked chicken thighs, pork and beans and all the fixin's, beverages, and dessert from our caterer, Smoked Trout. Bring a bucket raffle item and some cash for raffle tickets to help the cause. Join us for casting and fly tying contests, fishin' in the pond for kids, and good food and fun. We'll be seated in the barn where there's room for 150+...lots of room if it rains.

We need your reservation so please RSVP **NO LATER THAN August 11th** to David Stone at 717-608-4047 or dstone@stonelaw.net or CVTU - cvtu052@gmail.com. **We prefer that you register and pay on CVTU's web site – www.pacvtu.org.** Go to the site – hit the DONATE NOW button. Complete all the personal information and in the "Reason for Donation?" box, insert the number of tickets you are purchasing and your names...for example – 2 Tickets for Joe and Mary Smith. If you have any questions, please e-mail CVTU at the e-mail address above.

See you at the family picnic!



Photo Courtesy: M. Albano