



Clear Water Journal

August 2017



The Official Newsletter of the Clear Fork Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Inside this issue:

President's Welcome Upcoming Events	1
President's Message— Continued	2
Website and Email Up- date Tech Tips & Gear News	3
Aurora Nymph	4

President's Message -

A. CFRTU continues its vigorous activities on multiple fronts. Its been a busy half year, with some things old, some new, and some a hang-fire too! Among them.....

The New By-Laws, approved by the CFRTU Board in Nov. 2016, continue to await approval by the CFRTU members. Despite repeated attempts to hold a membership vote on approval of our proposed new By-Laws, we were unable to hold a valid vote because of insufficient attendance at our last several Chapter meetings in which we scheduled a vote: we did not have the 30-member attendance required for such a vote at a meeting. Accordingly, the Board approved holding a vote of the members for approval of our new proposed By-Laws by a ballot mailed with our summer newsletter to all CFRTU members, with members responding by completing and mailing ballots via US Mail to me per the address label on the ballot, or by Email to cftru.info@gmail.com per instructions on the ballot. All return ballots must be received by Sept. 8 (Fri), 2017.

Our TIC program continues to thrive under Anthony Salupo's leadership. The excitement of the TIC Teachers and Students for rearing the trout, and especially for their final release, is exciting for all! CFRTU was again awarded an Aquatic Education Grant for our Chapter's Novice Fly Fishing Clinics held in conjunction with our two annual trout stockings for Apple Creek in Wooster, OH. The funding (\$4,237) was reduced from last year, but is still an elevated award compared to previous years.

Our WEB site continues its dysfunction, apparently a consequence of being hacked. A local WEB design firm has been identified for help with our WEB Site recovery and for design of a new WEB site with improved design, functions, communication quality, and security. Our initial meeting with them shows promise for getting a quality WEB site up and running at reasonable cost.

Our Ohio Trout Unlimited State Council (OH TU Council) held its annual meeting in April, 2017; the last for the long-time Chairmanship of

Tom Allen. After years of dedicated service, Tom announced that he was retiring immediately after the conclusion of that meeting, leaving a void in the top leadership position for which Tom had served so long and hard. Don Dean, a TU OH Council member and the TIC Program Coordinator for our State Council, volunteered to run for President of the OH TU Council, and was promptly elected for such by the Council members & representatives. Please welcome Don to his new post!

The retirement of our OH TU Council President together with voids in other leadership positions and issues for Ohio TU Chapters raised concerns by TU National about leadership succession within OH TU Council and Chapters. TU National encouraged reassessment of meeting schedules and structure for Chapters due to their finding that Chapters with fewer regular meetings and more events had better leadership succession and recruitment of younger members. Perhaps CFRTU should reconsider our overall meeting & event program, .

- Upcoming Events**
- 1) Sept. 11 (Mon), 2017: Resume CFRTU regular Monthly Meetings.** is likely to again be the OARDC Fisher Auditorium Conference Rm.
 - 2) Oct. 9 (Mon), 2017: Regular Monthly Meeting for October, & Election of Officer & Board Members.**
 - 3) Oct. 21 (Sat), 2017: 1st 2017 CFRTU Stocking of trout in Apple Creek at Grosjean Park, Wooster, OH, in AM. Hold 1st of two Novice Fly Fishing Clinics in afternoon** (Date subject to weather & stream flow & conditions).
 - 4) Nov. 18 (Sat), 2017: 2nd 2017 CFRTU Stocking of trout in Apple Creek at Grosjean Park, Wooster, OH, in AM; Hold 2nd of two Novice Fly Fishing Clinics in afternoon** (Date subject to weather & stream flow & conditions).
 - 5) Dec. 11 (Mon), 2017: Regular Monthly Meeting**

Contacts:

President -
Floyd Schanbacher
2066 E. Mesner Rd.
Wooster, OH 44691
flschanbacher@gmail.com

Vice-President -
Vacant

Secretary-
Vacant

Treasurer -
Randy Geib
7429 Saratoga Hills Dr. NE
Canton, OH 44721
rgeib@neo.rr.com

Directors -
Phil Russo Mike Dull
Bob McFarland Jon Little
Jerry Polen Paul Swarmer
John Weeks Anthony Salupo
Nick Wisda David Wiesenberg

Past-President -
Skip Nault
2722 Taylor Drive
Wooster, OH 44691
Bugmanosu@gmail.com

Newsletter Publisher/Editor -
Nick Wisda
2196 Township Hwy 55
Nevada, OH 44849
nwisda@hotmail.com

Mission Statement—"To conserve, protect and restore Ohio's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds."

President's Message—Continued

B. Recruitment of CFRTU Officers and Committee Leadership: CFRTU continues its deficit of officers; current officers are President and Treasurer with vacancies for both a Secretary and a Vice President. In addition, the terms of three Board Member positions will expire this October and will require replacement through our election process. Hence, we seek officer and board position candidates at all levels to fill our current vacancies or term expirations. We will hold Officer and Board Member elections at our Oct 9, 2017, regular monthly meeting. Please contact any Board Member or your President if you are interested in serving!

C. CFRTU-sponsored Trout in the Classroom (TIC) programs are flourishing through the continuing & dedicated leadership & oversight of Anthony Salupo. Anthony works closely with each teacher and their school for setting up their aquarium systems & chillers for trout rearing from eggs, and for rearing and monitoring of the trout and the aquarium water quality, and coordinates each with Don Dean, the Ohio TU State Council TIC Director, who obtains and distributes the

eggs for either Brown or Rainbow trout to each of the TIC programs for all Ohio TU Chapters.

The CFRTU sponsored TIC program continues to grow with seven TIC programs conducted this past year. The TIC program requires extensive time and involvement of teachers and students in preparation, classroom learning, system & water quality monitoring, & rearing procedures, which is rewarded with its culmination in release of the reared trout fingerlings by the students and their TIC teacher into either Apple Creek at Grosjean Park or the Upper Clear Fork River as designated through ODOW permits to receive eggs, rear fingerlings, & release reared trout into Ohio waters designated for their fingerling species. We are appreciative of the Ohio Dept. of Wildlife recognition and support of the CFRTU-TIC, and all Ohio TU Council-sponsored TIC programs, for their value in introducing young people to key principles for the sustainability and conservation of Ohio's stream sports and fishing, and as an avenue toward increasing youth participation in fishing and the outdoors likely to translate into more Ohio adult participants in stream and other fishing.

President's Message—Part III

D. Ohio Dept. of Wildlife (ODOW) Inland Trout Rearing & Stocking Program:

ODOW convened an Inland Trout Summit in Columbus on Jan 14, 2017, to describe their current assessment of the ODOW's trout stocking plan for both sustainable and non-sustainable put & take fisheries. Ohio trout unlimited representatives as well as various conservation representatives attended the excellent presentations & summary by ODOW Fisheries personnel. In addition to an excellent backgrounding in the history and focus of recent trout stocking programs in Ohio, they reviewed their extensive survey data to determine the angler engagement of the Mad River & other sustainable stocked trout fisheries (esp. Upper Clear Fork River). Their inland trout stocking program stocks Brown Trout in streams capable of sustaining trout through the summer heat (sustainable waters), and stocks Rainbow Trout in stream sections or impoundments known to warm to trout-lethal temperatures in the summer (non-sustainable waters). ODOW survival surveys of trout populations in each of Ohio's sustainable trout streams stocked with Brown Trout (Mad River, Upper Clear Fork River, Lower Clear Fork River, Clear Creek, and Apple Creek) showed poor or sometimes no annual survival for the Lower Clear Fork River and Clear Creek due to thermal challenge. Upper Clear Fork River had moderate to good survival due to access of fish to thermal refuges (cold springs/pools) in summer, while Mad River's colder year-round temperature gave excellent survival. Since Apple Creek is not stocked by ODNR/ODOW, they had no data for it even though our Chapter's experience shows respectable but unquantified sur-

vival of stocked trout through most summers. ODOW emphasized that they do not receive state appropriated funds for their operating expenses or activities, which are instead funded through hunting and fishing license fees. Under severe budget constraints, ODOW will reevaluate their trout rearing and stocking programs, with continued stocking of nonsustainable (put & take) Rainbow Trout in streams and impoundments subject to trout-lethal summer temperatures. With the demonstrated failure of trout survival in the Lower Clear Fork River and in Clear Creek, they will consider ceasing stocking of those streams with Brown Trout and instead will stock them with Rainbows to convert them to put & take fisheries. Mad River & Upper Clear Fork River will continue to be stocked with Brown Trout as sustainable populations.

Interesting information emerging from ODOW's stream surveys & analyses are: 1) Rainbow Trout were shown to be as heat tolerant as Brown Trout, and are more tolerant of sunlight which allows them to feed more aggressively in riffles & exposed areas (seemingly a good reason to try them for stocking the Upper Clear Fork River with its sublethal thermal challenges?); 2) nearly all anglers on the Mad River practiced voluntary Catch and Release!

We are disappointed that Apple Creek has not received consideration by ODOW for stocking as a sustainable trout fishery with excellent urban access. We will continue to pursue with them the potential for such, and also for designating Apple Creek for Catch & Release trout fishing.

CFRTU MEMBER BALLOT for APPROVAL
of Proposed 2016 Revised CFRTU ByLaws

The 2016 Revised CFRTU ByLaws are proposed for adoption by VOTE of the CFRTU Membership through this mailed Ballot, to be returned to CFRTU no later than

Sept. 8, 2017, with validations per instructions below.

Please complete the following certification for your ballot:

- | | YES | NO |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. I am a CFRTU member in good standing | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. TU Member ID Number: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| 3. TU Member Name (First) _____ (Last) _____ | | |

My VOTE is: YES = APPROVE NO = DISAPPROVE

Return Ballot by either Email or US Mail to be received by 9/8/17:

Email to: cfrtu.info@gmail.com Subject = **ByLaw Ballot**

Provide within your email ballot response: YOUR VOTE, &
Name, Address, TU ID Number, & verify current active Membership.

From:

Place First Class

Postage Here

**Floyd Schanbacher
Pres. CFRTU
2066 E. Messner Rd
Wooster, OH 44691**

Fold here. Tape open end before sending and include first class stamp.

CFRTU WEB SITE & EMAIL

CFRTU EMAIL ERRORS: OUR WEB SITE is still DOWN! BUT - CHECK YOUR TU INFO FOR WHETHER YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS is CURRENT & CORRECT!! Please go to the TU National WEB site and check whether your information is correct for your CURRENT EMAIL ADDRESS!! For emailing our membership, our CFRTU WEB Site (when working) draws from the TU National WEB Site information for each chapter member's information as shown in the TU National Membership Database.

Each time CFRTU sends a blanket email to all members (370 outgoing emails), we get about 40-70 that bounce back as undeliverable for various reasons. Some rejections are due to the messages being identified by the recipient's email system as SPAM and are rejected. However, most failed CFRTU outgoing emails appear due to incorrect or outdated email addresses that members haven't corrected or updated in their TU National membership data. **PLEASE CHECK, UPDATE, &/or CORRECT YOUR MEMBER INFORMATION shown on YOUR TU NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP RECORD, especially for your EMAIL ADDRESSES, & that you have selected your desired email for receipt of CFRTU Emailings!**

Whether we recover our CFRTU WEB Site and its email functions, or resort to other Email routes, you won't get CFRTU emails of meeting announcements or other Chapter info/events if your email address is incorrect!

Tech Tips and Gear News

EURONYMPHING UPDATE: Lance Egan article - Low & Slow: Cut the current with these techniques and terminal tackle. Fly Fisherman, Aug-Sept, 2017, pgs 35-45 (www.flyfisherman.com). Egan, the developer of the broadly effective Rainbow Warrior nymph fly pattern and a three-time National Champion and World Fly Fishing Championship medalist, provides an excellent in-depth article with illustrations of his approach to euro-nymphing based on behavior of leaders and weighted flies in the structured water column of trout streams. He describes how to optimize leaders, fly presentation (especially tandem fly setups), and fishing techniques to keep your flies fishing effectively in the pocket waters best suited for euro-nymphing. He provides excellent illustrations, leader setups, leader tying recipes, & discussion/description of leader and fly positions and behavior in the differential current velocities and directions of structures common to pocket or structured waters, and how to achieve desired drifts at depth for best presentation.

NEW GEAR/STUFF: At last - Jig Style barbless wide gape nymph hooks! Several WEB Sites (Blue Quill Angler, Tactical Fly Fisher, etc.) now offer Hanak Jig Style Competition barbless wide gape nymph hooks, and slotted tungsten beads (www.hanak.eu/en/brand-hanak-competition/barbless-hooks). These have proved very popular and effective for competition nymphing, and are now becoming popular with



Gear News –Cont. and Aurora Nymph Explained

recreational trout anglers. I've tried 'em, and you should too! They are an improved form/shape for a jig style nymph with very sharp & high quality hook points, and their wide gape prevents obstruction of the hook point by the jig bead position which increases effective hookups with fewer snags than regular down-hook ties!

A You Tube video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=upzXwGevvEM&t=221s>) exemplifies tying Copper Johns with this jig-style nymph hook, lead wire wraps, & slotted tungsten beads, and illustrates the Hanak hook package for reference. Specifications for the Hanak Jig-style Nymph hooks are: **Hanak H 450 BL "Jig Superb" or H 400 BL "Jig Classic" Jig Style hooks**, Wide Gape, Medium Wire, Extra long Needle Point - Bent In, Barbless, available in hook sizes 10, 12, 14, & 16. These Hanak jig-style nymph hooks are available on-line from several vendors, but are also sold by Umpqua under their brand name (hook no. C400 BL).

Aurora Nymph by Skip Nault -

I had the good fortune to meet with Dennis Potter, who hales from Grand Rapids, MI, at the January 2017 Northern Ohio Fly Fishing Expo. Along with Randy Rowe, we were representing the Clear Fork River Chapter as guest fly tiers, tying a few of our favorite patterns. Not too far

away from our table, Dennis was demonstrating how to tie several of the patterns he has designed recently. One of them was the Aurora nymph.

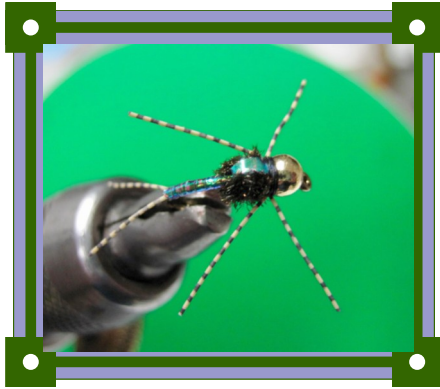
The Aurora is an impressionistic pattern, representing any number of immature aquatic insects, from stoneflies to mayflies. The key to the effectiveness of the pattern is the mini rubber legs used to tie the tail and legs. The motion of the mini rubber as the fly bumps along the bottom of the stream attracts the attention of the fish. When the same pattern is tied with pheasant tail fibers for the tail and legs, it is not nearly as effective.

Another key component is the tungsten bead Dennis uses to get the fly down to the stream bottom quickly. He uses tungsten rather than brass beads now for all of his weighted nymph patterns.

I tied up a number of Aurora nymphs on size #12 and #14 scud hooks and gave them quite a work out this spring and early summer. I used them in tandem, usually with a prince nymph as my first fly and the Aurora as my dropper. I fished Apple Creek, the upper section of the Clear Fork River and Spring Creek in PA.

The fly worked wonders on both rainbow trout as well as browns. Never have I had such success with a fly pattern. What I mean by success is not just numbers of fish caught and released, but big fish, especially the browns. I caught three of my biggest browns ever on the Clear Fork, the largest over 20 inches and weighing 3 pounds. On Spring Creek, I landed a 24-inch brown as well as a rainbow bigger than any steelhead I caught this past winter.

Aurora Nymph



Trout Unlimited

Floyd Schanbacher
2066 E. Mesner Rd.
Wooster, OH 44691

Visit us on the Web at www.cfrtu.org

Here is the recipe for the Aurora:

- Scud hook, size 12,14, or 16.
- Tungsten bead sized to the hook.
- Thread, 8/0 in black or red
- Tail and legs, mini rubber, black, white or other colors.
- Body, pearl tinsel, small or medium.
- Wing case cover, medium or large pearl tinsel.
- Thorax, 3-4 strands of peacock herl.
- Clear Hard as Nails.

Tying instructions: Use thread to snug bead against hook eye, then cover hook with thread around bend. Take a short piece of rubber, fold in two and tie in tails. Tie in tinsel and run thread up to the bead. Wrap tinsel with overlapping wraps up to bead (this is when you are happy to have a rotary vice). Tie in a short piece of tinsel to tie over thorax. Tie in peacock behind bead and wrap until thorax is 1.5 to 2 times width of bead, then pull over and tie in tinsel for wing case. Tie in short piece of rubber on far side of hook for first pair of legs with two wraps of thread then tie in second short piece on near side with two more tight wraps. Use a half hitch tool to tie four half hitch wraps behind the bead and in front of legs. Cut thread and then tail and legs to desired length. Coat the abdomen with clear Hard as Nails to strengthen the tinsel. You are ready to fish the Aurora!

A final sad note: on July 10, 2017, Phil Hillman, Manager of the ODO District 3 office in Canton, OH, passed away unexpectedly. Phil was an avid fly fisherman and steelheader, and rigorous watchman for the integrity of the NE Ohio streams and fisheries. Though rigorous in his job, he was quick to help when called upon by CFRTU. Our sympathy to Phil's family and friends. We will miss him.....

E-Mail Updates

Although we will be sending out this newsletter twice a year, our main method of communication is email! Email messages are sent monthly to keep members up-to-date on chapter events and activities.

There are two ways to update your email address. One, you can log onto www.tu.org to update with TU National. By updating on www.tu.org, you will receive emails from TU National, the Ohio TU Council and CFRTU.

Your other option is to log onto www.cfrtu.org, and update your information with CFRTU. You will need your member ID to log on, which can be found next to your name on the address label of

this newsletter. After logging on, you will see a link on the left side of the page that says "Email Settings".

*All meetings are held on the second Monday of the month. Unless specified otherwise, they are held on the OSU / ATI Campus. OSU/ATI is located at 1328 Dover Road (US 250) on the south edge of Wooster. Please plan on arriving at 7:00 to catch up with old friends or make new ones and meet new members. The meetings start promptly at 7:15. For the most up-to-date information on meetings and other events, please visit our website at www.cfrtu.org.