

# THE CLINCH RIVER ANGLER

## CHAPTER MEETING PREVUES

**When:** April 13, 7 pm

**Who:** Charity and Ian Rutter, well known authors and guides—

**What:** their program will cover the diversity of fishing in East Tennessee.

**Where:** St. Francis' Episcopal Church in Norris

### Upcoming Meetings:

**May 13:** Member, John Thurman, will provide us with an in-stream bug program. **Note: this is a Saturday!**

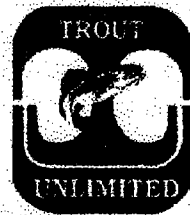
**June 8:** John Thurman's friend (he has others), Joe Cougleton, will present a program on sea-run brown trout in Argentina.

## MEMBERS IN ACTION

**Clinch River Shoreline and Road Cleanup-**April 1, cleared our 2 mile Adopt-A-Highway stretch of banks and roadsides. Many "thanks" to Berny Ilgner and Buzz Buffington for organizing this successful event!

Organizer, Carol Moore announced that the annual **Kids Fish Free Day** will be held **June 10**. Mark your calendars to volunteer for this fun and satisfying day introducing many youngsters to their first time trout river fishing and ecological learning experience.

**SOUTHEAST TU RALLY, April 28-30, Abingdon, VA**



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

**The Coal Creek Spring Cleanup** resulted in the 5 mile roadsides along Highway 116 from Lake City to Laurel Grove being lighter by **305 bags** of trash collected by 40 volunteers of all ages.

The day was sponsored by the Coal Creek Watershed Foundation and organized by the Coal Creek Scholars.. Volunteers included students, Anderson County inmates, members of CCWF and DRTU. A prize of \$100 was awarded to the team who filled the most bags. The winning team collected 48 bags.

*(Continued from column 3)*

In 2002, Park biologists tested that hypotheses by experimentally opening 8 streams for fishing. Each of these had a nearby control stream which remained closed. The 3-year study found no significant differences in brook trout densities between the fished and the control streams. So on April 15, all but parts of Sams Creek, Bear Creek and Indian Flats Prong streams will be opened for fishing.

*(this article was extracted from the Great Smoky Mountains National Park news release)*

## Smokies Opens Park Streams to Brook Trout Fishing

For the first time in over 30 years, anglers at the Park will be allowed to catch and keep brook trout under new experimental fishing regulations, beginning April 15. Native brook trout predominate in over 150 miles of Park streams. Rainbows and brown trout were stocked in the early 20th century after destructive logging practices nearly wiped out the brookies. In 1976, managers closed the Park to brook trout fishing because brookies were losing range to the non-native fish and fishing pressure was reducing brook trout densities. Park fisheries biologists now have found the brookies are able to co-exist with the non-native trout in 69 miles of Park streams. They have restored 17 miles of stream to pure brook trout population removing non-native trout from stream segments the lie above waterfalls and other barriers that prevent upstream movement of fish. After 25 years of monitoring trout in fished vs. closed streams, Park biologists had obswered that natural occurrences such as floods and droughts were the major forces behind changes in fish populations. They suspected that angling for brookies would have no measurable impact.

**CLINCH RIVER  
CHAPTER  
COMMITTEES,  
PROGRAMS and  
CONTACTS-2006**

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Adopt-A-Highway

Berny Ilgner

Conservation

Buzz Buffington

Membership

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Public Relations;

Web Site

Carol Moore

Education

John Thurman

**Programs**

Kids Fish Free Day

Carol Moore

Bio monitoring

Dick Geiger

Coal Creek

Barry Thacker

Weir Dam Clean up

John Thurman

(Look for an activity which appeals to your interests and contact the lead person for more information or to volunteer your efforts.)

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(“Did You Know” contributed by member, John Thurman)

**Mayflies...**

Aquatic entomologists believe that there are over 700 species of mayflies in North America. Of these, 100 are fairly common.

We have identified 12 different mayfly species in the Clinch tail water. Only one, Ephemerella invaria, the Sulphur or Pale Evening Dun, is present in sufficient numbers to be important to the fly fisher.

John reports that he has observed Sulphur Duns on the water in January and as late as early August. The major emergence period is early April-early June, with late April and May being the optimum hatch.

East Tennessee experienced a major drought during 1999-2001, which seemingly reduced the Sulphur hatch. Entomologists speculate that Sulphurs were adversely impacted by these extended low flow periods. A second problem affecting their hatch, was an increase in suspended and deposited sediment. It is believed that mayflies are extremely sensitive to sediment. John asys, “We think the combination of low flows and increased sediment my have been the culprits in reducing the mayfly hatches.”

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