



Newsletter

Feb 2011

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Greetings,

The annual Conclave is a major fundraising event for our organization. Although attendance was slightly down from previous years, we again raised significant funds with the support of our many generous sponsors and attendees. Many thanks to the volunteers who made this year's Conclave a success. If you have any suggestions for improving this event, please send them to newmexicotrout@gmail.com.

Our regular general meetings will start up again this month, as always on the second Tuesday, 8 February. Plan to attend to hear our special guest Kevin Terry from Jicarilla Apache Game & Fish, who will give a presentation on fishing the Jicarilla.

Hope to see you there!
Editors

NMT Conclave 2011

New Mexico Trout's Annual Conclave was held on 22 January and was a great success. Our three exceptional guests, Van Beacham, Baker Salsbury, and Jay Murakoshi, provided entertaining and educational presentations about local and regional waters, fishing techniques, and fly patterns. Illustrated with scenic pictures, Mr Beacham's presentation was replete with stunning pictures of New Mexico and neighboring waters, and Van provided tips on finding fishing areas with little angling pressure and solitary fishing opportunities, such as on the Cimarron and Rio Grande. More information is at <http://www.thesolitaryangler.com/>. Mr Salsbury's talk provided an overview of the fishing opportunities in the Jackson Hole area, including the Snake river, Henry's Fork and smaller tributaries such as Gros Ventre and Pacific Creek. Baker also had numerous tips for fishing these waters, including the best times of the year to visit and useful patterns. More information is at <http://www.westbank.com/>. Mr Murakoshi entertained the audience with a discussion of salt water fishing in and around Baja California, and flies for these special waters. More information is at <http://www.bajafllyfishingadventures.com/>. As a complement to our featured presentations, William Frangos also gave an excellent hands-on tutorial on knot tying. His focus was on a set of simple, strong knots that can be tied quickly.



This event has always been enjoyed by members as a chance to hear from renowned fly fishers, guides and fly tyers. It is also a great time for meeting and greeting fellow members, sharing stories and adventures. In addition to educational displays on fishing techniques and insect specimens from local streams, an activity station for our younger attendees with coloring and fly tying was well attended. This year, lunch was catered by 'Meals on Wheels' and offered excellent vegetarian and non-vegetarian entrees, salads, vegetables, rolls and deserts. A highlight for many attendees was the raffle, a chance to win fabulous prizes for the cost of a single ticket! This year's donations from our sponsors and vendors were highly sought after, and included fly rods, reels, waders, boots, guided fishing trips, antique fishing

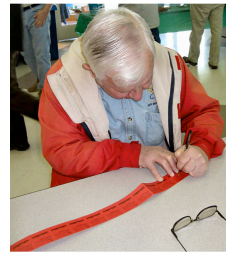
equipment, and handmade quilts. If you get a chance, please thank our sponsors for their generous support.

2011 CONCLAVE DONORS

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Thanks to all the volunteers who helped make the Conclave a success, especially the leadership of Eric Collins, Pat Milesosky, Milt McConnell and Bob Widgren.

Fly of the Month - Kimball's Emerger

Pattern and Notes by Charlie Craven
Used by permission

Hook: TMC 2488 #20-28
Thread: 8/0 or 14/0 Black
Tail/Shuck: Barred Teal Flank
Wing: Gray or white Polypropylene yarn
Hackle: Grizzly Neck
Body: Black Superfine Dubbing or fine Peacock Herl



The Kimball's Emerger was introduced to me by Drew Reid of Roaring fork Anglers in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. The original pattern omits the hackle and was tied on the front half of a standard dry fly hook. It is a very low floating midge emerger pattern and can be really hard to see because of its low profile. I altered the fly a bit by adding a few turns of hackle over the body to add floatation and visibility and changed the hook to the TMC 2488. I love this pattern for difficult midge hatches and especially in the late evening. The polypro loop wing and hackle add a tremendous amount of visibility and really float the fly well for such a small pattern.

Tying instructions and more patterns from Charlie are available at:
<http://www.charliesflyboxinc.com/flybox/index.cfm>

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

A Great Day in the Jemez

by Ron Loehman - NMT Conservation Chair

One of my favorite places is the section of the Rio San Antonio from the hot springs downstream to where it flows under SR 126. This is only about a four-mile stretch as the crow flies, but it is as remote and solitary as any wilderness area. The stream is maybe thirty feet at the widest and it mostly is in a deep, lush canyon, heavily forested with large Ponderosa, spruce and fir. Access is fairly easy in the lower part along an old, decommissioned Forest Service road that is slowly going back to nature. However, my favorite part is further upstream beyond any trail



part is further upstream beyond any trail, where walking is challenged by steep terrain and sometimes dense vegetation. Because I never see another person in this stretch, I usually take my dog, Dora, who thinks her job is to help me land any fish I manage to hook. She has learned to watch the drift of the fly with absolute concentration. If a trout strikes, or sometimes even when she just sees the underwater flash of a trout, she dives into the water and tries, always unsuccessfully so far, to grab the fish. I've showed her trout before releasing them, but the most she ever does is to give them a single, gentle lick. This help from my dog has really honed my fly fishing technique. I usually get just one drift per pool so my casts have to be right on.

Photo copyrighted by csholtis

(
<http://www.panoramio.com/user/306560>
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One Friday this past July I hiked with my dog into the San Antonio for a day's fly fishing. The stream was in great shape. The water was clear with a temperature in the high 50s to low 60s, and the bottom of almost every river rock I checked teemed with insect larvae. Dora and I hiked in a couple of miles before I rigged up. I put on a small foam grasshopper imitation and we started upstream, with me casting to every likely lie and Dora quivering in anticipation of my success in hooking something for her entertainment. In spite of Dora's assistance, I got a strike almost every other cast. All the trout in that section are wild, stream-bred brown trout. That day they were hungry, fearless, and fat, averaging 8 - 10" with maybe the largest at 13". From about ten in the morning until two o'clock everything I tried worked and I wore out flies, leaders and my arm from all the action. Dora eventually became too blasé and just watched from the bank. At 2:00 the heavens opened and we were treated to a full monsoon downpour. Lightning bolts were cracking the ridge tops five hundred feet above us. Thunderclaps echoed up and down the canyon with an intensity that caused us to duck involuntarily. We were rapidly soaked to the skin. The water was so roiled by the rain that no fly could have been seen, so I packed it up and we started back. After an hour and a half hike in driving rain through ankle deep runoff from side drainages, we were back at the truck. In retrospect, it was one of my best fishing days ever. A beautiful place, willing fish, and a fantastic display of power from Mother Nature. Just another day in paradise.

Meet the Board

Robert Day

Bob is responsible for the NMT merchandise procurement and sales. In the past, he has served as Treasurer and Membership chairman for many years. Prior to 1990, Bob owned a closed circuit video security business and he has been retired since then, enjoying his favorite activities: fishing, furniture making, church mission trips, family and grandchildren. Eight years ago, a friend asked him to help demo food products at a food show and since then he does a couple of shows a month. Old salesmen never quit - they die selling. Bob has fished most everywhere in the north half of New Mexico and although he has favorites at different times of the year, he keeps returning to the Rio Las Vacas and the Rio Grande in the fall. NMT is his favorite volunteer activity as it is payback for all those great fishing days - and those that were not so great also.



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

Community Outreach

Veterans Offered Fly-Fishing Lessons

By Charles Brunt, ABQJournal.com

Friday, 04 February 2011

Veterans registered with the Raymond G. Murphy VA Medical Center in Albuquerque are invited to participate in free fly-tying and fly-casting lessons offered by the New Mexico Trout Association.

The association, in cooperation with Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing Inc., will also provide free fly-fishing trips to qualified veterans later this year. The project advances the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled veterans through fly fishing, organizers said.

Fly-tying classes will be held from 6 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. on Feb. 9, 16 and 23, March 9, 16, 23 and 30, and April 13 and 20 in the Recreation Hall (Building 2) of the medical center grounds, 1501 San Pedro SE.

Fly-casting classes will begin in April and one-day outings will start in June and run through mid-September. If needed, supplies and equipment will be provided by the New Mexico Trout Association.

Although there is no cost to participate, veterans must pre-register. To sign up or for more information, call Michelle McKenzie at 265-1711, Ext. 4160 or e-mail her at michelle.mckenzie@va.gov.

Calendar

NMT General Meeting

8 February 2011, 7:30pm

Sandia Prep School - Commons Room

<http://newmexicotrout.org/meetings.html>

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/>

Fly-tying classes for Veterans

6 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.

Feb. 9, 16 and 23, March 9, 16, 23 and 30, and April 13 and 20

Recreation Hall (Building 2), VA Medical Center, 1501 San Pedro SE

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.

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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 5 March.

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