



## Leaders & Tippetts

### In January

When: 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2005

Where: Commonwealth Bank & Trust Co.  
286 North Hubbards Lane.

Tom Fitzgerald, environmental attorney and director of Kentucky Resources Council, will speak and give an update on legislation matters undertaken in 2004.

### *President's Corner*

*By Frank Elsen*

#### *The Christmas Trout*

The week before Christmas came a small package from Kirk Otey, Chair of the Trout Unlimited National Leadership Council. Seldom having received such from TU, I opened it quickly. It was a gift of a lovely solid glass Rainbow Trout tree ornament. Beautifully caught in the classically artistic jumping pose, the curled tail trailed its sleek, smooth body. Holding it to the sun's rays, the internal viscera generated a brilliant, prismatic flourish of rainbow colors.

I immediately placed the Christmas Trout in a prominent spot on this year's tree. There it has since hung, radiating its

“rainbowness.” Passing by, I frequently paused to notice reflections emanating from it. Gradually the ornament seemed to be increasingly reflective, and then mystically, the Christmas Trout morphed into an icon of personal reflections.

Pausing once, memories of floats on the Madison, golden eagles circling high were reflected. Chance stops and wades on the Gallatin, Slough Creek, and the Lamar appeared. Stop again, and boating a big brown in the midst of a huge caddis hatch on the Cumberland appeared. Another look and a lovely cutthroat would spring from multiple casts to plenteous riseforms on the Yellowstone. Even a few big break offs and challenging losses were dimly reflected.

I'll be putting my Christmas Trout away in a few days, wrapping it carefully so that it can be returned to a prominent spot on next year's tree, and hoping that it will again be reflecting another year of pleasant memories, wholesome experiences, and exceptional fishing.

I hope the same reflections come your way.

Happy New Year and Peace.

## **Outsourcing at National Fish Hatcheries**

The Federal Office of Management and Budget has proposed, in a Circular entitled "Competitive Sourcing for Aquatic Species Husbandry Functions" to open bids for hatchery positions. This could result in National Fish Hatchery personnel being replaced with contract employees under the supervision of outside contractors. The result of this action by the Department of the Interior could result in negative impacts to fishing opportunities, the economies of local and regional areas, and other resources. The proposal has come as a surprise to many sport fishing organizations as well as, it would seem, The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service itself. The deadline for submitting proposals is February 28<sup>th</sup>. But, in a call on December 12<sup>th</sup> to the Public Affairs Office of the Service, they state that they were gathering data and an information sheet would be published in a week.

This is a very complicated and bureaucratic process involving several agencies. U.S. Fish & Wildlife has been less than forthcoming. Under orders of the Director, most of the Service personnel that are contacted will not provide any information.

Gathering data and making numerous contacts has revealed that there is near universal criticism to the process, to the proposal and to proceeding with it. Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife

Commissioner Tom Bennett has written to Steve Williams, Director of the U.S. F&W Service asking for reconsideration. Our Louisville Chapter of Trout Unlimited has also written to Mr. Williams asking for a reexamination of the policy before proceeding.

Steve Moyer, Vice President of Governmental Affairs of Trout Unlimited has been following this closely. He has met with several agencies and organizations. As a result, TU, along with some twenty other sportfishing organizations, has signed off on a letter to Mr. James Connaughton, Chairman of the Presidents Council on Environmental Quality. The letter expresses "extreme disappointment" that input of the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnerships were not solicited. It also is critical of the proposal and requests a meeting to discuss it. The results of this early January meeting will determine our strategy. Stay tuned. We may need your help.

## *Louisville Chapter Planned Outings*

The Outings Committee has planned two fishing trips for early 2005. Both trips are scheduled with alternate dates to allow for inclement weather or adverse stream conditions. If you are interested in either or both of these trips, just contact the trip coordinator. The trips are as follows:

### **February 19 (alternate date - February 26)**

A day trip to the *Catch and Release* streams in the Red River Gorge. We will fish either (or both) East Fork Indian Creek or Swift Camp Creek, depending on conditions. Roy Weeks is coordinating this trip and can be contacted at (502) 845-8081 or [outings@louisvilletu.org](mailto:outings@louisvilletu.org)

### **March 11, 12 and 13 (alternate dates, March 18, 19, 20)**

- A weekend trip to Gatlinburg, TN to fish the delayed harvest area of the Little Pigeon River in Gatlinburg proper. This will be a long weekend, down on Friday morning to fish that afternoon, Saturday and Sunday morning. This is far from a pristine, wilderness fishing experience, but the river should have an abundance of big fish by then. Barry Morris is coordinating this trip and can be contacted at 585-4562 or [treasurer@louisvilletu.org](mailto:treasurer@louisvilletu.org).

In addition to these outings, a trip to Yellowstone National Park is available if you act fast. A contingent from Louisville TU will visit and fish YNP this summer from July 20 thru 29. The group will stay in the cabins at Roosevelt Lodge as in the past. However, there is **NO** block of reserved cabins. If you want to go, you need to call (307) 344-7311 for reservations **as soon as possible**. These cabins do reserve early, so time is of the essence. If you need further info, please contact Roy Weeks at (502) 845-8081 or [outings@louisvilletu.org](mailto:outings@louisvilletu.org).

Other trips are still in the planning stage. We hope to include trips to the Elk River in W. VA., western North Carolina, the Brookville tailwater in Indiana, and early Fall trips to Montana and Colorado. In addition, trips to local KY and TN streams are being planned. These will all be included in future newsletters or at the monthly meetings. In order to make these trips work, the Outings Committee is always in need of coordinators to facilitate trips. If you have a stream you are interested in fishing with a group and would be willing to help the committee plan a trip there, or just want to help with specific trip plans, please let a committee member know. (Committee: Roy Weeks, Deloris Cummings, Roger Shott, and Nancy Walsh).

## ***Louisville Chapter of Trout Unlimited Annual Report for 2004***

BEGINNING BANK BALANCE JANUARY 1, 2004 \$11,782.11

### **CASH INFLOWS**

RAFFLES	\$1,163.25
BANQUET REVENUE	4,594.00
LOCAL DONATIONS & CASH GIFTS	300.00
SALES OF MERCHANDISE	436.00
MEMBERSHIP	399.00
REBATES FROM TU NATIONAL	408.00
<b>TOTAL INFLOWS</b>	<b>\$7,300.25</b>

### **CASH OUTFLOWS**

NEWSLETTER / OTHER MAILING (PRINTING AND MAILING)	\$1,807.49
CHAPTER MEETINGS (ROOM / SPEAKER)	1,418.50
HABITAT PROJECTS	650.00
COST OF MERCHANDISE	339.85

### **BANQUET**

PROMOTION / PRINTING COST	335.45
PRIZE PURCHASES – NATIONAL CATALOG	577.58
PRIZE PURCHASES – OTHER	522.42
MEALS – ROOM	865.00
RAFFLES	400.00
SPECIAL EVENTS	1,175.16
EDUCATION / MEMBERSHIP	908.95
<b>TOTAL OUTFLOWS</b>	<b>\$9,000.40</b>
<b>NET INFLOW / OUTFLOW</b>	<b>-\$1,700.15</b>

ENDING BANK BALANCE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2004 \$10,081.96

## ***Fly Tying Classes***

Free fly tying classes are held the second Tuesday of every month in the Aero Club at Bowman Field at 7:00 p.m. In February, Jim Green will tie a Sulfur Dry, and in March Gerry McDaniel will tie a Foam Frog.

## ***Jim Strader Hunting & Fishing Expo***

Once again we will be operating a booth at the Jim Strader Hunting & Fishing Expo at the Commonwealth Convention Center in downtown Louisville all three days, February 11-13. Volunteers are needed, 2-3 people for each time slot, especially for Saturday.

If you'd like to volunteer you can call Nancy and Tom Walsh at 412-5627 you may email them at [webmaster@louisvilletu.org](mailto:webmaster@louisvilletu.org).

## ***Fish Bites***

- The Louisville Chapter of Trout Unlimited sent \$250 to the national organization for the “Embrace-A-Stream” project, the flagship grant program for funding Trout Unlimited grassroots fishery conservation efforts for coldwater streams.
- Due to vacationing members during the month of July, the Board of Directors voted to not have a general meeting in July. The motion was passed unanimously.

### **In February**

On February 22<sup>nd</sup> Deloris Cummings, who is a physical therapy instructor at Jefferson Community College, will give a presentation on fly casting ergonomics. She will talk about arm, shoulder, and ankle injuries, and prevention and care on and off the stream.



*The Cumberland River*

## ***Trout Unlimited***

### **Louisville Chapter #476**

Editor: Tim Woodring

January-February 2005

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