

Hickory NC Trout Unlimited

March 2016 Newsletter



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Trout Unlimited has had a distinguished presence in the Catawba Valley area since 1963 when a dedicated group of volunteers began the Northwestern NC Chapter with a mission to conserve, protect and restore northwestern NC's cold water fisheries and their watersheds. Today, your Hickory Chapter, formerly Northwestern, has that same passion that TU will ensure that robust populations of native and wild cold water fish thrive in our waters so that our children can enjoy these beautiful natural resources now and in the future. Your Board has laid out aggressive goals to restore this chapter's relevancy in meeting the mission of Trout Unlimited:

Communications- Keep members and the community aware of chapter news, programs and activities through a wide variety of resources

Conservation- Identify and prioritize projects for cold water fisheries i.e. Wilson Creek

Engagement- Build membership and volunteer participation in Chapter work

Invest in Youth- Initiate a Trout in the Classroom program for schools

Women- Engage women in Trout Unlimited.

Partnership- Partner with the Reese Institute of Conservation (LRU) in outreach programs

Funding- Articulate compelling needs and goals for fundraising

What we need now is your participation and hopefully your willingness to join us at chapter activities and programs. Thank-you for being a Hickory TU member

... Gary Hogue

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

My love of fly fishing is not so much catching trout as being in the beautiful places that trout live.

MARCH MEETING

When: Tuesday, March 15

Where: Elks Lodge in Downtown Hickory
356 Main Avenue NW

Program:

6:15 - 6:30 Meet and Greet / Raffle Ticket Sales

6:30 - 6:45 Brief Announcements

6:45 - 7:45 Guest speaker/ Program... Q&A

7:45 - 8:00 Raffle/ Door Prizes... Conclusion

Speaker: Our March program is presented by an avid fly fisherman and hunter Ron Beane of Lenoir. Ron has co-authored with Gretchen Griffith "North Carolina- Fly fishermen of Caldwell County" published in 2015. Ron's passion for fly fishing is matched only by his desire to protect the environment that trout live. He is largely responsible for the "Wild and Scenic River" designation that his beloved Wilson Creek enjoys. As a retired teacher, basketball coach, high school principal, and public school administrator, Ron has been positive influence on many young people. His public service is extensive as Ron has served eight years on the National Public Lands Steering Committee and 10 years on North Carolina's Clean Water Management Trust Fund committee. Ron is currently on the Board of Directors for the Foothills Conservancy of NC based in Morganton, NC. Trout fishing with friends is like doing any activity with your favorite people. It's all about making memories. It is also about passing the love of fly fishing along to the next generation. Ron will tell these stories that need to be told and passed on to our future flyfishermen.

Pizza, beer, and water will be available at a small price.

FEBRUARY RAFFLE WINNERS



The big winners in the February raffle are Kathy Starnes and Ed Long. Kathy won a replica of an emerging caddis tied by Dave Hise of Casters Fly Shop and Ed won St. Croix rod donated by Steve Anderson. Congratulations to the winners and thank you to the donors and to everyone who joined in the raffle.

FLY OF THE MONTH



Woolly Bugger

At the February meeting, David Hise of Casters Fly Shop demonstrated how to tie one of the most basic flies, a Woolly Bugger. He suggested that tying it in white rabbit fur has been a very effective pattern for catching large trout. The following link will give you the information you need for materials and methods to tie the fly.

<http://www.flyangleronline.com/flytying/beginners/part13.php>

Casting Carolinas

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FUTURE MEETINGS

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month from September through May except in December. The upcoming meetings are:

Tuesday, April 19

The latest techniques and styles of fly fishing. Presented by Scott and Hunter Enloe of the USA Fly Fishing Team.

MISSING MEMBERS

We have neither an email address nor phone number for the following members. If you know any of them, please have them contact us so we can get them on the newsletter.

Steve Estes, Jr.
Forrest Ferrell
Christopher Holcomb
Ashley Mann
John Shaffer
Kenneth Stringfield
Johnny Whitley
Nick Burke
David Sparks

Chapter Website

The Hickory NC TU Chapter website is now up and running. It's still under development, but we would love to have you take a look and give us any input on how we can make it better for you. Visit www.HkyNCTU.org
Our thanks to Clay Ford for his efforts in the development of the site.

Hickory NC Trout Unlimited Officers

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Bryant Kirkland
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Joel Miller
Steve Mull
Cathy Starnes

CASTING FOR HOPE'S GOLD LEVEL FLYFISHING TOURNAMENT

The 5th Annual Casting for Hope, a national Gold Level Competition, is set for April 8-10, 2016. The tournament is hosted at the new Casting for Hope Retreat Center, which features two miles of private trophy water on Rock Creek in Mitchell County, North Carolina. This private water has been featured on The Outdoor Channel, and it has served as a great venue for this important event over the years.

Entries will be limited to the first eight 5-man teams to enter the tournament—solos are welcome to enter the field of competition, too! The \$200 entry fee per angler should be made to Casting for Hope. All teams after the first eight to enter will be added in first-come-first-serve format to the waiting list.

The Casting for Hope tournament will make use of not only the private trophy waters of Little Rock Creek and Big Rock Creek but also the delayed harvest streams nearby, Cane Creek and the North Toe River. Fishermen will have 15 hours of fishing time—three hours on each stretch of water. Scoring will be based on total centimeters of fish scored and placing points within angling groups.

For more information visit:

<http://castingforhope.org/casting-for-hopes-gold-level-fishing-competition/>

Special thanks to David Hise for his support of our section.



www.castersonlineflyshop.com

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