

## THE CLINCH RIVER ANGLER

### JULY CHAPTER MEETING

**When:** July 14, 7 pm (rain or shine)

**Who:** Linda Good

**What:** Linda will provide casting instruction and assistance to include casting basics and individualized suggestions for improving accuracy and distance.

A graduate of The Wulff School of Fly Fishing, Linda has incorporated her recent instruction from Lefty Kreh and changed her approach to casting instruction especially for beginners and for long distance casting.

From past clinics, Linda has received very high marks from our members; this session promises to be even better! Grab your favorite rig and join us.

**Where:** Grassy field at base of Norris Dam near the powerhouse entrance

### KIDS FISH FREE DAY-

Saturday, June 11 Over 45 kids meandered into the Chapter's tent to register and to learn about fishing, stream critters and ecology. Kids were intently watching & taking instruction from professors Buzz and Sarah on fly tying, others entered float boats and canoes, captained by Bill, Steve or Clayton; others waded taking instruction from their guides. Looking around the tent, small heads were peering around the aquarium learning about the recently trapped insects and fish. Chef Barry was applying his grilling (or was it grueling) wizardry on the hot dogs. General observations: kids and parents learning, having fun and hopefully gaining a lifetime passion for fishing. Kudos to Carol and the volunteers!



The Clinch River Chapter -  
dedicated to conserving,  
protecting and restoring the  
natural environment of the  
Clinch River Watershed

### MEMBERS IN ACTION

**Riverbank Restoration Project-** Project leader, Buzz Buffington, reports that this effort still is pending the issuance of permits from TVA which he hopes will enable us to start this month.

### *Did You Know?*-TVA's EFFORTS TO IMPROVE FISHABILITY OF NORRIS

*(This article was taken from TVA's "River Neighbors")*  
TVA uses auto venting turbines to improve water quality. Air flow is introduced into low pressure zones just below the turbines to create small air bubbles. Oxygen from the bubbles is absorbed into oxygen-poor water as it flows through the turbines.

A re-regulating weir provides added aeration and maintains

minimum flow downstream between periods of hydroelectric generation. The weir stretches across the river at Hibbs Island, about 2 miles downstream from the dam. A crib shaped structure built from 6 inch timbers and filled with loose rock, the weir creates a pool that is filled when power is being generated and then gradually drained through low level valved pipes when the turbines are off. The valved pipe allows a constant downstream flow from the weir as it drains. This minimum flow helps prevent river bed dry out and provides habitat for fish and other aquatic life.

TVA's program, completed in 1996, has increased dissolved oxygen levels from 1-5 milligrams per liter downstream of the dam.

TVA is preparing to pump oxygen deep into Norris Lake which should provide livelier trout downstream in the Clinch River. Aeration of the lake next to Norris Dam is underway. The bubbling of oxygen into the lake is slated for late summer.

The oxygen richer water improves aquatic habit and fish health, states TVA spokesman Gil Francis.

### ANGLER'S CORNER

Often good fish will feed in locations that the angler can reach only by a downstream or an across-and-downstream cast. A nymph is sometimes the best answer to this problem..

**CLINCH RIVER  
CHAPTER  
COMMITTEES,  
PROGRAMS and  
CONTACTS-2005**

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**Programs**

Kids Fish Free Day  
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Bio monitoring  
Dick Geiger

Coal Creek  
Barry Thacker

Weir Dam Clean up  
John Thurman

(Look for an activity which appeals to your interests and contact the lead person for more information or to volunteer your services.)

**.SPRING FILL ON TARGET**  
*(this article was selectively extracted from the "TVA River Neighbor")*

Susan Jacks, Manager of TVA's River Forecast Center, keeps a close eye on rainfall and runoff. She is pleased that the spring fill is about on schedule with most reservoirs being close to their targeted flood guide levels. Flood guides show the amount of storage space that is reserved for flood reduction. TVA is careful to keep the reservoir level below this line except for temporary storage of water to reduce downstream flooding.

2005 is the first spring fill under the new reservoir operating policy implemented by TVA in June of 2004. When summer pool levels are held up longer, the water sits in the reservoir longer. The longer it sits, the more time there is for organic matter to settle to the bottom. Since organic matter uses oxygen as it decays, oxygen supplies are depleted at lower depths. Knowing this, according to Jacks, we are holding levels up longer, monitoring oxygen levels and upgrading our aeration equipment to ensure that we continue to meet the oxygen target levels necessary to protect tailwater conditions."

Upgrades are planned at 12 TVA dams, including Norris., are scheduled for completion in 2006, requiring a capital investment of about \$17 million and will add about \$1.3 million in annual operating expenses. It's a necessary investment, says Chuck Bach, manager of TVA's Reservoir Releases Improvement program, in order to continue to meet the dissolved oxygen targets under the 1991 Lake Improvement Plan.

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