



Trout Unlimited

Guadalupe River Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Newsletter



GUADALUPE RIVER
Trout Unlimited

No. 78 April 2005

Publication Data on Pg. 12

GRTU
General Meeting
Saturday, April 23

CRRRC
Recreation Center

8AM - Set Up for Swap Meet

9 AM - Swap Meet & Lease Access Presentation

10 AM - Business Meeting, Elections & Presentation

12 - Lunch

1 PM- Streamside Entomology Clinic

Aquatic Entomology 101 to be Feature Presentation of April Meeting

Our April general meeting will be held on Saturday, the 23rd, at the Canyon Lake Community Resource Recreations Center in Sattler. Our speaker will be Dr. John A. Jackman, Professor and Extension Entomologist at Texas A&M University. Dr. Jackman has been on the A&M faculty for 29 years. Besides entomology, his training is in population modeling and computer applications. Much of his time now is in the delivery of information on the Web and he is the web master for the Department of Entomology. He manages about 30 web sites that received over 49

million "hits" in 2004 and now provide information to over 9,000 visitors per day. Dr. Jackman also teaches a university course on fly tying. The material is all web based with stepwise images, and covers tying about 60 different patterns.

John is an experienced fly tyer and fly fisherman. He tied his first fly in about 1963 and taught himself to fly cast from the end of a pier in Michigan. He is a member of the Brazos Valley Fly Fishers. John held the first ever state record for redfish on a fly rod, and he holds numerous state and water body fly

What's Inside

Entomology Clinic	1
Bylaw Amendments	3
Directions to Meeting	5
Swap Meet	5
Flow Report	6
Board of Directors	6
Fisheries Report	7
President's Letter	8
Honorary Life Members	9
Grumpy's Column	10
Ethical Angler	11
Century Club	11
Publication Data	12



George Powell accepts his raffle prize, a Sage XP rod, Lamson Litespeed reel, and Cortand line from Ron McAlpin at October's meeting.

fishing records. He once held world records for 3 different northern pike tippet classes. Bill Johnson also told us that he and John together set 6 world records in two days.

Dr. Jackman's presentation will be on *The Aquatic Insects of Texas*. He will give us an overview of aquatic insects in Texas with an emphasis on those that relate to fly fishing. He will discuss insect orders with the recognition characters and the biology of these groups. This overview of insects that are available as fish forage is an important step toward understanding the aquatic community. Some of the basic fly patterns that are appropriate to imitate these groups and some fly fishing terms are discussed. Specific examples of aquatic insects that are in the Guadalupe River system will be provided. Sources of information that are especially useful to fly fisherman will be presented.

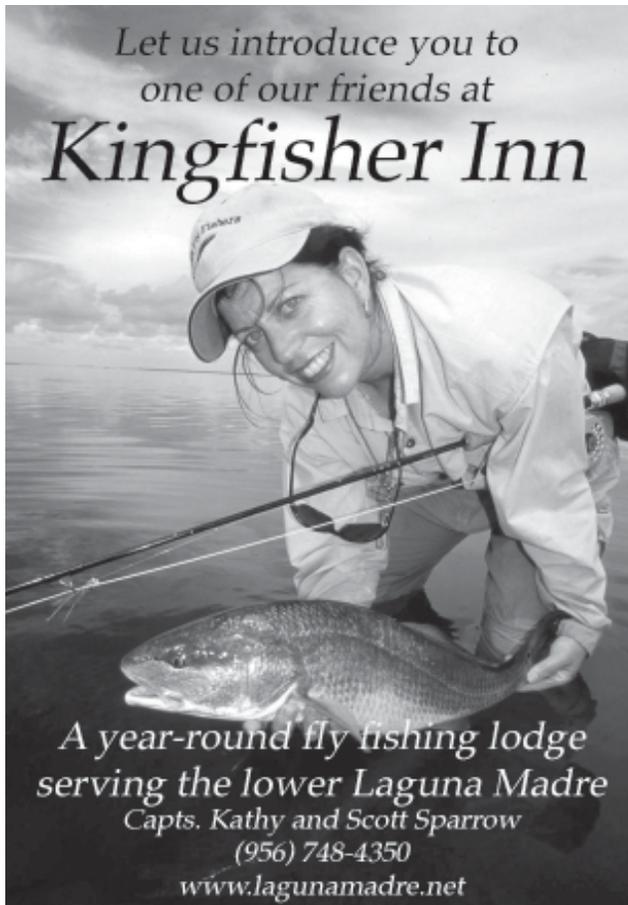
As an Extension Entomologist, he delivers educational programs and material to the public about insects and their management. He has also worked on biological

control of weeds with emphasis on giant salvinia, alligatorweed and musk thistle. He has applied the evaluation of benthic macro-invertebrates for bio-assessment of water quality. John serves as the university contact for the regulatory programs on pest survey and detection. He is the author of *A Field Guide to the Spiders and Scorpions of Texas* and co-author of *A Field Guide to the Common Insects of Texas*.

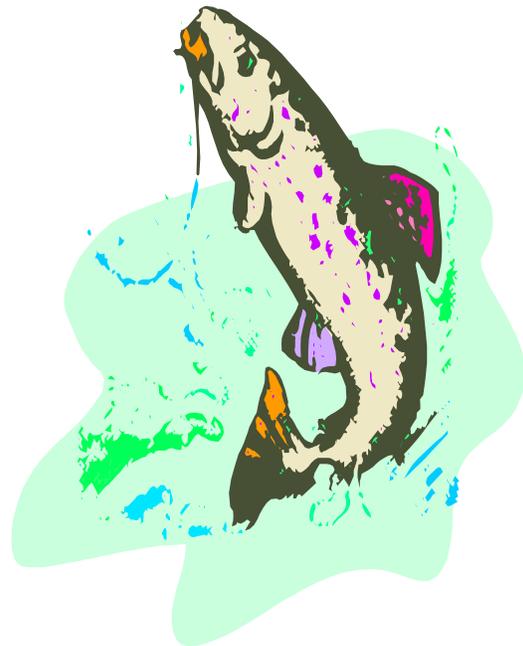
Streamside Seminar

In the afternoon, Dr. Jackman will give us an introduction into aquatic insect sampling, complete with nets and samplers. Hands-on experience will be encouraged. Participants will have a chance to collect insects, see them alive and identify them to order or family. The sampling method is typically used for rapid bio-assessment of aquatic habitats, and is also handy for identifying a good fly to tie on. The cost for the seminar is \$10, with kids under 16 free. Proceeds go to our Real-Time Temperature Monitor project. Please contact Ron McAlpin and 830-980-8043 or gtmarlm@texas.net if you plan to attend.

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Notice of Intention to Amend the Bylaws

Article VIII, Section 1 of the GRTU Bylaws state: *“The bylaws of this Chapter may be added to, amended or repealed in whole or in part by a majority vote of the members in good standing at any regular or special meeting, provided, however, that written notice of the intention to add to, or amend, or repeal the bylaws, in whole or in part, shall have been given each member of record at least thirty (30) days preceding such meeting of the members. However, proposed amendment to these bylaws shall be accompanied by a recommendation of the Board of Directors either for or against this adoption.”*

A vote will take place at the April Meeting. The GRTU Board of Directors is *recommending* that the following changes be made in the Bylaws of this Chapter.

Section 4, of Article IV, is a clarification of the term limit for the position of President. The Board feels that the Bylaws intended a President to be elected and have the duty of a full, two year term. Language is added to insure that a person has the opportunity to be elected and serve a full term if he/she serves as a replacement should the Office become vacant in a preceding term.

A new Article XIII is added to the GRTU Bylaws to create the position of Trout Unlimited National Leadership Council Representative. This is a great opportunity for the Chapter to participate in TU National decision making. Only TU State Councils have had this opportunity in the past, but GRTU never qualified for participation because TU requires three Chapters to form a State Council. TU now recognizes the many members it has in Texas and has changed its policy to qualify GRTU to become a full member of the National Leadership Council. The great talent we have in Texas should make a positive contribution to TU.

The Proposed Bylaws:

ARTICLE IV

*Section 4 -*The office of President shall not be held by one person for more than 2 years in succession. *[Addition]: If the Office of President should become vacant, the person who completes the un-expired term of President is eligible to hold the Office of President for a successive term.*

PROPOSAL

ARTICLE XIII

Section 1 - The Chapter shall designate a nominee for Trout Unlimited’s National Leadership Council, (NLC), Representative. The purpose of the NLC is to give the State Council a greater role to: Set, prioritize, and implement TU’s National Conservation Agenda; Provide a framework for issue-based coordination and collaboration among states; Strengthen and empower State Councils with leadership and staffing resources.

The duties of NLC Representative shall require the nominee to be able to devote significant amounts of time to that position by actively participating in conference calls, documentation reviews, at least one NLC work group, and attend the annual National Trout Unlimited meeting.

The nominee shall possess following qualifications: Have a broad view of TU’s nation-wide mission; Have strong communication skills and an ability to work well in group situations; Have the ability to use email and the internet: Have the trust of the Board of the Board of Directors to carry-out the duties. The nominee is required to solicit the Board’s input on matters that significantly effect the Chapter, and give periodic progress reports on the activities of the NLC to the Board and membership.

Section 2 - A nominating committee consisting of three people appointed by the President, and headed by the President, or a designee of the President, shall select a list of candidates that are qualified for the National Leadership Council Representative. The list

of qualified candidates shall be submitted to the Board, the nominee will be chosen by a vote of the Board of Directors for a term of one year, the election to be held in the month of April, and finalized at the April meeting. The nominee shall be limited to serving four terms in succession. If for any reason, the position becomes vacant, the President may appoint a replacement for the balance of the un-expired term. Failure to adequately perform the duties of the position, or a loss of confidence, may be grounds for replacement by the Board.



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check out our new website:
www.epicanglingadventure.com

Section 3 - The Chapter's nomination for NLC Representative shall be considered the de facto NLC Representative,

unless and until, the chapter becomes subordinate to a State Council, or National Trout Unlimited changes the selection

process. At that time, the Chapter will submit a nomination consistent with the requirements of the State Council and National organization.



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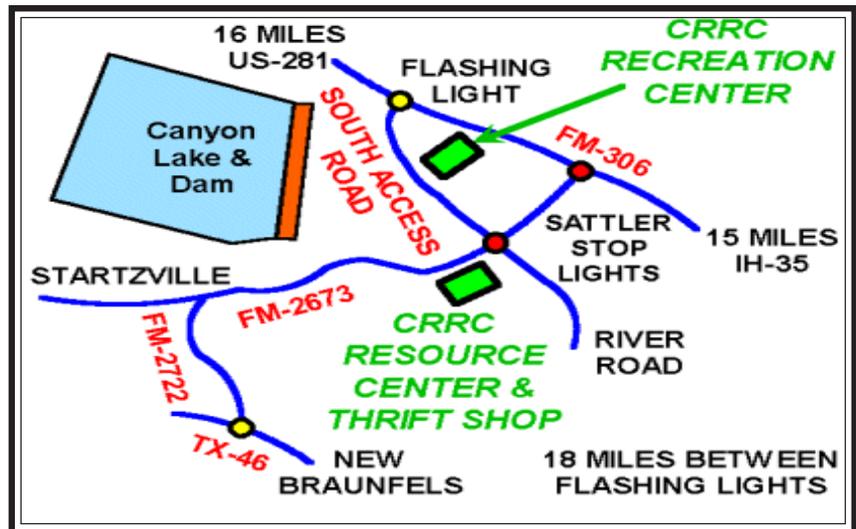
Directions to the Canyon Lake Recreation Center

>From NORTH or SOUTH: Just North of New Braunfels on I-35 take Exit 191, (Canyon Lake Exit), which is FM 306 and go WEST, about 14 miles to Sattler (Canyon Lake area). Go past the traffic light at FM 2673 in Sattler for about 2 miles, (through Canyon City) and turn Left at the blinking caution light and small road sign marking the South Access Rd. Follow the South Access Road for about two miles, passing below the dam and across the spillway. The Recreation Center will be on your left. You cannot go much further as the road is closed because the bridge below the spillway has not been repaired.

>From the WEST: From US 281, turn EAST on FM 306, which is between Twin Sisters and Spring Branch. Drive about 16 miles to the blinking caution light (just before you enter the area called Canyon City). Turn Right on South Access and follow the directions above to the Recreation Center, which will be on your left.

>From the EAST: From I-10, take SH 46 to I-35. Go North on I-35 to Exit 191 (Canyon Lake Exit), which is FM-306. Go west, (Left), on FM306, and follow the directions for North and South above.

Of course there are other routes, just check your Texas map for other ways that might be better for your travel, or check our link to an online map at www.grtu.org.



Swap Meet at the April Meeting

It's April and that means Swap Meet. For those of you who are new, this is our annual version of a garage sale. It's your chance to clean out closets and get rid of all that unused tackle. Rods, reels, waders, boots, flies, junk...er, antiques, collectables...

We'll have tables set up in one-half of the CCRC gym floor, with our meeting going on in the other half. We have silent auctions and also sell items outright. There will be a spot to sell items donated to GRTU. We

also have a Kids Table that works like a grab bag, so please bring small, donated items for the kids.

For those with one or a few items, we'll have clearance tables to share. If you plan to bring a table-full, please contact us to reserve one. There will also be an area for Fly Shops so you can purchase new items.

So it's time to clean out your stock, contact your local Fly Shop to see if they want to join us, and then contact Ron McAlpin to let him know what you need to set up your merchandise, 830-980-8043, gtma-rlm@texas.net.

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Flow Report

We can never really quite catch a break from the weather! Rain for 6 weekends in a row! January and February were slightly warmer than normal. Blame it all on El Nino! Except for a brief period when releases from Canyon Dam fell to 500 cfs, flows have been hovering around 800 – 1000 cfs. After the mammoth November rains, the ground has never had a chance to dry out. The good news is the lake has not risen much, we have a normal supply of cold-water for the summer. When the vegetation starts growing, and the temperatures begin to rise, flows into Canyon won't be quite so persistent. I am optimistic that the summer will bring great flows for the trout fishery.

A few brave souls have chanced the fishing with good results reported. You really have to be careful about how and where you wade and change your

fishing style. I still believe that this year is going to be a 'normal' year for rainfall- it is a matter of question when the pattern will break.

On the website, graphics have been added for the flow rates at Spring Branch and Sattler, as well as Canyon Lake Elevation. In a couple of months, we are planning to purchase the new Water Temperature Monitoring Equipment. Water Oriented Recreation District, (WORD), has partnered with GRTU on this equipment to the tune of \$500. Thank you very much, WORD! Texas Parks and Wildlife wishes to partner with the GRTU for this monitor and there is a grant proposal in the works. Bill Higdon is donating his internet connection and his riverside location to install the monitor. Thank you very much, Bill! It is great for GRTU to have these wonderful partners to support our conservation mission.

The monitor will be strategically placed to give readings on water temperature

24 hours a day. You can see the graphics "real time" on the GRTU website. You will be seeing detailed temperature down to the minute, and you will be able to see how the water temperature will fluctuate with flow rate and time of day. The information will help you plan your fishing trips according to water temperatures. Fishing at a time or location where water temperatures are better suited for trout will help protect the trout fishery. Catching trout that are stressed because the water is warm induces only more stress to these fish. This will help increase the chances for survival.



Officers, Directors Et Al Guadalupe River Chapter / Trout Unlimited 2005-06



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Fisheries Report

By Bill Higdon

It's been a challenging season on the Guadalupe, but there is also positive news. Although wading access has been difficult, to say the least, the high flows have not affected the quality of the fishery. Reports have been good from anglers toughing the flows. The fish are well distributed throughout the trophy zone and anglers report catches on every lease.

To date, GRTU has stocked over 8,800 rainbow trout and almost a 1,000 brown trout, for a total of 9,800 trout on the leases. 2,300 of the rainbow were 1-2 pounds (some in excess of 20"). 3,300 rainbows were 1-1/12 pounds and 3,200 were in the 1-pound range. The brown trout were in the 11/2-2 pound range. In addition, the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department stocked 17,716 trout ranging from 10-13". TPWD also stocked a total of 60,000 trout fingerlings on February 22nd (for which our chapter provided feed while in the hatchery). This makes the total **87,516**, trout of all sizes stocked this year. We hope the flows will subside in the not too distant future so everyone can get out there and fish.

These fish did not just jump off the truck and flop into the river. It was the result of many great volunteers who gave graciously of their time and energy to stock them. We had great turnouts for all the stockings, with many spouses and children along to help out. I would once again like to thank all those who helped; we could not do it without you.

At the end of March (3/31/05) we had a number of lease *closures*:

4th Crossing (Jak's) 5 on the map
 Little Ponderosa, 8 on the map
 Pott's Landing, 9 on the map
 Lazy L&L Campground, 10 on the map
 Rock'n R @ the chute, 13 on the map
 Guadalupe Landing, 14 on the map
 River Road Camp, 17 on the map



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The leases *remaining open* are:

Maricopa Lodge, 1 on the map
 Whitewater Sports, 2 on the map
 Rio Raft, 4 on the map
 Rocky Top Ranch 1, 6a on the map
 Rocky Top Ranch 2, 6b on the map
 Action Angler, 11 on the map
 Cliffview Resort, 12 on the map, Closes 6/30/05
 River Bluff, 15 on the map
 Lower Rio, 16 on the map Closes 4/30/05

Even with the unusually high flows, the Guadalupe is in great shape. Once we have some lower flows, the fishing should be great. So when it is safe to wade, **GET OUT THERE AND FISH.**



President's Letter

By Mick McCorcle

OST, OST, ...

As I have waited, often impatiently, for this year's high flows to subside, I have filled my idle hours by tying flies, searching the new catalogues and internet sites for my latest fly fishing want list, and thinking of better times astream. One that comes readily to mind was a bright, crisp day in December, 1999, just at the beginning of our boys' holiday break. I wanted to fish the leases and had somehow negotiated my release from domestic duties by agreeing to take along Graham, our 12 year old, a junior lease member.

Graham has never been known for his patience, especially on a trout stream, so I chose to start our day where I thought he might see some quick action, at the bend in the river at Lazy L&L, just above the Devil's Playground rapids. But as luck would have it, the catching started slowly, and Graham's unsteadiness on his rubber soled waders in the high flows and his irritation with the fish soon built pressure on Ol' Dad to find some trout. On this breezy day, we'd been fishing double nymph rigs with no success and more than our share of tangles. Graham called to me in mid-drift to help him with yet another bird's nest of flies, line, shot and indicator. I turned to help him, letting my rig swing across the current and hang below me.

Halfway through the untangling process, I felt a sharp tug and found my dropper fly held fast to a cavorting state stocker rainbow about ten inches long. Since I was otherwise occupied, I asked Graham to land the fish, which he was more than happy to do. I set aside his rod, released the trout, and again flipped a backhand cast to mid-river, letting the flies gently arc below us. Again a sharp tug and again a lively, though undersized, competitor. For the next two hours, we had steady action.

Graham's rod was soon balanced in the gnarled roots of a cypress on the bank near the concrete steps. He waded out and stood in my wake. I trimmed the rig down to our hot fly – a green disco midge – a shot and a yarn indicator. We moved slowly from current seam to current seam, flipping the fly upstream for a short dead drift, then allowing it to swing above the boulders and limestone outcroppings and into the slack water below. As often as not, we would have a take, though sometimes our attempts to set the hook were too slow. The fish varied in size from the smaller state stockers of our earlier casts to several burly GRTU fish that put a real bend in the five weight rod.

We found that we had the most enjoyment when I did the casting and we alternated landing the fish. I've never been much of a fish counter, but Graham definitely is, so he quickly began to keep score. I encouraged him to count all our fish together rather than turn it into a competition. When the count passed two dozen, the action again slowed and Graham began to lose focus. I wanted to keep fishing, so I tried to encourage him by saying that all we really needed was "one stupid trout" to hit our fly. That soon became our chant – first "One Stupid Trout, One Stupid Trout," then "OST, OST" for short.

In the intervening years, Graham has nearly doubled in size and is now more attuned to calling defensive signals and sacking quarterbacks than counting trout. He has tested his independence in many ways, getting his driver's license (with the usual fender benders and speeding tickets), joining our church board and choir, driving himself into the city for workouts or choir practice. But he still remembers our mantra and he still enjoys fishing. This is his last year in the Junior Lease Member program and the first year he's had to buy a fishing license to be legal on the river.

Just this morning, as I was taking him to the doctor, he said "I really like to fly fish, and I'd like to do it more." "Well

you can," I said. "Just grab a rod and reel and head for the creek." "Yeah, I could do that," he replied, "but I still like it best when we do it together."

Enough said.

TROUT ANGLERS ALERT



CONSIDER PROPER RELEASE

It's a matter of LIFE not death for millions of trout that will be hooked and released throughout the country this year.



Action Angler & Outdoor Center opened its doors Memorial weekend 2001 as the only streamside fly shop in Texas. We didn't have much to offer at first, but our inventory continues to grow over time. Action Angler was created as a convenience to the flyfishers of the Guadalupe River, and to promote an awareness of the trout fishery. We provide public access to some of the river's premier trout water. River front lodging is also available at The Cliffs. Stop by for some coffee, or take a load off and hangout in the hammock out front. Our extensive inventory consists of, but not limited to, flies, lines, leaders, tippet, and many other fly fishing accessories. Much of our inventory can be viewed at www.actionangler.net. Orders by e-mail are accepted at any time at actionangler@earthlink.net, and our prices are always low. We are one of the first Echo dealers in Texas to carry the exceptional fly rods designed by Tim Rajeff, formerly with GLoomis. Action Angler currently has a limited schedule and is only open weekends. We hope to be able to expand our schedule soon.

If you are looking for a fully outfitted guided fishing trip, call 210-602-9284.

We are currently offering a fly special to anyone that presents a valid TU membership card. Flies regularly priced at \$1.75 will be discounted to \$1.50 each, and by the dozen for \$16. This special will end October 31, 2005. And yes, we carry the notorious Sucker Spawn fly! All flies are professionally tied with first quality materials by the leading fly companies.

Please make Action Angler & Outdoor Center your choice for all of your fly fishing needs.

Go where the action is!

The Guadalupe River Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Honorary Life Members

The following distinguished members of GRTU have been designated, some posthumously, as Honorary Life Members of the Chapter for their exceptional contributions to our work. This honor is reserved for commendatory recognition of individuals whose personal service contributions to the Chapter are deemed to have had outstanding impact in advancing Chapter and TU objectives.

Clement W Bird
 Bill Cobb
 Dick Finta
 Howard Itten
 William A. (Bill) Johnson
 James W Keeton
 Chad Oliver

Irving O'Neal
 William C. (Bill) Pabst
 J. Bill Parvin
 Basden L. (Bud) Priddy, MD
 Glenn Richardson
 Mrs. Hazel Schubauer

Lt. Col. Paul A. Schubauer (Ret.)
 Marian Tilson
 R.E. (Bob) Tuttle
 Jim Vynalek
 William G. (Bill) West
 T.B. (Tom) Whitehouse

Grumpy's Column

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Haberl of the Lee Wulff Chapter of
Trout Unlimited.

"Look at this," Schnoz said, proudly displaying the streamer on the side of the mouth of the only salmon we hooked that day. "Cock-y-bandhu. From the rainforests of Thailand, I believe. Very rare feather. Salmon love them."

That's when the war began, right there in the middle of a Lake Michigan tributary. Two weeks later, I was fortunate enough to land that day's only salmon. "Coq-au-vin," I said, showing Schnoz the burgundy feather on my streamer. "French."

He sneered at it down the marathon-length of his nose, but I knew he was hooked. A week later, when I came to pick him up for our next outing, he wasn't at his usual post on the porch, but invited me in. His living room was filled with at least a dozen cages of exotic birds in blue-green, violet, scarlet and yellow plumage.

"Very rare species," he said. "Every one of them. Illegal to kill, but any feathers that drop are fair game." The ruckus that followed his cat's entrance into the room made a lot of feathers fall. We were both skunked that day. I had actually fished skunk fur, but the salmon did not like it. I vowed to try skink.

On our next outing, unfortunately, Schnoz landed the first salmon, although I noticed it was smaller than the others. He walked upstream fifty yards to show me his streamer, a gaudy yellow-green thing that looked like it fell from an old stripper's boa. I couldn't understand what he said, but it was something like "Hinky-dinky postern feather. Unavailable to the public."

Luckily, I caught a salmon of my own, although it was smaller.

"Peruvian condor," I told him. "Endangered. Impossible to get unless you know someone."

As the war continued, our fishing escalated from monthly affairs to weekly, and finally twice a week. My boss was not happy, but it didn't matter. You can always get another job.

"Look at this dubbing," Schnoz said. "A special fur from the femur area of a lemur."

"Here, feast your eyes," I countered. "Quetzalcoatl. Known in Aztec mythology as 'The Feathered Serpent.' Some say it has the magical properties of a god."

"Your South American connection?" he asked.

"I'm not saying."

Two days later he fired another salvo. His smile said it all as he showed me a surprisingly nondescript wet fly. "Passenger pigeon."

"But they're extinct," I said.

"I know a guy at the Field Museum." Even his nose could not hide his smile.

I was getting desperate.

"Dodo," I said at our next outing. "I know a guy in New Zealand," which was true.

"Pterodactyl," he countered. "My wife's brother-in-law's cousin is at the British Museum of Historical Antiquities. Even a pharaoh couldn't get this feather."

"Emu."

"Jackalope. From the rump only."

Then I noticed upstream of us a young boy, maybe 12 or so with his father's hat, oversized, patched canvas waders, with a Ted Williams fiberglass rod. He caught and released three fish while we watched. Neither Schnoz nor I had hooked up that morning. While we edged our way up to him, he caught three more, all in the 30-pound class. Schnoz got there before me.

"Hello, young feller. You really have their number today. You want to hire on as a guide, now that

you figured out what they're hitting?"

"Huh?" said the kid. "Oh, my fly? Well, I dubbed a body from some hair I got from my dog, Lucky."

"What's that collar?" Schnoz asked unashamedly. "It looks like a soft hackle."

"Yeah. I took my BB gun out last week and shot a starling in the back yard."

"What kind of starling?"

"I dunno' – iridescent, you know, not any one color."

"What kind of dog you got?" Schnoz asked.

"He's mixed, kind of gray from being a German Shepherd and brown from a Sheltie and something blackish like a Lab or a Chihuahua's tail.

"Let's go," Schnoz commanded.

"Where we going?" I said.

"To buy BB guns, you idiot."

I'll admit I bought a BB gun, but I surrendered the next week when I went to pick up Schnoz and I heard this terrible caterwaul inside Schnoz's house, which sounded like angry dogs were simultaneously trying to tear the femur off a lemur, or maybe a Shepherd, a Sheltie and a Labrador were fighting over parts of a Chihuahua. On the tree next to the porch I saw a brilliantly-colored South American Hinky-dinky looking very cold. I shooed him off to the South. I hope he makes it. I've decided an olive wooly bugger is good enough for me.



I'm an Ethical Angler. I:

Avoid spilling and never dump gasoline, oil or other pollutants - on land or in the water.

Never leave trash behind, including worn line, old hooks and bait, and practice recycling.

Gain knowledge about Aquatic Nuisance Species and how to help prevent their spread.

Learn and abide by all fishing regulations and boating laws.

Educate fellow anglers and especially new participants about fishing ethics.

Respect private property and the rights of other anglers and outdoor recreationists.

Save fish for tomorrow by practicing conservation and learning proper catch-and-release techniques.

The Guadalupe River Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Honors Our

Century Club Members

The following have contributed \$100 or more for GRTU programs, including the Guadalupe River Legal Defense Fund, in addition to their supporting membership donations and lease access fees for the 2004-2005 season. Please note: This list is only current as of press time; we apologize to members added after that date.

David Baird	Kohle Herrmann	Craig A Norton
Leslie A Barkis	Bill Higdon	Samuel Pate
Erik L Bataille	William Hills	John Richardson
Richard Beck	Randolph A. Hoover	Jim Roberts
Janis Birchall	Stephen J. Hudak, Jr	Pete Schenkkan
Duane V Brandt	D. Michael Hunter	Jeff G Schmitt
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