

THE CLINCH RIVER ANGLER

CHAPTER MEETINGS

When: April 14, 7 pm
Who: Jim Habera, TWRA Wild Trout Biologist
What: Will discuss results of the winter electro-shocking survey on the Clinch
Where: St. Frances Episcopal Church in Norris

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When: Saturday, May 21:
 In-river fishing seminar (this will replace our monthly meeting for May)

MEMBERS IN ACTION

Remember, ALL volunteers for chapter conservation and youth education activities entered in the drawing for a fine Sage fly rod. The Chapter won it last year for collecting the most trash during TU National spring cleanup days. It's a 5 weight, 4 piece, Model XCL 590-4 rod that retails for \$695. Your name goes in the hat every time you volunteer. Drawing will be at the November swap meeting.

April 23, 9 am: Meet at the church for our Clinch River shoreline and road cleanup

May 7: Boy Scout Camporee-Terry Douglas is coordinating efforts to support this outing to be held for the Cumberland District at the Pelissippi campground in Norris.

TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM

Terry Douglas received an enthusiastic "yes" from the Christian Academy of Campbell County representatives when he approached them to consider TIC. TIC is a TU project nationwide to bring the class room into cold water aquariums at elementary schools.



The Clinch River Chapter: dedicated to conserving, protecting, and restoring the natural environment of the Clinch River Watershed.

Visit us at www.crctu.com

Duane Oyer, of TWRA, delivered rainbow trout eggs to the school, located in La Follette, on February 9. According to Duane the eggs can't be handled at the hatchery until they develop eyes.

Tracy Welch, the teacher handling the project noted that losses and other problems have been minimal as evidenced by the well over 100 fry, who quickly lost their egg sacs, were eating and happily patrolling their 50 gallon aquarium.

One problem-solved was that some fry were getting caught in a basket. She relocated them to the gravel at the bottom of the aquarium.

Two eighth graders, Peston Provins and Jessica Gibson, have been feeding the fry, monitoring the water quality and changing the water as needed.

The younger kids decided that the flourishing fry should not be nameless. Each student assigned a name to each fry who now swim proudly with a renewed sense of identity.

Efforts are underway to locate a nearby coldwater stream where the fry can be released.

HR 1 WILL HIT HARD AT MANY NATURAL RESOURCES

Recently passed by the federal House in order to substantially reduce the federal budget, HR 1 is now under consideration by the Senate.

TU is attempting to garner a groundswell of opposition to many of the programs which would decimate years of funding, planning and efforts at forming partnerships aimed at preserving our natural resources. So contact Senators Alexander and Corker to ask for their support to selectively restore much of the funding.

The agencies and funds affected read like a "who's who" of many or our country's natural resource protections: funds will be eliminated for State and Tribal Wildlife Grants, and for the National Wetlands Conservation Act, funding will be substantially reduced for the Farm Bill Conservation Fund, the Forest Legacy and the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund, the National Fish Habitat Action Plan and the Fish and Natural Wildlife Foundation.

Recent Supreme Court decisions have struck at the heart of the Clean Water Act eliminating protections for at least 20 million acres of wetlands. One rider to HR1 blocks the federal government from restoring lost protection for small streams, adjacent wetlands, and geographically isolated waters that provide much of the habitat needed by fish and wildlife.

**CHAPTER COMMITTEES,
PROGRAMS and
CONTACTS**

Committees:

Advocacy and Oversight Steve Brown
 Adopt-A-Highway John Thurman
 Conservation Buzz Buffington
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Programs
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 Bio-monitoring Dick Geiger
 Coal Creek Conservation Barry Thacker
 Weir Dam Clean up John Thurman
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ON THE RISE

TU's TV program, *On The Rise* recently celebrated its third anniversary on March 28. Join Jed Fiebelkorn, MT fishing guide and outfitter, for exciting and informative fishing trips. The shows are shown on the Sportsman channel as follows:

Mondays 1 pm
 Tuesdays 10:30 pm.
 Fridays 7:30 am
 Saturdays 12:30 pm

(Times are EST)

Trips "in the can" ready for showing the week of April 4:
 Yellowstone River, MT
 Libby Camps, ME
 Connecticut River, NH
 Jefferson River, MT
 Boise River, ID

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TACKLE TIPS -

(this column completes Buzz's answer to last month's question: "You enter a stream new to you. How do you decide where and what to fish?")

A. If you see rising fish try to identify what they are taking. If they leave a bubble on the surface, they are taking insects on the surface. If you can't positively identify what they are taking try an Adams dry fly. It's amazing how well the "generic" Adams will take surface-feeding fish. Are you seeing rises but no bubbles? They may be taking emerging insects just under the surface film. Fish an emerger or try a soft-hackled fly, and fish it downstream. If the rise is a bulge but doesn't really break the surface, the fish probably are taking nymphs about a foot or so deep and it is their tail near the surface causing the disturbance. Fish a nymph under an indicator.

Where to fish? Mountain streams: fish the plunge pools, the runs below the pools and the tails of the pools. Mountain fish usually don't have the abundance of food found in tail waters, so they are likely to strike anything that appears to be food **IF** it is presented well. Be stealthy; they often are in shallow water and spook easily.

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Klamath River, CA
 Battenkill River, VT
 McKenzie River, OR
 Sandy River, OR
 Upper Clark Fork River, MT

**CHAPTER RECEIVES NEW
MEMBER REBATES FROM TU**

CRCTU's treasury received a boost of a \$15 rebate per new member recruited by us. Our 7 new members during 2010 FY yielded \$105.

CHAPTER BOARD/OFFICERS

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The 2011 TU Annual Meeting will be held in Bend, OR, September 14-17. More details at www.tu.org.