

The Cutthroat Chronicles

Official Newsletter of the Snake River Cutthroats

November, 2018

A Message from the President *by Paul Patterson*

We got off to a great start last month with the program on the Henry's Fork by Rick Smith. It was informative and entertaining. Please note that the November meeting is a week earlier than was shown on the calendar in the October newsletter. Back to the theme I started last month of providing an overview of the Snake River Cutthroats. While we are not opposed to trying new and different activities, we currently offer quite a lot that you might not be aware of. Please bring your ideas to the board or a board member and we can discuss them.

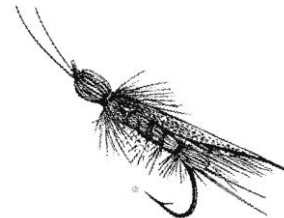
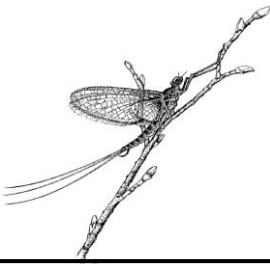
The SRC hold 9 membership meetings throughout the year. Meetings are typically the second Wednesday of the month. But we do occasionally, like this month, have scheduling conflict. Six of these meetings, October and November and January through April, have a speaker. While the meeting start time is shown as 6:30, the program doesn't start until a little after 7. Typically, there is a tier in the time slot from 6:30 to 7:00 (often the speaker) and it also provides a time to socialize with other members and an opportunity to purchase raffle tickets, etc. Since this is a membership meeting we take a few minutes to mention programs, projects and other issues that members might be interested in. This usually takes 5-10 minutes. I thought I needed to cover this because I have had a couple of people complain to me about not starting the program "on time". The other three membership meetings are more social activities and do not involve a speaker. These include the Christmas party in December, the pizza party and elections in May, and the summer picnic in July. The Christmas party and the summer picnic are both quasi pot luck. We ask people to bring a dish to share but the chapter provides the main course. While there is not charge for the picnic or the pizza party, there is a \$15 charge per person for the Christmas party. We also have a signup sheet at Jimmy's All Season's Angler for the Christmas party and picnic. Check the calendar in the back of the newsletter or the SRC website for dates and times.

The SRC also sponsor fishing outings throughout the year, typically one each month from April through November. Most outings are one-day events, although some like the South Fork overnighter may involve multiple days. The objective of these are both social and to introduce people to fishing opportunities they may not have take advantage of. The coordinator for each outing determines whether there should be a cap on the number of people participating and what that is to make it a quality experience and not negatively impact other users.

A new program, Tie One On, was started just last year to appeal to younger, potential members. This event is held at Tap 'n Fill the third Tuesday from October through March. You must be at least 21 to attend. There is a featured tier and the presentation lasts about an hour.

UPCOMING EVENT

**Robert Van Rensberg on Euro
Nymphing
Wednesday, November 7th, 6:30 PM
Idaho Falls Shilo Inn**



SNAKE RIVER CUTTHROATS

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www.snakerivercutthroats.org



Robert Van Rensberg on Euro Nymphing



**Wednesday, November 7th, 6:30
PM
Idaho Falls Shilo Inn**

It seems a bit unusual to see that Bud Lilly's Trout shop now sports the sign "Big Sky Outfitters." But a congenial crew has taken ownership of that icon fly shop. One of that crew is Robert Van Rensberg, an international fly fisher formerly of the Union of South Africa. There he represented this country several times in World Fly-Fishing championships. He has fly-fished in 17 countries and holds a Euro Nymphing certificate from the Czech Republic. He holds several more international fly-fishing accomplishments

Euro Nymphing will be the subject of his presentation. Within he will target such as essential equipment, tackle, rigging lines and leaders, knots, casting line management, reading the river, hooks designs, and weighting of flies.

Sounds like a pretty thorough presentation!

Larry Karinen

From birth in Deadwood, South Dakota Larry moved around the West, with an interval serving in the Marines in Viet Nam. After high school, he attended Montana State on a football scholarship and did some graduate work at University of Montana. He spent summers working as a logger in West Yellowstone. He finally landed in Idaho Falls in the early 1970s to oversee major construction operations in town. All his time to the end of life he was the thorough outdoorsman. He camped, hiked, boated, and fished with his children. He loved the South Fork and float-fished there throughout the season. But Larry fly-fished all over the region from Montana and Wyoming and special waters in Idaho including the Henry's Fork, Henry's Lake, and the Teton River. Beyond these he enjoyed, for example, pursuing Kodiak Island's superb silver salmon. Larry attended, as a TU member, most Snake River Cutthroats meetings, and could be observed taking notes on guest speaker tips on how to fish quality waters. Larry passed away here in Idaho Falls on October 9th. Through his family he requested that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Snake River Cutthroats Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

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@cableone.net.

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



Tincup Creek Conservation Project

By
Paul Patterson



Hauling and spreading mulch.

Volunteers from Star Valley's and Jackson's Trout Unlimited chapters joined with Snake River Cutthroat volunteers on the first Saturday of September to work on phase two of the Tin Cup Creek Restoration for native fish. The project is being conducted by Trout Unlimited and the Caribou-Targhee National Forest. Phase 2 encompasses 1.6 miles of stream, while the entire project covers roughly 4 miles and will potentially continue through 2020. Most of the work is being done with large equipment, but volunteers were needed to spread mulch to cover bare soil and areas recently reseeded with native grasses.



Loading mulch.

It was a two-hour drive to the project site for SRC volunteers, just upstream from where Highway 34 crosses Tin Cup Creek along Forest Service Road 117. The stream was badly degraded after willows were inadvertently aerielly sprayed in 1956. The loss of willows destabilized the steam leading to downcutting and a disconnected flood plain. While improving habitat for Yellowstone cutthroat trout is the primary focus. Other species will benefit from this project as well.



Lee & Andy unloading mulch from Bill Montolvo's trailer.

Large mulch piles had been placed at several locations along the recently restored stream segment. The volunteers used trailers, wheelbarrows, and buckets to move the mulch to where it was needed. It was then spread by hand or distributed using rakes.



Most of the crew.

Thanks to the SRC volunteers on this project, which included: Arn and Laura Berglund, Andy Bosworth, Richard Cain, Rory Cullen, Pat and Susan Marusia, Bill Montolvo, Paul Patterson and Jerry Sehlke. Special thanks to Bill for bringing his ATV and trailer to haul mulch and to the Star Valley Wyoming Trout Unlimited Chapter for furnishing lunch. There were also three volunteers from the East Idaho Aquarium. Thanks also to Forest Service fisheries biologists Lee Mabey and Cory Lyman, and to Leslie Steen, Trout Unlimited Snake River Headwaters Project Manager.

Al Phillips

He was born in Roseville, California when that area was less “metropolitan” than now. In his youth he had a dream of living an outdoor life. Thus with foresight, intelligence, and determination he worked his way into mechanical engineering and received his degree in that field from University of California Berkeley (also Idaho Falls’ current mayor Casper’s alma mater). In the late 1960s he was employed at the INL’s Naval Reactor Facilities. There he began a career as a sought after and award winning engineer. From fellow employees he gathered information that would lead the way to realizing that outdoor life. With respect to fly-fishing, he determined that Yellowstone National Park’s Fall River Basin was (and remains) a fly-fishing paradise. So without hesitation he began his many travels east on the Ashton-Flagg Ranch (aka Reclamation or Grassy Lake Road) Road to the Fish Lake-Loon Lake Road which during the days of his first employ ended at Fish Lake. Those visits became long standing with kindred spirit Buck Goodrich. These two invited fellow fly-fishers, sometimes their young sons, into their lengthy relationship with Fish Lake trophy-size brook trout, “Boundary Beaver Pond” ‘bows, and brookies, and Fall River’s superb cuttbows and occasional cutts. For years ongoing those visits began around Memorial Day, extending into summer dates to usually end in September when the lure of hunting season began for Al and Buck. Camp for these visits would usually be at Loon Lake, a location having history of use by early twentieth century trappers, hunters, and even big game poachers. Getting to this location to realize the Memorial Day visits could be an odyssey. Bucking snowdrifts, making it through massive mud puddles and braving springtime snow storms became almost the norm. So numerous were these happenings the two friends applied names to certain spots. There was “Hotel Drift” where one of the two high-centered a truck, spent the night within, to be pulled free the next morning. There was “Karvinen Slough” in which Ray Karvinen became notoriously stuck. Numerous other early season spots had such distinguished names. These visits went on for decades with an interlude being Al’s two-year job related transfer to Pittsburgh, PA. On his joyful return to Fall River Basin the trips resumed and continued visits to Bechler River, Boundary Creek, Mountain Ash Creek, and especially Beula Lake. Al eventually ventured to such as Shoshone Lake and Heart Lake Basin. He memorialized the Heart Lake Basin trip and its phenomenal fishing with a presentation titled “A Trip to Foot Sore Lake.” Certainly there were visits to other prime fishing locations, and through these Al gained a growing respect for conservation and efforts to preserve these special locations. Thus he became active in the Snake River Cutthroats. He served as president in 1979-1980. Within this tenure Al created our original newsletter format. He directed purchase of our first logo, later known as the “Alligator Patch.” Under his direction the club actively opposed reinstating bait fishing in Box Canyon of the Henry’s Fork. With positive regional consequences the club with Idaho Department of Fish and Game began the out-planting of brown trout in the Henry’s Fork below Lower Mesa Falls and its main tributaries. After his presidency Al remained active on the club’s executive board for many years. He participated in activities including conservation outings, fly casting clinics, and fly tying classes. Visits to his beloved Fall River Basin continued until illness took its toll. Battling cancer Al remained amiable, humorous, and totally willing to share his accumulated fly-fishing knowledge with all enthusiasts. He passed away on September 24th of this year. His son Mark offered that this coming winter will be a bit colder because of his Dad, Al’s, absence.

Silver Creek Rule Changes

Please note: Only sections shown below have proposed rule changes (strikethrough in red). Other sections won't change.

Section: From Highway 93 upstream to the County Road Bridge north of Picabo (See Page 26, 4 on the Silver Creek map):

- All diversion ponds have the same rules as the connected stream
- December 1 through ~~the last day of February~~ March 31 – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- ~~March~~ April 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – closed to fishing
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 6

Section: From the County Road Bridge north of Picabo upstream to the bridge near milepost 187.2 on Highway 20 west of Picabo (See Page 26, 3 on the Silver Creek Map)

- No motors
- All diversion ponds have the same rules as the connected stream
- December 1 through ~~the last day of February~~ March 31 – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- ~~March~~ April 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – closed to fishing
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit is 2, none between 12 and 16 inches

Section: From the bridge near milepost 187.2 on Highway 20 west of Picabo upstream to the road right-of-way fence on the west side of Kilpatrick Bridge (See Page 26, 2 on the Silver Creek map)

- No motors
- All diversion ponds have the same rules as the connected stream
- No fishing from rafts or boats; float tubes are allowed
- ~~December 1~~ April 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – closed to fishing
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through ~~November 30~~ March 31 – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release, fly fishing only, no bait allowed, one barbless hook per fly.

Recipe of the Month

Pickled Trout

(Particularly good for South Fork rainbows and Yellowstone Lake lake trout)

This recipe is perfect for smaller fish, as pickling will dissolve the bones, sparing you the tedious task of removing them. Moreover, the jars can be kept refrigerated for over a month. If you find that the result tastes too much like vinegar, strain the trout and vegetables and mix them with sour cream the day before serving (you can add back a little bit of the pickling liquid if you wish).

Yields 2 pint jars

2 1/2 oz peeled carrot
4 oz peeled shallot
4 thyme sprigs
0.3 oz fennel green, very coarsely chopped
0.6 oz salt
0.5 oz sugar
Tbl spoon cooking oil

20 oz trout fillet, cleaned

- Slice the carrot and shallot very thinly using a mandoline. Transfer to a bowl and add the thyme and fennel green.
- Place the salt, sugar, 2 cups vinegar, oil and ½ cup orange juice in a blender, and process until smooth. Pour into the bowl and mix.
- Cut the trout into pieces 2" to 2 1/2" long. In sterilized pint jars, arrange successive layers of vegetable mixture and trout, and top with the liquid mixture. Refrigerate for at least 3 days.
- Remove from the fridge about 30 minutes before serving, and eat with toasted rye bread.

Fly of the Month

Wool Head Sculpin

It is time to pitch big streamer patterns to migrating browns and foraging 'bows. Craig Mathews and John Juracek first described using wool for streamer heads and for making mice in Fly Fisherman Magazine back in December, 1985. They credit an unknown tier for first using wool for these purpose.

Hook: Daiichi 2220, or equivalent, size 2-8

Thread: Brown or olive, 6/0

Rib: Gold wire

Body: Olive yarn

Wing: Olive rabbit fur strip

Fins: Dyed olive grouse feathers

Head: Clump of brown, gray and or olive wool bound to shank & trim to shape



2018-19 Calendar

Date	Activity
Tuesday, October 30 th	SRC Board Meeting, 6:30 PM, Shilo Inn
Wednesday, November 7 th	Membership Meeting, 6:30 PM, Shilo Inn, Guest: Big Sky Anglers' Rob Van Rensberg
Tuesday, November 20 th	Tie One On Night, Tap & Fill, 7-8 PM
Tuesday, December 4 th	SRC Board Meeting, 6:30 PM, Shilo Inn
Wednesday, December 12 th	Xmas Party, Senior Citizens Center
Tuesday, December 18 th	Tie One On Night, Tap & Fill, 7-8 PM
Tuesday, January 8 th	SRC Board Meeting, 6:30 PM, Shilo Inn
Wednesday, January 9 th	Membership Meeting, 6:30 PM, Shilo Inn, Guest: Brett Novak
Tuesday, February 5 th	SRC Board Meeting, 6:30 PM, Shilo Inn
Wednesday, February 13 th	Membership Meeting, 6:30 PM, Shilo Inn, Guest: Boots Allen

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

Board meetings are open to all members and are held in the VIP room.

General membership meetings are held in the Temple/River View rooms and are open to the public



Snake River Cutthroats
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