



President's Message

I write this having just spent yesterday afternoon on a high elevation stream with my youngest son. At the elevation we were at the leaves had mostly fallen, but the brookies were fabulously colored. We were also surprised to see a brown trout large enough to have easily made a morsel out of the little char we were catching. I love the fall, not just because of the beauty, but because of the feeling of urgency it creates.

This is my first President's Message. It is an honor to be leading the Pisgah Chapter of Trout Unlimited, a chapter that has worked for longer than I have been alive to conserve, protect, and restore some of my favorite waters. I am a new resident to the area, having moved here with my family in December of 2014. I spent the last ten years living and fishing in the Driftless Area of Wisconsin, and previous to that lived in Upstate South Carolina.

During that time in South Carolina, I considered the trout streams of Transylvania County my home waters. In the spring I would race up the Blue Ridge Escarpment after work to catch the evening hatch or spinner fall, and on the weekends I would camp, hike, and fish all over Western NC. While living in Wisconsin, my family spent our spring break every year in the area — because it was hardly spring in Wisconsin! I have probably spent more hours fishing the Davidson River than I have any other single trout stream.

Though I am new to the Pisgah Chapter, I am a Life Member of Trout Unlimited and have served in various officer and board positions, including president, as part of both the Mountain Bridge and the Southern Wisconsin chapters. Conservation and fishing clubs have been a part of my life since my childhood in Connecticut, having been taught to fish and tie flies, along with the conservation ethic, by members of the Housatonic Fly Fisherman's Association.

My taking over as President is not the only leadership change in the chapter. We have a new Treasurer, Sara Jerome, who brings professional experience in non-profit financial development. We have new board members, including Bruce Jones, Dick Vanek, and Justin McEntire. Chris Ellis has served the chapter in many capacities since 2001, and will continue to serve now as Past President. Chris has been extremely helpful in aiding my transition into the role of President, which I greatly appreciate.

PCTU still has a significant gap in its leadership — we do not have a Vice President. The role of Vice President is a significant but straightforward one: to serve as backup to the President, to learn the role of chapter President, and to take over as President at the expiration of the current President’s term. Not having a VP means the chapter does not have a succession plan for ongoing leadership. This is serious problem and solving it is a priority for myself and the rest of the board. If you would consider taking on the role of Vice President, please contact me.

I am always interested in hearing any thoughts on the current position and future of your chapter. If you have anything to share, or wish to discuss, please email me at mike@mihalas.com or call me at 828-577-8032.

Stay out of the Rhododendron,

Mike Mihalas

**“If the trout are lost, smash the state!”
- Thomas McGuane**

Fishing Adventure – Louisiana



I had not been salt water flats fishing in at least three years so I jumped at the opportunity to red fish near the Gulf of Mexico in Dulac, Louisiana. Although the area was described to me by friends who had been to the fish camp several times, I was surprised to find the camp was in a flat marsh known as a bayou. The water was about two to three feet deep and not all that clear. The area was industrial with lots of shrimp boats and shrimp processing plants, a few oyster operations, and lots of helicopter and boat traffic to the oil platforms. Oil platforms were plentiful as we were on the edge of the Gulf. We were a group of 5 guests with three experienced guides, 3 boats with motors and poling platforms, comfortable housing, good food and good weather.

But the fish did not cooperate. Red fishing is sight fishing looking for fish tails or fish up on the marsh bank. We sighted few red fish, also known as red drum, and they behaved like we spooked them. Maybe we did. We sighted and caught a few black drum weighing between 16 and 41 pounds. They were like dragging a mattress on the line and little fun to land. The biggest thrill was having giant six inch shrimp jump into the boat. Just to be sure there really was an ecosystem, I grabbed a spin rod and cast with live bait pulling up giant cat fish with each cast, sea trout, a stingray.

One late afternoon, a resident crabber took me out in his skiff and we emptied 10 of his 150 crab traps. We had a blue crab dinner and shrimp boil. Large shrimp cost \$2.15 a pound. I got to tour a shrimp processing plant and see the shrimp vacuumed off the boats and processed through cooking and drying and shipping. Lots of ice and salt used.

I have red fished off in the flats around Savannah before and this trip was not productive. I have since learned that “high” season is October through January. The outfitter cancelled his guests for the week following our visit as the weather pattern that deluged WNC the following week was just entering the Gulf. I guess that’s why its called fishing and not catching.





November 2015 Meeting

Pisgah Chapter
Trout Unlimited

Thursday,
November 12th
6:45 PM, Social time
7:00 PM, Meeting starts

Program:

David Day presents
Communicating in Remote Areas
and
Tracy McClain, Marketing Manager
Elk Springs Resort

9:00 PM, Adjourned

Pardee Hospital Meeting Room
Four Seasons Mall
Hendersonville

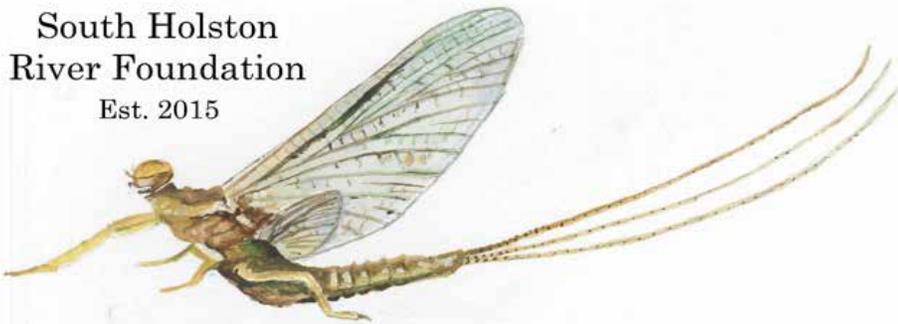
Join Us!

Mathew Green and the South Holston River Foundation

Submitted by Chris Ellis



South Holston
River Foundation
Est. 2015



Mathew Green, a graduate student at Appalachian State University spoke to the Pisgah Chapter during the September, 2015 meeting. His research is focused on evaluating the environmental factors impacting aquatic insect productivity and populations in tail race rivers such as the South Holston River in Tennessee.

According the Mathew, our understanding of tail water fisheries and their ecology greatly improves with our deduction of their biological deficiencies through research. Tail waters are, in effect, experiments, which can be managed efficiently with sufficient understanding and experimentation. Therefore, in order to manage the experiment adequately, research must be performed to insure that the tail water is operating at maximum biological production. This is the fundamental underlying premise justifying tail water management and research—manage for the highest biological production possible to create the most productive fishery possible.

The cosmopolitan diatom *Didymosphenia geminata* (didymo) has been linked to low species richness and abundance of sensitive mayfly species and aquatic insect communities that are more tolerant of *D. geminata* blooms (e.g. Chironomidae, oligochaetes, and aquatic amphipods and isopods). Mathew's research is looking at how the nuisance diatom *Didymosphenia geminata* affects aquatic insect richness and abundance in habitats of different flow rates and water quality. As a follow up to this research, he has worked with others to establish the South Holston River Foundation to support additional research related to tail water fisheries. Since the foundation was created in 2015, he is working to staff the Scientific Advisory Committee. Dr. Jim Rice (North Carolina State University, Department of Applied Ecology) and Tyler Baker from the TVA are the first advisors to join the foundation. He also is looking to create partnerships with the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, East Tennessee State University, Tennessee Technical University, and Trout Unlimited.

The Foundation's website can be visited at the following Link: <http://southholston-riverfoundation.org/>

Mission Statement

"To provide fisheries managers with management recommendations that are derived from scientific research projects, to act as an intermediary between anglers, landowners, and scientists at TVA and TWRA, and to serve the community by providing educational opportunities for children and adults."

Mathew is looking for a sponsorship for additional research. John Kies, the new NCTU Vice Chairman, indicated a desire to talk with Mathew as the State Council has an interest in tail water fisheries in NC. From a communication from Mathew, "I am very interested in learning more about what the North Carolina Council has planned for tail water research. Someone needs to step up to the plate and provide both sponsorship and scholarship. That individual might as well be Trout Unlimited. Certainly the United States needs regional TU staff to serve as tail water specialists. Perhaps this is something that TU national might sponsor if given enough support and thought."

Thankyou Mathew for a very educational and interesting program. We hope you have much success in getting your sponsorships; promoting tail water research; and ultimately having the scientific data to improve tail water fisheries.

Fly Fishing School...

April 23, 2016

This year our annual fly fishing school will be held on April 23, 2016 at Harmon Field in Tryon. The school will begin at 8:30 am and end at 4:45 pm. Lunch will be provided!

The focus of the school will be on individuals wanting to begin fly fishing. In addition to a full day of instruction, students will receive a half day of fishing with an experienced Trout Unlimited member at a mutually agreed upon date. All of the equipment needed will be provided during the school. **The school will include: how to choose equipment and use it properly, casting instruction and practice, entomology, line management, knot tying, fly selection, and stream tactics.**

We are looking for students to enroll in the school as well as volunteers to assist with teaching basic fly fishing skills. Members that have volunteered previously will be contacted to ask for their support once again this year.

The cost of the school will be: Adults (\$150.00), Youth 12-18 (\$100.00), and Five Rivers college outreach program students (\$125.00). **We do have an Early Bird registration special of \$25.00 off the price of the school. To take advantage of the Early Bird Special the registration forms and checks must be received by March 1, 2016. There will be a limit of thirty students for the school.**

What a wonderful Christmas gift for someone interested in getting a great start learning the skills of fly fishing. Students will receive a full day of instruction and a half-day of fishing with a mentor! Please pass on this information to anyone interested. More information will follow in the newsletter and at our club meetings.

Please contact Lou Barlow for a registration form or to volunteer at: riverrooster@me.com Remember, the funds that our chapter raises go to outstanding conservation and education projects in our area. Please help with this exciting Trout Unlimited project!

Little River Stocking

October 12, 2015

Little River stocking was at first set for October 5 but was cancelled by the fish hatchery because of unsafe conditions. For several days we had any any where from moderate rain to torrential down pours and of course this caused extremely high water and extremely fast water. So the folks at the Hatchery assessed the situation and moved our stocking date to October 12. This worked out rather well, weather wise, for our

stocking.



That Monday morning there was a little chill in the air but as the sun rose so did the temperature all the way to a little over 70 degrees. We were blessed with almost perfect weather but it was a little sad because our team leader, Jack Soyak, for over 10 years of the Little River stocking has gone into retirement. He really served us well. His effort is much appreciated by the Little River Stocking family, Trout Unlimited and the DuPont Recreational Forest State. Thank you Jack you'll be missed.

It was a fun stocking thanks mainly to a really good group of men.

Pictured above from left to right is Steve Herring, Don Silsbe, Tom Kellner, Andy Uhr, Eric Folk (DuPont Forest State Ranger, all terrain vehicle driver, and assistant stocking coordinator) Tim Schubmehl and Clive Morris.

Because of Jack Soyak and Eric Folk (DuPont Forest State Ranger) our stockings are much better organized and are going along really fast. Our efforts are also helped along with the use of an all terrain vehicle loaned to us by the state Forest service and driven by one of the State Rangers. So actually the stocking is a combined effort of both the Pisgah Chapter Trout unlimited and the DuPont Recreational Forest.

Our next to the last stocking of the year was truly one to remember. The fish were so large that we had to double up on some of our trips to the River. We had a total of 725 fish that weighed 525 pounds for an average of .72 lb.s apiece. Released were Brook 316 lb.s, Brown 33 lb.s, and Rainbow 106 lb.s. Despite the extra work it was fun releasing nice size fish.

Pictured right are Eric and Tim telling serious fish stories.

I want to thank all that helped and any one wants to join in on the fun please RSVP to rossmfox@hotmail.com .



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FLY OF THE MONTH

March Brown Quigley Cripple

BY DAVE BENDER

THIS PATTERN IS TIED IN A STYLE DEVELOPED BY BOB QUIGLEY, AN INNOVATIVE FLY TIER IN SOUTHERN OREGON.

SHOWN IS A GENERAL ALL-AROUND PATTERN WHICH I USE REGULARLY ON OUR LOCAL WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA DH STREAMS. I GENERALLY FISH THIS IN A SIZE 14 OR 16 BUT IT CAN BE TIED IN ANYTHING FROM SIZE 8 TO 20 AND EVEN SMALLER IF YOUR EYES AND ABILITY ALLOW.

BY VARYING THE HOOK SIZE AND THE COLORS YOU CAN IMITATE A WIDE RANGE OF MAYFLIES. DURING A HATCH MANY MAYFLIES GET STUCK IN THE SHUCK AND CANNOT COMPLETE EMERGENCE, THUS BECOMING A “CRIPPLE” AND EASY PREY FOR A HUNGRY TROUT. IN MY OPINION A QUIGLEY CRIPPLE IS AS EASY OR EASIER TO TIE THAN A STANDARD DUN PATTERN SUCH AS A PARACHUTE OR A COMPARA DUN. THE MATERIALS CAN BE VARIED; CDC CAN BE SUBSTITUTED FOR AN ELK OR DEER HAIR WING, THE ABDOMEN CAN BE DUBBED SYNTHETIC, A GOOSE BIOT, NATURAL PHEASANT TAIL FIBERS OR IN LARGER PATTERNS, TWISTED AND WRAPPED MARABOU BARBS. THE SHUCK CAN BE MARABOU OR EMU BARBS.

WHEN FISHING, I ADD FLOATANT ONLY TO THE WING, THORAX AND HACKLES SO THAT THE SHUCK AND ABDOMEN HANG BELOW THE WATER SURFACE.

HOOK: STANDARD DRY FLY OR CURVED SHANK HOOK SUCH AS A MUSTAD 94831

THREAD: 8/0 COLOR AND BRAND OF YOUR CHOICE

TRAILING SHUCK: CRINKLED ZELON OR STANDARD ZELON (I LIKE CRINKLED ZELON)

ABDOMEN: A GOOD QUALITY NATURAL OR SYNTHETIC DUBBING OR A MEDIUM GOOSE BIOT, (FOR DURABILITY WRAP THIS OVER A GLUE OR HEAD CEMENT BASE) OR NATURAL PHEASANT TAIL FIBERS

THORAX: A GOOD NATURAL OR SYNTHETIC DUBBING, COLOR OF YOUR CHOICE

RIB: FINE GOLD WIRE(OPTIONAL)

WING: DEER HAIR TIED JUST FORWARD OF THE THORAX AND EXTENDING FORWARD OVER THE HOOK EYE. TRIM BUTTS TO FORM A WING CASE BUT, DO THIS AT THE END

HACKLE: DRY FLY COLOR OF YOUR CHOICE BETWEEN WING AND WING CASE. I PREFER GRIZZLY

1. START BY PINCHING DOWN THE HOOK BARB, PLACING THE HOOK IN YOUR VICE AND START THE THREAD BEHIND THE EYE AND WIND BACK ABOUT 1/3 OF THE HOOK SHANK.

2. IF USING A RIB NOW IS THE TIME TO TIE IT IN AND BIND IT TO THE HOOK WITH YOUR TYING THREAD STOPPING JUST PAST THE START OF THE HOOK BEND.



3. TIE IN THE SHUCK MATERIAL AND TRIM THE BUTTS.



4. IN THIS EXAMPLE I WILL BE USING SUPERFINE DUBBING FOR THE ABDOMEN. PLACE DUBBING ON THE THREAD AND FORM A TAPERED BODY, STOPPING ABOUT 1/3 HOOK SHANK BEHIND EYE. NOW IS THE TIME TO FORM THE RIB BY SPIRALING THE WIRE 4 OR 5 TURNS, TIE OFF AND TRIM EXCESS.



fig. 5

5. ADD A SMALL BALL OF DUBBING (DARKER THAN THE ABDOMEN) TO REPRESENT THE THORAX.



fig. 6

6. NOW TIE IN A PREPARED BUNCH OF DEER HAIR IN FRONT OF THE DUBBING BALL WITH TIPS EXTENDING OTHE HOOK EYE, AND THE BUTTS EXTENDING BACK OVER THE BODY. DO YOUR BEST TO KEEP THE DEER HAIR ON TOP OF THE HOOK. THE DUBBING BALL SERVES TO PUSH THE DEER HAIR BUTTS UPWARD. THE TIPS WILL FORM THE WINGS AND THE BUTTS WILL BECOME THE WING CASE.

AS YOU CAN SEE, THE HACKLE IS WOUND BETWEEN THE BUTTS AND TIPS OVER THE THREAD WINDINGS TO BIND DOWN THE DEER HAIR. TIE IN THE HACKLE, TRIM THE STEM AND MAKE 4 OR 5 WRAPS. TIE OFF THE HACKLE AND TRIM ANY EXCESS.



fig. 7

7. BRING THE TYING THREAD FORWARD BETWEEN THE DEER HAIR WING AND HOOK EYE. WHIP FINISH AND TRIM THE THREAD.

LAST STEP... TRIM THE DEER HAIR BUTTS, LEAVING ENOUGH TO RESEMBLE A WING CASE.

THAT'S IT. GO CATCH SOME FISH!

PCTU 034 Leadership Roster - October 2015

Position	Name	Email	Phone	Term
President	Mike Mihalas	mike@mihalas.com	828-577-8032	2015-2017
Vice President	* Vacant *			
Treasurer	Sara Jerome	jeromesa67@gmail.com	828-553-3423	2015-2017
Secretary	Carole Deddy	carolededdy@gmail.com	828-877-5453	2014-2016
Past President	Chris Ellis	chris.ellis.pctu@gmail.com	828-243-5728	2015-2017
Director	Dick Schaad	rschaad@ymail.com	828-577-4231	2014-2016
Director	Ed Shearin	ed.shearin@gmail.com	828-280-1152	2014-2016
Director	Lou Barlow	riverrooster@me.com	828-230-4446	2014-2016
Director	Tom Kellner	kellcn@att.net	828-290-3124	2014-2016
Director	Don Huneycutt	drhuneycutt@morrisbb.net	828-243-5533	2014-2016
Director	Jim Czarnezki	czarnezki@netscape.net	828-891-9238	2015-2017
Director	Dave Bender	trout1944@gmail.com	828-388-3706	2015-2017
Director	Bruce Jones	jones0922@gmail.com	678-637-7770	2015-2017
Director	Justin McEntire	wjmcentire@gmail.com	828-553-6504	2015-2017
Director	* Vacant *			2015-2017
Newsletter Editor	John Rountree	trout@cosmikdebris.net	828-450-1589	

Committees and Teams

Endowment

Chair	Kiki Matthews	kikimatthews@bellsouth.net		2014-2017
Member	Skip Sheldon	shelhalla@bellsouth.net		2015-2018
Member	Stu Cohn	stutrout@bellsouth.net		2014-2016
Chapter President	Mike Mihalas			
Chapter Treasurer	Sara Jerome			

Communications

Chair	John Rountree			
Webmaster	Linda Byington	linda@byingtonla.net		
Fly of the Month	Dave Bender			
Programs	Justin McEntire			
President's Message	Mike Mihalas			
Trip Reports	All			

Membership

Chair	Bruce Jones			
New Member Packs	Dave Bender			
Name Tags	Zoë Mihalas			

Education

Chair	Ed Shearin			
Fly Fishing School	Lou Barlow			

Conservation

Chair	Jim Czarnezki			
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