

March/April 2010 Newsletter: [web version](#) [.pdf version](#)

[2010 Raffle Ticket Order Form](#)

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TU's mission via <http://www.tu.org/join-the-community> . Local contact info is at the bottom of this newsletter.

<http://www.chapter509tu.org>



**EXEMPLARY CHAPTER of 2009!**  
**Exemplary Project of 2009!**

**Our Mission: To Conserve, Protect and Restore Colorado's Trout Fisheries and their Watersheds.**

Southern Colorado Greenback  
Chapter 509  
Trout Unlimited, Inc.



March/April 2010  
[CTU Annual Gala - March 19](#)

(Attendance Tickets and Live Auction Items available NOW !)

March 20 - Spring Cleanup!

Families welcome. Joint lakeshore cleanup with Trinidad's Purgatoire River Anglers TU Chapter at Lathrop State Park's Martin Lake - partial draining underway. Chapters will supply 'dogs, condiments and drinks. Please bring a simple "side dish" to share. Meet at Martin Lake Swim Beach Pavilion.

Pueblo members and friends: CARPOOL from old 7-11 EAST of the Dog Track off of Pueblo Blvd. will meet at 8:00 a.m. sharp. Call 564-1799 for Carpool info.

Boots recommended for shore cleanup. There will also be brush to load. Choice of activity available so don't panic!

Snow date is March 27- check the web site at <http://www.chapter509tu.org> in case of bad weather.

2010 Chapter Raffle - Drawing on April 8 !

Our chapter will be at the [Outdoor Colorado Expo 2010](#) in Castle

Rock on March 27-28, 2010 - Douglas County Event Center - see us there ! Free admission if you volunteer at the booth! Call Ted Sillox to volunteer - 719-647-2369

Special incentive offer  
when you purchase your tix at the Show!

Featuring "The Aspen"  
a St Croix Rod built by Massachusetts-based TU member  
& [Eclectic Angler](#) owner Mike Hackney

Part of a package worth \$1970



- Cortland ProCast Reel and Hardy 5 wt Line
- Angler's Addiction - Full day guided trip on Lake Pueblo Tailwater, Arkansas River\*
- Ark Anglers - Full day guided trip on Lake Pueblo Tailwater, Arkansas River\*
- Royal Gorge Anglers - Half day guided trip on the Arkansas River 2009 Project Area in Canon City\*
- Frank Nemick III - Six Doz. Western River Flies with box

Click link for  
[>> Non-attendee Ticket Order Form <<](#)

*Please support our efforts to improve water quality, cold-water fisheries projects and youth education through your participation! Proceeds from this raffle will be partially applied to the Purgatoire River Habitat Improvement Project in Trinidad.*

Don't Delay! Purchase tickets today!

Membership Meetings - Public is Invited ! FREE !  
Jones-Healy Realtors Bldg., 119 W. 6th, Pueblo



Thursday, March 11, 7:00 p.m.  
Pizza social begins at 6:30 p.m.

"Innovations in the Art of Fly Tying" - Vincent Su

Vincent Su, creator of the 720 Vise™ demonstrates this revolutionary tool as an innovative advantage in the art of fly tying. Su also specializes in tying a handful of "hot" flies that catch trout in nearly every situation. Learn new ways to tie old favorites and speed up the process.

April 8 - Fishing Guide Lou McCullough on  
"Fishing the Pueblo Tailwater"



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The NEW Purgatoire Anglers TU Chapter meets in Trinidad on the 3rd Thursday of every month. Contact President Howard Lackey, [hmlchev1@qwestoffice.net](mailto:hmlchev1@qwestoffice.net), 719-846-9805 or 575-477-7034 for further information on chapter events.

As soon as our chapters are split out by NTU, we will discontinue sending you this newsletter if you are in that region.

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## President's Piece

Kelvin Melton



Kelvin Melton  
President

Dear Members and Friends,

Spring is right around the corner !

If you haven't done much fishing, it may be time to dust off the pole and start getting the equipment ready. Although there still will be a few more cold days, probably a bit more snow, things will start warming up – including the sport.

There are a lot of activities happening with our local Chapter 509:

- The raffle is off to a great start! Time is slipping away for your chance to win an Aspen handcrafted rod, a reel, six dozen flies, and three guided trips – what a package. This is our only major fundraiser of the year and definitely helps out with the projects we do. Please pick up some raffle tickets to sell. If you are unable to sell, then by all means... buy some! Maybe this spring you will be fishing with a new rod.
- We will also be going to Lake Martin between Walsenburg and LaVeta for our spring clean up on Saturday, March 20. The lake is being drained and now is a good time to do this. Come on down, clean up, and work up an appetite. Lunch will be served to all who help.

The membership meetings have had great speakers and informative presentations. CTU is also real active. Please pull up [www.cotrout.org](http://www.cotrout.org) for an excellent listing of all projects going on in Colorado. A great deal of information and ideas are listed.

Lastly – Get Active and Get Involved. We have a great organization with many wonderful people. Remember TU's mission - To protect, conserve, and restore Colorado's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

Some huge THANK YOUS to folks who helped with the Denver Fly Fishing Show Raffle efforts go to Ted Sillox, Pat McGraw, Carol and Ed Engler, Frank Nemick III, and Joanie & Jim Muzzulin. Because of them and folks at the show who purchased tickets, the Purgatoire River project is in good shape for matching grant efforts. Also, attention should be brought to Joanie's efforts to raise funds on the Purgatoire Project. She did great work on a sizeable grant that was awarded recently.

Over the last few meetings, we have been recognizing the dedication of our business sponsors over the past

years in providing gift certificates, guided trips and donated equipment for our monthly and annual raffles, and generally being generous with help on our projects whenever we ask them. Thanks to Little Caesars Pizza for the pre-meeting pizzas, and Anglers Addiction who were recognized in January and February. Royal Gorge Anglers will be with us for recognition in March, and Jones-Healy is on schedule also. We could never be as effective in our mission here in Southern Colorado without this kind of dedicated support.

..... and a hearty welcome and thanks to Alex Zipp of ArkAnglers, who recently facilitated a new business sponsorship with us. We look forward to a mutually beneficial and long relationship, Alex. Thanks also to ArkAnglers owners Greg Felt and Rod Patch for the vote of confidence represented by this commitment!

Yours in fishing,

Kelvin Melton

### ***Fishing Tip***

Remember to plan for the sun; be protected when fishing.

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## Project News

Ted Sillox



Ted Sillox, Project Chairman

Our signs have been installed on the Canon City project. I was planning on getting pictures for the newsletter but with snow every weekend I have been putting it off. We will be venturing back to this site this spring to replant some of the areas that did not take hold last fall. I will let you know when and where.

March 27-28 will find our chapter represented at the Sportsman Show in Castle Rock, CO. We will have a booth and be selling raffle tickets for our cause. If you would like to participate as a volunteer for a few hours contact me at 647-2369.

I was recently talking with the DOW here in Pueblo and after their last study of the river they would like to see more fish structure in the Arkansas River Legacy Project area.

This means we will be raising funds and looking for grant money to add to and improve on our home river waters. More structure means more fish and better holding areas. Jim Melby is retiring in June but hopefully we can get the preliminary start to this improvement project going and his replacement can finish.

I ventured to Trinidad last month to sell tickets and meet with the chapter there. They have been awarded a grant for their river project and it looks like they will be starting on their project soon. I am sure there will be some volunteer labor needed when the time comes so plan on a road trip to Trinidad.

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## CTU Youth Conservation and Flyfishing Camp Applications Due in March

Our chapter and the local Water sentinels of Sierra Club have partnered for several years to send teens from our area to CTU's Youth Camp each June. This week-long camp will take place from June 6 - 11 at Beaver Run Trout Ranch near Aspen. Teens in the 14 to 18 year old age range are welcome to apply for one of the 20 available slots. Applications for the 2010 camp are due in, at the latest, on March 30, 2010.

The camp is designed to educate students on the importance of coldwater conservation and provide hands-on fly-fishing instruction. Camp classes include: principles of ecology, hydro-geology, aquatic vertebrate and invertebrate sampling, hydrology, trout behavior, trout stream entomology, the biology of pollution, acid deposition, and politics of conservation and human effects on the Rocky Mountains. In addition, the camp will include hands-on classes such as fly tying, fly casting, streamside ethics, angling literature, streamside botany, wader safety and survival, and the evolution of an angler. Students will also participate in a watershed project to repair habitat in a nearby stream.

The cost of this camp for the week is \$450. Our chapter will be providing one scholarship for an area teen to attend. If you know of a young person with an outdoors or scientific bent, please pass this opportunity on to them. Past teens who attended loved the experience, and cannot recommend it highly enough. More information and an application form are available at [Colorado Trout Unlimited's web site on the camp](#).

Also, as a member, if you would like to help with the scholarship effort for camp, a tax-deductible donation toward the scholarship fund can be sent to President K. Melton, 121 La Rochelle Dr., Pueblo, CO 81005-3355, or call Kelvin for further information- 719-564-1799.

### ...and Plans for Pueblo's Middle-schoolers' Fishing Camp Begin

Marge Vorndam and Jenny Kedward from Sierra Club - Water Sentinels are planning on getting together soon to set up the fishing camp schedule for Pueblo area middle school-aged children this summer. Last year's June camp was a smash hit with the ten youngsters that we served, so we look forward to another super camp. Last year's schedule of two Wednesdays in June from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm worked well to cover all of the bases about types of fishing and how to do it, plus fishery biology and water quality topics. We'd like to be able to take up to 20 students this year.

We could use a couple of volunteers to help. The activities are divided up so that TU handles the fishing parts of the training, and Water Sentinels covers the water quality and conservation aspects. If you would like to help with teaching, we'd love it, but otherwise, just having adults to untangle lines and tie up rigs would be great. You don't even have to be there for the full six hours each day although that would be great.

Some of the youths could also use help with the camp fee of \$20. Many come from low-income homes that cannot afford that amount, so assistance with donations for attendees and expendable fishing equipment would be appreciated. Donations can be sent to Pres. Melton (see info above).

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### Our Sponsors - Support them with your Business

Our fishing sponsors bring you value-added gear, guides and classes to enhance your fishing experience and recreational enjoyment.

Please check their web sites for current information on classes by clicking on their logos, or stop by the store.

Let them know that we appreciate their support of our mission!



Sign up for the RGA [eNewsletter](#) with current fishing conditions and news of interest to any angler! SPRING FLING is MARCH 26-28 with classes for all ability levels! ALWAYS a great time !



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### Fishing the Gulf

Marge Vorndam

I won't be at the membership meeting in April. I will be fishing from a sunny Gulf Shores beach for Gulf of Mexico Spotted Seatrout, Pompano, Spanish Mackerel, Cobia, King Mackerel, Little Tunny, Amberjack, or bluefish--(and redfish, but they are out of season until later-regs to protect dwindling populations are in place for them)...or whatever else might collide with my rig.



My sister's family has been going to Gulf Shores for years over Spring Break week. I've never been there, but life is at a place that, if one doesn't take advantage of opportunities as they arise, one might never get there to do it. Saltwater fishing has been on my "bucket list" for years--not as a huge interest, but as a "I gotta try it at least once in my life if I get a chance" kind-of item.

So, there it is. There will be eight of us--various family-- for a week on the beach. I haven't been able to talk anyone into a deep sea expedition, but shoreline fishing has more appeal to me anyway. There, I can be "master of my own ship", so to speak, and I don't have to worry about catching some hunking whale that I couldn't manage to land anyway. So, kicking around from a beach is right up my alley.

My *uber*-fisherman nephew Kevin who I wrote about a year or so ago, has been fishing there every Spring Break that his parents took him. He fishes all of that nasty, smelly stuff (fly fishing is so much cleaner--no gooshy, cruddy fish bait to hack up and smell like)--very successfully though, I should add. But for me, the point is not so much to catch fish as to just fish and enjoy the adventure. Of course, I hope that I'll catch fish--not too big, of course, but if one goes in with few expectations, there are few disappointments. Kevin won't be there this year, so that subtracts from the success equation.

So, I "surf'd the web" and found that there are actually three shops in that area that supply fly fishing guides! Awesome. First order will be to book one of those guys in for a morning's introduction to the shoreline surf and how to fish it. I also got three books that I am reading--FR&R happened to mention Joe Brooks' *Salt Water Fly Fishing*, and the history lesson has been awesome, despite the now-politically incorrect photos of stringers of huge and numerous fishes. It was first printed a year before I was born. Then, I found two more promising books on Amazon, *The Orvis Guide to Saltwater Fly Fishing* which I haven't perused yet but starts out pretty elementary, and *Fly Fisherman's Guide to Saltwater Prey* by A.J. Adams. The latter I thought would be about the fishes to be caught, but turns out to be an awesome book that compares benthic prey to the flies that imitate them -- crabs, shrimp, and small fish in all water levels. So, there are photos of these critters followed by fly pattern recipes--as close to a "match the hatch" for saltwater that one could get. It also covers where, along the eastern seaboard and the Gulf, one would encounter them, and thus fish them.

The last piece of this puzzle is equipment. I don't anticipate making this experience a habit, and my hubby isn't big on ocean time anyway. What to do? I knew that I'd probably be looking at 8-wt equipment, and mine ends at 6. Well, a member of our chapter volunteered to lend me his rods, reels, flies and lines, broken in from many trips to the Bahamas and ghosted with numerous tarpon and bonefish that were played in on it. I died and went to heaven, I think.

Anyway, in the next newsletter, I will let you know how my adventure fared. In the meantime, if you have any pointers about shoreline saltwater fishing that I could profit from, I'd love to hear from you. My eMail is [cccbiology@ghvalley.net](mailto:cccbiology@ghvalley.net).

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## Additional Notes from Board Meeting Minutes of December-March not Covered Above

1. Membership stands at near 200 as reported by Membership Chairman Lou McCullough. Purgatoire Anglers' TU Chapter's charter is in place now, but members have not been split out by national TU as yet. Those members still appear on our roles. Our chapter donated \$300 to the new chapter in start-up funds.
2. Carol Engler is working with Marge Vorndam to set up an eBay donation account.
3. Pete Gallagher will be speaking to the Purgatoire Anglers TU group in March about the plans to begin the Purgatorie River project per Ted Sillox.
4. Inmate team work under the guidance of Dep. Brian Martino continues with bank-side trash removal. Bill Nelson of Anglers Addiction is overseeing this effort for the chapter. Inmate team cannot plan in advance on the work schedule, so that is leading to some confusion, but we are working it out per Kelvin Melton.
5. Raffle booth at Castle Rock Outdoor Show: Chapter will cover entry fee for volunteers as approved by Board. Ted Sillox is coordinating this effort.

6. Trout in the Classroom - Water Sentinels of Pueblo is interested in co-sponsoring a program in our area. We are talking to high school educators about their interest in volunteering to coordinate this. Initial outlay of funds to begin this effort in CO will be approximately \$2,000 per Kelvin Melton.
7. Ben Wurster will contact CTU's Erica Stock about speaking at May's meeting about CTU activities.
8. Lou McCullough and Ben Wurster agreed to donate a guided fishing trip each on the Pueblo tailwater to the CTU Gala auction. 25% of the net proceeds will be returned to the chapter.
9. Pueblo West High School teacher Steve Spock has started a youth fly fishing club, Cyclone Anglers, due to interest expressed by school teens. The chapter donated \$50 to help with that project recently. Ben Wurster is coordinating between that group and the chapter.

S. Colorado Greenback Chapter 509 Board of Directors All-Stars for 2010

			
<b>Kelvin Melton</b> President	<b>Pat McGraw</b> Past-President	<b>Frank Nemick III</b> Vice-President	<b>Carole Engler</b> Treasurer
			
<b>Lou McCullough</b> Membership	<b>Ted Sillox</b> Projects	<b>Ben Wurster</b> Programs	<b>Marge Vorndam</b> Communications
( Secretary - Position still Vacant )			
<p><b>New/Renewing and Life Members</b></p> <p><b>Since last newsletter - Thanks for your support!</b></p>			

2010 New/Renewing Members of TU

Life Members of TU

Warren Barter  
 Bill Baublits  
 Gary Boyle  
 Linda & Roger Coffey  
 George Daniel  
 H. Richard Eisenbeis  
 Steven Fieldman  
 Peter Fini  
 Diane & David  
 Gilfillan  
 Jim Good  
 Geoffrey Gordon  
 Tim Graham  
 Charles Hart  
 Gene Hunt  
 Joe Hybl  
 Fred Jacobs  
 Bruce Johnson  
 Willard Keller  
 John Kenline  
 Scott Keys  
 Larry Kirchamr  
 Gary Lane  
 Jerry Lopez

Michael Lowe  
 James Marcum  
 W.E. McDougal  
 Leslie Miller  
 Mike Morton  
 Artie Ortiviz  
 Ken Ovrebo  
 Frank Papish Jr.  
 John Parrish  
 Alvin Pelky  
 Geoff Peterson  
 Suzi & Richard Purcell  
 James Pushchak  
 C.E. Schneider  
 Martin Shafer  
 Ted Sillox  
 Charles Smith  
 George Stephan  
 Karl Tameler  
 Lance Tomar  
 M. Edmund Vallejo  
 John Vendetti  
 Thomas Vialpando  
 Ron Yoder

Tony Alessandro  
 Brian Angevine  
 Joseph Branney  
 Stephen Brown  
 Dominic Cingoranelli  
 Dumont Clark  
 Chas Clifton  
 Jeris Danielson  
 Tony & Jill Feliz  
 Michael Foster  
 Dave Fraterelli  
 Marvin Hamann

William Harris II  
 Michael Ingo  
 Mark Kennedy  
 Michael Moll  
 Michael Saathoff  
 James Salvatore  
 Jack Seilheimer  
 Christopher Smith,  
 M.D.  
 Robin Smith  
 Matthew Sumpter  
 John Tillema Jr.  
 Gary & Helen Vertrees  
 Marge & Paul  
 Vorndam

Thanks to Thomas Selhime who renewed recently at the Life Member level !

Be involved! See [Colorado Trout Unlimited's Web Site](#) for Action Items that need your involvement! It only takes a couple of minutes to send an eMail, but if we all input, it can make a TON of impact on the development of public planning processes!

Calendar of Chapter, Sponsor and TU Happenings

March 11	Members and Friends Meeting	Jones-Healy Realtor Bldg., 119 W. 6th Street, Pueblo
19	CTU Gala/Auction	Arvada Center, Denver
30	Youth Conservation/FF Camp Application due	
26-28	<a href="#">Spring Fling</a>	Royal Gorge Anglers, For Info: 888.994.6743
April 16-18	CTU Spring Rendezvous	Redstone
June 6 -11	<a href="#">CTU Conservation Youth Camp</a>	
June	Annual Chapter Yard Sale Fundraiser	

- President - Kelvin Melton - [kmelt114@msn.com](mailto:kmelt114@msn.com)
- Past-President - Pat McGraw - [mcbwo@comcast.net](mailto:mcbwo@comcast.net)
  - Vice-President - Frank Nemick III - [f.nemick@comcast.net](mailto:f.nemick@comcast.net)
  - Treasurer - Carol Engler - [englerca@aol.com](mailto:englerca@aol.com)
  - Secretary - vacant – Currently soliciting members for this position - YOU?
  - Projects Chairman - Ted Sillox - [ted.sillox@state.co.us](mailto:ted.sillox@state.co.us)
  - Membership Chairman - Lou McCullough - [LouMcCullough@comcast.net](mailto:LouMcCullough@comcast.net)
  - Programs Chairman - Ben Wurster - [godwithflyrod@gmail.com](mailto:godwithflyrod@gmail.com)
  - Communications Chairman - Marge Vorndam - [cccbiology@ghvalley.net](mailto:cccbiology@ghvalley.net) or [s\\_greenbacks@chapter509TU.org](mailto:s_greenbacks@chapter509TU.org)

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S. Colorado Greenback Chapter 509, Trout Unlimited, Inc.  
c/o Kelvin Melton, 719-564-1799  
121 La Rochelle Drive, Pueblo, CO 81005

<http://www.chapter509TU.org>

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