

# The Cutthroat Chronicles

Official Newsletter of the Snake River Cutthroats

December, 2015

## A Message from the President *by Paul Patterson*

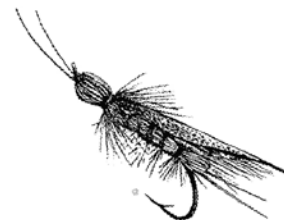
We had a great turnout for the November meeting and no one was disappointed with the great presentation by Mike and Christie Carlson, Pioneer Anglers of Alpine, Wyoming. Buck Goodrich will be our guest speaker in January after we take a break in December for the Christmas Party. Buck will be telling us about the fishing opportunities in the southwestern (Cascade) corner of Yellowstone National Park. Be sure to attend.

But of more immediate concern is our Christmas Party on December 9<sup>th</sup>. More information is found on page 2. There is a sign-up at Jimmy's. Please sign-up by December 5<sup>th</sup>. If your plans change at the last minute and you are able to attend or if you don't see this announcement until after the sign-up deadline, show up any way. We have never ran out of food yet. But signing up early certainly helps us plan. And when you head to Jimmy's to sign-up and pay, consider any unused items that you have laying around that might make a good Christmas gift and drop them in the gift box at Jimmy's. Gag gifts are also acceptable. If you can't make it to Jimmy's, call and have your name placed on the list. You can pay at the door, but only with a check or cash.

In my recent columns I have addressed the issue of getting more folks to volunteer. While we have a dedicated group of people that keep the Snake River Cutthroats functioning, we can always use more. I would like to highlight two new members who didn't wait to be asked. John Rivera moved to Idaho Falls last spring. He saw our notice in the paper about the casting classes we were conducting. He hadn't even had time to transfer his membership to the Cutthroats and yet, he stopped by to offer his help. He is a certified casting instructor, so his offer was readily accepted. Bill Montalvo moved to Swan Valley just this past summer after retiring. He was at our October meeting and said he wanted to get involved with the club after he introduced himself. The following morning, Ron Hover and I were going to help Matt Woodard replace a wire gate with a metal gate to make it easier for volunteers to access the screens we clean on Rainey Creek. I asked if he could help. Bill met us at the Swan Valley LDS Church parking lot the next morning. After installing the new gate, we headed to Swan Valley for a late lunch. Bill had just placed his order when his radio went off. I neglected to mention that Bill is also a volunteer fireman. Some people wait to be asked, while others step forward to volunteer. Which one are you?

### UPCOMING EVENTS

*Christmas Party*  
*Idaho Falls Senior Citizen's Center*  
**Wednesday December 9<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM**



### Christmas Party



**Wednesday December 9<sup>th</sup>  
Senoir Citizen's Center  
535 West 21<sup>st</sup> St, Idaho Falls**

**Festivities begin at 6:00 PM,  
Dinner at 6:45 PM**

**Sign up at Jimmy's All Seasons Angler  
Before December 5<sup>th</sup>  
\$15.00 per person**

This is sure to be another fun event. Gifts and games will be part as well as great food. The club will provide another great catered meat and non-alcoholic beverages.

According to your last name, please bring the following:

A through I - Will bring some kind of salad.

J through R - Will bring some kind of hot dish.

S through Z - will bring some kind of desert.

Alcohol is allowed at the center, but BYOB

If you want to donate or "re-gift" an item for the gift swap, drop it at Jimmy's no later than Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>.

### Help Needed to Make the Christmas Party a Success

Would like to volunteer? Here's where help is needed.

**Set-up:** Be at the Senior Citizen's Center at 5:40 PM to help arrange tables and seating.

**Gift Wrapping:** We have someone to purchase gifts, but we need a few volunteers to help wrap these gifts. Time & place TBD

**Clean-up:** We need volunteers to clean up the Center after we've finished and put things away. This will be done between 9 and 10 PM

**Contact Paul Patterson: 569-8031  
patterson@gold.uidaho.edu to volunteer for any of these.**

### Electronic Newsletters Available

For those still receiving hard copies of the newsletter via standard mail, but would prefer to receive it via email, please send your email address to Carol Staples, our membership chair, at [casbas@ida.net](mailto:casbas@ida.net).

Fewer mailings mean more dollars for conservation projects. The fish will appreciate your cost saving efforts.



## Headgate Work on Dry Bed Starts Early Salvage by Greg Losinski, IGF&G

The start of April normally marks the beginning of a unique angling experience in Eastern Idaho, but this year the special salvage opportunity is starting now. Maintenance headgate work is being done by the Great Feeder Canal Company. Maintenance work is routine enough that an annual salvage harvest is built into the fishing regulations. This work is occurring at a different time of the year, so the Idaho Fish & Game Commission issued a special salvage order. Aside from timing, all other restrictions associated with the annual salvage season are in effect.

IDFG Regulations for the Dry Bed include the exceptions that it is legal to take fish using hands, dip nets or snagging. Use of seine nets, chemicals, firearms, explosives, or electric current remains prohibited. The stretch of the Dry Bed covered by this salvage order runs from Highway 48 (Between Lewisville and Menan, near the Idahoan Fresh Pack Plant) upstream to the Great Feeder Canal irrigation diversion headgate. It's important to note that most access to the canal is across private ground, so it's recommended to get permission from the land owner.

It is important to note that all regular bag and possession limits remain in effect. The Dry Bed is managed as a canal rather than an actual branch of the South Fork of the Snake River, so the regional cutthroat trout restrictions do not come into play. The daily limit is six trout any size and 25 mountain whitefish. All fish caught must be killed immediately and cannot be transported alive. The salvage order will remain in effect through March 31, 2016.

### Wetlands Need to Dry Out

By  
Aaron McKarley, Sand Creek Wildlife Area

Recreationists on the Sand Creek Wildlife Management Area often ask why some of our wetland ponds have very low water levels or are completely dry. The answer is, in order to have a healthy wetland it needs to dry out every few years. Wetlands provide many ecosystem services including: water purification, flood control, ground water recharge, and wildlife habitat. But, if these wetlands are not managed correctly they will not function in a way that maximizes their benefit. One of the key ingredients to properly managing wetland systems is periodic drying. One benefit to drying out a wetland is the breakdown of organic matter on the wetland floor. If a wetland is wet year after year it will build up layer upon layer of organic matter that will eventually become a peat layer. Long term water exposure decreases the decomposition rate of organic matter to the point that the wetland becomes increasingly shallow, thereby reducing wildlife values for a diverse array of plant and animal species. Another benefit of drying out a wetland is the increase in decomposition rate, thus fertilizing the wetland floor. Also, opportunities increase for plant diversity and seed producing wetland plants to grow which are extremely beneficial to waterfowl and furbearers. For those who have the ability to regulate water in a wetland, the best advice is to mimic the normal wet and dry years. Mother Nature will do the majority of the work, leaving only water control structure checks. It takes several years for a wetland to dry enough for the process to begin, but the resulting productivity is worth it.



## The Humpy (or Goofus Bug if you're from Montana)

By  
Bruce Staples



Like clothing and haircut styles; most fly patterns are hot for a while (often more from hype than effectiveness) then fade in popularity. Nevertheless, a few hang on. A good example is Taylor “Beartracks” William’s Renegade, originating in Idaho’s Sun Valley area back in the 1930s. Perhaps the only old pattern outdoing its western popularity is the Humpy. Its origin is more obscure than that of the Renegade. Some say its roots are in Jack Horner’s Horner Deer Hair. Canadians claim the Tom Thumb is its direct ancestor. Nevertheless the best discussion of its origin comes from a feature Pat Barnes wrote for *American Angler*, published in the Spring, 1990 edition. In his article Pat credits Montana guide Keith Kenyon with altering the Horner Deer Hair for use on the Firehole River in 1944. Although in “Ribbons of Blue”, he suggests the date at 1948, the earlier one is more likely correct. Pat and Sig were soon bombarded with requests for that “goofy deer hair fly.” So it became referred to as the “goofus bug” in the West Yellowstone region. By 1951 even Dan Bailey had adopted it and offered a blond deer hair version labeled “The Poor Man’s Wulff.” But it was in Jackson Hole where “Humpy, the wonder fly” gained the most fame and variation. In “A Trout’s Best Friend” Bud Lilly remembers Leonard “Boots” Allen offering various colored Humpys in nail kegs during the 1950s. Customers bought them by the handful. Ramona Bressler created the Black Humpy in the 1960s, and tied it by the thousands. In the late 1960s Jack Dennis applied elk hair to make more durable standard and blond versions. Charlie Ridenour created the Royal Humpy, and Jack soon offered the Parachute Humpy. Jack describes all these in his classic “Western Fly Tying Manual,” volume 1 (1972). Not to be outdone, Joe Allen, Boot’s son, created the Double Humpy. Wags create multiple Humpys on long-shanked hooks.

My experience with the Humpy makes certain variations amongst my “go to” patterns. I use a small Blond Humpy to simulate a PMD. I find this version, when tied properly using blond elk rump, to be highly visible and more durable than other available PMD patterns. Same goes for a very small standard humpy using olive thread for a BWO. I also tie a green drake version and a brown drake version in appropriate sizes. A standard humpy is a great deerfly or horsefly imitation. When a humpy gets beat up (from fish) it makes a superb emerger with something hanging down here and stuff trailing there.

I’ve also noticed that any fly shop worth its salt stocks at least some humpy variations. Gee, maybe the Humpy is not so out of style after all!

## Snake River Cutthroats 2016 Class Schedule by Jeff Armstrong

**Beginning Fly Tying Class** - Beginning fly tying classes will start on Tuesday, January 12th, 2016 and will run for 6 weeks. Classes are 2 hours each starting at 7:00 PM. All basic fly tying techniques are taught with emphasis on fly patterns that work well locally. All required materials and hooks are supplied for the basic cost of \$30. Instructors are some of the best in the country, with an average of 20 years teaching fly tying. This is a great way to get started in a hobby for a lifetime. The students need to bring the following: fly tying vise, scissors, a bobbin, hackle pliers, and other useful tools. If you have doubt on what to buy, come to the first class and there will be extra equipment to use. For further information and to sign up for this class contact Jeff Armstrong 522-7005; email [elkhorn83354@yahoo.com](mailto:elkhorn83354@yahoo.com)

**Fly Rod Building Class** - Rod Building Class will be held on Saturday February 6, 2016, from 10 AM to 5:30 PM. An introductory class will be held on Thursday January 21, 2016 from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM. The introductory class will allow instructors to help students decide which rod blank and components they will need for the class and where to buy the rod blank and components. The class is designed for building a quality rod for fresh or salt water. The novice can easily build a rod with patience and this class. The cost is \$30.00. This is your chance to get a fantastic rod at half the cost. Build a rod you will love to fish with. For further information and to sign up for this class contact Wade Allen at 390-3130; email [wncable@comcast.net](mailto:wncable@comcast.net)

**Free Fly Casting Class** - On Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup> 2016 starting at 6:30 PM there will be two free casting classes taught by FFF casting instructors. Classes will last for approximately 2 hours and are located at Tautphaus Park by the fountain (southeast corner of the park off Boulevard). This is open to everyone. There is no registration required. Just show up. The class is designed for beginners and intermediate casting levels. This is a great chance to start casting or improve you casting ability, and it is free. For further information contact Jeff Armstrong: Phone 522-7005; email [elkhorn83354@yahoo.com](mailto:elkhorn83354@yahoo.com). Some equipment can be provided for the students to use during the class. Please bring any equipment that you may have. Attend one or both classes.



## Petrале Sole with Lemon Shallot Brussels Sprouts

**Don't like fish recipes? You will change your mind after trying this or any other Petrале Sole recipe.**

### Ingredients

- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons finely grated lemon peel
- 1 teaspoon coarse kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground white pepper plus additional for seasoning
- 3 tablespoons olive oil, divided
- 12 ounces petrале sole fillets
- 3/4 cup thinly sliced shallots
- 6 ounces brussels sprouts, trimmed and thinly sliced lengthwise
- 1 cup vegetable broth
- 1 tablespoon unsalted butter
- 1 teaspoon chopped fresh Italian parsley
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### Recipe Steps

- Combine flour, lemon peel, coarse salt, and 1/2 teaspoon white pepper in shallow bowl.
- Heat 1 tablespoon olive oil in each of 2 large skillets over medium heat. Coat fish in flour mixture and shake off excess. Add fish to skillets and cook until opaque and golden brown, 1 to 2 minutes per side. Remove from heat and season to taste with salt. Cover loosely with foil and set aside.
- Wipe out 1 skillet. Add remaining 1 tablespoon olive oil and heat over medium heat. Add shallots and sauté until almost translucent, about 2 minutes. Add brussels sprouts and broth. Increase heat to medium-high and cook, stirring occasionally, until brussels sprouts are tender and liquid is almost completely absorbed, about 8 minutes. Remove from heat. Stir in butter. Season to taste with salt and white pepper.
- Spoon brussels sprouts onto plates. Top with fish, sprinkle with chopped parsley, and serve.

SERVINGS: 2





## 2015-2016 Calendar

Wednesday, December 9 <sup>th</sup>	Xmas Party, Senior Citizen's Center, 6 PM
Tuesday, January 5 <sup>th</sup>	SRC Board Meeting, 6:30 PM
Tuesday, January 12 <sup>th</sup>	Beginning Fly Tying Class, 7:00 PM, IFHS
Wednesday, January 13 <sup>th</sup>	General Membership Meeting, 6:30 PM Guest Buck Goodrich
Thursday, January 21 <sup>st</sup>	Introductory Rod Building Class, 6:30-7:30 PM IFHS
Tuesday, February 2 <sup>nd</sup>	SRC Board Meeting, 6:30 PM
Saturday, February 6 <sup>th</sup>	Rod Building Workshop, Location TBA, 10:30 AM- 5:30 PM
Wednesday, February 10 <sup>th</sup>	General Membership Meeting, Shilo Inn, Guest TBA
Tuesday, March 1 <sup>st</sup>	SRC Board Meeting, 6:30 PM

Note: all membership and board meetings are held at the Shilo Inn.

## Fly of the Month

### Stan's Willow Fly

Stan Yamamura created this pattern in the early 1960s to simulate small stonefly adults. It was quickly tied from readily available materials thus suiting his commercial fly tying operation. It also became popular in eastern Idaho, western Wyoming, and southwestern Montana as an adult caddisfly pattern. During the 1970s Al Troth's Elk Hair Caddis passed it in popularity. It is no longer commercially available, but some east Idaho fly-fishers tie it for personal use.

Hook: Dai-Riki 300, or equivalent, size 10-16  
 Thread: Color matching natural, 6/0  
 Body: Tying thread  
 Wing: Straw colored elk rump hair  
 Hackle: One each brown and grizzly saddle



Snake River Cutthroats  
291 Dale Drive  
Idaho Falls, ID 83402

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Permit no. 15

## ***Snake River Cutthroats***

### **Club Officers**

**President:** Paul Patterson: (208-569-8031)  
**Past President:** Gary Barnes (208-538-7881)  
**Ex. Vice President:** Rory Cullen (208-419-8477)  
**VP Conservation:** Jeff Armstrong (208-522-7005)  
**Treasurer:** Jim Mathias (208-684-4200)  
**Secretary:**

### **Senior Advisors**

Jimmy Gabettas  
Buck Goodrich  
Scott Long  
Jim Mathias  
Dave Pace  
Bruce Staples  
Marvin Stucki

### **Board of Directors**

#### **3 Yr Directors**

Arn Berglund (569-2243), George Klomp (680-2762), Matt Woodard (221-1353)

#### **2 Yr Directors**

Christina Assante (270-0347), Pat & Susan Marushia (523-1591), Wade Allen (390-3130)

#### **1 Yr Directors**

Jeff Childress (351-9831), Ron Hover (529-9791), Mike Miller (357-5569)

### **Committee Chairs**

Membership: Carol Staples (208-522-9242)  
Historian/Newsletter: Bruce Staples (208-522-9242)  
Education: Jeff Armstrong (208-522-7005)  
Expo: Wade Allen (208-390-3130)  
Programs: George Klomp (208-680-2762) & Marv Stucki (208-524-1825)  
Outings: Mike Miller (208-357-5569)  
Website: Tim Woodard (208-201-1669)  
Youth: Christina Assante (208-270-0347)