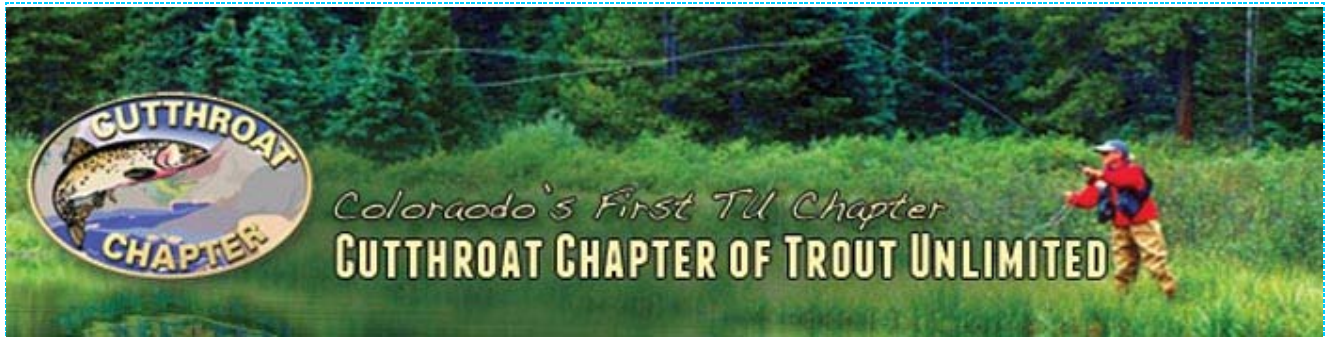


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Cutthroat Chapter Trout Unlimited Newsletter*Welcome to the April CCTU Newsletter.*

April 1, 2011

Mike Myers,

Welcome to spring. You can tell it's spring because of the missing shingles from your roof, or that section of fence that blew down last night. It just wouldn't be spring without a light breeze (read: gale force wind). Spring also marks the beginning of the fishing season for those of us immune to the winter fly fishing bug. You can read about some recent experience with the BWO's on the Big Thompson below for this month's fishing trip.



Another thing to signal spring is the beginning of conservation projects. Although, we conserve all year, the stream improvement projects and clean-up days take place in the warmer months. There's already an opportunity at the end of this month to do some stream rehab with CUSP. Keep an eye on the website for additional conservation opportunities this spring and summer.

Spring can also trigger a new start or growth and we have the perfect opportunity for you or someone you know to grow. You can join us at this month's meeting where we'll have demonstrations on all things you might need to get started on, or polish your fly fishing skill set. You can also learn more by listening to an interview with one of our members about fishing terrestrials in the Rockies. And Orvis has several opportunities to share your knowledge and passion for fly fishing.

In Colorado, while some of us sneak off to the river, many others (especially those with kids that get a Spring Break) escape to warmer climates. This year, I fell into the latter group (but without kids) and took a rare trip to the beach in Mexico. I don't pretend to have any of the writing skill of author Norman Maclean, but while wandering around the beaches and dipping my toes in the ocean, I was reminded of a line from *A River Runs Through It*: "I am haunted by waters." I'm not sure if it is because most of my first nine years of life were spent at or near a beach in Florida, then California and on to Micronesia before settling here in Colorado, but I am

[Membership](#)
[On-Line](#)

drawn to water. It doesn't matter if it's only knee deep and rushing by, gently lapping waves on a beach or violent surf turning the coastline into a washing machine. I'm fascinated by water and I love being in it.

While in Mexico last week, I spent as much time as I could in the ocean. I went scuba diving even though the visibility was so poor that I got disoriented and then sea sick (on a side note, it can be inconvenient at best to get sea sick when you're 35 feet under the ocean). On a clearer day, we went snorkeling and saw amazing things like sea turtles, eagle rays, puffer fish puffed up and hundreds of brilliantly colored fish. When the wind kicked up the surf and the red, 'dangerous conditions' flag came out, we went in to get tossed around like a piece of drift wood on the surface.

I've also felt the fear that water can stir. I've been bent over backwards with my chest pressed to the sand and my feet over my shoulders by a two-foot beach break struggling for air. I've bounced from rock to rock across a river like a man walking on the moon when the water level flirted with the top of my chest waders wondering if I'd make it to the other side. I understand the tremendous power of hydro-dynamics, if only from an experiential viewpoint. I have a great respect for the strength of water but it only makes me more drawn to it rather than afraid of it. I guess that potential is part of what I love about wading into a river. The force of the water pressing my waders tight to my skin is like a warm blanket for me. I don't have to be wrapped in it every day but I can only go so long before I need to feel the comfort of water's embrace.

I think all fly fishermen must have at least a little of this same love and respect for water or they would have a different pursuit. So get out there and remind yourself how you feel about water. Whether you can only spend a couple hours fishing or a whole day restoring a river or sharing your passion by teaching, it will be worth it.

See you in the water!

Mike Myers - Newsletter Editor

Here fishy, fishy...



**April Monthly Meeting All
About Sharing**
**Flyfishing 101 on April 19th at
6:30pm**

This month's meeting will be all about sharing some of the knowledge the veteran flyfishers have learned. Although we call it Flyfishing 101, it's not just for beginners. There will be demonstrations from which even the most experienced of us can learn. Demos like tying some of today's hot flies or learning how to tie your first fly. Casting

techniques from the basic roll cast to more complicated casts like the slack, tuck and in-air mending. (On a side note, I took a free casting class this winter and was

shocked at not only how much I learned but how much I was doing inefficiently!) Other demos will cover some of the overlooked aspects of fly fishing such as knots, leader construction and making your own strike indicator.

Although this month's meeting doesn't fall into the traditional format, we'll still have the monthly fly raffle.

I hope you can come by and join us for our standard fare of education and camaraderie. See you there!

Please check out the Events page of the [CCTU website](#) for more details.

April Raffle Sponsor and Tyer

Blue Quill Angler is this month's sponsor and Herman deGala is this month's guest tyer.

The Shop Sponsor this month is [Blue Quill Angler](#), who have provided a dozen flies and a shop gift certificate. Blue Quill Angler is a full-service fly shop and guide service located in Evergreen, CO. Their staff is filled with seasoned, passionate enthusiasts including local legend Pat Dorsey.



This month's guest tier is Herman deGala. Herman is a web designer by trade but also a well known fly tier. You can see examples of both his web design and fly tying skills at his website, [FlyTyingClips.com](#). Seriously, if you haven't checked out his website you need to, it's stunningly beautiful. He will be providing a dozen flies towards the raffle.

Check out the [Fly Box page](#) for more information.

Volunteer Op - Hayman Fire Rehab Transplanting Project -Willows on April 30th.

Here's another opportunity to help the South Platte recover from the devastating Hayman fire. On April 30th, volunteers will be meeting at the Mountain Community (Westcreek) Fire Station at 9am to perform stream-bank stabilization.



The purpose of this project is to stabilize erosion control in Trail Creek in order to protect the water supply from sedimentation. We will be transplanting native willow species slips in critical drainages damaged by the Hayman Fire. This project will also benefit aquatic and wildlife habitat. This will be a challenging project requiring a team effort. A safety talk and demonstration will occur pre-project.

If you're available and would like to participate, please visit the [CCTU website](#) for more details and contact information.



***CCTU Member Hits the
Airwaves***

Richard Pilatzke is on Fly Fishing Internet Radio talking up terrestrials.

Cutthroat Chapter board member and fly tying expert Richard Pilatzke has recorded a radio show for Fly Fishing Internet Radio. Richard will be discussing fishing with terrestrials in the Rockies. Most of you probably know Richard as he's been a member for quite some time. Additionally, he organizes and participates in the Chapter's fly tying clinic every February. He has some truly effective foam representations of terrestrials. I'm a particularly big fan of his black beetle pattern.

You can listen to the show by visiting the [Fly Fishing Internet Radio website](#) or you can subscribe to the show through iTunes and download it to your iPod, iPad or iPhone.



Orvis Fly Fishing 101

Volunteers and participants needed!

If you joined us at the March Monthly Meeting then you're already aware of this event. If not, Orvis Park Meadows store manager, Tucker Bamford told us about a free event to introduce more people to fly fishing, [Fly Fishing 101 & 201](#). They will be on just about every weekend beginning on May 21st. Orvis is offering two different classes, a 101 and a 201. The 101, as you might have guessed, covers the fly fishing basics like knots, casts and terminology, among other things. The 201 builds on the 101 and puts it in practice on some local water. The 201 class may require a nominal fee and Orvis asks that you contact the local shop to find out.

Tucker also asked for volunteers to help teach and assist the students. You need not be an expert to help out. Not only is it a great opportunity to share your passion but Orvis will be giving gift certificates to the volunteers. As I mentioned above, there are 12 weekends just for the 101 class so there's surely a weekend that will work with your schedule. And a gift certificate for your time? When don't you need something from the fly shop?

If you're interested in volunteering or attending, please contact Tucker Bamford at the Park Meadows store via phone (303) 768-9600 or [email](#).

Help Needed Filling the CCTU Archives

Looking for back-issues of the print version of the Cutthroat newsletter.

Attention Cutthroat Members

Richard Pilatzke and I (Kent Higgins) have taken it upon ourselves to collect all of the printed "Colorado Cutthroat" newsletters of the Cutthroat Chapter so they can be hard bound and placed in a permanent collection, hopefully at the Clement Park Library. Yep, these were the snail mail one's that spanned over 20 years and went to members prior to the advent of an electronic newsletter.

Between what we each had, we are searching for up to 72 lost issues to fill in the voids.

If you saved your past printed newsletters - please consider looking through them and checking if you have any of these missing issues. The farthest we go back is 1986, with two issues for November and December, edited by Al Makkai and the March 5th minutes of the board meeting (Michael Turner - secretary).

Thus far, no issues have been found prior to 1986, nor for 1987-1989; does anyone know if a newsletter was published and possibly if you have any copies? The last printed chapter newsletter was the January/February 2006 issue, when the chapter went totally electronic and eliminated the \$800 - \$1,000 printing and mailing expenses.

Currently we are looking for the following missing issues:

1986 - all issues, except November & December (edited by Al Makkai)
1987 - all issues
1988 - all issues
1989 - all issues
1990 - all issues, except December (edited by Bob Fusefeld)
1991 - February (edited by Bob Fusefeld)
1992 - December (edited by Bill & Marti Norberg)
1997 - November (edited by Jack Keenan)
1998 - May (edited by Jack Keenan)
1999 - July (edited by Jack Keenan)
2000 - July & December (edited by Jack Keenan)
2001 - March, May, July, October & December (edited by Jack Keenan)
2002 - July (edited by Kent Higgins)
2003 - November (edited by Kent Higgins)
2005 - June/July (edited by Kent Higgins)

Please contact Richard or myself if you have any of these missing copies:

Richard Pilatzke - 303-979-8425 or rhpiscator@aol.com

Kent Higgins - 303-791-1163 or kenthiggins@comcast.net

March Monthly Trip - Recap ***A successful trip to the Big Thompson.***



If you haven't been on one of the Chapter Monthly fishing trips, you need to. (It feels like I've said this before.) Gary is a great host. Not only does he see to it that anyone who wants assistance gets it (read: a free guide), but he also has an amazing portable grill and cooks a mean burger.

This month we went to the Big Thompson River near Estes Park. The conditions were challenging due to the crowds, the wind and the low water. And it was kind of a double-edged sword because you could see fish all over the place but they were more selective than the most popular girl back in high school. Gary seemed to crack the code first and being the great host he is, he shared his technical secret with the rest of us. The fish were still difficult to fool but most everyone was able to hook into multiple fish by the day's end.

Please check out [Gary's blog](#) for a more eloquent account of the day. And don't forget to keep your schedule open on that first Saturday after the monthly meeting for the next trip. The trip destination is usually announced at the monthly meeting or watch the [CCTU website](#) for a post.



Other Trout Unlimited Chapter Events

Colorado TU

- Annual CTU Rendezvous April 15th - 17th in Redstone, CO. See [Colorado Trout Unlimited website](#) for details.

- River Conservation and Flyfishing Youth Camp accepting applications. Camp takes place in DeBeque, CO June 12th - 17th. See [Colorado Trout Unlimited website](#) for details.

Alpine Anglers

- Currently, nothing scheduled. See [Alpine Anglers website](#) for details.

Boulder Flycasters

- Fly tying clinic at Front Range Anglers. Time and date to be determined. See [Boulder Flycasters website](#) for details.

- BFC Day at Sylvan Dale Ranch on May 7th. See [Boulder Flycasters website](#) for details.

Cherry Creek Anglers

- Monthly Chapter meeting at 7pm on April 14th featuring Bob Streb of Minturn Anglers who will be speaking about fishing the Eagle River. See [Cherry Creek Anglers website](#) for details.

- Fishing Trip to the Eagle River on April 23rd hosted by Berle Larned. See [Cherry Creek Anglers website](#) for details.

Cheyenne Mountain Chapter

They've re-done their web page and it looks great! - 4th Annual Conservation Auction at 5:30pm on April 26th in The Garden of the Gods. See [Cheyenne Mountain Chapter website](#) for details.

Denver Trout Unlimited

- Monthly Chapter meeting at 6:30pm on April 26th featuring Michael Gracie speaking about bonefishing in South Andros, Bahamas. See [Denver Trout Unlimited website](#) for details.

Evergreen Trout Unlimited

- Free fishing at Buchanan Ponds for volunteers on April 1st - 3rd. See [Evergreen](#)

[Trout Unlimited website](#) for details.

- Mt. Evans Lab at 9:30am on April 5th - 7th. Volunteers needed to assist in teaching flyfishing oriented topics to students. See [Evergreen Trout Unlimited website](#) for details.

- Free fishing at Buchanan Ponds for volunteers on April 15th - 17th. See [Evergreen Trout Unlimited website](#) for details.

- Monthly Chapter meeting at 6:30pm on April 20th. Speaker TBD. See [Evergreen Trout Unlimited website](#) for details.

- Bear Creek Cleanup at 9am on April 30th. See [Evergreen Trout Unlimited website](#) for details.

The Greenbacks

- Two award-winning flyfishing films at 7pm on April 7th. See [The Greenbacks website](#) for details.

West Denver Chapter

- Monthly Chapter Meeting April 6th at 6:30pm featuring John Harcourt. See [West Denver Chapter website](#) for details.

- River Watch at 9am on April 23rd at Lion's Park in Golden. See [West Denver Chapter website](#) for details.

- Monthly Chapter Meeting May 4th at 6:30pm, speaker is yet to be determined. See [West Denver Chapter website](#) for details.

Other Fishing Stuff to Do

Anglers All

- Fly Fishing School at 9am on April 2nd. See the Events page on the [Anglers All website](#) for details.

- 2nd Annual Anglers All Clave at 9am on April 16th and 17th. See the Events page on the [Anglers All website](#) for details.

- 2-day Spey Casting Clinic with Ed Ward at 9am on April 23rd and 24th. See the Events page on the [Anglers All website](#) for details.

- On-Stream School on April 30th. See the Events page on the [Anglers All website](#) for details.

- Hosted Mexico Trip on May 1st - 7th. See the Events page on the [Anglers All website](#) for details.

- Fly Fishing School for Kids with Tyler Befus at 11am on May 7th. See the Events page on the [Anglers All website](#) for details.

Blue Quill Angler

- Currently, nothing scheduled. See the [Blue Quill Angler website](#) for details.

Charlie's Fly Box

- Fly tying demo with Mark McMillan at 11am on April 2nd. See the [Charlie's FlyBox website](#) for details.

- Fly Casting Class with FFF instructor Jonathan Walter at 10:45am on April 2nd. See the [Charlie's FlyBox website](#) for details.

- Fly tying demo with Charlie Vestal at 11am on April 9th. See the [Charlie's FlyBox website](#) for details.

- Introductory Fly Fishing Class at 6pm April 13th and 14th and at 7am April 16th. See the [Charlie's FlyBox website](#) for details.

- Fly tying demo with Steve Johnson at 11am on April 16th. See the [Charlie's FlyBox website](#) for details.

- Fly tying demo and book signing with Steve Schewitzer at 11am on April 30th. See the [Charlie's FlyBox website](#) for details.

- Fly Casting Class with FFF instructor Jonathan Walter at 10:45am on May 7th. See

the [Charlie's FlyBox website](#) for details.

Denver Flyshop

- Currently, nothing scheduled. See the [Denver Flyshop website](#) for details.

Discount Fishing Tackle

- Currently, nothing scheduled. See the [Discount Fishing Tackle website](#) for details.

Front Range Anglers

- Fly tying and fly fishing clinic with CCTU's own Richard Pilatzke at 10am on April 2nd. See the [Front Range Anglers website](#) for details.

- Grand Re-Opening in their new location at 9am on April 9th. Events include fly tier A.K. Best, casting competition, vendor presentations and FREE food and BEER. See the [Front Range Anglers website](#) for details.

- Introduction to Fly Fishing at 9am on April 10th. See the [Front Range Anglers website](#) for details.

- Front Range Entomology at 9:30am on April 16th or 24th. See the [Front Range Anglers website](#) for details.

- Introduction to European Nymphing at 9am on April 30th. See the [Front Range Anglers website](#) for details.

- Callibaetis Tying Session with Rob Kolanda at 6:30pm on May 10th. See the [Front Range Anglers website](#) for details.

Hook

- Presentation by Landon Meyer at noon on April 16th. See the [Hook website](#) for details.

- Fly Tying 101 on the 2nd Monday of every month from October through April. See the [Hook website](#) for details.

- Fly Tying 201 on the 2nd Tuesday of every month from October through April. See the [Hook website](#) for details.

Orvis Rod and Tackle Centennial

- Free Fly Casting Clinics at Orvis Rod and Tackle Centennial every Saturday at 9am. See the [Orvis Rod and Tackle Centennial website](#) for details.

- Flyfishing 101 and 201 clinics every weekend beginning May 21st. See the [Orvis Fly-Fishing 101 website](#) for details.

- Additional Orvis seminars and classes are available and can be found on The Denver Post's Outdoors Calendar.

Check out the Denver Post's online [Outdoors Calendar](#) for additional events.

Trout Available Online

Not the fish, silly, the magazine.

Just a little piece of information for your files. As you probably already know, every Trout Unlimited member is automatically subscribed to the quarterly Trout Magazine. Now you can [check it out online](#) before it gets to your mailbox. So far, I haven't seen an option to only receive it electronically but I'm sure that's on it's way (and if you find it, please send me the info and I'll let everyone know).

Please Renew Your TU Membership On-Line

Avoid Data Errors and Save Postage Too!

TU National has a convenient and secure site where you can renew your TU

membership on-line and save the stamps and hassle of mailing off response forms. Just click [here](#) to be connected to their site.

Renewing by mail can create errors. The Membership folks at National have to re-input all of your personal data when you renew by mail, including street and email addresses. This results in a high percentage of errors, especially in the email data. The errors then cause your CCTU newsletters and Trout magazines to be sent to the wrong address and are a lot of trouble to get corrected.

So please try to use the national TU web site when you renew. It's secure, as you can tell from the URL ("https" designates a secure site, as opposed to the more common "http"), and is a much faster and easier way to keep your membership current.

Follow up Links

- [Previous CCTU newsletters](#)
- [Renew your TU membership](#)
- [What's new at CTU?](#)

Monthly Membership Meetings

Don't forget to attend our monthly Membership Meetings on the third Tuesday of each month (except July and November). They start at 7:00pm and are held at the South Metro Denver Realtors Association building at the corner of South Broadway and West Mineral Avenue. Here's the address: [7899 S. Lincoln Ct., Littleton, CO 80122](#).

email: mrmymers5280@comcast.net

phone: (303) 948-9204

web: <http://www.cutthroatctu.org/>

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