



Streamline



January 2020

Oklahoma Chapter 420 of Trout Unlimited &
Tulsa Fly Fishers a Charter Club of Fly Fishers International

Event Calendar

January 1st - Trout Pond LaFortune Park opens to public

January 7th & 21st - Backwoods free fly tying class

January 9th - General Meeting - Conejos River Anglers - *"Fly Fishing New Mexico's Conejos & Los Pinos Rivers"*

January 18th - Oklahoma FlyFishers 9th Annual Fly Tying Extravaganza

January 25th - Roaring River fishing event.

If you have a friend who is not a member who might be interested in this information please feel free to forward this issue to your friend. [Forward this message to a friend.](#)

A Message from Your President



January 9th General Meeting *"Fly Fishing New Mexico's Conejos & Los Pinos Rivers"*

Heath Tiefenauer

Hello {FIRST_NAME|TU/TFFer's},

Happy New Year! I hope you had plenty of opportunities to spend time with friends and family over the Holiday Season.

We'd like to whole heartedly thank each and every one of you for your support in 2019. With so many supportive members, 2020 is looking to be another great year for our organization.

As the year begins please be sure to renew your memberships to Trout Unlimited. If you're not a member, now is a great time to join. Don't overlook Fly Fishers International, our group is also a charter club for FFI and your support of FFI is also appreciated.

We look forward to continuing our outings in 2020. Our first outing is the ever-popular Roaring River, an annual tradition. This year we've coordinated with Project Healing Waters and our veteran's group will join us January 25th for this fun annual event. Joel Kantor will be donating his famous brisket for lunch. Don't miss out! Additional outings will continue thru June.

While we all love to wet a line, getting together for other activities is always fun. In 2020 your TU Chapter will be hosting a Banquet fund raising event. We haven't had a Banquet event in quite some time and we hope you'll help us make the evening a smashing success. The banquet is scheduled for March 28th. More details will be provided in this newsletter and on our Facebook page in the weeks to come.

Trout in the Classroom remained strong in 2019 and is positioned to have an even better 2020 and beyond thanks to a significant donation from a local company we all know. This gift is worthy of special recognition, read on to learn more.

Our general meetings will resume on January 9th and we have a great line up of speakers in the New Year as well as our annual fly-tying night. Meetings are the second Thursday of each month at Hardesty Library. If you haven't been to one of our



Pat Blankenship with Conejos River Anglers

Pat and Jeannine Blakenship will present fly fishing the waters of the Conejos River, La Jara Creek, the Los Pinos rivers.

Pat first started fly fishing the Conejos river where it flows through Trujillo meadows in his youth. He's stalked trout in northern New Mexico and southern Colorado for most of his life. He knows where to go and what flies to use to get the clients he guides and store customers into the very best fly fishing. Come and join Pat and Jeannine to learn all about the great fishing in this area, including lesser known local waters.

Visit their web site at <https://www.conejosriveranglers.com/home>

Trout Unlimited Chapter 420 and Tulsa Fly Fishers meet at Hardesty Public Library, 8316 E 93rd St Tulsa on the east side of Memorial Dr. and one block north of the Creek Turnpike. Doors open at 6 pm (open discussion and questions) and admission is free. Raffle and door prizes are presented at the end of the meeting.

January Raffle Prize

meetings, outings or special events we'd love to meet you!

Details of all our activities are available on our web site www.tu420.com.

Tight Lines,

Heath Tiefenauer

President of Oklahoma Trout Unlimited & Tulsa Fly Fishers

Trout In The Classroom Update



Major News for the Trout In The Classroom program here in Oklahoma

When you are reading this, students from across the area will be returning to their classrooms after the holidays in hopes that all will be well with their trout. If not, it's very much a part of the learning curve with the program. Water quality can go wrong over the extended holiday when daily care of the individual tanks isn't available. Some of the trout are expected to be lost over the holiday. Students will be asked to hypothesize what may have gone wrong and right over the holidays.

What's the big news? Over the past several months, after one of our members, Shane Bevel was in Pennsylvania for a meeting and after hearing two people discussing a Trout In the Classroom program in PA, Shane introduced himself and told one of the women, who was also from Oklahoma and asking about the program that there was a TIC program in Tulsa. That woman was from Williams Co. After some discussions and questions about our local TIC program The Williams Co., through one of their local foundations, has made a sizable grant to Oklahoma Trout Unlimited Chapter for the specific continuation of the program in the years to



The raffle prize for January's General Meeting will be an 8' 6" 6wt L.L. Bean Fly Rod Combo Outfit. Everything you need to take out of the package and start fishing (except a few flies). A \$149.00 value. (See Link: [LL Bean](http://LLBean))

Give yourself a better chance of winning this prize by buying extra tickets at the door.

Outings

Date: January 25 - Roaring River Fishing Event

Loc: Roaring River State Park

Time: 8:30 am to 2:00 pm

Info: Bring a covered dish or desert. Joel Kantor will provide his famous brisket for lunch.

Date: February 22, 2020 - Mystery Fly Tourney

Location: Lower Illinois River Watts WMU

Time: 8:30 - noon

Info: Get pumped up for the second annual Mystery Fly Fishing Tournament. Phil Curtis and Kelly Brown are sure to tie up a HOT fly to be used for the contest. Keep your eyes on *Streamline* and Facebook for more details.

Contact:

Heath Tiefenauer at TU420outings@gmail.com

Announcing our 2020 Annual Banquet and Fund Raiser

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE

come. If you are part of the Williams Company thank you. If any of you reading this know someone from the Williams Company please tell them thank you as well.

However, this grant from them should not keep anyone else from determining the value of this program and donate too. The more money we can raise the more students we can expose to this wonderful conservation program. If you'd like to contribute financially to this program please send your check to:

Oklahoma Chapter of Trout Unlimited
P.O. Box 54108 Tulsa, OK 74155.

(Each tank costs @ \$1,200 and annual upkeep around \$250 each.)

If you care to follow along with daily and weekly posts as the year progresses please join the closed Facebook group: [TIC](#). For more information on TIC in general, click on the following link ... WWW.TROUTINTHECLASSROOM.ORG.

Scott Hood
Youth Education Coordinator for OKTU420

2020 Conservation Issues

Conservation Is Our Passion

Together, we make fishing better.

Our Conservation Approach

We work to protect important habitat, improve degraded waterways and to restore and improve warm and cold water fish populations. The best conservation work comes from partnerships between landowners, industry, agencies, non-profits, municipalities and other stakeholders.

Oklahoma Conservation Focus:

-Gain minimum water flows in the Lower Illinois River and other Oklahoma streams to protect our fisheries. Oklahoma is the only state where minimum flows are not required or planned for in any water studies.

-Improve water quality using the best science,

BIG EVENT OF THE YEAR!

Join us for our annual Trout Unlimited Chapter 420/Tulsa Fly Fishers & Project Healing Waters Annual Banquet and Fund Raiser. It's Saturday, March 28th, 5:30 pm at the Rucker Warehouse, 1227 S Detroit Ave. We've listened to our Member's feedback and decided to expand the scope of our March event to include more activities, a speaker and a more well-rounded evening for everyone. Be sure and calendar this fun-filled evening of entertainment, raffles, door prizes, silent auction and great eats. We raise the majority of our funds for our conservation, youth and adult education, Trout in the Classroom and veterans outreach projects at this event so we do hope you'll attend.

Donate an Item

As we plan for our event we are looking for new or lightly used fly fishing items, artwork, guide trips, certificates and other fly fishing related items to be donated for raffle and silent auction prizes. Your sponsorship will be noted on the item at the event along with our thanks. If you own or work with a company which could donate materials or services and are interested in helping our fund raising efforts please contact Heath, Kelly or Russell. We welcome all donation inquiries.

Please watch for additional information as the date of the event approaches. We hope to announce our speaker very soon.

Contact:

Heath Tiefenauer at TU420outings@gmail.com

Kelly Brown at: kellyfishes@msn.com

Russell Vaughn: Rvaughn33@cox.net

Youth And Adult Education

Upcoming Classes

Backwoods at The Farm - Fly Tying Lessons

- Fly tying lessons will resume on January 7th and 21st
- Time: 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm
- Location: The Farm at 51st & Sheridan Rd
- Cost: Free

Jenks Community Ed – Fly Fishing Oklahoma

advanced methods, strict enforcement, legislation and collaboration to reduce all forms of pollution in our already heavily impaired streams. Sixty percent of our streams are rated heavily impaired with no foreseeable resolution.

-Monitor the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality's request to remove the management of fracking fluids from the EPA to the state of Oklahoma and potentially allow treated fracking fluid to be discharged into surface waters. The DEQ defines surface waters as our rivers, lakes and streams. The majority of our surface waters does not meet some federal or state guidelines. The state currently does not have sufficient taxes, staffing or testing laboratories to improve existing water quality and sewage discharge monitoring according to their statement. Disposing of excess fracking fluid into our stream would add to this burden, even if treated in some manner. We encourage recycling, reuse and the application of advanced technology by industry.

-Oppose legislation to transfer fishing and hunting license fees from the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation to an unspecified state general fund; a move which would also cost the ODWC to loose over \$24 million of the Oklahoma share of federal excise taxes on sporting goods. The ODWC is a highly successful model entirely self-funded by our license fees.

-Monitor legislation for: high volume river water withdrawal and sale, bills blocking purchase or lease of outdoor recreation lands, introduction of a "European" model where citizens have no public outdoor recreation land and must pay large membership fees to fish, hunt and recreate or bills to sell off our public recreation land. We also oppose attempts for increased control of the highly successful Department of Wildlife Conservation for political gain vs. its outdoor recreation and conservation charter.

-ODWC Lower Mountain Fork Trout Fishery Proposed Rule Changes:

- Expand Lower Mountain Fork River Trout Area boundaries and revise trout size limits, bag limits, and tackle restrictions. Local guides input was included in these new

- Date: Feb. 29th, 2020,
- Time: 9am to 2pm
Loc: Jenks Aquatic Center
- Cost: \$25
- Signup site will be available soon

2020 General Meeting Presentation Schedule

Presentations are set for the 2020 season. Please provide Pat Daly any recommendations you may have for next year 2020-2021.

January 9. Conejos River Anglers – "Fly Fishing New Mexico's Conejos & Los Pinos Rivers"

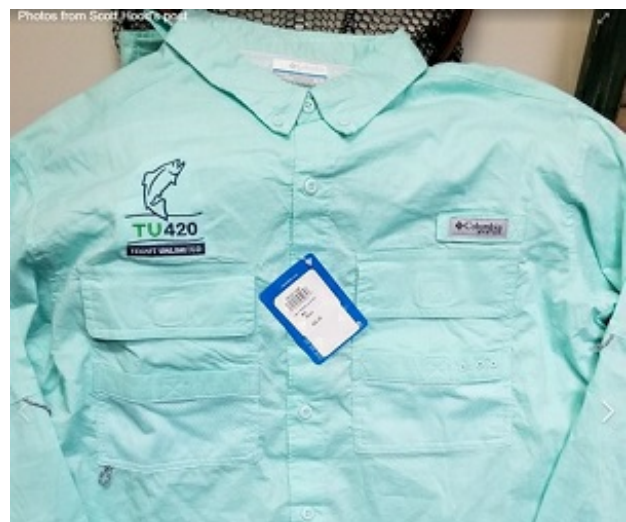
February 13. Fly Tying Night

March 12. Davy Wotton - "The Best of Fly Fishing & Tying" and fly tying pre meeting session

April 9. Randy Richter – "Fly Tying for Stripers & How to Catch Oklahoma Stripers on the Fly"

May 14. Scott Hood - "My Time with TU and the LIR"

TU420 Shirts Are Now Available



TU420 now has a limited number of Columbia PFG Half Moon long sleeve fishing shirts with the TU420 logo embroidered above the right hand pocket. They are pre-shrunk, 98% cotton and available in sizes L, XL and XXL in Gulf Stream (light blue). All proceeds from the \$45.00 shirts will go to support TU420 sponsored events, outings, and Trout Pond

changes.

To read the proposed rule changes a t <http://www.wildlifedepartment.com/public-meeting>. If you have comments fill out the online public comment form at <http://www.wildlifedepartment.com/public-meeting>. The online public comment period closes at 4:30 p.m. Jan. 3, 2020.

-Add meaningful representation for fishing and all outdoor recreation at the state capitol, including the Oklahoma Water Resources Board and Corporate Commission.

View the Trout Unlimited national conservation page here <https://www.tu.org/conservation/>

Pat Daly
Conservation Chair

Did You Know ?

- Did you know fishing is one of the top businesses in Oklahoma? Oklahoma has 1,377,763 anglers with \$1,778,533,721 of annual retail purchases affecting 15,432 jobs, and generates \$148,216,301 in Federal tax revenues and \$99,623,056 in State and local tax revenue. It deserves a seat at the table on all key committees and decision making boards at the state capitol.

- Did you know that the newsletter goes out to 1,091 email addresses and the TU420 Facebook has 1,536 subscribers but TU420 only has 474 members?

- Did you know that FFI operates the Fly Fishing International Museum in Livingston, Montana? [FFI link](#) The Museum houses displays from Art Flick and Lefty Kreh, to name just a few, over 2000 antique fly fishing books, memorabilia from Lee and Joan Wulff as well as antique rods, reels, and silk lines. The collection supports the FFI mission of Conservation, Education and Community.

Trout Pond for Tulsa

as well as education and conservation programs. These shirts will sell out quickly and will be available on a first come first serve basis at the January meeting.

Don't forget that we also have TU420 ball caps still available online at the same STORE location.

Local Events

Oklahoma FlyFishers 9th Annual Fly Tying Extravaganza



Oklahoma FlyFishers
9th annual
fly tying extravaganza

bring your family - watch fly tying demonstrations - learn how to tie - new techniques & materials - eat some BBQ

Date: January 18, 2020
Time: 9am - 3pm
Place: Creek County Fairgrounds
Just off of the I-44 Turner Turnpike at the Kellyville exit
Sawyer, Oklahoma. On Route 66.

- Watch the creative art of fly tying by tiers from a four-state area
- Serving award-winning barbecue by Mark Rollins
- Raffle - Win a half day guided trip on the Little Red River, Fly fishing accessories, gift certificates and more...

Keynote Speaker:
"Fly Fishing the Little Red River"
10:00 am

Come learn to fish for trout in the Little Red River in Arkansas. Kim will share her passion for fly fishing, the story of her re-invented life as a guide living on the banks of the Little Red, and lending her skills of the sport to men, women and children up and down the river.

Her involvement with Caring for Reservoir Trout Unlimited, and The Muddy Project is a testament to her commitment to the sport of fly fishing.

Kim Rowland Dollins owner **Ryder's Run Guide Service**
Email: kim@rydersrun.com Phone: 903.226.3666 Pughton, Arkansas

Date: Saturday, January 18th, 2020, 9:00am to 3:00pm

Location: Creek County Fairgrounds. Just off of I-44 and the Kellyville exit

Info: A family event that includes demonstrations by 'fly tying artists' from four states, award winning barbecue and a raffle for a half day guided trip on the Little Red River. This year's keynote speaker will be Kim Rowland Dollins presenting "Fly Fishing the Little Red River" scheduled for 10:00 am.

[Oklahoma FlyFisher](#)

Board of Directors Recommend By-laws Changes

The TU/TFF Board is recommending changes to the TU and FFI By-laws. The first of these changes is to the FFI-TFF By-laws which will increase the term for Board Members from one year to two years.

The second change will be to the TU420 By-laws



The Winter 2020 Trout Pond

The 2019/2020 trout pond at LaFortune Park is off to another great start. Weather conditions for the 'Kids Only' week at the pond, Christmas Day to New Years Eve, could not have been better, considering it's December. Christmas day...70+ degrees, just doesn't get much better than that.

Thanks go to Jim Mathewson, Ed Wampler, Kelly Brown and Russell Vaughn for helping with the off loading of the first stocking. And a very special thank you to Heath Tiefenaur and his wife Valerie for being at the pond on Christmas Eve to take down a half dozen well placed and well secured No Fishing poles and signs before the pond opened on Christmas morning.

There will be two more stocking in the coming months staged just before Martin Luther King Day and Presidents' Day ... both of these days will also be 'Kids Only' Days. Please resist the desire to fish just before those days, leaving more trout for the kids, but please also go after those days. Catch and Release, if you wish just use good rules of handling the trout, barbless hooks and wet hands.

Kids Only Days aren't just for kids... take a kid fishing, and fish with them. As long as the kids are fishing you can also fish.

Also, these fish are NOT FREE. This "urban trout fishing" program is funded annually by Oklahoma Trout Unlimited with matching funds from NatureWorks. Be sure to attend the NatureWorks Art Show when it comes to Tulsa this spring. Please, support them as they support us!

which will decrease the notice period on issues requiring membership vote from 15 days to 10 days to allow for newsletter publication as the source for notification. By-law changes and election nomination notices will remain at 30 days.

It is also recommended that the Board of Directors membership be increased to a maximum total of 15 from the current 11 member maximum. We would like to encourage any member to consider volunteering for Board membership to help direct TU420 efforts, projects and programs. We will be voting on these changes at the January 9th General Meeting. Feel free to contact any of the Board members or Officers if you have questions.

Fly Tying Contest

Six Fly Progressive Fly Tying Contest

We have winners! The October Terrestrials contest has been completed and judged.(see below) . The following have been awarded with top finish recognitions by their peers.



Kelly Brown's first place 'Orange Butt'



Frank Kohn's second place 'Hopper Dropper'

Schedule and Rules

1. All anglers over 16 must have a valid Oklahoma Fishing License.
2. One rod and one reel per angler.
3. Cast nets or dip nets to catch trout are strictly prohibited.
4. Four trout limit per angler, per day. No culling.
5. Stringers and or baskets must be labeled with the individual angler's name and license number.
6. Violators of these regulations will be ticketed and prosecuted.

If you see a violation, please contact the Tulsa County Sheriff's office at 918-596-5601 or contact the Tulsa area Game Warden at 918-857-5557.

Scott Hood Adult and Youth Ed Coordinator for OKTU420

Kelly's Korner

Trout Fishing on the Blue River:

Have you ever traveled to new water and been totally shutout? For several years I drove across the Blue River in Southern Oklahoma, typically in a big hurry to get somewhere else, and noted how scenic and uncrowded the area is even though I knew it is a trout stream. A Spring-break ago, my sweetheart and I made a traveling bicycling/fishing trip through Southeastern Oklahoma and included camping at Lady Blue as one of our stops. The trout there were less sympathetic to me than my wife after six weeks in a row of prior fishing commitments. I caught a few, but Karin caught more and wondered what I was whining about.

The Blue River is a part-time trout stream. Every other Thursday from November to March 1, 2400 Trout are stocked at a dozen locations along the 6 miles of public access and you may find yourself catching trout into April and May. Warm rains and the heat of the summer bring the river temperatures past the point where trout can survive, but also make it a great stream to take a swim in and catch our warm water species in the warmer months.

The Blue flows down an ancient granite uplift that starts a little south of Ada Oklahoma. There are no dams on the 130 miles of the Blue River and the headwaters are entirely prairie and woodlands. The



Phil Curtis' third place 'Deer Wing Spider'

Small Flies with Flash.

The winter months are when Midge patterns do it best. Small flashy midges are Sometimes Hero / Sometimes Zero patterns that catch particularly well on sunny days. Contact me if you want to submit your version of a Rainbow Warrior or Disco Midge for the January Fly contest.

Contact Kelly Brown for details on Facebook, or at kellyfishes@msn.com

-Kelly

Author Kelly Brown will be directing this season's fly tying contests. Some of your contest fly submittals will be used as fund raising items, raffle items, special contest prizes and other awards for Trout Unlimited and FFI projects like Trout in the Classroom, winter trout stocking of local ponds and youth education programs.

(Continued from column 1)

I was able to fish both Saturday before the event and the following Sunday morning and spent Saturday afternoon hanging out with classmates at the local everything store and fly shop, Scotty's One-Stop.

Perspective 1 - If what you are doing is not working, walk a little bit. Get in the water, go around the next bend, or cross a waterfall, you can quickly find yourself in a small private trout run, even in the crowded sections of the river. If the run looks "perfect", it probably does hold a couple of fish at least. There are also areas where the fish congregate so don't spend too long fishing an unproductive run. You may find one of those natural congregation points and have a 50 or 60 fish day.

miles of granite cap in the area provides numerous springs that keep the water flowing and clean. The river bottom is a tumble of pockmarked granite substrate and rocks with a few scattered sand bars. The weather pattern is just different enough that the Blue can be in good fishing condition when our local waters are flooded. Often enough the weather is a few degrees warmer there than in Tulsa making a spring trip seem like a welcome break. Entering the park requires a current fishing license or Wildlife permit. Primitive Camping is free and available on a first-come first-served basis but does fill-up on Holiday weekends.

There are truly innumerable waterfalls, side channels, slicks, runs, plunge pools and tail outs. There are roads and campsites along much of the river, giving the first area's you see a distinctively "city park" aura. Don't give up hope if you prefer to keep fishing and circuses in separate tents as there are walk-in Wilderness and Catch and Release areas where it is easy to find yourself alone.

Perspectives Gained at the Blue River Fly Fishing Workshop:



Fishing the Blue can be super intimidating. When Donovan Clary and Friends hosted a Blue River Fly Fishing workshop a few weeks ago, I may have been the first to sign-up! At first glance, the river seems impossible to navigate, and there are just too many rocks, waterfalls, alder trees and bait-casters to make sense of where to start. When you waded into the water... each step is a challenge in foot placement. If the water is not clear, it feels as

Perspective 2 - If you don't like one style of fly fishing, explore a bit and you will find an area that calls for something completely different. Bobber fishing and free nymphing both worked well for me. I passed some dry fly opportunities as I was wanting to explore and know I can easily loose an hour chasing a sporadic riser.

Perspective 3 - Fly Choice. Mop flies are the real deal on the Blue. The big white mop fly did not produce well for me but a natural green color worked well. Nothing on midges but they are a standard pattern on the Blue. I also caught several on a variation of a fly Billy Wilkerson once gave me for the Blue called "Helga". This fly is tied on a jig hook something like a very small Wooley Buzzer with a purple tail and orange brown body. I was using a size 16, which makes it a fair imitation of a crawler mayfly nymph. A small white Wooley Buzzer also produced for me with short strips as did a chartreuse colored worm pattern. Scotty's has local patterns that work well, just ask for current advice.

Maybe it was the bite, or my confidence, but I believe the numbers say it well enough. The perspectives gained made a difference. Saturday morning, I landed 3 trout, lost about that many more on the line, and missed better than a dozen good bites. Sunday after the workshop I landed somewhere near 20 trout on a half-dozen different patterns, with many more misses. I think most importantly that I learned to respect the Blue as its own unique and beautiful river and fishing there with an open mind to exploring new water.

Best Fishing,

-Kelly

Author Kelly Brown will be documenting his general thoughts in the coming months. If you see him at the next General Meeting, be sure to thank him for putting these projects together.

if each next step will take you over your head. Take a wading stick when you go, or at least do as I do and find a suitable beaver stick along the bank before wading out.

(Continued in column 2)

Mark Your Calendar For These Coming Events

February 13th - Fly Tying Night

February 22nd - Mystery Fly Tournament

February 29th - Jenks Community Ed - Fly Fishing Oklahoma

March 12th - Davy Wooton - "The Best of Fly Fishing & Tying" with a fly tying 'pre-meeting' session

March 28th - TU/TFF Banquet and Fund Raiser

April 9 - Randy Richter - "Fly Tying for Stripers" & "How To Catch Oklahoma Stripers on the Fly"

April 18th - LIR cleanup

May 14 - Scott Hood - "My Time With TU and the LIR"

"Streamline" is published on the first of the month about a week before the next general meeting.

If you have content ideas, comments, complaints or suggestions please contact the Editor: Jim Mathewson at Tel: (918) 346-3093 or Email: jmathewson3@cox.net

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