

THE CLINCH RIVER ANGLER



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

CHAPTER MEETINGS

When: Saturday, June 12,
10am-1pm
(Volunteers meet 9-9:15)

Where: Miller's Island parking area; River Rd. off route 441

What: Kids Fish Free Day

No fishing license is required. This safe, educational fun experience for families is sponsored by CRCTU, TVA and TWRA.

Volunteers will teach bait, spin and fly fishing techniques—both wading and from a boat. Other activities include: fly tying, aquatic entomology and displays, casting lessons, Bring extra fishing gear, waders and life jackets, fly tying materials, corn, canoe, boat and most importantly, bring a caring, safety and fun attitude and be prepared for a great time!

TU CHIEF TALK

(Chapter president, Frances Oates, attended the recent TU Southeast Rally in Townsend. Chris Wood, the new president and CEO of Trout Unlimited, spoke about his plans for the national organization. Frances's notes from his talk follow.) Wood was with the Bureau of Land Management for eight years and the Forest Service for five years before joining TU eight years ago. In the last two decades, he's met with dozens of environmental groups and corporations, and has emerged

from that experience with a strong desire to give hunters and anglers a voice.

The "One TU" effort is aimed at providing that voice by working on four goals in conserving coldwater habitats:

- * **Protect** the highest quality habitats, high up in the watersheds
- * **Reconnect** them with the valley bottoms
- * **Restore** degraded rivers and streams
- * **Sustain** what's been accomplished by establishing stable funding and educating the public, especially children.

Wood points out that Ducks Unlimited has achieved a much greater penetration of duck hunters than TU has of anglers. "We need to be cooler," he said. "We're late 50's, white, have pretty good incomes...but opinion leaders are often much younger guides and outfitters." TU needs to emphasize youth education—and the chapters and state councils are ahead of national TU on that, he said.

The number of anglers is declining. TU has been fairly aggressive in marketing by direct mail—but direct mail is dying, so TU is developing an on line marketing program. A new web site, yet to be named, is due out

in beta form late this summer. It will offer Google maps, mashups and social networking for anglers. TU also is considering new ways to engage anglers—instead of simply assigning new members to chapters by Zip code, they might be assigned by interests such as brook trout, Casting for Recovery or spey casting for steelhead. The new Web site may offer ways to do this.

Suggestions from Wood's audience on adding members from other age groups ranged from recruiting college students (some chapters hire fisheries and wildlife students as interns) to developing trout fishing as a college sport to engaging the parents of young children through Trout in the Classroom.

TACKLE TIPS

(By member Buzz Buffington)

The sulphur hatch is in full swing on the Clinch. Sulphurs are hatching about mid-day and again around 6 pm most days. Hatches may be sparse or heavy depending on the day. Early, before hatching begins, try a #16 pheasant tail nymph under an indicator. As the hatch proceeds switch to a dry fly. My best success on dry flies has been using a parachute-hackled sulphur tied with a short poly-year post and an oversized (#12) ginger hackle. The second best pattern has been a sulphur sparkle dun, tied with a slightly-tall deer hair wing. Both patterns were tied on a size #16 hook.

If your dry flies get pretty mashed

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CHAPTER COMMITTEES, PROGRAMS and CONTACTS

Committees:

Advocacy and Oversight Steve Brown
 Adopt-A-Highway

Conservation Buzz Buffington

Membership Clayton Gist

Public Relations Website Carol Moore

Education John Thurman
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Programs

Kids Fish Free Day June 12
 Carol Moore

Bio-monitoring Dick Geiger

Coal Creek Conservation Barry Thacker

Weir Dam Clean up John Thurman

Newsletter Co-Editors Bob and Mary Jo Jenkins
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(TACKLE TIPS continued)
 looking after a day of fishing you can rejuvenate them by holding them over a tea kettle with a thermostat. The steam will straighten and reshape hackles, tails and wings, giving them a look like new.

TU LICENSE PLATE SALES YIELDS INCOME FOR CHAPTER

(Reported by Frances Oates)
 The first checks from the state license plate sales were received. The \$1128.21 represents 86% of the first year's funds minus \$500 being held "just in case" in the TN State Council's Conservation License Fund. We will meet the requirement of using it for "conservation purposes" via stream conservation in the Clinch watershed, Trout in the Classroom and the youth camp at Tremont.

LEADERSHIP CHANGES

Effective July 1, organizational changes will take effect for the CRCTU, resulting from the resignations of Carol Moore and Barry Thacker from their officer/board positions.

Carol and Barry, who were honored by CRCTU last year for a decade of devoted work for the chapter, are continuing as members and volunteers. They left their policy positions because "of lobbying efforts and legal actions taken by TU at the state level", Carol said.

Barry's board position will remain open until the annual election of officers this year. Beth Van Fossen will serve as interim secretary; Frances Oates will distribute e-mail announcements and maintain the Web page.

CHAPTER BOARD/ OFFICERS

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