



## Leaders & Tippetts

**Trout Unlimited**  
**Louisville Chapter #476**  
**<http://www.louisvilletu.org>**  
Editor: Tim Woodring

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Email address: westslopecutthroat@yahoo.com

### ***President's Corner***

***By Frank Elsen***

The panoramic ride northward along the I-65 corridor on the first of March is always an exhilarating experience for me. The emerging colors of the Redbud and Dogwoods in Georgia debut a completely new chronology. Crossing over the Tennessee River at Nickajack Dam jump-starts sundry, nascent fishing genes. An occasional snow shower entering Kentucky is no cause for alarm, being seasonally transitory.

At home, sprouting daffodils signal the impending spring and an apparent new spring fishing season is once again here.

Returning this year is especially invigorating with the emergence of our new website. Thanks to the hard work and persistence of Nancy Walsh and Brian Sims, you can go on line ([www.louisvilletu.org](http://www.louisvilletu.org)) for the latest information on the Chapter as well as for other fishing and conservation information. My thanks to Nancy and Brian for their hard work in getting the site up and running. More information on the site and the tie in with the newsletter can be found in another article in this issue. I had occasion to pull it up while in Florida and it was a great feeling to be able to get connected while away from Louisville. The second reason for my exuberance, was the

discovery that this is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Chapter. I picked this up from the web site. Nancy, serving as webmaster and chapter historian, has placed the historical data on the site. If you click the "About Us" line, you'll note that the Chapter was formed in November of 1985. You'll also find a list of the founding members. This, then, is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Louisville Chapter of Trout Unlimited. We have a proud history and good reasons to celebrate. We will be looking for some special ways to do so. If you have any ideas, please let us know.

*Let the celebration begin.*

### **Louisville TU Mission Statement at Work**

At the March board meeting your officers and directors voted unanimously to purchase a manual receiver for the Fish & Wildlife Dept. that they will use in a radio telemetry tracking project on the Cumberland River.

The project will use transmitters placed in 30 fish, 3 rainbows and 3 browns at each of 5 locations on the river, to monitor movement of the fish in the system.

The main emphasis will be in the periods of low dissolved oxygen and high water temperature that come in the fall, but the study will be a year-round project. It is set to go through November 2006 with the possibility of another year extension if water conditions call for it. The manual receiver will cost \$2,950.00. There will also be three submersible receivers that will run \$1,100 each that will be purchased by other groups and the Department. The total cost of the project will be \$21,500.00. A student from EKU will collect and tabulate the data as part of his studies.

**Barry Morris**

### **Chapter Meeting**

**March 22, 2005**

Joe Hatton and Tim Doyle from Little River chapter of TU will be our guest speakers. Joe, the President of the chapter, spoke about the Brookie Restoration in the Smoky Mountains and the Trout Fest that the Little River Chapter hosts in Townsend, TN. Tim Doyle, a fishing guide for Little River Outfitters spoke on how to fish Smoky Mountain water streams.

## *Arkansas in December*

### Lee Squires

Last December Barry Morris and I decided that waiting for the Cumberland to recede and offer some good pre-Christmas fishing action was just a hollow dream. The fall rains and runoff from snow was too great and the river too high to allow us a chance to wet our very dry fly lines one more time before St. Nick came for his annual visit. So, what to do? Barry, in a blinding flash of brilliance, said, "let's go to Arkansas and fish the White River." He and Larry Drake had fished it in the past and had some good results. I agreed and we were off to the land of Clinton and razorbacks.

We pulled into Mountain Home, Arkansas nine hours later and only got lost a few times. Interstates are not very common in Arkansas. Barry had previously set up a guide through Rim Shoals Lodge, which sits right on the bank of the White River. As our "Cumberland luck" would have it all generators were cranked up on the White and the river was virtually unfishable. Our hosts almost said you should have been here last week but they controlled themselves and said that Bob, our guide, may take us on the North Fork River in the morning. The dam holds back the Norfork Reservoir (note spelling differences between the river and the reservoir). The river only has two generators, is 41/2 miles long before it connects to the White and is a short drive from the lodge.

We met Bob the next morning and headed for the North Fork. There was only one other truck in the lot so we boarded Bob's 20' long, 4' wide fiberglass boat with a 9.9hp motor anticipating some uncrowded fishing. This is the standard Arkansas boat and is easy to maneuver. His prime fishing method, in high water (how strange), was with the boat headed upstream and the motor running at idle speed. Then he would drift slowly backward downstream with our flies in the water. Barry was insulted. He has become such a purist and now realizes that expensive rods do have some merit. We fished with the dreaded strike indicator! Or, as Barry puts it, "bobber fishing." Too bad Barry, when in Rome ...

The flies of choice were the red or pink San Juan worm or the equally preferred egg patterns. We started catching fish immediately and really never slowed down all day. We estimated that we caught 80+ trout. Rainbows, Browns, Cutthroats and Cutbows were boated. We didn't catch any Brookies but they are in the river. Barry likes bobber fishing! Bob was telling us that many fish are stocked every year and that the North Fork is a great fishery when the water is low and people line the banks during those times. We were lucky to have been there when we were.

Fishing without a guide would have been a waste of time. If you had your own boat and wanted to fish? Another waste of time. Bob was on the motor all day, never turned it off, and we still almost got swamped by the rapids a couple of times. You cannot be unaware of what's behind you or you will capsize, no doubt. We motored up to the dam and many fishermen lined the banks similar to the Cumberland Dam fishermen. Yes, corn and worms were on the menu. Where is Pat Carroll when you need him? Strangely, there was a guy fishing on the bank and Barry and I said, almost simultaneously, "that looks just like Ralph Givan." It really did, hat and all. Possibly a reincarnation?

After a great day on the North Fork we headed back to the motel and searched out a suitable restaurant. Right behind the motel was the Reel 'em In All You Can Eat Catfish House or something like that. They served the best catfish either of us had ever tasted. Heartburn followed and we planned our next day's fishing.

The next morning we were off to the Spring River in Mammoth Spring, Arkansas, about two hours away. This is another great river and Barry and Larry had fished it before too. We checked into the motel. Looking out the door of our room and down a 45 degree slope about 200 feet away was the Spring River. On the far side of the river is a public access parking lot and we pulled in with only one other car in the lot. It is also stocked with plenty of fish but is not controlled by a dam. You can wade across the river from where we walked in which is maybe 200 feet wide at that point. You can readily see clumps of green moss with brown troughs washed and scoured out between the mossy humps. The fish were lying and feeding in the bottom of the troughs. They hit all types of nymphs all day long again just like they did on the North Fork. I thought it was time to try out the legendary Trout Magnet. I did, and the fish loved them! They especially liked the pink ones. Anything different is the key and pink triggered them into a feeding frenzy that I won't soon forget. Many fish hit as soon as the fly hit the water surging up from the three-foot deep water. The fish estimate was 60+ -- without a guide!

We would recommend a trip when you don't mind the drive. It was not crowded at all but the water was not ideal. But, who is to say what is ideal when you're catching plenty of fish and can eat some great catfish. By the way Pat, the catfish was rolled in CORN meal.

## April Meeting

**When:** 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2005

**Where:** Commonwealth Bank & Trust  
286 North Hubbards Lane

At our April General Meeting Dave Dreves will update us on the conditions and projects going on at the Cumberland River.

## 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 April Lee Squires will tie a Glass Bead Caddis. In May George Smith will tie a Foam Cricket. In June Jim Green will tie a Grey Ghost Streamer.

## Brown Trout Fin Clipping Adventure 2005

Barry Morris

At 8:00 a.m. Eastern time on Tuesday, February 15, 2005 Louisville TU members Roger Shott and Barry Morris joined seven members of the Northern Kentucky fly Fishers and five members of the Derby City Fly Fishers and around 16 folks from the Fish and Wildlife Department to help Dave Dreves and his staff in a brown trout fin clipping project at the Wolf Creek Hatchery. The weather worked out perfectly and the work went smoothly due to the hard work and cooperation of all the groups involved. Around the 38,00 brown had their adipose fins clipped to facilitate future studies that Dave will make to track the movement and growth of these fish in the Cumberland tailwater. Thanks to all the folks that helped to make this project a success. Stay tuned as Dave will be telling us details on a new exciting project they are about to undertake to track the movement of the trout in the Cumberland.

## Fish Bites

- The Southeast Region of Trout Unlimited is holding its 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Regional Rally April 29 – May 1 (Friday evening through Sunday morning at the 4-H Educational Center in Abingdon, VA.
- Board of Directors member George Smith was asked to become the new membership chairman and he has accepted.
- Our chapter is looking for a PowerPoint Projector for our meetings. If anyone has information where we can purchase a used one or someone is willing to donate one, please contact Tom or Nancy Walsh at [walsh1@bellsouth.net](mailto:walsh1@bellsouth.net)

## **New Website Spawns Change to How Louisville TU's Newsletter Will Be Delivered**

[WWW.LOUISVILLETU.ORG](http://WWW.LOUISVILLETU.ORG). That's our new website! Our chapter recently moved into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century by creating a new chapter website. 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 website. 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.

### **Brown Trout Fin Clipping Pictures**



### **Harold Andrews & Tom Walsh at outing on Swift Camp Creek.**



## [Newsletter Online at http://www.louisvilletu.org](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:

Tim Woodring  
18 Terrace Heights  
Jeffersonville, IN 47130

Or, if you wish you can email me with your preference to [www.westslopecutthroat1@yahoo.com](mailto:www.westslopecutthroat1@yahoo.com)

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

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

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

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