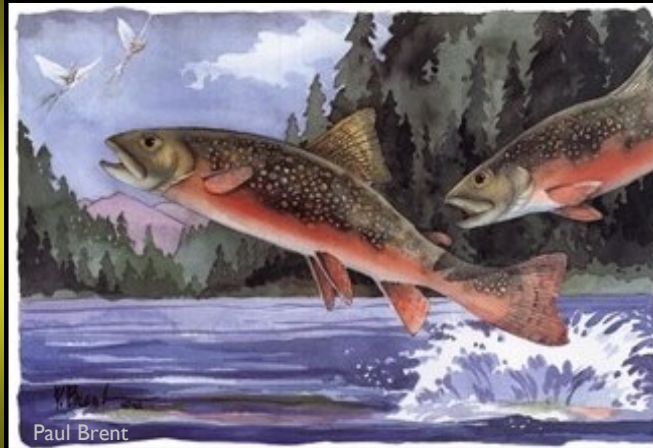


# **MOUNTAIN STATE TROUT**



# **FESTIVAL JUNE 1&2, 2013**

## **The 2013 Mountain State Trout Festival**

### **Schedule of Events**

June 1, 2013 (All activities at Snowshoe Mountain)

- ◆ 9:00 AM – Vendor Exposition Open at Snow shoe Mountain Resort
- ◆ Registration required for attendees at the expo. Admission is \$10 tax deductible donation to trout conservation programs at the door for adults. Free for children. Discounts available to registered attendees through sponsors of the Fly Fishing Film Tour, Charleston Cabelas, and more!
- ◆ Seminar Speakers inside the Expo at the top of every hour.
- ◆ Fly casting competition (all day)
- ◆ Spin casting competition (all day)
- ◆ 4:00 PM – Speed Fly Tying Tournament
- ◆ 6:00 PM – Exposition Closed
- ◆ 6:00 PM – Live music by Hell For Certain String Band in the village
- ◆ 7:00-9:30 PM – Fly Fishing Film Tour in the Village; Raffle Prizes

June 2, 2013 (All activities at Elk Springs Resort)

- ◆ 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM – One Fly Competition at Elk Springs Resort

- ◆ Two Man Teams \$100 tax deductible donation to trout conservation programs per team: Multiple prizes
- ◆ 1:00 PM – West Virginia Council of Trout Unlimited Public Meeting at Elk Springs Resort

### **Exposition Speakers**

Ed Engle: Author and expert angler. Known as one of the foremost authorities on fishing and tying small flies for big trout.

Jack Bell: West Virginian and expert angler. Was the fly casting instructor at the WV Trout Unlimited Fly Fishing School for decades.

Joe Messenger: One of West Virginia's leading experts on fly tying, particularly for warmwater species. Family lineage of creating famous patterns such as the Messenger Frog and the Irresistible.

Mike Owen: US Forest Service Fisheries Biologist. One of the most knowledgeable people in West Virginia concerning the status and distribution of trout in the Monongahela National Forest.

Tommy Lawhorne: Co-owner of South River Fly Shop in Waynesboro, Virginia. Expert on Virginia Trout Fishing.

Steven Vorkapich: Owner of Floatmaster Products and expert on fishing with indicators.



A note from Phil Smith, President WVCTU.

This is a call for help.

As you realize, the Mountain State Trout Festival is a BIG hairy deal for our mission statement. A banquet is a valuable fundraising tool as an internal party, but this Festival stands to be the largest public (non-member) image for Trout Unlimited within the state. We stand to substantially grow membership and our image statewide, but we cannot do this without volunteer participation and chapter promotion. This is year one for the event and it has enormous future potential.

I took another day of vacation to be at Snowshoe for the final planning stages of the event yesterday and it is going to be a great weekend if we can pull together at this final hour. It is only a month away. Snowshoe Resort is bending over backwards for us to make this great. Since we have gotten very few volunteers internally in TU, they are reaching out to their housing associations for volunteers to help us run this show. This will be a great relief as it will take all the volunteers we can get.

I won't bother you with intense details. If you are interested in learning more, please feel free to contact me. I will be sending out a mass email this week to all WVTU membership promoting the event even more. However, here are a few items/resources needed that if any of you could help with, I'd be highly appreciative:

- Chapter promotion of the event. We are already seeing some other events scheduled for the same weekend and this is really unfortunate. I hope that you will promote within your communities and to your friends as well. Our #1 need is promotion. We need people to make this event a can't miss priority if we want vendors to return in future years. Stress that while there are thousands of activities to do on the mountain, the fishing will be red hot that weekend...so everyone is encouraged to attend and to also get some fishing in over the weekend as well.
- Chapter promotion of the One-Fly Tournament on Sunday morning. This is \$100/team of two anglers as a FUN-CHARITY EVENT! I've seen church golf scrambles bring in 10 foursomes paying \$200/team. Surely a 1,500 member organization not can drum up 10 teams of 2 men each for a fundraiser for trout conservation. Right? Prizes will be donated by Elk Springs Resort.
- Consider Chapter Displays at the expo. You do not even have to have volunteers to man the displays if that resource is a concern, unless you have items needing supervision.

We need volunteers to assist with:

- Spinning rod casting competition from roughly 9am to 6pm (can adjust times based on volunteer resources)
- Fly casting competition from roughly 9am to 6pm (can adjust times based on volunteer resources)
- Fly tying competition (short. But I need someone to help organize this ~45 min event)
- Registration at the door (this is the biggest volunteer need...I'm trying to get grandparents to help watch kids so my wife can help register people, but we need more help than just Kelley and Me)



- o Emcee for activities (I can do this, but will also be running around trying to keep things flowing)
- o Volunteers to sell bucket raffles for prizes.
- o Someone to help make sure speakers needs are taken care of
- o Someone to at least help with putting together a TU table and signing up new members. This can be at the main registration table at the door if we don't have a better setup for display.
- o Any assistance finding prizes or donations. We can purchase if necessary.

I am going to set up a booth as a vendor (Vandalia Rodworks). I will try to man my booth as well as sell bucket raffles, sell chances at the spinning rod casting, emcee, coordinate Snowshoe volunteers & staff, make sure speakers go on as scheduled and do the fly tying competition if I get no volunteers. But I can't be at the registration table, fly casting competition, and signing up new members too.

Lodging is still available (obviously). I was able to get a really good deal for vendors yesterday...a 3 bedroom suite with kitchenette (basic...no frills) for \$100/weekend. Also, I talked to Gil Willis with Elk River Touring and he has rooms available in the farmhouse and in the B&B for around \$60/night that includes breakfast.

Snowshoe is making sure there are multiple restaurants open just for us (Junction, Starbucks, Foxfire, Old Spruce). They have applied for a ABC license and will rope off the entire village area for the Fly Fishing Film Tour and sell beer. They are looking into setting up grills and grilling burgers...I can smell it now. They will also have soft drinks and **FREE POPCORN** for the films. Shops will be open for shopping. They are going to help find bands to play from about 4 pm till the Film Tour starts at 8:30 pm. They are going to have the indoor split rock pools open in case you want to bring kids. The zip-line will be open in the village all day (\$15/two rides) AND GET THIS!...they are going to set up a Trout Unlimited Stream Explorers competition where kids ride the zip line from 5-6pm and have to drop a toy trout into a bucket below as they zing overhead. If they hit the bucket they win a prize...WE JUST HAVE TO COME UP WITH PRIZES (help please).

Snowshoe will have its Adventure Pass available: For \$149 you get UNLIMITED sporting clays, bike park, golfing, off-road tours, mountain segway tours, geocache hunts, kayaks, paddle boats, canoes, and zipline for the whole 3 day weekend! This is an insane deal. Also, their golf green fees have been reduced to just \$49/18 holes if you want to just play one round of golf at The Raven. The lifts will be running all weekend and I think it is only \$5 if you want to take a ski lift ride to Shavers Lake and let the kids fish (fishing is best down toward the dam...past the playground).

We will have amazing slate of speakers throughout the day. The film tour will be the best in the country with this outdoor setting.

Thanks for all each of you do. If you could announce this fun event at your May meetings and assist in drumming up a few volunteers I would be indebted to you.

*Phil*

**Kanawha Valley Chapter  
of Trout Unlimited  
2013 Bucket Brigade  
June 8, 2013**

**2013 Loop Creek  
SOS Survey**

By Larry Orr

**Meeting Place:** Meet at 9:00 AM in the parking lot at the Cranberry Mountain Visitors Center (Nature Center). The Nature Center is located on Rt. 39 at the junction with the Highland Scenic Highway.

**Work Site:** The work site is located on the Highland Scenic Highway. If you should arrive after 9:00 AM, drive out the Scenic Highway until you spot the work crew.

**What to Bring:** Bring work gloves and a 3-5 gallon plastic bucket if you have one. Expect to get wet and dirty, so wear appropriate clothing. The trail is usually wet and muddy so wear your mud shoes.

**Weather:** It always rains so bring rain gear or expect to get wet.

**Safety:** Be careful at all times and do not try to exceed your normal capabilities. The buckets will usually contain 25 to 35 pounds of sand. Always watch out for traffic when you are near the Highland Scenic Highway.

**Walmart Volunteers:** Walmart employees will again be helping with the Bucket Brigade. Many thanks to them.

**Food:** Food will be provided for lunch. Drinks and a mid-morning snack will also be provided.

**These were Ernie's instructions from 2012. It is only appropriate that we use his words as an inspiration for us to be there this year.**

If you have questions regarding contact Jeff Nelsen 304-768-3933 or [jefflnelsen@suddenlink.net](mailto:jefflnelsen@suddenlink.net)

The Kanawha Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited (KVCTU) conducted a WV DEP Save-Our-Streams (SOS) survey on Saturday, April 27, 2013 on Loop Creek.

This is the seventh survey by KVCTU on Loop Creek. We had 11 TU participants and there were also two teachers from the Southern Appalachian Labor School, but no students.

The stream flow was 12.1 cfs with the stream clear and normal flow.

The bug count was 869 with 14 total taxa resulting in a “marginal” stream index of 53.7. The marginal rating was mostly due to the high number of chironomidae

The Riffle Index was 4.1 with an integrity score of 97.5. The sand count from the Pebble Count was 14 which is about the same as previous surveys. We still think this may be from road work associated with the Frasure Creek Mine that has caused increased turbidity in Loop Creek and also stream crossings for the pipeline installations related to the new wastewater treatment plant.

The data from this survey have been entered into the WV DEP Volunteer Data Base on the DEP website and can be viewed there <https://apps.dep.wv.gov/dwww/wvsos/vad/login.cfm>

Larry Orr preparing to take stream chemistry sample







## 82 Participate in Elkhorn Creek Clean Up

Larry Orr

Under sunny skies and morning brisk winds, 82 people from teenagers to sexagenarians, and maybe even a septuagenarian or two, participated in this year's April 20 cleanup on Elkhorn Creek. There were 38 folks from Trout Unlimited chapters, 22 from Walmart, and 22 others, including the Elkhorn Watershed Association, WV Citizens Conservation Corps, McDowell Solid Waste Authority, WV DEP and WV DNR Police. Michael Harrison and the Walmart folks provided lunch at the Ashland Company Store.



Participation was considerably up from the 56 at last year's event. Ernie Nester had all the legwork set up for me, and I attribute the increased participation to his organizational skills and efforts.



The water was high and murky from heavy rains the day before (which had limited my Friday fishing slightly), but we got the job done quicker than I had anticipated. The stream seemed to be cleaner than in past years, but the high water may have flushed some stuff downstream, so there was momentarily less trash to collect. We cleaned up areas in the Ashland, Elkhorn City and Upper Maybeury. The New River VA TU folks also stopped on their way to lunch and cleaned up an area near Powhatten.



I reviewed next year's cleanup with the Watershed Association and WV DEP folks, and we set April 12 as the date. I placed a deposit on four cabins near the campsite that Gary Holt (Buckwheat) has reserved. I will parcel out these cabins first come, first served (on receipt of the deposit money to me). There are 3 one-room and 1 two-room cabins reserved in my name.



Thanks to all who participated!  
Mark April 12 on your calendars for 2014.





## FLY TYER'S CORNER

BY

CHARLIE NICHOLS

### ROTUNDA: BIG SULFUR

I wonder: do aquatic biologists really hate fly anglers that much? I ask the question because it appears that the aquatic entomologist and biologist are continually changing what they call a bug. Like politicians passing laws just because that is what they do, perhaps aquatic biologist and entomologist need to pull a Steve Brown—a WV-DNR Stream Rehabilitation Specialist who just received our KVCTU's Silver Trout Award. Congratulations Steve; in my book you are one of the best. Steve has been known to pick up his fly rod and investigate streams rather than sit behind his desk to determine the next project. Hey, that is how you come up with great projects instead of good projects. If the entomologist did that they would quit messing with the Big Sulfur hatch! More politicians should take up a fly rod also but I digress.

Some folks are calling the Big Sulfur an Ephemerella Invaria instead of Rotunda now. Well they look the same to me so I am going to keep using the Rotunda designation. Regardless folks, you will love fishing and tying these flies. The adult duns have deep orange eyes—so I always use orange thread to tie them with. Their bodies are a yellowish olive color but usually very light olive. I have picked up a few that have more olive look to them but not enough to worry about. In fact I use a Sulphur Yellow Super Fine dubbing, the same that I use for its little cousin the Dorothea known as the Little Sulfur. The Big Sulfur is tied on a size 14 hook where the Little Sulfur is tied on a size 18.

These bugs are prolific on good trout streams. I mean it. A sulfur hatch is as dependable as Joe Crowder at a fingerling stocking. Lacking a heavy rain, they always come off between 2 P.M and Happy Hour. I have seen streams blown out from rain one day where the hatch was non-existent due to the

storm and the next day, up through muddy water come the sulfur hatches. You will witness trout chasing them on the surface through some of the muddiest water you could possibly imagine.

The Rotunda, Big Sulfur, lives in a much different part of the stream than the little fella. Rotundas love fast water and usually hatch in riffle areas. The little feller's hatch in the slow water of the pools so the trout have a long time to look at the Dorotheas that are floating on those calm waters. The Rotundas, well it is just slash out at one barreling by or stay hungry, but big trout don't go hungry very long. That is why I love the Rotunda hatch. No finesse involved and the presentation doesn't have to be delicate either. You are fishing riffles or runs that have waves and splashes. There are two known Sulfur runs on the Elk River Catch and Release, one above the trestle and one below. The Cranberry River, you betcha—dozens of them. The Cherry, yup! Laurel Creeks? All good streams have these areas that once you know what a Sulfur run looks like you will see them everywhere and say, "That is a Sulfur run."

Allow me to give a word of warning to the thoughtful angler though—the big rascals hatch in the fast water but the wings do not necessarily have enough time to dry to get out of the swift water of that particular run or riffle. Therefore you will find a bunch of them, and I am not exaggerating here, that get swept into the head of the pool.

At the head of the pool they are thrashing those wings about to get dry and fly away so vigorously that their big bodies are moving to and fro and bouncing about like they did in the run. If a trout was a super model on a Weight Watcher Diet they couldn't pass that meal up. This isn't Jared at a Subway snacking. Oh no, it is Charlie at a Five Guys hamburger joint time at the head of that pool. You may have little Dorotheas hatching there at the head of that pool and the trout completely leave them alone while they splurge on Big Daddies or Big Mamas. You may even want to skip that fly a bit out there to make them take yours over the good Lord's hatch. Cause there is, as Jerry Lee Lewis use to sing, "A whole lot of shakin goin on!"



**Hook:** Cabela's Model 01 in size 14 or TMC 100 equivalent.

**Thread:** Hot Orange

it but those two colors are the same) or use coastal deer hair, natural color.



**Tail:** Moose Body Hair with a very little bit of brown z-lon for a shuck. You can omit the shuck but it really helps at the head of a pool to match the hatch still struggling to get out. Make the shuck shorter than the moose hair.

The Compara-Dun or Haystack versions work great, ride low, and are hard to sink. Use a little Frog's Fanny as a dressing. Be prepared to dry the fly off often as they are going through some rough waters.

Hey tie you up some of these critters. If you see the blue Gun Dog and me out on the streams stop and say howdy. It is time to Get Buggie!



**Body:** Wapsi Super Fine Sulphur (notice how they spell Sulfur wrong) Yellow #286. This stuff has just enough olive tint already to it. Fantastic dubbing I kid you not. I don't know what I will do if they quit making it, so I better buy another five packets.

**Wing:** Snowshoe rabbit foot in natural or cream (they can't decide what they want to call





## Sixty-two Attend KVCTU Angling Arts Classes

In 2013, KVCTU conducted six angling arts classes in two sessions: Beginning Fly Fishing, Beginning Fly Tying, Beginning Rod Building and West Virginia Steam Quality Assessment. Intermediate Fly Fishing and Intermediate Rod Building were also offered but did not have enough enrollees to proceed.

Twelve attended Charlie Krepps' Beginning Fly fishing class in the first session including a local TV station. Charlie's second session class was overflowing with 16 students. KVCTU members Dennis Cottrill, Lewis Wilson, Garry Chancy, Larry Parsons, Alice & Larry Riffie and Jim Duty assisted Charlie with various aspects of this class.

Larry Orr, KVCTU member, and Glenn Nelson, DEP Citizens Monitoring Coordinator, WV Save Our Streams, assisted with the class. These sessions train participants how to monitor the quality of local streams and rivers in support of the SOS program. The mission of SOS is to

promote the preservation and restoration of our state's waters by providing an understanding of the relationship of water quality to its environment.

Chapter member Jason Butcher presented the always popular Beginning Fly Tying class with 14 students in his two classes.

In addition to teaching how to tie a fly, Jason takes time to relate the fly pattern to the actual habits of the fly enabling the angler to use the fly to his/her advantage. This year, the chapter replaced six non-useable vices. As past practice, students paid a small fee for supplies.

KVCTU member Marge McCutcheon led another 12 participants down the road of rod building skills. Nine fly rods, two spinning rods, and one casting rod were crafted in this 7-week class. Class members responded to her request to send photos of catches with their crafted rods. Donovan Reeves caught a rainbow within 12 hours of building his Sage One 6wt 9' fly rod.





## UPCOMING KVCTU EVENTS

- May 14th, Membership Meeting, So. Charleston Public Library, 7:00 PM– 9:00 PM, Guest Speaker Ken McDaniel, KVCTU member will discuss up-state New York steelhead fishing.
- May 17th, Cranberry River stocking, Woodbine catch and release area. Coordinator: Dave Hansford, dhansford@suddenlink.net
- May 28th, KVCTU Board Meeting, So. Charleston Public Library, 6:30 PM– 8:30PM
- June 8th, Middle fork of Williams bucket brigade, 9:00 AM Cranberry Visitors Center, Coordinator: Jeff Nelsen, 304-768-3933, email: jeffnelsen@suddenlink.net

## GUIDE TO THE CATCH AND RELEASE TROUT STREAMS OF WEST VIRGINIA MAPS, TIPS, HATCH CHARTS, LODGING INFORMATION.

**\$10.00 EA. ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT  
KANAWHA VALLEY CHAPTER**

of

**TROUT UNLIMITED**

**CALL JASON HODGES: 407-547-5447**

This will be the last publication for spring of 2013. There are several stocking events scheduled throughout the summer however. Please refer to your March issue for dates, times and coordinator.

### KVCTU Officers

#### President

Steve Young, Ph.: 304-941-6955  
[shy1wv@suddenlink.net](mailto:shy1wv@suddenlink.net)

#### Immediate Past President

Jeff L. Nelsen, Ph.: 304-768-3933  
[jefflnelsen@suddenlink.net](mailto:jefflnelsen@suddenlink.net)

#### Vice President Programs

Bill Todd, Ph.: 740-446-3443  
[Dutchstar@frognet.com](mailto:Dutchstar@frognet.com)

#### Vice President Fund Raising

Homer Sweeney, Ph.: 304-722-3825  
[tu166@suddenlink.net](mailto:tu166@suddenlink.net)

#### Vice President Environmental

Lee Orr, Ph.: 304-342-6392  
[Orrwhat4@verizon.net](mailto:Orrwhat4@verizon.net)

#### Vice President Membership

Tom Moody, Ph.: 304-744-4083  
[scpeeod@yahoo.com](mailto:scpeeod@yahoo.com)

#### Secretary

La Verne Tignor, Ph.: 304-965-0493  
[ltspcace@suddenlink.net](mailto:ltspcace@suddenlink.net)

#### Treasurer

Alice Riffce, Ph.: 304-586-4125  
[alicer138@frontier.com](mailto:alicer138@frontier.com)

#### Newsletter Editor

Dennis Cottrill, Ph.: 304-562-3549  
[denniscottrill@gmail.com](mailto:denniscottrill@gmail.com)

#### Stocking Coordinator

Steve Sattler, Ph.: 304-872-1633  
[ssatler90@yahoo.com](mailto:ssatler90@yahoo.com)

#### Youth Liaison

Larry Riffce, Ph.: 304-586-4125  
[larryr138@frontier.com](mailto:larryr138@frontier.com)

#### WV Vice Chair South

Jeff L. Nelsen, Ph.: 304-768-3933  
[jefflnelsen@suddenlink.net](mailto:jefflnelsen@suddenlink.net)

#### TIC Trout in Classroom

Jack Williams, Ph.: 304-776-2566  
[JackWilliams814@gmail.com](mailto:JackWilliams814@gmail.com)

#### Board of Directors

#### Terms Expiring – 2014

David Hansford, Ph.: 304-926-8752  
[dhansford@suddenlink.net](mailto:dhansford@suddenlink.net)

Paul Skaggs, Ph.: 304-552-8895  
[paulskaggs@suddenlink.net](mailto:paulskaggs@suddenlink.net)

Jason Hodges, Ph.: 407-547-5446  
[wvflyfishr@gmail.com](mailto:wvflyfishr@gmail.com)

#### Terms Expiring – 2013

Ian McQuinn, Ph.: 304-638-1137  
[skianwv@aol.com](mailto:skianwv@aol.com)

Dennis Cottrill, Ph.: 304-562-3549  
[denniscottrill@gmail.com](mailto:denniscottrill@gmail.com)

Steve Garrett, Ph.: 304-927-5328  
[sgarrett113@gmail.com](mailto:sgarrett113@gmail.com)

#### Terms Expiring - 2015

Ken McDaniel,  
[kdmcdan@sudenlink.net](mailto:kdmcdan@sudenlink.net)

Bill Murray, Ph.: 304-343-6025  
[wildbill1013@yahoo.com](mailto:wildbill1013@yahoo.com)

Mike Sayre,  
[Mike.sayre@hotmail.com](mailto:Mike.sayre@hotmail.com)

#### Ol' Geezers

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