



Monthly Newsletter

West Denver Chapter of Trout Unlimited

June 2014, Volume 20, No.6

The President's Message

West Denver has several events coming up in the next couple of months. First, at the June Chapter meeting, we will have two Colorado Trout Unlimited (CTU) speakers---Stephanie Scott who is CTU's Outreach Coordinator, and David Nickum, Executive Director. David will talk about the advances that CTU has made in the State this past year—for example, Windy Gap and Frasier River Pact, plus some of the disappointments that have occurred. Hopefully, he will let us know what to expect from CTU in the coming months. Stephanie has spent most of the last 6 months putting together a CTDU Colorado Water Plan. She will be going over this very important document, and will tell us why this issue is so important.

Another important date is June 7th---the day that we help out at the Joseph's Journey event (see accompanying article in this issue). This is one of those “feel good” situations in which we help to sponsor a fishing derby for terminally-ill children and their families. In June we also have a cookout fundraiser at the Bass Pro complex; the dates are June 14 and June 15. This event has turned into one of our major fundraisers. If you want to help with this, we can always use more help, so contact me at tim2e@comcast.net.

We'll have our annual picnic in Lions Park in Golden on the evening of August 6th. The Chapter supplies the meat---hot dogs, hamburgers---and members bring a side dish. You can bring alcohol if you wish, but preferably in cans or plastic cartons, not glass. This has been a very popular event in the past, so mark this event on your calendar. If you plan to attend, contact Jackie Edwards at jorgedwards@msn.com or call her at 303-278-2282 so we can get a count on the number of people to feed.

Then, on August 16th, we have another cookout fundraiser at the Wheat Ridge Carnation Parade event, held at the Wheat Ridge Bowling Lanes site. In addition to the parade, there's an antique car show. Again, we cook and sell hot dogs and hamburgers while watching the parade and admiring the cars. Contact me if you would be interested in helping us out.

Finally, there will not be another newsletter until August. And, we don't have a Chapter meeting in July---nor, in August because of the picnic. Happy fishing!

Tim Toohey

A Gift!



Nick Adler (L), fishing manager for Golden River Sports, presents a check to President Tim Toohey, reflecting revenue generated from a fly fish film festival hosted by Golden River for the benefit of our Chapter. The Chapter received

a little over \$900 from this event. Thanks, Golden River Sports! (Photo courtesy of Joe Cunningham).

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 June Chapter meeting, and give it to Jackie. She will take care of the rest.

AE Advertising Rates to Reach 1,200 Readers:

	1 Month	6 Months	1 Year
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Half Page Size:	\$35.00	\$165.00	\$285.00
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Call Jon Weimer at 303-830-1609 for more information.

Grey's Reef

Three hundred miles from Denver is the small community of Alcova, Wyoming, which is thirty or so miles west of Casper. There isn't a single traffic light in Alcova, nor are there many paved roads. With full-time residents far and few between, it is mainly a vacation destination for folks who enjoy boating on one of the reservoirs in the vicinity, as well as anglers who have discovered the many fishing



opportunities on the nearby North Platte River, including Grey's Reef.

The place to stay there is the Inn at Alcova which has several cabins that have full kitchens and are immaculate, comfortable, and very affordable. Be sure to get reservations in advance as the Inn is booked solid for almost the entire season. You will probably want to bring your own food to prepare since there are no restaurants in the area other than the bar which, as expected, serves bar-style food. We usually stop at a Safeway in Casper to load up on food for the stay. The cabins also have dishes, silverware, and cooking utensils, so cooking is pretty convenient. Check-in for the cabins take place at Sloan's General Store which is just off



the turnoff from the highway and right before you get to the

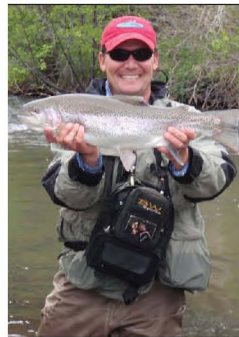
cabins. The store is a 7-11 style market that sells most of the stuff you usually forget to bring along.

We usually stop at a local anglers' shop whenever we fish in an unfamiliar area to find out where, when, and what to use when fishing. The Reef Fly Shop is where we stop when we travel there. They offer all the usual paraphernalia you typically find in such a shop as well as offering guide services and float trips. They also gave us a guide map provided by the Bureau of Land Management that shows all the fishing spots available in the area, which is very useful.

Our most successful days on the river have been when we took a guided float trip. This is pretty much true of anywhere we have fished away from Denver. On the two float trips we took on the North Platte, we were able to catch many very nice Rainbows, usually 16 to 20 inches long, very strong and beautifully colored. The guides gave us more instructions on how to fish that stretch of the river than we could possibly remember, but the parts we do remember serve us well when we wade the river on our own. A lot of folks hunt for brown trout that migrate out of the reservoirs, fish that reach sizes of 24 inches plus. One thing we did learn is that you need to be on the river at sunset. That is when the bugs become active and fish rise to the surface in droves. It seems that the fish tend to strike flies of a certain size rather than at specific patterns.

In the past, we've driven through Casper many times, usually on our way to Yellowstone, Idaho, or Montana, without realizing that there were any fishing opportunities anywhere near there. It was only when WDTU member John Vialpando sponsored a Chapter trip there that we learned about the area. We enjoyed it so much that Linda and I have joined in all three of the trips that John has sponsored. If you haven't fished Grey's Reef, it's worth a try. Thanks, John, for arranging these trips.

Dan Sullivan



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Guest Speakers for June 4th—David Nickum and Stephanie Scott

Our parent organization, Colorado Trout Unlimited (CTU), works tirelessly as an advocate and conservator for our rivers. Two representatives from CTU will be our guest speakers at our June Chapter meeting—David Nickum and Stephanie Scott. David has been the Executive Director of CTU going on 15 years and has been the steady hand at the helm during that time. Stephanie is fairly new to CTU (about 2 years) and is the Outreach Coordinator. Both David and Stephanie will review CTU's successes for the past year, and give us a peek what will involve CTU in the near future. They'll also give us a status report on Colorado's Water Plan, a plan which is supposed to provide a blueprint to ensure a secure water future for the State (West Denver had input into this document). Hope to see you there.

Guest Fly Tier---Tucker Bamford

Our guest fly tier at our June 4th Chapter meeting, Tucker



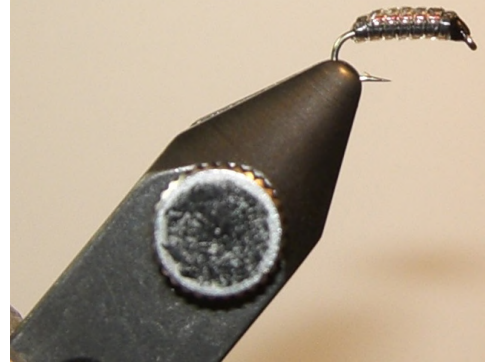
Bamford, is a native of Colorado and has been fly fishing the waters of the State for the last 20 years. He began by fishing backcountry lakes and streams, and eventually he transitioned to tailwater fisheries in search of trophy trout. These days you never know if you will find him on a popular trout river, a remote backcountry lake, or on a local reservoir searching for northern pike or tiger muskies.

Tucker has made his living for the last 12 years in the fly fishing business. He had a short stint guiding for the Blue Quill Angler shop, but now focuses his time on the retail end, currently working as the fishing manager at the Orvis Company store in Park Meadows, where he teaches many how to fish and tie flies.

He started tying his own flies at the age of 12, shortly after learning to fly fish, and has been doing so ever since. His focus in the last few years has been on "guide flies", stuff

that doesn't take much time at the tying bench, but which are effective at fooling large, wary fish.

Although he has created many fly patterns over the years, the one he is most proud and fond of is the Laser Larva (see accompanying photo). It was created specifically to imitate a hatching blood midge on the South Platte. It is a unique midge pattern that has proven extremely effective on many tailwater fisheries. The first day after using the fly, he said... "I actually felt sorry for the fish and left the river after catching 20 or so in less than 2 hours. It was almost too easy." He is convinced that there is no more effective pattern for fishing the South Platte in the winter months. And, it works periodically throughout the rest of the year as well. So, if you want to try out a new midge pattern, look for the Laser Larva in an Orvis store near you. Actually, if you want a preview of this midge, attend our Chapter meeting on June 4th. His other creations include the Bamford's Baetis, Tucker's Trico, Rubber Bucky, Wire Chironomid, Bam-Bam Craw Bugger, and a bunch of others. If you want to see Tucker tie, get to the meeting early (about 6:30 PM).



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We Have a Winner!



At our May Chapter meeting, we held the drawing for our fantastic Fantasy Raffle. And, the winner was Hugh Swanke, from Cheyenne, Wyoming (a couple of years ago, a guy from Santa Fe, New Mexico won, so the out-of-town guys are having success).

Hugh says he bought only one ticket, but is not sure at what venue (Merchandise Mart or Colorado Convention Center). Regardless, he won a package that has a retail value of about \$3,900, including a custom-made bamboo rod, spooled reel, and a whole bunch of fly fishing accouterments. Congratulations, Hugh.

Chapter Picnic!

We are planning on having the Chapter Picnic on Wednesday, August 6th, at the West Pavillion of Lions Park in Golden, the same location that we've had the picnic the past several years. The format will once again be Pot Luck, so bring your favorite side dish, salad, dessert or munchies to share with other Chapter members.

The Chapter will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, condiments, soft drinks, and water. Condiments will include tomatoes, lettuce, shredded cheese, tortillas, etc. You can bring your own alcohol to drink (beer, wine) but no glass containers are allowed.

If you wish to attend and/or want more information, please contact Jackie Edwards at either jorgedwards@aol.com or 303-278-2282. Please let us know if you'll be there and how many will be in your party. We just want to make sure that we have enough vittles. Hope to see you there. It should be a lot of fun.

WDTU General Calendar

2014 - June

- 4 Tying Corner/Welcome 6:30 PM
Chapter Meeting
Speaker: Stephanie Scott & David Nickum, CTU
NEW MEETING PLACE:
American Mountaineering Center (AMC)
Corner of 10th & Washington, Golden
- 7 Joseph's Journey
- 9 Board Meeting: 7 PM, 300 HH, CSM*
- 14-15 Bass Pro Father's Day Cookout

2014 - July

- No Chapter Meeting-Gone Fishing
- 14 Board Meeting: 7 PM, 300 HH, CSM*

2014 - August

- 6 Chapter Picnic-Lions Park, Golden
- 11 Board Meeting: 7 PM, 300 HH, CSM*
- 16 Wheat Ridge Bowling Lanes Auto Show Cookout

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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Help Wanted!

Our Chapter has a longstanding relationship with the Windy Peak Outdoor Laboratory program operated by the Jefferson County School system. Sixth graders spend a week out of the school year at the Windy Peak facility, which is about 12 miles from Bailey, Colorado. In addition to nature studies and recreational activities, such as archery, the teachers may request that our Chapter provide selected students with a session combining basic fly tying, entomology, and conservation. Then, weather permitting, we help them fish a pond on site, using the fly they have tied---with the chance of catching a rainbow, a cutthroat, or a brookie.

This has been a very popular activity with the students and teachers, and we have had great support from the Principal and staff at Windy Peak. But, most importantly, we can do our part to provide future citizens with basic knowledge, and to stress the importance of the responsible use of cold water resources.

Many Chapter members have volunteered over the years, but we need more help---from those who can tie and those who will help with the fishing activity. Three or four volunteers are needed each time. Classes of about three hours each consist of 10-12 students in the morning session and another group in the afternoon after the lunch break. We usually car pool in the morning and arrive back to town around 5 PM. Typically, we will go up there on a Wednesday or Thursday. And, volunteers who bring their own rods have been known to try their luck on the pond.

Please contact Ric Tarr (303-233-9391), rictarr@gmail.com, or an member of the Board.

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Joseph's Journey, June 7th—Volunteers Needed!

Our Chapter is again working with Joseph's Journey at their annual Fishing Derby, Saturday, June 7th at the Waterton Canyon Ponds in Waterton Canyon. Joseph's Journey is an organization that sponsors terminally-ill children and their families in order that they can experience the great outdoors. Invitations are extended to any child and his/her family from hospitals around Denver.

We need volunteers for this event to either (1) set up; (2) help the children and their families with their fishing needs (e.g., baiting hooks, casting, removing fish off the hook); (3) help with the cooking; and/or (4) help take down everything involved to make this day the success it has been for past 15 years.

This can be one of the most satisfying and fulfilling activities in which you can be involved. If you're interested in participating and/or want more information, please contact Bob Untener at 303-517-0892.

Greenback Trout Restoration Projects

The status or lineage of the "greenback" has been turned upside down in light of results from the new genetic and meristic research that has been conducted. However, there are some upcoming prospective projects for greenback restoration that will be of interest to West Denver members: Dry Gulch and Herman Gulch in the Clear Creek headwaters are two potential small population sites (about 2-2.5 miles each). It's possible that at least one of these streams will be subject to greenback restoration this year. Regardless, restoration at each project site will require coordination among the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Forest Service, the Colorado Department of Transportation and, possibly, the Loveland Ski Area. Keep tuned


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Bass Pro Cookout Fund Raiser—Volunteers Needed!

For the past several years, we have been allowed by the Bass Pro people to set up a concession stand in front of the Bass Pro complex and sell hot dogs and brats (along with chips and soft drinks). It's been a successful fund-raising event for us, and we're going to conduct it again this year—on Father's Day weekend (June 14-15).

We're going to need volunteers to staff our concession stand--people to cook, people to serve, and people to make change. It's a fun time. You meet some interesting people and Bass Pro provides discounts on selected items in their store. If you're interested in helping out and/or want more information, contact either Jackie Edwards (jorgedwards@aol.com; 303-278-2282) or Tim Toohey (tim2e@comcast.net; 303-423-8636).

Election of Officers

Several years ago, there was a change in the Chapter's election process. Previously, the election of officers took place in September. Now, however, the nomination and election of officers take place in May/June, and the newly elected officers assume their duties the following October. At the May Chapter meeting, the following people were elected:

President: Tim Toohey
Vice-President: Jackie Edwards
Treasurer: Judy Jones
Secretary: Dan Sullivan

Congratulations to these elected officers. They should serve us well.

Donations

Some WDTU members have inquired whether or not they can submit unsolicited donations to the Chapter. The answer is "Yes". If you wish to donate money, checks should be made payable to West Denver Chapter of Trout Unlimited, and then either mailed to our Treasurer Judy Jones (837 Meadow Run Golden, CO 80403, or presented to her at a Chapter meeting. If you wish to donate fishing-related merchandise (for example, rods, reels, flies, etc.), contact Tim Toohey at (303) 423-8636 or <Tim2e@comcast.net>.

Our Chapter is tax exempt under code 501(c)3. Therefore, all contributions are deductible on your Federal tax returns. If you so desire, you can designate your monetary donation be applied to a specific project or purpose, as well as setting up a matching donation program. If you want additional information about WDTU's projects and/or want to discuss your intent for a donation, you may contact me (Jon Weimer) at either 303-830-1609 or weimerj@earthlink.net.

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

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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Circle: Yes or No

Program

June 5, 2014: American Mountaineering Center
6:30 - 7:30 PM: Welcoming & Fly Tying Demo
7:30 - 8:45 PM: Speaker: Stephanie Scott and
David Nickum, CTU

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
Assistant Treasurer:	Chuck Lehman	303-238-1929
Education:	Ric Tarr	303-233-9391
Membership:	Linda Miyamoto	303-423-5616
Conservation:	Rick Dornfeld	303-882-0423

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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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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