

THE CLINCH RIVER ANGLER

CHAPTER MEETINGS

When Saturday, April 18, 9 am

Who John Thurman

What John will lead an aquatic invertebrate survey on Little River. Following lunch in Townsend, Paula Begley will give casting lessons. Paula is a certified casting instructor.

Where Little River Outfitters, Townsend, TN

Saturday, May 2, 9 am - Clinch in-river clean up. Project leader, Ron Wollard, asks volunteers to bring waders and a boat. Meet at the parking lot in front of Big Lots near the Highway 61 bridge.

Saturday, June 6 - Our annual Kids Fish Free Day on the Clinch at Miller Island. Lead person, Carol Moore, asks volunteers to be at the parking lot by 9:30 am. Bring BOATS, fishing equipment, waders and life jackets.

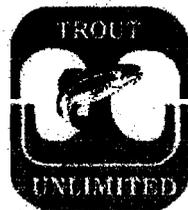
Thursday, July 9, 7 pm - Chapter meeting at St. Francis Episcopal Church in Norris.

OPPORTUNITIES NEEDING VOLUNTEERS

Saturday, April 4, 10 - noon: annual shore/access area cleanup. Meet at the Weir Dam parking lot on Highway 441. Wear boots, bring trash hooks and gloves. Dave Hunter is organizing this effort.

April 25, 9-noon Volunteers will help restoration work at Fort Anderson on Militia Hill—removing trees and debris. Meet at the Lake City

(Continued column 3)



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

TU NATIONAL MEETING AUGUST 18-22

The annual TU meeting will be held in Traverse City, MI on the shores of Lake Michigan. Focus will be on the 75th anniversary of TU, which was established in MI. Frances Oates will receive a stipend from the TN TU Council and the TU National to attend; each Chapter member attending may also receive \$100 from National.

ANNUAL SOUTHEASTERN TU RALLY IN VIRGINIA

Annual rally will be held in early May at Hungry Mother State Park near Marion, VA, the first weekend in May. All TU members are invited. The state TU Council will provide each chapter \$105 each for two members to attend. The \$105 covers food and lodging for the weekend event.

Members interested in attending **either of these two events** should contact John Thurman or Carol Moore.

(Continued from column 1)

Community Center and Library parking lot on Highway 25W. Bring chainsaw, pick, shovel and gloves.

(Note: this is a project in our partnership with the Coal Creek Watershed Foundation)

Friday, June 5, 9:30 am City of Norris Summer Recreation Program: John Thurman will lead this fun and educational event featuring an invertebrates hunt, on Clear Creek plus coldwater biology, conservation and biomonitoring. Need 2-3 volunteers but all are welcome. Meet at the Norris Water Treatment Plant on Clear Creek.

Friday, June 19 - Fly tying and casting lessons will be provided for City of Norris kids.

Saturday, June 27, 9 am: Adopt-A-Highway Meet at the Island Home Church. Bags and pick-up tools will be provided.

TU TN LICENSE PLATES READY FOR PICK-UP

Those who have ordered plates shortly should receive a letter indicating your TU BT (brook trout) plate is available and gives your plate number. Check with your county clerk to be sure your plate is ready for pick-up.

(Quotable: "Success in life is how high you bounce when you hit bottom").

**CLINCH RIVER
CHAPTER
COMMITTEES,
and CONTACTS-2009**

Advocacy &
Oversight John Thurman

Adopt-A-Highway
John Thurman

Conservation
Buzz Buffington

Membership
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Communications
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**(Note: The next newsletter -
August, will be sent in July)**

TACKLE TIPS
BY Buzz Buffington

Getting your gear ready for
spring and take advantage of the
best fishing East Tennessee has
to offer!

Reels: clean and lube lightly.

Rods: clean and lube joints; a Q-
tip will clean the female parts;
lube the male parts with paraffin
or a candle. Lines: replace if it's
cracked; if it's smooth and sup-
ple, clean with soft hand soap us-
ing a soft cloth and rinse. Check

(Continued column 2)

(Continued from column 1)

Guides and tip for groves and wear.
(Drag a piece of panty hose through
the guides to detect rough spots.

Leader, tippet: use a tapered 9' -
4X leader and 4, 5 or 6X tippet.

Heat and sunlight destroy nylon
monofilament leader/tippet so re-
place if they're weak or brittle.

Fluorocarbon is nearly indestructi-
ble so discard scraps into a trash
can, not the environment.

Ready?—Go Fishing!

Where and What to Use:

Clinch, above the weir dam-
Midge pupa under an indicator. My
favorite is a stripped peacock-hert
midge, with a black or silver bead-
head, size 18-22. Zebra midges
(black thread body, silver wire rib,
silver or black bead) also are good.

**Clinch, from the weir dam to the
Highway 61 (Veterans) bridge-**
on the lower tail water around the
jail and Baptist Church: sulphurs

(orange bodied may flies) should be
beginning to hatch. I like pheasant
tail nymphs, under an indicator,
sizes 16-18 tied with natural pheas-
ant tail and a gold or copper bead .
head. Olive-dyed pheasant tail with
a black bead work well too. A sure

killer is a soft hackle fly with a sul-
phur orange body and a speckled
hackle, size 16. Cast it across and
down, let it swing straight down-
stream. As the sulphur hatch in-
creases use ~~emergers~~ and dry flies
like a sulphur comparadun, sparkle
dun or parachute in sizes 16 and 18.

An Adams may be substituted if
sulphurs aren't producing. As the
season progresses, the hatch will
move upstream and you should too.

**Holston, from Cherokee dam to
Nance Ferry, near Blane:**

(Continued page 3)

**CLINCH RIVER CHAPTER
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(We were so taken with Buzz's obvious passion for fly fishing and extensive knowledge and its applicable-season wise, we're going with 3 pages)

Mary Jo and Bob

Caddis: I like a Crystal Caddis pupa size 12-16 under an indicator. Try a size 14-16, X-Caddis (elk hair caddis with no hackle and a schuck tail). For the small caddis, I use a green body, very sparse deer-hair wing, (no hackle or tail) caddis as an emerger. I use a flutter-winged version of the same as a dry fly. Another favorite caddis dry fly is an olive body, no tail and a natural CDC wing. Size 18 natural pheasant tails with copper or gold bead heads also work well, as do natural and green Copper Johns.

South Holston, pretty much the same patterns and sizes as used in the Clinch. Blue Winged Olives (BWO) are present and often hatch on cloudy days. Add a selection of dry flies tied in sizes 18-22 in BWO colors, blue winged olive green body and blue/grey wings. Same patterns as described for the Clinch. Again, Adams dry flies work pretty well.

Hiamassee River: the insect life is complex and resembles a mountain stream more than the tail waters. Best early hatches are caddis, size 14-16. Take some tan and olive bodied dries and Crystal Caddis or other pupa in tan and olive. Evening hatches of caddis on the big H can be prolific.

Mountains: check littleriveroutfitters.com for Byron's Fishing Report.

POSSIBLE EROSION PROBLEM CALLED TO ATTENTION OF TVA BY CHAPTER MEMBER

Bill Shipman flagged a possible problem at the weir dam which was brought to the attention of TVA. "Bo" Hadjeriona - Manager, Operations and Evaluation, River Scheduling, River Operations - expressed appreciation for bringing this observation to their attention. He responded that TVA engineers concurred that there was a developing problem with a section of the island eroding between the two weir abutments. They will start work to solve the problem in FY 2009, budget permitting, or the project will be included in FY 2010.

WADING SHOES MAY BE "FELT" IN TRANSPORTING AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES

Last fall at its annual meeting, TU called on fishing gear manufactures to eliminate production of felt-soled waders and wading boots by 2011.

This action recognized a growing concern and evidence that felt soled boots easily can be impregnated with mud and other organic matter to be unknowingly spread and transported to other waters. In a study by Montana State University, felt boots carried an average of 22.1 grams of sediment which translates into moving **a lot of sediment**. Included in this sediment can be aquatic invasive species (AIS) raising the concern for the environmental impact on the health of trout and salmon rivers from coast to coast. Remedial efforts include perhaps substitute soles which won't collect sediment, yet have the "holding power" of felt, or by practicing the Clean Angling Pledge: inspect, clean and dry equipment. TU believes that eliminating felt soles and practicing the Pledge will reduce the spreading of AIS.