



# TIGHT LINES

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



Volume 25 Issue 2

Cumberland Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited

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

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## The 2020 Limestoner By Gary Leone

The 2020 Limestoner will be held Saturday March 14th at the Carlisle Country Club. The Limestoner Committee has been hard at work to bring Cumberland Valley Trout Unlimited members and guests a terrific evening, but we need your help.

The new location has inspired some new ideas to showcase the work that CVTU has done on the area streams, as well as current and upcoming projects. The TU National mission statement is to conserve protect and restore - CVTU adds *educate*. Trout in the Classroom and the Rivers Conservation and Youth Camp are established and successful programs designed to teach the next generation the value of connecting to nature through fly fishing and the responsibility that comes with enjoying a sport the depends on clean water.

Toward this end, the the Limestoner Committee is asking EVERY member of CVTU to participate in this year's event. If you can't attend in person, send in your 50-50 tickets. If you can attend, bring a friend. Donate an auction item or service, solicit an add for the program. This is your yearly opportunity to give back. Thank you.



**Membership Meeting:  
Wednesday, Feb. 19th at 7PM  
Appalachian Brewing Company, Carlisle  
Pike, Mechanicsburg**

**71  
Members  
Attended the Jan.  
Membership  
Meeting**

Our Feb membership meeting will feature Bryan Chikotas, our PA F&B Area Fisheries Manager, detailing the results of the survey of Big Spring's C&R, FFO area, Falling Springs Branch's C&R, FFO area, and two sections of LeTort Spring Run, areas 2 and 4, taken last summer after the fish kill at the War College.

Hope to see you there.

Dave W.

# Quick Bites and Short Strikes

Dave Weaver - Editor



## Calendar of Events

2020

- Feb 12th  
CVTU Board Meeting  
Holly Inn  
Mount Holly Springs
- Feb. 19th  
Members Meeting  
Appalachian Brewing Co.  
Mechanicsburg
- Feb. 20th  
Chapter Breakfast  
Middlesex Diner  
Carlisle
- Feb. 29th  
Tour of the Valley
- Mar. 14th  
Limestoner Banquet  
Carlisle Country Club
- Mar. 20-22nd  
Penns Creek Trip
- Jun. 6th (Tentative)  
Chapter Fishing Trip  
East Licking Creek
- Aug. 8th (Tentative)  
Chapter Picnic  
Location TBD
- Sep. 12th  
Last Supper  
Vince's 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.

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

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

[www.tu.org/senior](http://www.tu.org/senior)

~ Thank you, Robert Berish of Bethesda MD, for your very generous gift to Cumberland Valley Trout Unlimited of \$5,000 to be used to restore LeTort Spring Run. What a pleasant surprise!

John Leonard

### **Sign Up for Upcoming Member Events**

**All Are Welcome – New Members and Long-Time Members – Join Us**

#### **Tour of the Valley**

On February 29<sup>th</sup>, we are offering a tour of our restoration projects and fishing access places for chapter members only. This is a great opportunity if you are new to the area or new to fly fishing and want to know some good fishing spots. You'll be visiting different places along Yellow Breeches, the LeTort, and Big Spring. Meet in the Wal-Mart parking lot near Applebee's at 9:30 AM. We are renting a 15-passenger van, two if we can fill them. You can sit back and relax between stops...make some new friends and enjoy the day. Dress accordingly and be sure you have shoes/boots that can handle some wet ground. We will have members on the bus that can answer your questions and talk about CVTU's restoration projects. We plan on returning to the parking lot early afternoon where you can either go home or join us for lunch at Applebee's. The last day to sign up is February 15<sup>th</sup>. If you want to go, sign up today by contacting Robert Shaw at [pa.rob47@gmail.com](mailto:pa.rob47@gmail.com). He will confirm your reservation and answer any questions. There is no charge... donations will be accepted. Don't wait! Seating is limited.

#### **Penns Creek Weekend**

There are five spots available for a trip to Camp Guttulata, Mark Campbell's cabin right on Penn's Creek on March 20-22nd. The cabin sleeps six. Your cost for the weekend will be about \$120 per person plus your food and beverages. Contact Robert Shaw to sign up – [pa.rob47@gmail.com](mailto:pa.rob47@gmail.com). Don't wait!

#### **CVTU Membership is Currently 581!**

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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This edition of *Tight Lines* begins a new era for our publication. Starting this month, *Tight Lines* will only be published four times each year: February, May, August, and November. The newsletter will be mailed to all current members and to our contributors and supporters. If we have your e-mail address, you will continue to receive current information and reminders from the chapter. If you are not getting e-mails from the chapter, please contact us at [cvtu052@gmail.com](mailto:cvtu052@gmail.com) and we will add you to our communication list. MailChimp is our bulk e-mail provider, so check your spam box if you feel you should be getting messages from us. If you don't want to continue getting our e-mail, just unsubscribe. We will not share your address with anyone, including other TU entities. *Tight Lines* will continue to be posted on our web site for those not getting it in their mailbox.

So, what is Trout Unlimited all about? Many TU members support the organization because they believe in conservation, especially cold-water conservation. Our contributors may not know anything about TU but donate to Cumberland Valley Trout Unlimited (CVTU) because of the relationship they have with a member or us, as CVTU. So, what **is** Trout Unlimited all about? TU is a national cold-water conservation organization whose 150,000+ members work to **protect, restore, reconnect, and sustain** the cold-water streams of North America. Clean, cold water is necessary to sustain the lives of trout, salmon, and other salmonid species. Most, if not all streams, begin as cold water coming from springs, mountain snow melt, etc. Gravity carries the smallest of trickles downhill. These merge with other trickles to form streams that become rivers that flow into oceans. We feel if we protect and restore our streams, the trout fishing which we enjoy, will take care of itself.

Cumberland Valley TU has about 600 members and is one of 49 chapters in PA. Our area has the LeTort, Yellow Breeches, Big Spring, and other nationally known destination streams. This past summer, we **restored** two sections of the Yellow Breeches costing nearly \$36,000. About half of that amount came from chapter funds, the rest came from grants and in-kind donations. Without our generous donors and supporting members, that work would not have been possible. We are in the planning stages of a major LeTort **restoration**. CVTU is newly involved in **protecting** Hogestown Run, a cold-water stream that flows through the middle of the 451-acre Hempt Farm that is going to be developed in Silver Spring Township. You see, when it rains on the farm now, the water soaks into the ground. Where will it go when most of the ground becomes covered with impervious asphalt, concrete, and roofing? Where will the vehicle leakage, trash, and other pollutants go? It's a concern!

We spend close to \$4,000 supporting youth education activities at our Rivers Camp ([www.riverscamp.com](http://www.riverscamp.com)), Trout in the Classroom at local schools, Street to Streams, and more. The only way we can **sustain** our cold-water streams is to educate our youth and to share with them our love of the work we do at CVTU. We also need to tell our youth about 5 Rivers so when they get to college, they can join and continue their TU conservation and fishing experiences.

We would like all our members to feel engaged in our activities...know what's going on with CVTU and to support our activities. **CVTU does not receive a penny directly from a member's TU annual renewal.** CVTU members, how about writing a check for \$20 and returning the raffle tickets you received in the mail? You might even win! Enjoy an evening out at the Limestoner banquet on March 14<sup>th</sup> at The Carlisle Country Club. Come and join us at our monthly meetings, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month at the Appalachian Brewing Company in Mechanicsburg. You will only be a stranger at a meeting once...I promise! You're welcome to contact me at [president@pacvtu.org](mailto: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 began 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](http://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](http://www.pacvtu.org) or on Facebook.

## The Evolution of Friendship and Fishing By Robert Shaw

I've known Jared since second grade rec basketball; we played for Steinman's Ribbon and Trophy. From what I can recall we were either a dominating whirlwind of talent destined for pros. Or a tangle of 7 year old boys all jumbled up like a bird's nest of fishing line just waiting for a chance to double dribble. But ever since then Jared and I have been friends.

Our friendship really took root in 1991 when Pearl Jam released their debut album Ten. Jared had signed up for BMG and bought ten compact discs for a single penny. When BMG sent him that Pearl Jam album, we stayed up all night and learned every word to the song "Jeremy". We belted out the lyrics to that song over and over all while whispering the part that had the "F" word. Luckily for us, Jared's parents were very patient with two little 5<sup>th</sup> grade punks. Unfortunately, during high school we started to develop different friend groups. Jared continued to take honors courses and play sports. I chose different less noteworthy activities. We weren't as close as the middle school versions of ourselves but we stayed friends throughout this time and into college. We reconnected when Jared's dad, Rich, passed away from brain cancer. It was brought on from Agent Orange during his time in Vietnam. Rich was a great father and I see a lot of him in Jared now that he is also a dad. These unfortunate circumstances brought our once close friendship back into the light. This is also about the time that we were allowed into bars...so we went to bars. After college we stayed in touch but just like high school temptations can come between friends, distance had now become the factor. That is until Jared discovered that I took up fishing. See, I didn't grow up fishing. Jared always tried to get me to go, but I was a stubborn little punk. Jared, on the other hand, has been fishing as long as Pearl Jam has been putting out music.

Our friendship was again evolving. Camping and fishing replaced boozing and carousing. We began spending time on the *Cont. on Page 5*

Little Juniata River, which was where Jared learned how to high stick worms on a ten foot spinning rod. I remember him catching and releasing nearly thirty fish the first time we went together. I caught one. I couldn't believe how good he was at catching fish, so asked him to show me how to fish. He did, and he called it high stickin.

Since then we have been camping and fishing together a few times a year. Not much changed with Jared's approach to catching copious amounts of fish. On the other hand, I had begun to dabble with fly fishing. My high sticking worm days on the tenkara had begun to transition into high sticking with nymphs. I haven't fished worms in years, and now choose to tie my own patterns. Last summer I asked Jared to fish Yella creek (he won't acknowledge me if I say yellow creek) in the fly fishing only section. He agreed but hadn't fished with nymphs since a brief brush with fly fishing in high school. I told him it's just like bumpin worms, but with flies that I tied. We figured them out that day, it was a size 18 Walt's Worm that got their attention. It also got Jared's attention, he realized the challenge that comes with fly fishing and the rewards. He was hooked. He started tying his own flies within a week's time. He has been drifting nymphs ever since. He has given me some credit for teaching him how to nymph, but in reality, I just gave him a Walt's Worm instead of him giving me a red worm.

Fishing is the reason that we are close again, and I'm thankful for that.

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

The Cumberland Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited is holding the 26th annual Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp June 21-26, 2020. 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 26, 2002, and June 21, 2006.

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 the regular acceptance period must be received by February 29, 2020. Registration will be extended if the camp roster is not full until April 30, 2020. 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 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. Signup 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.

We are also looking for gillies for the 10 fishing sessions for the camp. Evening fishing begins at 6 PM and ends at dark. Morning  
*Cont. on Page 6*

sessions begin at 5:30 AM and end at 8:00 AM. Volunteer gillies wear their own vest and carry their own favorite flies to insure they have everything to make the session a successful one for the student. We do ask that gillies **NOT** carry a rod. Working with these young people is a rewarding and memorable time. We hope you will join us as often as your schedule permits. To sign -up for any or all fishing sessions, contact Biff Healy by email at [biffer1966@hotmail.com](mailto:biffer1966@hotmail.com), or call him at 717-254-7386.

## **Why is Conservation Important to Fly Fishing?**

**By Connor Meikrantz**

***Editor's Note:** Each year, participants at Trout Unlimited regional Youth Fly Fishing and Conservation summer camps are invited to enter the TU Teen Camp Essay Contest. The prompt for 2019 was "Why is conservation important to fly fishing?" Connor Meikrantz was the Grand Prize winner. To find a camp near you in 2020, visit [www.tu.org/camps](http://www.tu.org/camps).*

Someone once told me to always remember trout live in beautiful places. At the time I did not think too deeply on this sentiment because I was focused on catching fish and not on the depth of what fishing truly meant to me. As I grew older, I realized there is a lot more to this mantra than a simple statement about beauty. There was the implication that I had to play a part in maintaining these beautiful places, and if not, I would never be more than an average fisherman looking for his next catch.

Conservation efforts must go hand in hand with fly fishing as the preservation of the ecologic and aquatic environments that trout count on for life is the responsibility of mankind. I was given my first fly rod at the age of 8 and to this date it remains the best gift I have ever received. The rod meant something more to me than just a means to catch fish: it felt like an extension of myself and I was determined to become the best fisherman possible to live up to the feeling I had of receiving this rod. In order to maintain my passion for the sport, I own that I must do my part to protect the fish in their natural environment. At the age of 10 I learned about a camp that would go on to change my life and the way I see fishing and our natural environment forever. I spent the next four years waiting to be old enough to attend. It was worth the wait.

Before attending the PA Rivers Fly Fishing and Conservation Camp last summer, I was lucky enough to have a middle school science teacher who inspired me to want to protect our environment and the creatures who count on it for survival. I had already begun to develop a strong interest in paying attention to a healthy trout ecosystem and making sure to do my small part to protect it, but I was eager to learn more. One of the key lessons that I took away from the camp was that conservation is not just about picking up the can of worms or the cigarette butt sitting at the bottom of the river – it is a mindset. This mindset is not one developed in one day or in one week at a camp. Like fly fishing, a passion for conservation is a lifelong journey in which you pick up new knowledge every day.

The role of conservation in fly fishing is not just in streams or rivers or mountains or in the middle of the woods, it is in our backyards as well. Everything we do each day has a causal effect that we need to build into our mindset of how it impacts conservation. The health of our local trout and the future of the sport of fly fishing depends on how we care for our environment today. This is the mindset that I have adopted and was lucky enough to refine at the conservation camp. Whenever I go to do something as simple as spitting gum into the grass or throwing out a box of cereal, trout and conservation come to mind. Will my action negatively affect the environment of the beautiful native brook trout I caught yesterday? Simple questions like these help us strive remember to think about impact before we act. But what good is one person in these monumental efforts? While every person makes a difference, spreading the word and the knowledge I have gained from those who were so generous to pass it on to me is something I take to heart. Even if my friends do not care about fly fishing or adopt my mindset (or even the piece of trash they dropped) talking to them openly about the importance of conservation is a moral responsibility as I to try to do everything I can to protect the trout and the sport I love.

To me conservation means fulfilling my obligation to give back to the sport and to the fish that keep me grounded: fly-fishing for trout. I will always remember that trout do indeed live in beautiful places and that it is our responsibility to protect them.

*Connor is a 9<sup>th</sup> grader at Boiling Springs High  
Cont.*

*School in Boiling Springs Pennsylvania. He is a member of the Cumberland Valley Trout Unlimited Chapter and attended the 2019 Pennsylvania Rivers Fly Fishing and Conservation Camp.*



**Wildlife Leadership Academy  
Applications Accepted Until March  
15, 2020**

**By Canyon Moore, Bucktail Alumni**

Have you ever wanted to learn more about Pennsylvania wildlife? The Pennsylvania Wildlife Leadership Academy may be your solution. The Wildlife Leadership Academy offers week long intensive field camps on white-tailed deer, bear, bass, wild turkey, and brook trout. The camps are for youth ages 14 to 17. Applications are being accepted until March 15, 2020 for the summer 2020 season.

Last summer, I attended the White-tailed Deer camp otherwise known as the Bucktails camp. We did a variety of activities that were very educational. Throughout the

week, we had many speakers who talked about various aspects of deer biology and habitat. There were also in-the-field activities such as plant identification, plant pressing, and nature sketching. My favorite part of the camp was when we went to the shooting range. Being an avid shooter, I was excited to go. While we were at the range, there were several stations: (my favorite) a USDA sharp shooter presentation, clay bird shoot, rifle shoot, and archery. Each day we also had trivia which enabled us to show our knowledge and what we had learned to that point. Our teams received points for certain activities throughout the week. The highest scoring team went on a sponsored pheasant hunt. The whole experience of the camp was amazing, and I would recommend the camps to anyone, especially those who enjoy the outdoors and who have an interest in wildlife and fisheries.

If you or a young person that you know are interested in attending the Wildlife Leadership Academy, you can find more information at <https://wildlifeleadershipacademy.org>. To speak to someone directly, you can reach Katie Cassidy, outreach coordinator, by phone at 570-939-5109 or email [kcassidy@wildlifeleadershipacademy.org](mailto:kcassidy@wildlifeleadershipacademy.org). If you would like to speak to an alumnus, you can reach me, Canyon Moore, at [springpeeper94@gmail.com](mailto:springpeeper94@gmail.com). I would love to give you more information about my fantastic experience, and I would be happy to nominate you or your interested student.



