

Leaders & Tippetts

Louisville Chapter 476

Trout Unlimited

March - April 2008 Issue

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**LOUISVILLE TU
WANTS YOU!
OTTER CREEK CLEAN-UP
2008**

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President's Corner

George Smith

Here we are going into March and the year is going fast!
In February we had the first tie in of the year. I could not make it, but Barry and Roy said it was a success.

The next thing we have on the schedule is the clean up at Otter Creek Park on March 29th. Everyone should meet in the park at 8:30AM for registration and the clean-up will be from 9am until noon.. There will be plenty of trash bags and I'm sure there will be plenty of trash. Everyone that was there last year had a good time. Bring your own lunch (water will be furnished) for after clean up and then go fishing afterwards.

The next event we have on the schedule is Earth Day at Wolf Creek Dam with Amanda Patrick on April 19th.

Steven Darnell has volunteered to be chairman of the Casting Clinic this year.

Steven has scheduled it for May 15th with a follow up meeting at Long Run Lake on a date to be announced at the clinic. A map and directions will be given to each student at the class on the 15th. Steven will be looking for volunteer instructors. This event is an opportunity to introduce our sport to a lot of new people.

Also in May, we have the North Carolina fishing trip to look forward to. Barry and Roy have set this one up for May 29th to June 1st. Barry has made arrangements with the motel in Waynesville to set aside a block of rooms for us. So get you reservations in early.

Then we have the three remaining dates of June 28th, July 19th and August 23rd. These all take place at Wolf Creek Dam Education Center, again this is a chance for Louisville chapter to show the public what we are all about. Keep checking the website for details on these events.

We also have the banquet in September. Lee Squires has agreed to be the chair for this event and has asked that we start now to get donations for the auction.

I feel that we now have enough to keep us busy for the rest of the year.

George

Fly Tying Night

The group meets the second Tuesday of the month at The Aero Club in Bowman Field.

We meet at 7:00 PM in the upstairs room

These sessions are geared more for the intermediate tiers to come and learn new patterns and share techniques, but beginners are always welcome and there are always extra helpers there to assist first timers.

Guest Tyers will be

On March 11th, George Smith will tie a "Bread Crust"

On April 8th, Larry Drake will tie a "Crackleback"

Upcoming Chapter Meetings

We meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the Commonwealth Bank Building
286 North Hubbards Lane

In March Dr. Denise Puthuff will give a presentation on skin cancer and prevention. Our sport puts us out there in the sun and at risk all the time, so this will be an important meeting to attend and learn what we can do to lessen the chances of getting this disease.

In April the program will be
Invasive Species

What they are and how to reduce their spread.

CHECK THE WEB-SITE FOR DETAILS

www.louisvilletu.org

2008 Kentuckiana Fly Fishing Show

This year's show is now history. It was another great day of fly fishing interests.

The loyal volunteers in our booth were able to talk to a lot of interested fly fishers, both old and new. We were able to share our mission with newcomers and update the old timers on the new stuff we are working with. It was great to start up new friendships and renew old ones.

This year several of our group worked with different parts of the show from fly tying demonstrations to the Kids Corner. I want to thank all the volunteers for their great efforts. I am sure they are all like me in that we got a lot more out of the experience than we put in.

Thanks also to our good brothers and sisters at Derby City Fly Fishers for working so hard to put this show together and letting us work with them. This show is quickly gaining a reputation as one of the top shows in the region so watch for the date of next year's show and make sure to volunteer to help with the booth and spread the word.



Spring Otter Creek Clean-up

As most of you should know by now, Louisville TU has adopted Otter Creek and we are officially partnered with Louisville Metro Parks in watching over the stream.

As one of our responsibilities we will be conducting a couple of stream clean-ups each year. Tom Walsh is our Otter Creek Projects Coordinator and he is working on details of the clean-up.

This spring we will be doing our clean-up on Saturday, March 29, 2008

Registration is at 8:30am

Clean-up to follow at 9:00-12:00 PM

Expect to need waders or at least hip boots along with a wading staff.

Bring your own box lunch, water will be provided.

Following lunch there will be a "one-fly" contest for those that participated in the clean-up.
Hope to see everyone there.

Thanks

Tom

502-939-5807

2008 CASTING 101 CLINIC

Introduction to basic fly casting

Thursday, May 15, 2008

Thurman Hutchins Park on River Road across from
Cox's Park

Do you want some pointers on your fly casting OR do you know someone who *says* they really want to learn to fly fish but have never even tried to cast a fly rod? Well, we have the remedy for both of you. Louisville TU is going to offer Casting 101 – a casting clinic for beginners wishing to improve their rod casting ability. Casting instructors will be on hand to provide one-on-one fly casting assistance. Rods, reels, water and snacks will be provided. Just bring yourself and your enthusiasm for learning how to handle a fly rod.

Steven Darnell is serving as the event coordinator this year and he will have more details as the date approaches.

Make sure to check the web-site for updates

www.louisvilletu.org

COMING SOON, REEL RECOVERY 2008

Volunteer "Fishing Buddies" still needed. Buddies have a great time and a great FREE lunch. For more info; contact Mike Lubeach at (502) 494-9791 or mikeroe@bellsouth.net . New buddies will need to fill out a brief volunteer application form.

The retreat is May 19 - 21, 2008, at Wooded Glen Retreat & Conference Center in Henryville, Indiana. No fishing license needed. We need 14 buddies for Tues. and 14 for Wed., May 20 & 21. Rather than a long-winded article, (which I am known for), here are some pictures from our last retreat for you to enjoy.

A special thanks to all the volunteers who helped in the past 3 years.

.....-Mike Lubeach



February Meeting Highlights

District Fisheries Biologist, Kerry Prather was the featured speaker at our February regular meeting.

He spoke to us on the Dix River trout fishery. His talk was very informative and interesting.

We learned a lot about what is going on with the fishery and what the future has in store.

This was one of our most well attended meetings in a long time. I am not sure of the exact number, but I am sure we had over 50 people there. I saw a lot of new faces and several old ones that hadn't been around for a while. Thanks go to Tom Walsh, our programs director, for putting together a great meeting and to Lee Squires, our publicity director, for getting the word out. Thanks also to all that attended. This program seems to have hit the mark with a lot of you. If you want more like this, please let Tom know what you want to see.

It is a very difficult job trying to come up with programs of interest if he doesn't know what interests you have.

This is your chapter. You need to speak up and tell us what you want out of it!

Great meetings like this don't just happen. There is a lot of planning and leg work that goes into it and your input is one of the most important ingredients!

If you just sit back and complain that the meetings aren't interesting anymore they will likely stay that way. If each of you steps up and offers some help, not just with labor, but with ideas the meetings will stay fresh and entertaining.



MILITARY TROUT

By Bob Miller

On an April weekend in 1992 I took off on a TU outing in pursuit of trout at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, home of the famous 101st Airborne Division. As was usual in those days, about a dozen people signed up, but I think only three of us showed up. It was an eerie experience, to say the least.

I should preface this account with some information about myself. I am not nor have I ever been a member of the military. Of my parents' four sons I am the only one not to have served, disqualified because of an eye injury. I am also a member of that small generation I call the Fortunate Generation, who were born during the years that made them too young to serve in Korea and too old for Vietnam. Consequently, standing on the base at Fort Campbell, I was a visitor from another planet, an alien in my own country.

Events took a military turn as soon as I applied for a base pass. I stood in my proper place in line. I showed, on demand, a driver's license, auto registration, and proof of insurance-- Sir. Then I was directed to make my way, Sir, through Gate 1 to the check-in at the tackle shop, which I did. There I purchased a base license and received an area permit, one copy to be displayed, Sir, on my auto dashboard and the other carried, Sir, on my person. There I was told that only three of the seven areas available for trout fishing were open. By that time I was so stressed out by the formalities that I couldn't wait to get to the water. So, contrary to my plan, which was to take a nap in the afternoon, I took off for Boiling Spring Creek, and made the stream about 4 p.m.

I spent the first hour in desultory fly changing and tippet breaking, until finally I caught a decent brown of about 8" in a strong slick run, on a 14 Adams dry. He took soundly and put up a respectable tussle. After some further experimenting I found that these fish were partial to a gray hackle, size 14, fished wet downstream and worked back through quiet water in short jerks. From then on I caught plenty of fish and succeeded in enjoying myself by releasing all I caught, in defiance of base regulations, which require that only two browns be kept and that no fish be returned to the water. At this moment I am still listening for the MP's from Fort Campbell to come knocking at my door.

On my way back to my motel room late that night, as I went through a checkpoint, a military guard threatened to cancel all my privileges and arrest me. My crime: failure to switch off my headlights and switch on my parking lights as I approached the guard-house.

Saturday was pretty much a duplication of Friday, except that I did manage to stay out of trouble.

Sunday, my last day, turned out rainy and cold, but by the time I made the stream at about 8:30 a.m. the rain had stopped. I rigged up and walked down to the pool by the ford, where I proceeded to catch three browns within about fifteen minutes, one a decent 10". I moved upstream again, following the strategy I'd developed, and hooked two more browns, one a strong 11". It was approaching 11:00 and I was about ready to hit the road to Louisville.

As I completed my last cast, a squad crept down the road, camouflaged, weapons at the ready. How strange it is to partake of the local piscatory delights when all around you young men are practicing to kill. I thought afterwards, old Father Isaak Walton must have had similar experiences when, in those troubled times, he fished his beloved River Dove. Did Roundheads and Cavaliers lurk about the countryside, scaring the sh-- out of poor Ike, as these kids certainly scared the sh-- out of me?

Nothing quite gets your attention like a grease-smearing adolescent, bayonet fixed, advancing on you, and all you can do is waggle a stick of graphite at him.

A few minutes later, their sergeant, wearing a gas mask, ordered me out of the area, told me a gas attack was about to occur (I was actually having a gas attack of my own!), and that the area was off limits. Needless to say, I got the hell out of there, but not before I staged my own slaughter, and gutted the two lovely browns I was by law allowed to keep. I seemed to be saying, see, fellas, this is how you do it. I felt much more at home on this field of battle with some blood on my hands.

They played, but I had played for keeps--.

Dix River Memoirs

By Lee Squires

It was good to see Kerry Prather, from the Department of Fish & Wildlife, this week at our TU meeting. His program on the trout fishery in the Dix River was informative and helpful for the many members and guests that attended the meeting. We had the largest number of guests present that I have seen in 15 years as a TU member! Good job!

His presentation brought back some fond memories of my first sighting of the Dix River in 1967 while a student at UK. Me and a few of my Sigma Chi fraternity brothers had heard of High Bridge in Wilmore, Ky. so one lazy Saturday afternoon we headed off campus to check it out. High Bridge, you see, is the highest railroad bridge over water in the United States, I think. It's something like 400 feet above the Kentucky River and is around a ½ mile span over the water. The bridge runs north and south over the tranquil Kentucky River and you can easily see the Dix River as you look east from the center of the bridge. Yes, I said center of the bridge. We decided to walk across the bridge from Wilmore.

We pulled into a dirt parking area not too far from the bridge and took out our cooler full of soft drinks. As we walked toward the bridge we passed a quaint little cottage on the right side of the road. There were two older men rocking and smoking on the front porch. As we approached the house they started eyeing us up. They kind of put you on edge as they checked us out like the stump jumpers in Deliverance. Remember those guys? Soon they were on their feet hollering and jumping around like a couple of nuts calling us trespassers and college boys, etc. We tried to ignore them but we stared them down and soon they quit their badgering as we passed their house. Later we nicknamed them the "High Bridge Brothers" Those boys weren't right!

We walked up to the bridge access point and took a look at the awesome view of the river from 400 feet up. There was a 3 ½ foot steel railing on the left side and an 18" walking platform for maintenance purposes. Moving to the right, you could step up two feet to the northbound track. There was a three foot gap and then the southbound track sprawled out for half a mile. Then you could jump down two feet to the 18" maintenance platform and another 31/2 foot railing on the right side of the bridge. Cinders and splinters littered the tracks in both directions. We decided to walk across the bridge on the platform to the left of the northbound track. It was slightly windy and very quiet as we walked along the platform. We all tensed up as we approached the center of the bridge a quarter mile from land and four hundred feet above the water. We stopped, leaned against the railing and looked straight down. Pretty darn scary I must say. Of course, we all had to spit and it evaporated before it hit the water. We were all admiring the scenery and enjoying our soft drinks when we heard a roar off in the distance." Hey", Rick said, "listen to that roar, it must be a tornado, you know how they sound like a train". And, then we saw it. First the roar, then some faint smoke a quarter mile away, and then from around the bend on our side of the track, good 'ol No. 442, the L&N short line passenger train barreling down the track at 60 mph. At first, we started to bolt but then decided we couldn't outrun the train. So, like all brave college guys would do, we hung in there on the rail and waited for it to come to us. Soon it did. We held on tight and faced away from the train as it threw cinders and blasted our bodies as it passed us three feet away doing sixty. In a minute or so it was over and the High Bridge Brothers were waving at it as it passed their house. Damn, we decided not to do that again!

The next time I saw the Dix River was with my buddy, Joe Bobrowski. The year was 1993 I think and we took my canoe for an attempt to fish the Dix. We drove to Wilmore and even drove past the High Bridge Brother's house. They weren't on the porch. Too bad. We looked at the bridge but opted out of a hike and headed down to the bottom of the hill to look for a ramp. We soon found a place to launch my canoe and we headed up the Kentucky to the mouth of the Dix. High Bridge was awesome from the river looking up but spitting wasn't the same. The three mile upstream paddle was scenic as we coursed through the rock formations and witnessed the change in water temperature and immediate fog as we entered the cooler water of the Dix. We paddled and fished as we went, but, when we stopped to fish we were pushed back toward the Kentucky. We finally just paddled as far as we could and were stopped by the powerful waterfall and shoal short of the Herrington Lake dam. We couldn't see the dam and the water too fast and banks too steep to move up any farther. We beached the canoe and fished on the island below the waterfall. Using a weighted stone fly I immediately had a hit on the right of the shoal that broke my line. That was my last hit. I think Joe had the same luck. After fishing for an hour or so it began to rain so we headed back toward the Kentucky. A tremendous lightning storm came upon us about half way down so we got up on the bank out of the water to avoid being struck by lightning. The storm lasted a half hour or so. The fog then got cranked up and you could hardly see the river. It was a beautiful and surreal trip back down shrouded by fog and dashed hopes of lunger trout.

After Kerry's presentation of an improved trout fishery I think going back to the Dix may be a good adventure and welcome diversion to the Cumberland and Otter Creek. Maybe a third trip will be the key to fishing success.

Winter Tie-In

Through the fine efforts of Roy Weeks our chapter has begun holding “Fly Tie-in Days” and we are trying to work in at least four of these each year.

For those of you that haven't been able to attend one, the Tie-ins are a day set aside for chapter members to gather and tie flies share patterns and stories (*some true and some a little suspect*) and just enjoy a relaxing day with friends

We supply lunch and soft drinks so you not only nourish your soul, but your body as well. This is a great way to conquer cabin fever and get your fly boxes filled before your next great adventure. Make sure you keep an eye on the web-site and make plans to attend the next session. You can ask any who have attended and they will tell you what a great time you have missed!



PHOTOS AND DIRECTIONS BY KOICHI KAWAI

ARTICLE REPRINTED BY PERMISSION

Fly Fishing with Pookie

Written By Dean Reiner of Hatch Finders Fly Shop

FROM THE FLY BOX OF KOICHI KAWAI

SPENT WING CADDIS

I know it's a little bit early, but spring will soon be here. The spent wing caddis is a must pattern to have in your fly box for the up coming caddis hatch.

Last year Koichi and I fished this pattern all during the caddis hatch. We found that trailing it behind a larger elk wing caddis made it easy to see and gave the trout a choice between one that could get away or an easy take. When fished in a raft of caddis and fished along the edges of the patch the trout take an easy sip and don't tend to miss the fly.

Late in the evening when the intense feeding frenzy has passed you will see lazy trout feeding along the edges of seams picking off the caddis that have completed their life cycle.

The CDC Spent Wing Caddis takes some skill to tie but even a novice attempt will give you good results. You WILL have other anglers asking you what pattern are YOU fishing.

Materials

CDC: Trout Hunter, Natural Brown

Dubbing: Fly-Rite, Dark Tan or Medium Brown/Dun Variant

Goose Biot: Tan

Hook: Mustad R50 #16 (or 1x-short dry fly hooks)

Thread: TMC16/0 Brown (or any 8/0 to 16/0)

Counter Rib: TMC Mono-thread S Butter Yellow (or 8x to 9x tippet materials by Enrico Puglisi)

Soak biot into a cup of water before you start to tie

Put thread on the shank, tie in the rib and wind thread rearward to bend. Attach biot by the tip at bend of hook.

Making the smooth body so tie it in with the notch down. You should tie in the biot to the other side of the hook shank, since you are the right-handed tier.

Counter-wrap rib forward.

Prepare a matched pair of CDC feather.

Tie them in with tips forward, to make a wing that is a little bit longer than the hook shank. Cut the one of rearward pointing CDC (top side feather)←all-important: This step needs thread tension control, which means if we don't tie with enough tension at this point, the tip part will slip off easily.

Put some dubbing back and forward on the base of CDC tips.

Divide the CDC tips with a figure eight to keep them divided and in a horizontal position to simulate a spent wing insect.

Bring the rearward pointing CDC forward and secure it at the eye.

Cut the CDC and make a nice head with thread.

Done! Take your time and do it right!



SPRING NORTH CAROLINA DELAYED HARVEST TRIP

Louisville Trout Unlimited members are going on an outing to western North Carolina to fish the "Delayed Harvest" streams around Waynesville, NC.

This is always a great trip with lots of fish and big fish! The scenery in that area of North Carolina is awesome so you not only have a chance to catch some really nice trout, but you can enjoy the beauty of nature while doing it.

The dates for this trip are Thursday, May 29 through Sunday June 1. The beauty of this trip is you can come all or any part of the trip as your schedule will allow. Some will come down Friday or Saturday while some will fish all four days.

We stay at a very nice little Mom and Pop motel called the Oak Park Inn
<http://www.oakparkinn-waynesville.com/>

The Proprietors, Carolyn and Rick are some of the nicest people you will ever meet. They take personal care of each guest. They are holding a block of rooms for us until May 1st. When you call, just tell them you are with Louisville TU and they will get you set up.

OAK PARK INN
196 SOUTH MAIN STREET
WAYNESVILLE, NC

Phone: 828-456-5328
Fax: 828-456-8126

<http://www.oakparkinn-waynesville.com/>

Check out the Waynesville Fly Shop Site for more info
<http://waynesvilleflyshop.com/>

There are several streams within easy driving distance from Waynesville and Cherokee and the Great Smokey Mountains are just over the hill. So your choices are many

Please contact Roy Weeks or Barry Morris as soon as possible to let us know if you are going so we can plan the trip properly.

Roy Weeks (502)845-8081
Barry Morris 664-3517



Louisville TU Video Library

The following is a list of video and DVD titles in our Video Library. They are available for check-out to any Louisville TU member. Usually, the item is checked out at a monthly meeting and returned to the next. If you are interested in a video or DVD, see Roy Weeks at the meeting.

Casting & Rod Building

Joan Wulff's **Dynamics of Fly Casting**
Flex Coat Rod Building **How We Do It**

How to Fish and Stream Specifics

Jack Dennis' **Learning to Fly Fish for Trout**
LaFontaine & Sharon **Successful Fly Fishing with Strategies, Vol. 1 & 11**
Scientific Anglers **Anatomy of a Trout Stream**
Landon Mayer's **Landing the Trout of your Life**
Ian & Charity Rutter's **Catching the Grand Slam**
Davy Wotton's **White River**
TU's **Great American Trout Streams - Western Rivers**
Three Days in the Gunnison Gorge
Lani Waller's **Fly Fishing for Pacific Steelhead**

Fly Tying

Jack Dennis' **Getting Started Fly Tying**
Tying Copper John's Favorites
Sylvester Nemes' **Soft Hackles**
A.K.Best's **Tying Dry Flies**
Tying Nymphs
Tying Terrestrials, Caddis and Midges
Tying Saltwater Flies
Chris Halm's **Hair Trout Flies**
Dave Whitlock Originals Vol. 1
Lawson & Dennis' **Tying Western Dry Flies**
Rene Harrop's **Harrop Family Ties**
LaFontaine's **Originals Vol. 1, 11, 111, 1V, V, V1, & V11**
Tying and Fishing Caddis Flies
Tying & Fishing Attractors
Roger Lowe's **Smokey Mountain Fly Patterns**

Louisville TU Classified Ads

In answer to popular demand, the Board of Directors has decided to add a Classified Ad page to the newsletter. This page is designed to be a vehicle for **Louisville TU members only** to sell, buy and trade surplus fishing equipment to other members. It is not intended for use by dealers, “yard sellers”, or “e-bayers” to buy and resell merchandise for profit.

No commercial dealer, guide or real estate ads will be accepted

Placing an ad will be simple. Just e-mail your ad to (with a picture if you want) to either:

Barry Morris wbmorris@insightbb.com

Roy Weeks cornerplac@aol.com

Your ad should include a brief description of your item to sell, or the item you are seeking, the price and your contact info. Remember, a brief description. If not, it might be “briefed” for you. The deadline to get an ad in the next newsletter (May/June issue) will be Thursday, May 1, 2008.

This is initially an experiment, if it proves popular and does not become unwieldy, we intend to keep it in the newsletter. If you have suggestions for improvement to the process, let Barry or Roy know and they will discuss it with the Board.

The Louisville Chapter of Trout Unlimited will take no responsibility for the quality of the merchandise offered or the deals made. That is strictly up to the individuals involved in the transactions