



# TIGHT LINES

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



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Cumberland Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited

Sep. 2019

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

## Wittlinger Project

By Jeb Betar

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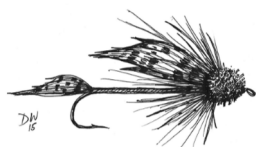
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We had a great day at the Wittlinger Yellow Breeches project. We had a good turnout of FITS Crew Members and a volunteer from the Yellow Breeches Anglers and Conservation Association, all of whom got involved in building the stream structures. We completed planned Log Framed Stone Deflectors. It amazes me how quickly the character of the stream changes as the structures are put into place!!! Again, my sincere gratitude to the FITS crew. Without you, the job would not have been done in such a timely manner. Watch for another email shortly as the Yellow Breeches Anglers and Conservation Association is starting its fall stocking program on the Yellow Breeches.



Wittlinger, Before and After.

Photos Courtesy: M. Albano.



**34  
Members  
Attended the July  
Membership  
Meeting**

**Membership Meeting:  
Wednesday, Sept. 18th at 7PM  
Appalachian Brewing Company, Carlisle  
Pike, Mechanicsburg**

Our membership meeting on the 18th will feature shark fishing.  
Hope to see you there. Dave W.

# Quick Bites and Short Strikes

Dave Weaver - Editor



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.

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

## Calendar of Events

2019

Sep. 11th  
CVTU Board Meeting  
Holly Inn  
Mount Holly Springs

Sep. 18th  
Members Meeting  
Appalachian Brewing Co.  
Mechanicsburg

Sep. 19th  
Chapter Breakfast  
Carlisle

Sep. 7th  
Last Supper  
Vince's Meadow

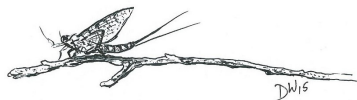


Photo Courtesy: D. Weaver.



## CVTU Membership is Currently 612!

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, John Leonard

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Wow! It's been a crazy busy month. Where to start?

Let's start with the LeTort fish kill. Your Board of Directors' members along with their various contacts were acting on finding the cause with an hour or two after the first fish was found dying...in all, about 250+ fish died in the north branch on the property of the Army War College. We have continued to follow up with PA F & B and DEP. We have the reports from DEP – Sewage Compliance Inspection Report and five water quality lab reports. Within 1 ½ hours, five water samples were taken at five different LeTort locations in the area of the spill incident. If you are interested in reading the reports, drop me a note and I'll e-mail them to you. On August 23<sup>rd</sup>, *The Sentinel's* top story was "DEP serves Carlisle Borough notice of violation in LeTort Spring Run fish kill". If you missed it, you can go back and read it in the newspaper's archives. If you are on Facebook, there has been a lot of chatter regarding the incident...not all of it is accurate. If you have any specific questions about what's transpired, etc., please drop me a note. If I don't know the answer, I'll try to find out. We will continue to update you as events transpire. Go fish the LeTort! I got this from Bryan Chikotas, the PA F & B Area 7 Fisheries Manager, who with his team surveyed the LeTort this week – he wrote...*We completed our work in Section 02 and 04 yesterday so we will not be on the stream today or tomorrow as initially planned. I haven't run the numbers yet but both sites below the war college (Post Road and Turnpike) supported good numbers of fish from young of year to adult sizes with an abundance of large browns over 16 and 18 inches, the largest being just short of 24 inches! We also surveyed the East Branch of the Letort below the old watercress farm and it supported a nice wild Brown Trout population, so it will be added to the list of streams supporting wild trout reproduction and may qualify for Class A if estimated biomass meets 40.0 kg/ha. Great news!*

Both Phase I and Phase II of the Wittlinger project are done! We have photos in this issue, but additional photos and drone flyover videos will be sent out to you soon. I want to thank Jeb Betar who coordinated the project, received access permission from Dickinson College, and he helped secure the project's funding. I also want to thank Steph Rider and her equipment operators from John Gleim Environmental and our F.I.T.S. volunteers – Jeb Betar, Rege Orsinger, Rick Ripple, Jim Hepfer, Jim Dries, Walt Paskey, Mark Albano, Ken Okorn, Mike Rish and YBAC member Jack Myers. This crew made short work of the structures. I was told it was rewarding to see the trout move right in and there was surface dimpling of trout feeding shortly after the structures were finished. On we go to the next project...

We are close to selecting a contractor to do a feasibility study on restoring the LeTort beginning at the headwaters. Jim Rainey has done an outstanding job chairing the LeTort Restoration Committee with a solid group of CVTU members helping him. Let's not forget that all of this started with Chet Hagenbarth and the Emeritus Board doing LeTort water sampling for 13 months in coordination with ALLARM. There is a bunch of sophisticated planning and coordination needed before this project gets started...let alone acquiring funding. There's a lot more information to come...stay tuned!

At September's membership meeting, you will be voting for five Directors. Please get familiar with the candidates in this *Tight Lines* issue and vote for who YOU think will work best on your behalf and continue to lead CVTU forward. Saturday is The Last Supper...a great CVTU historical and social event. See you there!

You're welcome to contact me at [president@pacvtu.org](mailto:president@pacvtu.org) or (717) 512-4620.

Tight Lines, *John*

## **RIVERS App**

**By John Leonard**

TU has introduced an app for smart phones...it's called RIVERS – **R**iver **I**nventory by **V**olunteers for **E**ffective **R**estoration. There a 45 minute training video here - <https://vimeo.com/349092194>. What the app allows us to do is to document via GPS location and with your photos an event such as the Letort fish kill, a badly eroded bank that needs some TLC, a run off from a field covered with manure, etc. The video shows a lot of examples. The app will show up as "Survey 123" on your smart phone. It's very easy to use. If you want to see some of the Letort fish kill photos taken by our member, Woody Anselmo with through this app, go to <https://arcg.is/1OWXev> - expand the map, find PA, find Carlisle, and click on the dot at the Letort. The attachments show five fish kill photos.

If you get stuck and can't seem to get the app onto your phone, etc., see one of the chapter leaders at a monthly meeting and we'll get you the help you need.



## **2019 Board of Directors Election**

**By CVTU**

Every September five seats on the CVTU Board of Directors are up for election. In accordance to our bylaws, the election is held during the September CVTU chapter meeting, and all members of CVTU are encouraged to attend and vote. To date, we have eight candidates for the five open positions this year. Attached, in no particular order, are the candidates and why, in their own words, you should vote for them. So, here are the nominees for the 2019 Board of Directors election. As always, nominations will be accepted the day of the election.

**Keith Tyler:** My name is Keith Tyler, and I have been asked to run for a seat on the CVTU board of directors. That said, I'm hoping you will vote for me for the following reasons: I consider finding CVTU as a lucky stroke of fate, as they are are doing the same kind of work

(environmental restoration/coldwater conservation), that I worked on for at least half of my 34 year career in the Natural Resource/ Damage Assessment and Restoration field. To date, I have been involved in many FITS projects, collected monthly water quality samples on the Le Tort, served on the Limestoner Banquet committee for 2 years, and most recently (as a member of the Le Tort Project Planning Grant committee), applied for and won a \$5,000.00 planning grant from the Coldwater Heritage Foundation. I also hold a B.S. degree in Fisheries biology/aquaculture and have also done volunteer work at The Yellow Breeches Anglers and Conservation's nursery. Thank you for your consideration.

**Jeb Betar:** In 2013, Jeb I was elected to Board of Directors for the Cumberland Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited (CVTU). At that time, I accepted the position of Treasurer and remain in that role today. While I enjoy fly fishing, I found that my most rewarding moments serving the chapter revolve around its cold water conservation goals. When I joined the Board in late 2013, the Chapter was completing the second phase of the Big Spring stream improvement project. Coming in "mid-stream" (pun intended), I had to scramble to establish the necessary financial systems needed to manage the nearly \$525,000 project. Working with Orrstown Bank, the contractors doing the actual stream improvement work, and several State agencies, I closed out the project and met the financial reporting requirements levied on CVTU. I remain active in CVTU stream improvement projects, representing CVTU at community outreach activities, and completing all State and Federal reporting requirements for CVTU at a substantive savings. My financial skills allow me to effectively manage CVTU's financial resources and provide valuable financial data to the Board on a monthly basis.

**David Stone:** I would be honored to serve another term on the CVTU Board of Directors. As a lifelong fisherman and outdoorsman, I welcome the chance to continue working toward our common goal of cold water conservation. I believe that the skill set I bring to the Board as a practicing attorney will continue to be useful as the Board faces challenges with contract and property issues. I have also brought fund raising skills to the board that have been useful in our annual Limestoner Banquet. You will hear more

*Board of Directors Cont.*

from me on this next year! As the chair of the Activities committee, I continue to welcome ideas for new and different activities, trips and outings that may be of interest to our members. Thank you for your consideration.

**Neil Sunday:** My name is Neil Sunday, and I am seeking re-election to the Board of CVTU. I currently oversee the F.I.T.S. Crew and organize in-stream cleanups and improvements for our Chapter. I would like to continue doing this, as our work is far from complete. If re-elected I will continue my efforts focusing primarily with organizing and directing the work parties.

**Biff Healy:** I have been a member of CVTU for eight years. I became a life member this year. During my tenure here I have been on the Board for one three year term; Trout in the Classroom Coordinator for seven years, during which time I have brought this program to a high of thirteen schools participating in the program, and Kings Gap Environmental Center as well. I have spent seven years on staff at the Rivers camp, the last three as Chief Ghillie. I have ghillied for Reel Recovery, and Street to Stream. I have represented CVTU at a gathering of The Chesapeake Bay Foundation's Youth conference. I also helped at the Ladies' introduction to fly fishing put on by the Chapter this spring. I believe that our future as a viable organization is dependent on outreach to the community as an environmental and conservation entity. Our first need is to encourage the youth in our area to participate in conservation education. We must publicize our efforts to the community, and use our projects as a building block to raise funds to do more projects. This is the reason I wish to participate as a board member once again.

**Background:** Attended Butler County Community College, Biology Major; BSVS West Virginia University. Retired from Warner Lambert Pharmaceutical Co.; Pa Dept of Corrections, Correctional Industries Acting Manager; Five years as a Ranger/ Naturalist at Holly River State Park, WV DNR; EMT-PA for nine years, 44 years in the BSA program, mostly in The Juniata Valley Council. Married and live in Carlisle.

**Jim Hepfer:** Jim Hepfer and his wife, Tamara live in Mechanicsburg. They have one son and two college age grandchildren. Jim is a retired Ace Hardware store owner. If elected to the board I would like to strongly encourage more

attend some meetings, and be involved in at least one function like Reel Recovery or a stream cleanup etc. These have been very rewarding personally in my first year at CVTU. Thank you!

**Woody Anselmo:** My passion for fishing started at the age of 8. I grew up on the Susquehanna River in Central Pa, and spent many hours with my dad and brothers chasing small-mouth with spinning rods. I then progressed to spin fishing trout streams in my area at the age of 10. It wasn't until I hit college at Indiana University of PA in Western Pa that I was introduced to the addiction/ obsession I now know and love as fly-fishing! Fast forward almost 30 years to present day, I spend the lions share of my time on the water in the beautiful limestone streams of the Cumberland Valley! I also have a few favorite trout streams in Central, and in North East Pa as well! I've set a few goals for myself with regard to fly-fishing that I'm happy to share!

1. Above all else, have a great time! If I'm not having fun, what's the point?
2. Learn as much as possible!
3. Meet great people!
4. Share my passion of fly-fishing with others!

I'm always happy to share time, info, and techniques with others when it comes to fly-fishing. I'm a graduate of Indiana University of Pa with a BS in Clinical Nutrition, and am gainfully employed at a food marketing company called Key-Impact Sales currently in my 21st year with the company. I've lived in Mechanicsburg for the past 16 years and have been fly fishing for trout for 27 years now. I've been fishing competitively for the past 7 years in the National Fly Fishing League. The majority of my time on the water today is spent helping others getting started, or fine-tuning their fly-fishing skills!!! Most recently I've taken a greater interest of the conservation end of Pennsylvania's cold water resources. I feel through my passion for fly-fishing and trout combined with my experiences, that I could certainly afford value to our TU chapter if given the opportunity to participate as a board member!

**Justin Pittman:** I look forward to being a part of the board for another term. I have been a very active member of Cumberland Valley Trout Unlimited serving as President for 4.5 years. I have also been involved on many committees over the past 12 years and would love to help continue improving the streams and educating our youth of the Cumberland Valley. I'm currently a Juvenile Probation officer for Cumberland County and the owner of Precision Fly and Tackle in Mt. Holly Springs Pa.

**The Last Supper**  
**September 7, 2019**  
**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 7th 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 and don't forget the insect repellent. The cost is \$5 per person... additional donations are graciously accepted. John Leonard will be hosting this year's event. This year's "main course" will be sweet Italian sausage with onions and peppers, sub rolls, macaroni salad, tossed salad, plus dessert cookies and beverages. BYOB if you're so inclined. Feel free to bring something to share with the group.

**If you plan on attending, send an e-mail to John – [johnleonard222@gmail.com](mailto:johnleonard222@gmail.com) and let him know you're coming. If you would rather have a chicken breast in place of sausage, please tell me in your reservation.**

Another tradition of the evening is the CVTU traveling rod. Last year's rod winner, Lisa Stone, will tell where the rod has been and the successes it has had. Then, one person will be chosen at random to have the rod until the 2020 Last Supper...the tradition continues...**be a part of it!**



Wittlinger Project.  
Photo Courtesy: M. Albano.

**CVTU Response to LeTort Fish Kill**  
**on July 31st at Carlisle Barracks**  
**By CVTU**

On July 31<sup>st</sup> there was a large fish kill in the LeTort Spring Creek on Carlisle Barracks property. An investigation is underway by Army and PA authorities, but the presence of on-going sewer pipe repairs points to the likely release of chemicals involved in that work. The CVTU Board of Directors is concerned by this incident and wants to keep members informed of our actions following the event. Through our community network, we found out about the incident immediately after it occurred from a post resident who observed the dead fish and contacted a board member, who relayed the information to PA Fish & Boat Commission. Because of this early notification, a PAFBC officer was on post that same day to interview witnesses and gather fish samples for toxicology testing. On the following day, another board member walked the water from the mouth upstream to the post boundary and saw no evidence of fish kill outside of the post. The CVTU Chapter President wrote letters of concern to the editors of The Sentinel and the Patriot News/Penn Live, published on August 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> respectively. On August 5<sup>th</sup>, Carlisle Barracks had a separate incident involving drinking water quality; post authorities state that the two incidents are not related. So far, the PAFBC response to inquiries is the expected response that an official investigation is underway. It was announced that the incident was not caused by the War College. The board will continue to stay engaged on this issue, and will continue to send updates as we learn more about the investigation.



**Fly Tier's Corner**  
**S&T Midge**  
**By Jerry Kerstetter**

For many years, midge fishing was mainly thought of as dry fly fishing casting size 20 and smaller flies. This top water technique required long leaders with very supple tippets. This midge fishing could be difficult and frustrating, to say the least. Not all fly anglers participated in this midge fishing. The successful ones were very serious and dedicated fly anglers. Some of them gained fame and were even elevated to legendary status. Some Cumberland Valley anglers have reached this level: Vincent Marinaro, Charles Fox, Ed Koch, to mention a few.

That top water midge fishing was changed by Don Holbrook. He was fishing subsurface midges like a nymph. He describes and also provides pictures of these aquatic midge insects in his book *Midge Magic*. He also provides numerous fly patterns. I am sure others have created their own versions of?? midge flies because of his book. His diamond and clear midges were of particular interest to me. The diamond midges have reflective qualities using mylar tinsel. The clear midges used monofilament wrapped over a thread base. These flies were effective then and still are.

My S&T midges have combined the reflective and clear aspects into one fly. This was done using a product called Sulky. It is sold at Jo-Ann Fabrics and comes in various colors. For this sulky and thread fly I use silver metallic. It is transparent and has reflective qualities. The thread color will determine the final fly color. Sally Hanson Hard as Nails adds a sheen and durability for the fly. A bead is used to simulate the head and add weight. A slotted tungsten bead is a good choice. Because of the slot on this bead it can be pulled upward and permanently fastened with super glue and thread. With the bead in this position, the hook point will be up reducing bottom snags. Fish these S&T midges just like a nymph.

Tying instructions:

1. Place bead on hook.
2. Attach thread behind bead and secure it with thread and super glue.

3. Wrap thread towards hook bend stopping halfway and tie in sulky.
4. Continue wrapping thread to bend and then forward making a slightly wider body stopping at bead.
5. Whip finish thread and cut off.
6. Wrap sulky forward over the thread to bead and whip finish the sulky.
7. Coat the entire body with hard as nails.



Jeb Betar Pounds Rebar.  
Photo Courtesy: M. Albano.