



Greenback Currents

January-February 2008

Our mission: to Conserve, Protect and Restore Colorado's Trout Fisheries and their Watersheds.

Membership Meetings - Non-members invited! *Bring a Raffle Item to Share!*

**Thursday, January 10, 7:00 pm, Jones-Healy Realty, 2nd Floor, 119 W. 6th St., Pueblo
Angus Drummond, head guide for Colorado Fishing Adventures for 5 years,
Broadmoor Hotel and Peak Fly Shop, on
"Fishing the South Platte above Eleven Mile Reservoir"**

Thursday, February 14 - Michael Kersten on "Tying Traditional Salmon Flies"

**Thursday, March 13 - Drew Peternell on ""The Effect of the Southern Delivery System Water
Diversion on the Arkansas River and the Fishery -- What You Can Do"**

Denver Fly Fishing Shows! January 4 - 6, 2008 ! See Calendar of Events, this issue!

Check the Web Site at <http://www.chapter509tu.org/> for the latest news!

President's Piece

Pat McGraw



**Pat McGraw,
Honorable President**

Happy New Year, TU members!

Hope you all had a great Christmas and are looking forward to a safe and prosperous New Year. As family is always important, this is the time of year you get to see those that live too far for regular visits. Of course the kids make Christmas a joy for us older folks. Wishing you and your family a healthy and rewarding New Year!

Your chapter's board is trying to add a few new projects to meet our goals. What these projects might be, are always a mystery. It seems that when we get word of a possible project to better our water resources, there's a stumbling block in our way. We, of course will always keep trying. If any of you have a suggestion about what we can pursue for a conservation project, please let myself or a board member know. We are not about fishing only, but so many of us

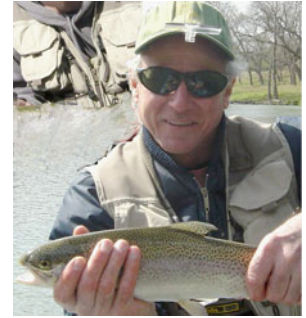
enjoy it so much, that we want our waters to be clean and free of disease, so we and our grandchildren can enjoy fishing.

We held elections in October 2007. With a growing family at home, VP Mike Kersten decided to step down for now. Thanks so much, Mike, for the help and great suggestions that you've contributed to the board during your tenure. You will be missed! Kelvin Melton volunteered to take Mike's place, and we thank him for coming forward. George Daniel volunteered to take on the vacant Secretary position, and I'm grateful for his willingness to help as he can! We also added some help for finding speakers or guests to present at our meetings. Frank Nemick has been our only program director, and it has been really to p. 3

Project News

Ted Sillox

I have been in contact with Jim Hoar from Canon City and I am hoping to get our chapter involved with the Fishing Is Fun grant at Pathfinder Lake. Hopefully the city will need some volunteer workers for this project that our chapter can provide. As soon as I hear back I will be informing members of dates, times and place.



A Note from Your Communications Chair on Current Issues . . .

Marge Vorndam

We often pass along calls for action from TU or other organizations with similar goals as TU's for input to your government representatives regarding upcoming bills or resolutions dealing with Trout Unlimited's mission. *Because these calls are urgent and responses are needed quickly, we have only been emailing the information to those of you who elected to receive the newsletter in electronic form.*

If you requested printed copies of the newsletter, but you also have an email address and would like to be informed of and help with input to upcoming issues, please send a note to that effect to s_greenbacks@chapter509tu.org. We will be glad to continue to send you the printed monthly notices through the mail, while also letting you know via email of political actions that need your attention.

In this age of computer sophistication, input to many representatives consists of going to TU's Action site, entering your name and address, and clicking "Send" -- No more time-consuming writing, stamping and mailing letters!

- For National TU concerns, See <http://www.tu.org/c.kkLRJ7MSKtH/b.3613069/siteapps/advocacy/ActionCenter.aspx> for the current stories that can use your input. Click on "Take Action Now" in the right column, and follow the prompts to send your sentiments.
- For Colorado concerns, see <http://www.cotrout.org/Conservation/HotTopics/tabid/87/Default.aspx>.
- To get the latest breaking news on the home front from CO Division of Wildlife, sign up for Updaters at <http://wildlife.state.co.us/NewsMedia/DOWInsider/>.

A Great Winter Fishing Spot!

Ted Sillox

If you are looking for some excellent fishing during the winter, try a trip to Boxwood Gulch. It's a great winter fishery on a private ranch west of Bailey, CO. President Pat and I recently fished this area with our sponsor Ben from Angler's Addiction and did we have a good day! We caught Brooks, Yellowstone Cutthroat, Brown, Rainbow and Palomino trout. Most of the fish ranged from 2 to 5 lbs and offered plenty of fight.

All of the action was supplied by nymphing with an egg fly followed by a small midge. If you go, be sure to use 3x or 4x tippets as fish this size will break off smaller sizes. We had a nice lodge with all of the trappings to make preparation a breeze. If you want to have fun in a beautiful setting contact Ben at Angler's Addiction and book a trip!

President's Piece, continued..... tough at times to coordinate a guest for our meetings in the past. So now, we have Gary Skul and Ben Olson to help. Gary is a school teacher and artist and Ben is a guide and part owner of Angler's Addiction fly shop in Pueblo. Thanks, gentlemen for your volunteering to help. We also formally voted to accept the official name of the chapter as the "Southern Colorado Greenback Chapter" of TU.

Speaking of meetings, we would still like to see more of you attend and contribute to our cause. I think I am safe in guaranteeing an interesting and informative guest for each of our meetings in 2008. We had a few meetings without a program for the last couple years, and we are trying to remedy that. I think we have. Remember, you will get a newsletter or postcard from Marge every month, letting you know our agenda. That way you may pick and choose the meetings you would like to attend. We like to have guest fly tiers for a meeting or two through the year. You might not tie, but they also tell you what waters these flies work on. We also like to keep up on water issues that arise each year, and we try to have experts speak about this. We are still willing to bring a meeting to surrounding towns, if we have enough interest.

I usually don't put State and National TU news in the newsletter, because it is never a for-sure situation most of the times. I talk about it at the meetings, just to give a heads up about what could be. These issues are very political, so they are on the agendas for years sometime. For instance: Roan Plateau on the Western slope. Big discussions about drilling for natural gas. It finally passed, but CTU was very much against it, as there are so many waters around the plateau with Greenbacks in them.

I will end by suggesting you call fly shops to get winter fishing reports. Royal Gorge Anglers puts out a great report on the upper Arkansas River and Angler's Addiction folks are really up on the tail water below Pueblo Dam. It has really been fishing well (for everybody but me) and they will suggest the best spots. Please call both fly shops. The Arkansas is fishing well above Canon City, but call or stop by Royal Gorge Anglers to see where you have access.

I hope to see you on January 10.

Prez Pat



Pat with a nice Bailey-area winter Brown!
Who says he can't catch fish???!!!



Thanks to members who supported our sponsors during the Holidays with their business. It's a win-win situation for the resource!



Thank You, Members!

We're glad to have you join, transfer here or renew your membership with our chapter*! Please let us know how we can meet your expectations of your TU experience, and how you would like to be involved in our mission. To do that, call Pres. Pat at 566-6834. Thanks for your membership!

New/Transfer/Renewing Members

*since Last Newsletter

Wade East
Don Fair
John McCaffrey
Travis Payne
Thomas Piltingsrud
David Spencer
Loren Steele
Rusty Zane

Chapter TU Life Members

Joseph J. Branney
Stephen Brown
Dom Cingoranelli
Dumont F. Clark
Chas S. Clifton
Jeris A. Danielson
Tony & Jill Feliz
Michael Foster

William Harris III
Michael D. Ingo
Mark A. Kennedy
Michael C. Saathoff, MD
Dr. James A. Salvatore
Christopher J. Smith, MD
John A. Tillema, Jr.
Marge & Paul Vorndam

DOW's Krieger on the State and Future of Fisheries in CO

Marge Vorndam

Fisheries Biologist Doug Krieger was the October meeting presenter, and enlightened us on the future Division of Wildlife management plans for the state. He also recommended that members sign up for the DOW Insider to find out the most current info from DOW (see p. 2).

- Whirling disease hit CO in 1987. Today, DOW has a hybrid rainbow that is resistant to whirling disease which shows potential as a replacement for the previous strains of 'bows that are susceptible to WD. Testing is underway, but the fish have been successfully used in MT.
- Mercury (Hg) levels are high in many waters in the state. Hg originates from coal fired power plant emissions in states west and SW of CO. Krieger stated that DOW is asking that children and pregnant women be especially careful to follow consumption guidelines for fish.
- VHS, a marine virus that has been found in the Great Lakes is spreading to other states, but has not yet reached CO. DOW is keeping a watchful eye on this potentially devastating disease, and reminds all fishermen to observe recommendations about disinfecting waders and ensuring that boats are thoroughly cleaned before transfer between water bodies. Most of these harmful critters are moved around due to ignorance on the part of recreationists.

When queried about the potential for Special Regs on the AK River Dam Tailwater section in Pueblo, Krieger said that fishery biologists recommend waters for Special Regs that will definitely improve the fishery. Three major considerations are 1. solid evidence of growth rates, 2. successful reproduction, and 3. longevity of the fish (i.e. many age classes represented). While the area has shown good growth rates in stocked trout, the other two factors are lacking, so DOW fisheries biologists don't currently favor Special Reg consideration here. He also noted that the river stretch is not fished heavily during summer months, and that is also a negative consideration. However, Krieger made a suggestion that the chapter could concentrate efforts on improving the instream habitat to increase holding lies for fish and provide velocity control structures. The AK River Legacy Project added a considerable amount of structure to protect trout from high flow washout, but more weirs would improve this further.

Another concern was raised about whether the fishery could sustain as much fishing pressure as it is beginning to get. "DOW is committed to keeping stocking levels up on this stretch of river," Krieger said. "If fishermen are using it, we'll do what we can to create a fine fishing experience for everyone."

2008 Sportsmens' Shows

- Jan 4 - 6 Denver CO Merchandise Mart **AFTA Fly Fishing Show West** - Denver
www.flyfishingshowwest.com/Denver.html
- Jan 4 - 6 Denver CO Convention Center **AFFTA Fly Fishing Expo** — 5.5 miles away from the Denver Merchandise Mart -- www.affta.com/ — on the same dates as The Fly Fishing Show, Jan. 4-6.
- Jan 9-12 CO Denver 18th Annual Colorado **RV Adventure Travel Show** Colorado Convention Center
- Jan 17-20 The **2008 Denver Boat Show**, Convention Center
- Jan 24 - 27 Denver CO Colorado Convention Center **International Sportsmen's Exposition**
<http://www.sportsexpos.com/>

Chapter Calendar: January - March 2008

Monthly Chapter Fishing Trips TBA - watch your eMail or the chapter web site!

January

- 3 - Board Meeting.** Members welcome. 7:00 pm. 1630 Alma Ave., Pueblo. 566-6834
- 10 - Chapter Membership Meeting,** 119 W. 6th, 7:00 p.m. *Bring a Raffle Item to Share!*

February

- 7 - Board Meeting.** Members welcome. 7:00 pm. 1630 Alma Ave., Pueblo. 566-6834
- 14 - Chapter Membership Meeting,** 119 W. 6th, 7:00 p.m. *Bring a Raffle Item to Share!*

March

- 6 - Board Meeting.** Members welcome. 7:00 pm. 1630 Alma Ave., Pueblo. 566-6834
- 13 - Chapter Membership Meeting,** 119 W. 6th, 7:00 p.m. *Bring a Raffle Item to Share!*

Greenback Currents is a bimonthly newsletter of the Southern Colorado Greenback Chapter 509, Trout Unlimited. Trout Unlimited, TU, the nation's leading coldwater conservation organization is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to conserving, protecting and enhancing the coldwater resource (<http://www.tu.org>).

Disclaimer—content herein does not necessarily reflect official TU policy. Subscription rates for non-members — \$20/year. Email copy is free. Advertising rates are available on request to the editor.

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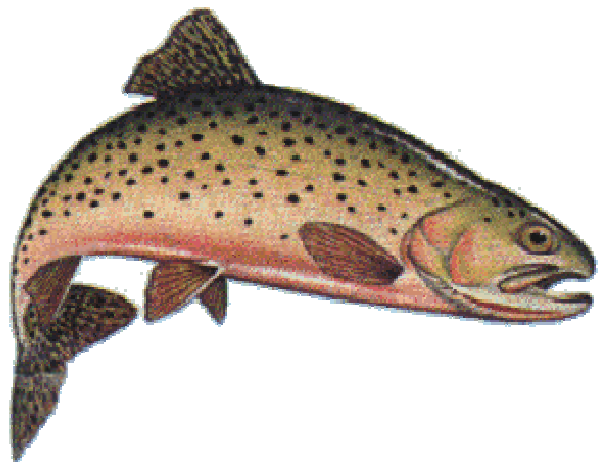
To join our email list, send an email to s_greenbacks@chapter509TU.org and request to be added.

Chapter Streamside Courtesy Cards are available.

If you would like a supply to pass on to other fishermen, please send a request to s_greenbacks@chapter509TU.org or call Marge at 489-2913.

S. CO Greenback Chapter 509
Trout Unlimited, Inc.
c/o Pat McGraw
1630 Alma Ave.
Pueblo, CO 81004

For information, call
(719) 566-6834



Next Meeting:

Thursday, January 10, 7:00 p.m.
Jones-Healy Realty Bldg.
119 W. 6th St., Pueblo

Angus Drummond on

"Fishing the South Platte above Eleven Mile Reservoir"

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