



ANGLERS' EDGE

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

Bi-Monthly Newsletter

West Denver Chapter of Trout Unlimited

October 2017, Vol. 23, No.4

www.westdenvertu.org



Our Mission

To conserve, protect and restore North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

Our Vision

By the next generation, Trout Unlimited will ensure that robust populations of native and wild cold-water fish once again thrive within their North American range, so that our children can enjoy healthy fisheries in their home waters.

Who We Are

Founded in Michigan in 1959, Trout Unlimited today is a national non-profit organization with 150,000 members dedicated to conserving, protecting and restoring North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds. Our staff and volunteers work from coast to coast to protect, reconnect, restore and sustain trout and salmon habitat on behalf of today's anglers and coming generations of sportsmen and women who value the connection between healthy, intact habitat and angling opportunity.

From forested rivers like the Farmington in Connecticut to the pristine waters of Alaska's Bristol Bay and all points in between, TU's work spans nearly a million miles of cold water all across North America. TU is the most effective coldwater fisheries conservation organization in the country. Donors invest in TU because we get things done on the ground, in statehouses and on Capitol Hill.

TU has a basic approach to its conservation strategy. First, we use the best available science to protect headwater spawning habitat for trout and salmon. We reconnect tributaries with their rivers to ensure resilience, and we restore waters where development has impacted trout and salmon and the opportunity to fish for them. Second, we sustain our work on the ground by:

- Using the best science to drive conservation priorities
- Promoting and maintaining a strong legal and regulatory framework to protect fish and fishing opportunity
- Connecting with passionate anglers who want to give back to the resource they value so much
- Increasing our ability to engage TU members in conservation by training, educating and building a strong community of angler advocates
- Connecting with generous donors and helping them give to the fish they cherish and the places they love
- Helping members connect and communicate with one another via our website, TROUT Magazine and the TU Blog

From the Penobscot in Maine to the South Fork of the Snake in Idaho and west to the Klamath in Oregon and California, TU and its staff and volunteers work on the ground in hundreds of places, protecting, reconnecting and restoring trout and salmon habitat for the benefit of today's anglers and generations to come.

If you're interested in becoming a part of TU and giving back to the fish and the places you value, become a member and help us 'save the world, one trout at a time.'

West Denver Chapter Trout Unlimited Organization And Officers: 2017

| | | |
|----------------------|----------------|--------------|
| President: | Jackie Edwards | 303-278-2282 |
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| Past President: | Tim Toohey | 303-423-8636 |
| Secretary: | Curtis Weller | 682-225-7669 |
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| Membership: | Linda Miyamoto | 303-423-5616 |
| Conservation: | Rick Dornfeld | 303-882-0423 |

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| Women's Fly Fishing | Geri Reffel | 303-902-6998 |
| River Watch: | Dennis Wiles | 720-404-7821 |
| Programs: | Tim Toohey | 303-423-8636 |
| Joseph's Journey: | Bob Untener | 303-517-0892 |
| Public Relations: | Brian La Rue | 303-835-8003 |
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| Fantasy Raffle & Sports Shows: | Bob Clark | 303-594-0665 |
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| Assistant Webmaster: | Dan Sullivan | 303-423-5616 |
| Directors at Large: | Glen Edwards | 303-278-2282 |
| | Cal Noguchi | 303-452-1030 |
| | Jon Weimer | 303-830-1609 |

Anglers' Edge

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| | Linda Miyamoto | 303-423-5616 |

We want your contributions such as guest editorials, letters-to-the-editor, photographs, big fish photos, trip reports, etc. Send them to the editor via email at rosyranunculus@gmail.com.

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The President's Message

Well folks, as you can see, fall has arrived. This means winter is not far behind. For some, it could be a difficult decision, whether to gather up the leaves as they flutter to the ground or whether to go fishing before the creeks slow their summer flow and then become iced over. Tip: look up to see how many more leaves are yet to fall – you may have time for a couple more nearby fishing trips before that last one can't hang on any longer.

Fall is a time of year that the chapter ends its fiscal year and it now becomes alive with activities. Our first big event is the November Chili Supper. This year will be similar to the past. Bring a crockpot of your favorite chili recipe on November 4. Further details are on the chapter website. A new fundraiser for 2017 that was kicked off in May is our Guided Trip Raffle. The drawing for the winning ticket will happen during the November Chili Supper. Take a few minutes to get your ticket and help make this fundraiser a success. Ticket information is on the chapter website.

The Chili Supper is a chapter function that could not happen without the volunteer team of many of the spouses of our fishing members. Those who always step forward again begin with Linda Miyamoto who manages to pull together a gaggle of volunteers. I feel it is important to recognize them: Jody Smith-Calmus, Joyce Clark, Nancy Dornfeld, Kathy Greenwell, Sharon Hassinger, Rose Portillo, Denise Rivera, Carol Tarr, Sandy Toohey, Carolyn Weimer, Katy Wiles, George and Lorna Brown, Judy Jones-Fraikor, and Fred Fraikor, and Jodi Taylor. I apologize if I have overlooked other loyal volunteers. A big "Thank You" to all of you for giving your time.

We are always grateful for those who step up with their talents and time without having to be individually notified. This happened recently for the stream cleanup where volunteers from two other TU chapters, Cutthroat and Cherry Creek, worked the stream banks along Clear Creek in the Idaho Springs area. Usually, the same faces year after year. I cannot thank you all enough.

Our repair work that was hoping to be done on the damaged structures at Mayhem Gulch later this summer has been put on hold during the brown trout spawning season. Early winter could cause further delay until after the 2018 spring runoff.

Keep an eye on the chapter website. It is loaded with useful information.

In the meantime, lets go fishing!!

If the fish aren't biting, find a soft rock, rest your rod safely against a nearby bush or tree, lay back and gaze skyward to locate a lazy cloud that may form into the shape of that fish you were trying to catch.



WE WANT YOU!



We would like to add regular columns to *Anglers' Edge*, written by and about our members. Some ideas we've batted around are: Fly Shop Profile, Member Profile, Volunteer Opportunity, Local Fishing Hole, Favorite Fly, Gear Tip, Guide Profile, Trip Report. We're open to other suggestions, as well.

If you'd like to write up a 300-500 word piece that fits any of these categories, please email it, with a few pictures, to the editor, Alexa, at rosyranunculus@gmail.com. If you're more of a photographer, email cover shot submissions, as well.

We look forward to learning more about you!

Roger and Me

*Story and Photos
By Ed Calmus*



I recently visited the small creek in the White River National Forest where, over 40 years ago, I caught my first fish on a fly. I was thinking of my mentor Roger Reid, my then father-in-law. Roger was an avid outdoorsman, a psychologist, and a successful author. He loved skiing, hunting, fishing, and camping in Colorado's high country, and often took me with him. He passed away in April of this year.

Roger loved teaching, and he began my education as a fly

fisherman. Or, more correctly, as a dry fly fisherman. Roger only fished dry flies, and he primarily fished just one, the H&L Variant. It was also known as Ike's fly, as it was a favorite of President Eisenhower.



(Click here for a history of the fly)
The fly's white calf tail wings and tail make it a very easy fly to see.



As a novice fishing only a dry fly, and lacking any real skills, I experienced many fishless days early in my fly fishing career. But, that was then.

Now I was standing alone in the creek, in a beautiful high country setting, on a mild, overcast day with a prolific bug hatch. I returned to Roger's style of fishing, ditching the dry/dropper setup for a single dry fly.

It was a day I will never forget – the best day ever fishing the creek. As I returned to the car, I stopped to remember and appreciate Roger. He made me a fly fisherman, which changed my life so much for the better. Forever grateful? Roger that!



Volunteers Needed!

The time has come again to think about the upcoming spring fishing events. We are in need of volunteers for the Fly Fishing Show and the International Sportsmen's Expo, both of which are in January. The Fly Fishing Show dates are January 5th, 6th, and 7th and the International Sportsmen's Expo runs January 11th, 12th, 13th, and 14th.

This is one of the largest fundraisers for our Chapter. It

is a great opportunity to meet people, raise funds for our conservation and education activities and engage the public in Trout Unlimited and its activities.

We need to fill over twenty more shifts for the two January events. Please contact Bob Clark at Ridenfish@msn.com if you are interested. We will also have more venues coming up during the year, so volunteer soon and often!

Win A Guided Fly Fishing Trip!

What if you had the chance to win an all-day, all-expense paid fly fishing trip for yourself and a companion with a noted guide? How great would that be? Well, you have that chance, so take advantage of it.

On May 8, our Chapter kicked off a guide raffle, a unique fund-raiser that we've initiated for the first time. This is the way it works: You buy a ticket for \$20 (or you can buy 3 tickets for \$50). The drawing takes place on November 4, and you need not be present to win. If you have the winning ticket, we then go to a second drawing to determine which guide, from a list of 12 guides, provides your trip. This list of 12 guides is illustrious: Jack Bombardier, Kerry Caraghar,

Pat Dorsey, Greg Felt, Nick Herman, David Lovell, Landon Mayer, Austin Paar, Dan Pass, Chuck Prather, Gene Rea, and Anne Reid. No matter what guide is selected, you can't go wrong!

The raffle winner and selected guide will decide the date and location of the trip, which must occur before 2019, subject to the guide's availability. You can purchase a ticket at one of our upcoming Chapter meetings or through our website (www.westdenvertu.org/). The website can also provide you with more details and/or contact Jon Weimer (303-830-1609).

WDTU Offering Sponsorships for the Fly Tying Clinic

West Denver TU is working toward improving its annual Fly Tying Clinic. Better raffle, more tier recognition, enhanced communications, and so on.

We are offering sponsorships for major portions of the event. Sponsors can receive everything from recognition on promotional materials, features in Anglers' Edge and our

website to a display table, a speaking opportunity, and a TU Business membership.

If you know someone who would be interested in learning more about the Clinic sponsorship program, please let Tim Toohey (tim2e@comcast.net) or Ed Calmus (ed.calmus@gmail.com) know.

A Note About Email Address Changes

Please notify at least one of us whenever you change your email address, snail mail address and/or telephone number so we can communicate with you quickly and efficiently.

Jackie Edwards
Linda Miyamoto

jaxedw@gmail.com
sullimoto@gmail.com

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

WANTED: New Members!

We are always looking for new members to join West Denver Trout Unlimited. To join our Chapter, simply follow this [link](#) for more information on Chapter and National TU membership. Make sure you specify Chapter # 130 when registering. With your membership in West Denver TU, you will receive the bi-monthly newsletter, invitations to all of our Chapter meetings, and opportunities to participate in all of our conservation and volunteer activities.

THE DENVER AMERICAN INDIAN FESTIVAL

Members of WDTU participated in the 4th annual Denver American Indian Festival held at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church in Thornton. The dates were September 30th and Oct 1st. The event featured vendors from the Native community, dancers, drummers, and native food. WDTU was one of the few non-native organizations to be offered the opportunity to have space there.

WDTU has, for the last two years, collected spinning and casting rods, reels, and gear. This gear is cleaned and reconditioned by the group and taken to different reservations and handed out to needy kids. We are collecting again this year so bring your usable spinning and casting equipment to a meeting or contact Tim Toohey at tim2e@comcast.net.



Jackie and Glen Edwards at info tent



Ed Calmus offering some pointers



Steve Simms tying



Fred Portillo tying

Build The Channel To Fit The Flow, Part 2

Story and Photos

By Rick Dornfeld, WDTU Conservation Director

As the years go by, more people move to Colorado and place more demands on the finite water supply. This article continues a topic introduced in the last Anglers' Edge edition about how something can be salvaged for trout when river flows are diverted for human use. The take-away message is this: when a dedicated minimum streamflow can be combined with a constructed channel that fits the depleted flow, trout and trout fishermen will like the outcome. Here's an example to make this point:

A major alteration to the North Platte River created several reservoirs in Wyoming. Pathfinder, located west of Alcova, WY, is one of them. The flow out of Pathfinder is diverted through an eighteen-foot-diameter tunnel to produce electricity and to irrigate crops. This diversion left four miles of river channel high and dry most of the year. All that is changed now: Travis Cundy, habitat biologist with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, provided the information summarized below.

A landowner said "yes" to the project idea of creating a low-flow channel within the larger historic river channel. You can envision a "nested channel" constructed within the big channel that, over eons, carried the unrestricted flow and sediment from the watershed. The energy within the Wyoming Flycasters group resulted in an easement deal on the private land. In 1997, the Bureau of Reclamation built a low flow outlet in Pathfinder dam and committed seventy-five cfs year-round flow. The Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) designed the low-flow channel by sizing the channel to fit the prescribed flow and adding appropriate pool spacing. When all was ready, WGFD supervised channel construction.

Obviously, this project was not done in a day. People invested years of time to put all the pieces together. During that time, a four-mile reach of the North Platte went from a condition of essentially no flow in an oversized natural channel to a condition of continuous regulated low flow in a constructed channel.

The flow through Fremont Canyon is steady year-round and the constructed channel functions like a spring creek. It's not the large free-flowing North Platte anymore, but habitat is there on a smaller scale. Trout and trout fishermen like the outcome. So, here's the conclusion: This kind of solution to the problem of diminished flows is applicable in other streams and can be viewed as a model. The West Denver Trout Unlimited (WDTU) Board of Directors likes this kind of solution. WDTU made this point last year in comments to the State of Colorado on the Colorado Water Plan (CWP). Here is the WDTU position as stated in the CWP:

"The likely future scenario is one of diminished quantities of water flowing within stream channels that were "built" by nature to carry larger flows. The results of this scenario in many cases are unstable channels and poor trout habitat. However, it is also true that some dams have improved downstream conditions for trout in terms of water quantity, water temperature, and trout food supply. The point still stands that water projects that result in low flow outcomes should include, at project expense, the cost of sizing and shaping downstream channels to efficiently carry diminished flows. The concept is simply to match the channel bed and banks with the flow and sediment supply that come from the watershed."



Here is my 1999 photo of the “no-flow” condition in Fremont Canyon.



Here are two photos from Travis Cundy of the constructed 75 cfs channel. The top image from Travis is from the same vantage point as my 1999 photo. The bottom image is from a different angle. A Wyoming fishing guide calls this river reach a hidden gem of a wade fishery.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Windy Peak October 4th

Windy Peak is Jefferson County's Outdoor School, located near Bailey. West Denver TU teaches classes in conservation, stream entomology, and fly tying.

October Chapter Meeting October 4th

Guest Speaker: Shelley Walchack tells stories from her new book, 52 Rivers

Shelley will share stories from her book about her solo journey through the seven Rocky Mountain states fly-fishing a river a week through snow, wind, rain and blistering heat. Her book, "52 Rivers: A Woman's Fly-fishing Journey" chronicles her successes, failures and love of the sport and the outdoors.

Just about everyone has dreamt of taking a year off to fulfill a dream. Librarian Shelley Walchack lived her dream by giving up her job at the Colorado State Library to fly fish a river a week for a year. She bought and outfitted a camper, purchased camera equipment and a computer and hit the road. She decided to stay in the Rocky Mountain States – Colorado, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, Wyoming, Montana and Idaho. Her photographs and blog posts of her journey became the book 52 Rivers.

Guest Fly Tier:

Regina Musyl

Regina Musyl is the Co-Director of the WDTU Fly Tying clinic. In her professional life, she is the Professional Services Director at Mortgage Cadence.

Board Planning Retreat October 7th

Fly Tiers' Night Out October 17th

West Denver TU and Grand Lake Brewing are hosting a fly tying night. All levels of tiers are welcome. We need some of our advanced tiers to help the people just

getting started. Fly donations for WDTU's Fantasy Raffle are greatly appreciated.

October Clear Creek Water Sampling October 25th

FINAL RIVER WATCH OF THE SEASON

West Denver TU samples water quality and bug life at several stations along Clear Creek. We meet at the Mayhem Gulch parking area at 9:00 am. Volunteers are always welcome.

Windy Peak October 26th

Windy Peak is Jefferson County's Outdoor School, located near Bailey. West Denver TU teaches classes in conservation, stream entomology, and fly tying.

November 4th Chili Supper and Drawing for the Guided Fishing Trip Raffle

Guest Speaker:

Dan Pass WDTU member, guild, owner of Dan Pass Reality

Peter Stitched, owner of Ascent Fly Fishing

Nick Herman, owner of Arbor Anglers

Guest Fly Tier:

Greg Garcia

December Chapter Meeting December 6th

Guest Speaker:

Greg Felt, owner of Arkanglers and Chaffee County Commissioner

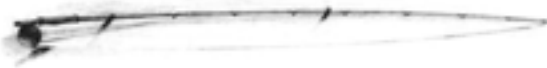
January Chapter Meeting January 3rd

Guest Speaker:

Karin Miller, owner of Zen Fly Fishing Gear

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|-----------|---------|----------|----------|
| 1/8 Page | \$3.50 | \$21.00 | \$38.00 |
| 1/4 Page | \$7.50 | \$42.00 | \$70.00 |
| 1/2 Page | \$18.50 | \$82.00 | \$142.00 |
| Full Page | \$22.00 | \$125.00 | \$225.00 |

Email Jon Weimer for more information.



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ABOUT TU

West Denver Trout Unlimited

The West Denver Chapter, Trout Unlimited (WDTU, TU chapter #130) is a member-driven 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is conserving, protecting, and enhancing Colorado's coldwater fisheries through volunteerism, education, and outreach.

WDTU was founded in Colorado in 1974, and now has over 900 members across western metro Denver, including Lakewood, Golden, Morrison, Englewood, Littleton, Wheatridge, and Arvada. Our conservation and community outreach projects include the restoration and water quality monitoring of Clear Creek, Jefferson County school programs, and Joseph's Journey. The chapter's membership meets regularly at the monthly chapter meeting (except July). These meetings are free and open to the public.

WDTU's governance also relies directly upon its members, who generously volunteer their time and effort to achieve the chapter's mission. The WDTU Bylaws provide details on the chapter's governance. The chapter's Board of Directors has a board meeting every month (separate from the chapter meeting). Members are welcome to attend board meetings and are encouraged to volunteer to be an Officer or Director.

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."



www.tu.org



www.westdenvertu.org



www.coloradortu.org

WDTU CALENDAR

October

- 4 Windy Peak
October Chapter Meeting
- 7 Board Planning Retreat
- 17 Fly Tiers' Night Out
- 25 Clear Creek Water Sampling
- 26 Windy Peak

November

- 4 Chili Supper and Drawing for
the Guided Fishing Trip Raffle
- 6 December Chapter Meeting

January

- 3 January Chapter Meeting

Note:

Chapter Meetings are held at the American Mountaineering Center, 710 10th Street, Golden, Colorado 80401
6:30 - 7:00 PM: Welcoming-Fly Tying Demo
7:00 - 7:30 PM: Chapter Business
7:30 - 8:45 PM: Speaker

Board Meetings are held at the Old Capitol Grill, 1122 Washington Ave., Golden, Colorado 80401

