



# The Cutthroat Chronicles

Official Newsletter of the Snake River Cutthroats

January, 2019

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

The Snake River Cutthroats Christmas Party last month was a great success based on the number of positive comments we received and a record attendance of 85. While there were a few glitches, I think everyone had an enjoyable evening. Many thanks to Paul and Dea Voegeli for working with “Catered Your Way” and for picking up the main course and getting it served. A lot of the favorable comments I heard were about the food. Thanks also to Dave Pace who acquired gifts for the gift exchange and the participation drawing, as well as getting the Christmas gifts wrapped. Thanks to Rob Knox and Rory Cullen for their work on the participation gift drawing and gift exchange. And thanks to all the other folks who helped with the setup and/or the clean up at the end of the evening, especially Jan Cullen, Fabia Rivera, and Pat and Susan Marushia. And I would be remiss if I didn’t acknowledge the generous donations we received from Loop USA, RIO, Jimmy’s All Seasons Angler, Cabela’s, and Idaho Fishing Outfitters. Please support these local businesses that are so generous to us. We also received a much-appreciated cash donation from Jim Slattery.

The Christmas party gave us an opportunity to acknowledge the contributions of a couple of our well-deserving members. The President’s Award, a relatively new recognition award, was given to Arn Berglund. The President’s Award is given to someone who has been involved for many years, who participates and volunteers often, who has served on the board, who puts in many unseen hours, and who is presently active in the chapter. This certainly describes Arn. He is currently serving as the VP of Conservation and he is chair of the Expo Committee for the second year. Arn received a beautiful handcrafted net built by Mike Avery (Snake River Net Company) engraved with his name. The other recognition went to Bob Bradford for his outstanding salesmanship in selling squares on the rod board and other raffles during the Expo. He received a gift certificate at Jimmy’s All Seasons Angler. The raffle boards are one of the major sources of funds at the Expo. The Expo funds our chapter activities as well as provides funds for our conservation projects and education programs. Congratulations to both Arn and Bob. When you see these guys, tell them how much you appreciate their contributions.

Speaking of the Expo, I will repeat my plea to anyone who might be interested in serving on the Expo committee. There is a wide range of needs. This is the group that plans and executes all the different activities and events that take place at the Expo. It does require a serious commitment, but the time commitment varies. Some of the jobs require time months in advance and the work is done before the Expo even begins, while for other positions, the work doesn’t start until the week of the Expo and require a lot of time over a couple of days. If interested or if you simply have some questions, please contact either me or Arn Berglund. Our phone numbers are on the back page.



**UPCOMING EVENT**  
**Membership Meeting**  
**Wednesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM**  
**Brett Novak**  
**Shilo Inn, Idaho Falls**





**Brett Novak**  
**Wednesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 6:30**  
**PM**  
**Tidehead Fly Fishing**  
**Destinations.**



Brett Novak comes to us from upstate New York where he enjoyed fishing for largemouth bass, bluegill, and occasional introduced rainbow trout. He arrived in the Rocky Mountains in 1997. He bumped around a bit then landed a job guiding for the South Fork Lodge to take fishing clients on the river. Sue Talbot became his bride and together they guided on many of eastern Idaho's best approachable waters. During these years he was the South Fork Lodge head guide then outfitting manager for the Lodge. During winters Brett guides off Louisiana for redfish and the Florida Keys for tarpon, bonefish, and permit under the business Tidehead Fly Fishing Destinations. Brett's program will offer experiences that the fly-fisher can expect from his and Sue's business.

## **Tie One On** **Meetings Are Upcoming**



**Staples Brown Drake**

The Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup> "Tie One On" Tap and Fill had a "Full House." So far that's been the case for most of these meetings. More are scheduled with the Tuesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup> meetings at Tap and Fill upcoming. Dave Raisch is scheduled to be the featured tier at the Tuesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

### **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](mailto:casbas@cableone.net).

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



## Some Trout Unlimited Information: Past, Present, and Future

Trout Unlimited was established in 1959 along the banks of Michigan's Au Sable River by a group of 16 anglers who were interested in protecting trout in that and other popular fishing rivers. Founders included Art Neumann and George Griffith, creator of the popular fly pattern Griffith's Gnat. The first president was Dr. Casey E. Westell Jr. Neumann was the first vice president.

Today, TU is a national organization with more than 150,000 formal members organized into about 400 chapters in nearly every state. The organization's annual budget is approximately \$50 million according to [TU's 2017 Annual Report](#) . Trout Unlimited has achieved a rating score of 88.26 <sup>3</sup> from Charity Navigator.

Trout Unlimited's staff currently numbers about 220. About 25 of the staff members are based in the organization's national office in Arlington, Va. The others work throughout the country in regional offices.

The staff is organized into several departments, including Volunteer Operations, Science, Eastern Conservation, Western Conservation, Government Affairs and media and marketing.

The organization has developed various tools to help prioritize protection, restoration and conservation efforts. Tools include the [Conservation Success Index \(CSI\)](#), a framework for assessing the health of coldwater fish species throughout their native range, the [Brook Trout Portfolio Analysis](#), which utilizes GIS technology to assess brook trout habitat strongholds.

TU chapters in a region are organized into a council. Most are organized by state boundaries; however some councils are made up of more than one state (for example the Mid-Atlantic Council which serves Maryland, Delaware and Washington D.C.) In most cases, the council serves as an umbrella organization for its chapters, state-wide. Councils are the key link between the TU staff and local chapters.

The TU Strategic Plan identifies four points key areas of focus for the organization's staff and volunteers, including:

1. Protect high quality habitat for native and wild coldwater fish.
2. Reconnect fragmented fish populations and habitats by improving instream flows and removing fish passage barriers.
3. Restore watersheds by working in collaboration with others.
4. Sustain our conservation efforts by inspiring and training present and future generations of conservation stewards.



## It's Fly Tying Season!

Bruce Staples

Up to about six weeks ago fall fishing and the weather were great. Now the outdoor thermometer readings and those many-times grey skies combined with wind make that weather and fishing a memory. Ice in the guides, in the reel, along with cold hands, and the joy of getting out of waders in a frigid wind makes thoughts of a fireplace hosting a crackling blaze, a favorite beverage nearby, relaxing music in the air, and that vise set up for a good tying session extremely attractive. To support this image, fly tying demos each Saturday and evening tying classes are in session at our most renowned fly shop. The SRC entry level tying class is scheduled. The Bug Club is in session on alternate Saturdays, and Tie One On is in full swing the third Tuesday of each month. And, yes, and there is a new crop of tying videos on You-Tube.



Why is fly tying so enjoyable? There are a number of reasons. Creativity is certainly one. So is accomplishment (tying an effective pattern; even though fly fishing success is overwhelmingly based on presentation). Without a doubt it also provides an escape from “cares of the world.” Certainly there are other reasons, some of which may be personal.

Here are a few thoughts that can help enjoying this tranquil and rewarding activity.

- **Hair Conditioner:** Before use, wash buck tails, calf tails, any other hairs and also capes and saddles in hair conditioner. Wash these items first in warm water, rinse, then apply conditioner according to label directions. These items will be easier to work with and also better looking.
- **Better Zonker Strips:** Comb any underfur out of a zonker strip segment before use. A more translucent appearance results and better action in the water will happen.
- **Never use deer mask hair for Sparkle or Compara dun winging:** Use coarse, short body hair with little or no black on the tips. Such hair will be hollow throughout most its length. Thus it will flair to form the wing as well as compress with thread wraps to reduce bulk behind the wing giving a smoother body taper.

I'll pass on more tips in upcoming newsletters.

## **Snake River Cutthroats 2019 Beginning Fly Tying and Fly Rod Building Classes**

**Beginning Fly Tying Class** - Beginning fly tying classes will start on Tuesday, January 22th, 2019 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 \$40. 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. Students need to be 10 years old or older. The students need to bring the following: fly tying vise, scissors, a thread bobbin, hackle pliers, bodkin, half hitch tool, hair stacker 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 Buck Goodrich 208-357-7328 ([www.snakerivercutthroats.org](http://www.snakerivercutthroats.org)).

**Fly Rod Building Class** - Rod Building Class to be held in late January and early February 2019, the exact date to be announced in early January. At a pre-meeting two weeks prior to the class, the instructors will help students decide which rod building components they need and where to buy the 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 \$40. 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 208-390-3130 ([www.snakerivercutthroats.org](http://www.snakerivercutthroats.org)).

### **“Bug Club” Now in Session**



The first Bug Club meeting, held Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at Shari's Restaurant was very well attended. Two flies were targeted: a variation of Bill Scheiss's Halloween (above left) and Doug Prince's Prince Nymph (above right). The Bug Club meets every other Saturday at Shari's Restaurant, Idaho Falls on Broadway just off the I-15 exit. Breakfast begins at 8 AM and tying begins at 9 AM. On concluding each meeting, attendees decide on a fly tying subject for the following meeting. Next meeting will be Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup> 2019.



## Recipe of the Month

### Cornmeal Brook Trout

Brook trout that inhabit our headwater streams tend to overpopulate and rarely grow to more than a foot in length. A “saving grace” is that they are easily caught, and IDF&G allows a daily limit of 25. That’s enough supply for a moderately sized fish fry. Use this recipe on the brookies, and combine the results with hush puppies and slaw. You may have to wait several months to do so, but you will have a fish fry fit for a king.



### Ingredients

1 egg  
1 cup water  
3/4 cup flour  
1/2 cup cornmeal  
1 tablespoon chopped flat-leaf parsley, plus more leaves for garnish  
1/2 teaspoon garlic salt  
1/2 teaspoon onion salt  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1/2 teaspoon ground white pepper  
2 rainbow or brook trout, dressed and butterflied  
1/2 cup canola oil

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Lemon slices, as a garnish

### Directions

1. Mix egg and water and slowly whisk in flour and cornmeal. Add parsley, garlic salt, onion salt, salt, and ground white pepper. Lay prepared fish in batter while oil is heating.
  2. In heavy skillet (preferably cast iron or non-stick), heat oil over medium-high heat until a 1/2 teaspoon batter dropped into it sizzles and begins to brown. Fry fish for 3 minutes on each side. Remove and drain on paper towels.
  3. Garnish with lemon slices and flat-leaf parsley leaves.
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4. Serving suggestion: Southern tartar sauce (chopped piccalilli mixed with mayonnaise) and hot green pepper sauce.

## Fly of the Month

### Blackfoot River Special

This is a great looking pattern by Larry Kriner. He created it for use on his favorite stream with the intent of imitating baby crawdads. It also looks like an excellent soft hackled streamer pattern. If you have not fished soft hackled patterns, whether to imitate an emerging aquatic insect ( small sizes) or as a streamer (large sizes), you are missing something!

Hook: Dai-Riki 710, or equivalent, size 2-4  
 Thread: Black, 6/0  
 Rib: Counter-wrapped oval gold tinsel tied in after hackle is wrapped  
 Body: Hot orange chenille or dubbing  
 Hackle: Soft ginger palmered around body  
 Collar: Mallard flank tied in soft hackled style



### 2019 Calendar

Date	Activity
Tuesday, January 8 <sup>th</sup>	SRC Board Meeting, 6:30 PM, Shilo Inn
Wednesday, January 9 <sup>th</sup>	Membership Meeting, 6:30 PM, Shilo Inn, Guest: Brett Novak
Saturday, January 12 <sup>th</sup>	Bug Club Meeting, 8 AM Shari's Restaurant
Tuesday, January 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Tie One On Night, Tap & Fill, 7-8 PM
Tuesday, January 22 <sup>nd</sup>	First Meeting Beginning Fly Tying Class, 7 PM, IFHS
Saturday, January 26 <sup>th</sup>	Bug Club Meeting, 8 AM Shari's Restaurant
Tuesday, February 5 <sup>th</sup>	SRC Board Meeting, 6:30 PM, Shilo Inn
Wednesday, February 13 <sup>th</sup>	Membership Meeting, 6:30 PM, Shilo Inn, Guest: Boots Allen
Tuesday, February 19 <sup>th</sup>	Tie One On Night, Tap & Fill, 7-8 PM
Tuesday, March 5 <sup>th</sup>	SRC Board Meeting, 6:30 PM, Shilo Inn
Fri.-Sat. March 29 <sup>th</sup> -30 <sup>th</sup>	East Idaho Fly Tying & Fly Fishing Expo, Shilo Inn

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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## ***Snake River Cutthroats***

### **Club Officers**

**President:** Paul Patterson (208-569-8031)  
**Past President:** Rory Cullen (208-419-8477)  
**Ex. Vice President:** Matt Woodard  
**VP Conservation:** Arn Berglund (208-569-2243)  
**Treasurer:** Jim Mathias (208-684-4200)  
**Secretary:** Tim Crain (208-821-1646)

### **Senior Advisors**

**Gary Barnes**  
**Jimmy Gabettas**  
**Buck Goodrich**  
**Ron Hover**  
**Scott Long**  
**Jim Mathias**  
**Dave Pace**  
**Bruce Staples**  
**Marvin Stucki**  
**Matt Woodard**

### **Board of Directors**

**3 Yr Directors:** Cal Johnson (208-716-1535), Lee Morse (208-252-0703), Paul Voegeli (303-324-0104)  
**2 Yr Directors:** Wade Allen (208-390-3130), John Rivera (208-528-7997), Bob Starck (208-589-9339)  
**1 Yr Directors:** Joe Timchak (208-569-0630), Mike Avery (208-351-3403), Rob Knox (760-419-1682)

### **Committee Chairs**

**Membership:** Carol Staples (208-522-9242)  
**Historian/Newsletter:** Bruce Staples (208-522-9242)  
**Education:** Jeff Armstrong (208-522-7005)/Terrance Scott (503-432-6953)  
**Expo:** Arn Berglund (208-569-2243)  
**Programs:** George Klomp (208-680-2762)/Bob Starck (208-589-9339)  
**Publicity:** Rob Knox (760-419-1682)  
**Outings:** Marv Stucki (208-589-9677)  
**Website:** Scott Long (520-3750), Rob Knox (760-419-1682), Tim Woodard (208-201-1669)  
**Youth:** Tim Crain (208-821-1646)