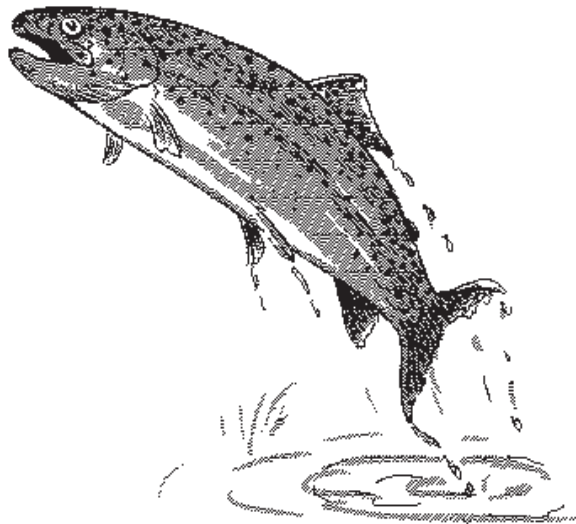


Electric

The Evergreen Trout



April 2006 The Newsletter of the Evergreen Chapter of Trout Unlimited Vol. 24 No. 4

President's Drag Free Drift

We had a great meeting last month. Lara Usinowicz stopped by to talk about a product she represents that I feel is very important. The product is called Restop 1 & 2 Disposable Travel Toilet. If you were not at the meeting, there were some chuckles because 1 & 2 is just that, relieving yourself when you do not have access to an outhouse. Her products can easily be carried in a fishing vest or backpack. It solves the obvious problem with a convenient and non-odorous way of disposing waste. The board is going to look into having these products on hand at the general meeting. Lara said she would give us a discount.

Our own Karen Christopherson was our speaker for the evening. Her presentation was on "Trout on Colorado State Land". It was very informative. She has this presentation on an E-Book (Book on a Computer CD) that she and Al Marlow produced. I decided to purchase all her E-Books. To say the least, I am not disappointed. There is a wealth of information on each E-Book (State Lands, the Colorado River, the North Platte River, the Flat Tops, and the Fifty Colorado Tailwaters). I hope this year we can talk Karen into guiding a group of us on Clear Creek. I was told she is the consummate expert.

The DVD on the O'Fallon restoration project is finalized. We were able to view it after Karen's presentation. We will make copies available for just the cost of the DVD.

Randy Huiting has set up some more quality programs for us, starting with the next general meeting. Chris Wells, guide with Blue Quill, will be our program, with his presentation "Fishing the Colorado and Williams Fork Rivers in Middle Park". In May, Charlie Meyers with the Denver Post will be presenting "New Trout, New Destinations (Colorado)". In June, Rick Saez, Sales Manager with Umpqua will present "Umpqua - the Move to Denver and Their Latest Products". It is rumored that he comes to a meeting with a bunch of goodies. So be there or you may miss out.

ETU and the Mt. Evans Outdoor Lab agreed to stock Jackson's Pond to provide a better experience for the 6th Graders when our volunteers help them with fly tying. Last year when the kids went to Jackson's pond to try their creations, there were few trout to be caught. It was decided that the pond needed stocking. The Outdoor Lab put up \$150 toward the stocking. It was then up to ETU to pony up and help stock the pond. At first, I received a pledge from one of our board members. I promised I would not identify him, but this was in the e-mail he sent to me. **"I will personally contribute \$100. I think this is really important for the kids' fly tying activity. As an alumnus of OELS, I know the positive impact the school had on me. Unfortunately, fly tying wasn't available in those days."** This is really what being a member of ETU is all about. During the last general meeting, I talked about the fish stocking and about the generous donation. Ford Oliphant spoke up and said, "Why don't we take up a collection?" Before you knew it, we collected another \$230. Sincere thanks go to Tim Steckert, Ford Oliphant, Ron Belak, Ken Wilbert, Ross Seline, John Haile, Paul Regan, Tom Lockwood, Dick Wheeler, Tim Haller, and Rich Reynolds for their generous donations. The stocking bill was \$500 + transportation fee of \$85. With donations and the Mt. Evans part, ETU was only out \$100. Sandy Stevens, Principal, said that a strict Catch and Release policy would be enforced. If you would like to volunteer to help with the Mt. Evans Outdoor Lab Fly Tying and Fishing, get in touch with Len Wheaton. He can always use good help. As an added perk, you can fish Jackson's Pond before and after meeting with the 6th Graders. Len told me that the pond was stocked with over 200 fish some 14 - 15 inches long.

Our next items of business concerned using some of ETU's funds to put up some bilingual fishing regulation signs along Bear Creek. We are going to purchase 25 signs.

Buchanan pond is ice free now and our monthly free

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The Evergreen Chapter of Trout Unlimited meets the third Wednesday of the month at Beau Jo's Pizzeria in downtown Evergreen (across from the Little Bear). Join us for Dinner/Chapter Business/Classes at 6:30pm followed by the program at ~7:00pm. We look forward to seeing **YOU** there!

The Prez Continues

days are upon us. We negotiated with the Rec. District for three free days a month. Here is how it works, you can utilize the first Friday and the third Friday, or you can utilize the first Friday and the Saturday of the third weekend containing both a Friday and a Saturday. You cannot utilize both days of the third weekend containing both a Friday and a Saturday. This does not mean you cannot fish the consecutive days. It means you will only be allowed one of the days as free. Clear as mud? Let me muddy the water further. On the occasion like this month, the second Friday is the 14th, and the third Saturday is the 15th. It was decided the free days had to be a consecutive Friday and Saturday. John Haile said it the best. The free days are the first Friday of the month and Friday and Saturday of the third weekend containing both a Friday and Saturday. Hence, This month's free days will be the 7th and the 21st/22nd. The volunteer list will be is at the Rec. Center's front desk. You will have to either show your TU membership card or your driver's license. If you are not on the list, do not expect a free day.

I was told the ponds are fishing well. Remember: catch & release, flies only, barbless hooks, and a landing net. Be a good steward: don't litter and pick up any litter around the ponds. If we can keep the ponds pristine, we will be invited back. The Buchanan Recreational District Second Annual Fishing Camp date is set for June 10, 2006. We need volunteers. Call Len Wheaton, John Ellis, or me if you would like to help with this event.

Tim Haller, our newsletter editor, attended the Colorado Trout Unlimited Spring Rendezvous last weekend. To our surprise ETU received a prestigious award. **EXEMPLARY CHAPTER - 2006 - Presented to the Evergreen Chapter for its outstanding contributions to coldwater conservation in Colorado.** Tim told me that some years, more than one of these awards is presented. This year ETU was the only one. Thanks to all the hard working people of our Chapter.

Requests for the electronic newsletter are growing. Remember sending out the newsletter via e-mail saves the chapter money. If you have e-mail, jump on board.

Hope everybody has a great season this year.

Hal

The 'Electric' Evergreen Trout

Hey folks, get your ETU newsletter the easy way. The Evergreen Trout is available via e-mail! It's a simple and painless process. Really! Just e-mail me your request for an electronic copy to troutguy@speedtrail.net, and I'll add you to the 'E' list. The 'Electric' Evergreen Trout is in PDF format, and requires the **FREE** Adobe Reader, available at www.adobe.com.

Currently about 20% of our members receive their newsletter this way. Let's see if we can increase that number. **Every electronic copy saves the chapter about \$7/year.** These savings add up fast, since we "snail mail" about 400 copies per month. And it's in **COLOR!** To take the Electric Evergreen Trout out for a test drive, visit our web site (www.evergreentrout.org), click on Newsletters, and take a look at a recent issue. If you like it (and I think you will), sign up! There is a direct link to my e-mail on the Newsletters page.

Tim Haller

The Evergreen Trout

!!! EXEMPLARY CHAPTER - 2006 !!!

!!! WAY TO GO, ETU !!!

I was happy to accept this award on behalf of ETU, and proud to be associated with such an outstanding group. **"Congratulations" and "Thank You" to ALL! Keep up the great work.**

Tim Haller

April Program

Join us at the April meeting for a great presentation by Chris Wells, on fishing the Upper Colorado and Williams Fork Rivers.

Chris has been flyfishing in Colorado for over 20 years and grew up fishing the Upper Colorado, South Platte, and Bighorn Rivers with his father, starting at the age of 4. He is currently the senior guide for the Blue Quill Angler and has been guiding full-time for 6 years. His true passion for flyfishing lies on the Upper Colorado and the Williams Fork Rivers. He spends over 150 days a year both guiding and fishing these two magnificent rivers.

See you there!

Randy Huiting

New Members

Please join me in welcoming **Steve Patterson, Rebecca West, Dennis Hein, Collin Marshall, Eric Wilson, Andrew Scanlan, Jason Torgler, Wally Welton, Steve Allen, Mark VanWyk, and Gary Cumro** to ETU.

If you need **help with a membership problem of any kind**, call me and I'll do my best to get it straightened out.

Creel count: **463**

Randy Huiting

Buchanan Ponds Dates/Volunteer List

Here are the Buchanan Ponds dates for 2006: **April 7, 21, 22; May 5, 19, 20; June 2, 16, 17; July 7, 21, 22; August 4, 18, 19; September 1, 15, 16; and October 6, 20, 21.** Please remember that you may not use free days on consecutive days.

Here is the current volunteer list, as of 4/13. If your name is not on the list and you believe it should be, please contact Hal.

Ron Belak, John Bozis, Michelle Chapman, Karen Christopherson, Mike Coyner, Mila Coyner, Nanci Dexter, Darragh Donnelly, Maren Donnelly, Larry Drury, Anna Dumn, John Ellis, Sherry Ellis, Craig Farthing, Doug Fox, Troy Fox, Hugh Gardner, Hal Garwood, Sandi Garwood, Mike Goldblatt, John Haile, Tim Haller, Al Himmelman, Jan Himmelman, Abby Houk, Zeke Houk, Randy Huiting, Nick Jones, John Klitske, Wayne Kosloske, John Langan, Peggy Linn, Tom Lockwood, Debbie Marshall, Don Marshall, Josie Marshall, Susan McCord, Andrew Murray, Elias Murray, Randi Murray, Steve Murray, Ford Oliphant, Paul Regan, Joan Reynolds, Rich Reynolds, Bill Richardson, Gary Rotolo, Jim Ryan, Justin Ryan, Chris Schauder, Ross Seline, Kent Simon, Gregg Squire, Tim Stechert, Jim Thompson, Karen Thompson, Troy Thompson, Chris Tindall, Jean Tindall, Dave Underwood, Joan Underwood, Phil Waters, Sandy Waters, Anita Wheaton, Len Wheaton, Dick Wheeler, Ken Wilbert, Jim Wilborn, Susan Wilcox.

The Evergreen Trout

Fly Tying For Fun

I confess. I tie small flies....and I fish them too. So should you!

As we all know, midges can make up a large part of a trout's diet. Especially during the 'off season'. You can fish these tiny flies 'in the film', or dead drifted. (Hint: Keep your tippet on the long side and use almost no weight.) And yes, you're going to have to dig that spool of 7X out of the bottom of your wader bag. That said, here is one of my favorite midge patterns.

Polar Midge

Hook: Tiemco 2488, size 24 - 32

Thread body: 6/0 Danville or equivalent - black and red are my favorites, but I tie 'em with nearly every color I have

Rib: x-small silver (or gold) wire

Wing: 2 polar bear body hairs

The key to tying these little guys is to make every turn of thread count. There's no place to hide anything, including un-necessary wraps.

Start the thread at the eye, take 4 turns (snug!) down the shank and trim the tag end. Next tie in the wire, leaving the tag end long, with 2 or 3 loose turns. Then gently pull the wire back (under your loose wraps) until the tag end is ~ one eye dia behind the eye - then cinch the thread lightly and wrap back over the wire to just beyond the barb, and back again to the end of the wire. Keep your wraps close together on both passes. Wrap the wire rib forward and tie it off on the underside of the shank with 2 turns only, but do not trim yet, just move the wire out of your way. Tie in 2 polar bear body hairs parallel to and on top of the shank — leaving about half an inch protruding beyond the eye - again, 2 turns only (snug!). Now go ahead and trim the wire. Fold the forward ends of the hairs back over the body and take 2 more turns over the fold (again, snug!) to hold the wings back. Whip finish over the folded wing 'butts', just enough to cover them. Trim the wings to slightly less than body length. I like to cement the heads lightly, because there is so little holding them together. Use thinned cement, so it just soaks into the thread.

If you've done the body right, you will have a small step at the forward end where the wire is tied off. The wing should tuck nicely into the area between there and the eye, and should lay back at a slight angle above the body. If you build up too much bulk at the forward end of the body, the wings may want to stick straight up. I doubt that the fish would care too much, but the fisherman might. It depends on who you're tying for...

This is a modification of a pattern I got from a friend who, as I recall, got it from "...some old guy in 'The Canyon' who was catching fish right and left with it. I believe he called it a B-52." The only difference is that the B-52 has a pearl crystal flash wing. I was going to include a photo, but I couldn't get close enough.

Tim Haller

Kudos...

...to **Hal Garwood, Randy Huiting, and Ken and Michelle Wilbert** for their help with the newsletter.

...to **Master Printers Inc. of Evergreen** for copying and folding.

Ed.

Giving Something Back

Trout Unlimited's active volunteers number at 10,000-plus and represent more than 400 chapters in 35 states, including Hawaii and Alaska. The conservation clout of this dedicated group of anglers, river enthusiasts and others is tremendous. In fiscal year 2004, for example, the total volunteer investment for coldwater conservation was valued at more than \$14 million.

If you're already a TU volunteer, thank you for your commitment to the future of trout and salmon. If you're not, please consider becoming one -- it's a great way to give something back to the resource that brings you so much pleasure.

TU web site

{Volunteering doesn't just mean showing up at the Spring Cleanup. Fish need water 365 day a year. ETU needs volunteers year-round too. There is much more that we would like to do as a chapter, but can't, due to a shortage of volunteers. Go ahead. Show up at a Board meeting. What have you got to lose? Hal buys the pizzas, right? Or sign up to help with one of our many ongoing projects at a chapter meeting. You won't be sorry. - Ed.}

Trout on State Land

When Karen Christopherson and Al Marlowe team up to publish a new book on Colorado fishing, those in the fishing community who are literate tend to pay close attention. For very good reason; their's is the best resource material since Sterling and Fothergill. This latest is their fifth volume, the fourth published on CD and, by all odds, their best and most complete.

Maps, full description of the sites, facilities, and directions to each of the 150-plus public lands owned, leased, or managed by the State of Colorado. It's all here. The disk is loaded with excellent photographs by the authors and enhanced by shots from local photo-angler Ron Belak, the Colorado Division of Wildlife, and the Colorado State Parks, among others. The graceful and very readable text, also a joint effort, reflects their meticulous research, their taste, and their appreciation of the values that Coloradans and visitors treasure.

All this on a \$15.95 CD (plus tax and shipping) for your bad-weather dreaming and your streamside laptop research. Rush right home to your computer and order yours today from the authors at TroutGear.com. There is no catch-and-release here. This one's a keeper.

Harry Ledyard



??? What's Happening ???

April 2006

- 19th (W) ETU Chapter Meeting
6:30p Dinner and chapter business
7:00p Program - Chris Wells
Fishing the Colorado and Williams Fork
- 21st (F) ETU free fishing day at Buchanan Ponds
or 22nd (Sa) Show ID and sign in at the Rec Center
- 22nd (Sa) Earth Day Fair at the Lakehouse
Contact Ron Belak if you can help
- 25th (Tu) 6th graders at Mount Evans Outdoor Lab
Contact Len Wheaton if you can help
- 26th (W) ETU Board Meeting
Beau Jo's - 6:30p
- 29th (Sa) Annual Bear Creek Spring Cleanup
Weather/run-off permitting
Meet in the lot across from the
Little Bear at 9:00a

May 2006

- 5th (F) ETU free fishing day at Buchanan Ponds
Show ID and sign in at the Rec Center
- 17th (W) ETU Chapter Meeting
6:30p Dinner and chapter business
7:00p Program - Charlie Meyers
New Trout, New Destinations (Colorado)
- 19th (F) ETU free fishing day at Buchanan Ponds
or 20th (Sa) Show ID and sign in at the Rec Center
- 23rd (Tu) 6th graders at Mount Evans Outdoor Lab
Contact Len Wheaton if you can help
- 24th (W) 6th graders at Mount Evans Outdoor Lab
Contact Len Wheaton if you can help
- 24th (W) ETU Board Meeting
Beau Jo's - 6:30p

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P.O. Box 1974
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Working to protect America's streams.

Evergreen Trout Unlimited
1999 Outstanding Chapter Communications Award
2000 Outstanding Youth Education Program Award
2004 Outstanding Chapter Project Award

Ret requested

The Evergreen Trout

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On the web - www.tu.org; www.cotrout.org; www.evergreentrout.org.
Contact any of us with questions, suggestions, or spare time.

Editorial Policy

All submissions to the newsletter must be received by the Editor by the **1st Friday of the month**. Submissions may be on 3 1/2" disc or e-mailed. All items are subject to editing/space limitations. Articles are copyrighted by the author unless otherwise noted. **All phone numbers are Area Code 303 unless otherwise noted.** Call me for additional information.

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