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 2018, Vol. 24, No.5

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 coldwater 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: 2018

President:	Jackie Edwards	303-278-2282	
Vice President:	Ed Calmus	303-744-2940	
Past President:	Tim Toohey	303-423-8636	
Secretary:	Curtis Weller	682-225-7669	
Treasurer:	Matt Rivera	303-425-9351	
Assistant Treasurer:	Chuck Lehman	303-238-1929	
Education:	Laura Beer	520-591-3136	and the second sec
Membership:	Linda Miyamoto	303-423-5616	The second s
Conservation:	Rick Dornfeld	303-882-0423	
Other Directors:			
Advertising Mgr:	Jon Weimer	303-830-1609	All and a second s
Anglers' Edge Editor:	Alexa Metrick	303-910-9176	
Assistant Editor:	Jon Weimer	303-830-1609	
Chapter Counsel:	Bruce Ducker	303-861-2828	
Communications:	Jackie Edwards	303-278-2282	
Database Manager:	Dan Sullivan	303-423-5616	
Fly Tying Clinic:	Bruce Beck	303-667-3887	
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	
Fly Tying Corner:	Tim Toohey	303-423-8636	
Raffles:	Tim Toohey	303-423-8636	
Fantasy Raffle &			
Sports Shows:	Bob Clark	303-594-0665	
Webmaster:	Ed Calmus	303-744-2940	
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	and the second second
			and the rest of the seals

Anglers' Edge

Published six times per year by the West Denver Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Editor:	Alexa Metrick	303-910-9176
Assistant Editor/		
Advertising Mgr:	Jon Weimer	303-830-1609
Photography:	Dr. John Pern	
Circulation:	Jackie Edwards	303-278-2282
	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 <u>rosyranunculus@gmail.com</u>.



on the cover: fly rod in a travel case at a high mountain lake photo by Alexa Metrick

The President's Message

These past two years have been filled with lots of activity for the West Denver Chapter. That has caused the years to go extremely fast. It reminds me of the old man who said that the older we get, the more life is like a toilet paper roll: the closer to the end, the faster it unwinds. Oh, so true—time does not slow down for anything.

Our chapter has put many miles of footwork into some of the new water monitoring technology. The Limnology Project, as well as the water sampling for the River Watch program, continues to scoop up bits of important information I think we will see as beneficial when we get the results back. Are our high lakes and watershed streams getting warmer? These programs will benefit the fisher people for a very long time.

Transplanting species of fishes into waters to help them better survive is another important piece of work the chapter has been doing Those with the strong backs who helped transport the young fishes to their new environment I am sure better understand how important a fish population is to help sustain a particular strain that was thought to be gone.

Another big "Thanks" to all the many, many volunteers who stepped up for all our events. This has helped to maintain a very strong and active chapter. We can't overlook the work the newsletter editor has done!!!! Keep up the good work, folks!!!!!!

It has been a very good two years!!! The gavel now gets transferred to Ed Calmus, our new chapter president.

Jackie

If the fish aren't biting, find a soft rock and take a short nap to help the warm afternoon roll by until the sun is ready to dip below the mountain tops when the fish become actively jumping in hopes of catching something for a meal from the hatch that is just coming off.

Happy fishing and happy catching!!!!!

Llamas and Goats, Packing Together

story and photos by Alexa Metrick reprinted with permission from Pack Animal Magazine (*www.packanimalmagazine.com*)



Gayle Woodsum and Nan Hassey with pack llamas and pack goats on a recent trip into Colorado's Hunter-Fryingpan Wilderness

assumed the trail on the north side of the pass would match that of the south side of the pass. I was wrong.

A ghost of a trail appeared and disappeared through the scree and boulder field that fell off the north side of the saddle, but it completely disappeared once we made our way out of the rocks. Little trickles of water wandered down the sides of the surrounding mountains. In our search for the path we knew must be there, we mistook most of the trickles for trails until we splashed into them. Then it started to drizzle, and we gave up on finding a trail and simply picked our way between the spots of marshy, spongy ground and the dense thickets of willows.

We were heading for the Fryingpan Lakes, which were reportedly chock-full of trout. We almost made it. Almost.

The day before, we had started out at the North Fork Lake

continued on page 8



by Ed Calmus



few years ago, I lost a big fish on the Blue River because my net was too small. I wear my net hanging from the back of my vest; it makes for easy walking through willows and other streamside brush. My net was just fine for the 8- to 12-inch fish I generally caught in the small freestone streams of Colorado and could even handle the occasional 14-incher, but when I tried to net that big Blue River tailwater rainbow, my net proved totally inadequate. The fish flipped itself right back out of my net and promptly swam downstream, right between my legs. The leader to fly line connection caught on the tip of my rod, bending it between my legs, too.,By the time I managed to free the fly line and spin around, the fish was right below me and pulling hard. He straightened out my hook, a size 24 dry fly.

Needless to say, I quickly went out and bought a bigger net. It still hung on my back, but could comfortably net fish of 20 inches. All good, I thought.

Well, this summer I was having a great day on the North Platte when I hooked a huge brown. It would let me bring it close before easily swimming away. As I gazed at the fish, I thought: 1. This is the biggest brown I have ever hooked, and 2. I will never be able to net this thing!

What to do? I didn't want to play the fish to exhaustion, as I had measured the water temperature and it was in the low 60s. I remembered I had a camera with me, so I decided to try to take some pictures of the fish when I was able to bring it close. I snapped off a few, and then tried to net the fish. Way too large for the net, he easily flipped out and headed downstream. I pulled back and broke the fish off.

At least I have this picture of "the one that got away!"

I Savor Savery Creek

by Jon Weimer photos courtesy of Savery Creek Outfitter

B ack in 2013-2014, when I was editor of this newsletter, our Conservation Director, Rick Dornfeld, wrote a number of articles that revolved around Savery Creek in Wyoming. Rick at one time owned a company, Riverfixer LLC, that worked on stream habitat projects, including a few stretches on Savery Creek. Savery Creek, as Rick described it, is a tributary of the Little Snake, originating in Wyoming's Sierra Madre and flowing south and west to a confluence with the Little Snake near the hamlet of Savery, Wyoming. In one of his articles entitled "The Left-Handed Scraper," he describes how, while wading late in the day surveying and staking the construction work for the following day, he came across a strangely configured red rock which he surmised (and, I think correctly) was a hide scraper for a left-handed individual—a tool that was probably used at least a couple of centuries ago. I think Rick believed that this article would catch my eye because he knew of my interest in prehistoric Native American cultures.

continued on page 10



Llamas and Goats, Packing Together

continued from page 5



Spot the pack llama looks out over the lake, unnamed but full of natives, at the top of Fryingpan Pass.

Creek Trailhead near Aspen. As we were three near-strangers coming from three corners of Colorado with five animals between us, we were on the trail only four hours later than we had planned. Not bad, considering all the trip's variables.

Fortunately, the goats and llamas took to each other without any problem, we figured out a trail order that made everyone happy, and we hiked an easy couple of miles to the base of the pass and set up camp well before dusk.

Nan Hassey, a 39-year-old pack goat breeder from Rye, Colorado brought three goats: two packers and a milk goat. Gayle Woodsum, a 62-year-old writer and community organizer from North Fork, Colorado who has been packing with llamas since 1998, brought two llamas: one was an 18-year-old semi-retired pack llama and the other a rescue llama that had spent four months running wild in the mountains above Fort Collins before being rescued and had never been on an overnight pack trip before. continue on the other side in the same manner that it had delivered us to the top of the pass. My Navigation columnist, Dr. Phil Romig Jr., never would have made that mistake. But then again, I tend to take after my father, Charlie Hackbarth, and follow my gut when I'm out on the trail.

If we had started earlier and had abandoned the search for a trail sooner, we would have made it to the lakes. But our green llama had been signalling her skepticism of our leadership since the boulder field and Gayle had been using too much energy trying to convince her that we knew where we were going, so the final push to the lakes was abandoned late on the second day.

I'm just guessing, but I think we camped less than a mile from the upper Fryingpan Lake. But since I was the only angler in the group, I was unable to get the votes needed for

continued on page 12

however, and tried to make myself useful in other ways. I was also the planner of and navigator for the trip. A few years back, I had hiked to the unnamed lake at the top of Fryingpan Pass and knew the trail was pack-animalfriendly up to that point. I could see the Fryingpan Lakes off in the distance and I assumed that the trail would

As the editor of *Pack Animal*, I had instigated the trip but brought no animals. I did bring the kitchen,

UPCOMING EVENTS

October Chapter Meeting October 3rd, 6:30pm to 8:30pm American Mountaineering Center, Golden

Michele White will be presenting her fishing atlas, "Lesser Known Fly Fishing Venues in South Park"—a complete compilation of every public access on the South Platte river system. Michele White is a retired international exploration geologist. She owns Tumbling Trout fly shop in Lake George, Colorado and is a professional fly fishing guide. She has been fly fishing and rowing a dory (she is a certified boat handler) on the great rivers of the west for 20 years.

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

Karin Miller from Zin Fly Fishing and April Archer from SaraBella Fly Fishing. They will have a table is and have their equipment there. It's shaping up to be a big night!!!

Stream Cleanup Volunteering October 6th, 9:00am to 3:00pm

Deckers Store, 8043 E. Bucknell Place, Deckers

October 6th, Colorado Trout Unlimited is celebrating the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act 50th Anniversary with a South Platte River cleanup. To celebrate the 50th anniversary of this landmark legislation, Colorado TU is joining with the Coalition for the Upper South Platte and the US Forest Service to host a day of service on the South Platte River near Deckers, with volunteers helping to pick up trash along the river corridor.

October Board Meeting/Planning Retreat October 13th, 6:30pm to 8:00pm BEC POS, 5610 Ward Road, Arvada

Annual Planning Retreat October 13, The Board is meeting for an extended planning session, in lieu of the regular October Board meeting.

Fly Tiers' Night Out

October 16th, 7:00pm to 8:30pm Grand Lake Brewing, 5610 Yukon Street, Arvada

West Denver TU and Grand Lake Brewing host a fly tying night on the third Tuesday of the month, from August through June. Besides craft beer they have a full menu. All levels of tiers are welcome.

WDTU Colorado River Watch

October 31st 9:00am to 11:30pm Clear Creek Meeting Area, Mayhem Gulch Trailhead Parking Lot, Clear Creek Canyon Park

Colorado River Watch WDTU participates in the Colorado River Watch water quality monitoring program. Led by WDTU member

Dennis Wiles. We will meet at the Mayhem Gulch parking lot at 9:00 AM and then car pool to the three sites.

November Board Meeting

November 12th, 6:30pm to 8:00pm Golden Public Library, 1122 Washington Ave, Golden

Fly Tiers' Night Out

November 20th, 7:00pm to 8:30pm Grand Lake Brewing, 5610 Yukon Street, Arvada

West Denver TU and Grand Lake Brewing host a fly tying night on the third Tuesday of the month, from August through June. Besides craft beer they have a full menu. All levels of tiers are welcome.

Windy Peak

November 28th, 7:45am to 5:00pm Windy Peak Outdoor Lab School, 20973 Wellington Lake Rd, Bailey

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

December Board Meeting

December 10th, 6:30pm to 8:00pm Golden Public Library, 1122 Washington Ave, Golden

Second Monday of every month December 10, 6:30 - 8:00 pm Golden Public Library 1019 10th St, Golden

Fly Tiers' Night Out December 18th, 7:00pm to 8:30pm Grand Lake Brewing, 5610 Yukon Street, Arvada

West Denver TU and Grand Lake Brewing host a fly tying night on the third Tuesday of the month, from August through June. Besides craft beer they have a full menu. All levels of tiers are welcome.

Fly Fishing Show 2019 January 4, 2019 - January 6, 2019

Mark your calendars! The 2019 Fly Fishing Show is scheduled in Denver for January 4, 5, 6 2019. There will be opportunities for our members to volunteer at our booth at the show.

Fly Tying Clinic February 9th, 9:00am to 3:00pm Jefferson County Fairgrounds, 15200 W 6th Ave, Golden

The West Denver Chapter of Trout Unlimited is proud to present its 43nd Annual Fly Tying Clinic on February 9, 2019 at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds.

Savery Creek

continued from page 7



This article piqued my interest on another level as wellhow good was the fishing in Savery Creek? According to Rick, it is excellent. Coincidentally, this sentiment was reinforced when, one day when I was staffing a WDTU booth for our Fantasy Raffle at the Fly Fishing Show, I found that an adjacent booth was occupied by Savery Creek Outfitter. Savery Creek Outfitter sits on a 10,000 acre ranch through which approximately 18 miles of Savery Creek flows. The outfitter provides guided fishing (and hunting) trips on this ranch. I found myself wandering over to their booth to watch rewinds of a tape showing anglers catching spectacular-looking fish in spectacular-looking country. At one of these shows, a WDTU member (Ric Tarr) who was helping me at our booth asked if I would be interested in booking a trip with him with Savery Creek Outfitter. I told him I was interested, and let's set it up.

We were originally scheduled for mid-June 2018, but I had to bail out because of a health issue, so we re-booked the

trip for mid-August. The Outfitter's representative, Kody, indicated that June would be an excellent time to fish Savery Creek, particularly if I were a dry-fly advocate (which I am). He said that a problem in August is that there is a release of water from a reservoir that month which makes it less conducive to good dry fly fishing specifically and to good fishing in general. However, he guaranteed that we would catch fish anyway.

Ric and I fished for 2 days. Although the fishing wasn't hot and heavy, we indeed caught fish—nice ones at that. We caught mostly rainbow, although I caught a few browns that our guide, Brice, thought was an anomaly. In the Savery there are what they call Tiger Trout—a hybrid between a brown and a brook trout. We never caught any Tigers, but Brice swears they are the most savage, aggressive trout in the water. In the afternoon of the last day of fishing, Brice took us to a pond (small lake) on the ranch. He fitted us with *continued on page 11*

ADVERTISER'S SPOTLIGHT

by Jon Weimer

DLA & Company—Dale Anderson

(This article is part of a series of articles providing background information on our paid advertisers and reflecting our appreciation of their support over the years).

s you may have noticed, we have a rather eclectic array of paid advertisers in our newsletter. Fly shop owners and fishing guides predominate, but the worlds of art, optometry, real estate and financial management/planning are also represented. DLA & Company is a financial planning firm that has advertised in the AE for close to eight years.

Dale Anderson, owner of DLA & Company has been in the financial services industry for over 25 years, and founded DLA & Company in 1985. Dale says his company is committed to helping individuals and business owners pursue their financial goals. He particularly enjoys working with people who are looking for guidance in creating, building, and maintaining their retirement goals and objectives. What I like about Dale's approach is that he recognizes that everyone has their own financial comfort level, and he sees it as his job to help his clients to discover what that level is and help them reach it. Dale is a Coloradoan (degree from Northern State University) and is an ardent angler. In financial management/planning, it's important that you find someone in whom you trust and have confidence. Dale may be that person.



Registered Representative, Securities offered through Cambridge Investment Research, Inc., a Broker/ Dealer, member FINRA/SIPC. Investment Advisor Representative, Cambridge Investment Research Advisors, Inc., a Registered Investment Advisor. DLA & Company and Cambridge are not affiliated.

Savery Creek

continued from page 10

2 X leaders and told us to "hold on," for there were some behemoths in the pond. There were some nice fish in that pond, some of which we caught, some of which we lost. I can't close this article without telling you about the big one that got away. I had this hit—and the line started zipping off the reel. Brice told me to let him run (as if I had a choice). I was approaching the backing of the reel, when the fish broke the leader (2 X, mind you). As I've told this story numerous times, I'm sure I've added a little hyperbole along the way. By the time I finally finish telling this story (I think I can milk it through the winter), the size of this lost fish will approximate that of Moby Dick.

The lodging, the great meals, and the guide service (mandatory) will cost you a few bucks, but the trip is worth every cent. As an aside, if you have no shame (I certainly don't) you may want to ask for the "Rick Dornfeld special", i.e., if you can claim that you and Rick are real tight, they may give you a slight discount. Rick is revered in that neck of the woods. If you think you might be interested in fishing Savery Creek, get hold of Kody at either kody@ saverycreekfishing.com or at 307-380-7278.

Llamas and Goats, Packing Together

continued from page 8

an early morning start to the lakes for a bit of fishing before we turned around to head back up and over the mountain. I will admit, however, that I may not have campaigned as enthusiastically as I could have. Hiking without a trail is always more exhausting than I think it will be.

The next day, the animals, sensing a return to the barn, never complained about the pace and we were at the edge of the lake that sat in the saddle of Fryingpan Pass in time for lunch. We arrived in the midst of a huge hatch and, after scarfing down a PBJ, I caught a pretty cutthroat on my second cast. Nan and her goats and Gayle and her llamas headed down the switchbacks toward our first night's campsite while I stayed behind and fished a while longer. Before the hatch ended I got a few more bites and one on the line that took my fly. Fishing alone at a high mountain lake is a rare treat, and the solitude is both peaceful and unnerving, especially as you watch storm clouds pile up on one side of the pass and then break apart as they cross over. There's electricity in the air even if no storms materialize.

On the way down from the pass, I thought about how well the animals worked together on the trail. Goats and llamas have a lot in common as far as trail companions go: neither of them make much noise, and they both go at a human's pace. The milk goat that provided fresh milk for my morning coffee, the scrambled eggs, the French toast, and the Alfredo sauce was unfamiliar with the concept of staying on the trail, but everyone else hiked in line at a steady pace. The animals are quiet, but you feel their presence. Nan and Gayle both speak to their animals as if they expect a response, leaving me as the fifth wheel, talking to myself.

The other benefit of both llamas and goats is their size: horses and mules have been the traditional pack stock in the U.S., but demographics have changed drastically in the last one hundred years. There are fewer people who grew up around horses an fewer still who can, in the face of high land prices, afford to keep horses for recreational packing. But both llamas and goats require less: less space, less upkeep, less husbandry knowledge. They are easier to manage on the trail, exponentially safer around children and folks who have little experience around large animals. They can't carry nearly the same weight as a horse (generally speaking, a llama can carry twice as much as a goat and a horse can carry twice as much as a llama) and you can't ride them, but they'll get you deep into the backcountry and leave little to no impact on the land as they do it. And due to the everincreasing number of people who are enjoying our public lands, minimal impact is going to be an essential component of preserving that land.

We hiked out to the trailhead the next morning in a constant but light drizzle, and were back at the cars before we realized the trip was over. Fortunately, it took us a long time to get Gayle's fifty-foot rig back out onto the highway, so we didn't get on the road home at too early an hour.

After an hour on the road, cell phones suddenly find service and messages and voicemails start rolling in and you fight the urge to turn around and head back in, deep into the mountains and away from the responsibilities of daily life, back to where three strangers, three very different women, enjoyed a dozen miles on the trail together with little in common but the love of the backcountry and the pack animals who make it possible.



On the Arkansas River: The River Giveth and the River Taketh Away

by Jim Rubingh, author of Colorado Greenback Cutthroat Trout, A Fisherman's Guide *photos by Ed Calmus*



Dart I – The River Giveth

Nile, a fishing buddy, and I leave at seven and are fishing by about nine. Absolutely beautiful day.

We park where 24 crosses the river and hike upriver about half a mile. Put on a hopper and fish some promising water along the edges and some other slow water. Add a caddis and have the same results (as in nothing). Try a BH nymph dropper, get one half- hearted strike by small fish. Miss him. About 10:30, I put the hopper and dropper in a pretty nice hole and from deep down a log rises up to it and, to my amazement, opens its mouth and swallows the hopper. I eventually set the hook and the log turns into the biggest trout I've ever seen in Colorado and probably the biggest that has ever taken my dry fly anywhere. I'm a bit in shock and instead of wisely getting in the river downstream and maybe keeping him from getting in the rapids and heading downstream, I stay on the shore and watch him do exactly that. I have on a 5x tippet and I know it says it's good for a 6.5 lb fish but holy crap this fish is massive (I know at least 20 inches) and I don't think I can stop him without breaking him off. I scramble with him down below the rapids and start working him closer. I actually have my net out (not sure he'll easily fit but, being an optimist, I carry a pretty big net) when

continued on page 14

Arkansas River

continued from page 13

he sees me and takes off across the river. My reel is clicking like crazy as he takes line (I think this may be my favorite sound in the entire world) and heads toward something on the opposite shore. What he's heading for is a big hole in the bank surrounded by submerged branches and sticks. Suddenly the pull of the fish becomes the pull of a snag. Damn! I am not giving up. I reel in line until I get across the river and following the line with my hand reach all the way back until I feel the fish still pulling on the line. I back my hand up until I find the branches he's wrapped around, unwrap the line and pull the line and the fish out of the hole. It works but he sees me and takes off like a bat out of hell.

By this time Nile has joined me and watches, holding a small brook trout net (this would easily land 99.99% of the fish I've ever caught but wouldn't even take this fish's head) as the fish flies past him into the next rapids and down the river. I go stumbling after him and finally get below him and start cranking him into the net. About thirty seconds later he's in the net. We both (the fish and I) collapse exhausted. We measure him (being an optimist I carry a tape measure)– 21 inches and incredible shoulders and girth. Beautiful Brown trout colors. This is by far the biggest trout I've ever caught on a dry fly and the biggest trout I've ever caught in Colorado. After about a minute after he swims off, I'm still sitting.

The rest of the morning is somewhat uneventful: one pretty 11-incher on the nymph and a couple of 6- to 7-inchers. If only the day would have ended here. Instead, we break for lunch and drive downstream for a different part of Hayden Meadows.

Part II – The River Taketh

After parking downstream, we hike upstream about ¹/₄ mile before starting to fish. A few reasonable holes but no takes. As I'm walking downstream I suddenly stumble on some rock wrapped in wire holding up the bank (or it was a stick, mud, or my own feet?). Anyway I'm heading down and instinctively drop my rod so as not to land on it and crush it (I've already had to replace the tip once from stepping on it when getting into my belly boat and once lost the tip – don't ask). As I head down and—as it turns out—into the river, my rod also heads into the river and a bit of a rapids. I come up quickly and grab for the tip of my rod but miss. All of the sudden it's gone, totally gone! (Warning this story does not have a happy ending.) My Sage 4 piece that I've had for 15+ years and has caught 1000+ fish all over Colorado and the West is gone. Now the river is crystal clear, it's sunny and my rod has a green fly line on it so no problem right? Wrong. After searching for an eternity my Sage 9 ft., 5 wt, 4 piece, graphite III fly rod, Orvis reel, 90 feet of green floating wt forward line, 200 yds of backing, leader and two flies, a hopper (yes the one that caught the monster trout) and a foam ant are gone. It now resides somewhere between a rapids in Hayden Meadows, Arkansas River, and the Gulf of Mexico. I can't believe it.

Packing up to leave is much faster when you don't have a fly rod to break down. Now my wife, according to everyone, is a loving and very understanding person but I'm pretty sure she's never tripped and fell into a river and simultaneously lost many hundreds of dollars worth of fly fishing equipment. More worrisome is that I'm passionate about hiking miles into remote lakes and wilderness often by myself and lately she's been taking a dimmer view of this activity. I'm quite sure this story is not going to fill her with confidence of my backcountry savvy and wilderness abilities. However, on the way home I started to get a plan and a glimmer of hope. Being only days from my 65th birthday, we discussed what we might want to do. One thing I'm adamant about is that I do not need more stuff. I suggested perhaps a lifetime Membership in TU (hey if I live to be 123, this makes good economic sense). So after getting home and relating the amazing fishing story, I added that in fact I think it would be great if she sent in the lifetime membership application and also check the box for the free 9 ft, 5-weight, 4- piece Scott Radian Rod.

Epilogue

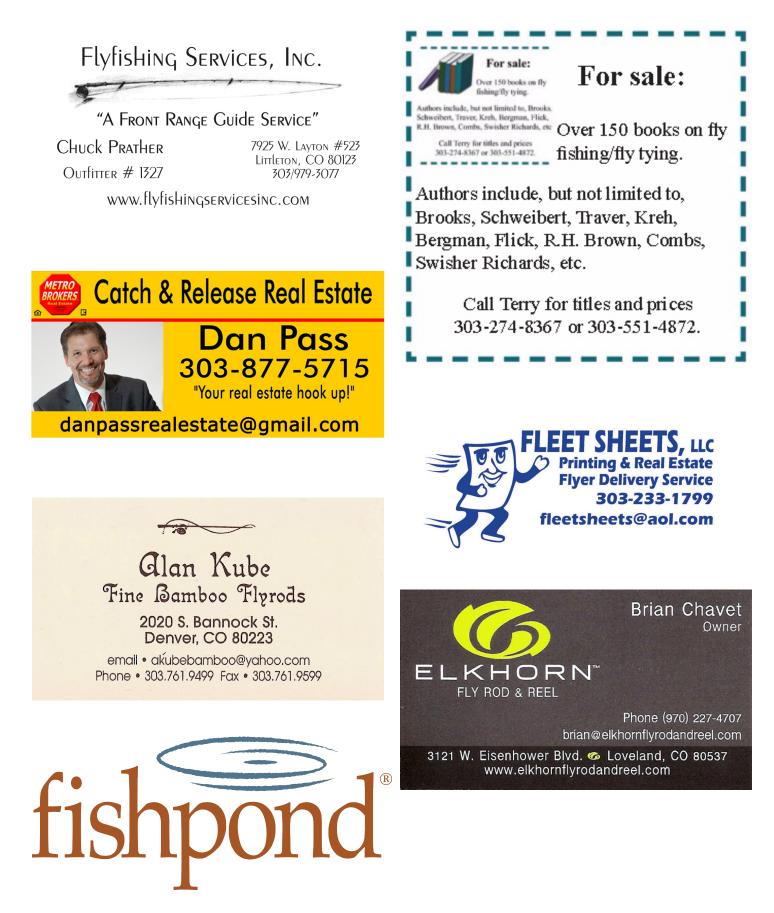
I filled in my fishing journal today. Under notes/things to remember I put, "Caught a 21 inch Brown, largest fish I ever took on a dry fly. Also getting lifetime membership in TU, looking forward to gift."



WDTU SUPPORTERS



WDTU ADVERTISERS



WDTU ADVERTISERS

A PREMIER FLY SHOP

Colorado Trout Unlimited members receive 18% off everyday!* *some exclusions apply*



ARBORANGLERS.COM



www.charliesflybox.com





PURSUE YOUR PASSION

Jay Baichi, Guide, Owner Guided Wade Trips, Public/Private Locations Corporate & Group Outings 720-450-7291 www.5280angler.com

Anglers Edge Advertising Rates				
Size	1 Month	2 Months	1 Year	
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.

For Sale

Fishing and Hunting Cabins for Sale--Price Dropped to \$299,000

Mount Massive Lakes, Inc., Private Fishing Club. Catch Brown, Rainbow, Cutthroat and Tiger trout, as well as hybrids, in MML's 22 private lakes, and hunt for elk, deer and moose in the surrounding mountains. This is a fishing and hunting paradise!



WDTU ADVERTISERS



Your Colorado Fly Fishing, SUP and Kayak Experts!

TU Membership Discounts Always 10% Off!

*FULL Line of Gear & Apparel *Licenses & TONS of Flies *Guided Trips & Lessons *Rentals & Repairs!



Rods - Reels - Apparel - Accessories Guide Service - Classes Custom Fly-Tying

1524 Miner Street P.O. Box 291 Idaho Springs, CO 80452

303-567-1500 Fax 303-567-0377 broz23@gmail.com www.clearcreekflyfishing.com



806 Washington Ave. Golden, CO 80401 303-215-9386 GoldenRiverSports.net

Photo by Brett Hochmuth



A financial advisor who keeps in touch

If the market's trending down, your financial advisor's attention toward you should trend up.

Experience the consistent, personal attention I can provide, no matter what's going on in the markets.



出中して

Cooper Swenson, AAMS® Financial Advisor

14142 Denver West Parkway Bldg 51 Ste 170 Lakewood, C0 80401 303-278-0733 www.edwardjones.com Member SIPC

Edward Jones

WIN A FREE **GUIDED FLY FISHING TRIP!**



Anne Reid



Front Range Anglers



Austin Parr Discount Tackie



Chuck Prather Fly Fishing Services



Janine Young Angler's Covey



Dave Lovell Trouts Fly Fishing



Gene Rea 5280 Angler





Greg Felt ArkAnglers

Jack Bombardier Confluence Casting



Kerry Caraghar Blue Quill Angler



Landon Mayer Landon Mayer Fly Fishing



Nick Herman Arbor Anglers



Pat Dorsev Blue Quill Angler

THE WINNER RECEIVES A GUIDED FISHING TRIP FOR TWO WITH A WELL-KNOWN REGIONAL GUIDE

TICKETS ON SALE September 1, 2018 @ www.westdenvertu.org **DRAWING December 5, 2018**

1 Ticket: \$20 3 Tickets for \$50

Once the winning ticket is drawn, a second drawing is held to determine the guide

(Online Sales Close December 1)

Winner and selected guide will decide the date and location. Trip must occur before 2020, subject to guide's availability.

> You need not be present to win. Questions: ? call Jon Weimer (303-830-1609)

Sales limited to Colorado residents.



ABOUT TU

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."

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.

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	<u>jaxedw@gmail.com</u>
Linda Miyamoto	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.

WDTU Chapter Board Meetings

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 Golden Library, 1019 10th St, Golden, CO 80401

Nominations for the Chapter Officers will begin at the April Chapter Meeting. Nominations for the President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary will be accepted. If you or someone you know who would like to serve as a Chapter officer, you may make the nomination at the Chapter meeting or any time up to the Chapter Meeting in June when the election will be held.





(O)

