



# “Trout Lines”

March 2017

## **DON'T MISS 2017 ENCTU BANQUET.....** By Jeff Nelsen

If you haven't registered for the Annual banquet you need to do so by March 7. This year's banquet will be held on March 14 at the Charleston Elks and caterer will be Rollin Smoke BBQ. Cost will be \$30.00 in advance. You can also pay at the door but there will be an additional \$5.00 charge more and reservations could be limited based on the meal counts given to the caterer.

As stated, Chris Wood, President / CEO of Trout Unlimited from our national headquarters in Arlington, VA. will be our featured speaker. This is also our chapter's **45th anniversary** and we'll also recognize our chapter members who have provided significant service for ENCTU.

We have nearly 40 prizes to raffle/auction for this year. Our banquet is our largest fundraiser for our activities. Your generosity at the banquet helps

maintain the array of activities this chapter performs each year for improving the WV trout fishing experience.

The registration forms and sponsor forms can be found at [www.enctu.org](http://www.enctu.org) so get them in by March 7th



### **Tyepro – Fly & Ice**

Every once in a while I run across a new gadget that appears to be helpful for older trout fishermen/women. I haven't bought this yet to try. There are two sizes sold. This is the smaller one.

A handy tool for fly & ice fishing to thread small eyelets, help tie knots & clip line. Used with flies and ice jigs that may have thread or paint adjacent to the eyelet. Works well with line and tippet sizes from 0.020" down to 0.003" (8x). Flies 2 to 16.

[The Tyepro Website](#) Watch their video.



***Trout are not that smart, just very wary, with great instincts***

by Harry Moran

Trout are seen, by some, as a smart fish that has decision making abilities offering a great challenge to a skilled fly fisherman. In fact a trout doesn't know what a hook is, or a line. They sometimes even take an empty hook that is shiny.

As a boy, I remember my grandfather teaching me to carefully conceal the hook in a worm when bait fishing. Now I see midge flies that are not much more than a hook with a tiny bit of thread and tinsel. These catch trout, if presented right!

In reality, in my opinion, the biggest challenge when trout fishing is not to present yourself or your cast fly in a way that startles a trout. The trout's instinct is to avoid a predator, so a moving shadow, bright color, splashing cast, or quick movement are all things that spook a trout into hiding or quickly moving out of the area.

I was surprised to learn that trout do not "bite" a fly, but suck it in and they can expel it from their mouth hydraulically in a split second. You will notice, a high percent of the trout you catch have the hook in the corner of their mouth. In most cases the trout was in the act of expelling the fly and turning to leave at the same time. That often results in the trout hooking itself.

The truth is, the most skilled trout fishermen are successful because of stealth, reading the stream, and excellent presentation of the fly to the fish. Matching the hatch helps too, but at least three very good fly fishermen have told me they use just a very few types of flies. In fact, Randy Lemon recently told me he uses only ants and parachute Adams flies. Many of the ancient books on the subject I have read indicated only a small selection of flies were used. In Tankara fly fishing, many fishermen in Japan only use one type of fly, that doesn't even look like any specific insect. In fact the hackle (wings) are tied in reverse on a traditional Tankara fly.

My challenge is to learn to cast well enough to present the fly more efficiently and accurately. I guess I need to spend more time fly fishing with Charlie Krepps and Gary Chancy. The small amount of time I spent with them in one class improved my casts a lot.



*Rod Building*



*Fly Tying*

## **Second Session of Angling Arts Classes to Start March 23**

Two classes will begin on March 23: Specialty Fly Fishing class and Advanced Rod Building. Ed Hayne is basing this year's fly fishing specialty on new fly tying material and techniques. This class, based on suggestions from his prior three specialty classes, is for persons who have fly tying experience. He will cover the new materials now on the market for standard patterns. He also will show how to tie the same pattern differently, from matching the hatch to using unique materials. At least six patterns will be covered in class plus others suggested by the participants. Additionally, he will cover how to put ultraviolet light finishes on your flies. We anticipate that participants will have their own tying vice and tools; however, we will provide all the materials. This class will be limited to about 10 people. It starts on Thursday, March 23, 6:00 to 9:00pm and runs for 4 weeks. Several already have registered, so if you're interested, you can register by email: [ENCTUClasses@gmail.com](mailto:ENCTUClasses@gmail.com) The registration is \$30 plus \$10 materials fee.

Advanced Rod Building is always a fun class. With Marge McCutcheon as the lead instructor, a variety of rod building techniques will be presented by her and other experienced rod builders including butt wraps, making carbon fiber handles, putting designs on handles, applying applicades, and much more. While one does not build a fishing rod in this class, participants will be given a blank on which to practice these skills & techniques that are demonstrated. This class can handle 15 people. Participants must have built a fishing rod to take this class. The registration is \$30 plus a \$10 materials fee. It starts on Thursday, March 23, 6:00pm to 9:00pm and runs for 5 weeks. These classes are conducted at the Elkview Elementary Center in conjunction with the Kanawha County Schools Community Education Program.

The Beginning Fly Fishing classes will begin April 3. These classes are conducted on Monday and Thursday nights from 6:00pm to 9:00pm. One class will be presented at the Elkview Elementary Center: April 3, 6, 10 and 13. Another class will be held at the First Baptist Church in Hurricane April 17, 20, 24 and 27. Registration is \$30 and all the necessary equipment is provided for the class. For more information or to register, please email: [ENCTUClasses@Gmail.com](mailto:ENCTUClasses@Gmail.com)



## Soft Hackle Flies

One of the simplest made flies is also a very productive fly. Made of as few as three parts, it is also a great fly for beginning fly tyers to create. A hook, a partridge feather, and some thread is all it takes. Some add a wire or tinsel ribbing.

One of the most famous is the “Partridge and Orange” shown above. It has been around for years. There are a couple of methods to tie this fly. Here are links to two videos of different methods:

[Partridge and Orange 1](#)  
[Partridge and Orange 2](#)

I prefer the second one, by Davie McPhail. I haven't used the Gossamer orange silk thread yet, as described in many English fly recipes. I use just a common orange flat 8/0 nylon thread. The Partridge and Orange has been around for over a hundred years. It was first described in 1885 by T.E. Pritt in his article called “Yorkshire Trout Flies” as the No. 32 Orange Partridge. He also mentioned the same fly existed for years before that, under different names. This style of fly is also known as “spiders”.

## WV-DNR Spring Run Purchase

The Division of Natural Resources announced at the recent meeting of the Natural Resources Commission plans to purchase a 140 acre tract of land, which includes a little more than a mile of stream along Spring Run. This is near the community of Dorcas.

This stream has naturally reproducing rainbow and brook trout. It will be Catch and Release only, as the former property owner managed it. The rainbows used to exceed 20 inches, but that has declined in recent years to an average of 10 maximum.

The spring water, at the head, averages ~53 degrees F. and the pH ~8. The spring discharge rate is between 3000 and 3500 gallons per minute. Perfect for trout.

This section is between the Spring Run Trout Hatchery and the main road. Parking is being developed.

[Spring Run Info](#)





## **Trout In the Classroom Program Is Ten Years Old**

Homer Sweeney - Contributing Editor

### **TIC Program Overview**

Trout in the Classroom is a conservation-oriented environmental education program for elementary, middle, and high school students. Through the school year, students raise trout from eggs to fry and then release them into approved cold water streams and lakes. This act of raising, monitoring, and caring for young trout fosters a conservation ethic within participating students and promotes an understanding of their shared water resources.

### **History**

Trout in the Classroom (TIC) programs have been in place all across the country for more than 20 years, the results of numerous collaborations between teachers, volunteers, government agencies, and local organizations including (but not limited to) Trout Unlimited. The programs were designed specifically for teachers who wanted to incorporate more environmental education into their curriculum.

**TIC in New York:** In 1997, TIC was started in New York through the efforts of the late Joan Stoliar, volunteers from Trout Unlimited (TU), and the Theodore Gordon Flyfishers in 1997. Participating students from K-12 learn the importance of water quality and connect with their watershed by raising trout from eggs to fingerlings and then releasing them in a clean, cold stream in the spring. Since its inception, it has grown to almost 200 teachers.

### **(The start) ENCTU TIC Program**

The ENCTU started its TIC program in 2007 with only one school, Lakewood Elementary in St. Albans, WV. At this time in the TIC Program it had not grown in popularity. One of our TU chapter members, Heath Parry who was on staff at Lakewood suggested we consider initiating a pilot project at Lakewood Elementary. Following the research of other TIC Programs in other states programs our chapter launched our first pilot.

Trout Unlimited member Gene Burkett, our Youth Program Coordinator agreed to take lead of the Lakewood Elementary TIC Program, with Heath's assistance. The tank, cooler, and all the other equipment was ordered and then set up at the school, which gracefully welcomed the new student program. The school principal and the all teachers immediately recognized



the benefits for their students. Boy, did we ever learn? The first year was an overwhelming experience for everyone! Needless to say, over a long extended holiday break, we lost all of the fish. When the teachers arrived at school that first morning, the stench was so bad TU member Jack Williams, quoted "the school smelled like Cannery Row." The students were extremely distraught their fish had died. It wasn't long after, the tank was evacuated immediately and restored, ready to make a second start. Joe Crowder made a special trip to the WV DNR Edray fish hatchery to pick up the replacement fish. The fish were delivered and Lakewood Elementary School's TIC Program was back in business. The student started calling Gene Burkett the Fish Man.

The problems of successfully managing the Lakewood Elementary program did not go away as we continue have fish die. Jack Williams ask Brent Best who had fish aquariums in his home as a youngster; take all of the equipment to his home. During the next several months Brent conducted extensive research and was able to supply a workable solution. Most of Brent's solution is still being used today.

Jack Williams, TIC Program Coordinator continued to market and promotes the program to more schools. Jack and his small army of Trout Unlimited members realized the benefits and educational potential of the TIC Program for the students. Beginning the third year the TIC Program experienced rapid growth with more and more schools asking to participate.

We were fortunate enough to receive funding from Chesapeake Energy while bringing in several corporate resources to help grow the program. Eddie Gray, Engineer for Chesapeake Energy and Mike King with Application Electric Power facilitated most of the early funding. The WV Trophy Hunters Association has provided annual funding for the TIC Program for several years. The employees Community group at WV American Water has supported funding for the TIC Program. The ENCTU Board of Directors and members have provided funding and technical support with the heavy lifting throughout all ten years.

Our Trout Unlimited resources began developing a training document for the teachers and the volunteers to better understand the needs of the trout and the proper tank and equipment maintenance. The most important benefit from the program is the learning and exposure the students gain. Their minds seem to focus on the learning and understand the life cycle of the cold water fish. The students take ownership of the experiment and conduct all daily responsibilities of managing the feeding, daily water chemistry including maintaining the logs the results.

The teachers with support from the ENCTU TIC Program Team using several resources have developed classroom learning and training sources provided to the students. The students are the leaders of tomorrow. The TIC Program allows students to lead and/or follow as participants. Over the 10 years program the ENCTU has managed up to 35 schools. There TIC Programs in several areas of the State of WV lead by Trout Unlimited Chapters and Members.



Currently, our chapter has 20 schools with programs. The projects ends in the early springs by taking the fingerling size brown trout to a local stream, celebrating another success year. These field trip usually include a picnic, games, maybe water chemistry tests prior the releases, and demonstrations of macroinvertebrates living in the stream.

***ENCTU Trout In the Classroom Volunteers***  
***( We need more voluteers !! Call Homer or Ralph)***

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
Ralph Douglas	Program Coordinator
Homer Sweeney	Program Coordinator
Jack Williams	Senior Advisor
Tom Moody	Retired Technical Advisor
Brent Best	Technical Team Leader
Garry Chancey	Putnam County
Mike Vigilante	Kanawha County East
Mike King	Pratt Elementary Team
Harry Moran	Kanawha Central Support
Diana Green	Kenna Elementary Advisor
Greg Shafer	Kanawha Central Support
Rhonda Mullins	Kanawha Central Support
Randy Lemon	Putnam County
Roman Stauffer	Program Support
Charlie Krepps	Release Team Member
Bill Todd	Release Team Member
Mike Sayre	Release Team Member
James Toschi	Release Team Member
Jeff Nelson	Release Team Member





**2016 - 2017 TIC Program Schools & TIC Program Teachers**

**School**

Walton Elem  
Mary C Snow  
New Haven Elem  
Shoals Elem  
Hometown Elem  
Elk Elem  
Malden Elem  
Chesapeake Elem  
Pratt Elem  
Kanawha City Elem  
Bible Center School  
Overbrooke Elem  
Kenna Elem  
Geary Elem Middle  
Alban Elem  
Lakewood Elem  
Poca Middle - One  
Poca Middle - Two  
Boone Cty Tech

**TIC Teachers**

Loana Hoffman  
Elem Robin Bland  
Shayla Blackshire  
Melinda Humphreys  
Tootie Black  
Hollie Pitts  
Tonya Harper  
Allison Sigman  
Gal Albright  
Amanda Freeman  
Gary Keffer - Josh Bachus  
Stephanie  
Stephanie Nesius  
Amber Osburne  
Holly Spears  
Andrea Lewis & Jodi Ballard  
Steven Ready  
Tina Myers  
Robert Miller





Scheduled Events

March 14th - ENCTU Awards Banquet at the Charleston Elks Club near Capitol High. It starts at 5:45 PM. Guest speaker is the national president and CEO of Trout Unlimited Chris Wood.

March 23rd - Angling Arts 2nd session starts at Elk Center ENCTUClasses@gmail.com

March 28th - ENCTU Board Meeting - South Charleston Library 6:30 PM

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

Call Steve Young 304-941-6955

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