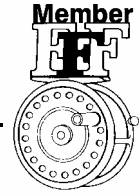




THE *FLYCASTER*



Northern Arizona Flycasters – October 2007

An Active Member Club of the Federation of Fly Fishers and Eastern Rocky Mountain Council
“Conservation, Restoration and Education Through Fly Fishing”

**Next Meeting October 3rd
Game and Fish building, 3500 S. Lake Mary Road at 7pm**

President’s Drift:

I hope you have made your reservations for the October 4,5,6,7, San Juan Outing. All previously reserved rooms for the October outing have been taken, however if you are still interested you can make your own room reservations. You are welcome to participate in the presentation by Peggy Harrell and eat with the group on Friday/Saturday nights. Give Dave Grubb or Warren White a call, so enough food will be prepared. Just as in the past we expect a lot of fun, good fishing, good food, and lots of fish stories.

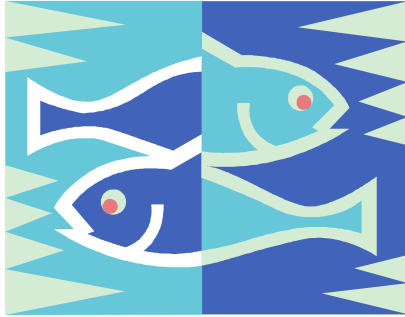
We have made some changes in our club meetings. This year we are going to have a mixture of guest speakers and member education programs. You won’t want to miss any of the meetings. As our club grows, we struggle to better understand what the members want out of the club. I would encourage all members, new and existing to join one of the committees. Share your ideas and help ensure a strong future for the club. Like all organizations, you only get out what you put in and this holds true for this club as well. To offer your help please contact one of the board members or myself. We would like to have your help!

This fall Tresa and I vacationed in Yellowstone, Tetons and Jackson Wyoming area. For those of you that haven’t had the opportunity to travel to this part of the country I would suggest this trip. We traveled North through Utah to Idaho and in the West gate of Yellowstone. You could spend an entire week fishing your way North to Yellowstone. Utah and Idaho have so many rivers and lakes to fish you will have a hard time deciding which ones to try. Unfortunately fishing in the park is almost non-existent; the rivers are low and the water warm. I was told that the Yellowstone river fish population is down to under ten fish per mile and after wading the rivers and not seeing one fish I’d have to believe them. My guess it will be years before the rivers recover. The Teton’s offer a lot of lakes and streams to fish, but again the fish population is lower than normal. We did fish the Snake River and had very good luck, catching one of every species the river offered. All and all the fishing was disappointing but the beauty of the region and the wild life more than makes up for that.

If you made a vacation trip this year we would like to hear from you. For now see you on the river in October.

Warren

Outing:



Guest Presentation:

Peggy Harrell: Peggy is a lifelong resident of New Mexico and devoted sportsperson. She currently guides for Abe's Motel & Fly Shop, the original fly shop and guide service on the San Juan River. She has a national reputation for her instructional ability. Her guiding goal is to leave her clients with the ability and technique necessary to catch and release the San Juan's 20+ inch trout on one of the most beautiful and challenging rivers in the country.

Conservation Corner:

At the September Club meeting I presented a hastily assembled program on conservation which included a DVD titled "Rising from the Shadows, the Return of the Cutthroat Trout." While the DVD talks only of the plight of cutthroats and what events contributed to their difficulties, the same reasons apply to all native fish in North America.

The reasons are many including over fishing, poor management (such as stocking non-natives) and habitat loss. Cutthroats were first discovered during the Lewis and Clark expedition in the Missouri River. Prior to the 1960's all cutthroat trout were assumed to be genetically the same. Thanks to Dr. Bob Behnke's extensive work, there are now 14 recognized sub species.

In pre settlement times populations of one or more of the original 14 sub species inhabited present day states from Washington to New Mexico and possible even Arizona.

Four species were thought to be extinct, however, small isolated populations of Lahontan and Paiute cutthroats were discovered and through considerable efforts from TU (and some from FFF) these sub species are being restored to their original lower Great Basin Range.

Yellow fin and Alvord cutts are now considered extinct but perhaps some day remnant populations will be discovered – who knows.

The Federation of Fly Fishers has been somewhat involved in the recovery of several sub species of cutts. FFF in addition to those mentioned above has supported projects involving Rio Grande, Snake River, West Coast and Yellowstone sub-species.

FFF is involved in many conservation projects stretching from Florida's Mangrove forests to Alaska Salmon. If you would like to know more about FFF and Conservation (and I hope you do) check out their excellent web site at www.fedflyfishers.org

Dick Brown
Conservation Chairman

Please Note: Beginning November 8th if you need to reach me use 928.606.4349

Models Wanted:

Kurt Drawz, local photographer and banquet donor is in need of a model especially those of you

who cast a good loop. If you are interested in an early morning or evening trips give him a call at 928-853-9484. If you remember his photos from the banquet, or have seen any of his work, you know that he is willing to hike.

Fishing the Kenai:

Submitted by Leo Labranche

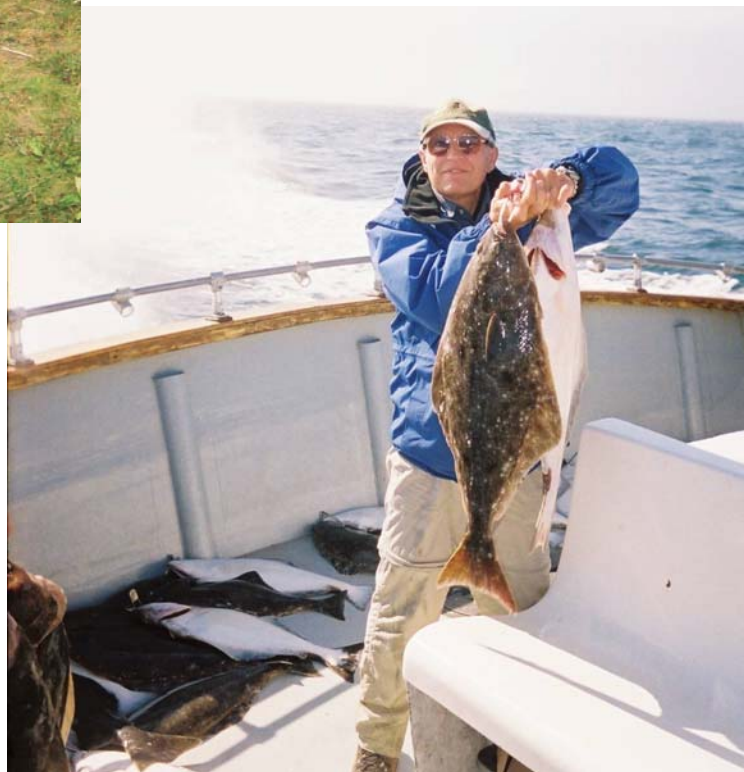
Ernie Batcheller, Jim Foy with family and friends and I had a great time fishing the Kenai river in Alaska this July and August. The weather was relatively decent and comfortable. Staying at RW's Lodge in Soldotna and fishing beside the lodge made it convenient when the bite was not on to return to the lodge. The most abundant fish was the Red or Sockeye all displaying the silver color but one caught by Jim Foy on his last day on the river a beautiful red colored spawner, it gave him quite a fight. We all had hopes to catch some Silvers but they had not started their migration up the river by the time we left. The primary technique is to snag them using a simple hook with yarn tied near the eye. The cast is 45 degrees upstream and leading downstream with the rod setting the hook when the fish takes the line or hook in its mouth. As part of the package, Ernie and I went flounder fishing up the Cook Inlet from Homer. We each caught our limit of two weighing approximately 20-30 pounds each, it was great fishing, had beautiful scenery as well as seeing two whales, one close to the ship and the other a distance away. The following day (8/31) we went with a guide to fish for King Salmon, it was the final day of the King season, no one even set a hook in one. Caught lots of Dolly's, all were let go. The next day we went out for Silvers and all scored 0 for 0 but low and behold I caught 3 that is **three** King Salmons, two juveniles and one adult. The adult was estimated to weight 50 or more pounds, took twenty plus minutes to bring him in using skillful line handling by the fisherman and excellent boat handling by the guide. All the fish was processed and packaged by RW's making life much easier on all of us. The last day when everyone else left for home Ernie and I went to the upper Kenai at Cooper Landing to fish with Fred from Mystic Waters for trout. Joel McMillin did a slide presentation on the section of river we fished. It is a beautiful canyon. We fished the same hole that Joel caught a huge trout in and spoke about but I think Joel took all the fish from that hole because we caught lots of fallen trees but no fish. I did however latch on to a large Rainbow in another pool it was estimated to be 27inches, I say estimated because you see he broke me off. Overall it was a fantastic trip that went without a hitch, everyone fishing rods and luggage arrived with them. Any one have great recipes for Salmon or Halibut please send them to Tresa to include in our newsletter.

Leo LaBranche





Leo Labranche



Board Members:



Officers were elected at the September 19th Board Meeting
Warren White- President
Vice President – Open
Secretary- Ron Sutter
Treasurer- Gary Tallman

Education:

Dan Hodler has volunteered to help Clark with Member and Public Education, they will be asking for suggestions at the October Meeting, come with suggestions! Or send Clark an e-mail at clarkr@npgcable.com.

Casting Clinic:

MARK YOUR CALENDAR- NOV 3 - Basic and intermediate casting lessons scheduled.

Skip Dixon, an excellent guide with Lees Ferry Anglers and a wonderful caster, will conduct two sessions of casting lessons on Nov. 3. One session will be for the new and beginning casters and will run from 10 AM to 12 AM. The second session will be for the intermediate and advanced skill level casters in the club. This session will run from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM. Location to be announced, but we are hoping to get permission to use the ponds just past the Continental Driving Range.

The Education Riffle:

The following was taken from an article on [www: Ifly4trout.com](http://www.Ifly4trout.com). It was written for the San Juan but parts or all are adaptable to fishing anywhere. Clark

FISHING THE SLOW PERIODS

Fishing the San Juan can be challenging at times. There are definitely slow periods between hatches when fishing is relatively slow. It is hard to predict when these periods will hit or how long they will last and they can be frustrating.

Tip 1: Change to a bigger and/or brighter fly. Often the inactivity is mostly due to the fact that fish are simply not feeding. Forget the size 24 midge pupae and go with attractor patterns. Tie on a big bunny leech or San Juan worm and dredge the slower and deeper pools. Strip leeches or woolly burgers through the almost stagnant water where you see big fish holding.

Tip 2: Fish slower and deeper. When fish are not actively feeding they will move out of the riffles and runs and move into holding spots. It is critical to get the fly down to the bottom and in front of the fish.

Tip 3: Be patient. You will not catch as many fish, but if you are patient and persistent, in many cases, you will out fish those around you.

Tip 4: Be observant. Watch for feeding activity to resume. Smile and rerig.

Current e-Mail/USPO Addresses:

Please keep Leo LaBranche informed when USPO or e-mail addresses change.

leophoenix2@aol.com If you wish an on line copy of the newsletter let

Tresa know. tresa@intergate.com



Library:



In connection with Member Education, Clark will be managing the Library- This is an informal way of sharing information. Donate, long or short term any books, CD's or videos you no longer use. Borrow any you may be interested in. The cart will be available at the monthly meeting.

Calendar of Events

NAF Club Officers/Committee Chairs

October 3	Regular Monthly Meeting – Game and Fish Offices	President – Warren White	928-526-3585
October 4-7	San Juan Outing	Vice President – Open	
October 8th	Lie and Tie Peace Surplus	Secretary - Ron Sutter	928-522-5642
October 17 th	Regular Monthly Meeting – Game and Fish Offices	Treasurer – Gary Tallman	928-527-1736
November 7th	Regular Monthly Meeting – Game and Fish Offices	Membership – Leo LaBranche	928-526-2987
November 12 th	Lie and Tie Peace Surplus	Programs	Warren White
November 21st	No Board Meeting	Conservation- Dick Brown	928.606.4349 or Rjmabrown@aol.com
December 5 th	Regular Monthly Meeting – Game and Fish Offices	Web Master- Dave Schurz	(928) 220-0921 dave@formmagic.com
December 10 th	Lie and Tie Peace Surplus	Public and Member Education -	Clark Dierks 928-556-1545
December 19 th	No Board Meeting	Meeting Raffles - Don Ellerman	(928) 814-0221
Give Peace a call if you plan on attending Lie and Tie so enough pizza and drinks can be ordered		Outings – Dave Grubb	928-522-5697
		Meeting Location - Paul Weitz	928-527-3861
		Newsletter – Tresa Ronco	928-526-3585
		Banquet Committee – Greg Neal, Frank Ronco, Ron Sutter, Bob Mankowski, Clark Dierks, Tresa Ronco	
		Budget Committee- Gary Tallman, Bob Mankowski, Ron Sutter, Scott Buell, Greg Neal	
		Conservation Committee- Dick Brown, Frank Ronco, Paul Weitz	