

# Trout Unlimited

Louisville Chapter #476

Editor: Barry Morris

July - August, 2005

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## **P r e s i d e n t s   C o r n e r** **F r a n k   E l s e n**

I had not attended a Fish & Wildlife Commission meeting in quite some time until I decided to take one in on Friday, June 3, 2005. I have to admit that I would have rather been heading south to Townsend, Tennessee for the second annual Trout Fest. However, the grandfatherly duties of attending my granddaughter's birthday party put a damper on that chance. Instead, I headed east to what a friend has euphemistically called the "Holy City".

As a heavy rainstorm pelted the windshield, I began rationalizing my attendance- Maybe; I'll see some old friends; make some new contacts; maybe even some new fishing buddies; may even learn something new. It wasn't long before something new appeared. It was Jim Host, Secretary of the Commerce Cabinet and some feel the number two man in Governor Fletcher's cabinet. After the Chairman introduced him, he took a seat immediately to the left of the Chairman. Before making his presentation, he proffered his comments on the first several administrative agenda items before the Commission.

He began his presentation by showing the "Unbridled Spirit" TV commercial, which was first shown on the Kentucky Derby telecast by NBC (at no charge he noted). This commercial will be used to promote Kentucky tourism in the future (no longer free, I assume). Proceeding to show several slick magazines from out of state sources, he presented the commissioners with the challenge of raising the marketing of Kentucky Outdoors to a higher level. When a Commissioner asked about the cost of marketing, he offered that this would have to be considered in their future budgeting process.

In closing, he extolled the virtues of Kentucky's stream, its woodlands, its fish & wildlife and ended by declaring Kentucky "The Outdoor Capital of the Nation."

Heading back I-64 my thoughts turned back to the "New Holy City" that I had discovered. I am not naïve enough to assume that politics have not previously been involved in the Fish and Wildlife operation. But I had never been to a Commission meeting when a Cabinet Secretary took such an active part. This should be a wake up call for those who are concerned with the protection of Fish and Wildlife. The Holy City has changed. One of the High Priests has crossed over the River and delivered a new message to the congregation - Come with Us. This is may be beneficial, as long as political supremacy does not overrule the voice of the sportsman. Keep tuned and stay alert.

## Annual Elections

Your board of directors has formed a nominating committee to find people to serve on the board for 2006. The elections will be held at our regular meeting in October. If you would be willing to serve, please contact Frank Elsen, Nancy Walsh or Barry Morris. We need your ideas to keep the chapter alive, active and growing.

# Louisville TU Annual Banquet

## DEAR MEMBER:

The Louisville Chapter of Trout Unlimited will hold its annual fund raising banquet on September 27<sup>th</sup> at the Knights of Columbus Hall on River Rd. Items donated from various individuals, businesses and friends of trout are auctioned off during the banquet and the money raised is used to fund an array of projects our chapter participates in throughout the year. The following represents just some of the projects or activities our chapter is involved in now, in the past and into the future.

- \* **Casting for Recovery** – a fly fishing program for women breast cancer survivors
- \* **Reel Recovery** – a fly fishing program for men cancer survivors
- \* Rainbow & Brown trout tagging and stocking program on the Cumberland River
- \* Field studies of insect life on the Cumberland River
- \* Purchase of radio telemetry equipment for the Ky. Dept. of Fish & Wildlife to assist in trout migration studies in the Cumberland
- \* Wolf Creek Dam generation and flow studies and dissolved oxygen studies on the Cumberland River to improve water quality
- \* Lobbying efforts to protect cold-water fisheries in Kentucky
- \* Sponsoring monthly speakers who share information and expertise at meetings
- \* Fly casting & fly tying classes
- \* Boy Scout Fly Fishing merit badge instruction

As you can see, we have a very active chapter here and are doing what we can to improve the natural habitat for trout and to educate others about the environment. Trout Unlimited would appreciate any item you would care to donate to the auction. All donated items are tax deductible. If your item is in the form of a gift certificate, you can mail it to me or if you donate another item, I would be glad to pick it up. Let me know! Donations do not have to be fish related.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and for helping The Louisville Chapter of Trout Unlimited restore and preserve our cold water streams and rivers and the trout that swim in them.

Best regards,

Lee Squires

Annual Banquet Chairperson and Past President

Louisville Trout Unlimited

405 Springwood Lane

Louisville, KY 40207

(502) 895-9997

squi9997@bellsouth.net

**WHEN:** Tuesday September 27, 2005

**Happy Hour at 6:00 PM**

**Dinner served at 7:30 PM**

**WHERE:** Knights of Columbus Hall

**4417 Upper River Road**

**COST:** \$30.00 per person

**with paid reservation**

**\$35.00 at the door**

**We are asking that you pay when you make your reservations this year so that we can run more smoothly the night of the banquet. All the people that have paid reservations postmarked by September 13<sup>th</sup> will be placed in an early bird raffle for a really nice item the night of the banquet.**

**Reservation may be made by contacting our banquet chairman, Lee Squires at the regular meeting in August, or by mailing your check and a list of people you are making reservation for to:**

**Lee Squires**

**Annual Banquet Chairperson**

**405 Springwood Lane**

**Louisville, KY 40207**

**Deadline for submitting articles for the next newsletter is August 19, 2005**



## 2005 Cancer Retreats Planned

### Casting For Recovery (CFR) & Reel Recovery (RR)

CFR and RR will both be held at Wooded Glen Retreat and Conference Center in Henryville, Indiana. CFR is for women who are recent survivors of breast cancer. RR is for men who recently have survived any form of life-threatening cancer.

These two FREE programs are national organizations and the Kentucky partnerships are operated by a steering committee headed by Mike Lubeach. Participating partners include Kentucky Cancer Program, TU, KDFWR, Orvis Outfitters and a few others. CFR is mostly funded by our local affiliate of Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. RR is being funded by Lance Armstrong Foundation, Caritas, and others. The following websites tell the story of CFR, RR & Wooded Glen:

[www.castingforrecovery.org](http://www.castingforrecovery.org)     [www.reelrecovery.org](http://www.reelrecovery.org)  
[www.woodedglen.com](http://www.woodedglen.com)

#### Retreat Schedule:

CFR = July 22-24, 2005 10 "Lake Helper" volunteers needed for that Sunday. Free Luncheon  
RR = Aug. 12-14, 2005 12 "Fishing Buddy" volunteers each for Sat. & Sun. Free Lunch

Volunteers need to contact Mike Lubeach for Volunteer Application Forms (to be sent directly to the CFR and/or RR headquarters in advance.) Preference has been requested by RR for some volunteers with personal history of cancer, but not a mandatory prerequisite.

Our national contracts do require maximum numbers of participants, staff, volunteers, and media. This is not a spectator event and the delicacy and sensitivity of each participant is respected. Professionals in physical and psychotherapy will be part of the staffing as well as fly fishing instructors. Our first CFR retreat was a great success and we hope to continue this success with this year's programs. Those volunteers who participated last October's weekend at Lake Cumberland were richly rewarded by the experience.

**Mike Lubeach**  
1110 Chamberlain Hill Road  
Louisville, KY 40207



Jason Squires battling his Dowagiac Steelhead with guide, Todd, ready with the net

### New Web-site Spawns Change to How Louisville TU's Newsletter Will Be Delivered

[www.louisvilletu.org](http://www.louisvilletu.org)

That's our new web-site! Our chapter recently moved into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century by creating a new chapter web-site. This move has given us the opportunity for more exposure and to give more information about our chapter and our activities. Our newsletter also will begin appearing on this web-site. This electronic milestone has given us the opportunity to allocate and prioritize funds where they are needed. To this end, there is an insert inside this newsletter with a questionnaire asking you about your preference how you would like to receive your newsletter in the future. Please take the opportunity to fill out the form to let us know your preference.

The hard copy newsletter will continue to be mailed through the November – December issue. At that time if we haven't received a questionnaire back from you telling us your wishes, we will have to assume that the web-site works well for you and you require neither a hard copy mailed to you or E-mail notification that the newsletter is up on the web-site.

Again, the November-December issue will be the last hard copy mailed unless we hear from you that you still wish to receive it that way. If you do wish to continue receiving a hard copy by mail, it will be sent to you at no cost just as in the past.



### Chapter Outings

If you have some place you would be interested in fishing or some place you are experienced at fishing that you would be willing to coordinate an outing to. Please contact Roy Weeks at, [outings@louisvilletu.org](mailto:outings@louisvilletu.org)

**We are trying to have more chapter outings, but if you don't tell us where you would like to go and you aren't willing to help coordinate some of these trips, we can't make them work.**

### Free Fly Tying Classes

**Classes are held the second Tuesday of the month at the Aero Club in Bowman Field.**

**We meet at 7:00 PM and those who are beginners all the way up to the experienced tyer will be able to gain something from these sessions**

**In July, Tom Walsh will tie a Gray Wolfe Pattern**

**In August, Delores Cummings will tie a soft Hackle**

**In September, Barry Morris will give a refresher on the Chicago Fly**

**In October, Steve Woodring will tie a fly to be named later**

**November and December are still open at this time**

### Upcoming Chapter Meetings

**There will be no regular meeting in July due to past low attendance with a lot of our group being on vacations at that time**

In August we will have our annual "Vacation Pictures and Fishing Stories" meeting. If you have any pictures of your latest fishing adventure, bring them along to share with the group. Again this year we will have a "Swap, Sell and Buy" to go along with the vacation pictures. If you have any fly fishing equipment that you don't use anymore, bring it along and see what kind of deal you can make. Your unused item might just be someone else's buried treasure!



**GEORGE SMITH INSTRUCTS THE TYING CLASS ON ONE OF HIS FAVORITE FLIES**

## Spring Steelhead

By Lee Squires

In April of this year Linda and I decided to go after the elusive and hard to catch Steelhead Trout. Where to go was the next question. We weren't into fishing the old tried and true haunts of the much publicized Steelhead fisheries. So, we decided to branch out into some unknown territory and try our luck on these pugilistic beauties.

Last year we met Dustan Harley (you couldn't make up a better name) of Ripple Guide Service, at the Cincinnati Fly Fishing Expo. Dustan seemed like a sincere and down to earth guide so we took his advice and booked a trip to one of the least known and best Steelhead rivers in this part of the country, the St. Joseph River in South Bend, Indiana. "The Joe" as Dustan calls it, has yielded some good fish in the past so we booked a trip in early April.

Of course, Notre Dame University is in South Bend and we fished alongside the campus of St. Mary's College which is adjacent to "The Joe". The fish migrate out of Lake Michigan and come into "The Joe" to spawn for a 4-5 week period in March to April depending on the weather. Know how South Bend gets its name? Flowing from east to west "The Joe" makes its southernmost bend at South Bend, Indiana before it heads north and empties into Lake Michigan at Benton Harbor.

We met Dustan and headed out in his motorized drift boat with St. Mary's buildings looming over the water. The gear was fairly basic: 8-9 wt. rods, two flies and three split shot. A basic "chuck and duck" rig. We could see the fish holding in their spawning beds waiting for the right morsel to float by. I think Linda was the first to hook one. Immediately it took off up river and got into the backing in short order. Ah, ha, we had a motor; so we followed the fish as best we could. After a good battle and plenty of excitement Linda landed her first Steelhead. Also, the largest fish she had ever caught, a ten pounder. I caught one too on day one but we hooked probably 15 fish only to have them pull off when the fight got tough. They are not easy to land!

On day two we changed gears and went to Niles, Michigan to fish the Dowagiac River. This time with a drift boat and guide Jake. "The Do" is a shallow, narrow river that you can walk across in most places. We hooked some hogs and battled them royally but the majority were never introduced to the net. In one

interesting duel, Linda hooked a big momma and we were wading in knee deep water. It swam right at her, encircled her twice with fly line, untangled itself and bolted downstream with Linda and the guide in hot pursuit dodging and sliding on boulders as they went. A nerve wracking chase ended under a large tree where it broke off. We stayed on the river until dark. Too much fun.

The next week my son, Jason, and I made the same trip to the Dowagiac. We had similar fish numbers and landed only one fish. The strength of the fish and the current make it difficult to land all that you hook. Jason had a great fish on and had a convincing upstream battle with it but it took a turn for its favorite water soaked log and broke off with a mighty plunge.

An interesting aside; Linda and I lost 47 flies in two days, Jason and I lost 29 flies in one day. The guides charge \$2.00 each; no ifs, ands or buts! It was worth it and we plan on going back.



*Newsletter Online at <http://www.louisvilletu.org>*

With the creation of our new website and the subsequent publishing of our newsletter on the site, we are going to give every member an opportunity to help the chapter save money so that we may better allocate our resources toward our mission of funding conservation projects. To accomplish this I would ask every member that has access to the Internet and email to send me his or her email address. When new issues of the newsletter are published on the website I will send out a notices to all members via email about the publication of the new issue and where to find it on the site. The benefits to those who wish to receive the newsletter via email notification will be color photos, print and background along with improved graphics.

If you don't have access to the Internet or you still require a hardcopy one will be sent to you. In order for me to find out who wants an email notification or a hardcopy, please fill out the following questionnaire and mail this page to:

**Barry Morris**

**701 Baxter Avenue**

**Louisville, Kentucky 40204**

Or, if you wish you can email me with your preference to [www.wbmorris@insightbb.com](mailto:www.wbmorris@insightbb.com)

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Circle Yes or No to one of the following:**

**Yes / No** I would like to receive a notification when the new issue of the newsletter is available on the website.

**Your email address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes / No** I would like to continue receiving my newsletter via regular mail in the hardcopy form.

**WE HAVN'T RECEIVED A VERY GOOD RESPONSE TO THIS SURVEY, SO WE WILL CONTINUE TO PLACE IT IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF ISSUES TO TRY AND GET A BETTER RESPONSE. IF WE DON'T GET A RESPONSE FROM YOU AFTER THOSE ATTEMPTS, THE HARD COPY WILL NO LONGER BE SENT TO YOU AND YOU WILL HAVE TO RELY ON THE WEBSITE.**

**PLEASE RESPOND AND HELP US SERVE YOU BETTER**