

Leaders & Tippetts

Louisville Chapter 476

Trout Unlimited

September—October 2006 Issue

Editor: Barry Morris

wbmorris@insightbb.com



ANOTHER GREAT TRIP TO YELLOWSTONE

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President's Corner

By Roger Shott

The last week of July and the first week of August was my main Montana time this year. My wife and I started the trip at the Nature Conservancy ranch at the Pine Butte reserve 30 miles West of Choteau, Mt. The air service into Great Falls was excellent and on time to a very fine small airport. The reserve is at the foot of the eastern front of the Rocky Mts. where the prairie meets the mountains.

The ranch is run like an average "dude" ranch with swimming, good eating, hiking, horse back riding and a large amount of teaching about the uniqueness of the junction of the Mts and prairie. The fishing was very good on the north fork of the Teton river with a lot of cut/bows to be had on elk hair caddis. The size was up to 16 inches, and the north fork looked to have a lot of insect life. The south fork which goes thru the ranch is one half the size, and has been canalized by the Army Corps after rather heavy floods in 1964 and has not recovered since that total scouring and the subsequent yearly scouring secondary to straightening and channeling by the corps in 1969.

On the 31st we went to Ennis for two days of fishing the Madison. It was two days of the easiest, luckiest, dry fly fishing that I have had on the Madison in 15 yrs. Fishing almost any two dry flies in tandem with the large fly first (12, 14, or 16.) and the smaller dry second (18, 20, 22.) we caught into the boat 32 to 38 trout each day. Since the fish often hit the smaller fly, we lost at least one for every 2 we boated. The fish were 8 to 19 inches in size with about 1/3 rainbows. We had on at least 6 or 8 fish 20 or more inches but with my incomparable skill I managed to lose every damn one in that size!!!!!!! Caddis and PMD's are fine among many others.

In addition I caught one pure west slope cutthroat of 15 inches and the guide Dan Delekta says that a mister Lang on the Sun Ranch has been raising some in a lake on his property and a few are getting into the Madison. Let's hope he loses a lot more!

Next we went to my cousin's ranch on the Stillwater River. The fishing was again excellent. The wading was moderate but the river yielded many browns and rainbows and cutbows in the 12 to 16in. size. Again the caddis pleased most with 14, 16, and 18s the sizes. Single flies this time.

Last we went to the Big Horn and floated. My cousin's husband caught one 18in. rainbow and I caught one 13 in cutbow in 6 hrs. The week before he had floated the Big Horn and caught at least 40 mostly rainbows. Well you can't have everything all the time!!!!!

In retrospect, I can certainly recommend fishing the North Fork of the Teton, The Madison, and the Stillwater. The Madison was running 1650 cfs secondary to the heavy snow pack in the park and the Hebgen Lake which was still 99% full even the last week in July. It was truly a unique experience. Most importantly don't over look the Stillwater!!!!!!!

Free Fly Tying Classes

Classes are held the second Tuesday of the month at

The Aero Club in Bowmen Field.

We meet at 7:00 PM and those who are beginners all the way up to the experienced tyer will be able to gain something from these sessions,

In September Sydney King will teach his crawfish patterns

In October Barry will show us a couple of versions of the 3 Minute Nymph

Upcoming Chapter Meetings

We meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the Commonwealth Bank Building at 286 North Hubbards Lane

September is our annual banquet. More details are on page 3 of this issue

October is our Annual Meeting and the elections of officers and directors will be held. Check the web-site for the slate of nominees for the 2007 term.

Also at that meeting, Tom Walsh will be giving a presentation on fly lines

LOUISVILLE TROUT UNLIMITED ANNUAL BANQUET

Tuesday, September 26, 2006

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the Louisville Trout Unlimited Banquet on Tuesday September 26th at the Knights of Columbus Hall on River Road. An excellent dinner is planned along with socializing with friends and fellow trout lovers (almondine or poached?). We have had an interesting array of items donated for the raffle and auction by friends, members and associates to make for an interesting evening. Fishing items too numerous to mention, flies tied by members, wildlife prints, fly rods & reels books, clothing, gift certificates and much more You can't afford to miss it !!

6:00 Attitude Adjustment Hour

7:30 Dinner

8:30 Raffle, Silent & Live Auctions

Please call me with your reservations A.S.A.P.....

\$30.00 PER PERSON with reservations PAID by September 12th

OR.....

\$35.00 at the door

Lee Squires, Banquet Chair

405 Springwood Ln.

Louisville, Ky. 40207

502-895-9997

HERE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE GREAT ITEMS WE WILL HAVE THIS YEAR

WINSTON WT ROD, LL BEAN AND ORVIS RODS, MADE TO FLY FOURCASTER ROD CASE, COLLECTOR FLIES TIED BY NORM WATHEN, FLIES TIED BY TU MEMBERS, MALE & FEMALE CLOTHING, FLEECE VEST, WAIST & CHEST PACK, SUNGLASSES, GARDENING ITEMS/LANDSCAPE PLANTS/ FOUNTAIN, NUMEROUS GIFT CERTIFICATES, TRUE-ROTARY TYING VISE, BOOKS & OTHER COLLECTABLES, TROUT PRINTS, RAIN GEAR, LEAF BLOWER

LITTLE RIVER OUTFITTERS HAS DONATED:

Fish Pond Water Dance Guide Pack, Orvis Battenkill Mid Arbor 2 Reel, Simms wading staff, 20 compartment folding fly box, C & F micro slit nymph box, Orvis magnetic fly threader, (2) Little River Outfitters hats

THE NORTHERN KENTUCKY FLY FISHERS HAVE DONATED:

**a custom hand-built rod, built to the winners specifications
a "Fishing Memories" tabletop photo album donated by Walnut Creek Rustic and Lodge Living Store**

Plus even more stuff from Bull Frog Creek and Bass Pro Shop

CHECK THE WEB-SITE FOR MORE DETAILS

“Board Member Bio”

This issue we introduce Director: Glenda Morris

Hi my name is Glenda Morris. I was secretary of Louisville TU last year and I'm now on the board as a director. I was born in Mississippi where my grandfather taught me to fish in his pond with a stick and a string. We used minnows and worms to catch bluegill, perch, catfish and others. When I was in 2nd grade we moved to Germany because my dad was in the army. After that we spent a year in California, 4 years in Seattle, Washington but mostly we lived in Louisville, Kentucky. That's where I met and married Barry Morris. We had two children. We all fished but it was bait fishing and some salt water fishing to start with. Barry joined TU and it wasn't long until I joined. Because Barry and the members were fly fishers that got me started. I bought my first waders with a gift certificate from Bullfrog Creek. Barry and I took a trip to Gatlinburg. It was a rainy day but it cleared off long enough for us to go fishing and I caught my first fish on my new fly rod. I caught 3 that day but of course Barry caught a bunch. From there I was hooked on the sport. I hope to take a guided trip in Arkansas in the near future. That will be another first for me.



**DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING ARTICLES FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER
IS OCTOBER 23rd**

Put January 27, 2007 on your calendars. That is the date of the second annual Kentuckiana Fly Fishing Show sponsored by the Derby City Fly Fishers. This years show promises to be even better than last year. Louisville TU will have a booth at the show along with many other fly fishing organizations. Don't miss it.

Check out www.derbycityflyfishers.com for details



In May of this year Roger and I were asked to help out at the August 5th Fort Knox Scouting Show. Roger said we would be glad to participate. (I have not yet been able find out if he knew he would not be in town or not) Anyway, about the middle of July I received a phone call from guess who? That's correct my leader. The call went something like this. "Hi George," "Hi Roger, what's up?" "Do you remember when you said that you would help out at Fort Knox?" "Of course I said." (Roger) "Well I am going out of town the 19th and will not be back until the 6th of August. Could you handle that?" "Of course." I said. I still had two weeks to get things together and find some help. I thought to myself, now who is not going to Yellowstone this year? Ron Johnson and Norris Shake were the first two members that I thought of and in two short phone calls I had two helpers. Ron had just one question, what was the best way for him to get there. Norris responded with directions. There was nothing to do now but wait for the 5th of August. Around the 1st of August I received a call from Norris. He asked if I thought we could use a canopy and he had located two tables for us. I thought the canopy was a very good idea, He could also get chairs. I don't know what we would have done for shade that day. Norris really did a great job. On the 2nd we all agreed to meet at Mickey Dees on Saturday the 5th for breakfast. There was one thing (oh yes, we are never to talk about that again). The canopy turned out to be really great. It was 30 ft. by 10 ft. by 12 ft. wide. It was hot but there was a breeze all day. We did have a few Scouts and some parents with younger children. We were outdone by the Abrams tank and the big artillery pieces. We could not compete with all the testosterone of the big guns.

**Norris Shake: Casting, fly tying, supply and camera man,
Ron Johnson: Casting and fly tying.
George Smith: Casting and fly tying.**

MY FIRST YELLOWSTONE ADVENTURE

by Linda Squires

My first trip out to Yellowstone, WY was truly an adventure. For many years I only dreamt of not only attending the annual TU Yellowstone Outing, but exploring the West. I saw first-hand new sights and terrain I've only seen in pictures in the past. Since this was my first trip to Yellowstone, my husband Lee, who has been to Yellowstone many times was a well-seasoned guide. He showed me around to many of the major sights.

After traveling via jet most of Saturday, Lee and I checked into the Roosevelt Lodge nestled in the Lamar Valley. I was in awe at the size of Yellowstone National Park and the bison roadblocks. It took us an hour and a half to travel by car from the West entrance of the park to the lodge. In the evening we were treated to a delicious charcoal grilled hamburger dinner with the rest of the TU gang. It was fun to sit back afterwards and listen to the stories of all the trout, big and small, caught that day. Then it was time to turn in, our cabin was modest but cozy. No phone, no TV, no bathroom, no problem. The warm day and cold, crisp night was quite pleasant although I could hardly sleep anticipating what the next day might hold for me.

On our first full day Lee and I got up early and off we went to do some fishing on the Soda Butte. It was not long before we were catching cutthroat trout. I must say these trout are as beautiful as our rainbows here in Kentucky. That evening Lee and I went on a horse drawn wagon ride to a good old-fashion campfire site. We had a rib eye steak dinner, Roosevelt beans and the rest of the trimmings. I don't think I've ever had a better steak. Afterwards, I had my first cup of "Cowboy Coffee" brewed up over an open fire, which I must say was quite good.

On Monday we fished in the morning on a new stretch of Soda Butte Creek and took a ride to Gardiner, MT that afternoon to see the Mammoth Hot Springs. I found Gardiner to be a very quaint town in which I would like to stay for a day or two on a future trip. In the evening everyone got together and swapped tales of the day's adventures.

Tuesday Lee and I took the day off from fishing and visited the Norris Geyser Basin. The 200 plus degree water in the geysers is extremely dangerous and has killed more visitors in Yellowstone than any other attraction including grizzly bears. Of course, the highlight of the day was waiting and watching Old Faithful erupt. Simply amazing is all I can say in spite of the 40 mph wind and blowing rain; even though Lee says it never rains in Yellowstone. We then went to the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone and saw the awesome 308' Upper Falls. We finished up with dinner at the Old Faithful Inn. Food prices were reasonable for an excellent meal and the atmosphere was great. The artistic use of natural tree limbs and trunks in the interior is extraordinary.

Fishing again on Wednesday was at the same hole we fished on Monday. We had found a spot where some large trout were hanging out and they seemed hungry for our mosquitoes and emerger flies. We joined our TU friends that evening for a trip back to Gardiner for pizza. We then strolled gift shops and saw some interesting sights. The most unusual sight I saw were the ice cream cones Deloris and Sharon ordered. They were huge, the biggest ice cream cones I had ever seen. I think Deloris and Sharon were also a little surprised by their size. On the way back to the Roosevelt we made a stop hoping to see a couple of moose at what was being called Moose Lake. They were seen there the night before. Although the moose never appeared that evening it was good to hear moose still roam in Yellowstone. I was told that after the fire of 1998 the moose had moved out of the park.

The last full day in Yellowstone we decided to take a two hour horseback ride up through the mountains of Wyoming. We found this to be very relaxing. In the evening the gang all met one last time

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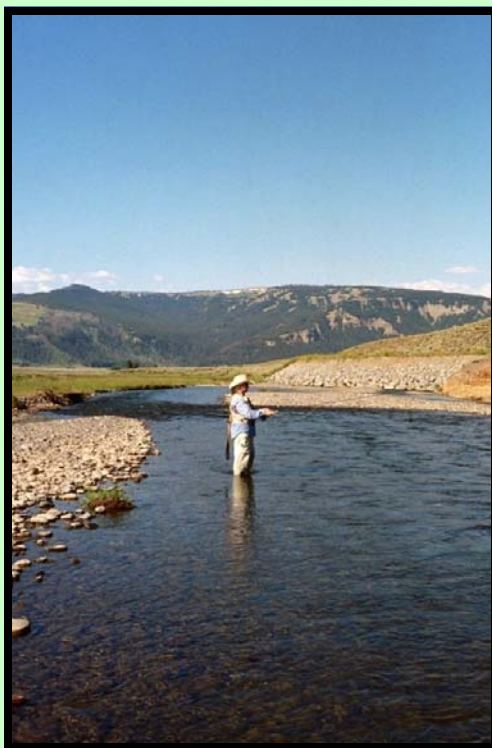
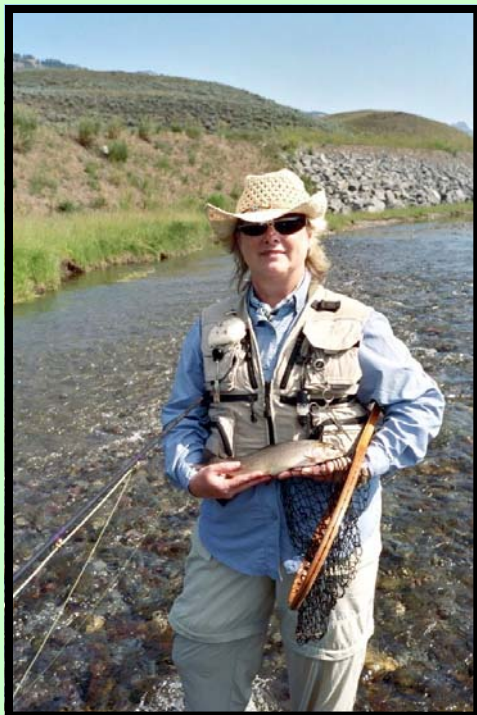
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for dinner prepared by Deloris and Sharon. We sat around, ate, drank and told stories until dark. After saying our goodbyes it was time to pack our things and retire for the evening.

Friday, 6:15a.m we got some hot coffee and off we went, but not before watching the sun rise over the mountains in front of Roosevelt Lodge. This is not the end of my story however, for Lee and I had reserved two spots on Depuy's Spring Creek in Livingston, Montana. Arriving there around 8:30a.m we checked in at the old mansion and then took off to find our spot on the creek. Depuy, a private property, will only allow up to sixteen persons per day to fish their property at \$100.00 per person. The fishing was not as easy as we had hoped but we did catch several nice size cutthroats. I must say it was a luxury to have picnic tables and portalets scattered throughout the property. I hated to put my rod up for the last time at the end of the day. We went on to have a nice BBQ dinner and spent a relaxing evening at a hotel near the airport in Bozeman where we would have to leave the next afternoon.

Saturday morning was relaxing but a bit melancholy. I was ready to return home but was sad that the trip was over. Our flight went fine and I was appreciative that airport security was tight in Bozeman. I must say I was a bit surprised at the different size rod cases carried on board, anything from a 3' to 5' case. We had heard many stories of what you could and could not carry on the jet. I suspect things have gotten much tighter in the past few weeks.

Now, Yellowstone is only a good memory and a photo album full of pictures. I know the day will come when I will be able to revisit the park again. Until that day I can smile and know I had my adventure with my TU friends in great Yellowstone National Park.



A Yellowstone First

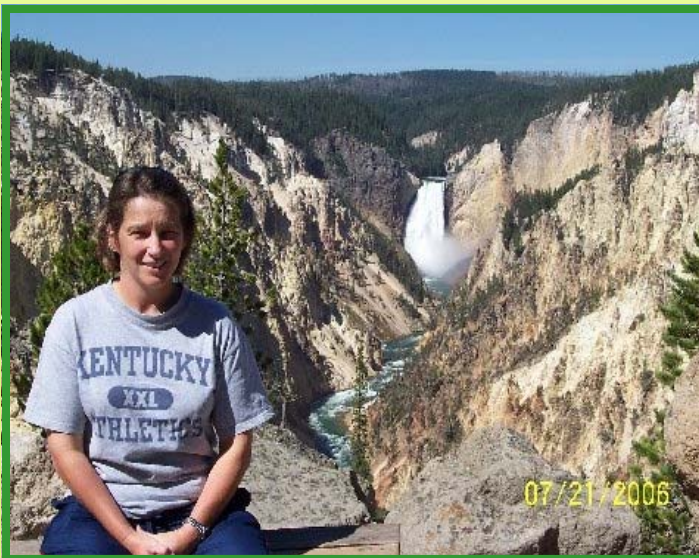
I have heard many people speak of Yellowstone National Park, but words cannot do it justice. I was fortunate to spend ten days in the park in late July of this year. The beauty of this masterpiece brought immense pleasure to my senses. The natural scenery was like fine art. It seemed as though the mountainous horizons were beckoning for exploration. The sky opened up as if entering into another world and time. The formations and geysers that evolved from Yellowstone were breathtaking in prismatic color.

The vast array of wildlife that claimed the wilderness was an awesome sight. The mighty bison that roamed emitted courage. The wolf packs that I watched from afar ran about and played as though they were performing for me. At Slough Creek, a couple hundred yards away, I stared in fear and amazement of a quite remarkable grizzly. Another impressive species I encountered in Yellowstone was the native Cutthroat Trout.

The trout were immersed in the picturesque streams and creeks that wound through this scenic wonderland. They gave great pleasure to the sport of catch and release. My catch was slow in the beginning. But after a few days of learning Soda Butte, it was a magnificent fly fishing experience.

My first trip to Yellowstone was filled with enchantment. I can't wait until next year. I was already thinking of what I wanted to do next year before I even got out of the park. It was a pleasure to spend my vacation with such a delightful group of people. I am so appreciative of the hospitality I received from the T U group. I feel very privileged to be a part of the T U family.

Sharon Robinson



"Yellowstone Memories 2006"

