



# TIGHT LINES

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



Volume 26 Issue 2

Cumberland Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited

May-August 2021

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

## CONTENTS:

Normalcy.....	1
Member's Meeting.....	1
Quick Bites & Short Strikes.....	2
Tight Lines Distribution and Mail Chimp.....	2
Calendar of Events.....	2
Membership Info.....	2
Address Change.....	2
Senior Discount.....	2
FITS Work.....	2
President's Message.....	3
Officers & Directors.....	3
2021 Youth Camp.....	4
E. Licking Creek.....	4
Elodea & Trout Food.....	5



## A Return to Normalcy

By Dave Weaver

What is normalcy for you? For Cumberland Valley Trout Unlimited? Like everyone else in all walks of American life we're feeling and working our way back to normalcy, whatever that means exactly. This is, needless to say, crucial. Your chapter, like everyone else, canceled events, moved to Zoom, and held on as best we could. For many of us, time on the water and fly fishing helped move us through the last year in ways we could never have imagined as recently as 2019. Now, with new buzzwords like "fully vaxed" out in the lexicon, we begin the trek back to our in-person events, stream projects, fishing trips, and chapter meetings. Optimism is in the air. When the pandemic has passed, we can remember that it never knocked us down, just slowed us a bit. Progress continues to be made. Our streams continue to be there for us as they were throughout the pandemic. Let's continue to be there for them. . . just as in normal times.



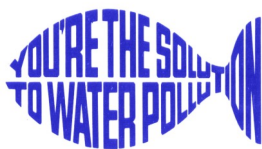
Stocking the Yellow Breeches, Image Courtesy: S. Rob

## Next Meeting: Wed. May 19th, South Middleton Park

Our May membership meeting will feature Kelsey Miller. Kelsey is the DCNR Lawn Conservation Program Coordinator of the Watershed Forestry Team on converting your lawn, or part of it, for wildlife. Meeting will be outdoors at South Middleton Park - Pavilion#1 - start @ 6 PM, bring your own dinner...chapter providing beverages...drawing for \$100 Giant gift card. Keep an eye on email for updates.

# Quick Bites and Short Strikes

Dave Weaver - Editor



## Calendar of Events

2021

May 19th  
Membership Meeting

May 22nd  
Fishing Trip,  
Clarks Creek

Jun. 5th  
Fishing Trip,  
E. Licking Creek

Aug. 21st  
Picnic,  
Carlisle Fish & Game

Sep. 11th  
Last Supper,  
Vince's Meadow

Oct 16th  
Limestoner,  
Carlisle Country Club



Image: D. Weaver

~ If you want to continue receiving *Tight Lines*:

- Share your e-mail address with CVTU. We will not share it with anyone else. You can always unsubscribe.
- Drop a note to CVTU, PO Box 520, Carlisle PA 17013 and ask to have future publications mailed to your home.
- You can go to our web site, [www.pacvtu.org](http://www.pacvtu.org) and read the current and past publications.

John Leonard

~ Submission of articles and suggestions for this newsletter are encouraged and may be sent to [cvtu052@gmail.com](mailto:cvtu052@gmail.com). The deadline for the next issue is the 25th of each month prior to the next newsletter. *Tight Lines* is published in Feb., May, Aug., and Nov. 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)

~ On March 23 and April 29, the Feet In The Stream (FITS) crew had work parties: Vince's and Trego's Meadows were cleaned up and some dead limbs and brush were cleaned up. Additionally, a motion light has been installed at Vince's Meadow in a effort to deter "after-dark" activities. The FITS crew also has began weed cutting at Bonney Brook, along with channel clearing and Reed Canary grass removal. Please keep your eyes on future dates coming via Chapter emails.

Neil Sunday



Image Courtesy: D. Weaver

## CVTU Membership is Currently 640!

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 **Mary Shugart**, Membership Chairman.

# President's Message

From the President, John Leonard

## Cumberland Valley Chapter Officers and Directors (term)

To contact any of the following individuals, please use:

[cvtu052@gmail.com](mailto:cvtu052@gmail.com)

### **President:**

John Leonard, (21)

### **Vice President:**

John Zazworsky, (21)

### **Secretary:**

Daryll Kuhn, (23)

### **Treasurer:**

Jeb Betar, (22)

### **Newsletter Editor:**

Dave Weaver

### **Meeting Speaker Coordinator:**

Eric Naguski, (21)

### **Conservation Chair:**

Neil Sunday, (22)

### **Conservation Committee:**

Tom Baltz, (23)

### **Activities Committee:**

Bob Lipscomb, (22)

### **Membership Chair:**

Mary Shughart, (21)

### **Fundraising Chair:**

Gary Leone, (21)

### **Fundraising Chair:**

Justin Pittman, (22)

### **Information and education Chair:**

Keith Tyler, (22)

### **Activities Chair:**

Dan Zazworsky, (23)

### **Conservation Committee:**

George Reilly, (23)

### **Social Media:**

Garrett Kieffer, (23)

The time has finally come when we can open back up to having face-to-face outdoor membership meetings, breakfasts, and other chapter activities. If you don't feel the time is right for you, please wait until **you** feel it is safe for **you**. Our guidance from TU for now is that all attending any CVTU event will need to sign-in with your e-mail address and phone number and wear a mask and maintain social distancing unless you are eating. Our May membership meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> will be in-person...stay tuned for details.

Our activities are beginning to ramp up, too. There is a chapter trip to Clark's Creek on May 22<sup>nd</sup> and another to East Licking Creek on June 5<sup>th</sup>. Information has been sent to the membership, but there's still time to sign up. Dan Zazworsky is our Activities Committee Chairman ([zazoutdoors@gmail.com](mailto:zazoutdoors@gmail.com))...reach out to him for more information or to sign up for a trip.

PA Fish & Boat has created habitat restoration units whose job is to decrease siltation in streams in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. On 2/26/21, a group of us met with Cameron Englehart, Crew Chief of the unit that works in our area, and his PA F&B associates at the mouth of the LeTort. It looks like F & B will do work there to prevent further erosion. We're hoping the work can get done in 2022. After we finish the Wittlinger project on the Breeches this summer, we'll be setting our sights on a project on the Barnitz United Methodist Church property. This area is an extremely popular fishing spot, pretty much devoid of any holding structure, and the west bank is heavily eroded. The preliminary thought is to use deflectors to move the water towards the center of the Breeches and to add in-stream boulders for holding structure. We just received the plan from TU and have shared it with the church's pastor. The approximate cost of this project is \$21,500. If you would like to see the plan, please e-mail me. The LeTort Planning Committee's restoration study should be completed and published by the end of August. The group meets monthly, and plans **are** moving forward. I have attended meetings with Silver Spring Township officials, their engineering firm, and Fish & Boat to talk about Hogestown Run and the Hempt Farm development. Much of Hogestown Run, a designated wild brown trout stream, has been channelized over the years. The township is looking at a restoration project from North Locust Point Road almost to Hempt Road, nearly a half mile. Mark Sausser, PA F&B's Habitat Manager, had a great suggestion. He proposed adding in-stream deflectors to move the water back towards the near bank. On that bank, build a deflector to move the water back towards the near bank. Through a series of deflectors, the water will flow in a more natural serpentine direction and the deflectors will add habitat. Riparian buffers will be added along the stream to reinforce the banks.

A big shout out and a huge THANK YOU to Garrett Kieffer and committee for conducting another successful online Limestoner auction.

Keeping you engaged with CVTU during the COVID pandemic has been a real challenge for the chapter's leadership. We have tried with limited success to hold monthly membership meetings with speakers that we thought you would enjoy. Now that many of you have gotten your COVID vaccine shots, we hope you start to come back and enjoy the monthly meetings and other activities. We have our annual family picnic scheduled August 21<sup>st</sup> at the Carlisle Fish & Game in their air-conditioned barn. Pencil in the date...the menu and sign-up information will be out soon. We will hold our annual "Last Supper" on September 11<sup>th</sup> at Vince's Meadow. On October 16<sup>th</sup> we will (finally!) be holding our Limestoner Banquet and Fundraiser at the Carlisle Country Club. The event will be more of a social event than in the past. Yes, we will still have a few silent auction items, raffles, etc., so "don't leave home without it". Henry Ramsay will be receiving our Charles K. Fox "Rising Trout" Award honoring Henry for all his work to further the sport of fly fishing. A member will be recognized with the Order of the Quill Award and our chapter's most prestigious Limestoner Award will be given to a member in recognition for all his/her CVTU work. It will be so good getting the CVTU family together again.

*Cont. on p. 4*



I am always available to answer your questions, listen to your suggestions, or to hear your concerns...call me (717-512-4620).  
Stay well and God bless!

Tight Lines,

*John*



### **2021 Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp by Clark Hall**

To help with social distancing at camp, we have reduced the size of the 2021 class from 32 to 24. 17 of the applicants accepted for the 2020 camp confirmed their intention to attend in 2021. We have accepted 7 new applicants during the Early Acceptance period which ended 12/31/2020. Therefore, **the 2021 camp is now full**. We are accepting applicants for the Alternate List during the Regular Acceptance Period (January & February). There will be no Extended Application Period this year.

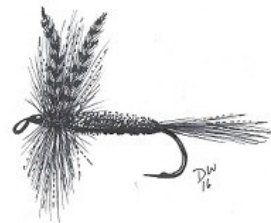
We need gillies during the 10 fishing sessions for the camp. Evening fishing begins at 6 PM and ends at dark. Morning sessions begin at 5:30 AM and end at 8 AM. Volunteer gillies wear their own vest and carry their own favorite flies to insure they have everything to make the session a successful one 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 to be a camp ghillie, contact **Biff Healy** by email at [biffer1966@hotmail.com](mailto:biffer1966@hotmail.com).

Each camper receives a fly box with approximately 4 dozen flies, so they have a good selection for the fishing sessions. We are looking for volunteers to tie flies to donate to the camp. To participate, tie two dozen flies of your favorite pattern. To sign-up to donate flies, contact **Clark Hall** by email at [chall2636@verizon.net](mailto:chall2636@verizon.net).

### **East Licking Creek 2021 By Ken Okorn**

The annual (except for last year) day trip to East Licking Creek is planned for Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021. This is a small to medium size freestone stream located near Port Royal in Juniata County. For those who are not familiar with this stream, it is comparable to Mountain Creek in size. Approximately 20 miles of the stream are stocked by the PA Fish and Boat Commission with browns and rainbows. The Clearview Reservoir, a water supply for Mifflintown, is located near the midpoint. Downstream from the reservoir, the stream flows through farmland that is mostly open to public fishing. Upstream, it flows through both the Tuscarora State Forest and property owned by the water supply that is open to public fishing. In addition to the stocked fish, the stream above the reservoir has a very good population of native brook trout and some wild browns. A Delayed Harvest Artificial Lures Only section begins at the upstream boundary of the Karl Guss Picnic Area and extends upstream for a distance of four miles.

Our group will meet at the Karl Guss Picnic Area along Licking Creek Drive in the Tuscarora State Forest at approximately 9:00 AM. We have reserved the pavilion at the picnic area for the day. We will have a lunch at the picnic area at 1:00 PM. Lunch will include kielbasa and hot dogs, home made sauerkraut, macaroni or potato salad, other sides, chips and other snacks, and bottled water for drinking. The cost will be \$5.00 per person, payable on arrival. Please bring the exact amount to pay for lunch. The lunch is limited to 25 persons, which is the maximum capacity of our cooking equipment. Covid concerns present some issues that we have not dealt with on our past trips. Several members have volunteered to serve the food rather than the usual self serve set up. This is intended to minimize the handling of the serving utensils by a large number of people.



## **Elodea and Trout Food (Part 1)**

**By Jerry Kerstetter**

I have been fishing the Letort since the mid 70s and this trout stream is a classic meadow limestoner. All of these types of streams have several kinds of aquatic vegetation not found in freestone streams. One of these plants is elodea and it is rooted in the silt. It actually thrives and expands in silt laden stream bottoms. Any place silt accumulates this elodea will take hold. Back when I started fishing the Letort this elodea was the dominate instream plant. In many locations this elodea was bank to bank and causing problems because of its expansive growth. The stream flow velocity slowed which caused more silt collection. The stream water was displaced over its banks into side meadows again causing slower velocity. Thick elodea beds established themselves in the stream bed and thus acted as stream deflectors. Many times this deflected flow was right into bank areas causing erosion. When the traditional streams banks eroded the stream then it became wider eliminating deeper water and again the flow decreased, which caused more silt collection. This elodea plant thrived in the silty Letort and the watercress farm in the head waters fertilized their watercress plants located in numerous bogs. This fertilized water then entered the mainstem of the Letort and of course fertilized all existing in stream plants.

Dave Williams (CVTU president) had a river keeper from England demonstrate elodea removal. He showed that selective elodea removal in one of these beds created an open channel. Water flowing through this channel cleared out the silt. This of course stopped the elodea growth and restricted its expansion. Several CVTU members began removing elodea starting at the Bonny brook bridge down stream to the lower quarry bridge. I expanded this removal to some other stream sections. During this removal it became obvious this elodea contained a food chain of edible items for the trout. Those items being sculpins, cressbugs, scuds, crawfish, and some mayfly nymphs. I was amazed regarding the numbers of these items in one clump of elodea.

The sculpins would dart out of a clump of elodea. This darting was in short fast spurts moving in a downward direction looking for another resting area. Most of these sculpins

were one to three inches long. They had a flat head and a body that slimmed down into a rounded tail. The body coloration was a molted light to dark brown. They also had darker bands over their backs and sides. Their belly was light brown with hints of yellow. The smallest were lighter brown and ones slightly larger were darker brown. The biggest sculpins were much darker heading into black. I am not an expert in this field, however it seemed as they became darker their size increased. So therefore, those almost completely black were the oldest. I did notice that those almost black sculpins did not exhibit the quick darting motion. I saw a good number of these blackish ones and they were being carried with the stream current. The darting or swimming motion was very slow, i picked them up out of the water very easily. I think these blackish sculpins were heading into their end of life stages and they would be easy prey for the trout. The largest numbers of sculpins were in that brownish coloration.

My sculpin fly is tied utilizing these brownish colors with an extended weight at the front. A bar bell weight is tied onto the extension and sinks the fly quickly. This could simulate the downward darting motion. I have been using this extension weight system for many years and it will work on any streamer. Some who have fished with me know nothing about this system. This is the first time I have talked about it, as it is one of my secrets.

I will explain how this weight extension is made with a round bobby pin. The bobby pin will be fashioned so it has two eyes, one for the fly connection and the other for leader connection. Keep in mind this extension does not have to be very long. Once it is completed and connected to the hook the fly can move up and down and sideways. The hook for this fly can be used to make the extension. Place the hook into the vice and then place the bobby pin on the hook at the pin bend. Pull both pin wires around the hook at the same time. This will make one eye and cut off one pin wire leaving enough wire so it can be tied against the other side wire. This eye will be used to connect to the sculpin fly. Now make a second eye in front of the other eye. Keep in mind the space between the eyes will be the platform to tie on the bar bell weight. Make the second eye and cut off excess pin wire leaving just enough so the two sections can be drawn together with the

*Cont. on P. 6*

thread. Remove the hook and place the extension in the vice and tie the two wires together and whip finish. Place the bar bell weight on top of the two wires just secured and fasten it with thread as you would on a hook and whip finish. Remove the extension and place hook in the vice and connect the extension to the hook eye and again tie the two wires together and whip finish.

Follow the below instructions for my sculpin fly:  
Hook: Owner mosquito 5177-071 or other short shank hook

Thread: 6/0 brown or yellow

Feathers: Grizzly marabou brown an olive

Head: Sculpin wool brown

Extension: Round bobby pin

Belly: Yellow marabou fibers

Weight: Bar bell weight

1. With hook in vice wrap thread to the bend.
2. Tie on 2 grizzly feathers on top of the hook and wrap thread forward 4 or 5 turns, cut off excess.
3. Tie on rear area yellow marabou fibers in front of the tail area.
4. Make thread loop and put the sculpin wool into loop and twist tightly.
5. Start wrapping the wool filled loop forward, after each wrap push back the last wrap, leave a small space behind hook eye for belly and top.
6. Tie off the loop and whip finish.
7. Pick out the wool head fibers on all sides, then cut top and bottom flat.
8. Tie on front belly fibers on top of hook extending to the rear belly fibers.
9. Reverse hook point up and tie on 2 olive grizzly marabou feathers extending to the hook point.

If your sculpin fly settles on the bottom move it with a quick short rod tip movement, I call this the sculpin jerk and it could get the attention of a trout.



Letort Work Party, Image Courtesy: N. Sunday



Work Party, Image Courtesy: S. Rob

