



Clear Water Journal

May, 2015 Issue



The Official Newsletter of the Clear Fork Chapter of Trout Unlimited

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Upcoming Events

- May 30 - Fly-fishing Outing on the Clear Fork (Details to follow)
- June 13 - 10am Macroinvertebrate Survey of Apple Creek (Grosjean Park)
- September 14 - 7:15 pm Chapter Meeting - Jimmy Acord "Custom Leatherwork for Sportsmen"
- October 12 - 7:15 - Chapter Meeting - Jerry Darkus : "Steelhead Around the Great Lakes"
- October 17 - 10-12 - Stocking Apple Creek - Grosjean Park
- October 17, 18 - 1-4 - Fly Fishing Clinic-Grosjean Park
- November 7 - 10 am - Stocking Apple Creek, Grosjean Park
- November 9 - 7:15 pm - Chapter Meeting - Matthew Smith ODNR "Northeast Ohio Scenic Rivers Program"
- December 14 - 7:15 pm Chapter Meeting - Skip Nault - "Silver Salmon on the fly: Fishing the Karluk River on Kodiak Island"

President's Message -

This past year has been an eventful one for CFRTU members. The monthly chapter meetings have seen an increase in the number of members and guests in attendance. This can be attributed in part to the quality of speakers and diversity of topics featured at our meetings. I thank Randy Rowe who was charged with selecting and inviting the past years slate of speakers. He has already selected speakers for this fall (see scheduled events on this page) and is working on the slate of speakers for 2016. Another factor has been the upgrade in fly fishing tackle and fly tying equipment offered at our monthly raffles.

Last October we again held a successful two-day fly-fishing clinic on Apple Creek at Grosjean Park in Wooster. Three-dozen novice and beginning fly anglers, from kids 10 years and older to senior citizens participated. Members volunteered over 200 hours preparing for and conducting the clinics. The stream was stocked with 500 rainbow and

brown trout prior the clinics. An Outdoor Aquatic Education Grant from the Ohio Division of Wildlife funded the event. We again have been awarded grant from the DOW to conduct clinics October 17&18 of this year. Sign-ups for these clinics will begin in September.

The stream was stocked a second time last November. This stocking was supported by funds raised at our chapter meetings and by the City of Wooster. The trout fishery at Grosjean Park has been popular. It is estimated that the stream receives over 1,000 visits each year by fly anglers.

In 2000, we conducted a survey of CFRTU members as well as members from other fly fishing and trout clubs in Ohio. That survey is now five years old, and needs updating. On page three of this Newsletter is a survey form. If you have fished Apple Creek in the past 12 months, we would appreciate your filling out the survey, it will take but a few minutes, and mail it back to me at the

address listed. We appreciate any comments you may offer, just write them down on the survey form.

There is more! In November members volunteered to serve as gillies for 15 Wounded Warriors on Cold Creek at the State fish hatchery in Castalia. This was a two-day event; fly fishing for rainbow trout on the first day followed by a pheasant hunt on the second day. Members also conducted a survey of macro-invertebrates last June in Apple Creek. Once again the survey has established that water quality in the stream is excellent and there is a broad base of aquatic life to sustain the trout we stock. Rarely do we find a "skinny" trout in the stream.

The 2014-15 year will close with a spring fly-fishing outing at the upper Clear Fork River (Butler, Belleville area) on Saturday, May 30. Details will be sent by email. A macro-invertebrate survey of Apple Creek in June. We hope to see some of you at these year-end events.

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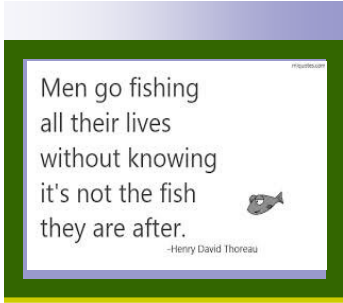
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Mission Statement—"To conserve, protect and restore Ohio's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds."

2015 Trout in the Classroom



Dalton Middle School students watching their trout grow.



Some beautiful rainbows getting ready for life outside the classroom.



Future TU members releasing their rainbow fingerlings into Apple Creek.

This year the chapter sponsored four schools participating in the Trout in the Classroom (TIC) program. GlenOak High School and Mount Vernon High School were recipients of brown trout. Dalton Middle School and Orrville High School both participated in the program by raising rainbow trout. The Ohio Division of Wildlife (DOW) provided fertile trout eggs to the schools.

By the time GlenOak received the funding to purchase equipment and set up the rearing tank, the deadline to receive the eggs had passed. In order to go forward with the program, the DOW sent the school 105 brown trout in the fingerling stage. Glen Oak's STEM Physical Science Teacher, Chad Palmer, informed me that the trout were delivered to the wrong address and ended up on someone's front porch several miles away from the school. Luckily, the fish survived the ordeal. The main priority for the GlenOak students this year was to monitor fluctuations in ammonia and pH levels of the tank water. Currently 42 of the 105 fish are still living. Mr. Palmer mentioned, "In terms of next year, we would like to come up with better ideas to control the ammonia levels, raise the fish from eggs, setup a better feeding system (school schedule makes feeding difficult), and remove gravel from the bottom of the tank to make clean-

ing easier."

This was also Dalton Middle School's first year participating in the program. They received 100 rainbow trout eggs on February 9th. The students used the program to test water chemistry and pH levels once a week and learned first hand about nutrient cycles. As a part of the program, the students researched the literature on trout and created a bulletin board about habitat and food chains which they displayed in the school. Dalton Middle School Science Teacher, Laura Grimm, explained, "We had a deformed fish the students named "Waldo". He (she?) had a mutation that did not allow the fish to close its mouth. Students were always interested in 'finding Waldo'-just like the children's book." She said that because of this, students discussed mutations and survival of the fittest. Unfortunately Waldo eventually died. Currently the middle school has 85 trout remaining, which are about 1.5-2 inches in length. They plan to release the trout in Apple Creek at Grosjean Park sometime in mid-May.

Orrville High School has participated in the program for four years. They had another successful year this season and released their trout on April 20 at Apple Creek. Fifteen people as well as representatives from the regional newspaper, "The Daily Record", were on hand for the release of

the rainbow trout fingerlings.

All in all it was another very successful year for the TIC program. The chapter plans to sponsor the same four schools next year in addition to possibly adding some new schools. Two new schools, Malvern High School and Highland Middle School, have shown interest in starting a TIC program. The initial setup for a TIC project costs ca. \$1,000 including the tank, pumps, filters and the most expensive component, the chiller, to keep water temperatures at about 55F. We have provided these schools with opportunities to apply for grants to support the program. Also, Ohio's TU Council has allocated funds to the chapter to help schools get started. We look forward to a great program again in 2016!

Submitted by Anthony Salupo, CFRTU Trout in the Classroom coordinator.



**Survey of anglers who have fished Apple Creek at Grosjean Park in the past 12 months.
Please check or circle all answers that apply.**

1. How many times have you fished Apple Creek the past 12 months?

- 1 time
- 2 to 4 times
- 5 times or more

2. What months have you fished Apple Creek?

- January through April
- May through August
- September through December

3. What fishing tackle did you use?

- Fly fishing
- Spin fishing with artificial lures
- Spin tackle with baited hooks

4. Please rate your fishing experience.

- Poor to Fair
- Good to Very Good
- Excellent

5. Are you a member of?

- Clear Form River Chapter of Trout Unlimited
- Another Trout Unlimited Chapter
- Another fishing club

6. What is your age?

- Under 30
- 30 to 60
- Over 60

7. How far do you travel to fish Apple Creek?

- 15 miles or less
- 16 to 60 miles
- More than 60 miles

8. Will you return to fish Apple Creek?

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

Comments and suggestions for improving Apple Creek fishery can be included in the right-hand margin of this page.

Please send responses to: Skip Nault
2722 Talylor Street
Wooster, OH 44691

TU Teen Summit



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Visit us on the Web at www.cfrtu.org

Two CFRTU Youth members selected for TU Teen Summit.

Dylan Phillipson (left), a sophomore at Buckeye Valley High School in Ashley, OH and Gavin Nupp, a freshman at GlenOak High School in Canton were selected to attend the TU Teen Summit to be held At Western Carolina University in the Blue Ridge Mountains of NC, June 28-July 2. They will learn leadership skills to promote youth membership for TU, attend conservation workshops and learn how tie flies and fly fish the mountain streams of NC. They will join two dozen youth members selected from across the country to take part in the Summit. Congratulations to Dylan & Gavin.

Fly of the Month

Pheasant Tail

This simple nymph, perfected in the River Avon, has become a classic fly that is included in every angler's fly box. It is designed as a nymph making an attractive sound when reaching the water, which sunk easily and had a good silhouette for trout. This was the first using copper wire instead of thread to tie the originals, which had no legs because they imitated baetidae nymphs and similar ones that fold their legs when swimming. This particular pattern is for rough waters and pockets where a slimmer nymph would perhaps not be seen. The rooster fibers tail is very resistant and the way the abdomen and thorax is tied towards the back, making use of ribbing to reinforce them keeps materials in its places regardless of the many trout bites. A longlasting fly keeps us focused on fishing. We can tie this one with no legs if we want it to sink faster, or with fine lead turns under the peacock, the secret is to adapt it to each kind of water.



MATERIALS

Hook: Mustad Signature 3906B, Partridge SH2, Kamasan 175, Daiichi 1560 or similar.

Thread: 8/0 color rust brown.

Tail: rooster fibers, coachman brown or rusty brown color.

Ribbing: Gold or copper wire.

Abdomen: pheasant tail fibers from the collar.

Thorax: peacock fiber. From the tail feather with the eye on.

Wingcase and legs: pheasant tail fibers from the collar.

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 in Room 30 (downstairs) at Skou Hall. 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.