



TIGHT LINES

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Cumberland Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited

Jan. 2020

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

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A Nice Winter Day By Dave Weaver

With some of the rather mild weather recently, it was nice to get out in the Cumberland Valley over the Holidays. Your intrepid newsletter editor barely managed the last parking spot at the Run. I walked around Children's Lake and it looked like a glorious springtime day. Kids at the lake had trout on stringers and there were many anglers working on the many trout visible in the Run. I fished for about an hour further upstream and a buddy and I managed a handful of wild trout on nymphs. I even saw some little black stoneflies, which I don't typically expect to see until later in the winter. The Breeches had a nice flow and was in the upper 40s.

If you're inclined to stay home in wintertime and focus on fly tying or football, it's understandable. However, don't rule out spending some time along our beloved waters in winter. Most of the time, there are few people out and the fishing can even be pretty decent. Better yet, our minds and bodies can use the motion and some activity is good for us mentally and physically. Kids and dogs enjoy this too. See you on the water.



The Run.

Photo Courtesy: D. Weaver, Dec. 2019



**33
Members
Attended the Nov.
Membership
Meeting**

**Membership Meeting:
Wednesday, Jan. 15th at 7PM
Appalachian Brewing Company, Carlisle
Pike, Mechanicsburg**

Our January membership meeting will feature Matt Kowalchuck. Matt is the head guide for the Feathered Hook guide service and will be presenting a program on fishing Penns Creek year-round.

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, 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

Calendar of Events

2020

Jan. 8th

CVTU Board Meeting
Holly Inn
Mount Holly Springs

Jan. 15th

Members Meeting
Appalachian Brewing Co.
Mechanicsburg

Jan. 16th

Chapter Breakfast
Carlisle

Mar. 14th 2020

Limestoner Banquet
Carlisle Country Club

~ If you're a senior citizen, you're entitled to a membership discount.
www.tu.org/senior

~ The 2020 Limestoner Fundraising Conservation Banquet will be held at the Carlisle Country Club on March 14, 2020 beginning at 5:00 PM. Please put this date on your new 2020 calendar – Thanks!

John Leonard



Children's Lake

Photo Courtesy: D. Weaver



CVTU Membership is Currently 569!

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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Fifty years of CVTU history is behind us and our future looks bright. The chapter had a lot of accomplishments in 2019. We had record income for the Limestoner Fundraising Banquet thanks to the volunteers who solicited program ads and raffle merchandise and to all of you that attended the event and made purchases. June, as always, was our busiest month...Reel Recovery, Rivers Camp, and Street To Streams. We completed both Phases 1 and 2 of the Wittlinger Dam restoration project over the summer. A big "Thank You" to Gleim Environmental and to the many volunteers that helped build the structures in the Yellow Breeches. The August family picnic was well-attended as was The Last Supper in September.

The LeTort restoration planning is moving forward. It was good to see all the fall spawning activity where the F.I.T.S. crew removed weeds and raked beds this past fall. Thanks everyone! Just this past week, we received a \$ 5,000 donation from a gentleman in Virginia. He loves the LeTort and wants to help. I will acknowledge his donation to you with his permission...later.

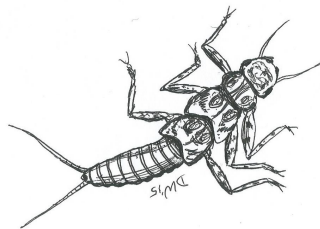
Bryan Chikotas, the PA F&B Area 6 Manager, will be the speaker at February's membership meeting. We look forward to hearing about his LeTort and other stream surveys and to talk to him about our concerns.

I'm going to talk to our BOD at the next meeting about making *Tight Lines* a quarterly publication. The number of people who contribute articles for publication continues to decrease. Our TL Editor, Dave Weaver, should not be expected to write all the articles for *Tight Lines* every month. If you have any suggestions or concerns, please e-mail me your thoughts before January 8th – president@pacvtu.org.

Our next Limestoner organizational meeting will be held on January 8th at 5:45 PM at Precision Fly Fishing & Tackle in Mt. Holly. If you would like to help with this year's Limestoner, please come to the meeting. Any help you can give will be appreciated!

The Limestoner Fundraising Banquet will be held on March 14th at The Carlisle Country Club. Invitations and raffle tickets will be mailed out soon. You will also be able to register and purchase tickets on our web site. The cost of a ticket is \$ 45.00 (the same as last year) for a three-entrée buffet. You can also host a table with preferred seating for an additional \$ 50.00 and invite your friends to join you for the event. Whether you can attend this year or not, buying a \$ 20.00 book of raffle tickets is your once a year opportunity to support the conservations works of the chapter. We do not get any money directly back from Trout Unlimited from your annual membership payment. Please mark March 14th on your new 2020 calendar and plan on joining us at the Limestoner.

You're welcome to contact me at president@pacvtu.org or (717) 512-4620. Have a Happy and Prosperous 2020!



Tight Lines,
John

2020 Winter Fly Tying Classes By Ken Palmer

Cumberland Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited and South Middleton Parks and Recreation will once again be conducting the popular Winter Fly Tying Classes for beginners and advanced tiers. Jerry Kerstetter is once again conducting the beginner class and we will publish our lineup of advanced class leaders on our website as well as in *Tightlines* once we have finalized the leaders and the patterns they will be tying.

Beginners will go through the eight-week course by learning or improving on the techniques required to tie any pattern with practice and repetition. The emphasis on this course is TECHNIQUE, not how to tie an exact pattern even though that does take place in many cases. We will once again have a loaner tool kit available on a first come first serve basis for those people who do not have their own basic tools. Simply sign out the kit at the start of the course and return it at the end. The basic tools needed are: vise, scissors, bobbin, hackle pliers, and half hitch tool or whip finisher. All materials including hooks and an instruction booklet will be provided. Tying tools are sold at all fly shops in the area.

The advanced class will be lead by a different leader each week and the participants will tie along with the leader. Materials will be provided except for thread. We will provide a thread list to participants prior to the start of the class.

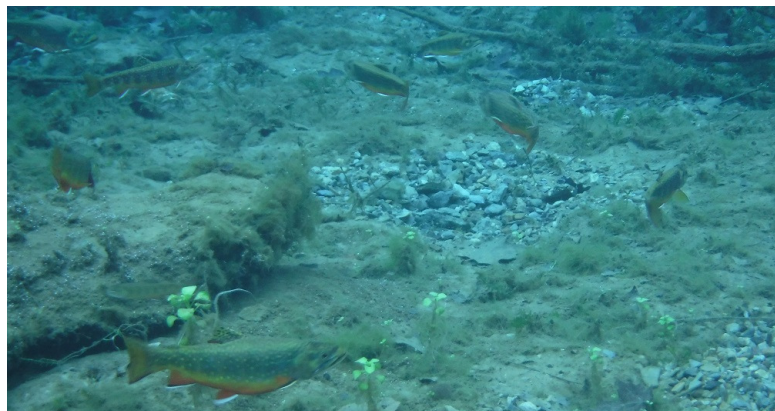
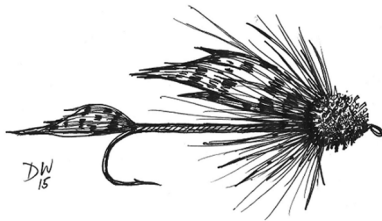
Classes are open from youth to senior citizens. Youth under 16 must be accompanied by an adult chaperone. Classes begin on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 and will continue every Tuesday night for eight weeks from 7 to 9pm. This may be subject to change if school is closed for inclement weather, which did happen a few

times last year. All classes are held at the Boiling Springs High School. Enter through the main entrance and go to room 110. The course fee is \$15 for South Middleton Twp. residents and \$20 for non township residents.

Registration begins on December 13, 2019. Register on the township website www.smiddleton.com, or call 717 258-4441. Credit cards are accepted as well as walk in registration at the township office. Information is available on the CVTU website www.pacvtu.org or on Facebook.

Brook Trout Spawning in Big Spring By Dave Weaver

For several years a friend and I have made it a New Years Day tradition to walk the FFO section of Big Spring for the purpose of documenting brook trout spawning. We typically start at the willow tree parking area (the lower end of the phase 2 restored section) and walk all the way up to the source at the ditch. The results this year were encouraging. Over the years, the number of redds and brookies we see on them have varied. In general, we have seen an increase in brook trout spawning further downstream. For example, in 2017 and 2018 we saw no redds and one redd in the lower part of phase 2 respectively. This year, in 2020, we saw two redds (and possibly two others that were lacking fish) in this lower section. One of the redds held several brookies on it. Further up in the phase 2 stretch we saw a redd with several fish including a beauty I estimated to be around 13 inches in length. If you fish Big Spring in winter, be careful not to disturb the spawning brookies as some will be busy at this until well into January. Watch your step and avoid stepping on or disturbing redds.



Spawning Brook Trout in Big Spring.

Photo Courtesy: D. Weaver, Jan. 2020