**THE CHARLOTTESVILLE FLY FISHERMAN AND COLDWATER CONSERVATIONIST**

**THOMAS JEFFERSON CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED**

**June 26, 2018**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT: thomasjeffersontu.org**

**Upcoming Meetings at the Northside Library 720 West Rio Rd. Charlottesville, Va. 22901**

**Thursday June 28. 2018 6 pm Northside Library- Early Summer Trout Fishing**

**Thursday July 26, 2018 6 pm Northside Library**

**Thursday August 23, 2018 6 pm Northside Library**

**Thursday September 27, 2018 6 pm Northside Library**

**Thursday October 25, 2018 6 pm Northside Library**

**Thursday November 15, 2018 6 pm Northside Library**

**Wednesday December 12, 2018 Christmas Dinner Social Location /time TBA**

**The new meeting spacer at the library is large enough to seat up to 80 at tables and has a built in video /audio system complete with automatic screen. The room is located on the main floor of the library and our meetings are open to the public.**

**All chapter meetings incorporate the use of a slide show to discuss agenda items and the current trout fishing conditions and destinations, fly patterns and what members are doing on the area trout fishing scene.**

**Meeting Reports:**

**October 2017:**

**Financial Reporting:**

TJTU has successfully filed all financial reports due to the National TU and the IRS recently well ahead of the deadlines for the fiscal year that ran from October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017.

**TJTU volunteers contributed 847 hours during the past fiscal year** which ended on September 30. 2017 to various projects which was above last year’s total and a trend we’d like very much to continue. From the weekend retreats to TIC and Kid’s Fishing Day as well as general operations and newsletters it all adds up and goes towards helping National TU receive the grants that fund the operations they undertake which we all play a part in and make a difference in our cold-water conservation and education efforts.

**Below are some of the ways TJTU members volunteered their time to help with our efforts here in the Charlottesville region in the past year.**

**Moorman’s River clean ups and stewardship**

**Day of Caring on the Moorman’s Spec Regs. September each year**

**Adaptive Anglers Retreat – November each year**

**Moorman’s Special Regs Stockings**

**Spring Fly Fling - Each April**

**Kids Fishing Day at Mint Springs Park Lakes- Crozet- Each April**

**Kingfishers Anglers Club Presentation and Fishing Day on the Moorman’s**

**Trout in the Classroom Programs in our local schools**

**Garth Run assessment**

**General operations**

**Newsletters**

**Website and Facebook page development, building and updates**

**Moorman’s River Permit Sales**

**Fiscal Year Oct 2016 thru Sept 2017:**

**100 Moorman’s Fishing and Project support permits were sold last year bringing**

**in $4500 of which nearly $3500 went into stocking the Moorman’s Special**

**Regs Section.**

**Stocking costs have risen steadily over the years and now when we do a normal**

**first fall stocking which is typically the smallest of the three or four we do the cost**

**for 300 trout runs us nearly $900.**

**Stockings during the higher water seasons and close to events on the river are**

**larger as we add 50 large trout to these orders which takes the bill up to $1000 or more.**

**When I began handling the stocking coordination 14 years ago a stocking ran**

**about $350 for 300 trout which at years end left over enough funding to more**

**than cover the chapters projects and events each year. Nowadays we have a grand left over in a good year which just covers our needs. A few slow sales years strung together and reserves have shrunk and while we’re fine with an account balance that averages about $5000 we need to look for ways to raise permit sales.**

**We’ve talked about raising the permit price and yes if we can maintain the level of sales we’ve had that’ll work and give us that extra funding we’ll need to cover ever increasing costs.**

**The down side is if the price increase causes a decline in sales we’re right back where we started. One factor that comes to mind that may have been a cause of sales declines there for a few years was the colder winters that we had for several years back to back from 2009 thru 2015. Many times during those winters from late December thru February there was snow on the ground and cold enough weather to freeze the big pools on the Moorman’s solid for weeks and put an end to the fishing until things thawed out.**

**This possibly hurt us some over those years when we saw the decline happening and although we need the snow, rain and cold that sometimes keeps us off the water in winter it probably slows sales during those times.**

**NOVEMBER 2017:**

**The 14 TH Annual Adaptive Anglers on the Fly-Fly Fishing Retreat for the Disabled**

**took place back on the weekend of Sat/Sun November 17-18, 2017 partnering with fellow TU member Mark Andrews and his non-profit, Therapeutic Adventures.**

**This years’ retreat had 13 attendees that participated in fly tying instruction and on-stream fly fishing instruction provided TJTU member volunteers. Weather cooperated during the event as it always seems to do and although cold in the mornings no one seemed to mind.**

**Flows were low and slow with the dry conditions that have prevailed throughout the fall and now early winter. The trout were kinda picky with the low, clear water but enough were willing to eat that we were able to get everyone on to a trout during the event.**

**A sad note to pass on:**

**It was sad to hear the news that Steve Fetrow, one of our regulars from the Richmond area who was not able to make it to this year’s event due to medical issues has passed away.**

**Steve had attended the fall event many times over the years and always brought a big smile and happy attitude about life and all that it holds regardless of his disabilities with him.**

**Steve was a well -adapted person who did not allow his disabilities hold him back and he led and enjoyed a full life and spent much of his time enjoying various outdoor sports and recreational opportunities such as fishing, hunting and adaptive skiing.**

**We’ll certainly miss him at future Adapted Anglers Retreats and know he will not be forgotten by those of us that got to spend time with him whether it was out on the river in the woods or on the ski slopes.**

**We send our sincere condolences and well wishes out to his family and friends hoping that they will heal and carry on the goodness that Steve had inside him.**

**It was his time to fly.**

**Moorman’s Special Regs**

**Stocking**

**Thursday October 5 300 10-12 inch class were stocked**

**Thursday Nov 16 250 10-12 inch class and 50 large**

**Thursday March 29, 2018 300- 10-12 inch class and 50 large**

**Final report on this year will be out for the September meeting.**

**Kiosks-**

**Some Info has been updated, sign maintenance and more updates this spring.**

**Moorman’s Special Regs 2018 Initiatives**

**To continue stream stewardship and restoration work along the section.**

1) Finish Trail at upper end and put up signs

2) In-stream enhancement work in section between Flat Pool and Rip Rap Pool

– Good section has some good, small pools but has other spots that need help. In low flows recently it’s easy to see where to place logs and rocks, plans will be drawn up with the plan being to start next Summer or on Day of Caring next September.

**3) Flat Pool- platforms built over the roots -start next year / 3 phases /Cost?**

 **Or fill in root areas with secrete and or crush and run?**

**TJTU SHIRTS**

Several have asked about the chapter getting TJTU LOGO SHIRTS made as we did several years ago. Seems they’ve worn out, mine certainly has and it’s time for a new updated version to come about.

If you would like to own such a shirt let us know, if there’s enough interest we’ll move forward with a new design and get an order together.

**Other meeting discussions:**

 At the October meeting the outcome from last month’s meeting with speaker Andrea Terry of RWSA was discussed to bring everyone in attendance up to speed and gather thoughts on what was accomplished through the discussion.

As stated, some points of the lease which dates to 1995 were discussed as to their relevance today, where property boundaries are and what all this may mean going forward.

 Although the current lease states that the stream section extends down to the bridge just above the Girl Scout Facility during the last 12 years TJTU has not stocked the section below the Flat Pool or performed any work along the stream there.

 We’ve basically used the outgoing riffle of the Flat Pool as the un-official start of the section and told those that won’t abide by our regulations to fish that section below the Flat Pool per state regs in hopes they would keep to that section and abide by our posted regs.

 As it stands per the location of property boundaries below the Flat Pool down to the bridge it’s all private land surrounding the Moorman’s while upstream Flat Pool to the stilling pool wall that’s not the case. This is where we need to know the exact location of property lines in relation to the river so it’s clear what regulations can be posted and enforced.

 Being a work in progress we’ll be waiting to see what the new lease will entail and what it means for TJTU going forward. We’ll update everyone as soon as we know more.

**Fish with a Member Program**

The way we worked this in the past members would sign on to lead a group to the stream of their choice at a set date and each participant would put in $5 towards a till that would grow until years end when everyone who went on a trip and contributed would be entered in a drawing that would pay out a cash and or merchandise prize. The more times you sign up and contribute the more chances you have to win.

 The leader each month would submit his stream choice providing a short write up describing the stream he plans to fish, what he likes about it, what the plan is and what you should expect while fishing.

 It can also be set up that the lead person wants to learn about a particular stream and have an experienced member show them the ropes. It’s all about having a great time out fly fishing for trout, learning more about the sport we love and getting to know other members.

 After the trip has occurred the leader would send in a short description of the day for posting on the website and give a short talk about it at the next meeting.

If you are interested in helping TJTU take this concept forward please let us know, hopefully we can be back to scheduling regular outings in the spring.

**Thursday November 16, 2017 6 pm Northside Library**

At the November meeting the chapter focused on preparations for the Adaptive Anglers event that coming weekend which included stocking the Moorman’s Spec Regs earlier that day.

Several members were on hand to help stock that morning and with a new driver who took a wrong turn and was running quite late we began to wonder if they had truck trouble or there was a scheduling mistake.

Anyway after a long wait we got the trout in the river and several folks stayed on to help educate a few of them and brush up for the weekend and the Adaptive Anglers Retreat.

Other discussions were about the rising cost of the chapter doing business and where our funding comes from and goes each year. We discussed ideas for improving incoming revenue and keeping up with the times.

We’ll post more about this as we further the discussion this spring.

**Thursday December 14, 2017 Christmas Dinner Social at Burton’s Grill in The Shops at Stonefield**

This was the chapters first time at Burton’s Grille for the Annual Christmas Dinner Social. A group of 11 enjoyed a nice evening of great food and company as we looked back on 2017 and ahead to the New Year.

**Thursday January 25. 2018 Northside Library 6 pm Program: Midge Fishing**

Continued discussions from the Fall meetings about the Moorman’s, stocking costs and upcoming events.

This month’s program featured President Chubby Damron speaking about Midge fishing on the Moorman’s Special Regs and other area streams in winter.

The presentation included slides and a discussion of patterns and tactics on fishing surface patterns and in cold water scenarios putting your flies deep enough to catch sluggish trout.

Examples of fly patterns used on the Moorman’s to imitate adult and larval stage midges and patterns for fishing to trout holding deep in the seams in cold water scenarios were on display.

**February 22, 2018 Northside Library 6 PM**

**Program: Late Winter/ Early Spring Hatches**

**Fly of the Month: Quill Gordon**

This month TJTU continued the discussions on the Moorman’s and the opportunities for possible urban trout fishing programs in the Cville area we talked about last month.

The 14th Annual Spring Fly Fling- Women’s Fly Fishing and Conservation Retreat working with fellow member and his organization serving area disabled people, Therapeutic Adventures, Inc. is coming up soon on the weekend of April 7-8, 2018. soon so there was a brief talk about that for the benefit of the new folks in attendance.

**Program: Late Winter/ Early Spring Hatches- Quill Gordon The 1st major mayfly emergence of the year.**

This month the group looked over Moorman’s River insect samples and fly patterns and slides by Chubby Damron for fishing the late winter/early spring season and talked about when and where to go along what to use.

**March 22, 2018 Westminster Canterbury of the Blue Ridge Meeting**

**Speaker Paul Bugas of VDGIF/**

Paul delivered a great presentation that covered many aspects of Virginia’s fisheries including management efforts and little known facts about our various species and the health of our rivers and streams.

Many thanks to Ned Yost for lining up another great program at WCBR!

**April 26, 2018 Chapter Meeting 6 pm Northside Library**

At the April meeting the chapter discussed the March presentation by Paul Bugas and info about Trout in the Classroom releases was passed on. Wrap up discussion about the annual Spring Fly Fling, another successful year of that program with Therapeutic Adventures was held.

Plans were finalized for the Kids Trout Fishing Day at Mint Springs on Saturday April 28, 2018.

Slides were shown highlighting chapter work and the meeting concluded with slides and discussion of April trout fishing.

**May 24, 2018 Chapter Meeting 6 pm Northside Library**

At the May meeting the results of Kids Fishing Day were discussed. Many thanks go out to the several volunteers that helped man the bait /tackle and hot dog stand and although this year’s numbers of kids was down a great time was had by everyone on one the most beautiful days the event has ever occurred on.

It wasn’t hot, it wasn’t cold and the breeze was light and refreshing and never threatened to blow away our set up as it has in other years. Some nice trout were caught during the 8 am – 12 noon event by the kids.

Many thanks goes out to Tim Brooks for again for running the hot dog stand, doing the cooking and putting that portion of the day together. Next year in preparation for this event we need to get with the partners in the event and look for ways to better get the word out and bring attendance back up.

Slides were also shown about the chapter events and discussion including slides and fly pattern examples were used to talk about late spring trout fishing, where to go and what was working out on local streams.

**As we’ve asked in the past please send us any news that you feel is important to pass on to the chapter to be included in these new avenues of communication.**

**Please pass the word on about our efforts to those you think would be interested.**

**UPCOMING EVENTS AND OTHER NEWS OF INTEREST**

**Trout in the Classroom Programs:**

**FINANCIAL REPORTING CHANGES COMING**

National TU recently announced that the current fiscal year will end as usual on September 30, 2018 and the fiscal year then would change to an end date of March 31, each year beginning this coming March.

Don’t have all the details firmly in mind yet but will update this as time goes on.

**THE TJTU AREA TIC REPORT IS POSTED ON THE WEBSITE UNDER NEWSLETTERS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE HOME PAGE.**

**MOORMAN’S RIVER SPECIAL REGS SECTION**

**Fishing Update as of June 20, 2018**

Stream flows and fishing conditions have really changed over the past couple of months when at the start of May area streams were very low and things were looking bad for the coming summer on our trout streams.

Well, just as you start to wonder when the drought conditions would end it did and from my notes on the calendar it rained 21 days in May and now with a couple days left in June I have 19 days marked as having some rainfall. Much of it came in the heavy range and in one particular string of storms, the biggest frog strangler as John calls them here at my location on the west side of town it poured hail the size of peas for over an hour and the street out front looked like a dark bottomed riffle about four inches deep and we’re on a hill!

Keeping check of area stream gauges over the course of the last two months there’s been some pretty high flows across the region particularly from our area north into Greene, Madison and Rappahannock Counties.

The largest of our rainfall events brought the Moorman’s gauge at Free Union up to 8000 CFS which caused concerns the footbridge at Timber Rattler Crossing on the Moorman’s Special Regs. may have taken another hit.

Fortunately, the bridge held although the debris on the floor and the matted down surrounding vegetation showed the typically dry side channel was flowing over the floor level. The next largest flow was 4000 CFS at its peak which was still a good flush for area streams.

The Rapidan River flows have been tremendous with a reading at Ruckersville of 28,000 CFS! That has got to be a record and I don’t know what amount of it fell on the east slopes up high but flows of this magnitude roll rocks and damage stream beds.

We’ll need to make a run up to Garth Run and the Conway River to check them out some time soon.

Well, as said May and June so far on the Moorman’s Special Regs was pretty much a washout with the stream section running bank full and was spilling over in many spots. Dingy too, with lots of leaf and stick matter in the flow at times that made it hard to fish even if visibility was decent.

Well, many of the times I was able to keep the junk off my leader I caught a trout so being patient paid off. I like deep nymphing so the high, off color water didn’t bother me and with two heavy nymphs 4-5 feet under an indicator and working the slow edges I was able to pick up several trout. Mostly Rainbows in May and early June with Brook Trout being the most common in the last couple of times out.

The last two times VDGIF stocked Sugar Hollow Reservoir there was a heavy overflow coming over the dam and it seems many of them came over the dam into the TJTU section. I’ve had other reports about Brookies being caught more frequently in our stream section too.

Flows are high and warming up with the overflow off the top of the reservoir. Good thing is the inflow from the North and South Forks of the Moorman’s Rivers’ are bringing cold, highly oxygenated water in which is again being further oxygenated as it rolls the 60 feet down the dam face into rolling whitewater at the base. That’s good for the trout in the TJTU section and moving water doesn’t heat up like it does when sitting still so we’ll take what we can get even if it is a bit too much at times.

You can do well early in the morning before the sun gets up high and brite if it’s out and from what I’ve seen the trout are deep, in the shade and just like in winter they don’t seem to want to move much to eat. Lots of food is being constantly flushed by in these high flows so they not missing any meals.

A tungsten bead stonefly nymph trailed by a San Juan Worm or a green caddis larva has been working well and if the water is fairly clear a third nymph, a red midge larva will catch them too.

Plenty of Bass and Sunfish are cruising around too so there will be something looking at your offerings no matter what you throw.

Back on June 22nd, my grandson Jayden and I were riding along talking about the latest round of rain and drove up to the Moorman’s to check things out. The rain from the previous day had the Moorman’s running high and dirty and just out of its banks in many places. I told him there wouldn’t be any fishing up there that day, although the reservoir was clear it was up over the paths along the shore and the North and South Forks were roaring.

I told him about reading stories a few years ago when there was a lot of flooding in the Tennessee River Valley and tailwater rivers such as the SF Holston and the Watauga Rivers were so high the parking lots, boat ramps and adjacent public areas as well as many neighborhoods were under water.

Local trout bums were fishing in these off the wall places and catching trout in the parking lots and backyards of their neighbors and I told Jayden you never know about trout and they can be found in some unusual places.

I told him of catching Native Brook Trout out of little pools below culvert pipes on mountain back roads and if I’m in the right elevation for trout I’ll throw a fly in moving water anywhere just to see if they are there.

Little did I know what we would come across next!

We headed down along the Moorman’s back toward to White Hall dodging flood debris on the road and running water along the ditch lines and across the road in some places as we did on the way in. At one point where the water was running across the road about 40 feet wide from a small tributary as we approached Jayden looked out a saw something.

The water on the right side, east bound side of the road was about 6- 8 inches deep along the high edge of the grass that bordered the road and the north side west bound side of the road the water was about 2 inches so I got over on the wrong side of the road and began a slow roll through.

Mid-way across Jayden said Look Pop there’s a trout in the road! First thing that entered my mind was a rock or stick laying in just the right manner, you know like the ones we’ve all thrown a fly at several times before realizing rocks and sticks don’t rise and we ambled on to find a real trout.

Well, Jayden opened the door and said look there he is, I’ll get out and get the net and we’ll catch him. Before he got to the trunk the trout swam off parallel to the grass line along the road and over into the deep water just over the side of the road where the tiny little tributary had become a real creek.

I saw it plain as day from 6 feet away it was a Brook Trout, 7, maybe 8 inches long and in an area I’d would have never thought to look. He was holding looking into the water flowing gently over the top of the grass. Probably was washing all kinds of vittles his way. I told Jayden we should park the car put on a small dry fly and stand over there by the roadside where we could see him come out to feed again.

Naw, I said then I hafta explain to everyone who drives by why I’m standing there with a fly rod in the road. And then the real problem was not the ones I’d hafta talk to but the ones that would just cruise slowly by snickering under their breath what dumb ass!

And no, I wouldn’t have to hear it I’d know just what they were thinking and saying you wouldn’t want to be seen with me chasing cars along Sugar Hollow Road with fly rod in one hand cane in the other cussing every other breath, after all I am the son of a sailor!

I thought maybe Jayden thought I was pulling his leg about trout fishing in parking lots and just because I’m getting to be an old fisherman and made up, been a part of and told a lotta tales the majority of them are true.

So help me God!

Thanks for everyone’s continued support!!

**STOCKED STREAMS ACROSS THE REGION:**

 As said the stocking season ended with high water nearly everywhere north of the James River. East to west across the Blue Ridge from the east slope streams, the west slope streams and across the valley and into the western highlands there hasn’t been much trout fishing to speak of for several weeks.

There are some exceptions out there and those who know trout know where to go when times get tough and it doesn’t hurt to cruise along flooded streams and look for trout holding in parking lots and along roadside ditches as I spoke of earlier.

Well, enough of the joking, trout in these streams are likely very scattered now with the extremely high water and when conditions return to normal it may be tough to find trout in many of these lower elevation streams.

Places like the Jackson and Bullpasture Rivers when they settle down will probably offer some good fishing but many of the stocked for harvest streams are reaching the point of being too warm and many trout won’t survive much longer if they’re washed far downstream into warmer reaches.

We’ve made it thru June with high water and hopefully as we get into July the ample rains will continue, on a gentler scale to keep our streams, rivers and other water bodies full of water and trout or whatever fish you prefer to pursue.

**MOUNTAIN BROOK TROUT STREAMS**

 One of the only places you can still go and get good flows and fishing is at the tops of the mountain streams and above tributaries where flows will likely be fishable.

Mountain streams come up quick and go down quick so these upper reaches can bring great fishing conditions during high flows. Small tributaries often attract good numbers of trout when the main stem is too high so if you know of such places now is the time to go give them a try before summer gets going hot and heavy.

Stream flows will soon likely drop back to normal and Fall will seem so far away but we’re thru June now and things are much better than usual. Maybe it will hold and summer won’t be as dry as it was last year and trout fishing options will be many.

Fish the coolest times of day, daylight to mid-morning and keep the trout you catch in the water as to not shock them in the warm, humid air. Wet wading on a hot day in cool mountain streams feels great and you can take a swim in the deep holes after you fish them of course and keep cool while out there fishing.

Just beware of the stinging nettle plants, ticks, chiggers, mountain wasps, yellow jackets, timber rattlers and poison ivy that all love the heat of summer! And people ask me why I never wet wade, I’ve experienced them all!

**Fall is only 3 months away!**

**Fly of the Month- June 2018**

**Black Foam Beetle Size 14**

**Terrestrial Insects in General**

Beetles are one of the prolific terrestrial insects on earth with many species found in all types of habitat around the world. For those who fly fish for trout from late spring thru the first killing frost of the fall these insects are active around trout streams everywhere and become a great searching pattern to use during times with no reliable hatches.

Having beetle patterns in a variety of sizes, shapes and body colors will go far in getting summer trout to rise to your flies. A size 14 foam beetle with a peacock herl underbody can be about as complex as it needs to be as you can throw this pattern and catch trout anywhere beetles fall into trout streams.

Finicky trout may require a smaller size or different shape so when a trout refuses a beetle on a good drift go smaller or put on a parachute ant size 18 and see what

happens!

Inch worms and flying ants are other common terrestrial insects found in the drift of trout streams during the summer months. Having a variety of colors of San Juan Worm style patterns with thin size 16 and 18 bodies about ¾ to 1 inch long will cover these insects.

Flying ants when swarming over a trout stream can cause even smart, pressured trout to lose it for a moment and any small black pattern that resembles an ant will work if you can get your fly picked out.

Stimilators in sizes 8-14 are good to have in various colors as they can imitate moths as well stoneflies and grasshoppers. Add rubber legs to them for a realistic look.

Grasshoppers and crickets are now showing up in many places and the best way to choose the correct pattern for the time and place you are is to look for them in the streamside weeds.

Both hoppers and crickets are still maturing and are not as large on average today as they will be say at the end of August and into the early fall. Use patterns that match the size, proportions, shape and color as those you find in the streamside vegetation and you should be on target to catch trout.

One mid-June Saturday on Mossy Creek many years ago I was downstream of the iron bridge early that morning below the willow tree on the bend. As I slowly fished my way upstream that morning I was doing well on a size 16 Parachute Ant that I tied with a dubbed body.

Being a dubbed body it would get a little fuzzy after several casts and takes by trout and I noticed this had happened and thought it then became more of an oblong beetle pattern. This was good as it covered 2 bases and was never worn completely out.

I was as said catching Browns from 10 -16 inches and had broken off one over 20 inches. Ahead of me was another angler about 100 feet also fishing upstream ahead of me and the distance between us evidently was enough that the trout he passed by weren’t disturbed and ready to eat when I cast my little ant/beetle their way.

As I got closer to the bridge and at the area about 100 yards downstream where the first cattle access to the stream was on the bend where the fence cut across the riffle there the guy ahead of me sat down in the grass and watched me fish slowly up towards him.

I caught two more Brown’s as I got close enough to talk and he spoke up saying “You’ve been catching trout behind me all morning! I’d hear a splash, look back and you’re into another one and several times I just looked back and you were letting one go! What are you doing that’s so much different from me that makes such a difference?”

He hadn’t had a take, just a couple looks and refusals and I said without seeing what you are throwing I’d hafta say it’s the pattern you’re throwing as I looked to see what was stuck in the fly keeper on his rod.

There it was! The culprit was the index finger size hopper pattern he had tied on which when I showed him what I was using seemed tiny in comparison. I asked him had he seen any big hoppers as fished along and walked in the meadow along the stream?

No he said and I said take a look in the weeds as you walk along and see what’s jumping and flying around. Use patterns that match the size and color of what you see in the streamside vegetation.

The size 16 ant I was using was now a little frazzled and looked more like a small beetle than an ant both of which are very plentiful in mid to late June on Mossy. It also looked like small crickets that were recently hatched so I was covering several scenarios with one pattern and using a longer, thinner leader with a quiet presentation.

He said thanks I appreciate the info that will really help me fishing here and other such places! It’s that simple!

Well not always so be observant and don’t be afraid to ask that guy catching trout when you’re not just what the hell it is he does so good that you don’t!

**Have a Great Summer/ Take a kid fishing!**

**Chubby**

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