

THE CLINCH RIVER ANGLER

CHAPTER MEETING

When: October 8, 7 pm

Who: Clayton Gist

What: Presentation about Clayton's recent fishing trip in Alaska

Where: St. Francis Episcopal Church in Norris

MEMBERS IN ACTION

Strategic Plan, 2009-2010 The BOD developed a plan which establishes direction for the chapter for the next two years. It is posted on our chapter web site, www.crctu.com, for all to see. Project leaders have volunteered for most of the projects; if your interests are peaked by one, contact the leader to join in.

October 23, Coal Creek Health Day-Volunteers are needed for this important community service; contact Carol Moore.

BOY SCOUT INITIATIVE

September 19: CRCTU conducted the first educational meeting with the Pellissippi Council of the Boy Scouts. Participating were 40 scouts and 16 adults.

The session was an experiment to determine how to best work with the scouts. Fun interactions included: fly tying with Steve Brown demonstrating his infamous "go to" fly, the Green Weenie, assisted by Don O'Neil. Several variations of the pattern emerged, most with legs protruding from all 180 degrees of the bodies. Clayton Gist rolled out his charming personality in holding the boys' "



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

(BSA continued...)

attention on the sometimes droll subject of "Bugs". Barry Thacker, Bill Shipman and Terry Douglas demonstrated casting techniques which engaged rapt attention from both the boys and adults.

The session quickly occupied the allotted three hours. Scouts and their leaders expressed pleasure and interest in the goings-on. Following the presentations, Camping Chairman, Keith Gaines, met with CRCTU members to evaluate the session and to discuss future involvement. CRCTU previously had agreed to play a major role in their Spring Conference. Tentatively, it will be held May 23, 2010, at the Baptist Church in Clinton. Gaines will attend our membership meeting in October to discuss our relationship with the scouts.

Member and "front man" for this partnership emphasizes that maximum member participation will be essential to carry this relationship forward. Merit badge counselors are needed in areas such as: Soil and Water

Conservation, Fish and Wildlife Management and Fly Fishing. Based on his association working with boy scouts, Gwinn promises, "WE WILL GET MORE OUT OF OUR ASSOCIATION WITH THE BOY SCOUTS THAN THEY WILL GET FROM US!"

QUESTIONS FOR BUZZ

(Buzz offers tips in answering questions related to fly fishing)

Q. What dry flies work best on the Clinch during the spring?

A. Sulphurs (Ephemerella) a yellow may fly is the only significant spring dry fly hatch on the Clinch. They begin to appear in April, peak in late May-early June and a few are still around in August. Trout love them! The pheasant tail in a size 16 or 18 is a good nymph imitation. I use a size 18 tied on a curved scud hook, with a 5/64 "bead. Tie with either natural or olive-dyed pheasant tail. Often, even during a hatch, you will catch more fish with a nymph than a dry fly. Good dry fly patterns are the sulphur parachute or the comparadun size 18, fished on a 6X tippet.

(Ed's Note: Following is extracted from Goal 3 from our Strategic Plan which applies to topics in this newsletter) Contribute to youth education regarding aquatic biology and increase public awareness of the economic and ecological significance of the Clinch River Tailwater.

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**CLINCH RIVER
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2009-2010**

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Weir Dam Cleanup

John Thurman

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(continued from page 1, Strategic Plan....)

Objective One: Provide aquatic natural resources educational opportunities for area youth.

Project 1. Trout in the Classroom-

This is a project designed for students in grades K-12. Students set up a classroom aquarium suitable for hatching trout eggs; trout fry are hatched and released directly into the Clinch or tributary stream such as Clear Creek. The program is an excellent conservation teaching tool. A pilot project was completed in 2009 at Briceville Elementary
Action: Continue TIC at Briceville; expand to Norris Elementary.

Managers: Briceville-Barry Thacker, Carol Moore; Norris-Dick Geiger, John Thurman

Schedule: 2009-2010 school years

Cooperators: Briceville Elementary School, Norris Elementary

Project 2. Coal Creek Health Day

Each October our chapter joins with the Coal Creek Watershed Foundation to hold a daylong environmental health day at Briceville Elementary. Kids work with TVA biologists and chapter members in conducting a biological monitoring survey of Coal Creek.

Action: Participate in Coal Creek Health Day on October 23, 2009

Managers: Carol Moore, Barry Thacker

Cooperators: TVA

**CLINCH RIVER CHAPTER
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