



October 2011 Newsletter

Bluegrass Chapter Trout Unlimited #478

"...conserving, protecting and restoring North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds."

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**for more contact information,
please visit our **New Website***

www.bluegrasstu.org

Next Meeting

Meetings take place at 6:30 at Columbia Steakhouse, downtown Lexington, 201 North Limestone, **October 4.**

Mat Waggoner from Driftless Anglers Fly Shop in Viroqua, Wisconsin and one of his guides, Pete, will be our next program on October 4th. Gary and I have had the pleasure of using Pete as a guide and visiting with Mat earlier this year. Mat and Pete are arriving on the evening of the 3rd and will have the morning of the 4th to take in a fishing outing. They will not be able to stay on the 5th for the float trip that was planned (and now scraped). Now I would like to arrange to do a wading trip to the Cumberland Tuesday morning the 4th. Anyone that would like, can join us at the boat ramp by Kendall Camp-ground around 8:30 CST (9:30 EST). We will then go down to Rainbow Run for a morning of fishing (providing suitable flow). If you can join us I think you would enjoy and it would be a great welcome to our guest on their first visit to the bluegrass state.

Outing On the Dix River

I had not fished the Dix for several years. Recently I received an email from Brad Johnson, a part-time guide on the Dix River, offering Dix River access by boat. I jumped at the chance to revisit this river in the beautiful palisades.

I met Brad at the launch ramp just above Lock 7 on the Kentucky River, just past Wilmore, about 30-50 minutes from Lexington, depending where you live.

I got on board, a spotless 18 foot boat with a quiet 50 HP motor. In 10-15 minutes we were at the riffle, ready to fish. Although the visibility was about 3-4 feet, it was not the very clear river I knew of several years ago. Brad said the clarity was not as good as last year, and the fishing was also not as good as the last year. Perhaps the large amount of water that was released this year, including that released through the Emergency Spillway was casual.

Although cool, I also noted the water temperature was not as cold as before. Hybrid White Bass had been caught just below the riffle, and also below the dam. Maybe they were competing for baitfish with the Trout, or eating the Trout.

He and I caught a Trout in the riffle. Few were seen actively feeding.

Brad also has a two man inflatable boat with an electric motor to reach the base of the dam, which he says has been the best site for Trout this year.

Brad is not a fly fisherman, does spin fish, but he knows the river well.

The four hour trip yielded not many Trout, but was on a spectacular scenic river with a very affable companion. Next time-the inflatable up the dam.

If you like the Dix, and need transportation to it, you can reach him at www.DixRiverAdventures.com or brad@dixriveradventures.com or his cell (317) 496-9965, home (859) 858-8235.

Dick Kielar

President's Message

Terms for your Chapter Officers and Board Members are both ending and beginning with the ending of our fiscal year. To our outgoing Officers and Board Members; Dick Kielar and Gene Slusher, I say Thank You for your service to our Chapter and the job well done. Your insight and participation at Board meetings will be missed, I personally will miss your counsel and input on all matters relating to Chapter operation.

With this change over I welcome our new Officers and Board Members; Ken Wells-Vice Pres./Secretary, David Cummings-Conservation, Connie VanOnselder-Programs and Robert VanOnselder-Outings. I'm excited for their enthusiasm and anticipate their dedicated leadership in the coming year.

Currently, your Officers and Board Members are busy putting together the Chapter Strategic-Action Plan and Budget for our new fiscal year. The Plan and Budget will be approved and adopted at the October Board Meeting. Once this is finalized and completed the details of the Plan and Budget will be published in the next Newsletter and posted on the website. If any member has an idea, project, or suggestion for operation of our Chapter please contact any Officer or Board Member so these can be considered for inclusion in our Plan or Budget.

Lastly, Trout in the Classroom is off to a great start in this new school year, Don Thompson, Bill Davig and many volunteers have been busy getting aquariums prepared for the first event of the year! Trout eggs were delivered to each school on Friday, September 23rd. All 21 schools are excited to begin their journey of raising Trout as a means of teaching and learning the importance of Conservation for a better World. We still need a few dedicated and interested members to volunteer as a "Resource Person" for the program, Contact Don Thompson or Sandy Broughman if you have some time to share or care to get involved with one of these of these Classrooms. You will never regret getting involved with these young students and helping to mold Leaders for Tomorrow!!

Gary S. Rose
President



Dick Kielar 20" brown, on a hopper, on the Cumberland River.

Support The Trout in the Classroom Raffle

BGTU Members,

I would like to bring to your attention a fantastic raffle offered to support “Trout in the Classroom.” Bluegrass Trout Unlimited will raffle a 7’-6” 5-wt. Metolius Deluxe Bamboo Rod, Rod Case, Headwaters Hat, a STH Reel, 5 wt. line, various tapered leaders and fluorocarbon tippets, plus a pair of Orvis waders and Cabelas felt soled shoes. The tickets are \$10 each and are available now, with the drawing at our Spring Banquet. If 100 tickets are sold before the annual BGTU Banquet, the \$1,000 raised will be matched by a member of BGTU to double the donation to “Trout in the Classroom.”

New Headwaters Deluxe Metolius Bamboo Fly Rod

The Metolius. 7’ 6” 5-wt. Medium action. 3.2 oz. Payne 101 taper. The Metolius provides a balance between power and accuracy. This classic medium taper is well-designed and does not easily overload. The Metolius is a superb versatile taper for varying fishing conditions. The Metolius is one bamboo rod that does it all. Well suited for wet or dry fly action, the Metolius embodies the experience of fly fishing at its best. Put your fly fishing skills to the test with the Metolius Deluxe, made in Oregon. Plus Rod Case, Headwaters Cap and Extra Tip included.



Used STH Reel (5,6,7) with Impeller Driven Drag

Back in 1974, a talented machinist with a manual lathe put together the first, simple STH fly reel, machined from solid bar stock aluminum. He had no idea at the time that what he was creating would change the world of fly fishing. This simple, elegant reel was so incredibly impressive that a bunch of businessmen – fly fishermen and their friends – decided to team up and mass manufacture the fly reels for sale to the public. After all, they didn’t want to be the only ones that could experience the joy of the STH fly reel. At first they were only marketed in Argentina, but soon they had expanded that market into 22 other countries on their way to providing the world with the perfect fly-fishing experience. Although STH is no longer in business, there are experts in Argentina who still make the STH reel for \$399. Orvis 5 wt. WF Wonderline, Rio Leaders and Rio tippets are included.

Used Orvis Lightweight Waders

Orvis size ML lightweight stocking foot waders with integral gravel guards. Gently used on one trip to Alaska and donated to Trout in the Classroom. These waders have adjustable suspenders that allow the suspender to serve as a belt when the wader is rolled down to waist high. Comes in a handy stuff sack and includes the repair kit in the inner pocket..

Used Cabelas Felt Soled Boots

Cabelas Felt Soled Boots (size 12). These high top artificial leather boots will protect your feet in the rockiest stream. This is an obsolete model from Cabelas.

Thanks,
Don Thompson

Education Programs—Connie VanOnselder

This is your TU Chapter and I am always wanting new and interesting ideas for our programs. If you have made a contact or would like a program on a specific topic, let me know. You can e-mail me with the contact information and I will make the arrangements. I have a lot of great ideas for this year. They may not all work out and I do get cancellations from time to time. Your input into our meetings and programs is greatly encouraged. Exciting meetings make for stronger attendance!

Cumberland River Camping Trip

Come join us on the Cumberland on October the 15th and 16th. As you all know the Cumberland is the pre-eminent cold water fishery in Kentucky. You can expect to catch Browns, Rainbows and now Brook Trout during this trip. Typically the River is low and wadeable this time of the year although this isn't guaranteed. If the level of the river does not allow for safe wading several of us will have boats and will gladly share space on them. Sit-on top kayaks rentals will also be available at reduced rates.

You can join us on Friday night or if your schedule does not allow that, come down on Saturday morning. Friday night dinner will be on your own and Saturday night will be a pot-luck dinner which historically have been very tasty. This trip is a great opportunity to make fly-fishing friends in a friendly and fun environment, catch some fish and enjoy the great outdoors. If you are a beginning angler or unfamiliar with the Cumberland I would encourage you to come, since there will be plenty of people happy to show you how to fish the river successfully.

The Chapter will cover the cost of the camp-sites at Wolf-Creek dam campground and firewood. Because of campground reservation requirements, please make sure to RSVP me no later than Oct 8th.

If you know of anybody that is not a TU member, but might be interested in this trip please pass it along this is a great opportunity to introduce them to TU and get them signed up.

Please Contact me with any questions,

Thanks,

Robert Van Onselder

Outings Chairman

(919) 623 4620

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By the way, stay posted for information on the annual Stealhead trip coming up in November. In addition if anybody has any Outings ideas let me know and maybe we can make it happen.

The Lexington Angler Invites You to Its Grand Opening Event Saturday, October 1, 2011 10am – 6pm

Activities for The Day

- Food and Refreshments by Dupree Catering
- Guide Table: The premier fly-fishing guides in Kentucky, Cumberland Drifters, will be on hand to discuss guided opportunities on the Cumberland and Clinch Rivers. Book a trip the day of the events and save 15% off the regular price.
- Bluegrass TU Chapter will be on hand to give children (and adults) an introduction to fly fishing, fly casting, and entomology. This is a fun way for kids to learn the basics of the sport. All children who participate in the casting portion will receive a free fly.
- Cooking Demonstration: "How to Grill Trout and Doves." Locally renowned chef, caterer, and fly fisherman Cooper Vaughan will demonstrate how to prepare and grill both trout and doves on your backyard barbecue.
- Live bluegrass music by The Swells. Enjoy some down home Kentucky bluegrass music from one of the region's most popular bands.



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