

ANGLERS' EDGE



CONSERVING, PROTECTING AND ENHANCING COLORADO'S COLDWATER FISHERIES THROUGH VOLUNTEERISM, EDUCATION AND OUTREACH.

Monthly Newsletter

West Denver Chapter of Trout Unlimited

October 2014, Volume 20, No.9

The President's Message

As we make our way through life, we all face dilemmas on what is considered correct and accepted. As far as fishing is concerned, for years I haven't faced many dilemmas. I fly fish, period; I try to remove barbs from the flies; I don't try to fight a fish for too long; I won't fish private property without permission; if a stream is too warm or the flow too low, I won't fish. And, I practice catch and release except in saltwater, but I make sure the fish is within the slot requirement. Recently, however, I have been faced with two dilemmas.

The first came when I was invited to fish some private waters in the South Park. The first time I fished it, I was introduced to the owner and met a group of people that use his property to camp and fish, mostly on weekends. I was told by the person who invited me that if I caught fish I should bring them to camp and later there would be a fish fry. I went off fishing by myself, catching a few trout. I couldn't kill any of them. When I got back to camp, I simply said I didn't catch any fish.

The next time I fished this creek, I was giving fly fishing lessons to one of the group. As we talked about fishing, I told him I was a catch-and-release guy. He asked if I had any problem with keeping fish. I told him I couldn't do it but, as long as rules were followed, I didn't have a problem. During our lesson, he did catch a fish which he kept. I'm sure he could tell I was uncomfortable with the situation, but he didn't say anything. The following day, I thought about what had occurred the day before. We were fishing a stream that had hundreds of fish in it. Was it wrong for someone to keep a couple? If this was public water that was heavily fished and the population was struggling, that might be different. But, this was a private stretch of water, well populated with fish. So, what was the problem? I still wouldn't keep a fish, but I guess there was nothing wrong with someone else taking a few fish. Incidentally, I haven't been invited back to the property.

The second dilemma occurred on a recent trip to Montana. We were going to fish four days in Montana, and spend a few days in Yellowstone as well. I've never fished Yellowstone, so I was excited. My friend told me that if we caught rainbows or cuttbows in certain Yellowstone waters, we were expected to kill them. These species are not wanted

in the basin where we were fishing. I told my friend that I wasn't sure if I could keep and kill these species. He told me to put them on the bank, and the bears would take care of them. On the way up to Montana, I dwelled on what I should do. I know that the cutthroat population benefits from getting rid of rainbows and cuttbows, but it's been a long time since I killed a trout. Because the weather turned bad, we never made it to Yellowstone and I was relieved of making a tough decision---and, I still don't know what I would have done.

I want to take a few lines here to thank Jon and Carolyn Weimer for publishing the newsletter for the past 8 years. I also want to thank Al Revzin for assisting Jon during this interval. Jon wants to do some more fishing and start writing again for outdoor publications, so he's looking for someone to take over (see article in this issue). So, if you or someone you know might be interested in taking over, see or call Jon. Thanks, Jon, for a job well done.

At our membership meeting October 1st, the speaker will be Reid Baker from Freestone Outfitters (see article in this issue). Reid has done a couple of presentations for us already, and he is always informative and entertaining. The November Chapter meeting (Friday, November 7th) will feature Landon Mayer as our speaker. This will be a special event in that we'll have a chili dinner, with beer and wine available. There will also be a silent auction. Please plan on coming.

Finally, our fund-raising season is quickly approaching, and we are going to need flies for our "Fantasy Raffle" and a number of auctions. So, if you're interested in tying some flies for the Chapter, please contact me. Thanks.

Fishing has been great—so get out. Just be careful, however.

Tim Toohey

Want a Fishing Buddy?

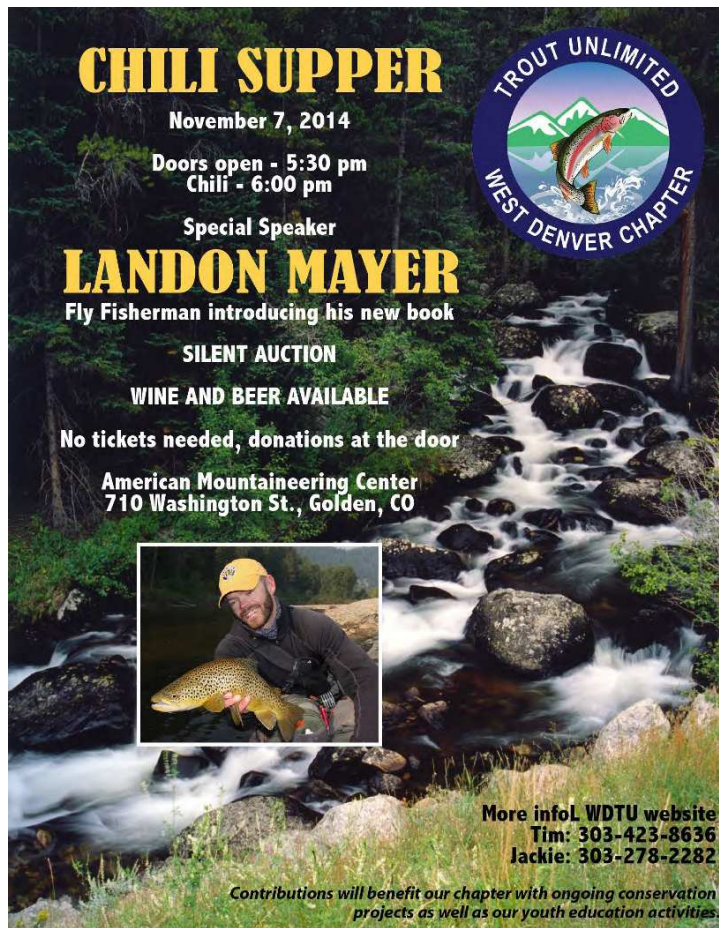
If you want to find a Fishing Buddy, or volunteer to be one if asked, contact Gil Hassinger by reaching him at <gh9172@comcast.net> or (303-980-5616).

Wanted: Newsletter Editor

For almost eight years, I've been the editor of the **ANGLERS' EDGE** newsletter. It's been a fun ride, with a few road bumps along the way (along with a few awards). But, I think it's time to call it quits and turn it over to someone else. In terms of criteria or requirements needed to take over this position, I can list a few: (1) knowledge of at least one publishing software program; (2) the ability/motivation to solicit articles from members of the Chapter; (3) the ability to edit other people's work; (4) the ability to write articles; and (5) the ability to aggressively solicit advertising.

I was fortunate that I had a spouse (Carolyn) who had experience with desktop publishing software—I could simply hand articles over to her, and she would, magically, put everything together into a nice little package. If you can find such a partner, so much the better for you. It's a fun job---that's why I stayed with it so long. However, I felt I was getting stale and was afraid that staleness would start appearing in the newsletter. Someone new can perhaps inject some new energy and a new perspective into the newsletter. So, if you believe you may be interested in this position and/or know of someone whom you feel would be a good candidate, let me know. You can reach me at either 303-830-1609 or at weimerj@earthlink.net.

Jon



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Tim: 303-423-8636
Jackie: 303-278-2282

Contributions will benefit our chapter with ongoing conservation projects as well as our youth education activities.

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janbturner@hotmail.com or

[facebook.com/mountmassivecabin](https://www.facebook.com/mountmassivecabin)

Water Conservation Day---October 11

On October 11, H2O Car Wash, a Protect Our Rivers donor, is hosting an event called Water Conservation Day. The purpose is to raise money for protecting Colorado rivers. Proceeds from car washes that day will go directly to Colorado Trout Unlimited.

If you're going to have your car washed, have it done at H2O Car Wash, located at 1101 Town Center Drive, Highlands Ranch. If you have any questions, contact Tim Toohey at either tim2e@comcast.net or at 303-423-8636.



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Full Page Size:	\$45.00	\$250.00	\$450.00

Call Jon Weimer at 303-830-1609 for more information.

Praising Flood Recovery Efforts

On September 12, several Chapter members (Jackie and Glen Edwards, and Jon Weimer) joined other State chapter members and several staff from Colorado Trout Unlimited (CTU) to commemorate the one-year anniversary of the floods that devastated communities along the Front Range. These Trout Unlimited members joined several local dignitaries to praise the recovery efforts of the small community of Lyons. Senator Udall was present to not only congratulate Lyons for its flood recovery efforts, but also to laud the impact that the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has had the past 50 years in helping towns like Lyons respond to natural disasters. Congress is in the process of reauthorizing the LWCF, and Senator Udall was calling for bipartisan support to fully fund this program.



Photo courtesy of Jackie Edwards

The above photo shows Senator Udall at the microphone flanked by Stephanie Scott (CTU's Outreach Coordinator), David Nickum (CTU's Executive Director) and Cindy Domenico (County Commissioner, Boulder County).

Grey's Reef Trip

Last year, the Chapter took 2 trips to Grey's Reef in Wyoming. The fishing is terrific. Member John Vialpando organized both trips, and he has agreed to sponsor another one for the October 10-13 weekend. John's planning also involves setting aside a number of cabins in the small community of Alcova, Wyoming, adjacent to the North Platte river. According to John, a couple of cabins are still available so, if you're interested in going on this trip and/or want more information, contact John at either 303-903-8801 or jvialpando@gmail.com. I hope to see you up there.

WDTU Shirt Logo

Jackie Edwards has made arrangements with a vendor to have an official WDTU logo imprinted on your shirt for just \$5. This program was initiated several years ago and has gained popularity. You simply need to bring your shirt to the October Chapter meeting, and give it to Jackie. She will take care of the rest.

A Note About Email Address Changes

A number of you have changed email addresses without telling us. Thus, you, or friends of yours, may no longer be receiving the Electronic Anglers' Edge. PLEASE notify at least one of us whenever you change either your email address, snail mail address and/or telephone number so that we can communicate with you quickly and efficiently. Thank you.

Jon Weimer <weimerj@earthlink.net>
Al Revzin <the-editor@mindspring.com>
Jackie Edwards <jorgedwards@aol.com>
Linda Miyamoto <sullimoto@gmail.com>

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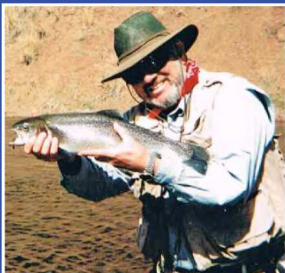
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Important!

We need some good used or new items for our upcoming Fly Tying Clinic---specifically, for our large bucket raffle and a silent auction. Items could include, for example, flies, day trips, rods, reels, and even fishing-related gift cards and books. Contact Tim Toohey at either 303-423-8636 or at tim2e@comcast.net. Thanks.



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Guest Speaker for October 1 Chapter Meeting—Reid Baker

Freestone Outfitters is recognized as one of the premier guiding services in Colorado. And, our guest speaker on October 1, is recognized as one of the premier guides. Reid is the guide manager for Freestone and, in 2013 was selected as Freestone Outfitters “Guide of the Year”. He grew up on the trout and steelhead waters of Oregon, but attended the University of Colorado (where he headed up a trout fishing club). I’ve fished with Reid. His knowledge and infectious enthusiasm for fishing is amazing. While not guiding, he travels the world, fly rod in hand. On October 1st, he’s going to discuss winter fishing tactics, an appropriate topic with the winter season quickly approaching. You won’t want to miss this presentation.

Guest Fly Tier—Bruce Beck

Our guest fly tier for our October 1 Chapter meeting will be Bruce Beck. Bruce is a fairly new member of our Chapter, and he has already been an extremely active participant in our youth education activities and our fund-raising events. In addition to his fly tying skills, he promises to show us several examples of his Gyotaku (fish rubbing) prints that he produces for art galleries. Be sure to show up early (about 6:30 PM) to see Bruce in action.

Volunteers Needed for River Watch

The River Watch program, under the auspices of the Division of Parks and Wildlife, is designed to monitor the water quality of various watersheds in the State. WDTU participates in this program on a stretch of Clear Creek in the Golden area. Gil Hassinger (303-980-5616) leads the WDTU effort, which generally occurs on the 4th Saturday of every month. Give Gil a call if you’re interested. Participation in this program affords you not only an interesting, but also an educational experience.

Facebook

In addition to having a Facebook group (WDTU Fishing Trips), we now have a Chapter Facebook page. To find it, open up a Facebook page and search for “West Denver Trout Unlimited”. So far, we have added events for Joseph’s Journey, the Bowling Night, the monthly Chapter meeting and the Chapter Picnic. We think that this will be an easy way for all to see what is coming up and to sign up to attend or take part in the event.

Since this is still in its infancy, there isn’t too much content yet, but we hope to make this page a way of keeping in touch and, hopefully, keeping members involved in Chapter activities. Suggestions for improvement of the page are gratefully welcomed. Please take a moment to look over the page and let us know what you think.

Dan Sullivan

WDTU General Calendar

2014 - October

- 1 Tying Corner/Welcome 6:30 PM
Chapter Meeting
Speaker: Reid Baker, Freestone Outfitters
NEW MEETING PLACE:
American Mountaineering Center (AMC)
Corner of 10th & Washington, Golden
- 4 Chapter Planning Meeting--The Edwards
- 11 Water Conservation Day
- 18-19 CTU Fall Board Meeting, Grand Junction

2014 - November

- 7 Annual Special Event-AMC
Speaker: Landon Mayer
- 10 Board Meeting 7:00 PM, 300 HH, CSM*

2014 - December

- 3 Tying Corner/Welcome 6:30 PM
Chapter Meeting-AMC
Speaker: Jim Cox, West. Rivers Conserv.
- 8 Board Meeting 7:00 PM, 300 HH, CSM*

Note! *Our board meetings are held in Room 300 (Williams Room) in Hill Hall on the Colorado School of Mines Campus.

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Clear Creek Watershed Festival

On September 20th, the Clear Creek Watershed Festival was held in Idaho Springs. Basically, this event represents a celebration of Clear Creek---its revival as a vital waterway for rafters, hikers, sightseers, and anglers. As some of you know, Clear Creek used to be the poster child for environmental abuse. A number of local governmental and private-sector entities had booths at this event. West Denver had a presence at the event, one booth devoted to teaching people how to tie flies (the top photo below shows Marty Crawford helping youngsters), and the other booth serving as an information center (the lower photo below showing Miles Williams and me taking a break).



Photos courtesy of Bruce Beck

WDTU Email Service

Our Chapter has been using an email service to distribute our newsletters and other communications for about a year. Recently, we began using a service called Salsa, which is provided free of charge to the Chapter by Colorado Trout Unlimited. At the bottom of every one of our communications is a link labeled "unsubscribe" that you can use if you wish to be removed from the mailing list. The problem is that we cannot discriminate between the types of emails you wish to be excluded from. That is, we do not have the mechanism to allow you to continue getting the newsletters, for example, but not other types of emails. So,

if you unsubscribe from **any** of the emails, you will be taken off the mailing list for **all** emails from WDTU.

Dan Sullivan

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Photos for Our Website

We are in the process of redesigning our website. One of the features that we are really excited about involves the use of photos from our membership as background to the pages. To that end, we would like to begin asking our members to send in theme-specific photos. This month we are asking for pictures that show a parent and child or grandparent and grandchild taking part in some fly fishing activity.

Please send your high-quality digital photos to:
Wdtu.email@gmail.com. Thanks.

Dan Sullivan

Woods Creek Road Obliteration

On Friday, September 19th, a small contingent of West Denver volunteers met up with a larger force of U.S. Forest Service employees on Woods Creek, above Urad Lake. We all pitched in to seed and mulch about a mile of old road near timberline. Kelly Larkin, U.S. Forest Service Fisheries Biologist at Idaho Springs led the work gang. On a short break that was need by me to rest my limbs, Kelly obliged by explaining some of the logistical features of this project. She explained:

Bales of shredded wood or straw were hauled up the old road by all-terrain vehicles. A one-man ATV could carry four bales. A larger six-wheeled Ranger type ATV could carry nine or ten bales. The bales were staged along the road edge at about 15 foot intervals. A mile of road absorbed about 350 to 400 bales. Each bale was intended to mulch an area about 10 feet wide by 15 to 20 feet long.

After the bales were in place, the entire road was ripped with a tracked backhoe, starting at the top of the road and working down.

The seed mixture came from Western Native Seed in Coaldale, Colorado and contained the following seed: Rocky Mountain Fescue, Thurber's Fescue, White River Mountain Brome, Fringed Brome, First Striker Slender Wheatgrass, Pryor Slender Wheatgrass, Fringed Sage, and Orange Mountain Daisy. The seeding rate was planned to be 90 to 100 seeds per square foot.

We walked/scrambled up two miles of ripped-up road and then started back down. Two people led the way, hand scattering the seed. At the end of our work, Kelly offered her sincere thanks for our help. She said that seeding and mulching the old road above Woods Creek is a step toward reintroduction of greenback cutthroat in Woods Creek.

Here are a few photos of the project:



The above photo shows the walk-in. Everyone carried seed sacks. The two I carried were of lunch-bag size.



The above photo shows the difference between the seeded and mulched road up above and the ripped-up road to be mulched in the lower half of the picture.



The above photo is of our leader, Kelly Larkin. Chapter member Tom Fuller is on the right in the photo.

Rick Dornfeld, WDTU Conservation Director

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Do you want to be active in our conservation activities and join our Rapid Response List?

Circle: Yes or No

Program

October 1, 2014: American Mountaineering Center
6:30 - 7:30 PM: Welcoming & Fly Tying Demo
7:30 - 8:45 PM: Speaker: Reid Baker,
Freestone Outfitters

West Denver Chapter Trout Unlimited Organization And Officers: 2014

Chapter Officers and Directors:

President:	Tim Toohey	303-423-8636
Vice President:	Jackie Edwards	303-278-2282
Past President:	Jon Weimer	303-830-1609
Secretary:	Dan Sullivan	303-423-5616
Treasurer:	Judy Jones	303-881-3644
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Membership:	Linda Miyamoto	303-423-5616
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Trout Unlimited:

“Founded in 1959, TU is the leading conservation organization dedicated to conserving, protecting, and restoring, North America’s trout and salmon fisheries and their watersheds. Our 100,000 members are organized into 450 local chapters nationwide. These volunteer chapters are the “watchdogs” of their local rivers and streams. They conduct stream restoration projects, monitor legislation, and fight for “fish friendly” policies with state and local officials. Through its Washington DC-based national headquarters, TU conducts valuable scientific and economic research to foster more enlightened trout and salmon management practices, lobbies to strengthen environmental legislation like the Clean Water Act and Endangered Species Act, and provides a voice for its 100,000 members.”



Anglers' Edge@

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	Linda Miyamoto	303-423-5616

We want your contributions such as guest editorials, letters-to-the-editor, photographs, trip reports, etc. Send them to the Editor by e-mail <weimerj@earthlink.net> or to Jon Weimer, 700 Washington St. Suite 809, Denver, CO 80203.

All materials are subject to editing. Text (word document) and graphics/photos preferred JPG. Please check with the editor before submitting files.

Please send postal change-of-address information to: Linda Miyamoto at sullimoto@gmail.com

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