



TU/FFI

May 2024



Streamline



Dave Whitlock Chapter of Trout Unlimited &
Tulsa Fly Fishers a Charter Club of Fly Fishers International



Event Calendar

May 11th - Upper Illinois River Float Outing

May 16h - ODWC Stream Team and the Arkansas River Species - General Meeting

May 25th - Start of the 15X15 Tournament

June 1st - Member's Only Outing at the Whitlock's Residence

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



Russell Vaughn

Hello {FIRST_NAME|TU/TFFer's}

I hope you took advantage of a rainy day to tie some flies as April winds down and May is around the corner. What does that mean to eager fly flingers, the Dave Whitlock TU420 15 X15 Species Challenge will be upon us soon! It is that time of year when planning commences on where, when, and how participants plan to catch 15 species from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Panfish, Bass, and temperate bass amongst others are on the list of species to catch.

To me, part of the fun of the challenge is the planning. What scenic location am I going to have to try to catch a Long Ear Sunfish? Where am I going to catch smallmouth bass? Can I keep the Green Sunfish off of my fly long enough to catch a Bluegill? Which out-of-the-way creek will I find the most variety of Sunfish? What gear issues do I need to resolve? What flies do I need to tie for White Bass, Hybrids, or even that big Striper for which you've been searching? The educational value alone is well worth the effort. Learning species identification, gear set up, ideal conditions for certain species, what flies do I need to tie targeting flathead catfish?

I highly encourage each one of you to embark on the challenge this year! While the challenge may seem insurmountable to beginners, there is no shortage of those who are adept with all things fly fishing and who are willing to assist. Please don't be afraid to ask questions and seek advice. Interacting with your fishing buddies or even reaching out to an acquaintance you met at the last monthly meeting to seek advice is also part of the fun.

This challenge may push you to expand your knowledge of fly fishing in general. I enjoy the challenge each year and all of the knowledge

Dream Stream Team



Pictured are (left to right) Drew Wallace, Eric Cox, and Samuel Johnson of ODWC's Stream Team.

What is the Stream Team?

They answer questions like, "Hey, what kind of fish is that?" Well, that's a question the ODWC Stream Team answers every summer while conducting community-based fish sampling across Oklahoma's river drainages.

They document everything from small, nongame species like minnows and darters to larger sportfish like bass and catfish. Most people are unaware that Oklahoma has over 180 different species of fish. The primary goal of this effort is to conserve this biodiversity by monitoring trends in fish communities over time.

With the helpful cooperation of landowners, the Stream Team has surveyed 400 sites since 2016!

They are coming to the Hardesty Library on Thursday, May 16th to give us a rundown on all the fish species in the Arkansas River below the Keystone Dam.

They will speak about all the game and non-game species. The Shovelnose Sturgeon are found in the Arkansas and they are of note due to their diminishing supply. This sturgeon is one of the species the Stream Team is closely monitoring.

Find out all the latest news about the Arkansas fishery including the impact of dams.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the meeting. This month only we will be in the Pecan Room, off to your right as you enter the library.

Date: Thursday, May 16th

Time: 6:30 PM

gained. Not to mention the camaraderie of completing the challenge with a team. There is a lot of time and effort that goes into hosting such an event so please consider participating in the challenge this year. You won't regret it! Thank you all so much for being a part of the Dave Whitlock Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

All the best,

Russell Vaughn

President

420 Dave Whitlock Chapter/Tulsa Fly Fishers

Rvaughn33@cox.net

April Raffle Prize Winners

We had three raffle prizes awarded at our April General Meeting. The first was a Lamson GURU II, model 2 - 5 to 6 wt, fly reel. The reel is valued at \$239. John Fry was our winner.



The next item is readily understood by examining the below picture. The suggested uses include, but not limited to, cutting board, base for fly-tying vise, and wall mount for those who already have too many fish photos on their walls. The happy winner was Russell Herrera.

Where: Hardesty Regional Library, Tulsa
Different Room : Pecan Room

420 Dave Whitlock of Trout Unlimited 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 6PM with the meeting commencing at 6:30. Raffle and door prizes are presented at the end of the meeting.

May Outing

For our May outing we're hosting a group float on the Upper Illinois River on Saturday, May 11th. We'll put in at Sparrowhawk and float to the public take out a few miles downriver. If you have your own watercraft TU420 will assist with shuttles to the take-out point.

Donavan Clary from Oklahoma Fly Fishing will provide a short review of river conditions and pattern recommendations before we put into the water. Thanks to Donovan we'll also have a limited number of raft seats available for anyone desiring a ride. Canoes will be available for rent from Sparrowhawk as well. River temps are still a little cool, you may want to bring your waders to ensure you can wade comfortably.

We'll plan to launch at 10AM and the float can take as long as you want it to, depending on how often and how long you stop to fish. We haven't quite figured out how to get the Club's grill into a kayak or canoe, so you'll need to bring your own lunch.

We will have snacks and soft drinks available that morning before the event begins. Come join us on the 11th. We hope to see you there! **Please RSVP to tu420outings@gmail.com** and let us know if you will need a shuttle, a canoe rental or if you'd like one of our limited number of raft seats.

[Sparrowhawk Camp Directions](#)

Save The Date (Rescheduled)

There will be a special outing for the 420 Dave Whitlock Chapter of TU members in June.

If you have a current membership, you are eligible to register. This outing is limited to the first fifty verified members who RSVP at our website (tu420.com).

This event takes place at the Whitlock's residence, and all the necessary information will be emailed to



Below is a 420 Dave Whitlock Chapter drinking cup. Included with the cup are a metal straw and straw cleaner. Frank Kohn's ticket was drawn and we know that the refreshment drank from this cup will aid in the embellishment of many fishing tales.



Join us at our May General Meeting and you could be our next raffle winner.

Trout In The Classroom

Trout In the Classroom is winding down for 2024

What a whirlwind of activity these last few months have been.

It all started back on February 27th with the first of nearly a dozen trips to the lower Illinois River to release nearly 500 rainbow trout fingerlings. All of them were raised by over 400 students that participated in classroom activities and in the field trip release days.

all who have registered.

The date is Saturday, June 1st.

The 2024 All Fish All Oklahoma Fly Fishing Challenge



15 Species in 15 Weeks all On the Fly!

The 2024 All Fish All Oklahoma Fly Fishing Challenge website is now Open and taking Registrations. That's a mouth full for a tournament name, so it is affectionately referred to as the 15 x 15 Tournament because you have 15 weeks to catch 15 different species of fish. Please go to the tu420.com website and click on the orange button next to the 15x15 Tournament Challenge label. This will direct you to the Tournament's website where you can read the rules, Register for the tournament, and pay your entry fee. Here, you will see when the tournament begins and when it ends.

If you have never participated in a fishing tournament then this is a good entry into this world of fun and competition. You will find that the competition is all in good fun and that most everybody will try to help you complete the challenge. We aren't afraid to give up spots and tell you what flies work for each species. Although there are certain people (and they know who they are) that will tell you that the only fly you need is a Mop Fly! Personally, I use a variety of flies because I'm not as One Dimensional as they are. (joking)

In this Tournament/Challenge, there is the Individual Challenge (\$30 entry fee) and the Team Challenge (\$100 entry fee). There are awards for the winners of each of those challenges. Now, just because you complete the challenge first, whether Individual or Team, doesn't mean that you are the



I don't believe anyone can fathom the life changing experiences many of these kids had while they participated in the program. So many of them had never been to the LIR. So many of them had never experienced casting a fly rod. So many of them did not understand a bug's life in a real river, they saw it on paper, but on these trips to the river they see it firsthand.

The biggest surprise of the year; I've seen some large fingerlings over the course of these past 10 years... 2 inches, some 3 ... but NEVER have I witnessed a 7.5-inch trout that was raised at Union High School. The students noted that she, these fingerlings are all sterile females, was consuming from 2 to 5 of her sisters a week. Had they had her in the tank another couple of weeks the 12 remaining "survivors" would have most likely also been consumed. Talk about a learning experience! The students couldn't stop talking about her most of the day... and I'd bet many will remember their TIC program for years to come.



7.5 inch Fingerling

I had a lot of help getting the program going again this year ... too many people to call out by name ... tanks leaders for each tank and a handful of volunteers at each release ... THANK YOU to each and every one of you. It doesn't happen without you.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention Hager McClain "coach" as he was known ... a former TIC teacher at Catoosa High School for 3 years and a Tank Leader at Collinsville High School for 2 years. He lost his battle with cancer a couple months back. Rest in Peace Hager !

To see a recap of the year . please go to and join

winner. Completing the challenge just means that your name or Team will be entered into the drawing to win the Individual or Team challenge.

Then there is the Challenge within the Challenge, and this is the Big Fish Challenge. In order to participate in this part of the challenge, you must have completed an Individual Entry form, purchased an Individual Entry Fee, and use the 2024 Challenge Badge at the bottom of the Rules to create the Badge for your photo submission. (see, this is how I get you to READ the rules) There are 9 different species in the Big Fish Challenge. This year, several generous donors have offered special prizes for the winners of the Big Fish Challenge! Again, please read the rules as there are special requirements to post your Big Fish catches. These requirements will level the playing field for all competitors and make the Judging easier on the Judges. All Judge decisions are final. Here is a list of the Big Fish and their prizes:

1. **Rainbow Trout:** ½ day Guided trip for 2 on the LMF with Beavers Bend Fly Fishing. (Must be an agreed upon time schedule and booked in advance.) Value \$295.
2. **Smallmouth:** Selection of Smallmouth flies from Donovan Clary Fishing. \$250 value.
3. **Bluegill:** 1-year day pass to Sparrowhawk Resort on the Upper Illinois River. (Some restrictions will apply.) The winner will receive a vehicle sticker with a gate code. A sticker must be displayed, good for 9/1/2024 to 8/31/2025, a \$500 value.
4. **Largemouth Bass:** Custom made fishing knife by Brian Edwards Custom Knives. Value \$350.
5. **Striper:** Guided trip for 2 on Lake Texoma from Chris Gorman of KEKOA Outdoors. (Based on availability and scheduling in advance required.)
6. **Catfish:** (Any species, channel, blue or flathead) From River Banks Outdoor Adventures winner gets a guided trip on Lake Texoma to catch a world record... rod and reel, flyfishing or noodling. (Trip based on availability scheduling in advance is required.) \$400 value.
7. **Redear:** Sun hoodie, hat, and stickers from Okie on the Fly. \$60 value.
8. **Sandbass:** Gift assortment of a hat, a shirt and assorted sandbass flies from Big Daddy's Bait and Tackle store. \$75 value.
9. **Crappie:** Guided trip for 2 on Lake Eufaula offered by S & S Guide Service /Les and Keaton Standstipher. The trip is based on guide timing and availability.

Good Luck to all the participants and team

our Facebook group TULSA AREA TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM.

Scott Hood Youth and Adult Education Coordinator

Etc

Input Wanted!

You may not be Gadabout Gaddis, the flying fisherman, but you might be saying to yourself, I could talk for hours spinning tales about my fishing adventures.

We don't need an encyclopedia of anglers antics in the wild, but we are in search of a few tales or tips for our readers to enjoy.

Please don't hesitate to take a firm grasp of the keyboard and reveal to us your experiences or fishing tips (like how to tie a siamese silver beetle bug).

Forward your completed works in **Word format** and don't forget your **pictures** (JPEG) to: [Bruce Brewer](mailto:rbbrewer1@live.com), rbbrewer1@live.com

Concerning Your Address

Your home email address is preferred. Why? People change jobs and Company Servers are notorious for blocking your Streamline email.

All email addresses are for TFF/TU420 business only. We don't give out email addresses to anyone, ever!

Please copy and save the email address shown above. If your email address changes, please contact me right away with your new address. This will ensure non-stop delivery of Streamline.

Another Tip

Don't play the horses, No! **Vertical Response**, our email provider, has experienced difficulties with those using Microsoft addresses like: msn.com; outlook.com; hotmail.com.

Those using those addresses may not receive their Streamline. You can complain to your email provider or you can provide us with a gmail or yahoo address. Please consider this, if you are not receiving your Streamline, and we have your correct email. **Remember the first place to look, if you don't see your Streamline in your inbox, it's in your Junk Mail.**

members!

Phil Curtis
Board Member and Tournament Master

LIR Safety Tips

Gore Police Department: 918-489-5963 or 911

Local Game Wardens – 918-431-2550 or 918-431-2544

(to report fishing/hunting violations)

Gore response time is approximately 5 minutes.

If cardiac, call for help, start hands only CPR, pushing downward 2 inches on center of chest to the beat of "Staying Alive" by the Bee Gee's. If possible, please note time when CPR is initiated. Landmarks to assist emergency response: The Dam, Lower parking lot, Watts, and MarVal's. Also, let them know which side of the river you're on. Accurate information will allow for quicker response time.

If it is a swift water rescue, call 911, or Gore Police Dept, and they will respond in addition to Sequoyah County team.

If a medical transfer is needed, they will LifeFlight from the baseball field in Gore to either Muskogee or Sallisaw hospital.

Always a good idea to carry baby aspirin and Benadryl in your fishing gear. Also, a first aid kit in your vehicle shows that you think ahead.

Let's help keep our fellow angler's safe.

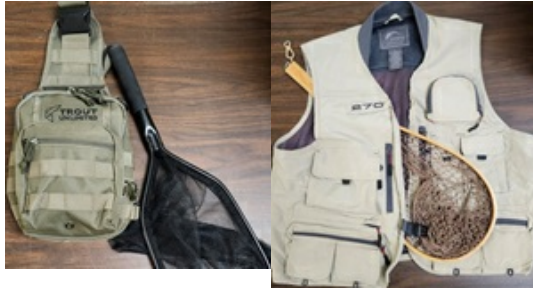
Life saving instructions courtesy Nurse **Binnie Jones**.

Trout and Trash



The old saying is that April showers bring May flowers. But what do May flowers bring? Pilgrims! Likewise, the coming of Spring brings TU420 members to the LIR for its annual cleanup.

May Raffle Prizes



In this month's raffle we have two prizes for two lucky winners.. Above on your left is a TU Chest Pack with Net. To your right above is a White River Vest and Net. Both prizes are valued at \$70 each.

Tickets are \$1 each with price breaks beginning at \$5. All losing tickets can be placed in our bin for the November Grand Prize drawing.



This year we are pleased to report that, except for areas next to roads leading to LIR access, less trash was found than in the past. Therefore, all the participants were able to put their full trash bags aside and get to do some fishing before lunch.

The water was a chilly 48 degrees and the it flowed at about 360cfs. These were perfect conditions for the trout and many anglers had a memorable day.

Riverside lunch was cheeseburgers prepared by chef Heath Tiefenauer with assorted chips and cookies. No one ever goes away hungry at one of our outings.

Please plan to come to our next outing and stay for the lunch.

Mark Your Calendar For These Coming Events

May 26th - Start of the 15X15 Tournament

June 1st - Member's Only Outing at Whitlock's Estate (RSVP at our website)

September 2nd - At Midnight, End of 15X15 Tournament

September 12th - Resuming of Monthly General Meetings at the Library

December 12th - Holiday Party at McNellies South (SAVE THE DATE!)

"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: Bruce Brewer, [\(951\) 533-0026](tel:9515330026), rbbrewer1@live.com

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