

# THE CLINCH RIVER ANGLER

## CHAPTER MEETING

**When:** August 12, 7 pm

**What:** "Pride of Place", the TN "Bottle Bill"

**Who:** Marge McCormick, PhD, vice president of Scenic TN Inc. and founder/coordinator of the TN Bottle Bill Project.

**Where:** St. Frances Episcopal Church in Norris

**Comment:** the TN Council of TU has endorsed passage of the bottle. Marge is very knowledgeable of state and national efforts and results, where it has passed.

**Annual election of Chapter Leadership**-contact a Nominating Committee member: Dick Geiger, Clayton Gist or John Thurman to suggest yourself or another for Officers and the three Board openings. The elections will be held at our meeting on September 9.

## MEMBERS IN ACTION

Sat., August 14: 9-noon: help us retire a lot of old tires that have collected in the Clinch just above the Highway 61 bridge. Grab your hoe or similar tool which will reach the submerged tires. Chest waders are desirable but not required. Stable boats are needed to ferry the tires to shore.

Meet at 9 am at the boat ramp parking lot on the east side of the bridge. Rain date is August 21. Contact Buzz Buffington for more information (see page 2-Officers).

**Lines from the President**  
Generally speaking, satisfaction is



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

the prize won by the hardworking volunteers for our highway and river cleanups—and satisfaction is a nice prize to have. We got more than that, however, for the April combination cleanup when 20 volunteers gathered 70 bags of trash from roads and shorelines along the Clinch. The chapter has been awarded a Sage ZXL 590 four-piece, five-weight rod (retails at \$695) for cleaning up the most garbage during TU's national stream cleanup days. Our board hasn't decided yet what to do with the rod. Raffleing it off as a fundraiser, the obvious answer for many TU chapters, may not be feasible because of Tennessee's strict rules for raffles. If you have a suggestion, please contact a board member or e-mail me (see page 2).

—Frances Oates

## SURVEY ABOUT NEWSLETTER GENERALLY CONCLUDES: "KEEP IT AS IT IS"

An on-line survey was sent out to members asking 5 questions. Twenty responded. The results

follow:

1. Do you have on-line access?  
Yes 100%
2. How do you receive the newsletter?
  - Via "snail mail" (0%)
  - Via e-mail 13 (65%)
  - Read off link from chapter's web 7 (40%)
3. How often do you read the newsletter?
  - Rarely 2 (10%)
  - 3-5 times year 2 (10%)
  - >5 times/yr. 3 (15%)
  - Every issue 14 ((70%)
4. Which articles spark your interests, needs?
  - Meetings & projects 17 (89.5%)
  - TN or TU national news 6 (31.6%)
  - Buzz's articles on fly fishing 16 (84.2%)
  - Opportunities to volunteer 14 (70%)
  - Educational articles about conservation or fishing? 14 (73.7%)
  - Coal Creek Watershed Foundation news 11 (57.9%)
  - 1 skipped question
5. Please comment-what would make the newsletter more interesting/useful for you?
  - An occasional article on entomology or how to tie their imitations
  - Maybe a semi-monthly vs monthly news letter.
  - I would love some articles on fly tying and

**CHAPTER COMMITTEES,  
PROGRAMS and  
CONTACTS**

**Committees:**

Advocacy and Oversight  
Steve Brown

Adopt-A-Highway  
John Thurman

Conservation  
Buzz Buffington

Membership  
Clayton Gist

Public Relations, Website  
Frances Oates

Education  
John Thurman  
865.494.7771

**Programs**

Kids Fish Free Day

Bio-monitoring  
Dick Geiger

Coal Creek Conservation  
Barry Thacker

Weir Dam Clean up  
John Thurman

Newsletter Co-Editors  
Bob and Mary Jo Jenkins  
423.566.6734  
jrdjenk@aol.com

(continues from page 1, column 3)  
fishing reports on the Clinch  
and other areas.

-Really do like the newsletter.  
Thanks for the effort to put it to-  
gether. (Eds' note: No, we did-  
n't write this; thanks!)

-Very pleased as is.  
-I like it as is.  
(15 skipped question)

Eds' note: a survey is not  
needed to give us feedback. Feel  
free to comment to us anytime!

**TACKLE TIPS -  
Reader's Questions  
(by member, Buzz Buffington)**

Q. What flies to use in August  
and September; where to  
fish?

A. The Clinch, South Holston  
and Watuga tailwaters generally  
will stay cold enough for good  
fishing through September. On  
the Clinch, use midge pupa pat-  
terns, stripped peacock herl and  
zebra midges. Small, dark cad-  
dis (size 20/22) can be good,  
also, flash back pheasant tails.  
In August I like terrestrials—  
beetles, ants and small hoppers  
drifted over openings in ledges  
where the current flows through,  
can produce explosive strikes!  
These same patterns work well  
for the other tailwaters too. In  
the South Holston be prepared to  
see some sulphurs still around.  
The Watuga can produce some  
great fishing with caddis.

Q. What artificials are best to  
use for bass and pan fish?

A. You can't have much more  
fun than catching these critters  
on a fly rod with small popping  
bugs. Slowly cruise the shore-  
line, cast close to shore, under  
overhanging branches and let the  
bug sit for a few seconds—then  
twitch it and hang on. For bigger  
bluegills, find some steep rock  
banks or cliffs and fish 10 to 20  
feet down. Use a sinking line  
and small streamers or Clouser  
minnows. White and chartreuse  
are good colors. Fish slowly and  
close to the structure. Fish for  
crappie the same way but fish

**CHAPTER BOARD/  
OFFICERS**

**Frances Oates** President  
865.223.2055  
francesoates@comcast.net  
#

**Dick Geiger** Vice President  
865.457.1228  
geiger.3892@comcast.net  
#

**Beth Van Fossen** Sec./Tres.  
865.584.0344  
clmoore@goe.com  
#

**Buzz Buffington** BOD (2013)  
865.463.7167  
buzzflo@bellsouth.com  
#

**Terry Douglas** BOD (2010)  
terry@douglasflyrods.com  
#

**Bill Guinn** BOD (2010)  
865.922.0879  
mguinn06@comcast.net  
#

**Denny McMahan** BOD (2012)  
865.922.1773  
retiredap@tds.net  
#

**John Thurman** BOD  
Past President  
865.494.7771  
jthur727@bellsouth.com  
#

**Jerry Van Fossen** BOD (2013)  
jsvanfo65@yahoo.com

submerged trees and brush  
instead of steep rock faces. A  
fish finder will help locate likely  
spots for crappie.

(Buzz invites readers to send him  
questions.)