



NEW MEXICO TROUT

Newsletter

Dec 2010

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Greetings E-Members of New Mexico Trout,

Winter brings a change in weather, colder waters, and a yearning for spring, summer and fall fishing. Winter is a great time to fish in New Mexico, but the long restless nights also beckon us to spend some leisure time at the table to create new flies that will fool those cunning lunkers we missed last season.

In that spirit, New Mexico Trout recently hosted a bevy of fly tying events to spark those creative impulses and indulge in the craft. Our November general meeting featured an excellent lecture on hopper/dropper rigs and a fly tying demonstration from Royal Gorge Anglers. Two of their flies are featured in this month's newsletter. The Fly Tyer's Round Table had a nearly full house at its regular Monday events during the month. Experienced and novice tyers are encouraged to attend and to share and learn. And finally, the Fly Tyer's Symposium held last weekend was a great success. We'll have a full story on that event in the next newsletter.

Looking ahead to other Winter Events, don't forget to mark the Conclave on your calendar for 22 January. This event will feature special guests who will share their experiences, knowledge, and skills with our fraternity of fellow fly fishers. As always, there will be a great raffle for quality reels, lines, flies, books, fly tying kits, rods, guided trips, clothes, and other goodies for your fly fishing repertoire.

Finally, I want to report that our collective efforts have yielded a victory for trout and riparian habitat protection, with the recent vote of the Water Quality Control Commission. Read more about this landmark decision in this newsletter.

I hope you have a great holiday and I look forward to seeing you at the conclave!

Rudy Rios
President

Fly Tyers Round Table

by Mike Mauer and Sarah Stallard

It's a cold Monday night, but the laughter and lights shining out of one of Sandia Prep's lab room offer a welcoming escape. It is here you will find the members of the Round Table, an informal fly tying get together that is a decades-old tradition of New Mexico Trout. Since 1988 various New Mexicans aging from 7 to 70, from all walks of life, have gathered every



Monday (except on school holidays) to spend an evening of good conversation and excellent fly creation, and occasionally, cookies. "It's a great learning opportunity" Bob Day said "it's also a good way to meet people in our community who share a passion for fly tying." There is truth in his statements as the members traded tips on techniques and stories of fishing trips as they labored over their artistic creations. For the beginning fly tyer looking for a place to start, to the professional hoping to show off and share his/her skills, this group offers a friendly and fun opportunity.



New Mexico Trout meets informally every Monday evening from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at the Sandia Prep Science wing. We call this auspicious get-together the "Monday Night Round Table". We normally meet to tie flies, discuss new methods, tools, equipment, where to go and what the fish are doing. Occasionally we put together beginner classes, arrange trips and just socialize with other fly fishers. In the summer when we have enough light we have casting classes. Young or old, men or women are welcome and encouraged. Bring your fly tying "stuff" and join us! For more information call Mike @ 892-4092

Fly of the Month

At the November General Meeting, Larry Kingrey and Bill Eddrington from Royal Gorge Anglers provided a stimulating presentation on hopper/dropper rigging and techniques, along with a fly tying demonstration. Two of the flies from their repertoire are featured this month, which they recommend to use in tandem with the Striped Ape leading the Black Ice by approximately 18-24 inches, depending on water depth.

Striped Ape

Tied by Larry Kingrey

This is the ultimate Stimulator for hopper/dropper rigs.....double color and foam body floats high and is very visible.

Hook: 200R

Thread: 6/0 Hot Orange



Tail: Bleached Elk
Abdomen: 3mm x 1mm Laminated Foam
Abdomen Hackle: Brown, 2 hook sizes small
Wing: Bleached Elk
Thorax Hackle: Grizzly, 1hook size small
Thorax: Peacock Ice Dub or peacock herl



Tying tip: Cut tie-in end of foam on an angle and bevel, and tie down tapered / beveled end.

Tie in abdomen hackle one foam width (3mm) ahead of tail. Place one wrap of foam behind hackle, slightly firm, then wrap forward relaxing tension to create taper. Overlap same color to form stripes. Finish fly as regular stimulator.

Black Ice

Tied by Larry Kingrey

This pattern is Larry's newest and can be tied in several colors. It uses Hareline's Ice UV dub and Holographic Mylar Motion. Use gold beads for a different look or a silver bead with silver dub and silver motion for a great attractor. Black and green works well for Baetis and a red one with a black bead is a good Red Quill nymph. Sizes #14 to #22 are best. Larry has them in Black (shown), Gold, Red, Silver, Emerald, and Purple.



Hook: TMC 2457 #14-20-#22 on 2487/2488.

Head: Matching bead

Thread: 6/0 on #14, 8/0 on #16 - #22.

Tail: Hackle fiber.

Abdomen: Mylar holographic motion

Ribbing: Appropriate size wire/color

Thorax: Ice dub

Wingbase: Mylar holographic motion

Wrap mylar from thorax back to the tail, and overwrap back to thorax. Fold back tag of mylar, bub thorax, and then pull the mylar over.

More Royal Gorge Angler's patterns at

http://www.royalgorgeanglers.com/fly_pattern_recipes.php

More NM Trout patterns at <http://newmexicotrout.org/patterns.html>

Grandpa's Reward

by David A. Sanchez

Being "Ol' Grandpa Fisherman" can be a pain in the rear end. He is recruited to take little Ysabel or Bruce "fishing" because he is the family's recognized mentor in the angling art. The children's interest, if any, is reinforced by their parents' desire that they should respect their grandfather and profit from his vast piscatorial talents. This can wear pretty thin pretty fast, and the picture of the old man wearing his wrinkled, fly studded hat, walking off in the sunset with the youngster, fishing rods in hand, is largely a fiction of the fishing magazine advertisements.

Since it is not expected that the tyke will be an expert in the overhand cast or the double haul, Grandpa is somewhat handicapped in the training. The parents'

misguided encouragement usually starts with the child being given a kiddy fishing outfit, more likely coming from Toys-R-Us than the local tackle shop. The three foot rod, plastic reel, and some kind of huge bobber has a maximum range of about ten feet, and the first problem is to convince the youngster that this colorful piece of gear is more suitable for a lawn party than a fishing expedition.



While Grandpa may be a devoted and expert fly fisher, passing on to a seven year old the skills needed to throw a thirty foot tight loop with an eight foot rod will most likely be impossible. So the child is given one of those blister-pack spin cast children's outfit with an open faced reel having supposedly simple push button manipulations. But in training the child, it might be advisable to wear a hard hat. Without the right coordination and sequencing the forcefully swung bubble float, with baited hooks or a spinner attached is likely to end at the foot of the caster, or in a nearby bush, or in some part of Grandpa's outerwear or anatomy. The time honored cane pole with twelve feet of strong cord terminating in some lead and a couple of snelled hooks might be a better place to start, except that any fish caught will not qualify for an IGFA record.

But once the bait or lure is in the water the training largely passes beyond the tutorial realm to the genetic, since the essential ingredient of patience is not something Grandpa can directly provide. If reels are singing, poles are bending, and the fishing is fast and furious, all is well. But the test comes when the water is still and the bobber is floating aimlessly, or the lure returns untouched time and time again. Tolerance for inactivity is the mark of every dedicated angler and it appears early in life. Enjoyment of a day of fishing, not necessarily a day of catching, is something that cannot be taught.

Fishermen Grandpas of the world, do not despair if little Ysabel or Bruce does not turn out to be the angler you wanted them to be! In their adolescent or adult years they may occasionally do a little recreational fishing or may not fish at all. But your reward for all those hours of frustrating training will come when asked if they fish and they reply "No, I'm not much interested in fishing, but my Grandpa is one of the best fishermen ever."

New Mexico's Water Quality Control Commission Approves Historic Protections For State's Most Special Waters

On Tuesday, November 30th, the Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) designated many of New Mexico's most important rivers, streams, and wetlands located in U.S. Forest Service Wilderness Areas as "Outstanding National Resource Waters" (ONRWs). The designations join the only other two ONRWs in the state, the Rio Santa Barbara and the Waters of the Valle Vidal. The WQCC also approved revisions to the rules protecting these special waters proposed by the New Mexico Environment Department, conservation groups, and the San Juan Water Commission.

"We applaud the WQCC's decision to





protect New Mexico's headwaters. These ONRW protections will provide impressive water quality protections for not only these headwaters, but downstream towns, ranchers, farmers, and others," said Rachel Conn with Amigos Bravos. "The decision respects the people's connection to these waters by grandfathering pre-existing activities, such as acequia irrigation on the lands containing the ONRWs. Further, these

protections focus attention on proactive water quality restoration activities." The WQCC's decisions were not, however, unopposed. The New Mexico Cattle Growers Association and others sought to derail the public hearings by resorting to litigation, a tactic that was soundly rejected by the New Mexico Supreme Court on October 28, 2010. There are concerns that the Cattle Growers will again resort to litigation and other adversarial tactics to roll back the WQCC's decisions.

"There's a time and place for seeking redress in our courts," said Erik Schlenker-Goodrich, an attorney with the Western Environmental Law Center who represented Amigos Bravos, New Mexico Wildlife Federation, New Mexico Trout, and New Mexico Backcountry Hunters and Anglers. "But this isn't the time or place, and it is my hope that the Cattle Growers instead work with the conservation community to implement these clean water protections. Further litigation by the Cattle Growers - or a hostile back-door legislative effort - will only incite ill-advised division."

"Now that the WQCC has acted, it's time to put boots on the ground to protect and restore water quality, working with federal and state agencies, as well as all others who share our love for New Mexico's rivers, streams, and waters, including the Cattle Growers," said Rudy Rios with New Mexico Trout. "We need to work together. But if the Cattle Growers take divisive action, we will not hesitate to protect these hard fought clean water victories. We hope they choose wisely."

NMT Fashions

New Mexico Trout fashionistas know that comfortable, practical and stylish clothing is always in fashion, and clothing that shows you are a member of an exclusive and prestigious organization is even more trendy. So get on board with your sartorial club members, and update your wardrobe with the all new offerings from New Mexico Trout. These items also make great gifts for all your family and friends - just in time for Christmas.

Hats, one size fits all - \$15
Colors Dark Olive, Black, Tan

Fleece jackets with windproof lining, sizes Small through XXL - \$40
Colors Olive, Black



Shirts, cotton with mesh vents, sizes Small through XXL - \$30





Colors Dark Olive, Light Olive, Tan

NMT embroidered badges - \$2

All items are available at regular NMT meetings and at the Conclave. You can also place an order by email to abqbob410@msn.com, and pick up your order at Los Pinos Fly Shop.

Meet the Board

Lee Widgren - Treasurer

Currently serving a second term as NMT treasurer, Lee was born and raised in ABQ and started Los Pinos Fly Shop with husband Bob in 1980. She has been active in NMT since the mid 1980's. Lee is reputed to be one of the best rod finishers and inscribers in the country, and has always said that her tombstone will include the epithet "She wrote on rods!". Lee's favorite trout fishing is in Northern NM and Southern CO, but she also enjoys saltwater fishing for bonefish and redfish. Lee is an avid traveler and dog lover, which husband Bob claims is compensation for living with him.



More about Board Members at <http://www.newmexicotrout.org/directors.html>

Calendar

NMT Conclave

22 January 2011, starting at 8:00am

Sandia Prep School - Theater and Student Center

Fly Tyer's Roundtable

Every Monday, 7:00pm excluding holidays

Sandia Prep Lab classroom

The Flytyer's Roundtable brings new and experienced tyers together to exchange ideas, techniques and materials.

Bob Gerding Outdoor Show

11-13 February 2011

Manuel Lujan Center, Expo New Mexico

<http://www.bobsoutadv.com/>

NMTrout Business Sponsors

Yearly business membership entails the sponsor to a link on the NMT Newsletter. Contact the membership chair for more information if you or a business owner you know would like to become a sponsor.

- Alpha Home Improvements
- Bruce Taylor Studio
- Custom Fly Rod Crafters
- James E. Lucero Ins. Agency
- Jicarilla Game and Fish
- Jiffy Lube
- Land of Enchantment Guides
- MW Bar Ranch
- Los Pinos Fly Shop
- Mountain Hideaway
- Norman & Angela Drury
- Robert H. Bean
- Royal Gorge Anglers
- Sandstone Anglers
- Saltry Lake Lodge/Kodiak Alaska
- Valles Caldera/NM
- Soaring Eagle Outfitters
- Solitary Angler
- Tom Sawyer Enterprises

About Us

New Mexico Trout is dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of trout fishing in New Mexico's waters through restoration of riparian habitats and through education of the public about trout fishing and the value of trout habitats. New Mexico Trout is a 501 (c)3 non-profit organization, and we welcome your tax deductible contributions.



Comments/Suggestions

If you have comments or suggestions about the Newsletter, or an article you would like to submit, please email to newmexicotrout@gmail.com. Articles will be considered based on suitability, general interest and succinctness (please limit content to approximately 500 words). Deadline for the next issue is 3 January.

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