

Trout Lines

April 2017



Trout Unlimited national president/CEO Chris Wood with Chapter president Mike Sayre



Silver Trout awards were presented to Ralph Douglas, Alice Riffee and Ken Eingenbrod at the banquet.

ENCTU Annual Banquet and 45th Anniversary

Thanks to everyone for making the banquet special this year

ENCTU's banquet was a great success with 140 attending to hear Trout Unlimited President, Chris Wood deliver an inspiring address to the assembled ENCTU members. Thanks to your contributions and sponsorships we raised over \$7500 from over 40 donated prize items and 22 sponsorships to support ENCTU programs for this year.

Virginia Hansford and her family attended as a sponsor and contributed many of her late husband's, Dave, fishing items for raffle and auction prizes. Dave's fly tying materials auction was won by Robert Keenan and he donated additional funds for a \$475 contribution by ENCTU

to Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing in memory of Dave Hansford. Thanks to Larry Orr for his donation of the WV Elk Flies Display Case which included the flies he tied in a beautiful display case highlighting the return of elk to West Virginia. Elizabeth Dean was the winner of this live auction and with her additional donation this item raised \$500 for ENCTU programs.

Randy Lemon built and donated another beautiful bamboo fly rod for our live auction. Legend Lodge in Alaska and Elk Springs Resort provided trips for our silent auctions. Harman's Luxury Log Cabins provided the sponsor prize for a cabin stay on their private trout water of WV's North Fork of the South Branch of the Potomac River WV State Parks donated several stays at park cabins and lodges around the state.

WV Division of Natural Resources' Director, Steve Mc Daniels and WV State Park's Chief Sam England and other friends from WVDNR as well as the Lisa, Daron and Elizabeth Dean from Elk Springs Resort joined us for the evening.

I received a sponsorship, after the banquet program was printed, from Cedar Trucking and left off Ken Yufer for his donation to the banquet and wanted to recognize their contributions also. A special thanks to everyone who helped that night at the registration desk, assembling the raffles, selling tickets and helping with the raffle drawings.

Jeff Nelsen



Homer Sweeney, left, presented the appreciation awards to Jimmy Easter, Roman Stauffer, Greg Shaffer, Randy Hively, and Jason Butcher.

The Lowly San Juan Worm

Many fly fishermen/women look with disdain on the San Juan Worm. However, when you read some of the reports from trout fishing hot spots across America, you may see this basic fly as one the trout are taking on a regular basis.

The brown trout in the photo was taken on my neon green version, from the Elk River. There must be dozens of variations of this simple fly. There are beaded versions, different colors, different materials, and different shapes. Most all of them catch trout and many other fish.

I also think this is a great fly to use when teaching children to fly fish. Take them to a pond with blue gills and they will have a great time.

This is one of the easiest flies to tie for beginning fly tyers. All you need is the hook, a piece of worm yarn, thread of the same color as the yarn, and a match to heat the ends to taper them. Be sure and cover your hook well with thread before tying on the yarn.





Trout Facts

Brook trout live 3 to 6 years, brown trout live up to 20 years, lake trout live 20 or more years, and rainbow trout live a maximum of about 11 years.

The best temperature range for trout to actively feed is between 50 and 68 degrees F. Trout don't hibernate, nor do they fast. They have to eat to stay alive regardless of the temperature. Trout can sometimes live in water temperature below 35 degrees.

The longest rainbow trout caught in Colorado was 40 1/4 inches from the Taylor River, caught by Tony Felicilda. An <u>average</u> mature rainbow trout is around 16 inches in length and weighs between 2 to 8 pounds.

If I fished only to capture fish, my fishing trips would have ended long ago.

Zane Grey



A BIG Boy - A small town Doctor was famous in the area for always catching large fish. One day while he was on one of his frequent fishing trips he got a call that a woman at a neighboring farm was giving birth. He rushed to her and delivered a healthy baby boy. The farmer had nothing to weigh the baby with so the Doctor used his fishing scales. The baby weighed 21 lbs 13 oz.

The Legacy of Trout In the Classroom



A lot is made of the various subjects taught using Trout In the Classroom as a platform. Students learn some biology, chemistry, practical application of graphs and spreadsheets, stream entomology, and the lifecycle of a trout. What is often overlooked, but was pointed out by a fellow member last Tuesday night, is the effect the training has on the future of our state, its streams, and the trout. Little school children recently wrote letters to President Trump and our U.S. senators asking them not to allow companies to pollute the streams and harm the trout. They are already taking action!

The students are learning something many WV adults have not. They know putting poisons in our streams harms us all. If the Trout In the Classroom program results in a higher percentage of West Virginians respecting our environment, including our streams, maybe the future of our state will improve. We need more people to volunteer in this program, so we can grow it to many more schools. As it is now, we do not have enough help for the 20 schools we have. If you want to do something to help protect the future of the streams in West Virginia, which will be very enjoyable and not take a huge amount of time, volunteer in this valuable program. These future voters, fish biologists, DNR workers, DEP workers, and Trout Unlimited members may someday change the mind set of the whole state! If you watch the enthusiasm of the students and teachers in Trout In the Classroom, it will truly amaze you. Try to attend a school TIC stocking and see for yourself. Contact Ralph Douglas or Homer Sweeney to sign up and take part. tu166@suddenlink.net





Access News

For those who are not aware of the great updates to our website and Facebook page by Roman Stauffer, there are some great additions to see. There is an archive of all newsletters from 2012 through present at https://www.enctu.org/newsletter. The home page is at https://www.enctu.org/. There is lots of new information there.

Our Facebook page is here: https://www.facebook.com/enctu.wv/

WV DNR law enforcement is the state's oldest law enforcement agency. Serving WV citizens since February 1897

Achievement Awards Presented At The Banquet

Achievement awards were presented to several members for their work in our ENCTU chapter.

Jeff Nelson was awarded the Paul Brannon Lifetime Achievement Award. Phil and Paula Clem were honored with the Larry Banfield Memorial Award. Ralph Douglas, Alice Riffee, and Ken Eigenbrod each received the prestigious Silver Trout Award. A new award, the President's Award, was presented to Gary Chancey, Brent Best, Diana Green, Harry Moran, and Mike Vigilante. An ENCTU Chapter Certificate Of Appreciation was presented, for dedication and very hard work, to Jason Butcher, Greg Shaffer, Roman Stauffer, Jimmy Easter, Brian McClung, Lewis Wilson, Randy Hively, and Jeff Kresch Jr.

TU President Chris Wood's Presentation

Trout Unlimited national president, Chris Wood, delivered an interesting fact filled talk at our banquet, about the status of trout in the state. He described accomplishments by our organization, and the economic possibilities for West Virginia if more were done to protect our streams and develop trout habitat. This is especially true in the economically challenged southwestern counties.

Chris stated that currently over \$448,000,000 is brought in by fishing annually in West Virginia and over 7,000 jobs are created. He thinks that would grow dramatically if the streams in the southwestern counties of West Virginia were cleaned up and better protected. He stated, with the possible exception of Maine, our state is the premier brook trout state in the eastern USA.

Director Steve Mc Daniels, of the WV DNR, was in attendance and must have been interested to hear the data that Chris had to offer.

TIC Morris Creek stocking

On March 30th the students from Chesapeake, Malden, Kanawha City, and Pratt Elementary schools released their trout into Morris Creek in Montgomery, WV.

Mike King and the Morris Creek Watershed Association always play host for this event, including providing lunch for everyone. The Association has worked for years to change a mine water contaminated stream into a nice clear trout stream. ENCTU has assisted with this program too.

As always, this was a fun day for all the students and those that worked to make it a very nice event.



A student releases one of the trout he helped to raise from an egg, while the teacher assists. Photo by Rhonda Mullins

Scheduled Events

April 8 - SOS on Loop Creek. Meet at the Meadow Havens Memorial Park Cemetery At 10 AM. Bring waders.

April 11 - ENCTU Membership Meeting 7 PM at the South Charleston Library.

April 25 - ENCTU Board Meeting 6:30 PM at the South Charleston Library.

ENCTU Trout Lines Newsletter Harry E. Moran II – *Editor* enctu.newsletter@gmail.com

NEW Guide To The Catch and Release Trout Streams Of West Virginia

Maps, Tips, Hatch Charts, & Lodging Info. \$15.00 Each All proceeds benefit the **Ernie Nester Chapter** of Trout Unlimited

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